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OF

THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES;

OF THE

CAUSES AND ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION;

AND OF

THE CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE UNITED STATES,

TO

THE FINAL RATIFICATION THEREOF.

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BY PETER FORCE.

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THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES

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FROM

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TO

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

BY

THE UNITED STATES.

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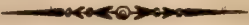
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VOLUME II.

PUBLISHED BY M. ST. CLAIR CLARKE AND PETER FORCE,

UNDER AUTHORITY OF AN ACT OF CONGRESS, PASSED ON THE SECOND OF MARCH, 1833.



WASHINGTON, OCTOBER, 1839.



WILLIAM A. HATHORN

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Proceedings of the Continental Congress approved, and their Journal ordered to be deposited amongst the files of the House, - 126  
16, Compensation to the Delegates to the Congress, Delegates are unanimously reappointed, - 127  
17, Committee to prepare Instructions for the Delegates to the Continental Congress, - 127  
20, Letter from the Colony Agents in London, - 127  
21, Petitions from New-Castle County, and from Kent County, praying the House to pass a Bill for establishing the Militia, - 127  
23, Message from Governour Penn to the Assembly, recommending the establishment of Boundary lines, - 128  
24, Bill reported to prohibit the Importation of Slaves, read, amended, and ordered to be engrossed, Instructions for the Delegates to the Congress reported, - 128  
25, Engrossed Bill to prohibit Importation of Slaves, passed and sent to the Governour, - 128  
27, The Governour returned the Bill, "to which he cannot give his assent," - 129  
29, Instructions for the Delegates to Congress agreed to, - 129  
Assembly adjourned till the fifth day of June, next, - 129

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

- Mar. 13.* Pennsylvania Council—  
The Governour submits a Letter from the Earl of Dartmouth, dated January 7, 1775, expressing his concern that the Non-Importation Resolution of Congress had been so generally adopted, and informing him that the King approved the Boundary line between Pennsylvania and Maryland, - 129  
The Council consider the latter part of the above Letter, and advise the Governour to issue a Proclamation, recalling his Proclamation of the 2d of November last, - 130  
16, Letter from Governour Penn to Governour Eden, informing him of his intention to recall his Proclamation of November 2, 1774, and to enforce that of the 15th of September, - 130  
13, Town Meeting in Boston, direct the Committee of Correspondence to draw up a Statement of the conduct of the Troops under command of General Gage, and of the Navy under Admiral Graves, - 130  
14, Meeting of the Inhabitants of Hackensack, in New-Jersey. Resolve to continue loyal Subjects to King George. To disavow all riotous mobs. That Petitions to the Throne are the proper means to remove present grievances. That they will not be concerned in any unconstitutional measures; and that they will support His Majesty's Civil Officers, - 131  
14, Meeting of the Committee of Observation for Freehold, Monmouth County, New-Jersey. The Inhabitants of Shrewsbury having omitted to choose a Committee, this Committee will

1775. hereafter treat them as enemies to their King and Country, and deserters from the common cause of Freedom, - 131  
*March* Meeting of Freeholders and other Inhabitants of New-Windsor, in Ulster County, New-York. Declare their attachment to the King, to whom they would be deficient in duty if they submit to the power assumed by the Parliament. Approve and will abide by the Association of the Continental Congress. Condemn sundry Publications by James Rivington, a Ministerial hireling, and an enemy to his Country, - 131  
15, Letters from Philadelphia to Mr. Rivington in New-York, condemning and ridiculing the Congress, Committees, and leaders among the Whigs, - 133-134  
15, Letter from Mr. Pownal, Secretary to the Board of Trade and Plantations, to Lieutenant Governour Colden, enclosing extracts from the Minutes and Proceedings upon several Petitions and Memorials, relative to certain Lands in the Province of New-York, heretofore claimed by Mr. Van Rensselaer, - 134-137  
15, The Sub-Committees Report to the Committee for the City and County of New-York, the election this day of eleven Delegates to a Provincial Congress, to be held on the 20th day of April, - 137  
16, Letter from General Committee of the City of New-York to all the Counties in the Colony, requesting them, without delay, to elect Deputies to a Provincial Congress, for the purpose of appointing Delegates to the Continental Congress to meet at Philadelphia, on the 10th of May next, - 138  
16, Account of the election in New-York yesterday, and of the efforts of the Ministerial Party to prevent it, - 138  
16, Remarks of "A Citizen" on the election. The People were deceived by a scheme intended to supplant some of the old Delegates, and get Mr. McDougall into the Congress, - 139  
16, Company formed in Philadelphia for establishing an American Manufactory of Woollens, Linens and Cottons, - 140  
16, Speech delivered in Carpenter's Hall before the Subscribers to the Fund for establishing American Manufactures in Philadelphia, - 140  
16, Proceedings of the General Committee of the City of New-York in relation to the landing of Goods, by Messrs. Robert and John Murray, from the Ship Beulah, - 144-148  
10, Letter from the Committee of Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, to the New-York Committee, informing them of their reasons for suspecting Goods had been landed from the Beulah, - 144  
11, Another Letter from the Elizabethtown Committee. They have continued their examination into the affair, but have not yet obtained full information. Samuel Lee, a Boatman, and Ichabod B. Barnet, (son-in-law to Robt. Murray,) appear to have been the persons concerned in the affair, - 144  
13, Letter from Robert and John Murray to the New-York Committee, acknowledging that they had landed Goods from the Beulah, in violation of the Continental Association. Condemn the act as unjustifiable, and offer to re-ship all the Goods within seven days, - 145  
15, Inventory of Goods taken out of the Beulah at Sandy-Hook, - 145  
15, Deposition of John Murray to his statement of the taking the Goods from the Beulah, - 145  
Affirmation of Robert Murray, - 146  
15, Letter from Robert and John Murray to the New-York Committee. They have delivered the Goods taken from the Beulah to the Elizabethtown Committee. They are willing to reship the Goods, as required by the Association, and to make any other satisfaction the Committee may require. As a further acknowledgment of their error, they offer the sum of two hundred Pounds towards rebuilding the Hospital, - 147  
14, Letter from the Elizabethtown Committee to the New-York Committee, enclosing the Affidavit of Samuel Lee, - 147



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| March | Address to the Inhabitants of New-York. Obedience and submission to Government urged and enforced on the authority of the Bible, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 148 |
| 16,   | Reply to the foregoing. Absolute passive obedience and non-resistance is contrary to the Word of God, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 149 |
| 16,   | Declaration of the Grand Jury and Magistrates at a Court of Quarter Sessions, at Johnstown, Tryon County, New-York. Condemn the destruction of the Tea at Boston as an outrageous and unlawful act. Renew their professions of attachment and pledges of true allegiance to their lawful Sovereign, and will, in any extremity, exert themselves in support of Government, -                                                                                                     | 151 |
| 6,    | Letter from the Rev. Dr. Wheelock to Governor Trumbull. Has sent Mr. James Dean among the Indian Tribes in Canada to preserve peace on the frontier Settlements. Mr. Dean has great influence with the Six Nations, and could, if authorized, get them to join the Colonies against any invasion that may be attempted, -                                                                                                                                                        | 152 |
| 16,   | Remonstrance presented by the Selectmen of Billerica to General Gage, demanding satisfaction for the outrage committed on Thomas Ditson, by the authority of Colonel Nesbit. If the Inhabitants of the Country Towns are treated with this brutish ferocity they will hereafter use a different style from that of petition and complaint, -                                                                                                                                     | 153 |
| 17,   | Address to the Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress of Virginia, by Charles Lee. The Addresses of the New-York Assembly are more alarming than the threats of the Minister.—Any defection amongst ourselves is a matter of the most serious concern. It behooves every Provincial Congress to consider of some effectual means to prevent the mischievous consequences intended by these abandoned men, -                                                                        | 153 |
| 17,   | "Lucius" on the treatment the Colonies have received from Great Britain. Their patience and forbearance under all their wrongs. Their conduct defended and their resistance justified, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 156 |
| 17,   | Letter to Governor Wentworth. Formerly no man in his station could be more honoured and revered. By his late conduct in carrying out the plans of the Ministry he has lost the affections of the People, and will never possess them in future, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 159 |
| 18,   | Letter from Essex, New-Jersey, to D. C. Danger to be apprehended to the Country from the influence of a party too near the Throne, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 160 |
| 19,   | Letter from Dr. Franklin to Arthur Lee, transferring to him all the Papers of the Massachusetts Agency, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 162 |
| 20,   | Proclamation of the States-General of the United Provinces, prohibiting the exportation of Ammunition or Arms, in vessels belonging to the Dominions of Great Britain, for six months, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 277 |
| 20,   | Proceedings in Charleston, South-Carolina, on the arrival of the Snow Proteus from London, with Merchandise, &c. The Committee authorize the landing of two Horses from the vessel. The People, dissatisfied with this decision, petition for a reconsideration of it in a full Committee. The permission to land the Horses reconsidered and rescinded by the Committee, and a Resolution adopted, directing the Horses, Merchandise and Furniture to be returned to England, - | 162 |
|       | A full account of these Proceedings, by Mr. Drayton, (Note,) -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 163 |
| 20,   | Instructions drawn up for the Delegates to the Convention, from a certain County in Virginia, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 163 |

## VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

|          |                                                                                                                                                         |         |
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| Mar. 20, | Virginia Convention meets at Richmond, -                                                                                                                | 165-172 |
|          | List of the Delegates, -                                                                                                                                | 165     |
|          | Peyton Randolph elected President, and John Tazewell Clerk, -                                                                                           | 166     |
|          | President laid before the Convention the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and a Letter from Benjamin Franklin, William Bollan and Arthur Lee, - | 166     |
|          | The Proceedings of the Congress to be considered to-morrow, -                                                                                           | 166     |

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| March | Letter from the Inhabitants of Augusta County, west of the Alleghany Mountains, requesting John Nevill and John Harvie may be admitted as their Delegates, -                                                        | 167 |
| 21,   | Mr. Nevill and Mr. Harvie admitted, -                                                                                                                                                                               | 167 |
|       | Proceedings of the Continental Congress considered, -                                                                                                                                                               | 167 |
| 22,   | Further considered, and after the maturest consideration cordially approved, -                                                                                                                                      | 167 |
| 23,   | Petition and Memorial of the Assembly of Jamaica to the King, laid before the Convention, -                                                                                                                         | 167 |
|       | The President directed to transmit the thanks of the Convention to the Assembly of Jamaica, for their patriotick conduct, -                                                                                         | 167 |
|       | Committee to prepare a plan for embodying, arming and disciplining such number of men as may be necessary for the defence of the Colony, -                                                                          | 168 |
| 24,   | Plan for embodying the Militia reported, -                                                                                                                                                                          | 168 |
|       | The Committee of Correspondence directed to procure authentick information from the Committee of New-York, whether their House of Representatives, by any vote, have deserted the union of the American Colonies, - | 168 |
|       | Committees of the several Counties and Corporations directed to exert themselves in procuring contributions for the suffering Inhabitants of Boston, -                                                              | 168 |
| 25,   | On account of the unsettled state of the Country, Lawyers, Suiters and Witnesses are requested not to attend the next General Court, -                                                                              | 168 |
|       | Plan for embodying, arming and disciplining the Militia, adopted, -                                                                                                                                                 | 169 |
|       | Vote of Thanks to Lord Dunmore for his noble, wise and spirited conduct on the late expedition against the Indians, -                                                                                               | 170 |
|       | Delegates to the Continental Congress elected by ballot, -                                                                                                                                                          | 170 |
|       | Committee to prepare a plan for the encouragement of Manufactures in the Colony, -                                                                                                                                  | 170 |
| 27,   | Plan for the encouragement of Arts and Manufactures reported, and unanimously agreed to, -                                                                                                                          | 170 |
|       | For the more effectually carrying this plan into execution, it is earnestly recommended to form Societies in different parts of the Colony, and to offer premiums, -                                                | 171 |
|       | Committee to inquire whether the King may of right advance the terms of granting Lands in this Colony, -                                                                                                            | 172 |
|       | Thomas Jefferson appointed a Deputy to the General Congress in the room of Peyton Randolph, if Mr. Randolph cannot attend, -                                                                                        | 172 |
|       | The People recommended to choose Delegates to represent them in Convention for one year, -                                                                                                                          | 172 |
|       | Convention dissolved, -                                                                                                                                                                                             | 172 |

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

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| March | Field Officers chosen for New-Castle County, Delaware, -                                                                                                                                                | 172 |
| 20,   | Committee for Chester County, Pennsylvania, direct each Member to use diligence in collecting money for Boston, -                                                                                       | 172 |
| 20,   | Letter from Boston to Newport, R. I. The insolence of the British Soldiers at Boston, encouraged and headed by their Officers, makes it unsafe for people to walk the streets at noon-day, -            | 173 |
|       | Letter from a Gentleman in the service of a Counsellor of State at Paris, to his friend in Rhode-Island, -                                                                                              | 173 |
| 21,   | Proclamation by Lord Dunmore, for the sale of the King's vacant Lands in Virginia, and prohibiting Richard Henderson from taking possession of any Lands under a pretended purchase from the Indians, - | 174 |
| 21,   | Address of the Committee of Norfolk, Virginia, to the Publick, declaring Captain Simpson a violator of the Association, and an enemy of American Liberty, -                                             | 174 |
| 21,   | Committee for Talbot County, Maryland, direct two bales of Goods imported in the Ship Baltimore, in violation of the Continental Association to be sent back to Glasgow, -                              | 175 |
| 21,   | Albany, New-York, Committee appoint Deputies to the Provincial Congress, -                                                                                                                              | 176 |
| 21,   | Liberty-Pole cut down at Poughkeepsie, in New-York, by the Sheriff of Dutchess County, attended by a Judge of the Inferiour Court, and two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, -                    | 176 |



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- March* Letter from Samuel Adams to Richard Henry Lee. Virginia from the beginning of the contest has distinguished herself in the cause of American Liberty: the People of Massachusetts, with some few exceptions, are firm and united. The conduct of the British Soldiers and Officers highly offensive to the citizens; the Officers endeavoured to create a disturbance on the 6th, when Dr. Warren delivered his Oration, 176
- 21, Letter from Colonel E. Doolittle to John Hancock, suggesting the establishing of a Civil Constitution for the Province, to remedy the evils every where felt for want of a regular Government, - - - - - 177
- 22, Letter from Arthur Lee, enclosing one received from the Lord Mayor of London, giving information of attempts to procure counterfeits of the Bills of Credit of the Colonies, - - - 178
- 22, Letter from Dr. Franklin to his son, giving a history of his private negotiations in London, for a settlement of the difficulties between the Colonies and Great Britain, - - - 178-210
- 22, Letter from Dr. Wheelock to Governour Trumbull. There are reports of an invasion from Canada, and the Indians, if not secured in our interests, will likely join on the other side. Several of their children, from some of the most respectable tribes, are now at the Seminary, (Dartmouth,) and may be considered hostages; Mr. Dean, now among them, will probably bring more; this connection is our surest bulwark against an invasion, - - - 210
- 22, Letter from Boston to a Gentleman in New-York. Outrages of the British Officers and Soldiers in Boston, - - - - - 211
- 23, Letter from New-York to John Dickinson; reviewing and condemning his political conduct, 211
- 23, Letter to the Committee of Inspection for the City and County of New-York. Their censure of Mr. Rivington is arbitrary and tyrannical, and breathes a spirit of intimidation towards him, 213
- 23, Account of the Riots in Cumberland County, New-York, - - - - - 214
- 23, Benjamin Hough to the Inhabitants of the City of New-York, - - - - - 215
- Statement of Benjamin Hough, under oath, of the indignities and violence he received from the Rioters in Cumberland County, - - - 215
- 23, A relation of the proceedings of the People of the County of Cumberland, and Province of New-York, - - - - - 218
- 23, Letter from Colonel Gilbert to Captain Wallace of His Majesty's Ship Rose. Many threats have been made against those who have taken Arms in the King's name, and there is fear the Rebels will attack them, - - - - - 222
- 23, Guilford, Connecticut, Committee, acquit Captain Griffin of an intentional violation of the Association in taking fourteen Sheep to Martinico, - - - - - 222
- 23, Address to the Inhabitants of Massachusetts Bay, No 6, from the County of Hampshire. The question examined, Whether we are in truth a part of the British Empire, in such a sense as to be subject to her supreme authority in all cases whatsoever? - - - - - 222
- 24, Committee of Nansemond County, Virginia, publish the Rev. John Agnew, Rector of Suffolk Parish, for his opposition to the Association and the Provincial Congress, - - - - - 226
- 24, Worcester (Massachusetts) Committee require punctual attendance of Members of the Committee, - - - - - 228
- 24, Letter from Colonel Thomas Wheeler to the Printers of the Massachusetts Gazette, explaining the reasons for resigning his commission, acknowledging his former errors, and avowing his firm attachment to the cause of Liberty, - 228
- 24, Letter from a Freeholder of the County of Worcester. The violence and misrepresentations of the Tory writers cannot injure the cause of Liberty, - - - - - 229
- 24, Letter from Montreal. The Canadians were highly offended by the Address of the Congress to the People of England, - - - - - 231
- 25, "Nestor" to the People of England. Boston is become a Garrison. The inhabitants are ruined, but Hutchinson is pensioned, - - - 232

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- March* Letter from Governour Eden to Governour Penn, refusing to join in issuing a Proclamation, recalling that of November 2, 1774, respecting the Boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland, - - - - - 303
- 25, Letter from Essex, New-Jersey, to D. C. The late news from England has strengthened the union of the Colonies. Not more than three Towns in the four New-England Provinces opposed to the measures of the Congress; in New-Jersey and the Southern Provinces the opposition is as small. Some few places in New-York are delinquent, but they appear to be returning to their duty, - - - - - 232
- 25, Confession of Thomas Lilly, of Marblehead, that he has been guilty of purchasing Tea, - - - 234
- Deposition of Simon Tufts, March 31st, that in purchasing Tea he had no intention of violating the Association, - - - - - 234
- 25, Orange County, Virginia, Committee, meet, and demand of the Rev. John Wingate the surrender of a number of Pamphlets containing reflections on the Continental Congress. The Committee obtain them after some difficulty and delay, and order them to be burnt, - 234
- 28, Proclamation by Lord Dunmore, requiring all Magistrates and Officers to use their endeavours to prevent the appointment of Deputies to the Continental Congress, and exhorting all persons within the Colony to desist from such an unjustifiable proceeding, - - - - - 236
- Remarks on Lord Dartmouth's Circular to the Governours of the Colonies, requiring them to do their utmost to prevent the choice of Deputies to the Continental Congress, - - - 236
- 28, Letter from an Englishman in New-York to the Committee of Correspondence for Philadelphia. Charges them with falsehood, hypocrisy and rebellion; condemns their whole proceedings, and asserts that the number of loyal subjects is increasing with a rapid progress, - 238
- 28, Meeting of the Committee for Worcester, Massachusetts, - - - - - 242
- 29, Letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend in North-Carolina, - - - - - 242
- 29, New-York Committee recommend to the Inhabitants to stop the exportation of Nails, and to withhold all Supplies, which are essential to hostilities, from the Troops at Boston, - - 242
- 29, Letter from J. Brown to the Committee of Correspondence at Boston. The Canadians appear to be quite friendly towards the Colonies, but there is no prospect of Canada sending Delegates to the Continental Congress. The Fort at Ticonderoga must be seized should hostilities be committed by the King's Troops; the People on the New-Hampshire Grants have engaged to do this business, and they are the most proper persons for the job, - - - 243
- 30, Committee for Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, approve the conduct of George Ross for opposing, in the Assembly, the recommendation of the Governour to send a separate Petition to His Majesty, - - - - - 245
- 30, Chiefs of the Six Nations in consultation with Colonel Guy Johnson, - - - - - 245
- 30, Letter to the Inhabitants of Massachusetts-Bay, No. 7, from the County of Hampshire, - 245
- 31, Freeholders of Jamaica, on Long-Island, refuse to send Deputies to the Provincial Congress, 251
- 31, Letter to the Subscribers to an Association agreed to in January last, in Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, - - - - - 251
- April* Letter from London to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. The behaviour of the New-Yorkers has raised the drooping spirits of the Ministry, who now declare their intention of starving the four New-England Colonies, - - - - - 252
- 1, Letter from New-Haven to Mr. Rivington. The Committee of Inspection have proceeded to very unwarrantable lengths, and threaten those who drink Tea. If they carry matters to extremity, now is the time to repel force by force, 252
- 2, Council of North-Carolina advise the Governour to issue a Proclamation to forbid the holding a Provincial Congress, - - - - - 253
- 3, Proclamation by Governour Martin, to forbid the sitting of the Provincial Congress, at New-



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- bern this day, and exhorting all His Majesty's subjects, on their allegiance, to withdraw themselves from the same, - - - 254
- April* Meeting of the Committee for Gloucester County, Virginia, - - - 254
- 3, Committee for Philadelphia cautioning their Fellow-Citizens of an attempt to be made to violate the Association, by importing East-India goods through the Dutch Islands, - - - 254
- 3, Committee for Freehold, Monmouth County, New-Jersey, declare Thomas Leonard a foe to the rights of British America, for violations of the Continental Association, - - - 254
- 3, Letter from New-York to a Gentleman in Boston. It is suspected that the Troops really mean to take the field; some imagine they will march out five or ten miles at a time, in order to compel the people of Massachusetts to begin hostilities first, - - - 255
- 3, Letter from Dr. Joseph Warren to Arthur Lee. America must, and will be free. The contest may be severe. The end will be glorious. A detachment of the Army marched four miles out of Boston three days ago; great numbers of the People, completely armed, collected in the neighbouring Towns. The Congress immediately took proper measures for restraining any unnecessary effusion of blood, - - - 255

## NORTH-CAROLINA ASSEMBLY.

- Apr. 4*, North-Carolina Assembly meets, - - - 255
- List of Members elected to the Assembly, - - - 255
- List of Members attending, - - - 256
- John Harvey chosen Speaker, and approved by the Governour, - - - 257
- Speech of the Governour to the Council and House of Assembly, - - - 257
- 5, The Governour's Speech to be considered to-morrow, - - - 261
- 6, Governour's Speech considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - 261
- Report of the Committee of the Whole House, - - - 261
- 7, Answer to the Governour's Speech, - - - 263
- Proceedings of Continental Congress approved, Delegates to the Congress chosen by the Convention, approved by the Assembly, - - - 265
- Thanks of the House to the Delegates to the late Continental Congress, - - - 265
- 8, Assembly dissolved by the Governour, - - - 266
- 7, Council of North-Carolina, on reading the vote of the House of Assembly, approving of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, advise the Governour to dissolve the Assembly, - - - 266
- 8, Proclamation of Governour Martin, dissolving the Assembly, - - - 266

## NORTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

- Apr. 3*, Convention of North-Carolina meets, - - - 266
- List of the Delegates elected, - - - 266
- List of the Delegates present, - - - 267
- John Harvey chosen Moderator, - - - 267
- 4, Other Delegates attend, - - - 267
- 5, Resolution approving of the Continental Association, and binding the Members of this Convention to adhere to it, - - - 268
- All the Members subscribe this Resolution, except Mr. Thomas Macknight, who refused, - - - 268
- Thanks of the Convention to the Delegates to the late Continental Congress, - - - 268
- Answer of the Delegates to the Moderator, - - - 268
- Thanks to the Delegates, by Colonel John Harvey, in compliance with instructions from Perquimans County, - - - 269
- Answer of the Delegates, - - - 269
- Delegates to the Congress to be held in May next, appointed, and invested with such powers as may make acts done by them obligatory in honour upon every inhabitant of the Province, - - - 269
- 6, Thomas Macknight, a Delegate for Currituck County, called upon to sign the Continental Association, refuses, and withdraws from the Convention, - - - 269
- Resolution declaring Mr. Macknight a proper object of contempt to the Continent, and recommend all persons to break off all intercourse and dealing with him, - - - 270

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- April* The Moderator, or Mr. Johnston, empowered to direct Delegates to be chosen to a Convention to meet in Hillsborough, - - - 270
- 7, Proceedings of the late Continental Congress approved of by the Convention, - - - 270
- Arts, Manufactures, Agriculture, and every kind of economy, to be encouraged in the Colony, - - - 270
- The Governour's Proclamation to prohibit this meeting, and his Proclamation commanding this meeting to disperse, are illegal, and ought to be disregarded, - - - 270
- Vindication of Thomas Macknight, by Samuel Jarvis and others, - - - 271
- 12, Council of North-Carolina, - - - 273
- Governour submits the proceedings of the Convention, signed by John Harvey, Moderator, containing Resolves derogatory to the honour and dignity of His Majesty's Government, - - - 273
- Mr. Harvey's name struck out of His Majesty's Commission of the Peace for Perquimans County, - - - 273

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

- April* Town Meeting at Hempstead, Queen's County, in New-York; resolve to bear true allegiance to George the Third, and to adhere to the British Constitution; approve of the proceedings and addresses of the General Assembly, and refuse to choose Deputies to a Provincial Congress, - - - 273
- Address to the publick, by a Freeholder of Hempstead. The Resolutions of the meeting at Hempstead, on the 4th instant, do not truly represent the Town. Many of the principal freeholders disapprove of the proceedings of the Assembly, support the Continental Association, and are in favour of a Provincial Congress, - - - 274
- 4, Delegates appointed to the Provincial Congress, by a Town Meeting in Goshen, Orange County, New-York, - - - 275
- 4, Delegates appointed to the Provincial Congress, by a Town Meeting in Cornwall Precinct, Orange County, New-York, - - - 276
- 5, Baltimore Committee declare they will carry into execution the Association and measures of the Congress, but that they have not, and will not, use or authorize personal violence, - - - 276
- 5, Letter from the Secretary of the Board of Trade to the Governours of the Colonies, enclosing the Act to restrain the Trade of the New-England Colonies, and prohibiting them from fishing on the Banks of Newfoundland, - - - 276
- 5, Letter from Mr. Pownall, enclosing a Proclamation of the States-General, - - - 276
- 5, Order of the King in Council, prohibiting the exportation out of Great Britain, or carrying coastwise, any Arms or Ammunition, for six months after the 19th of April, without permission from the King or his Privy Council, - - - 277
- 5, Letter from Thomas Life, Agent for Connecticut, in London, to Governour Trumbull, - - - 278
- 5, Meeting of the Livery of London, at Guildhall. Address of the Mayor. Remonstrance and Petition to the Throne respecting the measures adopted with regard to America, proposed, debated, adopted, and ordered to be presented to the Throne, - - - 278
- 6, Letter from the Georgia Delegates to the President of the Continental Congress, explaining the reasons why they think it inexpedient for them to attend, - - - 279
- 6, Calvert County, Maryland, Committee, resolve that Alexander Ogg has violated the Association, and ought to be deemed an enemy to America, - - - 281
- Mr. Ogg's publick acknowledgment of his offence, April 13, - - - 281
- 6, Committee for Sussex County, Virginia, approve of the proceedings of the Convention at Richmond, and pledge themselves to adhere to their Resolutions, - - - 281
- 6, Inhabitants of the Borough of Westchester, in New-York, refuse to choose Deputies to a Provincial Congress, and disown all Congresses, Conventions, and Committees, - - - 282
- 6, General Meeting of the Inhabitants of West-



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|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |     |
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|          | chester, called to determine whether they will choose Deputies to the Provincial Congress; or whether they will abide by the loyal measures of the General Assembly, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 282 |
| April 6, | Meeting of the Inhabitants of New-York; advice of the Committee against exporting Nails, and supplying the Troops at Boston, read and approved. William and Henry Ustick having purchased intrenching tools for the Army at Boston, are declared to be inveterate foes to American freedom, and the people are desired to break off all connections and dealing with them for the future, - - - | 283 |
| 6,       | Letter from Alexander McDougall to Josiah Quincy, Jun. The Statement of Grievances, and not the Petition to the King, the Memorial to the Lords, or the Remonstrance to the Commons, contains the true opinions of the late House of Assembly of New-York. The only instance of a violation of the Association at New-York, is that of the goods taken from the Beulah, - - -                   | 283 |
|          | Letter from Boston, for Mr. Rivington's Gazetteer, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 284 |
| 6,       | Phileirene to the People of Massachusetts, defending the measures of the Parliament against the complaints of the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 286 |
| 6,       | Address to the Inhabitants of Massachusetts-Bay, No. 8, from the County of Hampshire. On the right of the Parliament to an unlimited control over the Colonies, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 289 |
| 7,       | Letter from Alexander Elmsley, Agent for North-Carolina, in London, to Samuel Johnston. Suppressed the Petition to the King from North-Carolina, because it contained strange inaccuracies, and reflections on the Parliament and Ministry, and was not respectful to the King: it was probably owing to this suppression that North-Carolina was excepted from the Restraining Bill, - - -     | 296 |
| 7,       | Chesterfield County, Virginia, Committee, will encourage the manufacture of Linen, Cotton and Woollen Cloth, and subscribe funds for the support of such manufactures; direct John Brown of Norfolk, and Captain Sampson of the Ship Elizabeth of Bristol, to be published as persons deserving the censure and contempt of the People of the Colony, - - -                                     | 298 |
| 7,       | Committee of Kingston, in Ulster County, New-York, convict Jacobus Louw, on his own admissions, of selling Tea; and publish him as an enemy to the rights and liberties of America, -                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 298 |
| 7,       | Application of the Portsmouth, New-Hampshire Volunteers to Colonel Theodore Atkinson, for permission to beat a drum, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 299 |
| 8,       | Southampton, Virginia, Committee, direct subscriptions to aid Mr. Tait in making Salt, and make provision for supplying the Militia of the County with Ammunition, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 299 |
| 8,       | Address to the People of Virginia, on the "Instructions drawn up for the Delegates to the Convention at Richmond, from a certain County in Virginia," - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 300 |
|          | Address of the Freeholders of Fincastle County, Virginia, to Lord Dunmore, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 301 |
| 8,       | Proclamation of Governour Penn, by the advice of the Council of Pennsylvania, revoking his Proclamation of the 2d of November last, in relation to the Boundaries between Pennsylvania and Maryland, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                      | 302 |
| 8,       | Letter from Gov. Penn to Gov. Eden. By advice of Council, informing him of his determination to issue a separate Proclamation, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 303 |
| 8,       | Letter from Dutchess County, New-York; the inhabitants of Charlotte Precinct have refused, by a large majority, to choose Deputies to the Provincial Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 304 |
|          | Protest of the Freeholders of seven Precincts in Dutchess County, New-York, against the appointment of Robert R. Livingston, Egbert Benson, and Morris Graham, as Deputies to the Provincial Congress, a majority of the Freeholders being opposed to any such Congress, - - -                                                                                                                  | 304 |
|          | "A Freeholder of Dutchess County," denying the truth of the statements in the foregoing Protest, which was never publicly read, or approved of by one of the Precincts named in it, -                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 304 |

1775.

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| April 8,  | Letter from the Committee of Montreal, in Canada, to the Committee of Safety in Massachusetts. The People more divided by their interests than by their religion, language, and manners; the apprehensions of evil from the unlimited power of Government, strikes all opposition dead. The bulk of the People, both English and Canadians, wish well to the cause of the Colonies, but dare not stir a finger. They wish to know if English Delegates would be admitted to the Congress, without entering into the General Association, - - -         | 305 |
| 10,       | Letter from London to a Gentleman in New-York. Great preparations making in England to reduce the Colonies to submission. The Colonies must get ready to fight, for nothing can save them but their own strength; the cry of blood is gone out against them, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 306 |
| 10,       | Committee for Prince George's County, Maryland, publish Thomas Bailey as an enemy to the Country for landing imported Salt, in violation of the Continental Association; and John Baynes, for killing a Lamb, contrary to a Resolve of the Provincial Convention, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 308 |
| 10,       | Committee for Anne Arundel County, Maryland, declare a Paper printed in the London Publick Ledger of the 4th of January, entitled "Facts relative to the Riot at Annapolis, in Maryland," a false, scandalous and malicious narrative; and the Author of it an inveterate enemy to the liberties of the Province in particular, and of British America in general, -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 309 |
|           | "Facts relative to the Riot at Annapolis, in Maryland," the Paper referred to by the Committee for Anne Arundel County, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 309 |
| 10,       | Address of the Committee of Inspection for Falmouth, Massachusetts, to the Publick. A statement of the conduct of Captain Thomas Coulson, with the reasons of the Committee for publishing him as a violator of the Continental Association, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 311 |
|           | Committee of Inspection for Falmouth, appoint a Sub-Committee to prevent the landing of prohibited Merchandise belonging to Captain Thomas Coulson, March 2, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 312 |
|           | The Committee determine that using the Sails, Rigging and Stores, imported by Coulson, will be a violation of the Continental Association, and order them to be sent back to Bristol in the Ship that brought them here, March 3, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 313 |
| April 11, | Information received in London of the sailing of a Vessel from Stettin, loaded with Fire-Arms and Ammunition for the Americans, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 313 |
| 11,       | Inhabitants of Richmond County, in New-York, refuse to send Deputies to the Provincial Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 314 |
| 10,       | Meeting of the Freeholders of Westchester County, New-York. Deputies to the Provincial Congress appointed, and thanks voted to the minority in the late General Assembly for their firm attachment to the union of the Colonies and rights and liberties of America, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 314 |
| 11,       | Meeting of the Committees appointed by the Inhabitants on the east side of the range of Green Mountains. The inhabitants being in danger of having their property and their lives taken from them by the Government of New-York, wholly renounce, and will resist the authority of that Government, till they can be made secure in their lives and property, or till they can lay their grievances before the King in Council, with a Petition that they may be taken out of so oppressive a jurisdiction, or annexed to some other Government, - - - | 315 |
| 11,       | Speech of the Chief Sachem of the Stockbridge Indians, in answer to a Message sent them by the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 315 |
| 12,       | "Regulus" to the King, on his Answer to the Address of the City of London, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 316 |
| 12,       | Letter from General Gage to Governour Martin of North-Carolina. The leaders in Massachusetts, by their arts and artifices, still keep up a seditious and licentious spirit. The new-fangled Legislature, termed a Provincial Congress, have taken the Government into their own hands, but they are much puzzled how to act. Fear in some, and a want of inclination in others, will be a great bar to their coming                                                                                                                                    |     |



1775. to extremities, though their leaders use every exertion to bring them into the field, - - - 317
- April 12, Letter from the Chairman of the Committee of Falmouth, Massachusetts, to Samuel Freeman. Captain Mowat, in the Canso, sloop-of-war, in the harbour, to protect Coulson's Ship, and taking out the Goods which were prohibited to be landed by the Committee. The Committee will do all they can to prevent any other person from breaking the Association, - - - 318
- 12, Letter from a Gentleman in England to his Correspondent in Virginia. The sword is drawn here and the scabbard thrown away. The threats thrown out here against the Americans are only fit for Savages. The declaration of Colonel Grant, in the House of Commons, that he had always treated the Americans as beasts of burden, and that they deserved no better usage, was received with the greatest approbation. American fraud, American rapine, American cowardice, and American insolence, are the perpetual topics of Ministerial declamation. Orders are sent to seize particular persons in the Colonies; and certain American advocates here will be seized when the temper of the times will make it safe to do so, - - - 318
- 13, Opinions in England on the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, - - - 319
- 13, Letter from the Committee of Yorktown, Pennsylvania, to John Hancock and Thomas Cushing, with Donations from York County for the suffering Poor of Boston, - - - 320
- Amount of Donations from York County, (Note,) - - - 320
- 13, Protest of the Inhabitants and Freeholders of Westchester County, New-York, against the Proceedings of the Meeting held at the White Plains, on the 11th instant, for the appointment of Deputies to the Provincial Congress, - - - 321
- Subscribers to the Protest from Westchester County, - - - 321
- Answer of Lewis Morris to the Protest, with a list of one hundred and seventy of the Subscribers to it, who are not entitled to vote, besides a number of the Tenants of Colonel Philipse. Very few independent Freeholders objected to the appointment of Deputies, - - - 323
- 13, Phileirene to the Printers of the Massachusetts Gazette. Objections to the claims and complaints of the Continental Congress, who, in most of their Proceedings, have exceeded the powers delegated to them, and in still more, have counteracted the design of their appointment, - - - 324
- 13, Letter to the Inhabitants of the Massachusetts-Bay, No. 9, from the County of Hampshire, - - - 329
- 14, Candidus to the People of New-Hampshire, - - - 334
- 14, Recommendation of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to the People, to assist the Inhabitants in removing from Boston, - - - 336
- 15, Letter from the Earl of Dartmouth to General Gage. All Fortifications should be garrisoned by the King's Troops, or dismantled and destroyed. Arms and Military Stores of every kind should be seized, and persons that have committed acts of treason and rebellion should be arrested and imprisoned. A Proclamation may be issued, offering a reward for apprehending the President, Secretary, or any Member of the Provincial Congress, who are most active in that seditious meeting, - - - 336
- 15, Baltimore, Maryland, Committee, request all persons to abstain from attending the approaching Fair at Baltimore Town, - - - 337
- 17, Letter from James Habersham to Clark and Milligan, London. The fiery Patriots of Charlestown have stopped all dealings with Georgia. Some of the inflammatory Resolutions and Measures of the Northern Colonies portend an open rebellion against the Parent State, - - - 337
- 17, Meeting of the Committee for King George County, Virginia. Austin Brockenbrough summoned to appear before the Committee to answer charges against him of opposing the measures of the Continental Congress.—Refuses to attend, and is published as an enemy to American Liberty, - - - 337
- 17, Committee of Philadelphia inform the Publick that it is now under the consideration of the
1775. Committee to suspend all trade and intercourse with such Colonies as have not acceded to the Association of the Continental Congress, - - - 338
- April 17, Statement and Deposition of Isaac Sears and Paschal N. Smith, denying the charge against them of having furnished Supplies to the Army in Boston, - - - 338
- 17, Letter from Arthur Lee to Jas. Kinsey, Speaker of the House of Assembly of New-Jersey.—The Earl of Dartmouth refused to receive the Petition of the Assembly of New-Jersey from Mr. Lee, because he was not the Agent of the Colony. The Petition will, therefore, remain to wait the further pleasure of the House.—The policy of the Ministry is to divide the Colonies, and draw them off from their great shield and defence, an union in General Congress, - - - 339
- 17, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Rev. Dr. Wheelock. The ability and influence of Mr. Dean to attach the Six Nations to the interest of the Colonies is considered an instance of Divine favour, - - - 339
- 17, Parties of Minute-Men met at Freetown, on the 10th instant, to seize Colonel Gilbert, but he fled on board the Man-of-War at Newport.—A number of Tories, who had signed Enlistments to serve the King, were taken prisoners. They made acknowledgments of their past bad conduct, promised to behave better for the future, and were dismissed, - - - 340
- 18, Address to the Inhabitants of New-England.—The time is come when we are called upon to consider whether we will defend our rights and properties, or surrender them to Lord North. Will it not be wise, as soon as the Sword of Great Britain is drawn against us, to sacrifice every New-England Tory; to invite the British Troops to join us; to cut off all such as intend to act as our enemies, and to send Ambassadors to Europe with a declaration of our Ports being opened to them for a free Trade? - - - 340
- 19, Brecknock to the People of England. The invasion of the rights of the Americans is an invasion of the rights of the People of Great Britain. The Inhabitants of both Countries have the same rights to their liberty and property. The tyranny that violates one will violate the other, - - - 341
- 19, New-York Committee. Proceeds of sales of Merchandise made under their direction, agreeable to the Tenth Article of the Continental Association, to be applied towards relieving the poor Inhabitants of Boston who are sufferers by the Port-Bill, - - - 342
- 19, Letters from New-York to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Information received from England that a Fleet, with a number of Transports with Troops, are preparing to be sent to America to enforce the Acts of Parliament, - - - 344
- 19, Letter from the New-York Committee to the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, communicating Letters and Intelligence, received this day from England, of the intentions of the Ministry, and of their preparations for subduing and enslaving the Colonies, - - - 344-347
- 19, Address to the respectable Publick of New-York. The Committee condemned for publishing William and Henry Ustick as enemies to American Freedom; and the charge against them, of having violated the Association, is pronounced false and malicious, - - - 347
- 19, Letter to Mr. Rivington. Riots in New-York. Proceedings of the Committee of Inspection against the Usticks, Mr. Thurman, and Mr. Harding, charged with furnishing Supplies for the Troops in Boston. These Proceedings complained of a breach of the Law. Capt. Sears apprehended, and a Mitimus issued to send him to Jail. On his way there rescued and set at liberty. Further Riots, - - - 348
- 19, Letter from the Rev. Samuel Auchmuty to Capt. Montessor, at Boston. Information just received from England of an Armament speedily to embark for Boston, to convince the refractory there that England will not be trifled with. At a rascally Whig mob in New-York,



|         |                                                                                      |     |
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| 1775.   | Sears, the King, was arrested and ordered to prison; was rescued at the Jail door, - | 349 |
| April A | notice of this Letter, and of Mr. Auchmuty, the writer of it, (Note,) -              | 350 |

## NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

|          |                                                                         |         |
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| Apr. 20, | Provincial Convention of New-York, -                                    | 351-358 |
|          | List of Deputies, -                                                     | 351     |
|          | Credentials of the Deputies for New-York, Albany and Ulster Counties, - | 351     |
|          | Credentials of the Deputies for Orange County, -                        | 353     |
|          | Credentials of the Deputies for Westchester County, -                   | 354     |
|          | Credentials from Suffolk and King's Counties, -                         | 355     |
| 21,      | Credentials from Queen's County, -                                      | 356     |
|          | Poll Lists for Jamaica, in Queen's County, presented by Mr. Robinson, - | 839     |
|          | Credentials from Dutchess County, -                                     | 356     |
|          | Delegates to the next Continental Congress appointed, -                 | 357     |
| 22,      | Instruction to the Delegates to the Continental Congress, -             | 358     |
|          | Convention dissolved, -                                                 | 358     |

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

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| April 19, | Letter from the Newburyport Committee to the Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, Committee. Report of an action between the Troops at Boston and the People. Men are setting off immediately for Boston, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 359 |
| 19,       | Letter from Boston to a Gentleman in New-York. The Troops left Boston last night; at Lexington they fired on the People; marched to Concord; engagement there; re-enforcements sent from Boston. The Troops retreated from Concord to Charlestown, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 359 |
| 20,       | Letter from Boston to a Gentleman near Philadelphia. The Troops left Boston in the night of the 18th, and in boats were conveyed over to Phipps's farm. The men appointed to alarm the Country on such occasions, got over by stealth nearly as soon as the Troops. At Lexington the People fired upon, and five Men killed; engagement at Concord; the Troops retreat, and with re-enforcements sent out under Earl Percy, are driven by the Militia back to Boston, -                                                                                                                                  | 360 |
| 20,       | Letter from Boston to a Gentleman in New-York. The British Officers returned from the attack on the People, say they never were in a hotter engagement. Our People came to no regular battle, but annoyed them the whole way back, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 360 |
| 20,       | Letter from Boston to a Merchant in New-York. It is surprising how soon the Country People mustered, and in vast numbers. The Troops were obliged to retreat near twelve miles, and all the way a constant firing was kept up on both sides, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 361 |
| 21,       | Letter from Newport, Rhode-Island, to the New-York Committee. Our brethren of Massachusetts Bay are attacked by a body of the regular Troops, and many friends slain, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 361 |
| 23,       | Letter from Weathersfield, in Connecticut, to a Gentleman in New-York. We are all in motion here; one hundred Men, with twenty days' provision and sixty-four rounds, left yesterday; the neighbouring Towns all arming and moving; by night we shall have several thousands from this Colony on their march. The eyes of America are on New-York; the Ministry have been promised that your Province would desert us. You must now declare one way or the other, that we may know whether we are to go to Boston or to New-York; if you desert, our Men will as cheerfully attack New-York as Boston, - | 362 |
| 23,       | Express from T. Palmer, Watertown, received in New-York, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 363 |
| 24,       | Letter from New-York to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Information received yesterday, (Sunday,) of the attack of the King's Troops on the People of Massachusetts; sent immediately by express to Philadelphia. The People unloaded two Vessels filled with Flour for the Troops at Boston, and seized the City Arms, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 364 |

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| 1775. | April Letter from New-York to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. A reconciliation between us and Great Britain is now at a greater distance than we of late had rational grounds to hope. Yesterday, after the news from Boston was received, the Committee met, and will take measures to maintain the character of a sister Colony that feels for another in distress, -                                                      | 364 |
| 24,   | Letter from James Lockwood, Wallingford, Connecticut, forwarded by express to Charlestown, in South-Carolina, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 365 |
| 20,   | "Johannes in Eremo" to the People. Great Britain has drawn the Sword offensively, New-England defensively. Our blood has been shed by the Troops under General Gage, and the cry will soon reach Heaven against him. Great Britain will no longer be honoured as our Mother, -                                                                                                                                            | 369 |
| 20,   | Letter from Richard Devens to the Members of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, requesting them to assemble immediately at Concord, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 369 |
| 20,   | Letter from the Committee of Safety of Massachusetts to the Governour of Connecticut. The British Troops fired on our Men at Lexington, without any provocation, and killed eight of them at the first onset. As the Troops have now commenced hostilities, we think it our duty to exert our utmost strength to save our Country from absolute slavery; and we pray you to afford us all the assistance in your power, - | 370 |
| 20,   | Letter from Dr. Warren to General Gage, requesting arrangements may be made for removing the Tories into Boston, and the Whigs out of Boston, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 370 |
| 20,   | Letter from Adam Babcock to Governour Trumbull, requesting permission to ship twelve Oxen to the West-Indies, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 371 |
| 21,   | Gunpowder removed from the Magazine at Williamsburgh, by order of Lord Dunmore, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 371 |
|       | Address of the Corporation of Williamsburgh to Lord Dunmore, requesting him immediately to return the Powder, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 371 |
|       | Answer of Lord Dunmore. He refuses to return the Powder now, but pledges his honour, that in case of an insurrection, it shall be returned in half an hour, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 372 |
| 21,   | Cumberland County, Virginia, Committee, consider and approve the Proceedings of the late Convention at Richmond, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 372 |
| 21,   | Letter from the Connecticut Committee of Safety to John Hancock. Every preparation is making to support your Province. The ardour of our People is such that they cannot be kept back. Despatches should be immediately sent to England, with an accurate account of the late transactions, to forestall such exaggerated accounts as may go from the Army and Navy, -                                                    | 372 |
| 21,   | Letter from the Committee of Newburyport to the Committee of Safety, requesting to know if the Forces coming from New-Hampshire shall be sent on, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 373 |
| 22,   | Letter from the Committee of Safety of Massachusetts to the Provincial Congress of New-Hampshire, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 373 |
| 22,   | Letter from the Committee of Newburyport to the Committee of Hampton. Information has been received from the Committee of Safety at Cambridge, that a sufficient number of Men have arrived; they do not wish any more from the Northward for the present, and advise them to remain and guard the sea-coasts, -                                                                                                          | 374 |
| 22,   | Letter from the Committee of Safety to the Inhabitants of Boston. An arrangement has been made with General Gage for the removal from Boston of the men, women and children, and their effects, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 374 |
| 23,   | Letter from a Committee of the Town of Boston to Dr. Joseph Warren, enclosing the Agreement between General Gage and the Town of Boston, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 374 |
| 22,   | Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, called in consequence of an interview between General Gage and the Selectmen of the Town. Committee appointed to wait upon General Gage with propositions for the removal of the Inhabitants, -                                                                                                                                                   | 375 |



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| 1775.     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |     |
| April 23, | Committee report that General Gage agrees to let the Inhabitants leave the Town with their effects, if they first lodge their Arms in Faneuil Hall, or some other convenient place, under the care of the Selectmen,                                                                                                                                                 | 375 |
|           | The conditions are accepted, and the Committee are directed to request of General Gage that the Inhabitants may be removed by land or water, as may be most convenient,                                                                                                                                                                                              | 376 |
|           | General Gage agrees to the request of the Committee, and promises to request the Admiral to lend his boats to facilitate the removal by water; and desires a Letter may be written to Dr. Warren to get permission for such persons in the country as desire to come into Boston, to do so,                                                                          | 376 |
|           | The agreement accepted by the Meeting, and the Committee desire the Inhabitants to deliver up their Arms,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 377 |
| 27,       | Further Report of the Committee to the Town Meeting of the final arrangements. The People have surrendered their Arms, and are to commence removing to-morrow morning,                                                                                                                                                                                               | 377 |
|           | The Meeting agrees to the arrangement; the Town relying on the honour and faith of General Gage that he will perform his part of the contract, as they have faithfully performed their part of it,                                                                                                                                                                   | 377 |
| 23,       | Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to the Provincial Congress of New-Hampshire. The Provincial Congress having unanimously resolved that it is our duty immediately to establish an Army for the maintenance of our Rights, and that thirty thousand Men should be raised in New-England, the concurrence of New-Hampshire is earnestly requested, | 377 |
| 23,       | Letter from Jedediah Foster to the Massachusetts Congress. Has seen Governour Trumbull, who had previously received the tragical narrative from Colonel Palmer; he will convene the Assembly immediately,                                                                                                                                                            | 378 |
| 23,       | Letter from Major McClary to the New-Hampshire Congress. Two thousand Men from New-Hampshire now at Cambridge, in great want of proper Regulations and Field-Officers. Five or six hundred Men inconsiderately marched home, upon the improper statements of one Captain Espy that they were not wanted; this has caused much uneasiness among the remaining Troops, | 378 |

## MARYLAND CONVENTION.

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                          |     |
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| Apr. 24,  | Maryland Convention,                                                                                                                                                                     | 379 |
|           | Matthew Tilghman in the Chair, and Gabriel Duvall appointed Clerk,                                                                                                                       | 379 |
|           | George the Third is the rightful Sovereign of Great Britain and Dominions, and this Province will bear faith and true allegiance to him,                                                 | 379 |
|           | Committee appointed to write to the Committee of Correspondence for Philadelphia, requesting the fullest information in regard to the condition of New-York,                             | 379 |
|           | Letter to the Committee of Philadelphia,                                                                                                                                                 | 379 |
|           | Exportation from this Province to Quebec, Nova-Scotia, Georgia and Newfoundland suspended,                                                                                               | 380 |
|           | Inhabitants of the Province earnestly requested to form and exercise the Militia throughout the Province,                                                                                | 380 |
|           | Delegates to the Continental Congress appointed,                                                                                                                                         | 380 |
|           | Day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer appointed,                                                                                                                                        | 381 |
| May 1,    | Letter from the Philadelphia Committee. Some of their Members have gone to New-York to learn the situation of affairs there, and what the Inhabitants expect from the Southern Colonies, | 381 |
| April 25, | Letter from Newport to the Philadelphia Committee,                                                                                                                                       | 382 |

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

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| April 24, | Committee of Observation for Newark, New-Jersey. At this alarming crisis will risk their lives and fortunes in support of American Liberty; and will give all the support in their power to the Province of Massachusetts-Bay. |
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| 1775.     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |
| April 24, | Captains of the Militia are requested to muster and exercise their men once every week,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 382 |
|           | Letter from the Committee of New-York to Governour Trumbull; recommending to him to intercept the Despatches for General Gage, which arrived in the Packet this day. The melancholy accounts from Boston have united the Inhabitants of New-York, who have stopped all supplies from the Army, and seized the City Arms,   | 383 |
| 24,       | Agreement subscribed by Captain Arnold and his Company of fifty persons, when they set out from Connecticut, as volunteers to assist the Provincials at Cambridge,                                                                                                                                                         | 383 |
| 24,       | Letter from General Ward to the Massachusetts Congress, requesting he may be furnished with Enlisting Orders immediately,                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 384 |
| 24,       | Letter from John Hancock to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Requests to be furnished with particular information as to the Army and the Provincial Congress,                                                                                                                                                        | 384 |
| 24,       | Letter from Oliver Prescott to the Committee of Safety, suggesting the appointment of a Town Guard in every Town in the Province,                                                                                                                                                                                          | 385 |
| 24,       | Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the New-Hampshire Congress. Orders have been given for enlisting such of the men from New-Hampshire as are at present in the service of the Colony,                                                                                                                   | 385 |
| 24,       | Letter from H. Jackson to Col. Jeremiah Lee. Recommends the establishment of Partisan Corps; they performed better service in the late war than any other Troops,                                                                                                                                                          | 386 |
| 25,       | Letter from London to a Gentleman in Massachusetts,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 386 |
| 25,       | Letter from London to a Gentleman of New-Jersey. Fears are entertained on account of Philadelphia and New-York. It is the union of America which gives it strength; the defection of such important Provinces would give great encouragement to our adversaries,                                                           | 387 |
| 25,       | Letter from the Officers of the Independent Company of Spotsylvania to Col. George Washington, proposing, with his approbation, to unite with others, and march to Williamsburgh, for protection of the Colony Stores, part having been taken away by order of Lord Dunmore,                                               | 387 |
| 25,       | Letter from one of the Virginia Delegates, on his way to the Congress, to his friend in Williamsburgh. Intelligence has been received that New-York is to be fortified and garrisoned, to cut off the communication between the Northern and the Southern Colonies,                                                        | 387 |
| 25,       | Gloucester, Virginia, Committee. Premiums offered for the manufacture of Gun-Powder, and Wool and Cotton Cards. Lord Dunmore, by the removal of the Powder from the Magazine, and other acts, has forfeited all title to the confidence of the People of Virginia,                                                         | 388 |
| 25,       | Bedford County, Virginia, Committee, approve the Resolutions of the Convention at Richmond. Committee dissolved, and another elected, May 23,                                                                                                                                                                              | 388 |
| 25,       | Paper addressed to Mr. De Lancey and others, of New-York. The hostile preparations against the Colonies were occasioned by assurance from them of the defection and submission of New-York,                                                                                                                                | 389 |
| 25,       | Letter from Metcalf Bowler to the Massachusetts Congress. Encloses several Papers to show what the Assembly has done. Rhode-Island is firm and determined,                                                                                                                                                                 | 389 |
| 25,       | Letter from Metcalf Bowler to the Speaker of the House of Commons of Connecticut. A Committee has been appointed to consult with the Assembly of Connecticut, upon measures for the common defence of the four New-England Colonies. Rhode-Island has passed an Act for raising fifteen hundred Men for the general cause, | 389 |
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| 25,       | Protest of four Members of the Upper House of Assembly of Rhode-Island, against the passage of the Act for raising fifteen hundred Men,                                                                                                                                                                                    | 390 |



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| 1775. | Letter from John Hancock to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 390 | 1775.                             | Address of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to the Inhabitants of Great Britain, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 487 |
| 25,   | Letter from the Committee of Boston to the Committee of Safety; requesting Wagons may be furnished to remove the Inhabitants from Boston, and that those who wish to come into the Town may be permitted to do so without hinderance, -                                                                     | 391 | 26,                               | Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to Dr. Franklin, in London, enclosing the Address to the Inhabitants of Great Britain, and the Depositions taken on the 25th; requesting him to have them printed and circulated throughout England, -                                                 | 488 |
| 25,   | Account of the march of the British Troops. Their attack on and killing a number of the Inhabitants of Massachusetts; their burning and destroying of private property, and of their retreat to Boston, on the 19th of April, -                                                                             | 391 | 26,                               | Letter from the Falmouth, Massachusetts, Committee, to the Committee of Safety, asking their assistance in procuring Powder, -                                                                                                                                                                              | 402 |
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| 25,   | Depositions taken by order of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, in proof of the attack of the Troops under General Gage, on the People of the Province, on the 19th instant, -                                                                                                                      | 489 | 26,                               | Intercepted Letter from Woodfield, in Canada, to Colonel Philip Skene. The sooner the laws are put in force against the Americans, the better; procrastination encourages the seditious, and weakens Government. The Governour's new Commission has been received, -                                        | 402 |
| 25,   | Letter from John Sullivan to the President of the Massachusetts Congress. There seems some opposition in the New-Hampshire Congress to the assistance Massachusetts has expected, -                                                                                                                         | 393 |                                   | New Commission to the Governour of Quebeck, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 403 |
| 25,   | Instructions of the Town of Williamstown, Massachusetts, to their Delegates to the Provincial Congress. They are ready to assist with their lives and fortunes in the common cause of American Liberty, -                                                                                                   | 393 | CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |     |
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| 26,   | Letter from a Merchant in London to his friend in Virginia. Hopes the Non-Exportation Resolutions will be expunged; if they are adhered to, Maryland and Virginia will lose the Tobacco trade, -                                                                                                            | 394 | Apr. 26,                          | Assembly of Connecticut meets, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 409 |
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| 24,   | Letter from the Officers of the Independent Company of Spottsylvania to Captain Grayson. The People have received no satisfaction for the Powder taken by Lord Dunmore; a submission to this outrage will subject Virginia to a suspicion of defection, -                                                   | 395 |                                   | List of Representatives, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 409 |
| 26,   | Henrico County, Virginia, Committee. The removal of the Powder by Lord Dunmore is an insult to every freeman; every endeavour will be used to procure an immediate restitution of it, -                                                                                                                     | 396 |                                   | Embargo laid to prohibit the exportation of Provisions by water, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 410 |
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| 26,   | Association, for defending with Arms, their property, liberty, and lives, adopted at a meeting of near eight thousand of the Inhabitants of Philadelphia, -                                                                                                                                                 | 399 |                                   | News Carriers to convey intelligence at the publick expense, authorized, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 410 |
| 26,   | Letter from Reading, Pennsylvania. Two Companies of Foot have been raised in the Town; in three weeks there will be one in every Town in the County, ready to assert, at the risk of their lives, the liberty of America, -                                                                                 | 400 |                                   | Committee to procure Provisions for the Inhabitants of the Colony who have gone to the assistance of Massachusetts, -                                                                                                                                                                                       | 411 |
| 26,   | Address of the New-York Committee, recommending that a new Committee be elected by the Freeholders and Freemen of the City and County; and that Delegates to a Provincial Congress, to meet on the 22d of May next, be chosen, -                                                                            | 400 |                                   | Act for Assembling, Equipping, &c., a number of the Inhabitants of this Colony, for the special defence and safety thereof, -                                                                                                                                                                               | 411 |
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| 26,   | Letter from the Congress of New-Hampshire to the Congress of Massachusetts. It is not thought expedient now to establish an Army of Observation; a Provincial Congress will meet on the 17th of May next, who will no doubt co-operate with their brethren in New-England, -                                | 401 |                                   | Officers for the six Regiments raised for the defence and safety of the Colony, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 414 |
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| 27,   | Letter from Stephen Hopkins to the President of the Massachusetts Congress, informing them of the seizure and detention of Mr. John Brown, of Providence, and requesting them to make the King's Officers answerable for the treatment of Mr. Brown. Reprisals recommended by the Continental Congress, and |     | 27,                               | Letter from Stephen Hopkins to the President of the Massachusetts Congress, informing them of the seizure and detention of Mr. John Brown, of Providence, and requesting them to make the King's Officers answerable for the treatment of Mr. Brown. Reprisals recommended by the Continental Congress, and |     |



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| 1775.     | sanctioned by the Colonies, are highly necessary to be put in practice, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 421 |
| April 27, | Letter from Colonel Isaac Lee to Governour Trumbull. His Regiment is prepared with arms and ammunition, and ready to march at the shortest notice, -                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 423 |
| 27,       | Letter from Jedediah Huntington to Jonathan Trumbull, Jun. Great numbers of Troops, or rather armed men, are at Roxbury, in much confusion. It is expected that the Inhabitants of Boston will be permitted to come out this day, but many are suspicious that the General intends to deceive them, till he gets possession of their Arms, -                 | 423 |
| 27,       | Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the Selectmen of Boston. As soon as it is known what time the Inhabitants are permitted to leave Boston, those who wish to take refuge there shall go in, -                                                                                                                                             | 424 |
| 27,       | Letter from the Committee of Safety to the Selectmen of Boston. It is reported that General Gage says the Provincials fired first upon his detachment. This report creates the greatest astonishment, as there is the clearest evidence it is untrue, -                                                                                                      | 424 |
| 27,       | Letter from the Boston Committee to the Committee of Safety, enclosing the Agreement concluded this day between General Gage and the Committee, -                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 424 |
| 27,       | Letter from Doctor Warren to Arthur Lee. The measures of the Administration have brought matters to a crisis. Lord Chatham and our friends must make up the breach immediately, or never. The next news from England must be conciliatory, or the connection between us ends, however fatal the consequences may be, -                                       | 425 |
| 27,       | Letter from Quebec. The Governour's new Commission read there the 24th instant, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 425 |
| 28,       | People assembling at Fredericksburgh, Virginia, to march to Williamsburgh to demand a restitution of the Powder taken by Lord Dunmore, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 426 |
| 28,       | Proclamation by Governour Franklin, calling a meeting of the Assembly of New-Jersey, on the 15th of May next, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 426 |
| 28,       | Meeting of Inhabitants at Perth Amboy, in New-Jersey. Deputies to the Provincial Congress, to meet on the 5th of May, appointed, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 426 |
| 28,       | Address of the New-York Committee to the Freeholders and Freemen of the City and County of New-York, recommending the election of a new Committee, to consist of one hundred Members, on Monday next, the first of May, and at the same time to choose Delegates to a Provincial Congress, -                                                                 | 427 |
| 28,       | Letter from the Committee of New-York to the Committees of the several Counties in the Colony, urging the immediate election of Deputies to a Provincial Congress, to meet on the 22d of May, -                                                                                                                                                              | 428 |
| 28,       | "An American" to the Inhabitants of New-York. Outrages of the British Troops on the 19th of April. Both the King and Ministry are determined, at all hazards, to destroy American liberty. There is nothing now left for us but to appeal to God, and use what strength we have in defence of our liberty, -                                                 | 428 |
| 28,       | Letter from Thomas Brown to Colonel George Pitkin. General Gage has opened the gates, and given permission to the Inhabitants of Boston to leave the Town, -                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 429 |
| 28,       | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Congress of New-Hampshire. A powerful army on our side must be raised at once. The other Colonies, as well as this, are fully convinced, that by immediate and vigorous exertions they may establish their liberty and save their Country, -                                                                   | 429 |
| 28,       | Letter from Cambridge to a Gentleman in Newport, Rhode-Island. Our countrymen swarm to our defence from all quarters. We are busily organizing our Troops, and shall soon have an army of thirty thousand in the field. We have some hopes the Inhabitants of Boston will be permitted to leave the Town this day. They delivered up their Arms yesterday, - | 430 |
| 28,       | Letter from Stephen Hopkins to the Massachusetts Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 430 |

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| 1775. | Letter from James Angell to the Massachusetts Congress. Will, on any alarm, furnish six hundred men from the three Battalions under his command in Providence, Rhode-Island, -                                                                                                                                             | 431     |
| 28,   | Letter from Providence, Rhode-Island, to the Massachusetts Congress. The Assembly passed an act for raising Men, but as they omitted to authorize enlistments, no Men can be raised under it, -                                                                                                                            | 431     |
| 28,   | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Stephen Hopkins. Samuel Murray and two Officers of General Gage's Army will be sent to Providence, to be made use of for obtaining the liberty of Mr. Brown, -                                                                                                                   | 432     |
| 29,   | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Stephen Hopkins, informing that the arrangement made with General Gage for the release of the Inhabitants of Boston prevents sending the hostages mentioned in their letter of yesterday, -                                                                                      | 432     |
| 28,   | Letter from the Committee of Safety to the several Towns in Massachusetts, conjuring them by all that is sacred to give all assistance in forming the Army, -                                                                                                                                                              | 433     |
| 28,   | Letter from the Newburyport Committee to the Committee of Safety, recommending Christian Febiger, a Dane, for an appointment in the Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                | 433     |
| 28,   | Letter from the Selectmen of Sanbornton to the New-Hampshire Congress. They are without Ammunition, and cannot obtain any, -                                                                                                                                                                                               | 433     |
| 28,   | Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Gage. The People of Connecticut dread nothing so much as a civil war, but will defend their rights to the last extremity, -                                                                                                                                                      | 433     |
| 29,   | Letter from General Gage to Governour Trumbull, transmitting him a circumstantial account of the unhappy affair that happened on the 19th instant, -                                                                                                                                                                       | 434     |
|       | A circumstantial account of an Attack that happened on the 19th of April, 1775, on His Majesty's Troops, by a number of the People of the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay, transmitted by General Gage to Governour Trumbull, -                                                                                          | 435     |
|       | Account of an Attack upon a body of the King's Troops, by a number of People of the Province of Massachusetts-Bay, on the 19th of April, 1775, transmitted by General Gage to Lord Dunmore, -                                                                                                                              | 436     |
|       | Account of an Attack on the Inhabitants of Massachusetts, by the British Troops, acting under the orders of General Gage, on the 19th of April, 1775, -                                                                                                                                                                    | 437     |
|       | Extracts from several intercepted Letters, written by Soldiers in the Army at Boston, of the Engagement on the 19th of April, -                                                                                                                                                                                            | 439-441 |
| 29,   | A serious admonition to the Inhabitants of Williamsburgh, Virginia, on the excitement caused by the removal of the Powder by Lord Dunmore. The Powder could only belong to the King, and none but him, or his representatives, could of right use it, -                                                                    | 441     |
| 29,   | Letter from the Officers of the Albemarle Volunteers to Colonel George Washington. They are ready to march to Williamsburgh, and compel the immediate delivery of the Powder taken by Lord Dunmore, -                                                                                                                      | 442     |
| 29,   | Determination of a Council of one hundred and two Members, at Fredericksburgh, assembled in consequence of the seizure of the Powder at Williamsburgh by Lord Dunmore, -                                                                                                                                                   | 443     |
| 29,   | Letter from John Dickinson to Arthur Lee. The impious war of tyranny against innocence has commenced in the neighbourhood of Boston. The Continent is preparing for a vigorous resistance. We are a united, a resolved People. Our Smiths and Powder-Mills are at work night and day. Supplies are continually arriving, - | 444     |
| 29,   | Association of the City and County of N. York, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 471     |
| 29,   | Letter from Oliver De Lancey, denying the authenticity of a Publication in an English Paper over the initials of his name, -                                                                                                                                                                                               | 445     |
| 29,   | Recantation of Jonathan Fowler and George Cornwall, of Westchester, New-York, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 446     |
| 29,   | Letter from the Boston Committee to the Provincial Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 446     |
| 29,   | Letter from the Committee of Safety to the Com-                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |         |



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| 1775.     | mittees of the several Towns in Massachusetts, urging them to send forward Men for the Army, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 446 |
| April 29, | Letter from Samuel Thompson to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. At the Eastward, all are for the Country but three; one of these has deserted, the other two are in irons, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 447 |
| 29,       | Recantation of Stephen Holland, of Londonderry, New-Hampshire, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 447 |
| 30,       | Letter from Alexander Spotswood to Colonel George Washington, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 447 |
| 30,       | Address of Jacobus Louw to the Publick, contradicting the charge of the Ulster County Committee, that he is unfriendly to Liberty, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 448 |
| 30,       | Letter from John Sullivan, at New-York, to the Committee of Correspondence for Portsmouth, New-Hampshire. New-York is nearly unanimous; yesterday six or seven thousand declared for Liberty at all hazards. They have stopped the Custom-House, and seized the City Arms. All denominations are under Arms, and in high spirits. Rivington has made a Recantation. Cooper has decamped. The People with difficulty were prevented from taking the lives of some of the Traitors, - - - - - | 448 |
| 30,       | Letter from Theophilus Morgan to Governour Trumbull, requesting permission for his Vessel to sail for the West-Indies, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 449 |
| 30,       | Letter from the Committee of Safety to the Boston Committee, transmitting a Vote of the Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 449 |
| 30,       | Letter from Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, to the Massachusetts Congress. The Messenger with the Despatches for Gen. Gage passed through Northampton yesterday, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 450 |
| 30,       | Letter from Benedict Arnold to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, giving the number of Cannon, &c., at Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 450 |
| 30,       | Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the New-York Committee, informing them that it has been proposed to take Ticonderoga, but will not infringe on the rights of New-York, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 450 |
| May 1,    | Letter from the Norfolk, Virginia, Committee, to the Committee for Prince George's County, informing them of a violation of the Association by Captain Charles Alexander, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 527 |
| 1,        | Meeting of the Freeholders of King William County, Virginia. Deputies to the Convention chosen. One hundred and seventy-five Pounds contributed for the relief of the sufferers in Massachusetts, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 450 |

PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.

|        |                                                                                                                                                                                     |         |
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| May 1, | Pennsylvania Assembly, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                    | 451-458 |
|        | Letter from the Agents in England to Charles Thompson, laid before the House, - - - - -                                                                                             | 451     |
| 2,     | Message from the Governour to the Assembly, - - - - -                                                                                                                               | 452     |
|        | Letter from the Speaker of the Assembly of New-York, with sundry Papers, - - - - -                                                                                                  | 453     |
| 3,     | Committee to prepare an Answer to the Governour's Message, - - - - -                                                                                                                | 454     |
| 4,     | Answer of the House to the Governour's Message, - - - - -                                                                                                                           | 454     |
|        | Petition from a number of the Inhabitants of Philadelphia, praying the House to raise and apply fifty thousand Pounds towards putting the Province in a state of defence, - - - - - | 455     |
| 5,     | Petition presented yesterday considered, - - - - -                                                                                                                                  | 455     |
| 6,     | Benjamin Franklin, who arrived yesterday from London, appointed one of the Delegates to the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                         | 455     |
|        | Thomas Willing and James Wilson added to the Delegation, - - - - -                                                                                                                  | 456     |
| 9,     | Petition from Philadelphia further considered, - - - - -                                                                                                                            | 456     |
|        | Petition from the Committee of Philadelphia presented, - - - - -                                                                                                                    | 456     |
|        | Instructions to the Delegates to the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                | 456     |
| 11,    | Committee appointed, with authority to pay the engagements entered into by the Philadelphia Committee for the publick security, - - - - -                                           | 456     |
| 12,    | Committee to provide such Stores as may be necessary for the service of the Province, - - - - -                                                                                     | 456     |
|        | Joseph Galloway excused from serving as a Deputy to the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                             | 457     |
| 13,    | Adjourned to Monday, June 19th, - - - - -                                                                                                                                           | 458     |

1775.

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

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| May 1, | Meeting of Freeholders and Inhabitants of Morris County, New-Jersey. Delegates appointed to a County Congress, vested with the power of Legislation, and to raise Men, Money and Arms, for the common defence, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                           | 457 |
| 1,     | Delegates to the County Congress meet. William Winds chosen Chairman, and Archibald Dallas, Clerk, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 457 |
|        | Voted unanimously that Forces be raised, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 457 |
| 2,     | Five Companies of Volunteers, of sixty men each, to be raised in the County, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 457 |
|        | William Winds appointed Colonel, and William De Hart, Major, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 458 |
|        | In case of any invasion or alarm, in this or the neighbouring Provinces, the Regiment to be called into service, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 458 |
|        | Powder and Lead ordered to be purchased, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 458 |
|        | Inhabitants of the County advised to provide themselves with Arms and Ammunition for defence, in case of invasion, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 458 |
|        | Resolves of this Congress to be subject to the control of the Provincial and Continental Congresses, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 458 |
|        | Adjourned to meet on the ninth of this month, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 459 |
| 1,     | Letter from the Committee of Woodbridge, in New-Jersey, to the Committees in Massachusetts. A Provincial Congress will soon meet, and in the mean time the People of New-Jersey are preparing for the contest, determined to stand or fall with the liberties of America, - - - - -                                                                                                                | 459 |
| 1,     | New General Committee for the City and County of New-York elected, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 459 |
| 1,     | Deputies elected by the City of New-York to the Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 459 |
| 1,     | Meeting of the Lieutenant-Governour and Council of New-York. Reasons assigned by the Council for their advice to the Lieutenant-Governour to prorogue the Assembly, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 460 |
| 1,     | Proclamation by Lieutenant Governour Colden to prorogue the Assembly to the 7th of June next, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 461 |
| 1,     | Meeting of Freeholders in Richmond County, New-York. Delegates to the Provincial Congress appointed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 831 |
| 1,     | Letter from Timothy Pickering to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. A Regiment may be enlisted in Salem, if Field-Officers are appointed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 461 |
| 1,     | Letter from the Boston Committee to Dr. Warren, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 461 |
| 1,     | Letter from Lemuel Williams to the Massachusetts Congress, desiring to know if the Merchants of Dartmouth may send their Vessels with Provisions to sea, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 462 |
| 1,     | Petition of Jonathan Brewer to Massachusetts Congress, for permission to raise five hundred Volunteers to march on Quebec, by way of the Rivers Kennebeck and Chaudiere, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 462 |
| 2,     | Letter from Holland to the Rev. William Gordon. Efforts of the British Government in Holland and France to prevent supplies of Arms and Ammunition to the Americans, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 463 |
| 2,     | Letter from an American Gentleman in Paris to his friend in Philadelphia. The French are strongly in favour of the Americans, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 464 |
| 2,     | Gloucester County, Virginia, Committee, prohibit the Exportation of Tobacco to England, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 464 |
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- 4, Committee for Norfolk County, Virginia, approve the Proceedings of the Convention at Richmond. Lord Dunmore's Letter to the Earl of Dartmouth, dated December 24, 1774, grossly misrepresents the People of this Colony, and especially the Magistrates. Strictures on the Letter, refuting its atrocious and defamatory charges, - - - - - 502
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- 4, Letter from a Gentleman in New-York to his Correspondent in London. All the Provinces refuse submission to the late Acts of Parliament, and will oppose at the risk of their lives and fortunes all who come to enforce them, - 506
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- 4, Letter from Governor Trumbull to Doctor Warren. The Assembly will pursue with firmness, deliberation and unanimity, the measures which appear best for our common defence and safety. It is hoped no ill consequences will attend their Embassy to General Gage, - - 506
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- 5, New-York Committee. Letter to the several Colonies adopted and forwarded. Letter received from Richmond County, where they have chosen Members to the Provincial Congress. Answer to the Address of Captain Broome. Letter received from Annapolis, dated May 1. Letter to the Lord Mayor of London approved of. Letter from Albany, dated May 3, received; Committee directed to confer with Messrs. Hancock and Adams, on the subject of this Letter, - - - - - 509
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- 5, Letter from the Members of the New-York Assembly to General Gage, urging him immediately to cease further hostilities, until His Majesty can be apprised of the situation of the American Colonies, - - - - - 513
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- 5, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Assembly of Connecticut. The absurdity of the assertion of General Gage, that the People of Massachusetts first commenced hostilities, will appear when the great inequality of the Lexington Company and Detachment of Regular Troops which attacked them, is considered. No dependence can be placed in the assertions or professions of General Gage; he has been preparing for war, while he was amusing us with pretensions of kindness and benevolence. It is the opinion of the Congress that a powerful Army is the best and only measure left to bring the present disputes to a happy issue, - - - - - 786
- 5, Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to General Ward. The liberation of the Inhabitants of Boston being obstructed, he is requested strictly to execute the orders of the Congress respecting Permits into the country, - - - - - 787
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- 5, Letter from Enoch Freeman to the Massachusetts Congress. The Penobscot Indians being exasperated with Capt. Goldthwaite, it would be prudent for the Congress to send down there and secure the Indians in our interest. The Selectmen of Falmouth have sent persons to



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- 5, Letter from General Thomas to the Massachusetts Committee, requesting them to send persons to examine the Trunks of Governour Hutchinson, - - - 515
- 6, Letter from the Committee of Safety to General Thomas. The effects of all persons are to go into Boston without search or detention; therefore the Trunks of Governour Hutchinson are not to be detained or injured, - - - 515
- 6, Proclamation by Lord Dunmore, charging all persons, on their allegiance, not to aid, abet, or give countenance to a certain Patrick Henry, of Hanover County, or any of his deluded followers, - - - 516
- 6, Letter from Carlisle, in Pennsylvania, to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. About three thousand men have associated, and about fifteen hundred are prepared. The Committee have directed that five hundred men be taken into pay immediately, - - - 516
- 6, Printed Letter to the Regular Soldiers of Great Britain, distributed among the Soldiers in the Barracks in New-York, - - - 516
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- 6, Letter from the Rev. William Gordon, with a copy of a Paper found among those of the late Josiah Quincy, - - - 518
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- 6, Letter from William Whipple to the Massachusetts Congress, on the arrest of Mr. Parry by Colonel Thompson, - - - 520
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- 6, Letter from the Speaker of the House of Representatives of New-York laid before the House, 521
- Speech of Governour Wentworth to both Houses, 522
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- 7, Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the Committee of Albany, New-York, - 523
- 7, Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to Col. James Scammons. It is understood that it would be agreeable to the people of York that Johnson Moulton should have the command of the Regiment to be raised there, and therefore request Colonel Scammons to give way for him, - - - 524
- 7, Order of Admiral Graves to Lieutenant Graves, to seize a Vessel at Marblehead, and bring her into Boston, - - - 525
- 8, Resolution of the Common Council of Williamsburgh, Virginia, on the breaking into the Magazine and taking thence the Fire-Arms, - 525
- 8, Meeting of the Sussex County, Virginia, Committee. Declare the Letter of Lord Dunmore to the Earl of Dartmouth, dated December 24, 1774, to be fraught with calumny, falsehoods and illiberal reflections against the People of

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- Virginia. Direct Troops to be raised, Officers appointed, and Ammunition furnished.— Committee of Intelligence and Correspondence appointed, - - - 526
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- 8, Meeting of Prince George, Virginia, Committee. Every person importing any Goods into this County must, before they are landed, produce a Certificate from the Committee whence they were reshipped, that they were imported into this Colony before the 1st day of February last. Committee of Intelligence appointed, Proceedings in relation to Capt. Charles Alexander, - - - 527
- 8, Louisa County, Virginia, Committee. Thanks to Captain Patrick Henry and the Hanover Volunteers, for procuring satisfaction for the Gunpowder taken by Lord Dunmore, - - - 529
- 8, Meeting of the Freeholders of Westchester County, New-York. Deputies to the Provincial Congress appointed. The Committee then signed the Association, and appointed Sub-Committees to superintend the signing of it throughout the County, - - - 529
- 8, New-York Committee. Members present, - 529
- All persons importing Arms or Ammunition required to deliver them to the Committee in ten days, and all persons prohibited from disposing of any in any other manner, - - - 530
- 9, Committee directed to report a Resolution for the regulation of such vessels as shall depart with Provisions, - - - 530
- Committee appointed to have the Muskets fitted with steel Rammers, - - - 531
- Thanks to Mr. Sharpe for delivering a number of Arms gratis, - - - 531
- 10, Committee to prepare a Letter to the Delegates in Congress, requesting the advice of the Continental Congress with respect to the conduct to be observed towards any Troops that may arrive here, - - - 531
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- 11, Committee appointed to convey the earliest intelligence to the Counties in this Province, - 532
- Physicians requested to abstain from inoculating for the Small-Pox, - - - 532
- 12, Committee appointed to present the Address of the Committee to the Lieutenant-Governour. No Inhabitant to be treated as an enemy to the Country but by order of the Continental or Provincial Congress, or this Committee, - - 532
- 14, Committee of Correspondence directed to write to the neighbouring Committees to prevent the Man-of-War in the Harbour from being supplied with Provisions for the Troops at Boston, from New-Jersey or Staten-Island, - 533
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- 8, Committee of Malden and Chelsea order their suspicions, of Doctor Samuel Danforth's attachment to the Country, to be communicated to General Ward, - - - 536
- 8, A Constitutional Post-Office is now rising on the ruins of the Parliamentary one, - - - 536
- List of the Post-Offices established, - - - 537
- Mr. Holt's Post-Office in New-York, (Note,) - 538
- 8, Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to the Selectmen of the Town of Hopkinton. A violation of the natural right of an individual to remove his person and effects wherever he pleases, would ill become those who are contending for the inalienable right of every man to his own property, and to dispose of it as he pleases. It is hoped that Mr. Barret's example will not become infectious, - 791
- 8, Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to the Committee from Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, - - - 792



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| May 8, | Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to General Ward, directing him to apprehend certain named persons, and bring them before the Committee of Safety for examination, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                            | 794 |
| 8,     | Letter from Samuel Mather to the Massachusetts Congress; enclosing General Gage's circumstantial account of the engagement on the 19th of April, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 538 |
| 8,     | Letter from the Selectmen of Worcester to the Massachusetts Congress. Samuel Paine and William Campbell sent to Watertown, as persons disaffected to the Country, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 538 |
| 9,     | Deposition of Gardner Chandler, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 539 |
| 9,     | Spottsylvania County, Virginia, Committee, approve of the Proceedings of Captain Patrick Henry, concerning the Powder taken from the Magazine by Lord Dunmore, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 539 |
| 9,     | Orange County, Virginia, Committee, declare the removal of the Powder by Lord Dunmore was fraudulent; that the reprisal made by the Hanover Volunteers merits the approbation of the publick; and present an Address of thanks to Captain Patrick Henry, - - - - -                                                                                                          | 539 |
| 9,     | Meeting of the Hanover County, Virginia, Committee. Report of the Proceedings of the Hanover Volunteers in making reprisals for the Powder seized by Lord Dunmore, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                | 540 |
| 4,     | Patrick Henry's receipt for three hundred and thirty Pounds, as a compensation for the Powder taken from the Magazine in Williamsburgh, by order of Lord Dunmore, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 540 |
| 4,     | Letter from Patrick Henry to Robert Carter Nicholas, informing him that the affair of the Powder is settled, and offering a guard for the Treasury, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 541 |
| 9,     | Letter from a Gentleman in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, to his friend in Philadelphia. Several Towns of the County have begun to form Military Associations, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 541 |
| 8,     | Meeting of the Committee for Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Proceedings of the Convention in January, approved. Inhabitants of the Towns in the County recommended to associate to improve in the Military Art. Delegates to a Provincial Convention appointed, - - - - -                                                                                                      | 542 |
| 9,     | Bedford County, Pennsylvania, Committee. Military Associations to be formed throughout the County immediately; Powder and Lead to be furnished. If any person shall refuse to enrol himself in some Company, he shall not be permitted to have any dealing, by buying or selling, or borrowing or lending, with any Inhabitant of the County, - - - - -                     | 543 |
| 9,     | Letter from Ulster County, New-York, to a Gentleman in the City of New-York. A great revolution has taken place in this County. At a meeting yesterday those who have hitherto opposed the Committees agreed to unite in support of their measures, - - - - -                                                                                                               | 543 |
| 9,     | Letter from Joel Clark to Governour Trumbull. Recapitulates his former services, and now makes a tender of them, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 544 |
| 9,     | Letter from Thomas Howell to Governour Trumbull. Thanks him for the appointment he has received, but believing it will conduce to the peace of the Town, (New-Haven,) resigns, and recommends Jonathan Fitch, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                     | 544 |
| 9,     | Sheffield, Massachusetts, Committee, on an investigation of the charges against Job Westover, resolve that he is an enemy of American Liberty, and that it is the duty of all friends of freedom to break off all dealings with him, - - - - -                                                                                                                              | 545 |
| 9,     | Letter from a Gentleman in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, to an Officer of the Connecticut Forces, at Cambridge. The Stockbridge Indians are willing to join the Colonies, and will be of great service if Gage marches out of Boston. There are but twelve Soldiers at Crown Point, and about two hundred at Ticonderoga; they are much alarmed with our expedition, - - - - - | 546 |
| 9,     | Petition from Cohasset to the Committee of Safety, praying permission to raise a Company for their defence, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 547 |
| 10,    | Letter from the Committee of Lynn to the Committee of Safety, with Josiah Martin, charged with having acted as an enemy to the Province, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 546 |

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May 10, Letter from London to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. It is believed here that notwithstanding your seeming firmness and hostile preparation, you will submit to any thing rather than contend with us, - - - - - 547

10, Thanks of the Williamsburgh, Virginia, Volunteers to the Volunteers who offered their assistance on the late alarm, - - - - - 547

10, Letter from New-York to a Gentleman in Philadelphia, - - - - - 547

10, Meeting of the Freeholders of Goshen Precinct, in Orange County, New-York, appoint Delegates to the Provincial Congress, - - - - - 832

10, Address to the Publick, by the Ulster County, New-York, Committee, correcting the misrepresentations of Mr. Jacobus Louw, - - - - - 548

10, Letter from the Committee of War for the expedition against Ticonderoga and Crown Point, to the Massachusetts Congress. Ticonderoga was taken this morning, and the Committee have given the command to Colonel Ethan Allen. Arnold claims the command, but did not enlist a man for the expedition, - - - - - 556

10, Town Meeting at Providence, Rhode-Island. Committee to examine into the state of the Arms of the Town, - - - - - 549

10, Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to General Gage, remonstrating against his violation of the Agreement with the Selectmen of Boston. The People have complied with it, and surrendered their Arms; and though a number of days have elapsed, very few have been permitted to leave the Town, - - - - - 798

10, Letter from General Thomas to the Committee of Safety, - - - - - 549

10, Letter from the Committee and Selectmen of Bristol to the Massachusetts Congress. The Town of Bristol has three Companies, of sixty Men each, most of whom have Guns, but they are out of Ammunition, and cannot procure a supply, - - - - - 549

10, Letter from Timothy Pickering, Jun., to the Committee of Safety, - - - - - 550

10, Letter from Enoch Freeman to Samuel Freeman. The threats of Colonel Thompson to take the Canceaux, in the Harbour of Falmouth, has thrown the Town in confusion; they can make no defence against a Man-of-War, - - - - - 550

11, New-Kent County, Virginia, Committee, declare the charges against the Inhabitants of Virginia, in Lord Dunmore's Proclamation of the 3d instant, is an unjust reflection upon them, and has no foundation in truth, - - - - - 551

11, Somerset County, New-Jersey, Committee, choose Delegates to the Provincial Congress, and instruct them to agree in arming and supporting the Militia, - - - - - 551

11, Meeting of Committees of the several Towns and Precincts in Ulster County, New-York. Names of the Committees of the several Towns. Deputies to the Provincial Congress chosen, - - - - - 833

11, Letter from Ethan Allen to the Albany Committee, informing them that he has taken the Fortress of Ticonderoga; and apprehensive that Governour Carleton will make an effort to retake it, asks for re-enforcements, - - - - - 606

11, Recantation of P. Bailey, James McMaster and Thomas Achincloss, of Portsmouth, in New-Hampshire, - - - - - 552

11, Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to General Thomas, - - - - - 552

11, Letter from Falmouth, Massachusetts, to a Gentleman at Watertown. Account of the Proceedings at Falmouth, in consequence of the capture of Captain Mowatt, of the Canceaux, by Colonel Thompson, - - - - - 552

11, Letter from the Committee of Deer-Island to the Massachusetts Congress. The Inhabitants are out of Powder, Ball and Provisions, and request assistance, - - - - - 555

11, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the New-York Committee. Two Men-of-War, with Troops on board, sailed yesterday for New-York; it is supposed they have orders to seize the Ammunition and Military Stores in the Fort there, - - - - - 556

11, Letter from Ethan Allen to the Massachusetts



|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |     |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 1775.                             | Congress. Ticonderoga taken yesterday morning by one hundred Green Mountain Boys, and fifty Soldiers from Massachusetts; the latter were under the command of Col. Easton, -                                                                                                                                                                                             | 556 |
| May 11,                           | Letter from Benedict Arnold to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Account of the capture of Ticonderoga, and the state of affairs there. Allen, who has assumed the command, is a proper man to head his own wild People, but entirely unacquainted with military service; and every thing is in confusion, -                                                        | 557 |
| 11,                               | Letter from Edward Mott, Chairman of the Committee of War, to the Massachusetts Congress. Account of planning the Expedition against Ticonderoga, and of the capture of that Fortress. The Committee have given the command to Colonel Allen, to the exclusion of Arnold, who claimed it after the surrender of the Fort, -                                              | 557 |
| CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |     |
| May 11,                           | Connecticut Assembly meets, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 559 |
|                                   | Members of the Council, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 559 |
|                                   | Members of the House of Representatives, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 559 |
|                                   | Acts extending the Boundaries of the Town of Westmoreland, and making it one Regiment, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 561 |
|                                   | Bills of Credit for fifty thousand Pounds authorized, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 561 |
|                                   | Embargo laid in April continued to the first of August, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 562 |
|                                   | Quartermaster's and other Stores ordered for the Troops, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 562 |
|                                   | Act for encouraging the manufacturing of Fire-Arms and Military Stores within the Colony, for the safety and defence thereof, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 563 |
|                                   | Act for regulating and ordering the Troops that are or may be raised for the defence of this Colony, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 564 |
|                                   | Articles, Rules and Regulations for the government of the Troops in the service of the Colony, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 565 |
|                                   | Payment authorized for the Ammunition furnished the Inhabitants of the Colony, who marched either Eastward or Westward in the late alarm, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 570 |
|                                   | Committee to take care of, and provide for the Officers and Soldiers taken prisoners at Crown Point, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 570 |
|                                   | Forms of Commissions for Field and Staff-Officers adopted, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 571 |
|                                   | Committee to provide such store of Lead as may be necessary for the use of the Colony, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 573 |
|                                   | Committee to employ News Carriers at the public expense, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 573 |
|                                   | Committee of War appointed, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 373 |
|                                   | Five hundred pounds of Powder to be sent to Crown Point and Ticonderoga, to Colonel Easton, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 574 |
|                                   | Officers appointed, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 574 |
|                                   | Officers of the Company of Northbury, in Waterbury, cashiered, for being totally disaffected to the general cause of American Liberty, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 575 |
|                                   | Committee on a Petition from New-London, recommending the encouragement of certain Manufactures, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 575 |
|                                   | Report of Committee on what Intelligence, Papers and Documents are necessary to be communicated to the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 576 |
| CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |     |
| May 12,                           | Letter from London to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Mr. Burke is to present the Remonstrance of the New-York Assembly on Monday next; the Ministry are determined it shall not be received, -                                                                                                                                                                             | 577 |
| 12,                               | Richmond County, Virginia, Committee. Resolutions of the Committee, vindicating their Constituents from the atrocious aspersions in Lord Dunmore's Proclamation of the third instant, -                                                                                                                                                                                  | 578 |
| 12,                               | Proclamation by Lord Dunmore, appointing the first Thursday in next month for the meeting of the General Assembly, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 578 |
| 12,                               | Joseph Galloway's Address to the Publick. Denying the charge that he had wrote Letters to the Ministry inimical to America, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 579 |
| 1775.                             | May 12, Committee of Correspondence for Bergen County, in New-Jersey, appointed, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 579 |
| 12,                               | Delegates to the Provincial Congress of New-York chosen by the Committees in Charlotte County, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 833 |
| 12,                               | Freeholders and Inhabitants of Haverstraw Precinct, in Orange County, New-York, choose Delegates to the Provincial Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 834 |
| 12,                               | Letter from the Albany Committee to the New-York Committee, enclosing a copy of a Letter from Ethan Allen, dated Ticonderoga, May 11, giving an account of the capture of that Fortress, -                                                                                                                                                                               | 605 |
| 12,                               | Letter from S. Osgood to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Notwithstanding the agreement with General Gage, the People of Boston, though they complied with it on their part, are not permitted to leave Boston, -                                                                                                                                                  | 579 |
| 12,                               | Petition from the Inhabitants of the Eastern parts of Massachusetts to the Provincial Congress, praying for assistance in Powder, Balls and Flints, that they may have wherewithal to defend themselves, -                                                                                                                                                               | 580 |
| 12,                               | Letter from the Selectmen of Amesbury to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 580 |
| 12,                               | Letter from the Committee of Supplies to the Massachusetts Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 581 |
| 12,                               | Letter from General Thomas to the Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 581 |
| 13,                               | Letter from James Cavet to Arthur St. Clair. The situation of the well-affected Inhabitants of Pittsburgh is almost intolerable; if not assisted they will be ruined, -                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 581 |
| 13,                               | Letter from the Committee for Mamicotting to the New-York Congress. The Inhabitants have all signed the Association, and are determined to stand by it; they have chosen Militia Officers, and request the appointments may be confirmed by the Congress, -                                                                                                              | 834 |
| 13,                               | Letter from Dr. Wheelock to Governour Trumbull, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 582 |
| 13,                               | Letter from Thomas Fraser, in London, to George Erving, of Boston, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 583 |
| 13,                               | Letter from Timothy Ladd to the New-Hampshire Congress, offering his services for the defence of the liberties of America, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 584 |
| 14,                               | Letter from Benedict Arnold to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Crown Point, with eleven Prisoners, and a number of Cannon, taken. Major Skene made prisoner. Mr. Allen's party is decreasing, and the dispute subsiding, -                                                                                                                                        | 584 |
| 14,                               | Letter from Jedediah Preble to the Massachusetts Congress. Proceedings of Colonel Thompson, at Falmouth; his capture and detention of Captain Mowatt, who is released on his promise to return on shore the next morning: he does not return, and his securities are arrested, -                                                                                         | 585 |
| 15,                               | Letter from the Committee of Correspondence for Falmouth, in Massachusetts, to the Committee of Safety. Dangerous consequences anticipated from the conduct of Col. Thompson, -                                                                                                                                                                                          | 586 |
|                                   | Resolution of the Provincial Congress disapproving of the conduct of Col. Thompson, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 587 |
| 15,                               | Address of the Council to the People of Virginia. A redress of Grievances is more likely to be obtained by gentle methods than by intemperate behaviour. An Assembly will soon meet, when the People may represent their Grievances in the manner prescribed by the Constitution, -                                                                                      | 587 |
| 15,                               | Chester County, Pennsylvania, Committee. The British Parliament having in an Address to His Majesty declared the People of Massachusetts-Bay to be in a state of open Rebellion, encouraged by several other Colonies, it is the duty of the Freemen of this County to associate and provide themselves with Arms and Ammunition, to defend their lives and liberties, - | 588 |
| NEW-JERSEY ASSEMBLY.              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |     |
| May 15,                           | Assembly of New-Jersey meets, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 589 |
|                                   | List of Representatives, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 589 |
|                                   | Letters from the Agents in England, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of New-York, laid before the House, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 589 |



1775.

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| May 16, Governour's Speech to the Council and House of Assembly, - - - - -                                                                                                            | 590 |
| Address to the King from the Lords and Commons of Great Britain, of the 7th of February, 1775, and a copy of Lord North's Resolution laid before the House, - - - - -                 | 595 |
| Letter from Governour Franklin to the Earl of Dartmouth, dated February 1, 1775, laid before the House, - - - - -                                                                     | 595 |
| 17, Governour's Speech and Papers referred to a Committee of the Whole House, and considered, - - - - -                                                                               | 596 |
| Address to the Governour in answer to his Speech ordered, and Committee appointed to prepare it, - - - - -                                                                            | 596 |
| 18, Message to the Governour, requesting him to inform the House, whether the Letter to the Earl of Dartmouth, presented to the House on the 16th, is authentick or not, - - - - -    | 597 |
| 19, Address in answer to the Governour's Speech, considered in Committee of the Whole, reported, amended, and agreed to, - - - - -                                                    | 598 |
| 20, The Speaker with the House wait upon the Governour in the Council Chamber with the Address, - - - - -                                                                             | 599 |
| The Speaker declares his dissent to the Address, - - - - -                                                                                                                            | 599 |
| Address of the House to the Governour, - - - - -                                                                                                                                      | 599 |
| Governour's Answer, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                         | 601 |
| The House cannot comply with and adopt the Resolution of the House of Commons of February 27th, but recommend to their Delegates to lay it before the Continental Congress, - - - - - | 602 |
| Message from the Governour to the Assembly in reply to their Address on the subject of his Letter to the Earl of Dartmouth, dated February 1, 1775, - - - - -                         | 602 |
| Committee appointed to consider the Message, and make report to the next sitting of the Assembly, - - - - -                                                                           | 604 |
| Assembly prorogued to the 20th of June next, - - - - -                                                                                                                                | 604 |

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |     |
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| May 15, New-York Committee, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 603 |
| Address from the Captains of six Companies, offering their services to co-operate in carrying into effect the Continental Association, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                   | 604 |
| Copies of the General Association of New-York, left in the several Wards of the City for signature; all persons recommended to sign it as speedily as possible, - - - - -                                                                                                                          | 605 |
| 15, Letter from New-York Committee to the Continental Congress, enclosing copies of Letters, with authentick intelligence of the capture of Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                 | 605 |
| 15, Newburgh, New-York, Committee. A number of persons having neglected or refused to sign the Association, they are requested to do so; such as do not sign it on or before the 29th instant, to be considered enemies to the Country, and no person shall have any dealings with them, - - - - - | 606 |
| 15, Inhabitants of Cornwall Precinct, in Orange County, New-York, choose Deputies to the Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                            | 834 |
| 15, Providence, Rhode-Island, Town Meeting. Committees authorized to purchase Arms for all able-bodied Men not able to purchase themselves; and the Town stock of Powder and Lead to be made up into Cartridges, - - - - -                                                                         | 607 |
| 10, Letter from Newport, Rhode-Island. Two Sloops at Bedford taken by Capt. Lindsay, of the Falcon, sloop-of-war, retaken by the People of Bedford; one of the enemy was killed, two were wounded, and thirteen made prisoners, - - - - -                                                          | 608 |
| 15, Sloop at Dartmouth seized by Captain Lindsay, of the Falcon, retaken with the prize crew, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                            | 608 |
| 15, Recantation of the Rev. Samuel Dana, of Groton, Massachusetts, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 608 |
| 15, Letter from General Gage to the Earl of Dartmouth, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 609 |
| 15, Petition from several Towns in Suffolk County, Massachusetts, to the Committee of Safety, requesting the appointment of Colonel Lemuel Robinson, of Dorchester, - - - - -                                                                                                                      | 609 |
| 15, Petition of John Boice and Hugh McLean to the Massachusetts Congress, requesting that certain enlisted Soldiers, who are Paper Makers, may be discharged, - - - - -                                                                                                                            | 609 |

1775.

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| May 15, Letter from a Committee at Berwick, to the Committee of Safety, objecting to the appointment of one Alexander Scammell, who lives in New-Hampshire, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 610 |
| 15, Letter from Jedediah Preble to the Committee of Safety, objecting to the raising of two Regiments in the County of Cumberland, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 610 |
| 15, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Eastern Indians, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 610 |
| 15, Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, Town Meeting. The Committee of the Town empowered to inquire touching any obnoxious persons who may flee to this Town, and none but the Committee shall have any concern with such Refugees, - - - - -                                                                                                                                       | 611 |
| 15, Letter from the Committee and Selectmen of Marlow, New-Hampshire, to the Provincial Committee. They are not able to support a Delegate to the Provincial Congress, but with their lives and interests will assist in defence of the Colonies, - - - - -                                                                                                                 | 612 |
| 15, Letter from the Town of Alstead, in New-Hampshire, to the Delegates of the Province, now sitting at Exeter. Cannot support a Delegate to the Congress, but will abide by all its decisions, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                   | 612 |
| 16, Meeting of the Inhabitants of Augusta County, Virginia, on the West side of Laurel Hill, at Pittsburgh; appoint a Committee for the District. The Committee resolve to support all the American measures; make provision for embodying the Militia, procuring Arms and Ammunition, and for cultivating a friendship with the Indians, - - - - -                         | 613 |
| 16, Instructions to John Harvie and George Roote, Delegates from the People West of Laurel Hill, to the Virginia Convention, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 614 |
| 16, Letter from Dr. Franklin to Dr. Priestley, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 615 |
| 16, Meeting of the Inhabitants of the County of Westmoreland, in Pennsylvania. It is the indispensable duty of every American, by every means which God has put in his power, to resist and oppose the system of tyranny and oppression attempted to be exercised by the Parliament and Ministry of Great Britain, - - - - -                                                | 615 |
| 16, Association of the Inhabitants of Westmoreland County, in Pennsylvania, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 615 |
| 16, Meeting of the Council of Pennsylvania. Eight Indians, who arrived in Philadelphia on the 14th, brought before the Council, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 616 |
| Speech of one of the Indians to the Governour, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 616 |
| 18, The Indians sent for, and the Governour began delivering a Speech in reply to them, but having a bad translator, it was postponed to the 20th instant, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 617 |
| 20, Speech of the Governour in reply to that of the Indians, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 617 |
| The Indians receive three hundred Dollars, and signed a receipt for it on the back of the Deed executed at Fort Stanwix, in 1768, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 617 |
| 16, New-York Committee. The Ward Companies of Militia recommended to enrol their Men in the different Beats, to be in readiness to take their tour of duty as a Military Night Watch, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                             | 618 |
| 16, Letter from the Delegates from New-York in the Continental Congress, to the New-York Committee, enclosing a Resolution of the Congress of the 15th, recommending to the Inhabitants, in the event of the arrival of any Troops, to act on the defensive, so long as may be consistent with their safety and security, - - - - -                                         | 618 |
| 16, Dutchess County, New-York, Committee, certify the election of Deputies to the Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 834 |
| 16, Letter from the Committee of Correspondence for Connecticut to the Massachusetts Congress. The expedition against Ticonderoga was set on foot by some private persons in Connecticut, and carried into effect without the aid of those afterwards sent from Massachusetts; but as it was done for the common cause, they will not contend for the precedence, - - - - - | 618 |
| 16, Letter from Joseph Warren to Arthur Lee, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 619 |
| 16, Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to the Continental Congress, representing the dangerous situation of affairs there without a regular Government, and asking their advice about taking up and exercising                                                                                                                                            |     |



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| 1775.   | the powers of Government: they also request the Congress to take the general direction of the Army, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 620 |
| May 16, | Letter from Henry Young Brown to the Massachusetts Congress. Communicates his suspicions that the Indians are about to take sides with Canada. There are but ten Guns, twenty pounds of Powder, and half a hundred of Lead, in the Town of Brownfield. Applies to the Congress for assistance, - - - - -                                                                                                                               | 622 |
| 17,     | Middlesex County, Virginia, Committee. Thomas Haddin, having reviled the Continental Association, and refused to sign it, is held forth to the publick as an enemy to American Liberty, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 668 |
| 17,     | Cumberland County, Virginia, Committee, approve of the Resolution of Maryland to stop Exportations to Quebeck, &c., and in consequence of the alarming situation of American affairs, especially in the Province of New-York, recommend a Colony Convention be immediately called, - - - - -                                                                                                                                           | 622 |
| 17,     | Address of Cumberland County to the Inhabitants of the lower parts of Virginia, offering protection and support to their Wives and Children, in case of an invasion of the Colony by sea, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 622 |
| 17,     | Cecil County, Maryland, Committee. Charles Gordon having maliciously aspersed the Continental Congress and the Provincial Convention, is declared an enemy to the Country, and as such none are to have dealings or communications with him, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                 | 622 |
| 17,     | John Brown arrived at Philadelphia from Ticonderoga, an Express to the General Congress, with an account of the capture of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and of an attempt made by the British to find a passage for an Army from Canada to Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                           | 623 |
| 17,     | Colonel Easton at the Provincial Congress in Watertown, with an account of the Capture of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 624 |
| 17,     | Philadelphia Committee direct the republication of the Resolve prohibiting the killing of any Sheep under four years old, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 625 |
| 17,     | Votes in First, Second, Third, and Fourth Companies of Brookhaven, with the Poll Lists, for the choice of a Deputy to the Provincial Congress of New-York, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 835 |
| 17,     | Account of the commencement of Hostilities between Great Britain and America, in the Province of Massachusetts-Bay, by the Reverend Mr. William Gordon, of Roxbury, in a Letter to a Gentleman in England, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 625 |
| 17,     | Letter from the Congress of Massachusetts to the Assembly of Connecticut, suggesting the propriety of having the Cannon at Ticonderoga and Crown Point removed immediately to the Camp at Cambridge, and the appointing of Colonel Arnold to take charge of them down, with all possible haste, to prevent disputes between him and other officers, - - - - -                                                                          | 808 |
| 17,     | Committees of Correspondence for the several Towns and Districts of Worcester County, in Massachusetts, requested to meet at the Court-House on Wednesday next, May 24th, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 700 |
| 17,     | Letters of Governour Hutchinson, lately discovered, show what a slave he has been to the Ministry. Copy of one from him to General Gage, enclosing one from Bernard, in 1771, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 632 |
| 17,     | Letter from the Committee of Northborough to General Ward, charging Ebenezer Cutler, late of Groton, as an enemy to his country, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 632 |
| 17,     | Letter from the Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, Committee, to the Provincial Congress. Request to know if a Vessel may load with Masts, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 632 |
| 18,     | Declaration by the Grand Jury of Newcastle, Delaware, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 633 |
| 18,     | Letter from Arthur St. Clair to Joseph Shippen, Jun., enclosing Letter of James Cavet, dated May 18th. Yesterday a County Meeting, in Westmoreland, passed Resolutions to arm and discipline the Militia, and formed an Association, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                         | 633 |
| 18,     | General Committee of Association for Newark, in New-Jersey, stop all Exportations to Quebeck, Nova-Scotia, Georgia, and Newfoundland, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 634 |
| 1775.   | May 18, Instructions to the Deputies elected to represent the Town of Newark, in Essex County, in the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 634 |
| 18,     | New-York Committee. Committee appointed to institute a Military Night Watch, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 636 |
| 18,     | Letter from the New-York Committee to the Governour of Connecticut; thank him for the kindness of Connecticut in sending Troops to their assistance, but request he may direct their encampment on the Western frontiers of Connecticut, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                     | 636 |
| 18,     | Directions for a Military Night Watch in the City of New-York, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 636 |
| 18,     | Letter from the Committee of Palatine District, Tryon County, New-York, to the Albany Committee, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 637 |
| 18,     | Letter from Colonel Guy Johnson to the Committee of Schenectady, New-York, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 638 |
| 18,     | Authentic Account of the taking of the Fortresses at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, by a party of Connecticut Forces, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 638 |
| 18,     | Letter from Ethan Allen to James Morrison and the Merchants that are friendly to the cause of Liberty in Montreal, soliciting their immediate assistance, in Provisions, Ammunition, and Spirituous Liquors, not as a donation, for he is ready to pay for them, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                             | 639 |
| 18,     | Letter from the Camp at Cambridge. Information from Halifax, that the People destroyed a quantity of Hay, purchased and ready to be shipped for the Dragoons at Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 639 |
| 18,     | Letter from Colonel John Stark to the Provincial Congress of New-Hampshire, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 639 |
| 18,     | Address of the New-Hampshire Congress to Governour Wentworth. The British Troops being sent to America to enforce Acts of Parliament by fire, sword, and famine, request to know from him the truth of a statement that he has made application for two Regiments, to be stationed at Portsmouth, - - - - -                                                                                                                            | 640 |
| 19,     | Caroline County, Virginia, Committee. Resolutions on Lord Dunmore's Letter to the Earl of Dartmouth, dated December 24, 1774; his Proclamation of the 3d of May last; and on Captain Montague's Letter to Thomas Nelson, threatening to burn the Town of York, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                               | 640 |
| 19,     | Address to the Inhabitants of Virginia, on the conduct of Lord Dunmore, and in defence of Patrick Henry, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 641 |
| 19,     | Address to the Inhabitants of the Manor of Cortlandt, in New-York, on the efforts of the Tories to obtain the ascendancy in the Manor, and their attempt to commit the People to "The Loyalist's Test" last winter, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 644 |
| 19,     | Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the Committee of Supplies, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 645 |
| 19,     | Letter from Benedict Arnold to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Surprised and took St. John's, with the King's Sloop of seventy tons, on the 18th instant. Allen is about to keep possession of St. John's, with eighty or a hundred men; this is a wild, impracticable scheme, if it could be carried into execution. A thousand or fifteen hundred men will be necessary to repair and keep Ticonderoga this summer, - - - - - | 645 |
|         | List of Cannon taken at Crown Point, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 646 |
|         | List of Cannon taken at Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 646 |
|         | Return of Ordnance Stores found at Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 646 |
| 19,     | Letter from General Ward to the Massachusetts Congress, urging the immediate settlement of the Regiments, "if we would save our Country," - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 647 |
| 19,     | Letter from James Russell to Joseph Warren, President of the Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 647 |
| 19,     | Letter from Abijah Brown to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. He has removed the Cannon from Waltham to Watertown, and is ready to march to Cambridge, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 647 |
| 19,     | Petition of Benjamin Thompson, of Concord, in New-Hampshire, to the Committee of Safety. Requests a thorough examination into the charges against him, of being inimical to the liberties of this Country, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 647 |
| 19,     | New-Hampshire Committee of Safety. Orders to Winborn Adams, and nine others, each to enlist one Company of sixty-two able-bodied Men: form of enlistment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 648 |



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## NEW-HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| May 17, | Provincial Convention of New-Hampshire,                                                                                                                                                                                    | 647 |
|         | List of Members, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 649 |
|         | Matthew Thornton chosen President, and Ebenezer Thompson Secretary, - - - - -                                                                                                                                              | 650 |
|         | Committee to draw up Rules to be observed in the Convention, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                     | 650 |
|         | Committee to report on establishing a Post-Office, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                               | 650 |
| 18,     | Rules for the government of the Convention, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                      | 650 |
|         | Post-Office at Portsmouth established, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                           | 651 |
|         | Colonel John Hale authorized to proceed to Albany, or any other place he thinks proper, to procure Fire-Arms and Gunpowder for the use of the Province, - - - - -                                                          | 651 |
|         | Committee to prepare and bring in a plan of ways and means for furnishing Troops, - - - - -                                                                                                                                | 651 |
|         | Committee to prepare an Address to be sent to the several Towns in the Province, respecting disputes about Tories, - - - - -                                                                                               | 651 |
| 19,     | Petition from Major Andrew McClary, praying redress of sundry grievances, read, - - - - -                                                                                                                                  | 651 |
|         | Letter from Colonel John Stark, requesting a supply of Fire-Arms, read, - - - - -                                                                                                                                          | 651 |
|         | Recommendations to the Inhabitants to support good and wholesome Laws; to encourage all Religious worship; to encourage the Woollen and Linen Manufactory, and the making of Saltpetre, - - - - -                          | 651 |
|         | Committees of the several Towns requested to have a watchful eye over all persons who have used opprobrious expressions respecting the several Congresses, - - - - -                                                       | 652 |
|         | Committee from the Massachusetts Congress, introduced into the Convention, - - - - -                                                                                                                                       | 652 |
|         | Selectmen of several Towns requested to furnish the Arms wanted by Colonel Stark, - - - - -                                                                                                                                | 652 |
| 20,     | Resolutions authorizing the raising and equipment of two thousand Men to serve until the last day of December, unless the Committee of Safety may judge it necessary to discharge them sooner, - - - - -                   | 652 |
|         | Thanks to the persons who took a quantity of Gunpowder from the Castle called William and Mary, in this Province, - - - - -                                                                                                | 653 |
|         | Committee of Safety appointed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 653 |
|         | Committee of Supplies appointed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                 | 653 |
|         | Committee to sell Gunpowder to the frontier Towns, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                               | 653 |
| 22,     | Muster-Masters appointed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                        | 653 |
|         | Colonel Fenton required to appear before the Convention, concerning his Letter to the People of the County of Grafton, - - - - -                                                                                           | 654 |
| 23,     | Colonel Nathaniel Folsom appointed to take the general command of the Troops raised, or to be raised, in this Government, - - - - -                                                                                        | 654 |
|         | Post-Office established at Exeter, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                               | 654 |
|         | Nicholas Gilman appointed Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Colony, - - - - -                                                                                                                                          | 654 |
|         | All Officers and Soldiers in the service to be taxed as other persons are, - - - - -                                                                                                                                       | 654 |
| 24,     | The several Towns are recommended to encourage Manufactures in general, and that of Fire-Arms in particular, - - - - -                                                                                                     | 654 |
| 26,     | Instructions to the Committee of Safety, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                         | 655 |
|         | A Company of not exceeding sixty Men, to be enlisted in the Northwesterly parts of the Colony, to act as occasion may require, - - - - -                                                                                   | 655 |
|         | Powers conferred on the Committee of Supplies, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                   | 655 |
| 31,     | Thanks to the persons who removed sundry Cannon from the sea-coast to Portsmouth, and to Doctor Hall Jackson for assisting in the matter, and bringing the intelligence, - - - - -                                         | 656 |
| June 1, | Committee of Supplies authorized to import Military Stores from any place whatever, - - - - -                                                                                                                              | 656 |
|         | Committee of Portsmouth requested to take measures to prevent the passage of the British Ships-of-War up to the Town, - - - - -                                                                                            | 656 |
| 2,      | An Address to the Inhabitants of the Colony, agreed to, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                          | 657 |
| 3,      | Addresses to the Congress of New-York, to the Congress of Massachusetts, to the Colony of Connecticut, to the Continental Congress, and to John Sullivan and John Langdon, Delegates, adopted by the Convention, - - - - - | 657 |
| 5,      | Oath to be taken by all the Officers and Soldiers of the New-Hampshire Army, now raising for the defence and security of the Rights and Liberties of the American Colonies, - - - - -                                      | 658 |

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|         |                                                                                                                                           |     |
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| June 7, | Obligation of secrecy as to the Proceedings of the Convention, - - - - -                                                                  | 658 |
| 8,      | Col. Hale returned without Powder or Small-Arms, but gives great encouragement they can soon be had from the Southern Colonies, - - - - - | 658 |
| 9,      | Receiver-General authorized to give his notes of hand for ten thousand and fifty Pounds, - - - - -                                        | 659 |
| 10,     | Bills of Credit of Massachusetts, to have a free currency in New-Hampshire, - - - - -                                                     | 660 |
|         | Lenity and forbearance in Creditors towards Debtors recommended, - - - - -                                                                | 660 |
|         | Convention adjourned to the 27th instant, - - - - -                                                                                       | 660 |

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |     |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| May 20, | Committee of Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The application of Mr. Weems, for permission to purchase an Anchor and Cable of Captain Carcaud, of the Ship Industry, rejected. No person can purchase or receive them consistent with the Continental Association, - - - - -                                                                                                    | 659 |
| 20,     | Field-Officers chosen for Newcastle County, Delaware, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 660 |
| 20,     | Letter from the New-Jersey Assembly to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 661 |
| 20,     | Petition of James Rivington to the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 856 |
| 20,     | Town Meeting in Brooklyn, King's County, New-York. Their reasons for uniting with the other Counties of the Colony in support of their rights; choose Deputies to the Provincial Congress, and pledge themselves to abide by the directions of the Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                        | 837 |
| 20,     | Letter from Col. Guy Johnson to the Magistrates and others of Palatine, Canajoharie, and the upper Districts in Tryon County, New-York; has had repeated accounts that a body of New-Englanders were to come to seize him. If the Indians find their Superintendent disturbed they will take dreadful revenge, - - - - -                                                      | 661 |
|         | Letter from Colonel Guy Johnson to the Magistrates and Committee of Schenectady, and Mayor of Albany, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 661 |
| 20,     | Act of the Rhode-Island Assembly, prohibiting the Oath of Office being administered to Governor Wanton, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 662 |
| 20,     | Letter from the Committee of Safety of Massachusetts to General Preble, at Falmouth, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 663 |
| 20,     | Letter to the Massachusetts Congress, from the Committee appointed to confer with the Congress of New-Hampshire, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 664 |
| 20,     | Resolutions of the New-Hampshire Congress for raising and equipping two thousand Men, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 664 |
| 20,     | Letter from the Rev. William Gordon to Joseph Warren. If the Committee will send him Hutchinson's loose Letters, he will examine them, and mark whatever appears to be important to the Publick, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                    | 664 |
|         | Letter to the Oneidas from the Mohawks; written at Guy Johnson's, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 664 |
| 21,     | Resolutions of the Committee of Tryon County, New-York, on the Letter of Colonel Guy Johnson, of May 20, and on the Letter from the Mohawks to the Oneidas, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 665 |
| 21,     | Letter from the Committee of Palatine District, Tryon County, to the Albany Committee.—The communication with Albany is entirely stopped by Colonel Johnson, who has five hundred men to guard his house, which he has fortified. There is not fifty pounds of Powder in the District; they have an open enemy before them, and treacherous friends at their backs, - - - - - | 665 |
| 21,     | Letter from Boston to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. General Gage has broken his engagement with the People of Boston, after they had delivered up their Arms, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 666 |
| 21,     | Letter from General Ward to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 666 |
| 21,     | Letter from James Sullivan to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 667 |
| 21,     | Letter from the Committee of Safety to the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 667 |
| 22,     | Letter from the Norfolk, Virginia, Committee, to the Committee for Prince George County, with an examination of Captain Charles Alexander, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 528 |
| 22,     | Prince William County, Virginia, Committee.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |     |



|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |     |
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| 1775.                           | Condemn the conduct of Lord Dunmore in regard to the Powder. Justify Patrick Henry in demanding satisfaction for it; as, in their opinion, the violent proceedings of the Troops in Massachusetts would have justified reprisals of a much greater magnitude, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 667 |
| May 22,                         | Buckingham County, Virginia, Committee. Offer to receive the Wives, Children and Slaves of such of the Inhabitants of the lower Counties as may be driven from their habitations; and will give them Lands to cultivate, and let their Cattle feed with their own, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 667 |
| 22,                             | Meeting of Inhabitants of Charles County, in Maryland. Appoint Deputies to the General Convention of the Province, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 668 |
| 22,                             | Letter from a Gentleman in Philadelphia to his Friend in Williamsburgh, Virginia. There has been a complete revolution in New-York. The Province is arming; the Governour dare not call his Assembly to receive Lord North's Plan; the Tory leaders have been obliged to fly, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 668 |
| 22,                             | Letter to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, from their Delegates in the Continental Congress. The Congress have ordered the Forts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point to be demolished, and the warlike Stores to be removed to the south end of Lake George.—All the Colonies in Congress are firmly united, and preparing for the worst, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 670 |
| 22,                             | New-York Committee. Motion by Mr. McDougall for a Committee to confer with the Deputies of the County of Albany, now in New-York, whether Albany can furnish Men to garrison Ticonderoga; rejected on motion of Mr. De Lancey, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 671 |
| 22,                             | Letter from the New-York Committee to Governour Trumbull, enclosing a copy of the Resolution of Congress for removing the Military Stores from Ticonderoga and Crown Point to the south end of Lake George, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 671 |
| 22,                             | Deputies for Queen's County to the New-York Provincial Congress chosen by the Freeholders, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 838 |
| 22,                             | Delegates to the Provincial Congress chosen in King's County, New-York, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 838 |
| 22,                             | Letter from the Corporation of Albany to Colonel Guy Johnson. If he studies the welfare of his Country he need not be apprehensive of any injury to his person or property. There has been no intention of taking him captive, or offering him any indignity; these reports are only propagated to rouse the Indians to take up arms against the Americans, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 671 |
| 23,                             | Letter from the Albany Committee to Colonel Guy Johnson, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 672 |
| 22,                             | Letter from Benedict Arnold, Commander at Ticonderoga, to the Albany Committee. On the 13th captured the Garrison at St. John's, and took a King's Sloop of seventy tons; on his return he met one Colonel Allen, with a party for St. John's, who were attacked and defeated by the Regulars. Requests Seamen and Powder may be sent him, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 839 |
| 22,                             | Narrative of the Excursions and Ravages of the King's Troops, under the command of General Gage, on the 19th of April, 1775, together with the Depositions taken by order of Congress to support the truth of it, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 673 |
|                                 | Ravages of the King's Troops, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 675 |
|                                 | Damages sustained in Lexington, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 675 |
|                                 | Damages sustained in Concord, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 675 |
| 22,                             | Letter from Samuel Bullard to the Massachusetts Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 675 |
| 22,                             | Letter from the Committee of Supplies to the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, complaining of ungenerous treatment from Gen. Ward, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 676 |
| 22,                             | Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the Provincial Congress, with the Letter from Captain Benedict Arnold, of May 11, requesting the Congress to take such measures as they deem necessary, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 676 |
| 22,                             | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Benedict Arnold. As the affairs of the Expedition began in Connecticut, that Colony has been written to, to take the whole under their direction until the advice of the Continental Congress can be had, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 676 |
| 1775.                           | May 23, Letter from the Earl of Dartmouth to Governour Tryon. The King received the Petition of the New-York Assembly with the most gracious expressions of regard. The Memorial to the Lords, and Representation to the Commons contained claims which made it impossible for Parliament, consistent with its dignity, to receive them, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 677 |
|                                 | The Crisis, No. 8. On American affairs, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 677 |
| 23,                             | Letter from William Hooper, at Philadelphia, to Samuel Johnston, in North-Carolina. The strict secrecy which Congress enjoins upon its Members prevents his communicating any information of their Proceedings. The most perfect harmony subsists among its Members.—The character of New-York is no longer suspicious; they take an active share in the opposition. Government has sent them the Asia, Man-of-War, to give spirit to the Tories.—North-Carolina will probably be called on for Money, and a Provincial Convention should be immediately called, - - - | 680 |
| 23,                             | Address of Williamsburgh Volunteers to Peyton Randolph, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 680 |
|                                 | Mr. Randolph's Answer, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 680 |
| 23,                             | Westmoreland County, Virginia, Committee.—Resolutions on Lord Dunmore's Speech in Council, on the 2d of May, and his Proclamation of the 3d of May, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 681 |
| 23,                             | Talbot County, Maryland, Committee of Observation. Proceedings in relation to the Ship Johnston, belonging to Mr. Gildart, of Liverpool, loaded with Salt and Dry Goods, and bound to the Chesapeake Bay, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 682 |
| 23,                             | Letter from Robert Hanna, James Cavet and Thomas Scott, at Pittsburgh, to Governour Penn, complaining of their treatment from the authorities of Virginia, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 683 |
| 23,                             | Letter from Aeneas Mackay and others, at Pittsburgh, to Governour Penn. They are treated by the Officers under Virginia like degraded beings, not entitled to the common rights of mankind; the very name of a Pennsylvanian is sufficient to render a man odious there, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 684 |
| 23,                             | Letter from a Committee of the Assembly of Connecticut to the Speaker. The New-York Committee will supply Provisions to the Connecticut Forces at Ticonderoga. St. Luke La Corne has sent Belts to all the Northern Tribes of Indians, to engage them to take up Arms against the New-England Colonies. It is supposed the Plebeians of the Canadas will not willingly engage against the Colonists, but the Nobles are their bitter enemies, - - -                                                                                                                    | 685 |
| 23,                             | Letter from the Albany Committee to the Committee of Palatine District, in Tryon County, Speech of the Mohawks to the Magistrates and Committee of Schenectady, and the Mayor and Committee of Albany, delivered by Little Abraham, May 20, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 841 |
|                                 | Answer to Little Abraham's Speech, by the Magistrates and Committee of Albany and Schenectady, May 20, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 842 |
|                                 | Reply of the Mohawks to the Answer of the Magistrates, &c., of Albany and Schenectady, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 842 |
| 23,                             | Letter from Benedict Arnold to the General Assembly of Connecticut. Defeat of Colonel Allen at St. John's; there are four hundred Regulars there, making preparation to cross the Lake, with the design of retaking Crown Point and Ticonderoga, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 840 |
| 23,                             | Letter from Benedict Arnold, Commander-in-Chief at Crown Point, to Captain Noah Lee, at Ticonderoga. Preparations of the Regulars and Indians for retaking Ticonderoga and Crown Point; requests every man within fifty miles of Skenesborough may be sent to Ticonderoga with Powder and Provisions, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 841 |
| 23,                             | Letter from Ticonderoga to a Gentleman in Hartford, Connecticut, giving a Journal of Military operations from the 11th to the 19th of May, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 685 |
| NEW-JERSEY PROVINCIAL CONGRESS. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |     |
| May 23,                         | New-Jersey Provincial Congress meets, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 685 |
|                                 | List of Deputies who attended, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 685 |
| 24,                             | Hendrick Fisher elected President, Jonathan D.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |     |



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| 1775.                             | Sergeant, Secretary, and William Paterson and Frederick Frelinghuysen his Assistants, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 687  |
| May 24,                           | Ministers of the Gospel in Trenton requested to give their daily attendance during the session, to open the House with Prayer, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 687  |
|                                   | Allegiance to the King of Great Britain, in the rightful exercise of his authority, acknowledged, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 687  |
|                                   | Appointment of Delegates to the Continental Congress, by the Assembly, confirmed, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 688  |
|                                   | Associators of Shrewsbury, in Monmouth County, advised to choose Committee of Observation, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 688  |
| 25,                               | Letter to the Continental Congress. They do not think it advisable to enter into measures of consequence, until some general plan is agreed on by the Continental Congress; and are willing to adopt and carry out any plan which they may devise and recommend, -                                                                                                                                                                                          | 688  |
| 26,                               | Adopt the Non-Exportation Resolution of the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 689  |
|                                   | Letter to the Provincial Congress of New-York. Inform the New-York Congress of their application to the Continental Congress for an uniform plan of operations, and that a general system of correspondence between the Colonies should be adopted, -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 689  |
| 29,                               | Pierpont Edwards, one of a Committee from Connecticut, attended with certain propositions and instructions, which were received, read, and referred for further consideration, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 689  |
| 30,                               | The Committee sent to the Continental Congress, with the Letter of the 25th instant, returned with a written Answer, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 689  |
|                                   | Letter received from New-York Congress, professing their readiness to establish a free correspondence, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 689  |
| 31,                               | Petition from Robert Murray and John Murray, professing their sincere contrition for violating the Continental Association; they are restored to all the privileges they heretofore enjoyed in the Province, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 689  |
|                                   | Association adopted, and ordered to be sent to the several Counties, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 690  |
| June 1,                           | Letter to Pierpont Edwards, in answer to his application on the part of Connecticut, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 690  |
| 3,                                | Regulations for the government of the Militia of the Colony, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 691  |
|                                   | Ordinance for raising a sum of Money for the use of the Province, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 692  |
| CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |      |
| May 23,                           | Letter from Benedict Arnold to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Has neither Provisions nor Ammunition. Four hundred Regulars are at St. John's, and it is expected they will make an effort to retake Crown Point and Ticonderoga, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 693  |
| 23,                               | Letter from Committee of Safety to the Massachusetts Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 694  |
| 23,                               | Petition from John Merrill to the Massachusetts Congress, for Powder for the Town of Topsham, which is in great danger of an attack from the Indians, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 695  |
| 23,                               | Letter from the Selectmen of the Town of Walham to Massachusetts Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 695  |
| 23,                               | Committee of Inspection for the Town of Tewksbury declare Mr. Timothy Brown ought not to be treated as an enemy, but as a friend to liberty, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 695  |
| 23,                               | Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 695  |
| 23,                               | Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-Hampshire to the Continental Congress. Inform the Congress of what has been done in the Colony, and ask advice as to their further proceeding. They ardently wish a connection may yet be preserved between Great Britain and the Colonies, but many conclude that the voice of God and Nature, since the late hostile conduct of Great Britain, is, that we are bound to look to our whole political affairs, - | 696  |
| 23,                               | Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to the Massachusetts Congress. The People of New-Hampshire are heartily engaged in the common cause, and at all hazards determined to stand by and support it, relying on Divine Providence for success, -                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 697  |
| 1775.                             | May 23, Letter from Colonel John Fenton to the New-Hampshire Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 698  |
| 24,                               | Letter from the Committee from Connecticut to the New-York Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 843  |
| 24,                               | Petition of Captain Delaplace to the Assembly of Connecticut. The Fortress of Ticonderoga, of which he had the command, was taken on the 10th instant, by one Ethan Allen, and the Garrison made prisoners and sent to Hartford. Requests to know by what authority Allen took them, and why they are detained, -                                                                                                                                           | 698  |
| 24,                               | Address of the Provincial Congress to the Inhabitants of Massachusetts-Bay, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 699  |
| 24,                               | Letter from Enoch Freeman to Samuel Freeman, at Watertown. He cannot attend the Committee of Safety, but will render any service in his power in the more exposed eastern parts of the Province, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 700  |
| 24,                               | Enemies to the Rights and Liberties of the Country, who have aided the plans of a tyrannical ruler and an abandoned Ministry, disarmed at Worcester, Massachusetts, and ordered not to leave the Town or meet together, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 700  |
| 24,                               | No evidence has appeared before the Committee of Woburn, in Massachusetts, to prove Major Benjamin Thompson, of Concord, New-Hampshire, an enemy to the liberties of the Country, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 701  |
| 24,                               | John Ackerman and others, of New-Hampshire, charged as inimical to the liberties of America, acquitted and discharged, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 701  |
| 25,                               | Richmond County, Virginia, Committee. Resolutions, disapproving of the Address of the Council of Virginia to the People, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 701  |
| 25,                               | Lancaster County, Virginia, Committee. Resolutions justifying themselves and their constituents from the imputations of the Governour in his Speech to the Council, on the 2d of May, and their advice and the Proclamation of the 3d of May, -                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 702  |
| 25,                               | Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Borough of Norfolk, in Virginia. Resolve to have no dealings with any person who shall give any assistance to the enemies of the Confederated Colonies, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 703  |
| 25,                               | Address to the People of Virginia, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 703  |
| 25,                               | Meeting of the Officers of twenty Militia Companies, at Dover, in Delaware. Approve and sign an Association, and appoint Field-Officers for the Upper and Lower Regiments of the County, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 704  |
| 25,                               | Letter from Arthur St. Clair to Governour Penn. State of affairs at Pittsburgh; the proceedings of Connolly, under Lord Dunmore, has thrown every thing in confusion. An Association has been formed in the County for the defence of American Liberty. Connolly has sent Messengers to the Indians, and it is understood he is preparing to decamp, -                                                                                                      | 705  |
| 25,                               | Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-York to the Governour of Connecticut. Orders have been given to remove the Cannon and Stores taken at Ticonderoga, to the south end of Lake George. New-York will make no objections to the sending of Troops from Connecticut for the protection of Ticonderoga, Resolution of the Continental Congress directing the removal of the Stores from Ticonderoga, -                                                 | 706  |
| 25,                               | Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-York to the Agents appointed by them to superintend the removal of the Cannon and Stores from Ticonderoga, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1251 |
|                                   | Instructions to the Agents, enclosed in the foregoing Letter, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1251 |
| 25,                               | Letter from Colonel Spencer to the Assembly of Connecticut, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 706  |
| 25,                               | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Massachusetts Congress. As the enterprise against Ticonderoga was a private undertaking, without any publick authority, it has been thought proper to take the advice of the Continental Congress upon the manner of treating it in future, -                                                                                                                                                                         | 706  |
| 25,                               | Letter from General Thomas to the Provincial Congress. Thanks them for his appointment as Lieutenant-General of the Massachusetts Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 707  |



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| May 25, | Letter from Joseph Warren to the Massachusetts Congress, - 707                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 25,     | Letter from the Committee of Malden, Massachusetts, to the Committee of Safety, - 708                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 25,     | Petition from the Inhabitants of Machias to the Massachusetts Congress, - 708                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 25,     | Letter from the Committee of Correspondence for Cumberland County to the Massachusetts Congress, - 709                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 25,     | Letter from Thomas Barnard to the Salem Committee of Safety. His declaration of attachment to the cause of America, - 710                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 25,     | Committee of Safety for Salem, Massachusetts. The declaration of the Rev. Thomas Barnard, satisfactory; and he should be hereafter looked upon as a friend to his Country, - 710                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 26,     | General Committee for Charlestown, South-Carolina, prohibit the exportation of Corn from the Province; and require eight thousand bushels of Salt, imported in the Brigantine Hannah, from Liverpool, to be forthwith sent back, the Salt having been shipped at Liverpool as Merchandise, with intent to put the American Association at defiance, - 710                                 |
| 26,     | Loudoun County, Virginia, Committee. Disapprove of Lord Dunmore's seizing the Powder, and approve of the measures of Patrick Henry and the Hanover Volunteers, - 710                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 26,     | Letter from the President of the Continental Congress to the New-York Congress, enclosing the Resolutions of Congress of May 25, recommending the establishment of Posts at or near King's Bridge, and in the Highlands, and other measures of defence, - 844                                                                                                                             |
| 26,     | Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey to the Provincial Congress of New-York. An uniform plan of conduct should be adopted by the Colonies; and they have applied for the advice and direction of the Continental Congress on that subject; they also recommend the establishment of a correspondence between the Colonies, - 845                                             |
| 26,     | Letter from the New-York Congress to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, - 711                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 26,     | Petition of Samuel Tudor to the New-York Congress, in behalf of the Independent Artillery Company, for Ammunition, &c., - 845                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 26,     | Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress. The subject of issuing a Paper Currency is now under consideration, and they wish to consider it further before the Continental Congress comes to a final determination on the subject, - 845                                                                                                           |
| 26,     | Letter from the Albany Committee to the New-York Congress, enclosing a number of papers relating to the present state of affairs in the Northern parts of the Province, - 712                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|         | Extracts of intercepted Letters, enclosed in a Letter from the Albany Committee to the Provincial Congress of New-York, dated May 26, - 846                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 26,     | Letter from Ethan Allen to the Assembly of Connecticut, - 713                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 24,     | Letter from Ethan Allen, Colonel of the Green Mountain Boys, to the several Tribes of Indians in Canada, inviting them to join him, - 714                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 26,     | Letter from Benedict Arnold to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, - 714                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 26,     | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Congress of New-York. They have directed Mr. Arnold to send from Ticonderoga such of the Cannon as can be spared, for the use of the Army in Massachusetts. General Gage has broken his faith with the Inhabitants of Boston; after they had delivered up their Arms he refused to let them go. New-York may profit by their example, - 715 |
| 26,     | Letter from Joseph Hawley to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety; requesting copies of Col. Benedict Arnold's Commission, Instructions, &c., - 716                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 26,     | Letter from Benjamin Greenleaf to the Massachusetts Congress; requesting to be excused from serving on the Committee of Safety, - 716                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 26,     | Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the Provincial Congress, complaining of Colonel Jonathan Brewer, of Waltham, - 716                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 26,     | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the New-Hampshire Congress; urging them to                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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|         | send forward with all speed the Troops they have been raising to serve against the common enemy, - 717                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| May 26, | Letter from Captain Samuel Bullard to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, - 717                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 27,     | Frederick County, Virginia, Committee. No measures with Administration, which may affect the Liberties of America, ought to be agreed to by this Colony without the concurrence of the other Colonies, - 718                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 27,     | Prince George's County, Maryland, Committee. Thomas Bailly has committed a wilful violation of the Continental Association, in selling imported Salt; and John Baynes has violated the Continental and Provincial Association by killing a Lamb, - 718                                                                                                                        |
| 27,     | Letter from Abraham Lott to the New-York Congress, requesting their direction whether he shall comply with an order to supply His Majesty's Ship Asia with Provisions, - 846                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 27,     | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the New-York Congress, on the threatened attack from the Province of Quebec on Ticonderoga and Crown Point, - 846                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 27,     | Letter from the Assembly of Connecticut to the Massachusetts Congress. They think the stand should be made at Ticonderoga, and not at Fort George, as advised by the Continental Congress, which advice they have desired their Delegates to request may be reconsidered, - 719                                                                                               |
| 27,     | Account of the battle at Chelsea, Hog-Island, &c., in Massachusetts, - 720                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|         | Representation of the Selectmen of Waltham to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety; charging Major Abijah Brown with being unfriendly to the Country, - 720                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 27,     | Letter from the Committee of Safety to the Massachusetts Congress, referring to them the complaint against Major Abijah Brown, - 721                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|         | Major Brown acquitted of the charges against him by the Provincial Congress, - 721                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 27,     | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Continental Congress. The order to remove the Cannon from Ticonderoga to this Colony was given without the slightest intention of offence to New-York. It is of the utmost importance that Ticonderoga, or some Post near it, should be maintained, to interrupt the water communication between Canada and the Colonies, - 721 |
| 27,     | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Assembly of Connecticut. Before any thing further is done in relation to Ticonderoga the advice of the Continental Congress should be had, and also the special advice of New-York, in whose jurisdiction it is, - 722                                                                                                          |
| 27,     | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Col. Benedict Arnold, at Ticonderoga, - 723                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 27,     | Instructions to Colonel Henshaw, appointed by the Massachusetts Congress to proceed to the Governour of Connecticut, to ascertain if provision is made for securing and maintaining Ticonderoga, - 723                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 28,     | Letter from Colonel Henshaw to Joseph Warren, - 723                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 28,     | Minutes of Colonel Joseph Henshaw's journey to Connecticut, - 724                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 27,     | Letter from the Selectmen of Partridgefield to the Massachusetts Congress, - 724                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 27,     | Condition of New-Hampshire, as delivered by their Delegates to the Continental Congress, - 725                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 27,     | Recantation of Ebenezer Loverin, of Kensington, New-Hampshire, - 725                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|         | Letter from Gouverneur Morris to Richard Henry Lee. A favourable sentence in Rivington's case, which has been referred to the Continental Congress, will be highly agreeable to most men in New-York, - 726                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 28,     | Letter from Richard Henry Lee to Gouverneur Morris. Happily for the cause of humanity, the Colonies are now united, and may bid defiance to Tyranny and its infamous abettors. Mr. Rivington's case, and all others of a like kind, are referred to the Colony Conventions where the offence was committed, - 726                                                             |
| 28,     | Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to Colonel Benedict Arnold, - 726                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 29,     | Charles County, Maryland, Committee. John Baillie and Patrick Graham of Port Tobacco,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |



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- for their infamous conduct in importing Dry-Goods in violation of the Continental Association, to be held up as enemies of American Liberty, and all persons to leave off dealing with them, - - - - - 727
- May 29, New-York Committee. All persons having any Osnaburghs, Ravens' Duck, Russia Sheet, &c., are requested not to dispose of them until the Provincial Congress shall determine on the expediency of detaining them for their own use, - - - - - 728
- 29, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey. Nothing at this critical juncture can tend more to ensure success than an uniform plan of conduct for the several Colonies; to this end we ought to look to the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1260
- 29, Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates at Philadelphia. There is no Powder to be purchased in the City, and scarce any in the whole Colony; and a very considerable number of the Inhabitants are without Arms, - - - - - 1260
- 29, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Committees in the several Counties, requesting that the Resolution for subscribing the Association may be carried into effect without delay, and that the names of those who refuse to sign may be returned to the Congress, - - - - - 1261
- 29, Letter from the New-York Congress to Governor Trumbull. New-York not being able to take command of the Posts of Crown Point and Ticonderoga, wishes Connecticut to do so, - - - - - 728
- 29, Memorandum by Colonel Arnold of the Men and Military Stores required for the ensuing Summer, - - - - - 847
- 29, Letter from Governor Trumbull to the New-York Congress. Colonel Hinman with one thousand Men ordered to Ticonderoga, for the protection of that Post and Crown Point, - - - - - 847
- 29, Letter from J. Trumbull, Jun., to his Brother, at Cambridge, - - - - - 728
- 29, Committee of New-Milford, in the County of Litchfield, Connecticut, publish Zachariah Ferris, Joseph Ferris, Jun., James Osborne, Daniel Taylor, Nathaniel Taylor and Hezekiah Stevens, Jun., all of New-Milford, as persons to be universally neglected and treated as incorrigible enemies to the rights of British America, - - - - - 730
- 29, Letter from the Selectmen of New-Haven to Governor Trumbull, - - - - - 730
- 29, Letter from Governor Trumbull to the Massachusetts Congress, informing them of the measures taken for the security of Crown Point and Ticonderoga, - - - - - 730
- 29, Letter from Governor Trumbull to the Albany Committee. Connecticut has made provision, with the consent of New-York, for the protection of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, - - - - - 731
- 29, Letter from William Gilleland to the Continental Congress, on the protection of the Northern frontiers of New-York, - - - - - 731
- 29, Military Companies forming in various parts of New-Jersey, - - - - - 732
- 29, Letter from Ethan Allen to the Continental Congress, showing the injurious effects of abandoning Ticonderoga and Crown Point, - - - - - 732
- 29, Letter from Benedict Arnold to the Continental Congress. Informs them of his participation in the capture of Ticonderoga, and of his subsequent proceedings there. Remonstrates against the abandonment of Ticonderoga; five hundred families to the north of it will be left to the mercy of the King's Troops and the Indians, - - - - - 734
- 29, Letter from Benedict Arnold to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Surprised and alarmed on learning the order of the Continental Congress to remove the Stores from Ticonderoga to Fort George. Colonel Allen has entirely given up the command, - - - - - 735
- 29, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Governor Trumbull, showing the importance of retaining possession of Ticonderoga, - - - - - 735
- 29, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the New-Hampshire Congress. The measure taken by the Continental Congress, of aban-

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- doing Ticonderoga, will be highly injurious to the Colonies east of Hudson's River, - - - - - 737
- May 29, Letter from the Committee of Sandwich to the Massachusetts Congress, giving a statement of facts relating to the capture of several Vessels by Capt. Lindsey, of the Falcon, sloop-of-war, - - - - - 738
- 29, Letter from the Committee of Salem to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. They are satisfied of the propriety of Mr. Stephen Higginson's conduct, in the answers he gave when on examination before the House of Commons, - - - - - 739
- 29, Letter from Colonel John Stark to the New-Hampshire Congress, - - - - - 739
- 29, Letter from the Committee of Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, to the Committee of Newburyport. Two Provision Vessels seized in the Harbour by Captain Barclay, of the King's Ship Scarborough, - - - - - 740
- Particular account of the capture of the Provision Vessels. Orders given by General Gage and Admiral Graves, to take every Vessel with Provisions met with on any station, and send them to Boston, for supplies for the Army and Navy, - - - - - 740
- Address to General Gage, - - - - - 741

## MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

- Apr. 5, Committee of Safety, meets at Concord, - - - - - 741
- Committee of Supplies to furnish an exact account of all Provisions and Stores, - - - - - 741
- 14, Cannon in Concord to be disposed of immediately within the Town, - - - - - 741
- Powder at Leicester to be removed to Concord, - - - - - 741
- Colonel Gardner chosen one of the Committee of Safety, by the Provincial Congress, in place of Deacon Fisher, resigned, - - - - - 741
- 17, Application to be made to certain persons to take command of Artillery Companies, - - - - - 742
- Colonel Barret requested to raise an Artillery Company, - - - - - 742
- Pay of Artillery Companies established, - - - - - 743
- Four Cannon sent to Groton to Colonel Prescott, - - - - - 743
- Two brass Mortars sent to Acton, - - - - - 743
- Committee of Safety and Committee of Supplies adjourn to Menotomy, - - - - - 743
- 18, Four brass Cannon to be under the care of the Boston Company and Captain Robinson, - - - - - 743
- Letter to Captain Timothy Bigelow, - - - - - 743
- All the Ammunition of the Province to be deposited in nine different Towns, - - - - - 743
- Provisions to be removed from Concord to Sudbury, - - - - - 743
- Six Companies of Matrosses, - - - - - 743
- Disposition to made of the Cannon, Powder, and Military Stores of all kinds, - - - - - 743
- Letter to Colonel Barret, countermanning the order to remove the Powder from Leicester to Concord, - - - - - 743
- 21, Form of Enlistment adopted, - - - - - 744
- Eight thousand effective Men to be enlisted, to serve for seven months, - - - - - 744
- Colonel Gridley and his son, and David Mason, required to attend the Committee immediately, - - - - - 745
- Field-Pieces to be prepared for action immediately, - - - - - 745
- Captain Dexter to conceal the Cannon in his charge, - - - - - 745
- General Officers required to make a Return of such Officers and Soldiers as are engaged to serve in the Massachusetts Army, and to give in a List of such as they deem qualified for Field-Officers, - - - - - 745
- 22, Military Stores to be removed from the Seaport Towns, - - - - - 745
- Intrenching Tools to be inspected and repaired, - - - - - 745
- 24, Field-Officers of Minute-Men at Cambridge required to attend the Committee immediately, - - - - - 745
- Inhabitants of Chelsea and Malden forbidden to fire upon the Seamen under Admiral Graves, - - - - - 745
- 25, The Cannon at Marlborough to be brought to Waltham and mounted, - - - - - 745
- Col. Freeman, of Sandwich, to secure the Whale Boats at Cape Cod, - - - - - 745
- Beating Orders for enlistment of persons belonging to New-Hampshire, - - - - - 745
- Provincial Congress requested to reduce the Companies to fifty-nine Men each, - - - - - 745



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| Apr. 25, | Escort to the Members of Continental Congress,                                                                                                | 746 |
| 26,      | General Preble at Falmouth, requested to attend at Cambridge,                                                                                 | 746 |
|          | Fifteen of the Prisoners at Concord removed to Worcester Jail,                                                                                | 746 |
|          | Provincial Congress requested to make an Establishment for Armourers,                                                                         | 746 |
|          | Enlistments in the Army encouraged,                                                                                                           | 746 |
|          | Order of the 24th instant, forbidding the Inhabitants of Chelsea and Malden to fire on the Seamen under command of Admiral Graves, rescinded, | 746 |
|          | Inhabitants of Chelsea and Malden authorized to defend themselves, as their judgment may direct,                                              | 746 |
|          | Warrant for supplying an Express,                                                                                                             | 746 |
|          | Certificate to Dr. Bond,                                                                                                                      | 746 |
| 27,      | Instructions to Captain Derby, intrusted with intelligence to the Agent in England,                                                           | 747 |
|          | Letters sent to Rhode-Island and Connecticut,                                                                                                 | 747 |
|          | Colonel Glover to prevent intelligence being sent to the Lively, Ship-of-War, at Marblehead,                                                  | 747 |
| 28,      | Post-Riders, between the Army and Worcester, recommended,                                                                                     | 747 |
|          | General Gage's Precepts for calling an Assembly not to be noticed,                                                                            | 747 |
|          | None living in New-York, or any other Government, to be enlisted for the service of this Province,                                            | 747 |
|          | Cannon at Medford to be brought to Cambridge,                                                                                                 | 747 |
|          | Inhabitants of Boston yesterday surrendered their Fire-Arms, as they had agreed to do, with General Gage,                                     | 747 |
|          | Committee to take the state of Boston into consideration,                                                                                     | 747 |
| 29,      | Committee to take into consideration the removal of the Inhabitants from Boston,                                                              | 747 |
|          | Neighbouring Towns required to send one-half of their Militia to Cambridge and Roxbury,                                                       | 747 |
|          | Expresses to press as many Horses as they have occasion for,                                                                                  | 748 |
|          | General Ward to apply to the Commissary for such Stores as he may have occasion for,                                                          | 748 |
|          | Dr. Foster authorized to remove the sick and wounded to the Hospital,                                                                         | 748 |
|          | Captain Benedict Arnold, with a Company, arrived from Connecticut,                                                                            | 748 |
|          | General Thomas ordered to seize Governour Hutchinson's Papers,                                                                                | 748 |
| 30,      | Captain Benedict Arnold reports the quantity of Cannon at Ticonderoga, and that the Fortress is in a ruinous condition,                       | 748 |
|          | Province Arms at Worcester or Concord to be brought to Cambridge,                                                                             | 749 |
|          | Committee to form a plan for the liberation of the Inhabitants of Boston,                                                                     | 749 |
|          | Orders to Colonel Gerrish,                                                                                                                    | 749 |
|          | John Pierce Palmer appointed Quartermaster-General of the Army,                                                                               | 749 |
|          | Inhabitants of the Colony desirous of removing into Boston, permitted to do so,                                                               | 749 |
| May 1,   | Paper Currencies of Connecticut and Rhode-Island to pass in Massachusetts,                                                                    | 749 |
|          | Rev. Mr. Gordon to have free access to the Prisoners,                                                                                         | 750 |
| 2,       | Committee on the proposal of Colonel Arnold, for an attempt on Ticonderoga,                                                                   | 750 |
|          | Recantations from Marblehead received,                                                                                                        | 750 |
|          | Money, &c., to be delivered to Captain Arnold, for the use of the Colony, upon a certain service, approved of by the Council of War,          | 750 |
|          | Colonel Arnold appointed to a secret service, authorized to appoint certain Officers,                                                         | 750 |
|          | Ten Horses to be procured for Colonel Arnold, to be employed on a special service,                                                            | 750 |
| 3,       | Orders to Colonel Arnold, relative to an attempt upon Ticonderoga,                                                                            | 751 |
| 4,       | The publick good of the Colony requires that Government in full form ought to be taken up immediately,                                        | 751 |
|          | Letter to the Governour of Connecticut, requesting him to forward three or four thousand Troops,                                              | 751 |
|          | Committee to confer with the Council of War, on the arrival of re-enforcements at Boston,                                                     | 752 |
| 7,       | To prevent the appointment of Surgeons who may not be agreeable to the Officers and Soldiers, Colonels are to nominate them,                  | 752 |

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| May 7, | Committee for Chelsea to prevent Provisions from being carried into Boston,                                                                                                                          | 753 |
| 9,     | Recommend a new Commission for the Committee of Safety,                                                                                                                                              | 753 |
|        | Council of War recommend a re-enforcement of two thousand Men to be brought into Camp the ensuing night,                                                                                             | 753 |
|        | A Court of Inquiry proposed for the trial of accused persons,                                                                                                                                        | 753 |
| 10,    | Many Batteaus, Whale Boats, and others, will very soon be wanted on Charles River, and Carpenters are ordered to be engaged to make them,                                                            | 753 |
|        | Letter to the Colonels of the Army, informing a blow is meditated against the enemy, and ordering them to repair forthwith to Cambridge,                                                             | 754 |
|        | Letter to the Provincial Congress, enclosing the foregoing orders,                                                                                                                                   | 754 |
|        | William Goodwin empowered to take possession of a number of Boats in Charlestown, and to press Teams to take the Boats to Cambridge,                                                                 | 754 |
|        | Mr. Watson empowered to remove to Cambridge the Boats now in Menotomy River,                                                                                                                         | 754 |
|        | General Gage intends soon to come out of Boston, (Note,)                                                                                                                                             | 754 |
| 11,    | Provincial Congress requested to establish a Court of Inquiry for the trial of suspected persons,                                                                                                    | 754 |
| 12,    | Works recommended to be erected to prevent the enemy from passing into the country from Boston,                                                                                                      | 755 |
|        | The determination of this matter rests with the Council of War,                                                                                                                                      | 755 |
|        | Seizure of Tories, and detaining them until Gen. Gage complies with his engagement made with the Inhabitants of Boston, recommended,                                                                 | 755 |
|        | Committee adjourns to Congress, upon matters of great importance,                                                                                                                                    | 755 |
| 14,    | Andrew Craigie empowered to impress beds, bedding, and other necessaries for the sick,                                                                                                               | 756 |
|        | Josiah Martin having promised, with his life and fortune, to stand for the defence of his Country, is to be received into the favour of his countrymen,                                              | 756 |
|        | Live Stock to be taken from Hog-Island, Noddle-Island and Snake-Island,                                                                                                                              | 757 |
|        | Persons escaping from Boston, to be received and protected,                                                                                                                                          | 757 |
| 15,    | Account of Ordnance and Military Stores,                                                                                                                                                             | 757 |
|        | Lady Frankland permitted to pass into Boston, with certain goods and articles for her voyage,                                                                                                        | 757 |
|        | Note from Lady Frankland to Dr. Warren.—(Note,)                                                                                                                                                      | 757 |
|        | Note from Lady Frankland to the Committee of Safety, (Note,)                                                                                                                                         | 757 |
|        | Letters from New-York, relative to the establishing a Post-Office, referred to the Provincial Congress,                                                                                              | 757 |
| 16,    | Fifty-four Whale Boats to be provided for the use of the Colony,                                                                                                                                     | 759 |
|        | Establishment for the Companies of Matrosses,                                                                                                                                                        | 759 |
|        | Ten Swivels to be provided for the use of the Army,                                                                                                                                                  | 760 |
| 17,    | Committee to repair to the Provincial Congress, and request that the duty of the Committee of Safety be precisely stated,                                                                            | 760 |
|        | General Gage not having kept his agreement with the Inhabitants of Boston, it is recommended to the Provincial Congress to rescind their Resolution of the 30th of April, founded on that agreement, | 760 |
|        | Students of Harvard College, who had been furnished with Arms, are requested to return them,                                                                                                         | 761 |
|        | Female friends to America requested to send such quantities of Rags as they can spare for the Surgeons of the Massachusetts Forces,                                                                  | 761 |
| 19,    | Capt. John Lane furnished with enlisting papers for raising a Company of Indians at the Eastward,                                                                                                    | 761 |
|        | Letter to the several Colonels, requesting immediate Returns,                                                                                                                                        | 761 |
|        | A Horse and Sulkey furnished Dr. Church, for his journey to Philadelphia,                                                                                                                            | 761 |
| 20,    | No Slave to be admitted into the Army,                                                                                                                                                               | 762 |
| 22,    | Post-Riders discharged,                                                                                                                                                                              | 762 |
| 23,    | Congress requested to take measures to secure the Stock on the Islands and Sea-Coasts,                                                                                                               | 762 |



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- May* 23, Thirty thousand Men considered necessary for the defence of the lives, liberty and property of the Americans; and not more than twenty-four thousand having been raised by the several Colonies, the matter is laid before the Congress, - - - - - 762
- 24, Immediate removal of the Sheep and Hay from Noddle Island recommended, - - - - - 763
- 29, Committee of Cohasset requested to restore to Mr. Temple his Property, and they and all others to treat him as a friend to this Country and to the rights of all America, - - - - - 764
- Rev. Mr. Gordon of Roxbury authorized to receive from Capt. McLane a volume of copies of Governour Hutchinson's Letters, - - - - - 764
- 30, Elisha Littenwell directed to remove from Chelsea to Cambridge the Cannon and Stores of a Schooner burned by our People, - - - - - 764

## MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

- Apr.* 22, Letter from Mr. Quincy to Mr. Adams, read in the Congress, and sent to Dr. Warren, - - - - - 763
- Committee to take Depositions of the transactions of the Troops under General Gage, in their route to and from Concord, on Wednesday last, to be sent to England, - - - - - 765
- 23, An Army of thirty thousand Men necessary for the defence of the Colony, - - - - - 765
- Thirteen thousand six hundred Men to be immediately raised in this Province, - - - - - 765
- Committee to bring in a plan for the establishment of the Army, - - - - - 765
- Committees to New-Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode-Island, to request their concurrence in raising the Army, - - - - - 765
- Doctor Warren elected President, - - - - - 766
- Establishment of the Army, - - - - - 766
- Committees of the several Towns requested to furnish enlisted Men with Blankets, - - - - - 766
- 24, Committee of Safety or Committee of Supplies empowered to impress Horses or Teams, - - - - - 766
- Committee to attend the Committee of Safety, to name suitable persons for Officers in the Army now raising, - - - - - 766
- Letters from Hartford read and forwarded to the Committee of Safety at Cambridge, - - - - - 767
- 25, Motion to ascertain the number of delinquent Towns and Districts rejected, - - - - - 767
- Proceedings with the Indian Nations to be kept secret. Other matters before the Congress to be left to the discretion of each Member, - - - - - 767
- Companies in each Regiment to be reduced from one hundred Men to fifty-nine Men each, and each Regiment to ten Companies, - - - - - 767
- 26, Committee to draught a Letter to the Agent in Great Britain, - - - - - 768
- William Burbeck appointed an Engineer of the Forces now raising in this Colony for the defence of the rights and liberties of the American Continent, - - - - - 768
- Richard Gridley appointed Chief Engineer, - - - - - 768
- Committee to consider the state of the Eastern parts of the Province, - - - - - 769
- Committee of Supplies directed to procure Powder and Ball for the Colony, and to furnish what can be spared to the Eastern Towns, - - - - - 769
- Marblehead, Salem and Newburyport required to sell four half-barrels of Powder each, to the Towns of York, Welles, Biddeford and Boothbay, - - - - - 769
- 27, Committee to inquire what provision is made for a Post to ride from the Army to Worcester; and also to procure a Writ issued by General Gage for calling an Assembly in May next, - - - - - 770
- Motion by Mr. Gerry that the Committees of the Seaport Towns in the County of Essex be advised to have all the effects of the Inhabitants removed as soon as possible, - - - - - 770
- Committee to get an exact account of the Men killed and wounded and murdered in the late scene, on the 19th instant, - - - - - 770
- Committee to make true copies of the Depositions, and have them signed and authenticated, - - - - - 771
- 28, Committee to confer with the Gentlemen from New-Hampshire, and to lay before them the Letters just received from New-York, dated April 19, - - - - - 771

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- Apr.* 28, Letter to the Convention of New-Hampshire, - - - - - 771
- Committee to consult with the Committee from New-Hampshire respecting the New-Hampshire Forces, now at Cambridge, - - - - - 771
- Committee to consider a Letter from Stephen Hopkins, dated Providence, April 27, - - - - - 772
- Committee to consider the expediency of establishing Post-Riders between the Massachusetts Forces and the Town of Worcester, - - - - - 772
- Committee to consider the propriety of advising the Towns not to notice the Precepts issued by General Gage for calling a General Assembly, - - - - - 772
- Committee to prepare the form of a Commission for the Officers of the Army now forming in this Province, - - - - - 772
- Committee to prepare Rules for the government of the House, - - - - - 772
- Committee to ascertain what has taken place for the release of our friends in Boston, - - - - - 772
- Committee to bring in a Resolve empowering the Committee of Supplies to procure Provisions and Military Stores for the Army now forming in this Colony, - - - - - 772
- 29, Papers presented, containing the Proceedings of the Town of Boston with General Gage, - - - - - 772
- Committee of Safety requested to report on the Papers, - - - - - 772
- Rules for the government of the Congress adopted, - - - - - 773
- Committee of Supplies empowered to purchase every kind of Military Stores, Provisions and all other Supplies, for the use of the Forces of this Colony, - - - - - 773
- Pay of Field-Officers reduced, - - - - - 774
- County Committees to report, on the fourth Wednesday in May, the conduct of the Towns and Districts with respect to their having executed the Continental and Provincial measures for the preservation of this Country from slavery, - - - - - 774
- Committee to consider on some method for supplying the Treasury, - - - - - 774
- Committee to confer with Jos. Brown, of Rhode-Island, - - - - - 775
- Letter from New-York, dated April 24, recommending the intercepting of the Despatches to General Gage, - - - - - 775
- 30, State and situation of the Cannon and Military Stores, - - - - - 775
- Express sent to the Committee of Safety, to procure their result with respect to moving out the Inhabitants of Boston, - - - - - 775
- Letter to the Committee of Safety, sent by the Express, - - - - - 775
- Committee to inquire into the conduct of the several Towns relative to Prisoners of War, - - - - - 776
- Resolve from the Committee of Safety, respecting the liberation of the Inhabitants of Boston, accepted, and ordered to be sent to the Selectmen of Boston, to be communicated to Gen. Gage, - - - - - 776
- May* 1, Committee to examine the Papers of the Congress, and report what may be published, - - - - - 776
- Letter from Major Hawley, respecting the Bearer of Despatches for General Gage; referred to Committee of Safety, - - - - - 776
- Motion that William Read be admitted to state the sufferings he met with on the 19th April, rejected. Committee to confer with him, - - - - - 777
- Form of Commission for Colony Officers, - - - - - 777
- Pass for the use of Members of Congress, - - - - - 777
- Resolutions for the removal of the Poor from Boston, - - - - - 777
- Report of Committee on application of William Read, - - - - - 779
- 2, Joseph Warren chosen President, - - - - - 779
- Committee on securing the Records of the Counties, - - - - - 779
- Letter to the Delegates from this Colony in Connecticut, - - - - - 780
- Committee to forward to the Continental Congress copies of the Depositions, and Address to the Inhabitants of Great Britain, and Letter to Mr. Franklin, lately sent to Great Britain, - - - - - 781
- Effects of persons removing into Boston may be sent there, - - - - - 781
- Committee on liberating the persons taken Prisoners on the 19th of April, - - - - - 782



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| May 3, Committee of Supplies directed to furnish Colonel Benedict Arnold ten Horses, and Powder, Lead and Flint, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                       | 782 |
| Committee to revise the Commission of the Committee of Supplies, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 782 |
| Receiver-General directed to borrow One Hundred Thousand Pounds, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 782 |
| Horses and Carriages of Members of this Congress excepted from impressment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                            | 783 |
| Committee to procure a Copperplate for printing the Colony Notes, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 783 |
| Rev. Mr. Gordon chosen Chaplain to the Congress during their session in Watertown, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                     | 783 |
| Report of Committee on liberating Prisoners taken by Gen. Gage, the 19th of April, (Note,) - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                             | 784 |
| Resolve on the same subject, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 784 |
| 4, Pay to the Soldiers advanced, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 784 |
| Committee to hold a Conference with the Delegates from Connecticut to General Gage, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                    | 785 |
| Their Report, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 785 |
| Committee to prepare a Letter to the Assembly of Connecticut, on their application to General Gage, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                    | 785 |
| 5, Resolution of April 1, recommending the Writs of General Gage, for electing Members of an Assembly, should be obeyed, reconsidered and rescinded, and declare that no obedience ought in future to be paid to his Writs, Proclamations, or any other of his doings, - - - - - | 786 |
| Letter to the Assembly of Connecticut, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 786 |
| Letter to General Ward, on the obstruction to the liberation of the Inhabitants of Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                             | 787 |
| New Provincial Congress to be elected, to meet on the 31st of May, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 788 |
| Resolution from the Committee of Safety, that Government in full form ought to be taken up, to be considered on the 9th instant, - - - - -                                                                                                                                       | 788 |
| 6, Committee of Safety authorized to procure Powder from any Colony on the Continent, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                  | 789 |
| Committee to consider the Letter received yesterday from the Speaker of the Assembly of Connecticut, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                   | 789 |
| Committee of Supplies authorized to import Military Stores from such place and in such quantities as they may judge proper, - - - - -                                                                                                                                            | 789 |
| Committee to ascertain what number of Province Arms there are in the Province, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                         | 790 |
| Establishment for the Train, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 790 |
| 7, Committee of Supplies authorized to procure Fire-Arms and Bayonets from any Colony on the Continent, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                | 790 |
| 8, Oath to be administered to the Officers and Private Soldiers of the Army now raising in this Colony, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                | 791 |
| Letter to the Selectmen of Hopkinton, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 791 |
| Letter from Committee of Portsmouth, of the 6th instant, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 792 |
| Letter from General Ward, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 792 |
| Answer to the Letter from Portsmouth, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 792 |
| Committees of Correspondence of the several Towns to inquire into the principles and conduct of suspected persons, and to cause all to be disarmed who are found unfriendly to the rights and liberties of America, - - - - -                                                    | 793 |
| Letter to General Ward, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 794 |
| Consideration of the expediency of assuming Government postponed to Friday, the 12th inst., - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                            | 794 |
| 9, Committee to prepare a spirited application to General Gage, respecting his treatment of the Inhabitants of Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                 | 795 |
| Committee to consider the expediency of establishing Post-Offices and Post-Riders, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                     | 795 |
| Resolutions on the false account of the late Excursion of the King's Troops, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                           | 795 |
| Resolution for supplying those Soldiers with Fire-Arms who are not equipped therewith, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                 | 796 |
| Twenty Armourers to be appointed by the Committee of Safety, to repair the Arms of the Soldiers of the Massachusetts Army, - - - - -                                                                                                                                             | 796 |
| 10, Letter to General Gage, on his violation of the Agreement for the removal of the Inhabitants of Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                            | 798 |
| Report on the Complaint made against Samuel Pain and William Campbell, by the Selectmen of Worcester, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                  | 799 |
| Committee to consider the Applications from the Eastern parts of the Province, for Arms and Ammunition, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                | 799 |

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| May 11, Resolutions providing for a present supply of Powder to the most exposed of the Eastern Towns, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                             | 799 |
| Committee to write a Letter to New-York, advising them of the sailing of two Men-of-War from Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                               | 800 |
| 12, Committee to consider the expediency of raising a Company or two of Indians, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 800 |
| All persons required to give Rev. Mr. Gordon free access to the Prisoners, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                         | 800 |
| Committee to write to the Continental Congress, for obtaining their recommendation for this Colony to take up and exercise Civil Government, - - - - -                                                                                                                       | 801 |
| General Ward directed to order four respectable Officers to escort the President to Colonel Quincy, at Braintree, to-morrow morning, - - - - -                                                                                                                               | 801 |
| Committee to estimate the damages done at Concord, Lexington, and Cambridge, by the King's Troops, on the 19th of April, - - - - -                                                                                                                                           | 801 |
| Establishment for the Companies of Matrosses, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 801 |
| 13, Committee to take a third set of Depositions relative to the Battle of Lexington, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                              | 802 |
| Post-Roads established, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 802 |
| Post-Masters appointed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 803 |
| Rates of Postage, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 803 |
| 15, Committee to attend the Provincial Congress of New-Hampshire, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 803 |
| Committee to prepare the Application to the Continental Congress directed to desire the Congress to take charge of directing and regulating the American Forces, - - - - -                                                                                                   | 804 |
| Committee to examine the Letters of Governour Hutchinson, lately discovered, and report such Letters and Extracts as they think it will be proper to publish, - - - - -                                                                                                      | 804 |
| Persons prohibited from removing their Goods and Effects out of the Colony, without permission of the Committee of Correspondence of the Town they belong to, - - - - -                                                                                                      | 804 |
| Committee of Falmouth authorized to send an Embassy to Canada, to ascertain the designs and manœuvres of the Inhabitants of that Colony, - - - - -                                                                                                                           | 804 |
| Report of Committee to authorize the establishment of a Court of Inquiry, to hear and decide on complaints against any person for treason against the Constitution of their Country, submitted, debated, and rejected, - - - - -                                             | 805 |
| 16, Committee to consider the verbal information of the capture of three Vessels, by a King's Cutter, at Dartmouth, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                | 806 |
| Dr. Church appointed to go to the Continental Congress, with the application from this Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                   | 806 |
| Instructions to the Delegates to the New-Hampshire Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 806 |
| Officers of the Artillery allowed to enlist Men from the other Regiments, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                          | 807 |
| Committee to consider what should be done relative to the Prisoners in Boston, and the Inhabitants who are there kept in duress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                   | 807 |
| 17, Letter from Edward Mott, dated May 11, giving an account of the capture of Ticonderoga, and a Letter from Ethan Allen, received and read, Colonel Easton, from Ticonderoga, introduced to the House, and each Member authorized to ask him any questions, - - - - -      | 807 |
| Form of Oath to be taken by the General Officers, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 808 |
| Letter to Assembly of Connecticut, proposing to have the Cannon and Stores taken at Ticonderoga forwarded to the Army at Cambridge, Colonel Allen to remain in possession of Ticonderoga and its dependencies, that Fortress having surrendered to him and others, - - - - - | 808 |
| Connecticut requested to garrison and maintain Ticonderoga, until the advice of the Continental Congress can be had, - - - - -                                                                                                                                               | 809 |
| Committee to revise the Commission of the Committee of Safety, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 809 |
| 18, Officers of the Army of this Colony disqualified from being Members of the Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                | 809 |
| Committee of Safety elected, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 810 |
| Report of Committee on the application of Lady Frankland, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 810 |
| Mr. Craft sent for; the allegations against him                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |     |



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|         | stated; he makes his defence, and is politely admonished, - - - - -                                                                                                                                       | 810 |
| May 18, | Lady Frankland permitted to pass into Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                   | 811 |
| 19,     | Colonel Bond, with a guard, ordered to escort Lady Frankland to Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                         | 811 |
|         | Letter from the Committee of Correspondence of Connecticut read, respecting the taking of Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                          | 811 |
|         | Answer to this Letter reported by Mr. Gerry, and accepted, - - - - -                                                                                                                                      | 811 |
|         | Commission for the Committee of Safety, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                         | 812 |
|         | Commission to General Ward, as General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces raised by the Congress of the Colony of Massachusetts, for the defence of this and the other American Colonies, - - - - - | 813 |
|         | Committee to get the Depositions and Narrative of the late Excursion of the King's Troops to Concord printed, - - - - -                                                                                   | 813 |
| 20,     | Report of the Committee appointed to consider the case of the Prisoners in Boston, and the Inhabitants there kept in duress, - - - - -                                                                    | 814 |
|         | Committee to consider what measures are proper to be taken for organizing the Massachusetts Army in the most effectual and ready manner, - - - - -                                                        | 815 |
|         | Receiver-General authorized to issue Notes to the amount of Twenty-Six Thousand Pounds, for advance pay to the Massachusetts Army, - - - - -                                                              | 815 |
|         | Report of the Committee on the practicability of providing Chaplains for Massachusetts Army, - - - - -                                                                                                    | 815 |
|         | The President desired to deliver to General Ward his Commission as General and Commander-in-Chief of the Massachusetts Forces, - - - - -                                                                  | 816 |
| 22,     | Report of Committee on Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of Deer-Island, in Lincoln County, - - - - -                                                                                               | 816 |
|         | Report of Committee appointed to consider what should be done with the Estates of persons unfriendly to the Country, - - - - -                                                                            | 817 |
|         | Letter from General Ward, requesting a supply of Ordnance, Arms and Ammunition, - - - - -                                                                                                                 | 817 |
|         | Letter to Colonel Arnold, signed and ordered to be forwarded, - - - - -                                                                                                                                   | 817 |
| 23,     | Report of Committee on the Depredations of the British Troops on the Islands and Sea-Coasts; read, and referred to the next Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                | 818 |
|         | Report of Committee appointed to consider what further measures are necessary to be taken for the organization of the Army, - - - - -                                                                     | 818 |
| 24,     | Ebenezer Cutler permitted to go into Boston, without his effects, - - - - -                                                                                                                               | 819 |
|         | Committee to effect the removal of the Poor of the Town of Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                              | 819 |
| 25,     | Quantity of Powder that may be spared for the publick service from the stocks of the several Towns, - - - - -                                                                                             | 820 |
|         | Report of the Committee on the subject of absconding Soldiers, - - - - -                                                                                                                                  | 821 |
| 26,     | Letter to the New-York Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                     | 821 |
|         | Able-bodied Men, without Arms, to be received and mustered in the Army, - - - - -                                                                                                                         | 822 |
|         | Report of Committee on the complaint of the Committee of Safety against Mr. Jonathan Brewer, - - - - -                                                                                                    | 822 |
| 18,     | Officers in Colonel Read's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                            | 823 |
| 23,     | Officers in General Ward's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                            | 823 |
| 23,     | Officers in Colonel Learned's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                         | 823 |
| 23,     | Officers in Colonel Walker's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                          | 823 |
| 23,     | Officers in Colonel Scammons's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                        | 824 |
| 25,     | Officers in Colonel Prescott's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                        | 824 |
| 26,     | Officers in Colonel Cotton's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                          | 824 |
| 26,     | Officers in Colonel Frye's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                            | 825 |
| 27,     | Officers in Colonel Patterson's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                       | 825 |
| 27,     | Officers in General Thomas's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                          | 825 |
| 27,     | Officers in Colonel Bridge's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                          | 826 |
| 27,     | Officers in Colonel Mansfield's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                       | 826 |
| 27,     | Officers in Colonel Danielson's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                       | 826 |
| 31,     | Officers in Colonel Fellows's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                         | 826 |
| June 2, | Officers in Colonel Gardner's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                         | 827 |
| 3,      | Officers in Colonel Whitcomb's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                        | 827 |
| 12,     | Officers in Colonel Doolittle's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                       | 828 |
| 16,     | Officers in Colonel Woodbridge's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                      | 828 |
| 16,     | Officers in Colonel Glover's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                          | 828 |
| 17,     | Officers in Col. Jonathan Brewer's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                    | 829 |
| 17,     | Officers in Colonel David Brewer's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                    | 829 |
| 22,     | Officers in Colonel Gerrish's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                         | 830 |
| 26,     | Officers in Colonel Moses Little's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                    | 830 |

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## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

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| May 30, | Note from the Secretary of State's Office, published in the London Gazette, discrediting the report of a Skirmish between some of the People in Massachusetts-Bay and a Detachment of His Majesty's Troops, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 848  |
|         | Remarks on this Official paragraph, (Note,) - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 848  |
| 30,     | Letter from Arthur Lee, contradicting the statement in the London Gazette, and informing those who wish to see the original affidavits which confirm the account, that they are deposited with the Lord Mayor of London, for inspection, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                      | 849  |
| 30,     | Letter from Colonel James Easton to the Provincial Congress, Committee of Safety, and Council of War, in Cambridge and Watertown. The necessity of protecting Ticonderoga; Connecticut will furnish Men for its defence, but expects Massachusetts to organize and pay them. Offers to take the command of a Regiment, and recommends other persons for appointments, - - - - -                         | 849  |
| 30,     | Letter to the New-York Congress, from their Delegates in the Continental Congress. The proceedings of the Provincial Congress approved by the Continental Congress; they are requested to come to a speedy determination on the Paper Currency. Further suggestions for their consideration, - - - - -                                                                                                  | 850  |
| 30,     | Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, enclosing a Report on Paper Currency: it is sent to show their opinion of what ought to be done, and not to be laid before the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                        | 1264 |
| 30,     | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Albany Committee. One thousand Men ordered to proceed to Ticonderoga and Crown Point; expects the Provincial Congress of New-York will forward Provisions, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                              | 850  |
| 30,     | Letter from Jonathan Parsons, Jun., at St John's, Newfoundland, to the New-York Committee of Safety. Hatred of the People there towards the Americans, for their opposition to the British Government; yet, if they are short of Provisions, they will probably petition the Continental Congress for a supply of Bread and Flour, - - - - -                                                            | 851  |
| 30,     | Declaration of John Nutting and others, of their reasons for signing the Address to Governour Hutchinson, declared satisfactory by the Committee of Salem, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 852  |
| 30,     | Letter from Joshua Upham to the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Brownfield: explanation of his conduct; voted satisfactory by the Committee, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 852  |
| 30,     | Letter from the Committee of Safety of Massachusetts to the Town of Sudbury. Have examined and dismissed Ezra Taylor, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 853  |
| 30,     | Letter from the Selectmen of Hopkinton to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 853  |
| 29,     | Letter from General Ward to the Committee for Salem. Expects an attack this night from the British Forces in Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 854  |
| 31,     | Letter from London to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Account of the defeat of the British Troops on the 19th of April has been received. The intelligence has panick-struck the Administration and their Tory dependants, who have daily denounced the Americans as cowards, - - - - -                                                                                                                    | 854  |
| 31,     | Committee for Mecklenburgh County, North-Carolina. Resolutions declaring all Laws and Commissions derived from the authority of the King or Parliament null and void, and the Civil Constitutions of the Colonies wholly suspended, and that no Legislative or Executive power exists in the Colonies, other than the Provincial Congresses, under the direction of the Continental Congress, - - - - - | 855  |
| 20,     | The Declaration of Independence by the Citizens of Mecklenburgh County, North-Carolina, on the twentieth day of May, 1775, with the accompanying Documents, published by the Governour, under the authority and direction of the General Assembly of North-Carolina, (Note,) - - - - -                                                                                                                  | 855  |



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| May 31, | Association recommended by the Committee of Chester County, Pennsylvania, to the People of the County, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 31,     | Letter addressed to Lord Sandwich, on his charge of Cowardice against the Americans, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 31,     | Letter from Col. George Washington to George William Fairfax, in England, with an account of the Engagement between the Ministerial Troops and the People of Massachusetts-Bay, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 31,     | Letter from Col. Henshaw to Benedict Arnold. Connecticut has ordered Colonel Hinman to take command at Ticonderoga, with one thousand Men, and to repair and defend that Post, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 31,     | Worcester, Massachusetts, Convention, appoint a Committee to draw up a Remonstrance to the Provincial Congress, against persons having seats there who do not vote away their own money for publick purposes, in common with others; and also to consider the right of persons inimical to the Country to vote in Town-Meetings, - - - - -                    |
| 31,     | Representation of Robert Temple to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 31,     | Letter from Stephen Nye, at Sandwich, to Nathaniel Freeman. Relation of Captain Lindsey's proceedings at the Islands, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 31,     | Letter from the Selectmen of the Town of Scarborough to the Massachusetts Congress. Their reasons for not choosing a Representative, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 31,     | Letter from the Selectmen of Edgartown to the Massachusetts Congress. They are firmly attached to the cause of their Country, yet the peculiar circumstances in which they are placed renders it inexpedient for them to elect a Member to the Congress, - - - - -                                                                                            |
| 31,     | Petition of the Inhabitants of Berwick to the Massachusetts Congress. The Towns along the sea-coast are exposed to the ravages of the enemy, and for want of Arms and Ammunition, the People cannot defend their Wives and Children against the King's Troops: they, therefore, pray for assistance, - - - - -                                                |
| 31,     | Letter from the Selectmen of Bedford to the Massachusetts Congress. The Town has declined to send a Member to the Congress, but will freely comply with all their wise and salutary measures, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                       |
| 31,     | Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to General Ward, requesting Colonel Stark may be sent to them, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 31,     | Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to Colonel Stark, requesting him to repair to Exeter without loss of time, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 31,     | Letter from the Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, Committee, to the Provincial Congress, suggesting measures of defence against an expected attempt to burn the Town by a British Ship-of-War, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                             |
| 31,     | Letter from Meshech Weare to the New-Hampshire Congress. Recommending measures of defence on the Sea-Coast, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 31,     | Captain Winborn Adams to the New-Hampshire Congress. Waits for the direction of the Congress before he complies with a request from Portsmouth, to go there and assist in destroying the Men-of-War in the Harbour, - - - - -                                                                                                                                 |
| 31,     | Letter to the New-Hampshire Congress, from Charles Johnston, Clerk to the Committee of the Northern Regiment, in the County of Grafton. Preparations in Canada for invading the Provinces. Four or five hundred Indians collected, and Governour Carleton enlisting Men in Canada. The Inhabitants are in want of Ammunition, Arms, and assistance, - - - - - |
| June 1, | Letter from London to a Gentleman in Watertown. The Ministry are in great consternation since the intelligence by Captain Derby. They wait for General Gage's Despatches, to determine what they will do, - - - - -                                                                                                                                           |
| 1,      | Letter from London to a Gentleman in New-York. State of publick opinion in England on the arrival of the news of the defeat and retreat of the Detachments under Lord Percy and Colonel Smith, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1,      | Letter from W. Jones, at Savannah, to the Committee of Donations, Boston. The unhappy divisions in Georgia have hitherto prevented their contributing to the support of the Poor                                                                                                                                                                              |

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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|         | of Boston, but they now send sixty-three barrels of Rice, and one hundred and twenty-two Pounds sterling, in Specie, and expect soon to send another token of their regard, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| June 1, | Letter from the Independent Company of Albe- marle, Virginia, to the Williamsburgh Volun- teers. The landing any armed force in the Colony will justify opposition, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1,      | Letter from Easton, Pennsylvania, to Richard Henry Lee. Suggesting offers to be made by the Continental Congress to the King, for a reconciliation, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1,      | Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, trans- mitting important intelligence just received from Albany, Watertown, and Hartford. — They have no Money nor Powder, and can- not have Money until they receive the direc- tions of the Congress, who ought to assign the several quotas of Men and Money to each of the Colonies, - - - - - |
| 1,      | Memorial of John Sparding, living at Ticonde- roga Landing, to the New-York Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1,      | Letter from the New-York Congress to the Sub- Committee of the City and County of Albany. New-York being unable to garrison Ticonde- roga, Crown Point, or Fort George, applied to the Eastern Colonies for assistance: and Connecticut has sent one thousand Men there, under Colonel Hinman. There is no Powder in New-York, - - - - -                                             |
| 1,      | Letter from the Camp, near Boston, to a Gentle- man in New-York. Account of the attack on the Provincials by the King's Troops at Noddle-Island and Hog-Island, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1,      | Declaration of Alexander Walker, one of the signers of the Address to Governour Hutchin- son, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1,      | An Address to the Americans. They are called upon by the providence of God to fight for their Liberties, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1,      | Address of the Pastors of the Congregational Churches of Massachusetts to the Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|         | Resolution of the Convention of Congregational Ministers, offering their services to officiate as Chaplains to the Army, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1,      | Letter from the Selectmen of Lunenburg to the Massachusetts Congress, requesting to be ex- cused from furnishing two half barrels of Pow- der from their Town stock for the Army, as it will leave them but thirty pounds for their own defence, - - - - -                                                                                                                           |
| 1,      | Petition of William Tallman and others, to the Massachusetts Congress, requesting the Ves- sels they have fitted out at great expense for Whaling Voyages, may be permitted to pro- ceed to sea, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1,      | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Col. Benedict Arnold, highly approving the ac- quisitions he has made at Ticonderoga, Crown Point, on the Lake, &c.; they regret his re- peated requests to send some one to succeed him in the command, and request him to con- tinue until New-York or Connecticut shall take the charge of maintaining the Posts, - - - - -             |
| 1,      | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the New-Hampshire Congress, requesting them to unite in the defence and security of Ticon- deroga and Crown Point, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1,      | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Assembly of Connecticut. Maintaining a Post at Ticonderoga or Crown Point is of the ut- most importance. New-York does not intend to dismantle these Posts entirely, but only to supply from them such Fortifications as may be erected at the south end of Lake George, - - - - -                                                     |
| 1,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Massa- chusetts Congress. The Provincial Congress of New-York are desirous to maintain the im- portant Posts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and Albany will afford their utmost assistance for securing these Posts for the common de- fence, - - - - -                                                                                       |
| 1,      | Petition of Joseph Kelly, of Nottingham-West, to the New-Hampshire Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 2,      | Letter from the President of the Continental Con- gress to the New-York Congress, enclosing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |



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a Resolution of May 31, and requesting their immediate compliance with it, so far as respects the furnishing Batteaus, Provisions, Stores, &c., at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, - 1271

June 2, An Old Man's Company formed in Reading, Pennsylvania. It consists of eighty Germans, of the age of forty and upwards. The person who led them at their first assembling under arms is ninety-seven years of age, - 878

2, List of the Committees for the several Districts in Tryon County, New-York, - 878

Letter from the Committee for Tryon County to Colonel Guy Johnson. The People have quietly assembled, signed the General Association, and appointed a Committee. It is their determination to do what they can to save their Country, and will, if called upon, be the foremost to take the field. They request him to dissuade the Indians from interfering in the dispute between the Mother Country and the Colonies, - 879

2, Letter to John Holt, approving of his publishing and putting his name on the Address against unlawful Standing Armies, - 880

No Standing Army in the British Colonies: or an Address to the Inhabitants of the Colony of New-York, against unlawful Standing Armies, - 881

2, Letter of Robert and John Murray to the New-York Congress, - 887

2, Memorial of Robert and John Murray to the New-York Congress, - 887

Memorial of Robert and John Murray, Merchants of the City of New-York, to the Continental Congress, - 888

Papers accompanying the Memorial, - 890

2, Letter from John Lamb to the New-York Congress, offering his services in the Artillery Department, - 891

2, Letter from Ethan Allen, at Crown Point, to the New-York Congress. Importance of the Posts on Lake Champlain, which have been taken, and the necessity of retaining them. With fifteen hundred Men he can take Montreal, and it would be no difficult matter to take Quebec; this object should be accomplished, though it required ten thousand Men to do it. If it is thought premature to push an Army into Canada, he proposes to make a stand at Isle-au-Noix, - 891

2, Address of the New-York Provincial Congress to the Inhabitants of the Province of Quebec, - 893

2, Letter from the Committee of Albany to the Provincial Congress of New-York, requesting them to furnish Provisions, except Flour, for the thousand Men sent by Governour Trumbull to Ticonderoga. They desire full instructions as to what is expected of them, and also what disposition to make of the Prisoners taken at St. John's, - 1276

2, Letter from General Greene to Jacob Greene, - 894

2, Petition of the Inhabitants of Georgetown, on Kennebeck River, to the Massachusetts Congress, for one or two barrels or half-barrels of Powder, as they have but thirty pounds, and are in daily expectation of being plundered by the British armed vessels, - 894

2, Letter from Colonel Gridley to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, - 894

2, Letter from Nathaniel Shaw, at New-London, to the New-Hampshire Congress. Has ordered a large quantity of Powder, but, from its not arriving, fears the Cruisers in the British Channel, or the negotiations between Great Britain and the States of Holland, have prevented it, - 894

2, Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress. Circumstances appear daily more and more alarming: the Men-of-War stop all Provision Vessels coming to Portsmouth: Arms and Gunpowder must be procured, if possible, in the Southern Governments; it is indispensable that some plan be adopted by the Continental Congress for a Paper Currency, or some other to meet the present urgent necessity, - 895

2, Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to the Continental Congress, remonstrating against the abandonment of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and removing the Cannon to the south end of Lake George, - 895

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June 2, Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to the New-York Congress. The Fortress of Ticonderoga is important to the welfare of all the Northern Colonies, and particularly so to New-Hampshire, where the thoughts of its demolition casts a damp on the spirits of the People; they trust the order for its abandonment will be reconsidered by the Continental Congress, but are determined to abide by the determination of that body, - 895

2, Letter from the Committee of Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, to the Provincial Congress. Request the Congress will regulate all future movements of any bodies of armed men from one Town to another, - 896

3, Provincial Congress of South-Carolina earnestly recommend to their Constituents the promotion of union and harmony, - 896

3, Association unanimously agreed to in the Provincial Congress of South-Carolina, - 897

3, Norfolk, Virginia, Committee. Order the immediate return of the Ship Molly, Captain Mitcheson, lately arrived from Great Britain, laden with a large quantity of Goods, in violation of the Association, - 897

3, Letter from the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress to the Provincial Congress. They are much pleased with the New-York plan for raising Money, but doubt of its being adopted by the Continental Congress. As General Officers will, in all probability, be appointed soon, they wish to know who would be most acceptable to them, to take command of the Continental Army in the Province, which is to be maintained at the general charge, - 898

3, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Inhabitants of Tryon County, urging them, for their own reputations' sake, the love of their Country, their regard for the welfare of the whole Continent, and of millions yet unborn, not to separate from their brethren upon this momentous occasion, but to unite with the rest of the Colony, and send Deputies to the Provincial Congress. Perhaps this will be the last application, as the time has almost come when we should be able to know our enemies, - 1274

3, Letter from the Congress of New-York to Colonel Guy Johnson. They will discountenance every attempt against his person and property, and expect he will not counteract any measures recommended by the Continental or Provincial Congress, or by the Committees formed, or to be formed. The dispute has become so serious that they cannot silently suffer their plan to be frustrated by their own Countrymen, - 1275

3, New-York Committee. Mr. George Folliot declines taking his seat in the Provincial Congress, and Isaac Sears is nominated in his place, - 898

3, Proclamation by Lieutenant-Governour Colden, further proroguing the Meeting of the Assembly to the 5th of July next, - 899

2, Letter from James Rivington to the New-York Congress, - 899

Letter from the New-York Committee to the Continental Congress, referring to their decision in the case of James Rivington, - 899

3, Post-Master and Post-Rider appointed by the Committee of Providence, Rhode-Island, to be under their direction until the Assembly of the Colony, or the Continental Congress, shall make other regulations and appointments, - 900

3, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Henry Gardner, requiring him to proceed immediately to sign Bills for the payment of the Troops, to prevent their returning home, - 900

3, Letter from the Committee of the Town of Arundel, in Massachusetts, to the Provincial Congress. They have seized a Vessel from Boston, with a number of the King's Arms on board, and send the persons and papers seized, to be disposed of by the Congress, - 900

Deposition of Samuel Smith, - 901

Orders from William Sheriff, dated Boston, May 30, to Josiah Jones, to proceed to Windsor, in Nova-Scotia, - 901

Letter from William Sheriff, dated Boston, May 30, to Day & Scott, at Windsor, Nova-Scotia, - 901



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- Letter from William Sheriff, dated Boston, May 29, to Thomas Williams, Storekeeper of Ordnance at Annapolis Royal, - - - - - 902
- June 3, Letter from Loammi Baldwin to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 902
- 3, Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to the Massachusetts Congress. Having undoubted intelligence of the attempts of the British Ministry to engage the Canadians and Indians in their interest, they have raised and sent three Companies for the protection of the frontier settlements, - - - - - 902
- 4, Letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend in Philadelphia. The duplicity of New-York will ever render them suspected. The many assurances given to the Ministry by their leaders, justify a suspicion, which the conduct of some of their Merchants confirms, that they would adopt any means to break through the Association, - - - - - 903
- 4, Meeting of the Committee of Observation for Anne Arundel County, Maryland, - - - - - 903
- 4, Letter from Colonel Philip Schuyler to the New-York Congress. He has been appointed by the Continental Congress to settle the Accounts of the People employed in the reduction of Ticonderoga, - - - - - 904
- 4, Letter from Ethan Allen, at present the principal commander of the Army at Ticonderoga, to our worthy and respectable countrymen and friends, the French People of Canada, - - - - - 904
- 4, Letter from Elbridge Gerry to the Massachusetts Delegates in the Continental Congress. Government is so essential that it cannot be too soon adopted. Every day's delay will make the task more arduous. A regular General is wanted to assist in disciplining the Army; the pride of the People would prevent their being led by any General not American, yet General Lee could be of great service. The New-England Generals would acquiesce in the appointment of Colonel Washington as Generalissimo, - - - - - 906
- 4, Letter from General Ward and the Chairmen of the Committees of Safety and Supplies, to the Continental Congress. The Army at Cambridge is so entirely destitute of Powder that they are in danger of falling a prey to their enemies for want of the means of defence; they earnestly beseech that whatever can be spared in the other Colonies may be sent for their relief, - - - - - 906
- 4, Letter from Mrs. Bowdoin to the Massachusetts Congress, enclosing Depositions relating to the plundering and abuse of the Inhabitants of the Elizabeth Islands, by Captain Lindsey, of the Falcon Sloop-of-War, - - - - - 906
- Deposition of Elisha Nye, - - - - - 907
- Deposition of John Tucker, Jeremiah Robinson, Elisha Robinson and Ebenezer Meigs, - - - - - 908
- Statement of Daniel Eyry, - - - - - 909
- 5, Political Observations on the Rebellion in America. Their wealth is the source of their Rebellion, and the Ministry have wisely begun to reduce them to reason by lessening it. If they persist in their Rebellion, all the calamities that arise from it will, in the sight of God and man, lie at their door, - - - - - 909
- 5, Association entered into at Savannah, in Georgia, 1551
- 5, Philadelphia Committee, prohibit the landing or selling of Goods without a certificate from the Committee whence they are sent, that they were imported within the rules of the Congress, - - - - - 909
- 5, Letter to General Burgoyne, from a Pennsylvanian, - - - - - 910
- 5, Letter from William Duer to the New-York Congress, representing the Disturbances and Riots in the New-Hampshire Grants, - - - - - 910
- 5, Letter from Colonel Guy Johnson to the Committee for Tryon County, New-York, - - - - - 911
- 5, Letter from Hartford to a Gentleman in New-York. Robert Temple, a high-flying Tory, taken at Plymouth, and sent to Cambridge, with his papers, - - - - - 912
- 5, Letter from James Curgenvin to Governour Trumbull, informing him of his appointment of Collector of the Customs for the Port of New-Haven, enclosing him a copy of the

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- Oath of Office he had taken before the Board of Customs, and requesting to be informed if he will administer to him the usual Oath taken by Officers of the Crown, - - - - - 912
- June 5, Petition of Soldiers in Captain Drury's Company to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 914
- 5, Petition of the Captains in Colonel Scammons's Regiment to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 914
- 5, Town Meeting in Conway, New-Hampshire.— Committee appointed, and empowered to inquire into the conduct of obnoxious persons, and refugees from other Towns, - - - - - 914
- 6, Address to the Minister. His (Lord North's) policy has driven the Americans to resistance, 915
- 6, Letter from the Committee of Intelligence for Charlestown, South-Carolina, to the New-York Congress. The apprehension of a defection in New-York gave inexpressible anxiety to all America, and at the same time encouraged the Ministry to proceed in all their measures; they are happy to find this apprehension was unjustly formed, - - - - - 1323
- 6, Committee appointed to receive the signatures of the Inhabitants of Charlestown to the Association adopted by the Provincial Congress of South-Carolina, on the 3d instant, - - - - - 915
- 6, Committee of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Proceedings on the charge against William Moore, that he is inimical to the Liberties of America, - - - - - 916
- 6, Letter from the New-York Congress to Governour Trumbull. The supply of Powder in the Colony is so insufficient that they cannot contribute in the least towards supplying Ticonderoga and Crown Point with it, - - - - - 916
- 6, Letter from Pierpont Edwards to the New-York Congress. Request the fullest information of the measures they have adopted, that he may communicate them to the Assembly of Connecticut, - - - - - 917
- 6, Letter from Jacobus Louw to the Ulster County, New-York, Committee, making concessions for his opposition to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 917
- 6, Meeting of the Committee for the Town of Kingston, in Ulster County, New-York. Mr. Louw having made reasonable satisfaction, is recommended as a friend to the rights and liberties of British America, - - - - - 917
- 6, Letter from Captain Henry B. Livingston to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 918
- 6, Meeting of Delegates from the several Towns in the County of Cumberland, New-York. They will resist and oppose the acts of Parliament for raising a Revenue in America, and adopt the Association entered into at New-York. They have many brave Soldiers, but nothing to fight with, and request a supply from the Congress, - - - - - 918
- 6, Letter from James Easton, at Crown Point, to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 919
- 6, Concession of Silvanus Whitney to the Committee of Observation for Stamford, Connecticut, Narrative of the destruction of the Tea, delivered up by Silvanus Whitney, - - - - - 920
- 6, Exchange of Prisoners at Charlestown, - - - - - 920
- 6, Declaration by John Prentice, of his reasons for signing the Address to Governour Hutchinson, 921
- 7, Subscription of One Hundred Pounds, by the Constitutional Society, London, for the relief of the Widows and Orphans of those who were inhumanly murdered by the King's Troops at Lexington and Concord, in April last, - - - - - 921
- 8, The Association of the Provincial Congress of South-Carolina, signed universally by the Inhabitants of Charlestown; two persons only treated it with contempt, - - - - - 922
- Petition of Michael Hubart to the Committee of Correspondence at Charlestown, complaining of his treatment by Laughlin Martin and John Dealy, - - - - - 922
- Account of the punishment of Martin and Dealy, (Note,) - - - - - 923
- 7, Letter from North-Carolina to a Gentleman in New-York. The Governour has sent his family to New-York, and has taken up his residence in Fort Johnston, at the mouth of Cape-Fear River, - - - - - 924



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- June 7, Meeting of the Governour and Committee of War for Connecticut. Fifty barrels of Powder ordered to be sent to the American Army before Boston, - - - - - 1037
- 7, Meeting of the Committee of Worcester County, Maryland. Acknowledgetheir allegiance to the King, an affection for his person, and zeal for the support of his crown and dignity; will do all in their power to oppose the detested Ministerial plan for enslaving their Country, and will cheerfully contribute to assist their suffering brethren in Boston, - - - - - 924
- 7, Dixon Quinton and Thomas Lambden declared enemies of their Country, by the Worcester, Maryland, Committee, - - - - - 925
- 7, Delaware Assembly declare they will be chargeable with their share of the expense incurred in the defence of the lives and liberties of the People of the Twelve United Colonies, and of the Parish of St. John's, in Georgia, - - - - - 925
- 7, Letter from General Charles Lee to General Burgoyne, - - - - - 925
- 7, Philadelphia Committee examine the complaint against Captain Robert Torrans, for having imported and sold some Irish Linens about the first of May last, and resolve that he has wilfully and knowingly violated the Continental Association, - - - - - 928
- 7, Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, enclosing the Report of a Committee appointed on erecting Fortifications at King's Bridge. The ground is so irregular on the Northern part of Manhattan Island that no Fortifications can be constructed there so as to be tenable for any length of time. No part of the Island is adapted for a Magazine or place of Arms, with an enemy superiour in the field, and with the command of both Rivers, - - - - - 1278
- 7, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Committee of Albany. Highly approve of their zeal and activity in raising Troops, but request them to proceed no further without orders; the two Companies raised may be sent to Ticonderoga. The Prisoners taken at St. John's should remain at liberty, and be supported out of the Colony Provisions, - - - - - 1280
- 7, Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress; calling their attention to the necessity of immediately providing Money, without which it will be impossible to comply with their further requests. Their attention is particularly called to the situation of New-York, with respect to the Indians on their Northern Frontiers, whom policy will teach the British Ministry to set upon them, that they may be driven for protection to embrace their terms of slavery; this evil may be remedied by the appointment of a Continental Superintendent of Indian affairs, instead of leaving the management of Indian affairs in the hands of Crown Officers. The appointment of a General is left to the wisdom of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1281
- 7, Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, recommending Colonel Philip Schuyler and Captain Richard Montgomery to the offices of Major and Brigadier-General, - - - - - 1282
- 7, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. They are fully aware of the dangerous consequences that await them, either from supineness, or a confidence in the honour of the avowed instruments of Ministerial vengeance, - - - - - 928
- 7, Petition of Donald McLeod, late from Scotland, to the New-York Committee, asking for a Commission, - - - - - 929
- 7, Letter from Benjamin Lindsay to the New-York Committee, asking permission to take on board a parcel of Flour for the Poor of Boston, - - - - - 929
- 7, Application of the Selectmen of the Town of Lancaster to the Massachusetts Congress, to know what shall be done with the Estates of those who have gone to General Gage, - - - - - 930
- 7, Letter from Committee of Belfast, &c., to the Massachusetts Congress, representing the defenceless condition of the Towns they represent, - - - - - 930

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- June 7, Petition of Davis and Coverly to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 931
- 8, Hanover, Virginia, Volunteers, declare they will risk their lives to aid and assist in protecting the Liberties of their Country, and approve of the reprisals on the King's property for the Powder taken by Lord Dunmore, - - - - - 931
- 8, Three Battalions of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, the Artillery Company, a Troop of Light-Horse, several Companies of Light-Infantry, Rangers, and Riflemen, in all above two thousand Men, reviewed by the Members of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 931
- 8, Letter from Abraham Clark, of Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, to the New-York Congress. Forward six quarter casks and two half barrels of Gunpowder, to be sent on to the Camp near Boston, - - - - - 931
- 8, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Continental Congress, enclosing a Letter from General Ward, Joseph Warren, and Moses Gill, dated Camp, June 4, 1775, - - - - - 931
- 4, Letter to the Provincial Congress of New-York, from General Ward, Dr. Warren President of the Committee of Safety, and Moses Gill Chairman of the Committee of Supplies, of Massachusetts, informing them of their distressed condition for want of Powder, and urging them in the strongest terms to assist them with a supply, - - - - - 932
- 8, Petition of Donald McLeod, late from Scotland: can raise a Company of Scottish Highlanders, to enter the service of the Colonies, and requests an answer to his application for a Commission, - - - - - 932
- 8, New-York Committee. Isaac Sears elected a Deputy to the Provincial Congress, in place of George Folliot. Committee appointed to examine the cargo of any Vessel which arrives, suspected of having on board Goods not admissible, - - - - - 933
- 8, Meeting of Freeholders of Brookhaven, in Suffolk County, New-York, choose a Committee of Observation, - - - - - 933
- 8, Letter from the Committee of Cumberland County, New-York, to the Provincial Congress. Will support all the American measures in opposition to the arbitrary, tyrannick, and sanguinary measures of the British Parliament, - - - - - 934
- 8, Petition of the Senior Class of Rhode-Island College to the President, - - - - - 935
- 9, Answer of the President to the Petition of the Senior Class, - - - - - 936
- 8, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 936
- 8, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Captain Solomon Uhaunnauwamut, Chief Sachem of the Moheakonnuck Tribe of Indians, at Stockbridge, - - - - - 937
- 8, Letter from the Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, Committee, to the Provincial Congress, - - - - - 937
- 8, Committee appointed by the New-Hampshire Congress to demand of George Jaffrey, Treasurer of the Colony, the Money in his hands, - - - - - 937
- 9, The Provincial Congress of South-Carolina have determined to raise two Regiments of Foot and one of Horse immediately, and to put the Militia on a respectable footing, - - - - - 938
- 9, Volunteer Company of Lancaster County, Virginia. Thank Captain Patrick Henry for his spirited conduct in the late expedition, and will defend him and the Delegates, and all other friends to America, whom the abandoned tools of Administration may dare to attack, - - - - - 938
- 9, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Commander-in-Chief, at Ticonderoga, - - - - - 1288
- 9, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Commissioners at Albany, appointed to superintend the removal of the Stores from Ticonderoga, - - - - - 1188
- 9, Letter from William Williams, Benjamin Waite, and Joab Hoisington, to the New-York Congress, requesting to be appointed Field-Officers, - - - - - 938
- 9, Letter from Ethan Allen to the Massachusetts Congress. Two or three thousand Men, conducted by intrepid commanders, would at this juncture make a conquest of Canada. Such a plan would make a diversion in favour of the



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| Massachusetts-Bay, who have been too much<br>burdened with a calamity that should be more<br>general, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 939  |
| June 9, Proclamation by General Guy Carleton, Go-<br>vernour of the Province of Quebec. Rebels<br>from the neighbouring Colonies, having made<br>incursions into the Province, making prisoners<br>of a number of His Majesty's Troops, and are<br>at present invading the Province in a traitor-<br>ous manner, it is necessary to suspend the<br>ordinary course of civil law, and martial law<br>will henceforth be executed throughout the<br>Province, - - - - -                                                                                                        | 940  |
| 9, Letter from the Reverend Samuel Kirkland, Mis-<br>sionary among the Oneida Indians, to the Com-<br>mittee of Albany. Colonel Johnson has orders<br>from Government to remove the dissenting<br>Missionaries from the Six Nations, till the<br>difficulties between Great Britain and the Co-<br>lonies are settled: he has forbid Mr. Kirkland<br>to speak one word to the Indians, and threat-<br>ened him with imprisonment if he transgresses,<br>because he translated the proceedings of the<br>Continental Congress for the Indians, at their<br>request, - - - - - | 1310 |
| 9, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Conti-<br>nental Congress. Has made provision for<br>the defence of Ticonderoga; Col. Hinman is<br>appointed to the command of the Troops there,<br>consisting of one thousand Men from Connec-<br>ticut, well armed, and furnished with one pound<br>of Powder and three pounds of Ball to each<br>man, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 940  |
| 9, Letter from Abiathar Angell to the Massachu-<br>setts Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 941  |
| Petition and Remonstrance of Abiathar Angell,<br>of Lanesborough, in the County of Berkshire,<br>to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 941  |
| 9, Letter from John Lane, at Fort Pownall, to the<br>Massachusetts Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 942  |
| Journal of John Lane, from Watertown to Pe-<br>nobscoot, to treat with the Eastern Indians, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 942  |
| 9, Letter from Elisha Hewes, dated at Penobscoot<br>River, to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 943  |
| 9, Letter from Joseph Hawley to Joseph Warren.<br>Urges reasons why the Posts on Lake Cham-<br>plain should not be abandoned, but should be<br>maintained at all events, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 944  |
| 10, Account of what passed on the 19th of April last,<br>between a Detachment of the King's Troops,<br>in the Province of Massachusetts-Bay, and<br>several parties of the Rebel Provincials, pub-<br>lished officially in the London Gazette, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 945  |
| Return by General Gage of the Commissioned<br>and Non-Commissioned Officers, Rank and<br>File, Killed, Wounded, Prisoners and Missing,<br>on the 19th of April, 1775, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 946  |
| 12, Remarks on the Gazette account of the Action<br>of the 19th of April, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 947  |
| Strictures on the Gazette account of the Action<br>between the Provincials and the Regulars, near<br>Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 948  |
| Address to the People of England, on the Ga-<br>zette account of the Attack of His Majesty's<br>Troops on the Provincials in Massachusetts, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 952  |
| 10, Letter from Falmouth, in England, to a Gentle-<br>man in Philadelphia. The hostilities com-<br>menced in America, between the King's<br>Troops and the Provincials, will be attend-<br>ed with fatal consequences to both parties, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 953  |
| 10, Officers of the First and Second Regiments of<br>Infantry, and of the Regiment of Horse<br>Rangers, appointed by Provincial Congress<br>of South-Carolina, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 953  |
| 10, Letter from John Hancock, President, to the New-<br>York Congress, enclosing a Resolution re-<br>questing them to purchase and forward to the<br>Army at Boston, with the utmost expedition<br>and secrecy, five thousand barrels of Flour, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 954  |
| 10, Letter to the New-York Congress, from their<br>Delegates in the Continental Congress. The<br>emission of Paper Money will be discussed<br>on the 12th. Indian affairs, which are of the<br>highest importance to New-York, will be duly<br>considered by the Congress. The Indians will<br>not be disposed to engage in our unhappy quar-<br>rel, unless deceived by misrepresentations; and<br>this, with care on our part, can be prevented, - - - - -                                                                                                                 | 954  |

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| June 10, Letter from President Hancock to the Massachu-<br>setts Congress, enclosing a Resolution of the<br>Congress advising the assumption of Civil<br>Government by Massachusetts, Gen. Gage<br>having levied War against His Majesty's<br>peaceable Subjects of that Colony, - - - - -                                                                                             | 955  |
| 10, Letter from Thomas Cushing to Elbridge Gerry, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 955  |
| 10, Letter from Robert Treat Paine to Elbridge<br>Gerry, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 956  |
| 10, Letter from President Hancock to the New-<br>Hampshire Congress, enclosing Resolutions<br>of the Congress of this day, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 956  |
| 10, Letter from the New-York Congress to their<br>Delegates in the Continental Congress. A<br>Vessel, suspected of having on board Provi-<br>sions for the British Army at Boston, has been<br>detained to get the opinion of the Continental<br>Congress whether she should be permitted to<br>proceed, - - - - -                                                                     | 956  |
| 10, Letter from the New-York Congress to Govern-<br>our Trumbull. Have procured six hundred<br>and fifty pounds of Powder from New-Jersey<br>for Massachusetts, which will be forwarded<br>immediately, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                      | 957  |
| 10, Letter from Robert Boyd to the New-York Con-<br>gress, informing them he can make Muskets,<br>and requesting an advance of one hundred<br>Pounds, to provide the necessary Machinery, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                    | 957  |
| 10, Letter from the Officers at Crown Point and Ti-<br>conderoga to the Continental Congress. Re-<br>commend Ethan Allen, Seth Warner and Re-<br>member Baker for appointments, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                              | 958  |
| 10, Letter from Elisha Hewes, at Fort Pownall, to<br>the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 958  |
| 10, Letter from the Committee of Conway, New-<br>Hampshire, to Matthew Thornton. All the<br>young men are enlisted in the Army. The<br>old men are not able to carry on farming:<br>they are in want of Arms and Ammunition,<br>and, expecting an attack from the Indians,<br>apply to the Provincial Congress for assist-<br>ance, - - - - -                                          | 958  |
| 11, Tryon County, New-York, Committee, appoint<br>Delegates to the Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 959  |
| 11, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the<br>Continental Congress. The embarrassments<br>in executing every undertaking are so many<br>that they cannot be enumerated. This is<br>chiefly to be attributed to the want of a Civil<br>Government: on which the immediate advice<br>of the Congress is requested, - - - - -                                                      | 959  |
| 12, Letter from London to a Gentleman in Virginia.<br>Since the confirmation of the news brought<br>by Captain Derby, the Americans bear the<br>greatest applause here of any people in the<br>world, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                        | 960  |
| 12, Address to the People of England, on the Dis-<br>turbances in America, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 961  |
| 12, Provincial Congress of South-Carolina. Resolve<br>that any person who refuses obedience to the<br>authority of the Congress shall be advertised<br>as an enemy to the Liberties of America, and<br>an object of the resentment of the Publick, - - - - -                                                                                                                           | 962  |
| 12, Some Thoughts on the Constitution of the Bri-<br>tish Empire and the Controversy between<br>Great Britain and the American Colonies, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 962  |
| 12, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Mer-<br>chants of Canada, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1294 |
| 12, New-York Committee. Direct the removal of<br>some Soldiers' Wives and their Children, in-<br>fected with the Small-Pox, out of the City, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 966  |
| 12, Letter from the Committees of the Precincts of<br>New-Marlbrough, New-Windsor and New-<br>burgh, in Ulster County, New-York, to the<br>Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 966  |
| 12, Letter from Alexander McDougall to the Massa-<br>chusetts Congress. Some Powder has been<br>obtained, which will be forwarded this night,<br>accompanied by a Guard. They are directed<br>to travel always in the night, and to put up<br>in the day; to avoid any parade on the road<br>which might lead to a conclusion that the<br>Powder is much wanted by the Army, - - - - - | 966  |
| 12, Letter from Alexander McDougall to Joseph<br>Warren, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 967  |
| 12, Letter from Alexander McDougall to the Com-<br>mittee for Greenwich, Connecticut, requesting<br>them to forward the Powder, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 967  |



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- June 12, Official notice of advices received by the Earl of Dartmouth, from Gen. Gage, to this date, - 968
- 12, Letter from General Gage to the Earl of Dartmouth. A plan for a Rebellion has been long conceived, and the People's minds ripened for it, - 968
- 12, Proclamation by General Gage, declaring the Province of Massachusetts-Bay in a state of actual Rebellion, offering pardon to all who lay down their Arms, excepting only from the benefit of pardon Samuel Adams and John Hancock; suspending the Civil Law, and establishing Martial Law throughout the Province, - 968
- 12, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Continental Congress. Taking and keeping possession of Ticonderoga was necessary for the preservation of the Liberties of America; but in so doing there was no intention to disturb the People of Canada; and they request that means may be taken to remove the false impressions made upon the minds of the Canadians on this subject, - 970
- 12, Memorial of Henry Howell Williams to the Massachusetts Congress, setting forth the losses he has sustained from a number of armed Troops, commonly called Provincials, on Noddle-Island and Hog-Island, in Boston-Bay, and praying relief, - 971
- 12, Declaration of John Worthington to Committee for Springfield, Massachusetts, of his determination to support the measures of the Continental Congress, and of his willingness to defend the Rights and Liberties of America, - 971
- 12, Committee for Springfield, in Massachusetts.— Recommend John Worthington to the favourable opinion of the Publick, and to the treatment and respect due to a friend to the Country, - 972
- 12, Acknowledgment of Timothy Brown, of Tewksbury, suspected as an enemy to his Country, - 972
- 12, Committees for Chelmsford, Billerica and Tewksbury. Satisfied with Timothy Brown's Acknowledgment, - 972
- 12, Petition of the Town of Kittery to the Massachusetts Congress. Their supplies of Provisions are cut off, and their Town is threatened to be beat down by the Captains of the Scarborough and the Canceaux Men-of-War; being reduced to the alternative, either to fight or perish by famine, they choose the first, and request supplies of Powder and Ball, - 972
- 12, Letter from Elisha Phelps to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, - 973
- 12, Letter from Newfoundland to a Gentleman in New-York. The People are suffering for bread; they curse New-York, which was the only place they depended on for assistance in subjugating the Americans; and propose the most inhuman procedures if any of the Continental Congress should fall into their hands, - 973
- 13, Letter from Governour Martin of North-Carolina, to Henry White of New-York; requests him to send a Royal Standard, and Furniture for a Colonel's Tent, - 974
- 13, Letter from one of the Virginia Delegates in the Continental Congress to a friend in Williamsburgh. Colonel Skene has just arrived from London, charged with a power from the Administration to influence the Members of Congress, by arguments drawn on the Treasury. He has been made a Prisoner, and is on his parole, to remain within eight miles of Philadelphia, - 974
- 8, Letter from D. Cross, of Glasgow, in Scotland, to James Dunlop, Merchant, Port-Royal, Virginia, - 975
- 13, Letter from D. Cross to James Dunlop and Patrick Kennan, Merchants, on Rappahannock, Virginia, - 975
- 13, Letter from Baltimore to a Gentleman in Virginia. Lord Dunmore left Williamsburgh, and went on board a Man-of-War, on Friday, the 8th instant, and refused to return on an invitation from the Assembly, - 975
- 13, Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, enclosing a Report of a Committee appointed to examine the Highlands, - 975

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- June 13, Letter from Benedict Arnold, Crown Point, to the Continental Congress. Has learned from a Messenger he sent among the Indians, that they are determined not to assist the King's Troops. Governour Carleton has not succeeded in raising more than twenty Canadians; if the Congress think proper to take possession of Montreal and Quebec, it can be done with two thousand Men; it would be more advantageous to take and keep possession of Quebec than to rebuild Ticonderoga, - 976
- 13, Letter from Benedict Arnold to Governour Trumbull, - 977
- 13, Letter from John Palmer, Quartermaster General, to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, - 978
- 13, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the New-York Congress; informing them that they have requested the Continental Congress to quiet the apprehensions of the Canadians, that hostile preparations are making against them in some of the Colonies; and to counteract the evil effects of the malevolent misrepresentations of Colonel Guy Johnson to the Six Nations, - 1319
- 13, Instructions of the Massachusetts Congress to Walter Spooner, Jedediah Foster, and James Sullivan, a Committee appointed to proceed to Ticonderoga and Crown Point, by the road through the new settlements called the New-Hampshire Grants; giving them full power to do every thing in behalf of Massachusetts, for the effectual securing and maintaining those Posts, which they shall judge necessary, - 1408
- 13, Petition of Lemuel Prescott, of Boston, to the Massachusetts Congress, - 978
- 13, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to the Massachusetts Congress, - 979
- 14, Letter from the Committee of Safety for New-Hampshire to the Committee of Conway. They have sent twenty-five pounds of Powder; can spare no more, and can supply no Arms, - 979
- 14, Letter from one of the Virginia Delegates in Congress to his friend in Williamsburgh. Colonel Washington has been pressed to take supreme command of the American Troops at Roxbury, and will probably accept the appointment. Ten thousand Men will be kept up in Massachusetts, and five thousand in New-York, at the expense of the Continent, - 979
- 14, Address to the Inhabitants of New-Jersey, - 980
- 14, Letter from William Duer to the New-York Congress, - 981
- 14, Letter from William Goddard to the New-York Congress, enclosing papers which are explanatory of a design formed by the friends of Freedom for annihilating the old Parliamentary and Ministerial Post-Office in this Country, - 981
- Papers from Massachusetts, Rhode-Island and Connecticut, approving of the plan for establishing a Post-Office, - 982
- 14, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Continental Congress, enclosing a copy of the Resolution directing the purchase of Flour for the Army, - 983
- 14, Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, communicating information just received of the sailing of Troops from Ireland for Boston and New-York, - 984
- Information given by Captain Thompson to the New-York Congress of the embarkation of Troops for America, - 984
- 14, Letter from the New-York Congress to General Wooster, requesting him to take charge of Angus McDonald, - 1299
- 14, Letter from M. S. Mumford to Jonathan Trumbull, Jun. A ship from London, with Major Skene and a quantity of Arms, arrived at Philadelphia, have been secured by the Congress, - 985
- 14, Letter from Governour Cooke to Captain Wallace, of His Majesty's Ship Rose, at Newport. Remonstrating against his interrupting the People of Rhode-Island in their lawful Trade, and seizing their persons and property; demands his reasons for doing so, and also demands the immediate return of the Vessels he has taken, - 985



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*June 14*, Letter from Capt. Wallace to Governour Cooke. Supposes he writes in behalf of some body of People, and desires to know whether or not Governour Cooke, or the People for whom he writes, are not in open Rebellion against their lawful Sovereign, - - - - - 986
- 14, Letter from the Newport, Rhode-Island, Committee, to the Committee for East-Hampton, New-York, - - - - - 986
- 14, Letter from the Committee of Falmouth to the Massachusetts Congress. No provision having been made for the support of the Men enlisted to guard the Sea-Coasts, they cannot continue to do duty. Four Indian Chiefs have arrived at Falmouth, with Captain Lane, from the Penobscot Tribe, - - - - - 986
- 14, Letter from Josiah Jones and Jonathan Hicks to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 988
- 14, Letter from the Machias Committee to the Massachusetts Congress. Account of the capture at that place of two Sloops and a British Tender, - - - - - 988
- 15, Appeal to the Publick, by Charles Gordon, of Cecil County, Maryland, against a publication by the Committee for Charlestown Hundred, - - - - - 990
- Reply of the Committee, - - - - - 990
- Proceedings of the Committee of Cecil County, at Elk-Ferry, on the 24th of May, 1775, in relation to Charles Gordon, who is declared an enemy to his Country, - - - - - 991
- 15, "Memento" to Lord North, - - - - - 992
- 15, Address of Montford Browne, Governour of the Bahama Islands, inviting settlements in Louisiana and Mississippi, - - - - - 992
- Governour Browne's reasons, as presented to the King, for an immediate Civil Government in the British Dominions adjoining to the River Mississippi, in North America, - - - - - 993
- 15, Letter from President Hancock to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 1000
- 15, Letter from the New-York Congress to General Wooster, enclosing a Resolution requesting him to march with his Troops from Connecticut, to the distance of five miles from the City, to be subject to the orders of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1000
- 15, Letter from Adonijah Strong to the Albany Committee, - - - - - 1000
- 15, Letter from General Wooster, at Greenwich, Connecticut, to the New-York Congress. He has received and will secure Angus McDonald. Regrets they have to send their Prisoners so far, and would be much better pleased to receive them nearer the City, especially as four Regiments from Ireland are expected so soon, 1001
- 15, Letter from General Wooster to Governour Trumbull, requests he may be ordered to New-York, - - - - - 1001
- 14, Letter from Isaac Sears to General Wooster, informing him of a motion made in the Provincial Congress to ask him to march there with his Troops, - - - - - 1002
- 15, Answer to a Speech sent by the Stockbridge Indians to the Caughnawagas, or Canadian Tribes of Indians, near Montreal, - - - - - 1002
- 15, Letter from General Ward to the Worcester, Massachusetts, Committee, enclosing an Order for the removal of Samuel Murray from the Jail in Worcester to his father in Rutland, - - - - - 1003
- 15, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the New-Hampshire Congress, - - - - - 1003
- 15, Letter from William Stoddard, Boston, to Capt. James Littlefield, Watertown, - - - - - 1003
- 15, "Sydney" to the Soldiers and Seamen serving in the British Fleet and Army in America, - - - - - 1004
- 15, Letter from the Rev. Samuel Langdon to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 1004
- 15, Letter to Dr. Joseph Warren, President of the Massachusetts Congress, Recommending the employment by the Colony of some Armed Vessels, to protect their Towns and Coasting Trade from British Vessels-of-War, - - - - - 1005
- 15, Letter from the Committee of Correspondence of Falmouth to the Massachusetts Congress—Mr. Lane is on his way to Watertown, with four Indian Chiefs of the Penobscot Tribe, - - - - - 1005
- 15, Letter from Colonel Reid to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1005
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*June 8*, Letter from Colonel Reid to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, recommending Andrew Colburn for an appointment, - - - - - 1006
- Services done by Andrew Colburn in the last War, - - - - - 1006
- 14, Colonel James Reid's Regimental Orders for the New-Hampshire Troops under his command, 1007
- 16, Letter from Joseph Habersham to Philotheos Chiffelle. Efforts of Mr. Stuart and Mr. Cameron to engage the Southern Indians on the side of the British Government, - - - - - 1007
- 16, Letter from a Pennsylvanian to Gen. Burgoyne, 1008
- 16, Account of the Province Stores at Albany, New-York, - - - - - 1009
- 16, Letter from General Wooster to Governour Trumbull, requesting his instructions about complying with the request from New-York to march his Troops there, and place them under the direction of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1010
- 16, Letter from an Officer in the Navy at Boston to his friend in England. Sixteen of the Transports ordered from England to New-York are, by the General, ordered to Boston. Expects to hear of bloody work soon, as the Troops are determined to lay the Country waste as they go, with Fire and Sword, - - - - - 1010
- 16, Proclamation by the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, - - - - - 1011
- 16, Petition of the Selectmen of Edgartown to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 1013
- 16, Letter from Colonel Israel Gilman to the New-Hampshire Congress. The Regulars are expected soon to make a push for Bunker's Hill or Dorchester Neck, - - - - - 1013
- 17, Address to the People of England, - - - - - 1013
- 17, Provincial Congress of South-Carolina direct the election of a new Congress, - - - - - 1016
- 17, To the Committee of the City of Philadelphia. Calling their attention to the injury that may be done, if the Officer lately arrived from the Army in Boston, and says he has sold out, should prove to be a Spy for General Gage, - - - - - 1016
- 17, Letter from James Duane to the New-York Congress. The Continental Congress has ordered an emission of Two Millions of Dollars, in Paper Currency. Have agreed to raise, at the Continental expense, a body of fifteen thousand Men, and have appointed Col. George Washington Captain-General of all the Forces raised and to be raised in the common cause, - - - - - 1016
- 17, Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1017
- 17, Letter from the New-York Congress to General Wooster, - - - - - 1304
- 17, Meeting of the Governour and Committee of War for Connecticut, - - - - - 1037
- 17, Letter from General Wooster to the New-York Congress. Has sent their Letter of the 15th to the Governour, and holds himself in readiness to march as soon as he receives the Governour's orders, - - - - - 1306
- 17, Letter from the Committee of Supplies to the Committee of Safety of Massachusetts. Exclusive of thirty-six half barrels of Powder received from Connecticut, there are only in the Magazine twenty-seven half barrels, - - - - - 1017
- 17, Letter from the Committee for Machias to the Massachusetts Congress. Both of Captain Jones's Sloops, taken with the Margaretta, one of the King's Tenders, were in the King's service, - - - - - 1017
- 17, Account of an Engagement at Charlestown, in Massachusetts, between about three thousand of the King's Regular Forces and about half that number of Provincials, on Saturday, the 17th of June, 1775, - - - - - 1018
- 17, Letter from Governour Wentworth, at Castle William and Mary, in Portsmouth Harbour, to Theodore Atkinson. Captain Barclay has seized a Vessel from Newbury, Massachusetts, for breach of Acts of Trade, and directs that she may be forthwith libelled in the Court of Admiralty, - - - - - 1019
- 18, Letter from President Hancock to Elbridge Gerry. Colonel Washington is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, and he will depart in a few days for Cambridge.



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| 1775.    | Ten Companies of Riflemen, from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, are ordered immediately to proceed to your Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1019 |
| June 18, | Letter from John Adams to Elbridge Gerry. General Washington has been chosen Commander-in-Chief, General Ward First Major-General, and General Lee Second, and Major Gates Adjutant-General. The virtuous attachment of our countrymen to their own officers presented an objection to the appointment of Lee and Gates, which was overcome by the earnest desire of General Washington to have their assistance, - | 1019 |
|          | General Wooster to the New-York Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1306 |
| 18,      | Letter from General Wooster to Governour Trumbull, enclosing a Letter, dated yesterday, from New-York, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1020 |
| 17,      | Letter from the New-York Congress to General Wooster, informing him of the change in the destination of the Troops; a Ship-of-War is off Sandy Hook, to direct the Transports to proceed to Boston, -                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1020 |
| 18,      | Letter from an Officer of the British Army at Boston to a Gentleman in London. Account of the Battle of Bunker's Hill; the Provincials were defeated, but the victory has cost us very dear, and we do not enjoy one solid benefit from it; we have learned one melancholy truth, which is, that the Americans, if equally well commanded, are as good Soldiers as ours, -                                          | 1021 |
| 18,      | Letter from General Thomas to the Massachusetts Congress, recommending the appointment of an Adjutant and Quartermaster-General, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1021 |
| 18,      | Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Supplies to the Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1022 |
| 18,      | Circular Letter from the Committee of Supplies to the several Towns in Massachusetts, urging them to forward Provisions for the Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1022 |
| 18,      | Letter from Colonel Bartlett to General Folsom, with intelligence of the Battle yesterday, and the burning of Charlestown, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1022 |
| 19,      | Meeting of the Committee for the County of Prince Edward, Virginia. Resolutions on the seizure of the Powder by Lord Dunmore, and approving the conduct of Captain Patrick Henry in making reprisals for it, -                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1023 |
| 19,      | Meeting of the Frederick County, Virginia, Committee. Resolutions on the seizure of the Powder by Lord Dunmore, and the Address from the Council to the People of Virginia, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1023 |
| 19,      | Queen Anne County, Maryland, Committee. Prohibit the dealing with any Merchant in the County who does not produce satisfactory evidence that his Goods were imported agreeable to the Association, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1024 |
| 19,      | Letter from Brook Watson to the New-York Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1025 |
| 19,      | Meeting of the Governour and Committee of War for Connecticut, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1038 |
| 19,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the New-York Congress. Has ordered seventeen hundred Men, under the command of Major-General Wooster, to march immediately within five miles of the City of New-York, subject to the orders of the Continental Congress and Provincial Congress of New-York, -                                                                                                                    | 1025 |
| 19,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Massachusetts Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1026 |
| 19,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to Benedict Arnold. The invasion of Canada should be moved by the Continental Congress; the Army at Boston, and the prospect of one arriving at New-York, forbid our thinking of an Expedition to Canada, -                                                                                                                                                                          | 1026 |
| 19,      | Speech of the Chiefs and Warriors of the Oneida Tribe of Indians to the four New-England Provinces, directed to Governour Trumbull, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1116 |
| 19,      | Town Meeting at Providence, Rhode-Island. Authorize Cartridges to be delivered out to the Inhabitants, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1027 |
| 19,      | Providence, Rhode-Island, Packet, seized by the British, and retaken, near Conanicut, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1027 |
| 19,      | Proclamation by General Gage, requiring all the Inhabitants of Boston to deliver up their Fire-Arms, and declaring all who omit to do so enemies to His Majesty's Government, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1027 |
| 19,      | Letter from General Ward to the Massachusetts Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1028 |

|       |          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |      |
|-------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1775. | June 19, | Letter from Joseph Ward to the Massachusetts Congress, requesting the Troops to be furnished with Blankets, and Spears or Lances, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1028 |
|       | 19,      | Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the Provincial Congress, requesting that measures may be taken to obtain the names and places of abode of all who were Killed or Wounded in the Battle of Lexington, and at any time since, and of such as may be Killed or Wounded at any future time, in the contest between Great Britain and the Colonies, - | 1028 |
|       |          | Resolution of the Provincial Congress, for carrying into effect the foregoing request, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1028 |
|       | 19,      | Letter from Colonel John Stark to the New-Hampshire Congress. Account of the engagement on the 17th instant, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1029 |
|       | 19,      | Letter from James McGregor to the Committee of Safety of New-Hampshire, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1029 |
|       | 20,      | Arrival of Governour Lord William Campbell at Charlestown, South-Carolina, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1030 |
|       | 20,      | Association adopted and signed by the Committees of the District of Wilmington, in North-Carolina, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1030 |
|       | 20,      | Meeting of the Committee of Accomack County, Virginia; requiring Masters of all Vessels bringing Goods for sale to bring certificates that the Goods were imported agreeable to the Continental Association, -                                                                                                                                                        | 1031 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from General Washington to the Independent Companies of Fairfax County, Virginia; informing them of his appointment to the command of the Continental Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1031 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from General Washington to John Augustine Washington. Has been chosen to the command of the Continental Army, by the partiality of Congress, joined to a political motive, and will set out to-morrow for Boston, -                                                                                                                                            | 1031 |
|       | 20,      | Meeting of the Committee for the new County proposed to be formed in Delaware, at Broad Creek: bind themselves and constituents, by every thing sacred, collectively and separately, to enforce and carry into execution whatever measures have or may be recommended, for the preservation of the Liberties of America, -                                            | 1052 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from Philadelphia to a Gentleman in London. Two propositions which Congress intend to make to the British Government, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1033 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from Philadelphia to a Gentleman in London. Colonel George Washington is, at the particular request of the People of New-England, and with the unanimous consent of Congress, appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces, -                                                                                                                        | 1033 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from President Hancock to the New-Hampshire Congress, enclosing a Resolve passed yesterday for re-enforcing the Army before Boston, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1034 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from the New-Hampshire Delegates at Philadelphia to the Provincial Congress. The greatest unanimity prevails in the Congress, one and all being determined to defend our rights to the last, -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1035 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from the New-York Congress to Governour Trumbull, enclosing a Resolution of the Continental Congress of the 16th instant. A small supply of Gunpowder has been lately received, and half a ton of it will be forwarded to General Wooster for the Provincial Army at Boston, -                                                                                 | 1306 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-York to General Wooster, in reply to his Letters of the 17th and 18th instant, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1307 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Continental Congress. Has sent fifty barrels of Powder with the greatest secrecy and despatch to the American Army before Boston, and will send ten barrels more, which is all that can be supplied, as none can be obtained in the Colony, -                                                                                   | 1035 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from a Gentleman in Providence, Rhode-Island, to his friend in New-York. Account of the Battle of Bunker's Hill on the 17th instant, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1036 |
|       | 20,      | Meeting of the Governour and Committee of War for Connecticut, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1039 |
|       | 20,      | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Continental Congress. Account of the Battle of Bunker's Hill, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1039 |



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- June 20, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to General Ward, - - - - - 1041
- 20, Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Townshend, in Massachusetts, to the Provincial Congress. Are out of Powder, and ask for an order on the Town of Ashby for one of the two barrels they have, - - - - - 1041
- 20, Letter from Richard Derby, Jun., to Capt. James Kirkwood, - - - - - 1041
- 20, Report of Edward Bucknam and Seth Wales, to Colonels Bailey and Hurd, of the information gained from the Indians on the Canada Frontiers, by two Scouts, sent for that purpose, - 1041
- 21, Letter from the Secret Committee of South-Carolina to Colonel Moultrie. Furnish him with Powder for the two Regiments of Infantry. Recommend to him the greatest caution and prudence, and to permit no Soldier to stand sentry over the Powder, but such as are known friends to the Liberties of America, - - - 1042
- 21, Deputation of the Provincial Congress of South-Carolina, to present an Address to the Governor, Lord William Campbell, - - - - - 1043
- Address and Declaration of the Provincial Congress to the Governor, - - - - - 1043
- Answer of the Governor, - - - - - 1044
- 21, Provincial Congress of South-Carolina, to testify their resentment of the base and cruel conduct of the Inhabitants of Poole, a Seaport in the English Channel, refuse to hold any communication with that People, or carry on any transactions with them, or employ any shipping belonging to that Port, or to any Inhabitant of the place, - - - - - 1044
- 21, Committee of Observation for Frederick County, Maryland. Committees of Correspondence for each District in the County appointed. Two Companies of Riflemen raised, in compliance with a Resolution of the Continental Congress; Officers of the Companies appointed, and their pay established, - - - - - 1044
- 21, Letter from the Provincial Congress to the Committee for the City and County of New-York, requesting them immediately to purchase all the Saltpetre in the City and County, and to inform the Congress what quantity of Brimstone and Sulphur may be purchased in the City, - - - - - 1310
- 21, New-York Committee. Letter received, dated May 30, from Jonathan Parsons, Jun., Newfoundland, informing of the arrival there of the Ship Sally, Captain Taverner, from this Port, - - - - - 1046
- 21, Inquiry by a Committee into facts of Captain Taverner's Voyage, - - - - - 1046
- 21, Deposition of Theophilact Bache, that Captain Taverner was ordered to proceed directly to Falmouth, or some other Port in Great Britain, and that he had no agency in causing the Ship Sally to stop at Newfoundland, - - - 1046
- 21, Petition of Joseph Johnson, a licensed Preacher of the Gospel amongst seven different Tribes of New-England Indians, and the Oaeidas, to the Provincial Congress of New-York, - 1047
- 21, Letter from a Gentleman in New-York to his friend in Edinburgh, Scotland. It is a gross calumny to say we are aiming at Independency. Our political principles are the same that raised the House of Hanover to the Throne; and were your Ministers to adopt these principles we would lay down our arms, - - - - - 1047
- 21, Letter from the Albany, New-York, Committee, to the Continental Congress. Certain information received of the hostile intentions of Governour Carleton, who was daily giving presents to Caughnawaga Indians, they having agreed to take up the hatchet. The Troops at Ticonderoga are much in want of Powder. The Frontier Inhabitants are not half supplied with Arms or Powder, and they request some may be forwarded with all the despatch possible, - - - - - 1048
- 21, Letter from Captain Chapman, an officer in General Gage's Army at Boston, to a friend in Ireland. The Army of the Rebels consists of at least fifteen thousand, and is daily increasing; the Pulpits and the Publick Meetings breathe nothing but sedition; the People are in

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- the most slavish subjection to the Priests and Demagogues; the Resolves of the Congress are mostly inflammatory; they have tried and passed sentence on several who have dared to contravene their inquisitorial decrees; their aim is Independency, - - - - - 1049
- June 21, Petition to the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts from seven Stockbridge Indians, soldiers enlisted in the Provincial Army, - - 1049
- 21, Petition of Thomas Twining to the Massachusetts Congress, in behalf of himself and the Association of Eastham, against Amos Knowles, a Member of the Congress, who is charged with being an opposer of the common cause of the Country; with sundry accompanying papers, - - - - - 1050-1055
- Report of a Committee on the complaint against Captain Knowles, not accepted, - - - - - 1055
- 21, Letter from the Reverend Samuel Webster to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - 1056
- 22, Provincial Congress of South-Carolina, direct Absentees to return to the Colony; and forbid persons holding Estates to withdraw from its service, - - - - - 1056
- 22, Address to the People of Henrico County, Va., 1056
- 22, Letter from Samuel Adams to Elbridge Gerry, 1058
- 22, Letter from General Charles Lee to Lord Barrington, renouncing his Pay as an Officer in the British Army, - - - - - 1058
- 20, Letter from General Gates to General Washington, accepting his appointment, - - - 1058
- 22, Petition of William Elphinston to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1059
- 22, Letter from Elisha Phelps to the New-York Congress. Has been appointed by Connecticut Commissary for the Northern Army: has arrived at Albany, and has been furnished with no Supplies for the Troops, - - - 1059
- 22, Letter from Weathersfield, in Connecticut, to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Account of the Battle on the 17th instant. The People are rejoiced to hear of the coming of General Washington, and will receive him with open arms, - - - - - 1060
- 22, Letter to a Member of the Continental Congress, from a Gentleman in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. Our Messengers to the Six Nations were taken by the Regulars, carried to Montreal, tried by a Court-Martial, and condemned to be hanged, and were only released upon the threatenings of the Indian Sachems to treat them as enemies if they did not let the prisoners go, - - - - - 1060
- 22, Letter from the Committee of Correspondence at Plymouth to the Committee for Providence, - 1061
- 22, Letter from General Ward to the Massachusetts Congress. Thinks it is not proper to order a Regiment from Roxbury to Cambridge, as requested by the Congress, but if they order it he will do so, - - - - - 1061
- 22, Letter from Benjamin Greenleaf to the Massachusetts Congress. The Committee of Newburyport are unwilling to give up the little Powder they have, as requested by the Congress, unless the publick cause renders it absolutely necessary, in which case they will give up the last ounce, the destruction of their Town being a trivial matter compared with a final defeat of the Army, - - - - - 1062
- 22, Letter from Stephen Hooper to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 1062
- 22, Account of the Engagement on the 17th. Charlestown set on fire by the British, contained about three hundred Dwelling-Houses, many of them large and elegant, besides one hundred and fifty or two hundred other Buildings, which are almost all laid in ashes, - - - - - 1063
- 22, Letter from General Folsom to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1063
- 23, Letter from the Committee for Charles City County, Virginia, to the Committee and Freeholders of Buckingham County, in reply to their offer of an asylum for their Wives and Children, if the lower Counties are attacked by the enemy, - - - - - 1064
- 23, Letter from the Albany Committee to the Massachusetts Congress; they have received a vague and uncertain account of the late Action at



1775. Charlestown; request to be furnished with a circumstantial detail of the Engagement, and its consequences, - - - - - 1064
- June 23, Letter to Mr. Holt. The County of Cumberland, in New-York, having been represented as inimical to the late Continental Congress and the Provincial Congresses, he is requested to publish the Proceedings of the General Committee of that County, in October last, - 1064
- Proceedings of the Committees from a number of Townships in the County of Cumberland, held at the County Hall, at Westminster, on the 19th and 20th days of October, 1774, - 1065
- 23, Letter from Colonel Arnold to the Continental Congress. The opinion of the Committee sent by Massachusetts, to inquire into the importance of holding Ticonderoga and Crown Point, is, that if the Enemy had possession of these Fortresses it would place the New-England Colonies and New-York in the utmost danger, - - - - - 1066
- 23, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1067
- 23, Letter from an Officer on board one of the King's Ships, at Boston, to a friend in London. The Engagement on the 17th lasted four hours, and ended infinitely to our disadvantage. The Americans, when we landed, so far from retreating, as we expected, marched towards us with the greatest coolness and regularity. The Provincials fought like men who had no care for their persons, and disputed every inch of ground, - - - - - 1067
- 23, Petition to the Massachusetts Congress, from the Selectmen, Officers of the Militia, and Committee of Correspondence of Manchester. The Town being greatly exposed to their merciless enemies, they request permission to raise a Company of Men on the Provincial establishment, to be kept there for their security and defence, - - - - - 1068
- 23, Letter from General Folsom to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety. Colonel Stark refuses to be under any subordination to any person appointed by the Congress of New-Hampshire to the general command of the New-Hampshire Troops, - - - - - 1069
- 23, Address of Colonel Bailey to the Northern Indians, - - - - - 1070
- 24, Meeting of the Livery of London, in Common Hall. An humble Address, Remonstrance and Petition to the King on this important crisis in American affairs, ordered to be presented to His Majesty, sitting on his Throne, 1070
- July 4, Report of the Sheriffs who waited on the King to know when he would permit the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council to wait on him with their Petition. The King refuses to receive it on the Throne; and the Lord Mayor refuses to present it to him in any other place. The Petition ordered to be published, - - 1071
- June 24, Humble Address, Remonstrance and Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Livery of London to the King, - - - - - 1073
- 24, Letter to General Gage, - - - - - 1074
- 24, Letter from President Hancock to the New-York Congress. The Continental Congress are of opinion that the employing of Green Mountain Boys would be advantageous to the common cause; they are requested to embody them with the Troops raised for the defence of the Northern Frontier, - - - - - 1076
- 24, Meeting of the General Committee of Observation for the County of Burlington, New-Jersey. Association and other Proceedings of the Provincial Congress at Trenton approved of, - 1077
- 24, Letter from General Schuyler, New-Brunswick, New-Jersey, to the New-York Congress.—General Washington will be at Newark tomorrow morning, at nine o'clock, where he wishes to meet a Deputation of the Provincial Congress, - - - - - 1078
- 24, Letter from John Hart, Jun., Stamford, Connecticut, to Dr. Carrington, enclosing an intercepted Letter, dated New-York, June 19th, - 1078
- 24, Letter from a Merchant in Boston to his Brother in Scotland, giving him an account of the Battle with the Rebels on the 17th instant.
1775. The chief breastwork of the Provincials was the strongest post that was ever occupied by any set of men; the spirit and bravery the British Troops exhibited on the occasion is not to be surpassed in history. To the great satisfaction of all good men, Dr. Warren was slain, - - - - - 1079
- June 24, Order by the Massachusetts Congress for observing Thursday, 13th of July, as a day of Publick Fasting and Prayer throughout the Colony, - - - - - 1080
- 24, Letter from General Ward to the Massachusetts Congress. Lieutenant Francis Cox, of Salem, has deserted the service, and told his men they might go home, for no one had a right to stop them; many of the men are gone, and it is probable others will go, - - - - - 1080
- 24, Letter from General Folsom to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, for Cannon for the Camp at Winter Hill. General Ward, who has been applied to, cannot supply them, - 1081
- 25, Proposed vindication and offer to Parliament, drawn up in a Committee of Congress, (by Dr. Franklin,) - - - - - 1081
- 25, Letter from General Washington to the American Congress. One thousand pounds of Powder were sent from New-York to the camp at Cambridge, leaving at this time but four barrels in the City of New-York, - - - - - 1084
- 25, General Washington's Orders and Instructions to General Schuyler, appointed to the command of the Northern Department, - - 1084
- 25, Letter from General Washington to the President and Members of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1085
- 25, Contradiction of the Statement made by Colonel Easton to the Massachusetts Congress, on the 17th of May last, of the reduction of Ticonderoga, denying to Colonel Easton any participation in its capture, - - - - - 1085
- 25, Letter from Thaddeus Burr to General Wooster, enclosing a Letter to him from Isaac Lothrop, one of the Provincial Congress at Watertown, dated June 22, giving an account of the action on the 17th instant, - - - - - 1089
- 25, Andrew Gilman appointed a Lieutenant by the Massachusetts Congress, and instructed to visit and cultivate a peaceable disposition with the Indians, - - - - - 1090
- 25, Letter from John Lane to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 1090
- 25, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Governour Trumbull, for re-enforcements for the Army, - - - - - 1090
- 25, Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the Selectmen of Bradford. A Company of fifty Minute-Men enlisted in the Town of Bradford, under Captain Gage, to serve for one year from February, 1775, have all, except two, scandalously deserted the cause of their Country, and stained their own honour by leaving the Camp and returning home, - 1091
- 25, Letter from General Folsom to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1092
- 25, Letter from an Officer in the Army at Boston to his friend in England, giving an account of the Battle of Bunker's Hill, - - - - - 1093
- 25, Letter from General Burgoyne to Lord Stanley. Account of the Battle of Bunker's Hill, - 1094
- Letter to General Burgoyne: Strictures on his Letter to Lord Stanley, - - - - - 1095
- 25, Letter from General Gage to the Earl of Dartmouth. The trials we have had show the Rebels are not the despicable rabble too many have supposed them to be; when they find cover they make a good stand. The conquest of this Country is not easy, and can be effected only by time and perseverance and strong armies attacking it in various quarters and dividing their forces, - - - - - 1097
- 25, Letter from General Gage to the Earl of Dartmouth, with his account of the Battle of Bunker's Hill, - - - - - 1097
- Return of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates Killed and Wounded of His Majesty's Troops, at the attack of the Redoubts and Intrenchments, on the Heights of Charlestown, June 17, 1775, - - - - - 1098



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| 1775.    | Observations on the Government account of the late Action near Charlestown, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1099 |
|          | Further Observations, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1101 |
| June 26, | Message from the Governour of Grenada to the House of Assembly, requiring that the Address and Minutes of the House, in favour of the rebellious subjects in America, be rescinded, - - -                                                                                                                                                                           | 1102 |
|          | Message from the House to the Governour, informing him an Address to the King had passed the House in consequence of an unanimous Resolution for that purpose; it had been delivered to the late Speaker, and is no longer in the possession of the House, - - -                                                                                                    | 1102 |
|          | Resolutions of the House refusing to comply with the peremptory demands of the Governour to rescind the Minutes, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1102 |
|          | Proclamation of the Governour dissolving the Assembly, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1103 |
| 26,      | Meeting of sundry Gentlemen at Savannah, in Georgia. Declare the Acts of Parliament, for raising a Revenue in America, are grievances, and they will do all they legally may to obtain a redress of those grievances, - - -                                                                                                                                         | 1103 |
| 26,      | Meeting of the Committee for Talbot County, Maryland. Information of the arrival in the Chesapeake Bay of the Ship Johnston, Captain Jones, from Liverpool, with Salt and Dry Goods, - - -                                                                                                                                                                          | 1104 |
|          | Report of the Sub-Committee who examined the Ship Johnston, with a schedule of the Goods on board, shipped by James Gildart and John Gawith, of Liverpool, who are declared to have violated the Association, - - -                                                                                                                                                 | 1104 |
| 26,      | Committee for the City and Liberties of Philadelphia. Resolve that Henry Cour and Nicholas Ashton, of Liverpool, have knowingly violated the Association of the American Congress, by shipping Salt to America in the Ship Albion, and that the Ship and Cargo return to Liverpool forthwith, - - -                                                                 | 1105 |
| 26,      | Letter from John Lamb to the New-York Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1106 |
| 26,      | Letter from John French to the New-York Congress. Cannot take his seat in Congress, as it appears he was not elected by a majority, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1106 |
| 26,      | Letter from Robert R. Livingston to the New-York Congress. His Powder Mill is in operation, and will immediately begin making the Powder, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1106 |
| 26,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to President Hancock, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1106 |
| 26,      | Letter from General Gage to Lord Dunmore, informing him of his victory over the Rebels, on the 17th, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1107 |
| 26,      | Letter from General Ward to the Massachusetts Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1107 |
| 26,      | Letter from the Committee for Northfield, Massachusetts, to the Provincial Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1108 |
| 26,      | Petition of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Plymouth, Massachusetts, to the Provincial Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1108 |
| 26,      | Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to General Folsom, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1109 |
| 27,      | Letter from Governour Wright to General Gage. The unhappy affair of the 19th of April, and some late occurrences in South-Carolina, have forced the People of Georgia into the same predicament with others. He has neither Men nor Money. The King's Officers, and friends to Government are left naked, and exposed to the resentment of an enraged People, - - - | 1109 |
|          | Letter sent in place of the foregoing, (which was intercepted and suppressed,) by the Secret Committee of Charlestown, South-Carolina, (Note,) - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1110 |
| 27,      | Letter from Gov. Wright to Admiral Graves, urging him to send a Sloop-of-War to Savannah immediately; a Vessel with a quantity of Gunpowder is expected, and Boats and Men from South-Carolina are waiting to take her, and he has no means to prevent it, - - -                                                                                                    | 1111 |
|          | Letter substituted for the foregoing by the Secret Committee of South-Carolina, (Note,) - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1111 |
| 27,      | Letter from Charlestown, South-Carolina, to a Gentleman in Philadelphia, enclosing Extracts of Letters from the Superintendent and Agent of Indian Affairs in Georgia, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1111 |

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| 1775. | June 27, Meeting of the Committee of Accomack County, Virginia. John Sherlock declared an enemy to American Liberty. Recantation of Mr. Sherlock, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1112 |
| 27,   | Committee for Bedford County, Virginia: offer assistance and protection to such of the Inhabitants of the lower parts of the Colony as may be obliged to quit their habitations, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1113 |
| 27,   | Letter from President Hancock to the New-York Congress, enclosing a List of the General Officers appointed to command the Continental Forces, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1114 |
| 27,   | Letter from the New-York Congress to Governour Trumbull. A Guard has been sent to escort four Wagons loaded with Gunpowder, from New-Jersey, for the Camp at Cambridge, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1114 |
| 27,   | Meeting of the Committee of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New-York. Adopt the Resolutions and determinations of the Continental Congress, and the injunctions of the Provincial Congress, and will abide by, adhere to, and support them. Apologize for their past conduct, in having so late come into the Congressional measures, - - -                                                                                                             | 934  |
| 27,   | Letter from Thomas Hicks to the New-York Congress, with his reasons for not taking his seat in Congress, and account of the election in Queen's County, where they decline for the present to send Delegates, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1114 |
| 27,   | Petition and Remonstrance of Hermann Zedtwitz to the New-York Provincial Congress, for permission to raise a Regiment of Riflemen, and appoint him to the command of it, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1115 |
| 27,   | Letter from Elisha Phelps, at Ticonderoga, to the Massachusetts Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1116 |
| 27,   | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Massachusetts Congress. Is informed by Colonel Hinman, at Ticonderoga, that the British are fortifying St. John's, and that the Caughnawaga Indians have had a war-dance, being brought to it by General Carleton, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1116 |
| 27,   | Meeting of the Committees of Inspection for the Towns of Tiverton and Little Compton, R. I. - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1117 |
| 27,   | Letter from Governour Cooke to the Massachusetts Congress. Rhode-Island is about to fit out two Armed Vessels for the protection of their trade; a few Vessels, properly armed and manned, would be a great means of protecting the coast, and might enable us to make reprisals, - - -                                                                                                                                                             | 1118 |
| 27,   | Extracts of Letters received in Philadelphia, from Gentlemen in the Army at Cambridge, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1118 |
| 27,   | Letter from General Ward to the Massachusetts Congress, recommending Col. William Henshaw for Adjutant-General, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1119 |
| 27,   | Letter from General Thomas to the Massachusetts Congress, with a request from the Selectmen of Boston that Provisions may be sent into Boston for the American Prisoners taken on the 17th, at Charlestown, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1119 |
| 27,   | Letter from Colonel David Brewer to the Massachusetts Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1119 |
| 27,   | Petition of the Officers of Colonels Prescott, Frye and Bridge's Regiments, to the Massachusetts Congress, praying an allowance for their losses in the Battle on the 17th instant, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1119 |
| 27,   | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Continental Congress. The Continental Army before Boston are restrained from returning the fire of the British, which is kept up daily, lest by so doing they exhaust their little stock of powder, and place them at the mercy of their enemies. Nothing can so much merit the immediate attention of the Congress as the means of supplying this Army in the speediest manner with Gunpowder, - - - | 1120 |
| 27,   | Letter from General Folsom to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1121 |
| 27,   | Letter from the Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, Committee, to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, enclosing an intercepted Letter from Boston, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1122 |
| 27,   | Letter from the Committees of Hanover and Lebanon to the New-Hampshire Congress.—Mr. Dean has just arrived with important intelligence from Canada, and will set out for Philadelphia to-morrow, to lay it before the Continental Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1542 |



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- June 28, Meeting of the Committee of Observation for Anne Arundel County and City of Annapolis. Forbid the landing of Goods imported in the Ship Adventure, from London, - - - 1122
- 28, Letter from General Schuyler to the Continental Congress. Two Regiments of Connecticut Troops have arrived within two miles of New-York. Reports prevail there that the Indians have accepted the hatchet offered them by General Carleton, and that considerable bodies of them have been seen going to Montreal. Eight Transports with Troops are now at Sandy-Hook, - - - 1123
- 28, Letter from the New-York Congress to their Delegates in the Continental Congress. Deeply impressed with the necessity of an accommodation with our Parent State, and conscious that the best service we can render to the present and all future generations must consist in promoting it, we have laboured to point out such moderate terms as may tend to reconcile the unhappy differences; and take the liberty of enclosing the result of our deliberations, - 1329
- 28, Letter from Peter T. Curtenius to the New-York Congress, - - - 1124
- 28, Letter from the Charlotte County, New-York, Committee, to the Provincial Congress. Disturbances in the County; the People are dissatisfied with the order of Congress to remove the Cannon from Ticonderoga, - - - 1124
- 28, Address of the Inhabitants of the German Flats, to the Oneida and Tuscarora Indians assembled there, - - - 1125
- 28, Address of the English Merchants, of Quebec, to General Carleton; offer their services to protect the place, and request the Militia to be embodied, - - - 1125
- 28, Letter from General Greene to Jacob Greene. The late Battle. The present situation of both Armies. The Rhode-Island Troops are raw, irregular and undisciplined; yet, bad as they are, they are under much better government than any Troops around Boston, - - - 1126
- 28, Letter from the Committee of Inspection for the Town of Bildeford to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - 1127
- 28, Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to the Provincial Congress, protesting against an Order sent to them by Gen. Ward, 1127
- 28, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Albany Committee, with a particular account of the late Engagement with the enemies of America, - - - 1444
- 28, Petition of the Inhabitants of Machias to the Massachusetts Congress, praying for a supply of Provisions, the situation of the times having prevented their procuring it, - - - 1128
- 28, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to General Folsom, - - - 1128
- 28, Letter from the Rev. Dr. Wheelock to the New-Hampshire Congress, with information of the disposition of the Northern Indians towards the Colonies, - - - 1541
- 29, Letter from the Hague. Orders have been given by the States-General to their Admiral in the West-Indies to seize and destroy all Ammunition, Stores and Provisions, found in any Ships bound from any Dutch Settlements to any Port in the English-American Colonies, - 1128
- 29, Letter from Charlestown to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Charlestown has more the appearance of a Garrison-Town than a Mart for Trade. One Company keeps guard all day, and two every night. The Tories in Georgia are now no more: the Province is almost universally on the right side, and are about to choose Delegates to the Congress, - 1129
- 29, Free Thoughts on the present Times and Measures; addressed to the People of Virginia, - 1129
- 29, Philadelphia Committee direct that no Sheep be killed under four years of age, in compliance with the Resolves of the Provincial Convention, 1132
- 29, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Continental Congress, - - - 1132
- 29, Letter from General Schuyler to the Continental Congress. Some Oneida Indians, lately arrived at Albany, have expressed a wish that the Indians should be called together there, - - 1133

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- June 28, Letter from General Schuyler, at New-York, to Colonel Hinman, commanding at Ticonderoga, 1133
- 29, Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress. Proposes the Troops from Connecticut shall encamp this morning, and requests Tents and other necessities may be furnished immediately, - - - 1134
- 29, Letter from the New-York Congress to Elisha Phelps, Commissary to the Connecticut Troops on Lake Champlain. Have made provision for passing to him all the Provisions and Stores heretofore sent for the Troops at the Posts on the Lake, - - - 1332
- 29, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Agents at Albany, directing them to deliver to Mr. Phelps, the Commissary appointed by Governour Trumbull, all the Provisions and Stores in their hands, - - - 1332
- 29, Letter from Colonel Jacob Bayley to the New-York Congress. He has been chosen a Member of the Provincial Congress, but cannot attend, as they are apprehensive of an invasion from Canada, - - - 1134
- 29, Association of the Inhabitants of Newtown, in Fairfield County, Connecticut, adopted on the 13th of February, and signed by the Inhabitants on the 12th of April, 1775, - - 1135
- 29, Letter from Fort George, near Ticonderoga, to a Gentleman in Hartford. It is generally believed that Carleton is making preparations to come against us. Guy Johnson is doing all he can to raise the Indians against us, - 1135
- 30, Preparations for defence at Williamsburgh, Virginia, - - - 1135
- 30, Address of the Committee of Cumberland County, Virginia, to the Inhabitants of the County, 1136
- 30, Letter from one of the Virginia Delegates, at Philadelphia, to a friend in Williamsburgh, - 1137
- 30, Letter to the New-York Congress, from their Delegates in the Continental Congress, urging them, by all means, to complete their levies of Men without delay; the honour as well as the interest of the Congress is much concerned in the success of this measure; Connecticut boasts of having raised their Men in ten days, 1137
- 30, Letter from General Schuyler, at New-York, to the Continental Congress. In obedience to the Resolutions of Congress, he will repair without delay to Ticonderoga, and execute their wishes with the utmost expedition and secrecy, 1138
- 30, Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress. Has just received Despatches containing matters of the utmost importance, and wishes to meet a small Committee of their body, to whom he will communicate such part of his orders as become the subject of their consideration, - - - 1139
- 30, Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull. To enable him to carry into execution the orders of the Continental Congress, supplies of Money and Ammunition are indispensably necessary; he requests Connecticut will send him fifteen or twenty thousand Pounds of their Money, and all the Ammunition they can spare, for it cannot be had in New-York, even in the smallest quantity, - 1139
- 30, Letter from Capt. John Lamb to the New-York Congress, - - - 1140
- 30, Letter from Samuel Mott, at Fort George, to Governour Trumbull. Has been informed of the extraordinary ill conduct of Col. Arnold, the particulars of which have been sent by Col. Hinman. Requests that Captain Niles, of Norwich, a bold and able sea commander, may be commissioned to take command of one of the Vessels on the Lake. Guy Johnson is doing all in his power to stimulate the Indians against us, - - - 1140
- 30, Letter from General Ward to the Continental Congress. Has received and accepts his appointment as a Major-General in the American Army. Hopes the appointments in Massachusetts, made by the Congress, of General Officers, may not have a tendency to create uneasiness; which ought, at this time, to be carefully avoided, - - - 1140
- 30, Letter from General Ward to John Pigeon, Commissary-General, - - - 1141



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| June 30, Letter from General Thomas to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, - - -                                                                                                                                                                            | 1141 |
| 30, Letter from General Heath to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety. Many of his Regiment are without Arms; requests they may be supplied, - - -                                                                                                            | 1141 |
| 30, Letter from the Committee of Safety for Massachusetts to the Provincial Congress. Desire to have a full knowledge of the emissions of Bills lately made, before they consider the further emission required by a Resolve of the Provincial Congress, - - - | 1141 |
| 30, Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Supplies to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, requesting them to forward some Cannon they have, - - -                                                                                                      | 1142 |
| 30, Colonel John Fenton declared an enemy to the Liberties of America by the Congress of New-Hampshire, and sent under guard to Headquarters, - - -                                                                                                            | 698  |
| Eulogium sacred to the memory of the late Maj. Gen. Warren, who fell, June 17, 1775, fighting against the Ministerial Army at Boston, - - -                                                                                                                    | 1142 |

## RHODE-ISLAND ASSEMBLY.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| May 3, Rhode-Island Assembly meet at Providence, - - -                                                                                                                                                                | 1143 |
| List of the Members, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1143 |
| Records of the Colony removed to Providence, - - -                                                                                                                                                                    | 1145 |
| Committee to prepare a Bill for regulating the Army to be raised for the defence of the Colony, - - -                                                                                                                 | 1145 |
| Act for embodying, supplying and paying the Army of Observation ordered to be raised for the defence of the Colony, - - -                                                                                             | 1145 |
| Committee of Safety authorized to receive and distribute Arms, - - -                                                                                                                                                  | 1147 |
| Committee of Safety appointed, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1147 |
| Officers of the Army of Observation, - - -                                                                                                                                                                            | 1147 |
| Resolutions disqualifying Governour Wanton, and authorizing the Lieutenant-Governour to act as Governour, - - -                                                                                                       | 1149 |
| Committee of Safety directed to make out the account of the expenses of Raising and Equipping the Army of Observation, and transmit it to the Continental Congress, - - -                                             | 1150 |
| Proceedings of the Assembly, relative to the Disputes between Great Britain and the Colonies, directed to be sent to the Assembly of Connecticut and Committee of New-York, - - -                                     | 1150 |
| Pay to the Officers and Men of the Army of Observation, - - -                                                                                                                                                         | 1150 |
| Embargo laid on all Provisions going out of the Colony, - - -                                                                                                                                                         | 1151 |
| Adjourn to second Monday in June, - - -                                                                                                                                                                               | 1151 |
| June 12, Meet according to adjournment, - - -                                                                                                                                                                         | 1151 |
| List of the Members, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1151 |
| Disqualification of Governour Wanton continued, - - -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1152 |
| Deputy-Governour requested to write to Captain Wallace, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Rose, now in the Harbour of Newport, and demand of him the reason of his conduct towards the Inhabitants of the Colony, - - - | 1152 |
| Allowances to Soldiers in Camp, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1152 |
| Rules for regulating the Army of Observation, raised by this Colony, - - -                                                                                                                                            | 1152 |
| Committee of Safety directed to fit out, with Arms and Men, two Vessels, to protect the Trade of the Colony, - - -                                                                                                    | 1158 |
| Officers appointed to command the Vessels, - - -                                                                                                                                                                      | 1158 |
| Memorial of William Potter, of South-Kingston, expressing his regret at having signed the Protest, in April last, against the Act for raising an Army of Observation, - - -                                           | 1158 |
| The Memorial is considered satisfactory, and Mr. Potter is reinstated in the favour of the Assembly, - - -                                                                                                            | 1159 |
| Military Officers appointed, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1159 |
| Post-Offices established, Postmasters and Post-Riders appointed, and Rates of Postage fixed, - - -                                                                                                                    | 1160 |
| Ten Thousand Pounds in lawful money, Bills of Credit, authorized, - - -                                                                                                                                               | 1161 |
| Officers chosen by the Light-Infantry Companies of Providence and Gloucester approved, - - -                                                                                                                          | 1161 |
| Officers chosen by the Company of Scituate Hunters, approved, - - -                                                                                                                                                   | 1161 |
| An Act to prevent Desertion from the Army of Observation, - - -                                                                                                                                                       | 1161 |

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| Officers chosen by the Company of North-Providence Rangers, approved, - - -                                                                                                          | 1162 |
| The Deputy-Governour requested to transmit to the Rhode-Island Delegates in the Continental Congress a copy of the Proceedings of this Assembly, - - -                               | 1162 |
| Adjourned to the third Monday in August next, - - -                                                                                                                                  | 1162 |
| June 28, Meet again; convened by the Lieut. Governour, - - -                                                                                                                         | 1162 |
| List of the Members of the Assembly, - - -                                                                                                                                           | 1163 |
| Officers chosen to command the Pawtuxet Rangers, approved, - - -                                                                                                                     | 1163 |
| Six additional Companies authorized to be raised and equipped; two Companies to be added to each of the Regiments now in the service of this Colony, and encamped near Boston, - - - | 1163 |
| Ten Thousand Pounds in lawful money, Bills, to be emitted for the pay and support of the additional Companies, - - -                                                                 | 1163 |
| An Act to repeal an Act entitled "An Act for Regulating Appeals to His Majesty in Council, in Great Britain," - - -                                                                  | 1163 |
| Disqualification of Governour Wanton continued, - - -                                                                                                                                | 1164 |
| Army of Observation placed under the command and direction of the Commander-in-Chief of the combined American Army, stationed in the Province of Massachusetts, - - -                | 1164 |
| Deputy-Governour requested to write a Reply to the Speech of the Oneida Indians to the four New-England Colonies, - - -                                                              | 1164 |
| Committee appointed to take an account of the Powder, Arms and Ammunition, as well private as publick, in the Colony, - - -                                                          | 1164 |
| Committees of the several Towns requested to collect Saltpetre, and forward it to the Provincial Congress in New-York, - - -                                                         | 1164 |
| Officers chosen to command the Providence Grenadier Company, approved, - - -                                                                                                         | 1164 |
| Officers appointed to command the six additional Companies to the Army of Observation, - - -                                                                                         | 1165 |
| Act for enlisting one-fourth part of the Militia of the Colony as Minute-Men, - - -                                                                                                  | 1165 |
| Adjourned to the third Monday in August, - - -                                                                                                                                       | 1168 |

## PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |      |
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| June 19, Pennsylvania Assembly meet, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1167 |
| 20, Message to the Governour, that they are ready to proceed to any business he may have to lay before them, - - -                                                                                                           | 1167 |
| 21, Answer of the Governour; he has no business to lay before the House, - - -                                                                                                                                               | 1167 |
| Committee to prepare a bill for striking twenty-two thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, - - -                                                                                                                                | 1168 |
| 22, Bill for striking Bills of Credit reported and read, - - -                                                                                                                                                               | 1168 |
| 23, Memorial from the Committee for the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, requesting them to appoint a Committee of Safety and Defence, - - -                                                                              | 1168 |
| 24, Resolution of the Continental Congress of June 22, requesting Pennsylvania to raise two or more Companies of Riflemen, presented to the House, - - -                                                                     | 1170 |
| Petition from a number of the Officers of the Association in the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, concurring with the Petition and Memorial from the Committee of the said City and Liberties, presented yesterday, - - - | 1170 |
| 27, Consideration of the Petition from the Committee for Philadelphia resumed, - - -                                                                                                                                         | 1170 |
| Committee appointed to consider of, and report to the House, such measures as may be expedient for putting the City and Province into a state of defence, - - -                                                              | 1170 |
| 28, Message from the Governour, refusing his consent to the Bill entitled "An Act for the support of Government of this Province, and payment of the Publick Debt," - - -                                                    | 1171 |
| Committee to prepare an Answer to the Message, - - -                                                                                                                                                                         | 1171 |
| 30, Resolves reported by the Committee on the Defence of the City and Province, considered and agreed to by the House, - - -                                                                                                 | 1172 |
| Committee of Safety appointed, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1173 |
| People conscientiously scrupulous of bearing Arms recommended to assist the indigent Associates, - - -                                                                                                                       | 1174 |
| Adjourned to Monday, the 18th of September next, - - -                                                                                                                                                                       | 1174 |



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## NEW-HAMPSHIRE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

- June 12, House of Representatives of New-Hampshire meet, - - - - - 1175
- 13, Refuse to receive the Members elected on the King's Writ, for the Towns of Plymouth, Orford, and Lime, - - - - - 1175
- Answer of the House to the Governour's Speech, 1175
- Message from the Governour, adjourning the House to Tuesday, the 11th of August next, - 1176

## NEW-HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

- June 27, The Congress meets according to adjournment, 1179
- Cannon to be sent to the Army at Medford, - 1179
- 28, Provincial and County Records at Portsmouth removed to Exeter, - - - - - 1179
- 29, Rules and Articles of War for Massachusetts, from No. 1 to No. 53, inclusive, adopted for the New-Hampshire Forces, - - - - - 1180
- 30, Justices of the several Courts recommended to adjourn their respective Courts to the first day of the next Term, till further advice of this Congress, - - - - - 1180
- Colonel John Fenton ordered to be confined in the Jail at Exeter, and supported like a Gentleman, at the expense of the Colony, - - 1181
- July 1, Colonel Fenton ordered to be sent to the Headquarters of the New-Hampshire Forces, - 1181
- Committee to prepare a Bill for an emission of a further sum of Paper Notes, - - - - - 1181
- Committee to bring in a Plan to regulate the Militia of the Colony, - - - - - 1181
- Committee to confer with the other New-England Colonies, on the situation of Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and Canada, and procure the views of those Colonies relative to any Plan of Operations in those parts, - - - - - 1181
- 3, Publick Money in the hands of George Jaffrey, Treasurer, delivered to a Committee of the Congress, - - - - - 1181
- Letter received from Dr. Wheelock, giving an account of the state of matters in Canada, sent by a Committee to the Massachusetts Congress, 1182
- 4, Committee to prepare a Vote for establishing and encouraging sundry Manufactures in the Colony, - - - - - 1182
- 5, Receiver-General authorized to give his Notes of Hand, on the faith of the Colony, for ten thousand Pounds, - - - - - 1182
- Selectmen or Committee of each Town to take an exact list of all the Fire-Arms fit for use in their respective Towns and Parishes in the Colony, - - - - - 1184
- 7, Report of the Committee appointed to remove the Publick Records, - - - - - 1184
- Committee of Safety directed to write a Letter to the Continental Congress, setting forth the situation of the Colony, the state of the Forces, &c., 1186
- Adjourned to August 22, - - - - - 1186

## HOUSE OF BURGESSES OF VIRGINIA.

- June 1, House of Burgesses of Virginia meet at Williamsburgh, - - - - - 1185
- Peyton Randolph chosen Speaker, - - - - - 1186
- Speech of the Governour to the Council and House of Burgesses, - - - - - 1187
- 2, Message from the Governour, communicating the Joint Address of the Lords and Commons, on the 7th of February, and His Majesty's Answer; and also the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 27th of the same month, - 1188
- Address to the Governour ordered, and a Committee appointed to prepare it, - - - - - 1188
- Journal of the Proceedings of the Congress held at Philadelphia, on the 5th day of September, 1774, laid before the House, - - - - - 1188
- Proceedings of the Convention of Delegates for the Counties and Corporations in the Colony of Virginia, held at Richmond Town, in the County of Henrico, on the 20th day of March, 1775, laid before the House, - - - - - 1188
- 3, Address to the Governour, requesting him to communicate to the House the number of Militia lately drawn out into actual service in defence of the Colony; and what Militia has been ordered out since the late Indian Expedition, and for what purposes, - - - - - 1189

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- June 5, Answer of the Governour to the Address relative to the Militia, - - - - - 1189
- Address to the Governour in answer to his Speech, - - - - - 1190
- Committee to inspect the Publick Magazine in this City, and inquire into the Stores belonging to the same, - - - - - 1191
- Petition of the Presbytery of Hanover, in behalf of themselves and all the Presbyterians of Virginia, and of all Protestant Dissenters elsewhere, praying for equal liberties and advantages with their fellow-subjects, - - - 1191
- Journal of the Proceedings of the Congress considered, and unanimously approved, - - - 1192
- Proceedings of the Convention considered, and unanimously approved, - - - - - 1193
- Address of the Council to the Governour, - - 1193
- Governour's Answer, - - - - - 1193
- 6, Message from the Governour relative to the Publick Magazine; and a paper referred to in the Message, - - - - - 1193
- The Gentlemen who were appointed to inspect the Magazine directed to prepare an Answer to the Message, - - - - - 1194
- Answer to the Governour's Message, - - - - 1194
- Message from the Governour relative to the Gunpowder which has been removed from the Publick Magazine by His Excellency's order, 1195
- Message from the Council, with a copy of their Proceedings upon a report relative to the Marines and Sailors belonging to His Majesty's Ship the Fowey, - - - - - 1195
- Captain James Innis, of the Williamsburgh Volunteers, requested to guard the Magazine, - 1196
- 7, The Governour's Message, relative to the removal of the Gunpowder from the Magazine, considered, - - - - - 1196
- Committee appointed to prepare and present an Address to the Governour, - - - - - 1196
- Governour's Speech considered in Committee of the Whole House, - - - - - 1196
- Message from the Governour in answer to their Address of this day, - - - - - 1197
- Petition of Wm. Fleming presented to the House, 1197
- 8, Petition of Abraham Field presented, - - - 1197
- Message from the Council, with a written Message from the Governour, informing that, considering himself in danger of personal violence, he had removed to a place of safety; and had fixed his residence for the present on board His Majesty's Ship the Fowey, lying at York, and that for the transaction of all publick business, access to him will be easy and safe, - - - 1198
- Message read, considered, and Committee appointed to prepare an Address in answer, - 1198
- Address to the Governour, in answer to his Message, - - - - - 1199
- Sent to the Council for their concurrence, - - 1199
- Concurred in by the Council and amended to make it a Joint Address, - - - - - 1199
- Committee appointed to present it, - - - - - 1199
- 9, Governour's Speech considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - - 1199
- Mr. Cary reported from the Committee, that the Address of yesterday had been presented to the Governour on board the Fowey, and that he was pleased to say he would take time to consider it, and would return an answer in writing after he had maturely deliberated upon its contents, - - - - - 1200
- 10, Governour's Speech considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - - 1200
- Resolution reported to the House, setting forth the reasons why they cannot close with the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 27th of February, (Lord North's,) - - - 1200
- Resolution agreed to, and a Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the Governour upon it, 1202
- Answer of the Governour to the Joint Address, presented to him yesterday, - - - - - 1202
- Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the late Disturbances and Commotions, - - 1204
- 12, Petition of the Community of Christians called Menonites, praying they may have the same liberty of affirming to the truth of any matter as indulged to the People called Quakers, - 1204
- Address to the Governour reported to the House by the Committee, - - - - - 1204



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| 1775.    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |      |
| June 12, | Address agreed to, and a Committee appointed to present it, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1206 |
| 13,      | Report of the Committee appointed to inspect the Magazine, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1206 |
|          | Message to the Council, on securing the Arms left in the Palace by the Governour, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1208 |
|          | Petition of sundry persons of the Community of Christians called Baptists, and other Protestant Dissenters, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1208 |
| 14,      | Petition of several persons in that part of the County of Augusta which lies West of the Alleghany Mountains, presented by Mr. Bland, one of the Delegates to the Continental Congress, where it was first presented, - - - - -                                                                                                                                 | 1208 |
|          | Commissioners appointed to ratify the Treaty of Peace between this Colony and the Indians, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1209 |
|          | Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the late Disturbances and Commotions, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1209 |
| 15,      | Committee appointed to a Conference with the Council, on the Message of the House relative to the security of the publick Arms, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1216 |
|          | Several Conferences on the subject of securing the Arms, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1216 |
|          | Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the Council in preparing an Address to the Governour, that he will consent to a removal of the publick Arms to a more secure place, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                   | 1217 |
|          | House in Committee of the Whole on the Governour's Answer to the Joint Address of the two Houses; the Report of the Committee appointed to inspect the Publick Magazine; the Report of the Committee on the late Disturbances and Commotions; and an extract of a Letter from Lord Dunmore to Earl of Dartmouth, dated Williamsburgh, Dec'r 24, 1774, - - - - - | 1217 |
|          | Resolution reported by the Committee of the Whole, directing an Address to the Governour, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1217 |
|          | Resolution agreed to, and Committee appointed to prepare the Address, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1218 |
|          | Message to the Council, informing them that the Locks of upwards of three hundred Guns, lately in complete order in the Publick Magazine, have been taken off; and requesting them to join in an Address to the Governour, desiring him to direct the Locks to be returned to the Magazine, - - - - -                                                           | 1218 |
| 16,      | Mr. Cary reported to the House, that their Address of Monday last, (the 12th instant,) had been presented to the Governour, and had received his Answer, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1218 |
|          | Answer of the Governour to the Address of Monday, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1218 |
|          | Address ordered to be presented to the Governour, informing him the Publick Magazine is now in a fit condition for the reception of Arms and Ammunition, and requesting him to return the Powder lately removed from thence by his order, - - - - -                                                                                                             | 1218 |
|          | Committee to prepare the Address, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1219 |
| 17,      | Committee appointed, on the 7th of June, to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governour, reported, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1219 |
|          | Address reported by the Committee agreed to, and Committee appointed to present it, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1219 |
|          | Council agree to address the Governour concerning the Locks taken off some of the Guns in the Magazine, and Committee appointed to prepare it, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1220 |
|          | Mr. Mercer reported, from the Committee appointed yesterday to draw up an Address to the Governour, informing him the Publick Magazine is now in a fit condition for the reception of Arms and Ammunition, - - - - -                                                                                                                                            | 1220 |
|          | Address reported by Mr. Mercer agreed to, and a Committee appointed to present it, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1221 |
|          | Joint Address to the Governour, requesting him to order the Publick Arms in the Palace may be removed, during his absence, to the Publick Magazine, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1221 |
| 19,      | Mr. Bland presented to the House copies of several Resolutions of the Continental Congress, passed on the 17th of May, on the 29th of May, and on 2d of June, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1221 |
|          | Resolutions of the Congress approved of by the House, and the several Committees in the Colony for carrying into execution the Continental Association are requested to be vigilant in seeing them strictly complied with, - - - - -                                                                                                                            | 1221 |

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| 1775.    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |      |
| June 19, | Address to the Governour, reported by the Committee appointed on Thursday last, the 15th instant, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1221 |
|          | Agreed to, and Committee appointed to present it, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1231 |
| 20,      | Message from the Council, with a Paper which they have received from the Governour, as his Answer to the last Joint Address of the Council and House, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1232 |
|          | Governour, in the Paper communicated, refuses to give directions for the removal of the Arms from the Palace, and directs that they remain there, and on no account be touched without his express permission, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                               | 1232 |
|          | Mr. Cary reported that the Joint Address of Saturday last, (June 17,) and the two Addresses of this House of the same day, and the Address of yesterday, had been severally presented to the Governour, who directed him to acquaint the House he had sent his Answer to the first to the Council, and delivered him two Papers in answer to the second and third Addresses, - - - - - | 1232 |
| 21,      | Papers sent by the Governour, in answer to the Joint Address and to the Addresses of this House, taken into consideration, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1233 |
|          | Conference desired with the Council, on the state of the Colony, and on the subject-matter of the Governour's Message in answer to the Joint Address of the Council and House, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1233 |
|          | Conference agreed to by the Council, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1233 |
|          | Committee appointed to manage the Conference on the part of the House, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1233 |
|          | Instructions to Committee appointed to manage the Conference, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1233 |
|          | Address to the Governour agreed upon in Conference, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1234 |
|          | Agreed to by the House, and Committee appointed to present it, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1235 |
| 22,      | Answer of the Governour to the Joint Address of yesterday, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1236 |
|          | Message from the Governour to the House, by the Attorney-General, on the Bills and Resolves passed by the House, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1237 |
|          | Address of the House in answer to the Message, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1237 |
| 24,      | Answer of the Governour to the Address, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1239 |
|          | Considered by the House in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1239 |
|          | Resolutions, reported by the Committee of the Whole, and agreed to by the House, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1239 |
|          | Commissioners appointed to meet the Chiefs of the Ohio Indians, to confirm and ratify a Treaty of Peace with them, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1240 |
|          | Commissioners appointed to settle the Accounts of the Militia for their services and losses in the late Indian war, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1240 |
|          | Adjourned to the 12th of October next, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1241 |

## NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |           |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| May 22, | The Congress assembled at the Exchange, in New-York, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1241-1348 |
| 23,     | List of the Deputies from the several Counties, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1241      |
|         | Rules of the Congress adopted, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1243      |
|         | Moved by Mr. Low, and consideration postponed, that implicit obedience ought to be paid to all General Regulations recommended by the Continental Congress; but that this Congress is competent to determine on all matters relative to the internal police of the Colony, - - - - - | 1244      |
|         | Resolution of the Continental Congress of May 18th, relative to Ticonderoga, presented, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1245      |
|         | Committee appointed to report the best method of carrying it into execution, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1245      |
|         | All the Ministers in the City, who can pray in English, requested to make arrangements for opening the Congress with Prayer, - - - - -                                                                                                                                               | 1245      |
| 24,     | Report of the Committee on the Resolution of the Continental Congress relative to Ticonderoga, Committee appointed to superintend the removal of the Cannon and Stores from Ticonderoga to Fort George, - - - - -                                                                    | 1247      |
|         | Letter from a Committee of the House of Representatives of Connecticut, appointed to confer with this Colony, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                              | 1247      |
|         | Gentlemen from Connecticut introduced, their Credentials read, and a Committee appointed to confer with them, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                              | 1247      |
|         | Committee to consider the expense and means of raising Money, to defray the expense of                                                                                                                                                                                               |           |



|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |      |
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| 1775.   | removing the Cannon and Stores from Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1248 |
| May 24, | Letter to the Governour of Connecticut, informing him of what they have done relative to Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1248 |
|         | Committee to prepare a Letter and Instructions to the Agents for removing the Cannon and Stores from Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1248 |
| 25,     | Committee appointed to confer with the Gentlemen from Connecticut, on their written request, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1250 |
|         | Arrangement of the Clergy of New-York, to open the Congress with Prayer every morning, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1250 |
|         | Report of the Committee after their Conference, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1250 |
|         | Motion rejected, that the Letter to the Governour of Connecticut be withheld, and the subject-matter thereof reconsidered, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1250 |
|         | Letter to the Agents for removing the Cannon and Stores from Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1251 |
|         | Instructions to the Agents, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1251 |
|         | The Congress recommend to all persons not to commit any hostilities against the People of Canada, and declare every such step infamous, and highly inimical to all the American Colonies, - - - - -                                                                                                                   | 1253 |
|         | Motion made, and consideration postponed, that this Congress do fully approve of the Proceedings of the late Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                          | 1253 |
| 26,     | Committee of Correspondence appointed, and instructed to inform the People of Canada that nothing hostile is intended against them, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                         | 1254 |
|         | Letter to the Committee of Safety for Massachusetts, and the Committee of Correspondence for New-Hampshire, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1254 |
|         | Committee appointed to consider the expediency of emitting a Continental Paper Currency, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1254 |
|         | Letter to the Delegates representing this Colony in the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1255 |
|         | Propositions and requests of Capt. Asa Douglass, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1255 |
|         | Members of the Congress desired to sign the Association, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1256 |
| 27,     | Letter from Abraham Lott, for information whether he is authorized to supply the Ship Asia with Provisions: permission given, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                               | 1257 |
|         | Committee on Continental Paper Currency report; to be considered on Tuesday next, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1257 |
| 29,     | Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, dated May 26, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1258 |
|         | Letter from President Hancock, dated May 26, with Resolves of the Continental Congress of May 25, respecting the measures they conceive necessary for the defence and safety of the City and Province of New-York, - - - - -                                                                                          | 1259 |
|         | Letter to the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1260 |
|         | Letter to the Delegates in the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1260 |
|         | Recommendation to the several Counties to appoint Committees to obtain the signatures of all the Inhabitants to the Association, and to report the Names of those who refuse to sign, - - - - -                                                                                                                       | 1261 |
|         | Letter to the Counties, enclosing the foregoing Recommendation, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1261 |
| 30,     | Report of the Committee on the Continental Paper Currency, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1262 |
|         | Agreed to unanimously by the House, and a copy directed to be transmitted to the Delegates of the Colony in the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                       | 1264 |
|         | Letter to the Delegates in Continental Congress, enclosing the Report on Paper Currency, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1264 |
|         | Committee to examine the Ground at or near King's Bridge, to ascertain if it will admit of making a Fortification there that will be tenable, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                               | 1265 |
|         | Committee to go to the Highlands, and report the most proper place for erecting one or more Fortifications, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1265 |
|         | Motion by Mr. Kissam, that a Committee be appointed to prepare and state the terms on which a reconciliation may be tendered to Great Britain, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                              | 1265 |
| 31,     | Inhabitants of the Colony recommended to furnish themselves with Arms and Ammunition, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1267 |
|         | Committee to Report an arrangement of the Troops to be embodied for the defence of this Colony, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1267 |
| June 1, | Letter to the Delegates of the Colony in the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1268 |
| 1775.   | June 1, Letter to Sub-Committee of the City of Albany, Mr. Kissam, with leave of the Congress, withdrew his motion of the 30th of May, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                      | 1269 |
| 2,      | Committee of Correspondence reported a Letter to the People of Canada, which was read and approved, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1270 |
|         | Fifteen hundred copies of the Letter in French, and five hundred in English, ordered to be printed and distributed among the People of Canada, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                              | 1270 |
|         | Motion by Mr. Kissam, that a Committee be appointed to prepare a Plan of Accommodation between Great Britain and the Colonies, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                              | 1271 |
|         | Debated and adopted: affirmative seven Counties, negative four Counties, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1271 |
|         | Committee to prepare the Plan of Accommodation, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1271 |
|         | Letter from President Hancock, dated May 31, enclosing a Resolution of the same day, requesting the Governour of Connecticut to send a strong re-enforcement to Crown Point and Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                | 1271 |
|         | Peter T. Curtenius appointed Commissary to supply the Northern Posts; and the Members of the Congress become responsible to him for the disbursements he may make, - - - - -                                                                                                                                          | 1272 |
| 3,      | Letter from James Rivington, Printer, received and read, and the consideration of it deferred, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1274 |
|         | Recommendation to the Inhabitants of the City not to obstruct the embarkation of the British Troops, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1274 |
|         | Letter to Inhabitants of Tryon County, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1274 |
|         | Letter to Colonel Guy Johnson, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1275 |
| 6,      | Letter from the Committee at Albany, dated June 2, 1775, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1276 |
| 6,      | Letter to the Governour and Company of Connecticut, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1277 |
| 7,      | Letter to the New-York Delegates at the Continental Congress, on the subject of erecting a Fortification at King's Bridge, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1278 |
|         | Report of the Committee who viewed the Grounds at King's Bridge, and places adjacent, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1279 |
|         | Colonel Philip Schuyler recommended to the Continental Congress as a Major-General, and Richard Montgomery as a Brigadier-General, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                          | 1280 |
|         | Letter to the Committee of Albany, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1280 |
|         | Letter to the Delegates of this Colony in the Continental Congress, calling their attention to the necessity of immediately providing Money; recommend the appointment of a Continental Superintendent of Indian Affairs; and leave to the wisdom of the Continental Congress the appointment of a General, - - - - - | 1281 |
|         | Letter to the Delegates in Continental Congress, recommending Colonel Schuyler for Major-General, and Captain Montgomery for Brigadier-General, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                             | 1282 |
|         | Any attempt to raise tumults, under pretext of a doubtful interpretation of the Resolves or Recommendation of the Congress, is declared to be a high infraction of the General Association, and tending directly to the dissolution of this Congress, - - - - -                                                       | 1282 |
|         | Letter to the Committee of Safety for Massachusetts, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1283 |
|         | James Rivington having signed the General Association, and asked pardon of the publick, who have been offended by his ill-judged publications, is permitted to return to his house and family, - - - - -                                                                                                              | 1284 |
| 8,      | Letter to Artemas Ward, General of the Massachusetts Army, Joseph Warren, Chairman of the Committee of Safety, and Moses Gill, Chairman of the Committee of Supplies, - - - - -                                                                                                                                       | 1285 |
|         | The late seizure of the Military Stores belonging to the Crown, at Turtle Bay, is a direct violation of the Continental Order of the 15th of May; is inimical to the true interest of the Colonies, and tends to involve this City in the utmost confusion and distress, - - - - -                                    | 1285 |
|         | Committee appointed to repair to Turtle Bay, and inform the persons assembled there of the opinion of this Congress, and to order them to desist from the further execution of their intentions, - - - - -                                                                                                            | 1285 |
|         | Motion by Mr. Scott, to dismantle the Fort and secure the Cannon, rejected: affirmative five Counties; negative five Counties, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                              | 1286 |



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| June 9, Secret Committee appointed to examine what quantity of Saltpetre is in the hands of the Apothecaries in this City, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1287 |
| Committee to estimate and report the quantity of every article necessary for equipping three thousand Men, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1287 |
| Letter to the Commander-in-Chief at Ticonderoga, informing him that the damaged Powder there may be sent to the Mill erected near the east side of Hudson's River, in Rhynbeck Precinct, in Dutchess County, - - -                                                                                                                                     | 1288 |
| Letter to the Commissioners at Albany, appointed to superintend the removal of the Cannon and Stores from Ticonderoga and Crown Point, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1288 |
| Bounty of five Pounds given for every hundred weight of Gunpowder manufactured within the Colony, and a Bounty of twenty Pounds for every hundred good Muskets so manufactured, - - -                                                                                                                                                                  | 1288 |
| Motion by Mr. Tredwell, to take the advice of the Continental Congress relative to dismantling the Fort, declared to be the same in substance with a motion made, voted on, and carried in the negative, yesterday: affirmative six Counties, negative four Counties, - - -                                                                            | 1288 |
| 10, Powder received from Elizabethtown, in New-Jersey, committed to Mr. McDougall, to be forwarded to the Massachusetts Army, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1290 |
| The Mayor of the City informed the Congress that application had been made to him respecting some Arms taken out of the Baggage Carts of the Troops lately embarking from this City, - - -                                                                                                                                                             | 1290 |
| Motion by Mr. Morris, that the Arms and Military Accoutrements taken from His Majesty's Troops on Tuesday last be restored, and that every Inhabitant of the Colony who is possessed of any, immediately deliver them to the Mayor of New-York: carried in the Affirmative: for the affirmative, eight Counties; for the negative, two Counties, - - - | 1290 |
| Case of Robert and John Murray considered, and they are fully restored to their commercial privileges, and declared to be entitled to the forgiveness of the Publick, - - -                                                                                                                                                                            | 1291 |
| Copy of the Report of the Committee appointed to ascertain the most proper place for erecting a Fortification in the Highlands, ordered to be sent to the Delegates in the Continental Congress, - - -                                                                                                                                                 | 1291 |
| 12, Letter from the Delegates of the Colony, dated Philadelphia, June 10, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1292 |
| Letter from the Continental Congress, dated June 10, with a Resolution of the 9th, requesting New-York to forward to the Camp before Boston five thousand barrels of Flour, for the use of the Continental Army, - - -                                                                                                                                 | 1293 |
| Committee appointed to purchase and forward the Flour without delay, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1293 |
| Letter to the Merchants of Canada. They agree to the proposition for the establishment of a regular Post between Montreal and New-York; and disavow in the strongest terms the intention attributed to them, that the Confederated Colonies on this Continent aim at Independence, - - -                                                               | 1294 |
| 13, Letter to the New-York Delegates, respecting the establishment of a Post in the Highlands, Report of the Committee on the most proper place for a Post in the Highlands, - - -                                                                                                                                                                     | 1295 |
| Committee to agree with any person in the City for importing, without delay, any quantity of Gunpowder, not exceeding thirty tons, allowing the importer one hundred per cent. on the first cost, - - -                                                                                                                                                | 1296 |
| 14, Mr. McDougall appointed by the Congress to seize one Angus McDonald, who is charged with giving a Bounty and enlisting Men, to be employed against the Liberties of this Country, Information given by Capt. Thompson of Troops coming to America, - - -                                                                                           | 1297 |
| Letter to the Governour of Connecticut, with the above information, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1297 |
| William Duer complains of sundry insinuations against his conduct, with relation to the Northern Frontier of this Colony, and prays a Committee may be appointed to inquire into his conduct, - - -                                                                                                                                                    | 1298 |

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| June 14, Committee appointed to hear and examine into the case of Mr. Duer, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1298 |
| Angus McDonald brought before the Congress; and being examined, he confessed that he had taken the names of upwards of forty men, and also confessed sundry other matters, - - -                                                                                       | 1298 |
| Deposition of Angus McDonald, voluntarily given, setting forth the circumstances under which he engaged in this business, on the suggestion of Major Small, in Boston, - - -                                                                                           | 1298 |
| Committee appointed to arrest Captain Alexander McDonald, now or late of Richmond County, Angus McDonald sent a Prisoner to General Wooster's Camp, - - -                                                                                                              | 1299 |
| Letter to General Wooster, requesting him to take charge of, and secure Angus McDonald, Motion by Mr. Foster, that General Wooster be requested to march, with the Troops under his command, to the distance of five miles of this City, - - -                         | 1300 |
| 15, Report on the case of William Duer. Insinuations against him entirely groundless, - - -                                                                                                                                                                            | 1300 |
| Letter to General Wooster, requesting him to march his Troops to this Colony, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1300 |
| Petition from Ebenezer Hazard, requesting to be appointed Postmaster, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1301 |
| Letter from Wm. Goddard, on the same subject, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1301 |
| 16, Letter to Robert Boyd, of New-Windsor, on the subject of making Gun-Barrels, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1302 |
| 17, Letter to General Wooster, informing him they have received information that the Transports, with Troops for New-York, have been ordered for Boston, - - -                                                                                                         | 1304 |
| Committee appointed to prepare a Plan of Accommodation between Great Britain and the Colonies, directed to bring in their Report on Wednesday next, - - -                                                                                                              | 1304 |
| 20, Letter from James Duane, dated Philadelphia, June 17, with a Resolution of Congress of the 16th, requesting the march of Troops from Connecticut to New-York, - - -                                                                                                | 1305 |
| Two Letters from Gen. Wooster, dated Greenwich, June 17 and June 18, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1306 |
| Letter to Governour Trumbull, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1306 |
| Letter to General Wooster, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1307 |
| Letter from the President of the Continental Congress, dated Philadelphia, June 12, with Resolves of Congress of the 10th instant, - - -                                                                                                                               | 1307 |
| Abraham Lott authorized to supply Captain Vandeput, and His Majesty's Ship Asia, with necessaries from time to time, - - -                                                                                                                                             | 1307 |
| Recommendatory Passport to Brook Watson and his suite, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1307 |
| Motion by Mr. Verplanck, for advancing Money to Messrs. Van Vleeck and Kipp, and allowing a bounty on Saltpetre manufactured in the Colony, rejected: affirmative, four Counties; negative, eight Counties, - - -                                                      | 1308 |
| 21, Letter from the Rev. Samuel Kirkland, Missionary among the Oneida Indians, dated Cherry Valley, June 9, to the Committee of Albany, Committee appointed to consider of such measures as may be proper, with respect to the Oneidas and other Indian Nations, - - - | 1309 |
| Committee appointed to consider on the best methods to carry into effect the Resolve of the Continental Congress, with relation to Saltpetre and Sulphur, - - -                                                                                                        | 1310 |
| Mr. McDougall reports the whole quantity of Saltpetre now in Town amounts to two hundred and eighty-five pounds, - - -                                                                                                                                                 | 1310 |
| Letter to the Committee of the City of New-York, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1310 |
| Committee for preparing a draught of the sentiments of this Congress on the terms of a Reconciliation with Great Britain, indulged till to-morrow morning, - - -                                                                                                       | 1311 |
| 22, Passport for Mr. Joseph Johnson and his Indian companions, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1311 |
| Deputies elected to represent Queen's County requested to take their seats on Tuesday next, or assign their reasons for neglecting to attend, - - -                                                                                                                    | 1312 |
| Committee appointed to report the subject-matter of a proper Plan of Accommodation with Great Britain, reported, - - -                                                                                                                                                 | 1312 |
| Report to be considered on Saturday morning next, - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1312 |



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| June 22, Association returned from Easthampton, in Suffolk County, signed by every Male Inhabitant capable of bearing Arms, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1312 |
| Motion by Mr. McDougall, that the Troops to be raised in this Colony, be clothed in Uniform, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1312 |
| 23, Inhabitants of this Colony directed not to kill any Lamb until the first day of November next, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1313 |
| Motion by Mr. Morris, that no Sheep be killed until the first day of November next, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1313 |
| Motion by Mr. McDougall, to recognise the appointment of the Delegates to the Continental Congress, unanimously approved of, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1313 |
| Colonel Lasher directed to have his Battalion ready to receive General Washington, when he shall arrive, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1314 |
| Committee appointed to make an arrangement of the Troops to be raised in the Colony, reported, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1314 |
| 24, Consideration of the Report of the Committee on the subject-matter of a Plan of Accommodation with Great Britain resumed, read through by paragraphs, and amended, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1315 |
| Motion by Mr. Melancton Smith, for an addition to the Report for securing the liberty of conscience, read, amended, and adopted, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1317 |
| Motion by Mr. McDougall, that the Plan of Accommodation be not transmitted to the Congress until called for by them, or by our Delegates there, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1318 |
| 25, Committee appointed to meet General Washington at Newark, and accompany him to this City, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1318 |
| Information being received that Governour Tryon is at the Hook, Colonel Lasher directed to send one Company to Paulus Hook, to meet the Generals; to keep one Company at the Ferry for the same purpose; and that he have the residue of his Battalion ready to receive either the General or Governour Tryon, whichever shall arrive first, and to wait on both as well as circumstances will allow, - | 1318 |
| Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, dated Watertown, June 13, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1319 |
| Letter from the Committee at Albany, dated June 21, expressing their apprehension that Governour Carleton has induced the Indians to take up arms, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1319 |
| 26, Address of the Congress to General Washington, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1321 |
| Answer of General Washington to the Address, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1322 |
| Report of the Committee of Arrangement further considered, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1322 |
| 27, Letter from the Committee of Intelligence for Charlestown, South-Carolina, dated June 6, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1323 |
| Letter from General Gage to Governour Martin, dated Boston, April 12, enclosed in the preceding Letter, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1324 |
| Warrant to such Gentlemen as are intended to be Officers of the Troops raised in this Colony, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1324 |
| Instructions to the Officers to be employed in raising Troops, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1325 |
| Report of the Committee on the subject-matter of a Plan of Accommodation with Great Britain resumed, further amended, and agreed to, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1326 |
| Plan of Accommodation between Great Britain and America, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1326 |
| 28, Members from Queen's County to take their seats, notwithstanding a number of the Inhabitants of the County have refused to be represented in the Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1328 |
| Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, to accompany the Plan of Accommodation with Great Britain, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1329 |
| Letter to John Alsop, at Philadelphia, requesting him to procure two thousand eight hundred and fifty-two Blankets; they are not to be purchased in New-York, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1330 |
| 29, Application by the Mayor for permission to Francis Stephens, the King's Store-Keeper, to remove the Stores from Turtle Bay, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1331 |
| General Schuyler is authorized to send a Guard to protect the Stores, provided they are placed in his possession, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1331 |
| Killing Lambs prohibited until the first of August next, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1331 |
| Letter to the Continental Congress, enclosing the Letter of the 6th of June, from the Committee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |      |

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| of Intelligence in Charlestown, South-Carolina, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1331 |
| June 29, Letter to Elisha Phelps, Commissary of Provisions, at Ticonderoga, -                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1332 |
| Letter to John N. Bleecker, one of the agents at Albany, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1332 |
| Mr. Lott authorized to supply Provisions to his Majesty's Ship Kingfisher, -                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1333 |
| 30, Field-Officers of the First, or New-York Regiment, appointed, -                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1334 |
| Committee to meet and confer with Gen. Schuyler, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1334 |
| Field-Officers of the Second and Third Regiments appointed, -                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1334 |
| Report of the Committee appointed to confer with General Schuyler, -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1334 |
| Field-Officers of the Fourth Regiment appointed, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1335 |
| Committee to form and determine the rank of the Captains and inferior Officers of the several Regiments, -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1335 |
| July 1, Committee to meet and confer with Ethan Allen and Seth Warner, -                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1336 |
| 3, Letter to the Committee of the City of Albany, with fifty quarter-casks of Gunpowder for the Forts at Crown Point and Ticonderoga, -                                                                                                                                    | 1336 |
| 4, Letter from General Schuyler, dated New-York, July 3, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1337 |
| Uniform Coats ordered to be made for all the Non-Commissioned Officers and Men to be raised in the Colony, -                                                                                                                                                               | 1338 |
| Report of a Committee appointed to confer with General Schuyler on the subject of his Letter, received this day, -                                                                                                                                                         | 1338 |
| Motion by Mr. Sears, that Ethan Allen be permitted to have an audience, agreed to: affirmative nine Counties, negative three Counties, -                                                                                                                                   | 1338 |
| Ethan Allen and Seth Warner were admitted and heard, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1339 |
| Five hundred Men, of those called Green-Mountain Boys, ordered to be forthwith raised, -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1339 |
| Letter from General Schuyler, dated this day, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1339 |
| 5, Congress being informed that the Corporation of the City of New-York intends to address the Governour, declare it to be improper for the Corporation, or any other body corporate, or individuals in the Colony, to address his Excellency at this critical juncture, - | 1341 |
| Officers of the Artillery Company of the Marine Society appointed, -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1341 |
| British Vessels not permitted to load any Provisions, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1341 |
| 6, Committee appointed to convene all the Blacksmiths in Town, to ascertain if they can make Gun-Barrels, Bayonets, and Iron Ramrods, -                                                                                                                                    | 1342 |
| Mr. Van Zandt authorized to contract for two thousand Gun-Locks, -                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1342 |
| Committee appointed to write to Great Britain for four complete sets of Locksmiths, to make Gun Locks, -                                                                                                                                                                   | 1342 |
| Bounty to Soldiers who enlist in the Continental Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1342 |
| Motion by Mr. Morris, to reconsider the Resolve of yesterday, to prevent any Address being delivered to his Excellency Governour Tryon, Debated and rejected: affirmative four Counties, negative eight Counties, -                                                        | 1343 |
| Letter from Charles Thomson, dated Philadelphia, July 4, enclosing an intercepted Letter from Governour Martin to Henry White, dated Cape-Fear, June 13, 1775, -                                                                                                           | 1344 |
| 7, Committee appointed to wait on Mr. White, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1344 |
| Letter from General Wooster, dated Camp near New-York, July 7, -                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1345 |
| Report of the Committee appointed to wait on Mr. White, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1345 |
| Committee appointed to form a proper method for an arrangement of the Militia of the Colony, -                                                                                                                                                                             | 1345 |
| Committee appointed to receive information of the state of Cumberland County, -                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1345 |
| 8, Letter from Henry White, dated this day, in relation to the intercepted Letter to him from Governour Martin, -                                                                                                                                                          | 1346 |
| Letter to Charles Thomson, enclosing to him a copy of the Letter of Mr. White, -                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1346 |
| Committee of Safety appointed to sit during the recess of the Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1347 |
| Instructions to the Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1348 |
| Adjourned to Tuesday, July 25th, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1348 |



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## MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |      |
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| May 31, Meet by adjournment at Watertown, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1347 |
| June 1, Returns required of the Men now in Camp, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1347 |
| 2, The New-England Army, proposed to be raised for the defence and security of the lives, liberties and properties of the Americans, amounts to but twenty-four thousand five hundred Men, whereas thirty thousand were supposed necessary; the Provincial Congress is requested to state whether they will make any addition to their establishment, - | 1348 |
| 9, Letter to the Provincial Congress on the application of Colonel Paul Dudley Sergeant, late of New-Hampshire, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1349 |
| 10, Return sent to the Provincial Congress, of the Gentlemen who have been commissioned, or that have received any encouragement for Commissions, -                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1350 |
| 13, An attack on our Army near Boston, by General Gage, being daily expected to be made, the General is directed to ascertain the condition of every Regiment, -                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1352 |
| Debates and determinations of the Committee required to be kept a profound secret, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1352 |
| Attention of Congress called to the destruction of the property of Refugees, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1352 |
| Sufferings of the Troops for want of Barracks or Tents, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1352 |
| 14, Braintree, Hingham and Weymouth authorized to raise Men for the defence of the Sea-Coast of the Town, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1352 |
| 15, Allowance for Provisions for Soldiers in the Massachusetts Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1353 |
| Re-enforcements to General Gage's Army; his very extraordinary Proclamation, declaring the Inhabitants of Massachusetts-Bay Rebels, and other movements of Mr. Gage, are evidences of his intention soon to make another attempt to penetrate into the country, -                                                                                       | 1353 |
| The Army should be augmented immediately; all the Soldiers supplied with Arms; and all the Militia of the Colony held in readiness to march on the shortest notice, -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1354 |
| Bunker's Hill to be maintained by a sufficient force being posted there, and a hill on Dorchester Neck to be secured, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1354 |
| Committee to consult with the Council of War and General Officers on matters of importance, and to inform them of the Resolve of this Committee respecting Bunker's Hill and Dorchester Neck, -                                                                                                                                                         | 1354 |
| 16, Committee to inquire whether Houses or Tents can be obtained for Troops that want cover, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1354 |
| Field-Officers for Colonel Gridley's Regiment, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1354 |
| 17, Orders to the Towns in the vicinity of Boston to send their Town stocks of Powder to Watertown, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1354 |
| Four Horses required for the Committee, as the firing on the Colony Troops requires quick intelligence from the scene of action, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1354 |
| Provision made to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox in the Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1355 |
| 18, Militia of the neighbouring Towns ordered to march forthwith to Cambridge, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1355 |
| Order for their march countermanded; but are required to be in readiness to give assistance when called upon, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1355 |
| Town of Waltham required to send their Town stock of Powder to Watertown, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1355 |
| 19, Hospitals provided for the Colony Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1355 |
| Officers for a Company of Artificers in the Regiment of Artillery, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1355 |
| Congress requested to order the Selectmen of the several Towns in the Colony to collect and transmit the names of the persons killed or wounded on the nineteenth day of April, and at any time since, or that may hereafter be killed or wounded in the unnatural contest between Great Britain and the American Colonies, -                           | 1356 |
| 20, Such of the Militia only are to march as are called for by express orders of the Committee, on any alarm that may take place, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1356 |
| 21, Appointment of Aids-de-Camp to the Generals recommended, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1357 |
| 22, Town of Medford required to furnish Spades and Shovels for the works begun on Winter Hill, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1357 |

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| June 23, Colonels required to make immediate returns of the Officers of their several Regiments, -                                                                                                                                                                   | 1357 |
| Appointment of two Supervisors of the Camp recommended, -                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1357 |
| Committee to examine the works carrying on, on Prospect Hill, -                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1357 |
| 24, Cannon in Cambridge and Watertown, not mounted, and all Military Stores not wanted, to be removed forthwith to Newton, -                                                                                                                                         | 1358 |
| 25, Letter to the Provincial Congress, recommending the appointment of Supervisors of the Camps, at Cambridge and Roxbury, -                                                                                                                                         | 1359 |
| 26, Hospital at Cambridge placed under the direction of Dr. John Warren, -                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1359 |
| 27, Officers in Captain Craft's Company, in Colonel Gridley's Regiment, -                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1360 |
| 28, Resolve of the Provincial Congress, of the 26th instant, directing the Committee of Safety to deliver Arms to such Officers as shall produce orders therefor from General Ward, -                                                                                | 1360 |
| Orders from General Ward to the Committee to deliver Arms to Commanding Officers of Regiments, -                                                                                                                                                                     | 1360 |
| The Arms delivered by the Committee; but they protest against the General's order, lest it should be adduced in future as a precedent for setting the Military power above the Civil, -                                                                              | 1360 |
| 29, Captain Samuel Russel Trevet discharged from his arrest, which was made by a mistake of one of the General Officers, -                                                                                                                                           | 1361 |
| Congress requested to take speedy and effectual measures to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox in the American Army, -                                                                                                                                           | 1362 |
| 30, Colonel Palmer directed to attend the Committee, and give them information relative to former emissions of Bills of Credit, before they can order a new emission, -                                                                                              | 1362 |
| July 3, Edmund Quincy empowered to receive and convey to the Committee certain Household Goods and other effects of Thomas Hutchinson, and other enemies to the rights and liberties of America, -                                                                   | 1364 |
| 6, An emission of Bills of Credit, amounting to one hundred thousand Pounds, recommended, -                                                                                                                                                                          | 1365 |
| Congress requested to have drawn up and transmitted to England, a fair, honest and impartial account of the Battle on the 17th of June, to counteract the misrepresentations of General Gage, -                                                                      | 1366 |
| Congress requested to recommend to the Grand American Congress to seize and hold every Crown Officer within the United Colonies, until our friends, who have been seized by General Gage, be set at liberty and fully recompensed for their loss and imprisonment, - | 1366 |
| 7, General Washington requested to issue an order to suppress retailers of Spirituous Liquors within and near the Camps, -                                                                                                                                           | 1367 |
| The Inhabitants of the Colony, as they regard the peace and welfare of the Country, are requested to behave peaceably and quietly towards Captain Jacob Rogers, late of Charlestown, now of Reading, -                                                               | 1367 |
| 8, Appointment of four Master Armourers recommended, -                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1368 |
| Instructions to Officers of the Massachusetts-Bay Forces, who are to go on the recruiting service, sent to the Council of War for approval, -                                                                                                                        | 1368 |
| 11, Monsieur Viart, a prisoner, sent to Worcester, at the request of General Washington, -                                                                                                                                                                           | 1369 |
| Committee appointed to draw up a true account of the late Battle of Charlestown, -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1369 |
| Committee of Marblehead informed that five Ships sailed this day from Boston, their destination unknown, -                                                                                                                                                           | 1369 |
| Fifteen Prisoners taken on Long-Island, near Boston, and sent by General Washington to this Committee, who by their Commission have no power to dispose of them, are sent to the Provincial Congress, -                                                              | 1370 |
| 12, Benjamin Guillam appointed Master Armourer, to superintend the repair of such part of the Arms of the American Colony Army as belongs to this Colony, -                                                                                                          | 1370 |
| 13, Ten Prisoners taken some time past, at Machias, and sent this day to the Committee by General Washington, sent to the Provincial Congress, -                                                                                                                     | 1370 |



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- July 14*, Directions to the Selectmen and Committees in the several Towns, to search for and recover the Goods and Household Furniture plundered and carried off in the confusion occasioned by the Battles of Lexington and Charlestown, - - - - - 1371
- 15, Order for procuring such Medicines as are immediately and absolutely necessary for the Army, - - - - - 1371
- Thomas Organ appointed to take charge of the Colony Horses, - - - - - 1372
- 17, A Special Committee recommended to make provision for the reception, sustenance and support of the Poor of Boston and Charlestown, - 1372
- 25, Account of the late Battle of Charlestown, prepared in obedience to a Resolution of the Provincial Congress, presented, accepted, and ordered to be transmitted to England, - - 1373
- Letter to Arthur Lee, at London, enclosing the preceding account, - - - - - 1376

## MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

- May 31*, The Provincial Congress, meets at Watertown, - - - - - 1375
- Joseph Warren chosen President, and Samuel Freeman Secretary, - - - - - 1375
- List of the Members chosen by the several Towns, - - - - - 1375
- Thanks to Dr. Langdon for his excellent Sermon delivered to the Congress this day, - - - 1379
- Resolve of the last Congress for supplying the Army with Chaplains, laid before the Clergy, now in Convention at Watertown, - - - 1380
- Papers relative to the Fortresses at Ticonderoga, &c., ordered to be laid before the Congress, - 1380
- Mr. Phelps, the bearer of some of the Papers, attended Congress, and gave them further information, - - - - - 1380
- Committee to take the Papers into immediate consideration, - - - - - 1380
- Committee to consider a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence for New-Hampshire to the Committee of Newburyport, - - - 1380
- June 1*, Report of the Committee on General Thomas's Letter, - - - - - 1380
- Members appointed Monitors in the Congress, - 1381
- Report of a Committee on providing for the Poor of the Town of Boston, - - - - - 1381
- Committee to consider the proposal of the Clergy, now in Convention at Watertown, - - - 1381
- Committee to consider the Letter from the Selectmen of Hopkinton, - - - - - 1381
- Report of the Committee on the Letter from New-Hampshire, recommending copies of it to be sent to the Seaport Towns, - - - - 1381
- Committee to consider a Letter from the Committee of Safety of Salem, - - - - - 1381
- Report of the Committee approving the conduct of Mr. Stephen Higginson, - - - - - 1382
- Report of the Committee on the Papers relating to Ticonderoga, - - - - - 1382
- Letter to Colonel Benedict Arnold, approving his acquisitions of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and request him to continue in command over the Forces raised by this Colony, - - 1382
- Letter to the House of Assembly of Connecticut; maintaining a post at Ticonderoga is of the utmost importance, but in our distressing situation have postponed sending further assistance to Captain Arnold, - - - - - 1383
- Letter to the Provincial Congress of New-Hampshire, enclosing a Letter from Colonel Arnold, commander of the Troops at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and requesting their aid in securing the Fortresses, - - - - 1383
- 2, Committee to bring in a Resolve making further provision for the Poor of the Town of Boston, 1384
- Committee to consider a Memorial from the County of Worcester, - - - - - 1384
- Provision made for supplying the Army with Chaplains, - - - - - 1384
- Committee to take into consideration the situation and circumstances of the Seaport Towns and Islands in this Colony, which are exposed to the incursions and ravages of the enemy, - 1384
- Rev. William Gordon chosen Chaplain to the Congress, - - - - - 1385

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- Members added to the Committee appointed at the last Congress, to draw up an easy and concise method of making Saltpetre, - - - 1385
- June 3*, Report of the Committee appointed to consider the exposed condition of the Sea-Coast, - - 1386
- Persons living in places exposed to be ravaged or plundered are advised to remove their Hay and Stock out of the reach of our implacable enemies, - - - - - 1386
- Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, for a re-enforcement of the Massachusetts Army, - - - - - 1387
- Committee on a Letter from Col. James Easton, Congress will make no objection to fitting out Vessels for whaling voyages or for the West-Indies, - - - - - 1387
- Letter to the Receiver-General, requesting him to attend and sign Notes, - - - - - 1387
- 4, Colonel Henshaw admitted to give an account of his proceedings at Connecticut, where he was sent on the affair of Ticonderoga, - - - 1388
- Colonel Easton's Letter referred to the Committee who are to confer with the Committee of Safety to-morrow morning, - - - - - 1388
- 5, Petition from Truro, for Powder, read and dismissed, - - - - - 1388
- Letter from Governour Trumbull, just received, referred to the Committee of Safety, - - 1389
- Committee to confer with the Officers of the American Army, on preserving the health of the Troops, - - - - - 1389
- All Letters wrote to or by the avowed enemies of this Country, which have or may come into the hands of any person in this Colony, to be laid before the Congress, - - - - - 1389
- Committee to consider the proposal of Captain Foster, for removing the Poor and their Goods from Boston, - - - - - 1389
- Committee to bring in another Resolve relating to the Poor of Boston, - - - - - 1390
- Committee to bring in a Resolve for giving a currency to the Bills of Credit of all the Governments on the Continent, - - - - - 1390
- Committee to consider the state of the Artillery in general, - - - - - 1390
- Mr. Sullivan directed to bring in a Resolve for preventing the circulation of Bills of Credit under a specified value, - - - - - 1390
- Report of the Committee on giving currency to the Notes of other Governments, - - - 1390
- Ordered to lie on the table till Mr. Sullivan brought in the Resolve just ordered, - - 1390
- Committee on making an allowance of Provisions to the Soldiers of the American Army, - - 1390
- 6, Committee on providing regular Supplies for the Army, - - - - - 1391
- Proceedings in the case of Colonel Jonathan Brewer, on the complaint of the Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1391
- Report of the Committee on giving currency to the Bills of Credit of the other Governments, - 1391
- Congress refuse a Commission to Mr. Jonathan Brewer, as Colonel of a Regiment in the Massachusetts Army, - - - - - 1392
- Benjamin Edwards brought before the Congress for uttering disrespectful expressions on their decision in Colonel Brewer's case, - - - 1392
- Report of the Committee appointed to bring in an additional Resolve, to make provision for the Poor of Boston, - - - - - 1392
- 7, Committee to wait on General Ward, for a Return of the number of Men in the Massachusetts Army, - - - - - 1393
- Committee on a Petition of the Inhabitants of Machias, - - - - - 1393
- Committee to consider the Letters from the Stockbridge Indians, - - - - - 1393
- Petition from Colonel Brewer, and from several Captains under him, - - - - - 1393
- Benjamin Edwards called in, and admonished by the President, - - - - - 1394
- Committee on a Memorial from the Selectmen of Salem, - - - - - 1394
- Report of the Committee on giving currency to the Bills of Credit of other Governments, read and recommitted, - - - - - 1394
- Committee to confer with the Delegates from New-Hampshire, - - - - - 1394



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| To-morrow afternoon assigned for choosing two Major-Generals of the Massachusetts Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1394 |
| Committee to collect the Letters of the late Governour Hutchinson, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1394 |
| Report of the Committee on the four Prisoners from Dartmouth, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1394 |
| Report of the Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of Machias, read and accepted, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1395 |
| Report of the Committee appointed to confer with the Gentlemen from New-Hampshire, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1395 |
| Letters directed to be written to the Colonies of Connecticut, Rhode-Island, and New-Hampshire, desiring them severally to appoint Committees, to meet one appointed by this Congress, at Worcester, on the 28th instant, to determine the number of Men to be raised on the present emergency, by each of the New-England Colonies, - | 1395 |
| Report of the Committee appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety, on a re-enforcement of the Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1395 |
| Committee to consider the expediency of establishing a number of small Armed Vessels, for the protection of our trade and the annoyance of our enemies, -                                                                                                                                                                              | 1396 |
| Committee to consider at large on some measure for commissioning the Officers of the Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1396 |
| June 8, Letter from the Committee of Arundel, with an account of their taking a Sloop from Boston, for Annapolis, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1396 |
| Report of the Committee appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety, that it is inexpedient for this Colony to augment the Forces already raised by it, for the defence of the American Colonies; considered in Committee of the Whole, and agreed to by the Congress, -                                                          | 1396 |
| Report of the Committee on commissioning Officers of the Army; read and agreed to, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1396 |
| Committee on a Petition from the County of Cumberland, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1397 |
| Letter to the Stockbridge Indians, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1397 |
| Selectmen of Stockbridge appointed a Committee to send Messengers and Belts to the Indians, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1397 |
| 9, Committee to consider what is proper to be done with the Prisoners from Arundel, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1398 |
| Resolutions of the Continental Congress, of the 17th and 29th of May, relative to exports to the British Possessions, to be duly enforced, -                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1398 |
| Provisions may be sent to Nantucket, for the use of the Inhabitants only, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1398 |
| 10, Report of the Committee on the Prisoners brought from Arundel, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1399 |
| Josiah Jones and Jonathan Hicks to be confined in the Jail of Middlesex, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1400 |
| Committee to consider if Artificers may be necessary for the Army in the pay of this Colony, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1400 |
| Committee on the appointment of Armourers for the Massachusetts Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1400 |
| Allowance of Provisions for the Soldiers of the Massachusetts Army, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1401 |
| Monday next (12th instant) assigned for choosing three Delegates, to meet those that may be sent by the other New-England Colonies, -                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1401 |
| Choice of two Major-Generals deferred to Monday next, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1401 |
| Committee to consider the expediency of establishing a number of Armed Vessels, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1401 |
| 11, Address to the Continental Congress; ordered to be signed by Major Hawley, as Vice-President, and sent by express to Philadelphia, -                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1401 |
| 12, Committee to consider some measure to prevent the violation of the Sabbath, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1402 |
| Committee to consider the Petition of the Committee at Charlestown, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1402 |
| Committee to prepare Instructions to the Delegates to go to Ticonderoga, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1403 |
| Committee to consider of some method to supply the Surgeons of the Army with Medicines, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1403 |
| Letter to the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1403 |
| Exportation of Provisions prohibited, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1404 |
| Report of Committee on supplying Surgeons with Medicines, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1404 |
| Orders for the arrest of one Thompson, who is about to sail from Salem to New-Providence, for Provisions for the Army in Boston, -                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1404 |
| Committee chosen to meet the Committees of the New-England Colonies at Worcester, on the 28th instant, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1405 |

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| Committee chosen to go to Ticonderoga, to examine into the state of that Fortress, -                                                                                                                                                               | 1405 |
| Motion made to reconsider the Resolve for choosing a Committee to meet Committees of the New-England Governments, at Worcester, -                                                                                                                  | 1405 |
| June 13, Letter from Governour Trumbull, enclosing a Letter from Colonel Arnold, and three Resolves of the Continental Congress; read and referred to the Committee appointed to prepare Instructions to the Committee to repair to Ticonderoga, - | 1405 |
| Twenty-three Regiments to be commissioned, exclusive of the Regiment of Matrosses, -                                                                                                                                                               | 1406 |
| Committee to consider the Petition of Abner Graves and others, -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1406 |
| Resolves relating to the Convention of Committees at Worcester, reconsidered, -                                                                                                                                                                    | 1406 |
| Colonel John Whitcomb chosen First Major-General, -                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1406 |
| Report of the Committee on the expediency of establishing a number of Armed Vessels considered, and, after a very long debate, the further consideration of it referred to Friday next, -                                                          | 1407 |
| Instructions to the Gentlemen chosen by this Congress to repair to Ticonderoga, -                                                                                                                                                                  | 1407 |
| Committee to consider the subject-matter of a late extraordinary Proclamation of General Gage, -                                                                                                                                                   | 1408 |
| 14, Abner Graves and others have leave to withdraw their Petition, -                                                                                                                                                                               | 1409 |
| Committee to consider the Report of Col. Thompson, and the Petition of Mr. Parry, -                                                                                                                                                                | 1409 |
| First Thursday of July next appointed a day of Fasting and Prayer throughout the Colony, -                                                                                                                                                         | 1409 |
| Committee to consider of the means for furnishing those who are destitute of Arms in the Massachusetts Army, -                                                                                                                                     | 1409 |
| Committee to Ticonderoga directed to revise the papers relating to that Fortress, and to take with them such as are not wanted by this Congress, -                                                                                                 | 1409 |
| Committee to consider the propriety of supplying the Generals of the Massachusetts Army with necessary Household Furniture, -                                                                                                                      | 1409 |
| Dr. Joseph Warren chosen Second Major-General, -                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1409 |
| Resolve for a Day of Fasting recommitted, that the following things might be mentioned: blessing on the Continental Congress, unity of the Colonies, health, fruitful seasons, &c., -                                                              | 1410 |
| Committee of Supplies directed forthwith to recommend suitable persons for Officers in the Train of Artillery, -                                                                                                                                   | 1410 |
| 15, Orders for securing the Library and Apparatus of Harvard College, -                                                                                                                                                                            | 1410 |
| Letter to the Continental Congress, to New-York, and to the several Governments in New-England, -                                                                                                                                                  | 1410 |
| Houses to be taken for the Soldiers near the Camp at Cambridge, if Tents cannot be had, -                                                                                                                                                          | 1411 |
| Inhabitants of several Towns requested to furnish Fire-Arms for the use of the Army, -                                                                                                                                                             | 1411 |
| Committee to consider the application of the Rev. Dr. Langdon, -                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1413 |
| Report of the Committee appointed to consider the claims and pretensions of several Colonels in the Army, -                                                                                                                                        | 1413 |
| 16, Soldiers to be supplied with Rum on extraordinary occasions, -                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1414 |
| Committee to consider an augmentation of the Army, a supply of Arms to the Soldiers, &c., -                                                                                                                                                        | 1414 |
| Consideration of the Report on fitting out Armed Vessels further postponed, -                                                                                                                                                                      | 1414 |
| Letter to General Whitcomb, requesting a more explicit answer respecting his acceptance of his appointment as Major-General, -                                                                                                                     | 1414 |
| Report of the Committee on the violation of the Sabbath, -                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1415 |
| Vessels laden with Cod Fish permitted to sail for the West-Indies, -                                                                                                                                                                               | 1416 |
| Report of the Committee appointed to consider the late extraordinary Proclamation signed Thomas Gage, -                                                                                                                                            | 1416 |
| Proclamation by the Provincial Congress, to be printed and published throughout the Colony, -                                                                                                                                                      | 1416 |
| Report of the Committee on the application of Dr. Langdon, -                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1419 |



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| June 17, | Report of Committee on procuring Fire-Arms and Powder from Philadelphia and elsewhere, Militia throughout the Colony requested to hold themselves in readiness to march at a minute's warning: and the Inhabitants on the Sea-Coast are requested to carry their Arms with them on the Sabbath and other days when they meet for publick worship, - - - - - | 1419 |
|          | Report of the Committee on the Resolves of the Committee of Safety relative to an augmentation of the Army, supply of Arms, &c., - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1420 |
|          | Letter from the President of the Continental Congress, and a Resolve containing several recommendations to this and the other Colonies; brought by express, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1422 |
|          | Committee appointed to call together the Members of this Congress, in any extraordinary emergency, at any other time or to any other place than that to which it may stand adjourned, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                             | 1422 |
|          | Committees to purchase Fire-Arms in the several Counties, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1422 |
| 18,      | Records and Papers of the Provincial Congress to be secured and taken care of, at the discretion of the Secretary, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1422 |
|          | Committee to prepare a Letter to the Continental Congress, on the late attack of the King's Troops at Bunker's Hill, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1423 |
|          | Committee of Supplies directed to write to Rhode-Island and New-Hampshire for Powder, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1423 |
|          | Committee to see that the Army at the Intrenchments be well supplied with victuals and drink, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1423 |
|          | Report of the Committee on establishing Officers to take care of the Ordnance Stores, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1423 |
|          | President of this Congress to be chosen this afternoon, in place of the Honourable Joseph Warren, supposed to be killed in the late battle at Bunker's Hill, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1424 |
|          | Report on the Resolve of the Continental Congress for establishing Civil Government in this Colony; read, debated, and deferred till Dr. Church, who was at Philadelphia when the Resolve passed, shall be present, - - - - -                                                                                                                               | 1424 |
|          | James Warren chosen President of the Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1424 |
|          | To-morrow morning assigned for considering the Report on fitting out Armed Vessels, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1424 |
|          | The Secretary directed to subscribe the name of the late President to all Commissions bearing date on the 19th of May, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1424 |
|          | Committee of Supplies directed to furnish destitute Soldiers with Clothes and Blankets, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1425 |
|          | Fifteen hundred good Spears to be immediately furnished to the Army at Cambridge, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1425 |
| 20,      | Report of the Committee on the Petition of Col. Phinney, recommending the establishment of a Regiment to guard the Sea-Coast in the County of Cumberland, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1425 |
|          | Laid on the table till the matter respecting Armed Vessels is considered, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1425 |
|          | Committee to purchase Spears for the Army, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1425 |
|          | Report of the Committee on the Resolve of the Continental Congress respecting Government, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1425 |
|          | Letter to the several Towns in the Colony, requesting them to elect Representatives to an Assembly to meet the 19th day of July next, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1426 |
|          | Report on the expediency of establishing Armed Vessels further considered, debated, and ordered to subsid for the present, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1426 |
|          | Another Hospital for the sick and wounded of the Army established, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1427 |
|          | Committee to confer with four Indians this day arrived from Penobscot, under the conduct of John Lane, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1427 |
|          | Committee to inquire into the grounds of a report which has prevailed in the Army that there has been treachery in some of the Officers, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1428 |
|          | Colonel Heath chosen a Major-General, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1428 |
|          | Letter to the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1429 |
|          | Letter to General Ward, requesting to send one or more Regiments from Roxbury to Cambridge, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1430 |
| 21,      | Commission to Major-General Heath, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1430 |
|          | Committee to consider the expediency of removing Colonel Glover's Regiment from Marblehead to Cambridge, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1431 |
|          | Resolution relative to the Estates of Refugees, (See Note,) - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1431 |
|          | Address from an Indian Chief of the Penobscot Tribe, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1432 |

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|          | Committee to inquire into the present want of discipline in the Massachusetts Army, - - - - -                                                                  | 1432 |
|          | Joseph Fry chosen Third Major-General, - - - - -                                                                                                               | 1433 |
|          | Report of the Committee to consider the request of the Penobscot Indians, now at Watertown, - - - - -                                                          | 1433 |
|          | Commissions for the Officers of the Train of Artillery directed to be prepared and delivered, - - - - -                                                        | 1433 |
| June 22, | Proclamation for a Fast recommended for amendment, - - - - -                                                                                                   | 1434 |
|          | Committee to consider the propriety of commissioning the Officers of Colonel Gerrish's Regiment, - - - - -                                                     | 1435 |
|          | Report of the Committee on the means by which the Army before Boston may be most expeditiously strengthened, - - - - -                                         | 1435 |
|          | Corn and Ammunition to be furnished the Inhabitants on Penobscot River, &c., - - - - -                                                                         | 1436 |
| 23,      | Rank of the Officers in Colonel Gridley's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                  | 1436 |
|          | Report of the Committee appointed to consider the state of Colonel Phinney's Regiment, - - - - -                                                               | 1437 |
|          | Committee to take into consideration the Regiment that was moved from Marblehead to Cambridge, - - - - -                                                       | 1437 |
|          | Committee to consider of proper expedients to augment the Army, and to write to the other New-England Governments on the subject, - - - - -                    | 1438 |
|          | Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the misconduct in the late Engagement, - - - - -                                                             | 1438 |
|          | Committee of Safety directed to make out a new list for Officers of the Train of Artillery, and that no person unworthy of that office be appointed, - - - - - | 1438 |
|          | Payment ordered to Mr. John Lane for his expenses in bringing up four Chiefs of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, - - - - -                                      | 1438 |
|          | Town of Malden authorized to defend themselves in case of an attack from the enemy, - - - - -                                                                  | 1439 |
|          | Former vote respecting the removal of the Library and Apparatus reconsidered, and another adopted, - - - - -                                                   | 1439 |
|          | Letter to General Ward, directing him to order eight Companies, now posted in Plymouth, to join the Army before Boston, - - - - -                              | 1440 |
|          | Robert Haskell permitted to go from Beverly to Nova-Scotia in a Fishing Vessel, - - - - -                                                                      | 1440 |
| 24,      | Committee to consider some method of regulating Trade with the Indians, - - - - -                                                                              | 1440 |
|          | Committee to consider what further is necessary to be done respecting Bills of Credit of the Colony, - - - - -                                                 | 1440 |
|          | Establishment for Surgeons of Hospitals, - - - - -                                                                                                             | 1440 |
|          | Committee to get the Resolve for a Fast printed, - - - - -                                                                                                     | 1441 |
|          | Captain John Lane admitted to the floor of the House, to answer such questions as the Congress shall propose to him, - - - - -                                 | 1441 |
|          | Report of the Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Governour of Rhode-Island, - - - - -                                                              | 1442 |
|          | Committee to consider a Letter from General Ward, informing of the desertion of Lieutenant Cox, of Salem, - - - - -                                            | 1442 |
|          | Report of the Committee appointed to consider the expediency of stationing part of Colonel Phinney's Regiment in Cumberland and Lincoln, - - - - -             | 1442 |
|          | Proclamation for a Fast suspended, - - - - -                                                                                                                   | 1442 |
|          | Report of the Committee on the desertion of Lieutenant Cox, - - - - -                                                                                          | 1442 |
|          | Committee to consider what steps should be taken for receiving General Washington with proper respect, - - - - -                                               | 1443 |
|          | Report of the Committee to consider of an adequate allowance for Captain John Lane, - - - - -                                                                  | 1443 |
|          | Colonel Porter directed to have a Scythe fixed on a Spear, in such manner as he thinks fit, and bring it before the Congress when fixed, - - - - -             | 1443 |
|          | Committee appointed to procure Spears empowered to order Blacksmiths to work on the Sabbath, - - - - -                                                         | 1443 |
|          | Report of the Committee appointed to regulate Trade with the Indians, - - - - -                                                                                | 1443 |
|          | Rev. Mr. Gordon chosen to preach an Election Sermon, on the 19th of July next, - - - - -                                                                       | 1444 |
| 25,      | Committee to procure Shovels and Spades for the Army immediately, - - - - -                                                                                    | 1444 |
|          | Honorary commission to Mr. Gilman, Interpreter to the Penobscot Indians, - - - - -                                                                             | 1444 |



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| Mr. Gilman instructed to cultivate a friendly disposition in the Indians, and to forward such intelligence respecting the Indians and Canadians as he can procure, -             | 1444 |
| Detachment sent for the protection of the Elizabeth Islands, -                                                                                                                   | 1445 |
| Letter to the Governour of Connecticut, -                                                                                                                                        | 1445 |
| Committee on the reception of General Washington report; the Report laid on the table, -                                                                                         | 1446 |
| Letter from the Committee of Machias, respecting the capture of a King's Cutter, -                                                                                               | 1446 |
| June 26, Committee appointed to consider the conduct of Colonel Thompson, at Kennebeck, directed to consider also his conduct at Falmouth to Capt. Mowatt and Captain Coulson, - | 1446 |
| The Secretary directed to sign the Commissions of the Officers of the Train, except John Wiley's, Samuel Gridley's and John Callender's, -                                       | 1447 |
| Committee appointed to inquire into a report that there has been treachery in some of the Officers, directed to proceed in their inquiries, -                                    | 1447 |
| Report of the Committee on the reception of General Washington again considered, amended, and accepted, -                                                                        | 1447 |
| Report of the Committee on the Letter from Machias, -                                                                                                                            | 1448 |
| Committee to consider a Letter from Gen. Ward, -                                                                                                                                 | 1448 |
| Committee to meet Generals Washington and Lee, at Springfield, -                                                                                                                 | 1448 |
| Two Companies raised in New-York and Connecticut permitted to join Colonel Patterson's Regiment, -                                                                               | 1448 |
| General Whitcomb attended, was sworn, and received his Commission as Major-General of the Massachusetts Army, -                                                                  | 1448 |
| Petition from the Committee for the Town of Plymouth, (Note,) -                                                                                                                  | 1449 |
| Committee on the Petition from Plymouth, -                                                                                                                                       | 1449 |
| Directions for delivering out the Arms procured by a Committee of this Congress, -                                                                                               | 1449 |
| Committee to consider measures for the defence and protection of the Sea-Coast, -                                                                                                | 1450 |
| Report of the Committee on the conduct of Col. Thompson at Falmouth, -                                                                                                           | 1450 |
| 27, Committee on a Letter from Albany, -                                                                                                                                         | 1450 |
| Report of Committee on General Ward's Letter accepted, and afterwards recommitted, together with the Resolve relating to absconding Soldiers, -                                  | 1450 |
| Letter from Isaac Stone, relative to Francis Moore, -                                                                                                                            | 1450 |
| Committee to consider General Thomas's Letter, relative to furnishing the American Prisoners in Boston with Provisions, -                                                        | 1451 |
| Committee on the Letters brought by Mr. Palfrey from England, -                                                                                                                  | 1451 |
| Four Members added to the Committee of Supplies, -                                                                                                                               | 1451 |
| Colonel William Henshaw and Samuel Brewer chosen Adjutant-Generals of the Massachusetts Army, -                                                                                  | 1451 |
| Committee to prepare an Address to the several Towns in the Colony, to furnish the Army with Powder, -                                                                           | 1452 |
| Petition from the Committee of Goldsborough, &c., (Note,) -                                                                                                                      | 1452 |
| Report of Committee on the Petition, -                                                                                                                                           | 1452 |
| Pay of Officers and Soldiers to commence at the time of their enlistment, -                                                                                                      | 1452 |
| Resolve of yesterday, relating to the distribution of Fire-Arms, reconsidered, amended, and adopted, -                                                                           | 1453 |
| Report of the Committee on furnishing the Prisoners in Boston with Provisions, -                                                                                                 | 1454 |
| Report on protecting the Sea-Coast again read and considered, and, after debate, further postponed, -                                                                            | 1454 |
| 28, Five or three may be a quorum of the Committee of Supplies, -                                                                                                                | 1454 |
| Letter to the Committee of Albany, -                                                                                                                                             | 1454 |
| Report of Committee on absconding Soldiers read and recommitted, -                                                                                                               | 1455 |
| Report of Committee on giving a currency to the Notes or Bills of Credit of the Colony, read and recommitted, -                                                                  | 1455 |
| Report of Committee on defence of the Sea-Coast again considered, amended and accepted, -                                                                                        | 1456 |

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| Report of Committee on saving Provisions in the Army, -                                                                                                                                          | 1456 |
| Committees to station the Troops in the Counties of Essex and York, -                                                                                                                            | 1456 |
| Committee to give out Listing Orders, -                                                                                                                                                          | 1456 |
| Measures adopted for the defence and protection of the Sea-Coast, -                                                                                                                              | 1456 |
| Report of Committee relative to absconding Soldiers considered and accepted, -                                                                                                                   | 1457 |
| Form of Warrant for the Surgeons, -                                                                                                                                                              | 1458 |
| Committee on preventing the unnecessary expenditure of Gunpowder, -                                                                                                                              | 1458 |
| Report of the Committee on making the Notes and Bills of Credit of this and the other Colonies a tender, again considered, amended, and adopted, -                                               | 1458 |
| Time of the commencement of pay to Officers, Soldiers and Minute-Men, fixed, -                                                                                                                   | 1460 |
| June 29, Committee to prepare an Address to Generals Washington and Lee, on their arrival at Cambridge, -                                                                                        | 1460 |
| Selectmen of the several Towns to supply the Soldiers stationed on the Sea-Coast with Provisions, -                                                                                              | 1460 |
| Letters brought by Ensign Campbell, late from England, now a prisoner at Concord, addressed to gentlemen in the Colonies, to be sent to the Officers of the Troops of the respective Colonies, - | 1461 |
| Committee to search Ensign Campbell, -                                                                                                                                                           | 1461 |
| Address to the Counties of Hampshire and Worcester, requesting to supply Powder for the Army, -                                                                                                  | 1461 |
| Doctor William Whiting directed to go to New-York, and procure from Doctor Graham instructions for making Saltpetre, -                                                                           | 1462 |
| 30, Major Hawley to bring in a Resolve directing the Committee of Safety to inquire into the expediency of a further emission of Bills of Credit. Report presented and accepted, -               | 1463 |
| Committee to inquire into the expediency of continuing the Lights in the Light-houses at Cape Ann, Boston and Plymouth, -                                                                        | 1463 |
| Jabez Matthews admitted to give an account of his embassy to Quebec, -                                                                                                                           | 1464 |
| Form of Commissions, Bearing Orders and Enlistments, for Troops employed for the defence of the Sea-Coast, -                                                                                     | 1464 |
| Instructions to the Committees appointed to procure Powder from the Counties of Hampshire and Worcester, -                                                                                       | 1466 |
| List of Towns required to furnish the Powder, -                                                                                                                                                  | 1467 |
| July 1, Provision made for the Poor of Charlestown, -                                                                                                                                            | 1468 |
| Deputy-Commissaries for the Massachusetts Army, -                                                                                                                                                | 1468 |
| General Ward directed to order two Companies to Plymouth, -                                                                                                                                      | 1469 |
| Regulations for trial of offences by any of the Troops for the defence of the Sea-Coast, -                                                                                                       | 1469 |
| A number of Letters from London received and referred to a Committee, -                                                                                                                          | 1470 |
| Letter to the Governour and Company of Connecticut, -                                                                                                                                            | 1470 |
| Receiver-General directed to pay out of the Treasury the Bills of Credit of other Colonies, -                                                                                                    | 1471 |
| Accommodations for the Sick and Wounded of the Colony Army provided, -                                                                                                                           | 1472 |
| Address to General Washington, -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1472 |
| His Excellency's Answer, -                                                                                                                                                                       | 1473 |
| Address to General Lee, -                                                                                                                                                                        | 1473 |
| His Honour's Answer, -                                                                                                                                                                           | 1474 |
| Report of the Committee on securing the Whale-Boats belonging to the Colony, -                                                                                                                   | 1474 |
| 2, Report of the Committee on removing and securing the Lamps of the Light-houses, -                                                                                                             | 1474 |
| Petition of Joseph Barrell, late of Boston, -                                                                                                                                                    | 1475 |
| Letter from Alexander Shepard, Jun., to the Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                               | 1476 |
| Report of the Committee for devising means for the support of the Poor of Boston and Charlestown, -                                                                                              | 1476 |
| 3, Committee of Safety directed to report, as soon as possible, on the expediency of a new emission of Bills of Credit, -                                                                        | 1476 |
| Committee to confer with the Members from the New-Hampshire Congress, -                                                                                                                          | 1477 |
| Petition of the Selectmen of Abington for aid in supporting the Poor of Boston, -                                                                                                                | 1477 |



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| July 4, Letter from Colonel Gridley, complaining of their appointment of persons not recommended by him for Officers in the Artillery, -        | 1477 |
| No more Commissions, for the present, to be delivered to Officers in the Colony Army, -                                                         | 1478 |
| Committee to take into consideration the conduct of the People of Nantucket, -                                                                  | 1479 |
| Letter from the Congress of New-Hampshire, dated July 3, enclosing two Letters from Dr. Wheelock and a Committee in Hanover, -                  | 1479 |
| Letter to Governour Trumbull, -                                                                                                                 | 1480 |
| 5, Committee to wait upon General Washington, to know if he has any matter to lay before the Congress, -                                        | 1481 |
| List of Surgeons and Mates, -                                                                                                                   | 1481 |
| Form of Warrant for a Medical Commissary, -                                                                                                     | 1481 |
| Late Inhabitants of the Town of Boston authorized to choose Representatives to the Assembly, -                                                  | 1481 |
| Report of the Committee on the request of Gen. Washington to make a Drawbridge of the Bridge at Cambridge, -                                    | 1482 |
| Report of the Committee to consider of the Donations for the Poor of Boston recommitted, -                                                      | 1483 |
| Petition from Colonel Jonathan Brewer, -                                                                                                        | 1483 |
| Report of the Committee on the Petition of eighteen Stockbridge Indians, -                                                                      | 1483 |
| Mr. Shepard requested to retain in his hands all the Plans he hath of the Province of Maine, -                                                  | 1484 |
| Report on the Donations for the Poor of Boston again made and recommitted, -                                                                    | 1484 |
| Committee appointed, with authority to convene the General Assembly earlier than the 19th instant, -                                            | 1484 |
| Letter from James Winthrop, resigning his appointment as Postmaster at Cambridge, -                                                             | 1485 |
| Letter to General Washington, enclosing a Resolution relative to the Sick and Wounded, -                                                        | 1485 |
| Report of the Committee for supplying Coats for the Army, -                                                                                     | 1485 |
| Proportion of the thirteen thousand Coats to be supplied by the respective Towns, -                                                             | 1486 |
| 6, Committee of Supplies empowered to impress the Saw-Mill at Watertown, or any other Mill they may have occasion for, -                        | 1488 |
| Letter from Colonel John Fenton, a prisoner from New-Hampshire, requesting he may be removed to Cambridge and tried, -                          | 1489 |
| Vote of Thanks to the Committee who have returned this day from their embassy to Ticonderoga, -                                                 | 1490 |
| 7, Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, recommending the seizing of Crown Officers, -                                    | 1490 |
| Committee of Safety appointed a Committee to draw up and transmit to Great Britain a fair and impartial account of the Battle at Charlestown, - | 1491 |
| Report of the Committee on the Resolve of the Committee of Safety, relative to a new emission of Bills of Credit, -                             | 1491 |
| Report of the Committee on the application of Daniel Murray to General Washington for permission to go into Boston, -                           | 1492 |
| Letter from General Ward, requesting Clothing for the Army, -                                                                                   | 1493 |
| Letter to Colonel Easton, at Ticonderoga, -                                                                                                     | 1494 |
| Report of the Committee to consider some method to prevent supplying our enemies with Provisions, -                                             | 1494 |
| Report of the Committee on Clothing for the Army, -                                                                                             | 1495 |
| Report of the Committee appointed to consider the conduct of the People of Nantucket, -                                                         | 1495 |
| Permission given to the Committee of Machias to fit out an Armed Vessel for their defence, -                                                    | 1495 |
| 8, Report of the Committee on the Petition of Colonel Jonathan Brewer, -                                                                        | 1496 |
| Letters from or to any person in the Continental Army in Massachusetts, free of postage, -                                                      | 1497 |
| Letter to the Congress of New-Hampshire, -                                                                                                      | 1498 |
| Report of the Committee on a Letter from General Greene, -                                                                                      | 1499 |
| Resolution explanatory of the Resolve of the 21st of June, relative to the Estates of Refugees, -                                               | 1499 |
| 9, The Continental Congress to be requested to order the seizure of every Crown Officer in the Colonies, -                                      | 1500 |

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| Letter from John Scollay, relative to the Poor of the Town of Boston, -                                                                                                                 | 1500 |
| Letter from four Indian Chiefs, at Falmouth, to Ephraim Gilman, (Note,) -                                                                                                               | 1501 |
| Jedediah Preble and Enoch Freeman empowered to supply the Penobscot Indians with Goods, -                                                                                               | 1501 |
| Report of the Committee on the Letter of John Scollay, -                                                                                                                                | 1501 |
| Report of the Committee on the Towns to be applied to for Shirts and Breeches for the Army, -                                                                                           | 1501 |
| Additional Resolve, relative to the Poor of Boston, adopted, -                                                                                                                          | 1502 |
| Letter to the Continental Congress, requesting the seizure of Crown Officers, -                                                                                                         | 1503 |
| John Lane, Agent for the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, authorized to supply them with Powder, -                                                                                           | 1503 |
| Letter from General Lee, requesting their approbation of his interview with Gen. Burgoyne, -                                                                                            | 1504 |
| Committee appointed to consider the Letter, and Elbridge Gerry appointed to accompany General Lee at the interview, -                                                                   | 1504 |
| Committee on a Letter from General Washington, on the deficiency in the strength of the Army, -                                                                                         | 1504 |
| Letter to General Lee, agreeing to his proposed interview with General Burgoyne, -                                                                                                      | 1504 |
| July 11, Report of the Committee relative to Donations for the Poor of Boston, considered and accepted, -                                                                               | 1505 |
| Report of the Committee appointed to consider the circumstances of the Town of Hull, -                                                                                                  | 1506 |
| Committee to confer with General Washington, on a temporary re-enforcement of the Army, -                                                                                               | 1506 |
| Committee to devise some means of raising speedily a temporary re-enforcement, -                                                                                                        | 1507 |
| Memorial of William Hunt, -                                                                                                                                                             | 1507 |
| 12, Letter to Governour Trumbull, -                                                                                                                                                     | 1508 |
| Able-bodied Men requested to return to their respective Seaport Towns, to protect them from the ravages of the enemy, -                                                                 | 1508 |
| Letter from Captain Noble, dated Pittsfield, July 3, with a roll of his Company, at Ticonderoga, -                                                                                      | 1508 |
| Letter from General Washington referred to the Committee on the temporary re-enforcement, -                                                                                             | 1509 |
| Report of the Committee on the situation of the publick stock of Powder, -                                                                                                              | 1509 |
| Committee to enlarge the Commission of the Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                       | 1509 |
| Letter from the Committee of Safety, requesting Congress to appoint a Special Committee to make provision for the Poor of Boston and Charlestown, -                                     | 1509 |
| Report of the Committee for a temporary re-enforcement, considered, and, after much debate, recommitted, -                                                                              | 1509 |
| Letter to Captain James Noble, -                                                                                                                                                        | 1510 |
| Committee on a temporary re-enforcement again reported: Report amended and accepted, -                                                                                                  | 1510 |
| Resolves for a temporary re-enforcement, -                                                                                                                                              | 1510 |
| Letter to the Military Officers, &c., of the several Towns, requesting them to raise and forward to the Camp immediately, their proportions of Men, for the temporary re-enforcement, - | 1511 |
| 13, Letter from General Washington's Secretary, dated nine o'clock, P. M., July 12, -                                                                                                   | 1512 |
| Resolve passed yesterday, for a re-enforcement, reconsidered, -                                                                                                                         | 1512 |
| Killing of Sheep or Lambs prohibited, excepting in cases of absolute necessity, till the further order of this Congress, -                                                              | 1514 |
| Soldiers enlisting in more than one Company required to return to the first Company they enlisted in, -                                                                                 | 1515 |
| Report of the Committee on disposing of ten Prisoners taken on Long-Island, in the Harbour of Boston, -                                                                                 | 1515 |
| Commission of the Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                                                | 1515 |
| Ten Prisoners, taken at Machias, sent to the Jail in Worcester, -                                                                                                                       | 1516 |
| Committee of Supplies authorized to grant relief, out of the publick stores, to the Inhabitants of the eastern parts of the Colony, -                                                   | 1518 |
| 19, Congress dissolved, -                                                                                                                                                               | 1518 |

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

July 1, Letter from Lord Dartmouth to General Gage. The rebellious conduct of the Provincials, on the 19th of April, will evince to the world the



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- justice of the measures the King has adopted, and in which His Majesty will firmly persevere, - - - - - 1517
- July 1, Letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend in Virginia. The real friends of America wish they had acted with more temper and less violence; the King has recommended conciliatory measures, but whether they will be sufficient to allay the ferment on your side of the water time only will show, - - - - - 1517
- 1, Letter from London to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. The spirit displayed by all the Colonies give great satisfaction to all the friends of America. Substance of a conversation with Lord North, - - - - - 1518
- 1, Letter from the South-Carolina Delegates in the Continental Congress, to the Secret Committee in Charlestown, - - - - - 1519
- Address delivered to the Inhabitants of a County in Virginia, assembled for the purpose of choosing Deputies to represent them in Colony Convention, - - - - - 1520
- 1, Letter from the Committee of Yorktown, Pennsylvania, to the Pennsylvania Delegates in Congress. Have raised a Company of Riflemen, and recommend Officers for them, - - - - - 1524
- 1, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington. The Connecticut Troops, under General Wooster, are encamped within two miles of New-York. No preparation has yet been made to occupy a post in the Highlands. He will leave New-York for Ticonderoga on Monday next, - - - - - 1525
- 1, Letter from Edward Fleming to the New-York Congress. Declines accepting the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel, in Colonel James Clinton's Regiment, - - - - - 1526
- 1, Letter from S. Sp. Skinner, New-York, to a Nobleman in England. On the policy of the British Government towards the Colonies, and the disposition and the ability of the Colonies to resist, - - - - - 1526
- 1, Letter from the Congress of Massachusetts to the Assembly of Connecticut, requesting the embargo in Connecticut may be taken off, so far as to permit the Inhabitants of the eastern parts of Massachusetts to purchase Provisions, they being reduced to the alternative of starving or supplying the Ministerial Troops, either of which they deprecate, - - - - - 1470
- 1, Recantation of James Ball, of Warwick, Massachusetts, - - - - - 1528
- 1, New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 1765-1768
- 1, Letter from General Folsom to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1524
- 1, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to General Folsom, - - - - - 1529
- 1, Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to Colonel Reid. Refuse to recall the Commission to Mr. McGregore, as Adjutant of his Regiment, and insist upon it that their appointments take place, - - - - - 1530
- 2, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress. Has had a conference with the New-York Congress on employing the Green Mountain Boys; and expects they will employ five hundred of them; from the accounts of Colonel Guy Johnson's conduct it is apprehended that the Inhabitants of the western part of New-York and New-Jersey, and the northern parts of Pennsylvania will be exposed to insults from the Savages, - - - - - 1439
- 2, Letter from General Gates to General Washington, - - - - - 1531
- 3, Meeting of Committee of Inspection for Baltimore Town; Henry Lloyd, of Boston, declared a wilful violator of the Continental Association, - - - - - 1531
- 3, Dorchester County, Maryland, Committee, prohibit the selling of any Merchandise brought to the County, without a proper Certificate that it was imported agreeable to the Continental Association, - - - - - 1532
- 3, Letter from John Alsop, Philadelphia, to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1532
- 3, Letter from John Langdon, Philadelphia, to the New-Hampshire Congress. General Sullivan has left for home; the Riflemen will march

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- this week for Cambridge; the Powder Mills are going on fast; an effort will be made to import large quantities of Powder; Cannon should not be used, if it can be avoided, until there is a better supply of Powder, - - - - - 1533
- July 3, Committee of Philadelphia have undertaken to erect a Saltpetre Manufactory, - - - - - 1533
- 3, Letter from the New-York Congress to the Committee of Albany, with fifty quarter casks of Gunpowder, sent by the Continental Congress for the use of the Forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, - - - - - 1336
- 3, Proclamation of Governour Tryon, to postpone the meeting of the Assembly to the ninth of August, - - - - - 1533
- 3, Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of New-York, to Governour Tryon, - 1534
- Governour Tryon's Answer to the Address, - 1534
- 3, Letter from General Schuyler to the Continental Congress. The People called Green Mountain Boys are the inhabitants of the northeastern parts of Albany County, Charlotte County, and the New-Hampshire Grants; occupying the country from near Albany to forty or fifty miles north of Crown Point; but it has been so lately settled that not more than five hundred Men can be raised there. The Troops at his command are inadequate to the enterprise he is ordered to undertake, and which he is not at liberty to desist from without orders to the contrary, - - - - - 1535
- 3, Letter from General Schuyler to the Continental Congress. The information he has just received of the nefarious designs of Colonel Johnson, and the temper of the Indians, is so important that he has sent Mr. Kirkland, who brought him the information, to the Congress, - - - - - 1536
- 3, Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress: enclosing a list of Military Stores, Provisions, &c., which he requests may be sent to Albany, for which place he leaves New-York to-morrow, - - - - - 1536
- 3, Letter from the New-York Committee of Secrecy to the Massachusetts Congress, informing them of the sailing of a Vessel from Scotland, bound to Salem, - - - - - 1537
- 3, Letter from Peter T. Curtenius to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1537
- 3, S. Patrick to the New-York Congress; has a Furnace now in blast, and will deliver Iron Ball of any dimensions, any where on the North River, for fifteen pounds per ton, - - - - - 1538
- 3, Letter from Colonel Hinman, at Ticonderoga, to the New-York Congress. The Fortresses at Fort George and Ticonderoga cannot be maintained against Artillery. He is almost destitute of Powder, and it is not improbable that a sufficient force may be sent from Canada to take these Posts if supplies are not sent him, - - - - - 1538
- 3, Address of the principal Inhabitants on Lake Champlain to Benedict Arnold, Commander-in-Chief of an Expedition to Lake Champlain, for taking the Fortresses on said Lake, - - - - - 1088
- Answer of Colonel Arnold to the very respectable Inhabitants on Lake Champlain, - - - - - 1088
- 3, Letter to the Continental Congress, from Walter Spooner, one of the Committee from the Massachusetts Congress to Ticonderoga. It is of the utmost importance to New-York and the New-England Colonies that the Posts there should not fall into the hands of the enemy, and that we should have the command of Lake Champlain, - - - - - 1539
- 3, Letter from Walter Spooner to the New-York Congress. All possible care should be taken to keep the command of Lake Champlain, which may most easily be effected by Armed Vessels. A most dangerous mutiny was set on foot by persons employed by Colonel Arnold, an officer of Massachusetts, which was suppressed by the influence of Judge Duer, of Charlotte County, New-York, and the principal officers of the Connecticut Forces, - - - - - 1539
- 3, Letter from Walter Spooner to Governour Trumbull. When the Committee arrived at Crown Point, they informed Colonel Arnold that he must give up the command to Colonel Hinman; this he refused, declared he would not



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- be second to any man, disbanded his forces, and resigned his commission, - - - 1540
- July 3, Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to the Massachusetts Congress, with information from Canada: if any plan of operation towards, or in Canada, is suitable, they wish to act in concert with the other Colonies in the neighbourhood, 1479
- 3, Letter from Governour Wentworth to Theodore Atkinson. Has occasion for the Books of Charters in the Secretary's Office, and desires they may be sent him, - - - 1541
- 3, Letter from the New-Hampshire Congress to the Massachusetts Congress, enclosing copies of Letters from Dr. Wheelock, dated Dartmouth College, June 28, and from the Committee in Hanover, dated June 27, - - - 1541

## GEORGIA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

- July 4, The Congress meets at Savannah, - - - 1543
- List of the Members elected, - - - 1543
- Archibald Bullock chosen President, and George Walton Secretary, - - - 1543
- Congress attend the Meeting-House of the Rev. Dr. Zubly, where he preached a Sermon on the alarming state of American affairs, - 1543
- Thanks of the Congress to Dr. Zubly for his excellent Sermon, - - - 1543
- 5, Message to the Governour by a Committee, that he will appoint a day of Fasting and Prayer, to be observed throughout the Province, - 1543
- Proceedings of a Meeting at Savannah, on the 13th of June, laid before the Congress, - 1544
- Motion, that this Congress put the Province upon the same footing with the other Colonies, to be considered to-morrow, - - - 1545
- 6, Order of the Day read, and considered, - 1545
- Resolved unanimously, that this Province will adopt and carry into execution all and singular the measures and recommendations of the late Continental Congress, - - - 1545
- Other Resolutions regulating the conduct of the Colony, - - - 1545
- 7, Governour Wright's Answer to the Message of the Congress; he will appoint a day of Fasting and Prayer, - - - 1547
- Committee to convey the Thanks of the Congress to the Governour, - - - 1547
- Delegates to the Continental Congress chosen, - 1547
- Dr. Zubly declines accepting the appointment of Delegate, without the approbation of his Congregation, - - - 1547
- Secret Committee appointed, - - - 1547
- Dr. Zubly appointed to prepare and bring in a Petition to the King, - - - 1547
- Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the President of the Continental Congress, informing him of the Proceedings of this Congress, 1547
- Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the Governour, - - - 1547
- 8, Ten Thousand Pounds Sterling appropriated for the service of the Province, in the present alarming and distracted state of affairs, - 1548
- Petition to the King presented and approved of, - 1548
- Committee of Intelligence appointed, - - - 1548
- Letter to the President of the Continental Congress presented and approved of, - - - 1548
- 10, Resolutions adopted unanimously, declaring their rights, their allegiance to the King, their union with the Colonies, and their determination to enforce the Resolutions of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, - - - 1548
- 11, Committee report the assent of Dr. Zubly's Congregation to his appointment, and that they are willing to spare him for a time, for the good of the common cause, - - - 1550
- Address to the Governour reported, agreed to, and a Committee appointed to present it, - 1550
- 12, Ways and Means to raise and sink Ten Thousand Pounds Sterling, considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - 1551
- Congress while sitting, and the Council of Safety in its recess, empowered to issue Certificates to the amount of Ten Thousand Pounds Sterling, - - - 1551
- Persons who may refuse to receive such Certificates in payment to be considered enemies of the Province, and treated accordingly, - - 1551

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- July 13, Association entered into at Savannah, on the 5th of June last, approved of, and adopted by the Congress, - - - 1551
- Committee to present the Association to all the Inhabitants of Savannah, to be signed, - - 1552
- 14, Committee appointed to consider and report upon the qualifications of voters for Delegates to the Provincial Congress, and an equal representation, - - - 1552
- Directions to Magistrates relative to issuing summonses and warrants, for the recovery of debts, 1552
- Report of the Committee on the qualification of voters and equal representation, presented and adopted, - - - 1552
- Form of Credentials for Delegates to the Provincial Congress recommended to the Inhabitants of the several Parishes and Districts, - - 1552
- 15, Committee on the better governing the Militia of the Province appointed, - - - 1553
- Committee appointed to communicate to the Inhabitants of the Province an account of the disputes between Great Britain and the Colonies, and the Proceedings of this Congress, - 1553
- Delegates to a new Congress to be elected between the 20th of August and 1st of September, next, - - - 1553
- Delegates for Savannah to be chosen on the 15th of September, - - - 1553
- Delegates for Savannah, and such other Delegates as may be there appointed, a General Committee for the Province, - - - 1553
- 17, Rev. Haddon Smith declared to be unfriendly to America, for refusing to join on a day of Fasting and Prayer recommended by the Congress, - - - 1554
- Delegates appointed to go to Philadelphia, directed to apply to the Continental Congress to incorporate this Province with the other United Provinces of America, - - - 1554
- Adjourned to the 19th day of August, unless sooner convened by the General Committee, - 1554
- 25, Address to the Inhabitants of the Province of Georgia, by the Committee appointed on the 15th instant, - - - 1554
- 14, Letter from Archibald Bullock to George Johnstone, London, enclosing a Letter from the Committee of Intelligence, - - - 1555
- 14, Letter from the Committee of Intelligence, for Georgia, to George Johnstone, London, enclosing a Petition to the King, - - - 1555
- 14, Petition to the King, from the Provincial Congress of Georgia, - - - 1556
- 4, The Law of Liberty: a Sermon preached before the Provincial Congress of Georgia, at Savannah, on the 4th of July, 1775, - - - 1557

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

- July 4, Letter from the Committee of Intelligence at Charlestown, South-Carolina, to the Continental Congress, enclosing copies of intercepted Letters from Lord Dartmouth to Governour Wright of Georgia, Governour Martin of North-Carolina, and to the Lieutenant-Governour of South-Carolina, dated March 3, 1775, - - - 1567
- 4, Letter from the Committee of Intelligence at Charlestown to the Committee at Newbern, North-Carolina, - - - 1567
- 4, Letter from the Committee of Intelligence at Charlestown to the Committee at Savannah, Georgia, - - - 1568
- Account of the seizure of the Mail in Charlestown, on the 2d of July, by the Secret Committee, with despatches from the Earl of Dartmouth to the Southern Governours, (Note,) - 1569
- 4, Somerset County, Maryland, Committee, declare James Dooe inimical to the Liberties of America, - - - 1569
- 4, List of Officers of the Green Mountain Boys, - 1570
- 4, Letter from John N. Bleecker, with an account of Provisions delivered over by him to Elisha Phelps, at Albany, - - - 1570
- Mr. Phelps's Warrant as Commissary, from the Governour of Connecticut, - - - 1570
- 4, Letter from William Schuyler to John Marlett; only one person in Warrensburgh. New-York, has signed the Association, - - - 1571



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*July 4*, Letter from Brook Watson, near Montreal, to the New-York Congress. The Troops at Fort George, Ticonderoga and Crown Point talk and act as if it was determined they should soon march to Quebec. This cannot be the intention of the General Congress; if they suffer the People to proceed to extremes nothing but the sword can determine the contest, 1571
- 4, Letter from Governour Cooke to the Continental Congress. The Army of Rhode-Island, near Boston, consists of thirteen hundred and ninety effective Men; we are also equipping two Armed Vessels, to carry one hundred Men, exclusive of Officers; the Colony will exert itself in unremitting efforts for the common defence and safety, - - - 1572
- 4, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to Governour Trumbull, - - - 1480
- 4, Letter from James Warren and Joseph Hawley to Gen. Washington, relative to the appointments of Generals Pomeroy, Heath and Thomas, - 1573
- 4, Letter from the Committee of Correspondence of Bradford to the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, respecting Captain Gage's Company deserting the cause of their Country, - 1648
- 5, Letter from one of the Virginia Delegates, at Philadelphia, to a friend in Williamsburgh. The New-Englanders are fitting out Privateers. They are now intent on burning Boston, in order to oust the Regulars, and none are more eager for it than those who have left their whole property in it. Nobody now doubts that we are able to cope with England, if we exert ourselves, - - - 1573
- 5, New-York Committee of Secrecy and Inspection report their examination of the Snow Christy, from Greenock, - - - 1574
- 5, New-York Committee. Regulations for the examination of Vessels from Great Britain or Ireland, to prevent the introduction of Goods prohibited by the Continental Association, - 1574
- Account of Receipts and Expenditures on account of the New-York Committee, - - - 1575
- 7, New-York Committee. Order for the arrest of William McLeod, a British Officer, - - - 1576
- 5, Letter from Burnet Miller to the New-York Congress. Requesting some Troops may be stationed at Montauk, for their protection and that of their stock, which is very large, and much exposed to the ravages of our unnatural enemy, - - - 1577
- 5, Letter from Joseph Johnson, a Mohegan Indian, at Hartford, complaining of the injury done him by some white men and Indians in Connecticut, who charge him with having turned a high Tory, - - - 1577

## CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

- July 1*, Connecticut Assembly meet at Hartford, - - 1579
- List of the Members, - - - 1579
- Act in addition to the Act for the special defence and safety of the Colony, - - - 1580
- Two additional Regiments, of seven hundred Men each, to be enlisted, equipped, &c. - - 1581
- Officers of the Seventh and Eighth Regiments, - 1581
- Act for supplying the Troops ordered to be raised for the special defence and safety of this Colony, with necessary Fire-Arms, - - - 1582
- Two Vessels to be immediately fitted out, and armed with a proper number of Cannon, Small-Arms and necessary warlike stores, for the defence of the Sea-Coast of the Colony, - 1583
- Governour directed to make a friendly answer to the Speech of the Oneida Indians, - - - 1584
- Jabez Hamlin appointed to collect Saltpetre and Sulphur, to be sent to the Powder Mills in Dutchess County, New-York, - - - 1584
- Governour authorized to permit the exportation of live Cattle, in certain cases, - - - 1584
- Emission of Bills of Credit, to the amount of Fifty Thousand Pounds, authorized, - - - 1584
- Captain Delaplace and others to be removed from Hartford, - - - 1585
- Representation of Connecticut Officers to the Assembly, against the Continental arrangement of General Officers, which degrades General Spencer from the rank he held, - - - 1585
- Governour requested to write to the Connecticut

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- Delegates in the Continental Congress, remonstrating against the promotion of Putnam over Wooster and Spencer, - - - 1585
- Report of Benjamin Henshaw to the Committee appointed to procure Lead for the use of the Colony, and of his proceedings in quest of a suitable Smelter or Refiner of Lead Ore, - 1586
- Report of the Committee appointed to procure Lead for the use of the Colony, - - - 1587
- Committee appointed to examine the Lead Mines in Woodbury, - - - 1588
- Committee appointed to work the Lead Mine in Middletown, - - - 1588
- Report of the Committee on Indian Affairs; they acquit Joseph Johnson of the charge made against him of being unfriendly to America, - 1588

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

- July 5*, Letter from Joseph Hawley to General Washington. There are many brave Officers in the Massachusetts Army, but there are some whose characters are very equivocal with respect to courage; he suggests that a declaration in general orders, that any Officer who shall act the poltron in the day of battle shall meet his deserts, whatever his rank, connexions or interest may be, - - - 1589
- 5, Committee of Duke's County, Massachusetts, report on the conduct of the Towns of the County, - - - 1589
- 6, Address by the Meeting for Sufferings, held by the Quakers in Philadelphia, for Pennsylvania and New-Jersey, - - - 1590
- 6, Letter to the New-York Congress, from their Delegates in Philadelphia. They have nothing more at heart than to be instrumental in compromising the unnatural quarrel between the Colonies and Great Britain, and receive with gratitude the plan of accommodation with the Parent State, sent them by the Provincial Congress, - - - 1591
- 6, Letter from the Committee of Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, to the New-York Committee, - 1591
- 6, Captains appointed by the New-York Provincial Congress for the enlistment of Volunteers, for the defence of the Liberties of America, in the first Battalion raised in the City of New-York, 1592
- 6, Letter from Edward Mott, at Albany, to Governour Trumbull. Colonel Arnold, when he was directed to deliver over the command of Ticonderoga and Crown Point to Colonel Hinman, refused to do so, and disbanded his Men, except those he took with him on board the Vessels on the Lake, which he seized, and threatened to take them to St. John's, and deliver them up to the Regulars. He also seized, confined and abused the gentlemen who went to remonstrate with him on his conduct, - - - 1592
- 6, Letter from Ethan Allen to Governour Trumbull. Is now on his way from New-York, to raise seven Companies of Green Mountain Boys, under the authority of the Continental and New-York Congresses, - - - 1593
- 6, Letter from Captain Angus McDonald to Colonel McDougall, complaining of his confinement in Fairfield Jail, - - - 1593
- 6, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler. Can supply him with no more than fifteen thousand Pounds of Money, and forty half barrels of Powder, - - - 1594
- Narrative and Remarks by a Gentleman who left Montreal, in Canada, the 14th of June last; enclosed by Gov. Trumbull to Gen. Schuyler, 1594
- 6, Report to the Massachusetts Congress, by their Committee appointed to examine the Fortresses of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and their condition for defence, - - - 1596
- Copy of the Warrant to Brown and Edwards to supply the Massachusetts Troops at Ticonderoga, - - - 1598
- Order of the Committee to Colonel Arnold, dated Crown Point, June 23, 1775, - - - 1598
- Letter from Colonel Arnold to the Committee, resigning his Commission, dated Crown Point, June 24, 1775, - - - 1598
- Letter from Jonas Fay, in behalf of Capt. Herick, to the Committee, dated Ticonderoga, June 28, 1775, - - - 1599



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| 1775.   | Ordnance Stores at Crown Point and Ticonderoga, June 23, 1775,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1600 |
| July 6, | Letter from Theodore Atkinson to the New-Hampshire Congress. Refuses to deliver up the Publick Records, or connive at a delivery; but has no thoughts of attempting to retain them in his custody by force,                                                                                                                                                                           | 1600 |
|         | Letter prepared by Mr. Atkinson on the same subject, but not sent to the Congress, (Note,)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1600 |
| 7,      | Letter from Mr. Atkinson to Governour Wentworth, informing him of the demand made upon him by the Provincial Congress for the Publick Records; of his refusal to deliver them; and of their seizure and removal by a Committee of the Congress,                                                                                                                                       | 1601 |
|         | Resolution of the Provincial Congress, demanding the Records of the Secretary,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1601 |
| 7,      | Proceedings at a Court of Common Council, London, on the Letter from the Committee of New-York to the Lord Mayor. Refuse to answer the Letter from the Committee, and order an Address to the King,                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1602 |
|         | Address of the Corporation of London to the King, requesting him to cause hostilities to cease between Great Britain and America,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1602 |
| 7,      | Letter from Doctor Franklin to Doctor Priestley. Another Petition to the Crown has been carried with difficulty. Britain has begun to burn our Seaport Towns; if she wishes to have us subjects, she is now giving us such specimens of her government that we shall ever detest and avoid it, as a complication of robbery, murder, famine, fire and pestilence,                     | 1603 |
| 7,      | Letter from John Dickinson to Arthur Lee,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1604 |
| 7,      | Letter from General Wooster to the New-York Congress,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1604 |
| 7,      | Letter from the Committee for Westchester County, New-York, to the Provincial Congress.—Many, if not a majority of the Militia Officers of the County endeavour to counteract the measures of the Congress,                                                                                                                                                                           | 1604 |
| 7,      | Letter from the Committee for Kingston, New-York, to the Provincial Congress,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1605 |
| 7,      | Letter from Elisha Phelps to the New-York Congress. Flour is so scarce at Albany that the Troops at Ticonderoga will suffer if supplies are not obtained immediately,                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1605 |
| 7,      | Letter from Colonel Hinman, at Ticonderoga, to Gen. Schuyler. The Regulars are fortifying St. John's, and building some water-craft there, but with what intent we cannot determine,                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1605 |
| 7,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the New-York Provincial Congress,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1781 |
| 7,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the President of the Continental Congress,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1606 |
| 7,      | Orders from the Committee of Safety of New-Hampshire to Captain Bedel, directing him to proceed to Northumberland or Lancaster, and, in conjunction with the inhabitants, erect works of defence against small-arms; and to establish Garrisons at such places on the frontiers as may be deemed necessary; send out Scouts; conciliate the Indians, and to arrest suspected persons, | 1767 |
| 8,      | Letter from London to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Should it cost all the blood and treasure of Old England, the Ministry would prosecute their efforts to subdue the Colonies. If you submit, sixty of you are to be hanged in Philadelphia, and the same number in New-York. Five hundred Pounds is offered for Captain Sears's head in particular,                                 | 1607 |
|         | John Holt, of New-York, among the number of the proscribed who are ordered to be sent to England, (Note,)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1607 |
| 8,      | Letter from the Independent Company of Alexandria, in Virginia, to General Washington,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1608 |
| 8,      | Letter from the Messrs. Bradfords, of Philadelphia, to the Printer of a publick Paper in London. The Ministerial account may gloss over the affair of Bunker's Hill, but a few more such victories would leave General Gage but a few men; and we should joyfully put up with the disgrace of a retreat every day for a month, upon the same terms,                                   | 1608 |
| 8,      | Letter from the North-Carolina Delegates, at Philadelphia, to the New-York Congress, requesting them to secure a Vessel supposed to be sent for Gunpowder for Governour Martin,                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1609 |

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| 1775. | July 8, Letter from the New-York Congress to Charles Thomson,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1609 |
| 8,    | Letter from Henry White to the New-York Congress, denying a connection with Governour Martin,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1609 |
| 8,    | Ezekiel Beach published as an enemy to the Country, by the Committee for Mendham, in Morris County, New-Jersey,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1610 |
| 8,    | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the New-Hampshire Congress. Approve of Mr. Dean's being sent to the Continental Congress; and think it a matter of great importance to America in general to satisfy our friends in America that we are truly friendly to them,                                                                      | 1498 |
| 8,    | Letter from General Burgoyne to General Lee,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1610 |
| 8,    | Petition of the Selectmen and Committee of Safety for Harpswell to the Massachusetts Congress,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1612 |
| 8,    | Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to Dr. Langdon,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1612 |
| 8,    | Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to their Delegates in the Continental Congress, giving them general information of the state of affairs in New-Hampshire, and requesting that provision may be made for furnishing them with Gunpowder, as they are almost destitute of it,                                                  | 1612 |
| 7,    | Letter from the Provincial Congress of New-Hampshire to the Continental Congress. The Colony is at present wholly governed by this Congress and the Committees of the Towns: some other regulations are desired, but none will be attempted without the direction of the Continental Congress,                                                 | 1613 |
| 9,    | Letter from London to a Gentleman in New-York. The scheme of the Ministry is now to deceive and divide the New-Yorkers, since they find mere force like to answer no valuable end,                                                                                                                                                             | 1614 |
| 9,    | Address of the Committee of Safety, Correspondence and Protection, of the City and County of Albany, to General Schuyler,                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1615 |
|       | Answer of General Schuyler,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1615 |
| 9,    | Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to the Continental Congress: suggesting to them the expediency of seizing every Crown Officer in the United Colonies, and keeping them until the People of Boston are released, and have received full compensation for the insults and perfidious treatment they have received from General Gage,      | 1616 |
| 9,    | Letter from the Camp at Cambridge to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Account of the burning of the British Guard-House on Roxbury Neck,                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1616 |
| 10,   | Letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend in New-York. The eyes of Government are fixed on the Congress and their Resolutions, and perhaps on their proposals; for it is said that Administration cannot yield, it being contrary to the dignity of the Crown,                                                                           | 1617 |
| 10,   | Letter from London to a Gentleman in Maryland. The People here did not imagine the Americans would fight, but thought a handful of Regulars would frighten the Americans into compliance. The Ministry wish they were well rid of the business,                                                                                                | 1617 |
| 10,   | Speech of Governour Lord William Campbell to the Council and Assembly of South-Carolina,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1617 |
| 11,   | Address of the Upper House of Assembly of South-Carolina to the Governour,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1618 |
| 12,   | His Excellency's Answer,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1619 |
| 12,   | Address of the Commons House of Assembly of South-Carolina to the Governour,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1619 |
| 12,   | Answer of the Governour,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1620 |
| 12,   | Message from the Commons House to the Governour,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1620 |
| 10,   | Meeting of the Committee for Fincastle County, Virginia. The conduct of Lord Dunmore in seizing the Powder reflects dishonour on himself; the conduct of Patrick Henry on the occasion merits the highest approbation; the Council in advising the Proclamation of May 3d, show they are become the abject tools of a detested Administration, | 1620 |
| 10,   | Letter from Philadelphia to a Gentleman in England. Throughout the country the Inhabitants are training, making Fire-Locks, casting                                                                                                                                                                                                            |      |



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- Shells and Shot, and making Saltpetre for the Gunpowder Mills. A spirit of enthusiasm for war has gone forth that has driven away the fear of death, - - - - - 1621
- July 10, Petition of Samuel Falkenhan and David Woolhaupter to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1621
- 10, Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - 1621
- 10, Association of Merchants of New-York, to give circulation to Bills of Credit of Connecticut, - - - - - 1622
- New-York Committee recommend the circulation of Bills of Credit of Connecticut, - - - - - 1622
- 10, Letter from Montreal to a Gentleman in England. The Martial Law is in force; the Canadians are enrolled as Militia, and Officers appointed them by the Governour, - - - - - 1623
- 10, Letter from General Washington to the Massachusetts Congress; has learned with great concern the inadequate strength of the Army; the number of Men from Massachusetts does not amount to nine thousand; in the whole Army not more than fourteen thousand five hundred fit for duty, - - - - - 1623
- 10, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler, - - - - - 1623
- 10, Letter from General Washington to the President of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1624
- Return of the number of Killed, Wounded and Missing, in the engagement on Bunker's Hill, 1628
- Proceedings of a Council of War, held at Headquarters, Cambridge, July 9, 1775, - - - - - 1628
- Returns of the Army of the United Colonies, commanded by George Washington, General and Commander-in-Chief, - - - - - 1629
- Instructions for the Officers of the Massachusetts-Bay Forces, who are immediately to go upon the recruiting service, given at Headquarters, July 10, 1775, - - - - - 1630
- General Orders, from July 3 to July 10, - - - - - 1630
- 10, Letter from General Washington to Richard Henry Lee, - - - - - 1635
- 10, Letter from General Thomas to General Washington; sends him prisoner a Master of a Vessel from Boston, who has long been a suspected person, - - - - - 1637
- 10, Notice of the Town-Clerk of Boston to the late Inhabitants of that Town, to meet at Concord on the 18th of July, to choose Representatives to the General Assembly, - - - - - 1637
- 10, Letter from the Camp at Cambridge to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Present situation of the two Armies, - - - - - 1637
- 10, Letter from General Lee to the Massachusetts Congress, - - - - - 1638
- 10, Letter from the Massachusetts Congress to General Lee, - - - - - 1638
- 11, Letter from General Lee to General Burgoyne, declining the interview with him, - - - - - 1638
- Remarks on General Burgoyne's Letter to General Lee, dated July 8, 1775, - - - - - 1639
- Letter to General Burgoyne, on the subject of his late correspondence with General Lee, - - - - - 1641
- 10, Declaration of Adam McCulloch, - - - - - 1642
- 11, Address to the People of England, - - - - - 1643
- 11, Letter from John Grennell to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1644
- 11, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to their Delegates in the Continental Congress. The supply of Powder has not yet been received from the Committee of Elizabethtown, and the want of it prevents supplying the very pressing demands from the Camp before Boston. There is great difficulty in carrying into execution the Resolutions of Congress, from the want of Money, - - - - - 1780
- 11, Letter from General Wooster to the New-York Committee of Safety, requesting their advice about disposing of a Prisoner, who must be sent somewhere, to be out of the way of an enraged People, - - - - - 1645
- 11, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to William Duer, one of the Judges of Charlotte County, approving his conduct in keeping open and protecting the Courts, - - - - - 1779
- 11, Meeting of the New-York Committee, - - - - - 1645
- 11, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1645
- 11, Letter from Colonel Arnold to the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1646

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- July 11, Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress: requests them to send him immediately a person fit to command the Sloop on Lake Champlain, - - - - - 1647
- 11, Letter from Elisha Phelps, at Albany, to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1647
- 11, Letter from Edmund Bridge, of Pownalborough, to the Massachusetts Congress. The Inhabitants are in danger of perishing by famine. General Gage offers to supply them with provisions if they will send him fuel; this they have refused to do. If they have bread, they are ready to sacrifice their lives in the common cause, - - - - - 1648
- 12, Meeting of the Officers of the Military Association for the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, 1648
- 12, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to Colonel Hinman. General Schuyler has proceeded to the Northward, and will make every arrangement in stationing the Troops that will be for the general defence of the United Colonies, - - - - - 1783
- 12, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to their Delegates in the Continental Congress. They have formed into four Battalions the three thousand Men, exclusive of the Green Mountain Boys, which they were required to raise by the Continental Congress, and would be glad to be informed what their pay is to be. There is no Powder for these Troops when raised, - - - - - 1784
- 12, Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1649
- 12, Letter from Ethan Allen, at Bennington, to Governour Trumbull. If we do not march an army into Canada, the Indians and Canadians, who, in general, are disposed to be neuter, or assistants to the United Colonies, will be compelled to join against us, - - - - - 1649
- 12, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington, - - - - - 1649
- 12, Proclamation by Governour Cooke, requiring every man in Rhode-Island, able to bear arms, immediately to equip himself with Arms and Ammunition, - - - - - 1650
- 12, Letter from Cambridge to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Several skirmishes with the enemy, 1650
- 12, Letter from General Gates to General Lee, urging him to complete his works without delay, - - - - - 1651
- 12, Letter from the Massachusetts Committee of Supplies to the New-Hampshire Congress, - 1651
- 12, Selectmen of Francetown, New-Hampshire, declare the Committee for that Town were legally chosen, and that their acts are valid, - 1651
- 13, Committee for the County of Hillsborough, New-Hampshire, declare John Quigly an enemy to the Country, - - - - - 1652
- John Quigly's Declaration of attachment to the Liberties of America, - - - - - 1652
- Committee of Francetown are satisfied with John Quigly's Declaration, and request he may be treated as a friend to his Country, - - - - - 1652
- 13, Meeting of the Committee of Observation for Baltimore Town. Intercepted Letter from James Christie, Merchant of Baltimore, laid before the Committee: Proceedings upon it. Mr. Christie declared an enemy to this Country, - - - - - 1652
- Copy of the Letter written by Mr. Christie to Lieutenant-Colonel Gabriel Christie, of His Majesty's Sixtieth Regiment, at Antigua, dated Baltimore, February 22, 1775, - - - - - 1652
- 13, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to General Schuyler, enclosing their Letter of the 12th, to Colonel Hinman, - - - - - 1785
- 13, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to General Wooster, requesting information as to a complaint that a Barge belonging to His Majesty's Ship Asia had been drawn on shore and detained, and that last night His Majesty's store house, near Hudson's River, had been broken open, and divers effects carried away by violence, and that some of the Troops under his command had been concerned in both these acts, - - - - - 1785
- 13, Calm Address to the People of New-York, - 1655
- 13, Letter from Elisha Phelps, at Albany, to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1657



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- July 13, Letter from Egbert Benson to Peter Van Brugh Livingston, - - - 1657
- 13, Albany, New-York, Committee, authorize any four of their Delegates to the Provincial Congress to act for the County, - - - 1658
- 13, Committee of Safety for Connecticut. The difficulty with General Spencer arranged; he complained of and resented the promotion of General Putnam over him, but was persuaded to return to the Army for the present, - - 1658
- 13, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: congratulating him on his appointment as Commander-in-Chief of the American Army, - - - 1658
- 14, Recantation of James Leonard and others, of Ulster County, New-York, who had heretofore refused to sign the Association, - - 1659
- 14, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - 1659
- True account of the Officers of the Ministerial Troops Killed and Wounded at the Battle of Charlestown, June 17, 1775, - - - 1660
- General Orders from July 11 to July 14, - - 1661
- 13, Court Martial held for the trial of Colonel Scammons, of the Massachusetts Forces, accused of backwardness in the execution of his duty in the late action upon Bunker's Hill, - - 1662
- 15, Letter from General Wooster to the New-York Committee of Safety: proposes to remove his encampment, which is now too near to the City, to Harlem, - - - 1665
- 13, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to their Delegates in the Continental Congress. Our enlisted men grow uneasy for want of money, which prevents the enlistment of others: we have no arms, we have no powder, we have no blankets: for God's sake send us money, send us arms, send us ammunition. Be prudent, be expeditious, - - - 1788
- 15, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to General Schuyler. We have ordered Tents to Albany for one Regiment; our Troops can be of no service to you; they have no arms, clothes, blankets, or ammunition; the Officers no commissions; our Treasury no money; and ourselves in debt, - - - 1730
- 15, Letter from General Schuyler, at Saratoga, to the President of Congress, - - - 1665
- 14, Letter from the Albany Committee to General Schuyler, with alarming accounts from Tryon County, - - - 1666
- 13, Letter from the Tryon County Committee to the Committees of Schenectady and Albany. Colonel Guy Johnson is ready with eight or nine hundred Indians under Joseph Brandt and Walter Butler to attack Tryon County; and all the enemies of the Country it is feared will rise in arms on approach of the Indians, 1666
- Return of the Army of the Associated Colonies, in the Colony of New-York, under the command of General Schuyler, - - - 1667
- 15, Letter from Gen. Schuyler to Gen. Washington, 1668
- 15, Letter from the Tryon County, New-York, Committee, to the Provincial Congress, - - 1668
- 15, Letter from the Committee for Newbury, Gloucester County, New-York, to the Provincial Congress, - - - 1668
- 16, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: enclosing a Letter from Albany and two other papers, which have, in some measure, removed his apprehensions for the safety of the People of Tryon County, - - - 1669
- 15, Letter from the Albany Committee to General Schuyler, - - - 1669
- 8, Letter from Colonel Guy Johnson to the New-York Congress: opened and read by the Albany Committee, and a copy sent to General Schuyler, - - - 1669
- 15, Examination of Garret Roseboom, of the City of Albany, before the Sub-Committee, - - 1670
- 16, Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress. Intelligence from all quarters evinces the necessity of strengthening the Garrisons of Ticonderoga and Crown Point: the fatal consequences that would follow their loss are too evident to need illustration, - - - 1671
- 17, Meeting of Merchants of Dublin: thanks to Lord Effingham, for having refused to serve against the Americans, - - - 1672

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- July 17, Committee for Charles County, Maryland. Certificates for goods imported into this County must be signed by five of the Committee of the place whence they are sent, - - - 1673
- 17, Letter to the New-York Congress, from the President of the Continental Congress, - - 1673
- 17, Letter to the New-York Congress, from their Delegates at Philadelphia, recommending Morgan Lewis for the appointment of Brigade Major to the Army under the command of General Schuyler, - - - 1674
- 17, Letter from the Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, Committee, to the Committee for New-York, informing them they have forwarded four hogheads, containing fifty-two quarter casks of Powder from Philadelphia, - - - 1674
- 17, Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, Committee, restore the Inhabitants of Richmond County, New-York, to their commercial privileges, they having, in general, signed the Association, - 1674
- 17, Letter from the Committee of Safety for New-York to the Colonels of the several Regiments: requesting them to make a return of the number of Men ready and fit for service, in each Company, with all possible despatch, - - - 1674
- 17, Letter from John Lamb to the New-York Committee of Safety, requesting permission to enlist his own Men for the Artillery, - - - 1675
- 17, Letter from the Albany Committee to the New-York Congress; enclosing four intercepted Letters, and one from Colonel Guy Johnson, dated July 8th, of which they had sent a copy to General Schuyler, - - - 1675
- 17, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington, - - - 1676
- 17, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler, - - - 1676
- 17, Conduct of Captains Ayscough and Wallace, commanders of British Vessels of War, towards the Inhabitants of Newport, Rhode-Island: of their firing on the Town, seizure of vessels, and threats to set fire to the Town, - - - 1677
- 17, Committee for Lancaster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, publish Nahum Houghton as an enemy to his Country, - - - 1678
- 14, Message from Governour Wentworth to the New-Hampshire Assembly, requesting them to rescind the vote excluding three Members from the House returned by the King's writ, - 1678
- Answer to the Governour's Message, refusing to rescind the vote, - - - 1679
- Message from the Governour to the House; their refusing to rescind the vote for excluding the three Members for Plymouth, Lyme, and Orford, shows they did not meet with a disposition to proceed to business; he therefore adjourns them to the 28th of September next, - - 1679
- 18, Letter from John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, to the Committee of Intelligence at Charlestown, South-Carolina, - - - 1681
- 18, Proceedings of the Committee at Dagsberry, Delaware, on the charges against Thomas Robinson, of counteracting the measures of the Continental Congress, - - - 1682
- 18, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to their Delegates in the Continental Congress. A Committee was appointed by the Provincial Congress previous to their adjournment, on the subject of a Congress with the Five Nations: the proceedings relating to it are enclosed, - 1793
- 18, Letter to the New-York Committee of Safety, from their Delegates in the Congress. They are sensible of the distress to which New-York must be reduced for want of Money, Arms, and Powder: the first will soon be supplied; no assurances can be given of a supply of Arms and Ammunition, - - - 1684
- 18, Letter from Dr. John Mallett, (on board the Ship Asia,) to William Allman, New-York; instructing him how he may convey a quantity of Medicines from the City of New-York, on board the Asia, - - - 1684
- 18, Letter from General Schuyler, at Ticonderoga, to Governour Trumbull, - - - 1685
- 18, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington. Carleton has about four hundred Men at St. John's, which he has well secured: at Ticonderoga nothing has been done for offence or defence, - - - 1685



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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1775.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |      | 1775.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| July 18, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, in reply to his Letter of the 13th instant, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1686 | officiate yesterday, being the day appointed by the Continental Congress for a General Fast, - - - - - 1697                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 18, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: regrets that the arrangement of the General Officers has produced dissatisfaction; the subject is now before the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                   | 1686 | July 21, Letter from Benjamin Harrison to Gen. Washington. Proceedings of Congress and opinions of the Members on various subjects, - - - - - 1697                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 18, Letter from Governour Trumbull to President Hancock. He omitted to state, in his Letter of the 7th instant, that the Assembly had ordered two Vessels to be fitted out, armed, and furnished with men and warlike stores, for the defence of the Sea-Coasts of the Colony. (Fac simile,) opposite - - - - -                                              | 1686 | 21, Meeting of the Committee for Bucks County, Pennsylvania, - - - - - 1699                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 18, Declaration by the Continental Congress of the causes and necessity of their taking up arms, read before the Army, on Prospect Hill, near Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1687 | 21, Committee for Huntington, Long-Island, New-York, acquit John Brush and others of the charges against them, of having violated the Continental or Provincial Association, - - - - - 1699                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 18, Instructions of General Gage to Captain Duncan Campbell and Lieutenant Symes; to proceed to New-York, and receive such Men as may be inclined to serve His Majesty, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                            | 1687 | 21, Letter from Col. James Clinton to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1700                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 19, Letter from a Gentleman in Fredericktown, Maryland, to his friend in Baltimore. Reception there of Captain Morgan's company of Riflemen, from Virginia, on their way to Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                | 1687 | 21, Letter from Elisha Phelps to the Continental Congress. No money has been placed in his hands for procuring supplies for the Posts on the Lakes; all his purchases having been made on credit, he requests money to enable him to discharge the debts, - - - - - 1700                                                                                                                    |
| 19, Meeting of the Committee for Piscataway and Bladensburg, Maryland. Declare Luke Jefferson and the several persons concerned in importing, vending, purchasing, and receiving certain goods from the Ships Diana and Eclus, lying in the Eastern Branch of the Potomack River, guilty of violating the Association of the Continental Congress, - - - - - | 1688 | Return of Provisions, &c., forwarded to the Northern Army by Elisha Phelps, Commissary, from the 3d to the 20th day of July, - - - - - 1701                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 19, Letter from John Hancock to General Washington, introducing to him Mr. Ogden and Mr. Burr of the Jerseys, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1689 | 21, Letter from John N. Bleecker to the New-York Congress, - - - - - 1701                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 19, Letter from John Hancock to the New-York Committee of Safety; requesting them to send what Powder they can spare to the Camp before Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1689 | 21, Letter from General Schuyler, at Ticonderoga, to the Continental Congress. Ammunition is very scarce; no Powder has yet come to hand, and as yet very little Provision; two hundred Troops less than at the last return; these badly, very badly armed, and but one Armourer to repair the Guns. Nothing has been done for raising the five hundred Green Mountain Boys, - - - - - 1702 |
| 19, Address of the Committee of Safety of Hillsborough, New-Hampshire, to Gen. Sullivan, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1689 | 21, Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress: urges them to send him supplies and Troops, - - - - - 1704                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 19, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety. The Army at Medford is in great want of Bayonets, Guns and Blankets, and Beds for the sick; the New-Hampshire Forces are without a Chaplain, - - - - -                                                                                                                            | 1690 | 21, Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - 1704                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 19, Letter from Colonel Reid to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1690 | 21, Letter from General Heath to General Washington. Account of burning the Light-House in the Harbour of Boston, - - - - - 1737                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 20, Committee for Wilmington, North-Carolina, resolve that John Collet should remain in possession of Fort Johnson. Collet escapes, and the Fort is destroyed and the buildings burnt, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                             | 1691 | 21, Letter from General Washington to the Continental Congress, - - - - - 1705                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 20, Letter from the several Volunteer Companies at Williamsburgh, Virginia, to the Committee of the Borough of Norfolk, requesting to be informed of the truth of a report that there are Volunteers recruiting in Norfolk in opposition to the Continental plan, - - - - -                                                                                  | 1691 | General Orders from July 15 to July 20, - - - - - 1707                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Answer of the Committee to the Volunteers: the report is without foundation, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1692 | 21, Letter from General Washington to John Hancock, - - - - - 1710                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 20, Letter from Captain Montague of the Fowey, to Captain Squire of the Otter, in Hampton Roads, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1692 | 21, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - 1710                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 20, Pastoral Letter from the Synod of New-York and Philadelphia, to the Congregations under their care, delivered from the Pulpit on the 20th of July, 1775, being the day appointed by the Continental Congress for a General Fast, - - - - -                                                                                                               | 1692 | 21, Letter from Governour Wentworth to Theodore Atkinson, enclosing a permit from Captain Barclay of the Scarborough, for Boats to fish, if the Town of Portsmouth will supply him with fresh Provisions as usual, - - - - - 1710                                                                                                                                                           |
| 20, Letter from Ethan Allen, at Ticonderoga, to the New-York Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1695 | 22, Letter from John Hancock to the New-Hampshire Congress, - - - - - 1711                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 20, Letter from Watertown, Massachusetts, to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Situation and operations of the Army, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1696 | 22, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to their Delegates in the Continental Congress. New-Jersey has a very considerable number of good Muskets and Bayonets, and they suggest the propriety of an order from the Continental Congress that these may be valued and delivered to New-York, - - - - - 1797                                                                        |
| 20, Notice by order of Admiral Graves to all Seafaring People, that the Light Houses on Thatcher's Island and at the entrance of Boston have been burnt and destroyed by the Rebels, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                               | 1696 | 22, Letter from General Wooster to the Continental Congress. Will hasten the march of his Troops to Albany as rapidly as possible, - - - - - 1711                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 20, Letter from Salem, in Massachusetts, to a Gentleman in London: within these few days we have had offers of assistance from some Maritime Powers secretly conveyed to us; their offers are at present rejected, - - - - -                                                                                                                                 | 1696 | 22, Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress: has four important Posts to maintain, with a small body of Troops, very ill-armed, and with little Ammunition, - - - - - 1711                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 21, Newbern, North-Carolina, Committee, suspend the Rev. James Reed, Minister of the Parish, from his ministerial functions, for refusing to                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |      | 22, Committee of Inspection for the Town of New-Ipswich, in New-Hampshire, publish David Hills as a violator of the Association, - - - - - 1711                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |      | Appeal of David Hills to the Publick, - - - - - 1712                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |      | Statement of Joseph Bates, Chairman of the Committee, - - - - - 1712                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |      | 23, Letter from Doctor Benjamin Church to a British Officer in Boston, giving him a statement of the strength of the American Army, and of their means of defence, - - - - - 1713                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |      | 23, William Henry Drayton and the Rev. William Tennent appointed by the Council of Safety for South-Carolina to go to the back country, to explain to the People the causes of the present disputes between Great Britain and the Colonies, - - - - - 1715                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |      | Commission to William Henry Drayton and Rev. William Tennent, - - - - - 1715                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |      | Letter to Mr. Drayton and Mr. Tennent, with their Commission, - - - - - 1715                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |



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| 1775.    | Account of the Tory Leaders in the upper parts of South-Carolina, (Note), -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1715 |
| July 23, | Letter from the Schenectady, New-York, Committee, to General Schuyler, informing him of the flight of Alexander White, Sheriff of Tryon County, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1730 |
| 24,      | Meeting of the Committee of Observation for Prince George's County, Maryland, at Piscataway, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1716 |
| 24,      | Letter from John Adams to Mrs. Adams, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1717 |
| 24,      | Letter from John Adams to James Warren, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1717 |
|          | Letter from General Gage to the Earl of Dartmouth, dated August 26. The designs of the leaders of the Rebellion prove that a plan was laid in Massachusetts for a total independence, while they amused the People with professions of attachment to the Parent State, -                                                                                                                                 | 1718 |
|          | Remarks on the intercepted Letters of John Adams, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1718 |
| 24,      | Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to the Continental Congress: are sorry to say that the supposition of a quantity of Powder being received there is without foundation, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1719 |
| 24,      | Letter from Colonel Van Schaick to the New-York Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1719 |
|          | Return of the Second Provincial Regiment in the Colony of New-York, under the command of Colonel Van Schaick, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1719 |
| 24,      | Meeting of the Committee of Safety for Connecticut. Committee appointed to make arrangements for equipping and fitting out two Armed Vessels, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1720 |
| 24,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler. Is it not high time to proceed into, and even hasten forward to secure the government of Quebec, and thereby the whole Indian strength and interest in our favour? -                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1721 |
| 24,      | Note from General Lee to General Sullivan, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1721 |
| 24,      | Letter from the Camp at Cambridge to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Information from Boston, brought out by deserters, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1722 |
| 24,      | Letter from General Gage to the Earl of Dartmouth. The Congress, in their declaration for taking up arms, pay little regard to facts, for it is as replete with deceit and falsehood as most of their publications, -                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1723 |
| 25,      | Address of the Delegates of Virginia and Pennsylvania, in the Continental Congress, to the Inhabitants of the two Colonies, on the West side of Laurel Hill, urging them to lay aside their disputes among themselves, and unite in supporting the common rights of the Country, -                                                                                                                       | 1723 |
| 25,      | Letter from the President of the Council of Safety for South-Carolina to Clement Lempriere, commander of the Sloop Commerce, ordering him to proceed to the Island of New-Providence and procure all the Gunpowder he may find there, -                                                                                                                                                                  | 1724 |
| 24,      | Commission from the South-Carolina Council of Safety to Clement Lempriere, appointing him Captain of the Sloop Commerce, belonging to New-York, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1724 |
|          | Captain Hatton's Report to the Council of Safety, of the occurrences which took place on board the Sloop Commerce, in taking the Powder from Captain Lofthouse, off Augustine Bar, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1724 |
| 25,      | Letter from the Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, Committee, to the New-York Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1726 |
| 25,      | Letter from Christopher P. Yates to the New-York Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1726 |
| 25,      | Letter from Sir John Johnson to Alexander White, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1726 |
| 25,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to the New-York Congress, requesting them to furnish Tents for the Connecticut Troops at Ticonderoga, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1726 |
| 25,      | Letter from General Thomas to General Washington, informing him of the sailing of thirteen Ships from Boston, apparently bound to the South, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1727 |
| 25,      | Letter to a Gentleman in London, from an Officer in the Army at Boston. At present we are worse off than the Rebels: they know our situation as well as we do ourselves, from the villains that are left in Town; last week one was caught swimming over to the Rebels, with one of their General's passes in his pocket: he will be hanged in a day or two, -                                           | 1727 |
| 1775.    | July 26, Letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend in New-York. The King does not mean to enslave the Colonies; his bosom heaves with compassion for the People there, under an unhappy delusion: England asks nothing but what is for the benefit of the Colonists themselves, and the Parliament could not, if they would, divest themselves of the power they exercise over the Colonies, -     | 1727 |
| 26,      | Letter from Marinus Willett to the New-York Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1729 |
| 26,      | Letter from the Albany Committee to General Schuyler. The apprehensions of the Inhabitants of Tryon County, respecting the Indians, are entirely removed, and the disputes between the Inhabitants of the upper part of the County with Sir John Johnson and the Sheriff of that County, amicably accommodated, -                                                                                        | 1746 |
| 26,      | Letter from General Schuyler to the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1729 |
| 26,      | Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1731 |
| 26,      | Letter from Colonel Reed, Secretary to General Washington, to General Wooster, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1731 |
| 27,      | Letter from James Christie, Jun., of Baltimore, to the Publick, relative to his Letter to Col. Christie, of Antigua, written in February last, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1732 |
| 27,      | Meeting of the Officers of the Military Association for the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1733 |
| 27,      | Letter from the Committee for New-Brunswick, New-Jersey, to the New-York Committee of Safety, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1733 |
| 27,      | Letter from the New-York Congress to the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1734 |
| 27,      | Letter from General Schuyler to the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1734 |
|          | An account of the voyage of Captain Remember Baker, begun on the 13th day of July, and ended July 25, 1775, on Lake Champlain, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1735 |
| 27,      | Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress. Such intelligence has just been received as makes it indispensably necessary that the stores requested on the 3d instant, should be sent without one moment's delay, -                                                                                                                                                                            | 1735 |
| 27,      | Letter from General Washington to John Augustine Washington, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1735 |
| 27,      | Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler, respecting three Companies of New-Hampshire Troops, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1736 |
| 27,      | Letter from Gen. Washington to the Continental Congress. Three Men of War and nine Transports gone from Boston, as reported, to plunder Block Island, Fisher's Island and Long Island, and bring off what Cattle they may find, -                                                                                                                                                                        | 1736 |
|          | General Orders, from July 22 to July 27, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1737 |
| 27,      | Letter from Colonel Hurd to the New-Hampshire Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1740 |
| 28,      | Letter from London to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. People here are anxious to hear the Resolves of the Congress; and those who a week ago thought General Gage had Troops enough to march through America, now alter their tone, on finding the dispute for a mile of ground cost him one thousand and fifty-four men wounded and slain, -                                                               | 1741 |
| 28,      | Letter to the Printer of the London Morning Chronicle: on the American question, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1742 |
| 28,      | Meeting of the Committee and Officers of the Militia Company of York County, Pennsylvania. Field-Officers for the Battalion of Minute-Men chosen. Regulations for the Minute-Men and Militia of the County, -                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1744 |
| 28,      | Meeting of the Freeholders of Somerset County, in the Province of New-Jersey. Committee of Correspondence elected. Committee of Inspection for the several Towns recommended; who are to take cognizance of every person, of whatsoever rank or condition, who shall, either by word or deed, endeavour to destroy our unanimity in opposing the arbitrary and cruel measures of the British Ministry, - | 1745 |
| 28,      | Letter from General Schuyler to the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1745 |
| 25,      | Speech of two Oneida Indians, at a Conference with the Albany Committee, on the 25th of July, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1746 |
| 28,      | Certificate from Captain Delaplace, that he never saw Colonel Easton at the time Ticonderoga was surprised, -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1087 |



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| 1775.    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| July 28, | Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler, - 1747                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 28,      | Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler, - 1747                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 28,      | Letter from Colonel Joseph Reed to Colonel Baldwin, at Chelsea, enclosing a Letter from Dr. Church, with instructions to have it conveyed into Boston, with the utmost secrecy and despatch; and requests him after having made himself master of the contents of this Letter to destroy it, - 1748                                                                                                |
| 28,      | Letter from Colonel Loammi Baldwin to General Washington, - 1748                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 28,      | Letter from the Massachusetts Council to General Gates. The Jails of Worcester, Springfield and Northampton are the most suitable places for securing the Prisoners, and advise them to be sent there, - 1749                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|          | Orders from General Gates to Captain Baker, for the removal of Prisoners to Worcester, to be conveyed thence to Springfield, - 1749                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|          | Receipt of William Young, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence at Worcester, for two Sergeants, two Corporals, eighteen Privates, and twelve Tories, prisoners, sent from Head-Quarters, - 1749                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|          | Receipt of the Chairman of the Springfield Committee for the same Prisoners, - 1749                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 28,      | Letter from Captain Bedel, at Haverhill, to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety. Objects to serving out of the Colony in the rank of Captain; if sent to Canada, he expects to have a Regiment, - 1749                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 29,      | Letter from Robert Washington, addressed to the Convention of Virginia, on the defects of military discipline in the American service. His station in the Army in Europe, the last war, made him thoroughly acquainted with all parts of the Prussian infantry and artillery exercise, and he freely offers his service to the publick, to disseminate his information, - 1750                     |
| 29,      | Meeting of the Governour and Council of Pennsylvania. Petition of Dominique Du Casse, Master of the Schooner Mary, belonging to Martinico, laid before the Council, - 1751                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 29,      | Letter from John Adams, at Philadelphia, to Josiah Quincy, - 1751                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 29,      | Letter from the New-York Delegates, in the Continental Congress, to the Committee of Safety. All the Powder that is or may be imported into the Colony should be taken, and none be permitted to go out of the Province, but by the express direction of the Congress or Committee of Safety, - 1752                                                                                               |
| 29,      | Letter from the Albany Committee to the New-York Congress, - 1753                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 29,      | Letter from Walter Livingston, at Albany, to the New-York Congress. The Fortress at Ticonderoga is in a ruinous condition. I dread the consequence if General Schuyler should be attacked by any considerable army; he cannot defend himself, and if defeated cannot retreat, - 1753                                                                                                               |
| 29,      | Letter from General Washington to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, suggesting some arrangement relating to the coming out of the Inhabitants of Boston, - 1754                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 29,      | Letter from Colonel Baldwin to General Washington. Has had much upon his hands and mind since he received Mr. Reed's Letter last night, - 1754                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 31,      | Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington. Has had no account yet from any part of the coast of the Fleet that lately sailed from Boston, - 1754                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 29,      | Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 1755                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 31,      | Letters from London, dated July 31, 1775, which were received and laid before the Continental Congress. The plan of the Administration is to take possession of New-York and Albany; to place strong garrisons in those cities; declare all Rebels who do not join the King; to command the North and East Rivers, and cut off all communication between the Eastern and Southern Colonies, - 1755 |
| 31,      | Letter from Lord Shelburne to Arthur Lee, in London, - 1756                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 31,      | Letter from a Gentleman in Edenton, North-Carolina, and one of the Delegates of Congress,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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| 1775.    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|          | to a principal house in Edinburgh, Scotland. We are in a terrible situation; every American, to a man, is determined to die or be free. We do not want to be independent: we want no other revolution than a change of Ministry and measures, - 1757       |
| July 31, | Meeting of the Officers of the Militia, in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The County divided into three Battalions, and Field-Officers appointed, - 1757                                                                                                      |
| 31,      | Proclamation by Governour Tryon. Meeting of the General Assembly further prorogued from the 9th of August to the 6th day of September next, - 1758                                                                                                         |
| 31,      | Letter from Francis Stephens, in New-York, to General Gage. Account of the depredations committed on His Majesty's stores at Turtle Bay, in New-York, on the 12th and 13th instants, - 1758                                                                |
| 31,      | Letter from General Schuyler to the Continental Congress. Has one vessel, sixty feet long, on the stocks, expected to be finished in a week; another of the same size is to be put up to-day, so that there will soon be vessels enough to move on, - 1760 |
| 31,      | Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Congress. A controversy has arisen between Allen and Warner, and the former has been left out by the Green Mountain Boys, - 1760                                                                              |
| 28,      | Letter from Nathan Clark to General Schuyler, enclosing him the Proceedings of the Committees on the New-Hampshire Grants, - 1761                                                                                                                          |
|          | Meeting of the Committees of the several Towns on the New-Hampshire Grants, west of the Green Mountains, at Dorset, on the 27th of July. Field and Company Officers for a Battalion of Green Mountain Boys chosen, - 1761                                  |
| 31,      | Letter from General Schuyler to Nathan Clark. The choice of Company Officers being left entirely to the People, those selected at Dorset, on the 27th, are approved of; the choice of Field Officers will be referred to the Continental Congress, - 1761  |
| 31,      | Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull. No time ought to be lost in attempting to gain possession of the Province of Quebec: we have hitherto had every prospect of success, but our situation has not permitted us to move, - 1762            |
| 31,      | Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, - 1762                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 31,      | Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington, - 1763                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 31,      | Proceedings of a Town Meeting held at Providence, in Rhode-Island, - 1763                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 31,      | Letter from General Washington to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts-Bay, - 1764                                                                                                                                                 |
| 31,      | Letter from the Camp at Cambridge to a Gentleman in Philadelphia. Skirmishes with the British, - 1764                                                                                                                                                      |
| 31,      | Account of the burning of the Light-House, on Light-House Island, by Major Tupper, - 1765                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 31,      | Speech of the Chiefs of the Oneidas, respecting the late murder committed in the Plantation of the Butternuts, to the Committee of Cherry Valley; to be communicated to the Inhabitants of the Butternuts, - 1766                                          |

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

|         |                                                                                                                       |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| July 3, | Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, - 1769                                                                              |
|         | Resolutions of the Assembly appointing the Committee of Safety, - 1769                                                |
|         | Benjamin Franklin chosen President, and William Govett appointed Clerk, - 1771                                        |
|         | Committee to provide patterns of Muskets, Bayonets, Cartridge Boxes and Knapsacks, to be sent to the Counties, - 1771 |
|         | Committee to procure any quantity of Powder and Saltpetre in their power, with the utmost expedition, - 1771          |
| 4,      | Committee to go to Red Bank, and view the River and Islands, - 1771                                                   |
|         | Committee for providing Powder and Saltpetre are required to procure two thousand good Fire-Arms, - 1771              |
| 6,      | Doctor Franklin requested to procure a model of a Pike, - 1771                                                        |



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| 1775.   |                                                                                                                                                       |      |
| July 6, | Committee who went to Red Bank report that it is impracticable to lay a Boom across that part of the River, -                                         | 1771 |
|         | Committee for the construction of Boats and Machines for the defence of the River, -                                                                  | 1771 |
|         | Committee for inspecting Ordnance and Military Stores, and to supply such deficiencies as may be necessary, and provide a model of a Pike or Spear, - | 1772 |
| 8,      | Model of a Pike Staff produced, and one ordered to be made, -                                                                                         | 1772 |
|         | John Wharton directed to build a Boat or Calevat, of forty-seven or fifty feet keel, -                                                                | 1772 |
|         | Owen Biddle to have a Pike made agreeable to the pattern produced by Dr. Franklin, -                                                                  | 1772 |
| 10,     | Emanuel Eyres directed to build a Boat agreeable to the model produced by him this day, -                                                             | 1772 |
| 11,     | Committee for building Boats and constructing Machines for defence of the River authorized to purchase a number of Pine Logs, -                       | 1772 |
| 13,     | Thanks of the Committee to Ebenezer Robinson, for his Plan of stopping the Channel of the River Delaware, -                                           | 1773 |
| 14,     | Committee of Safety to examine the ground on which it is proposed to raise a Battery, -                                                               | 1773 |
| 15,     | Twelve Boats, and such Machines as may be thought necessary, to be built by the Committee for the defence of the River, -                             | 1773 |
|         | Committee to ascertain if New-Jersey will assist in the defence of the River, -                                                                       | 1773 |
| 17,     | Henry Daugherty and John Rice appointed to command two of the Boats building for the defence of the River, -                                          | 1773 |
|         | Committee report that New-Jersey will give every assistance in their power for the defence of the River, -                                            | 1773 |
| 24,     | Robert Smith presented the model of a Machine for obstructing the navigation of the Delaware, -                                                       | 1775 |
| 28,     | Captain John McPherson offers his services for the defence of this Country, -                                                                         | 1776 |
|         | Resolutions of the Continental Congress of the 18th of July, ordered to be entered on the Minutes of the Committee, -                                 | 1776 |
|         | Committees of the several Counties in the Province requested to make a Return of all the Officers of the Military Association, -                      | 1776 |
| 31,     | William Bigland submitted to the Committee a draught of a Rowing Wheel, which he proposed to have fixed to the Provincial Row-Boats, -                | 1778 |
|         | Form of Commission for the Officers of the Military Association, -                                                                                    | 1778 |

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

|          |                                                                                                                                                                              |      |
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| July 11, | Committee of Safety meets at the City Hall, -                                                                                                                                | 1777 |
|          | Letter from General Wooster for advice about a Prisoner, -                                                                                                                   | 1778 |
|          | He is required to send Peter Herring, the prisoner, to the Committee of Safety, -                                                                                            | 1778 |
|          | Letter to William Duer, one of the Judges of Charlotte County, -                                                                                                             | 1779 |
|          | Letter from Abraham Lott, informing them of a demand upon him by Captain Collins, for Provisions for the Nautilus, -                                                         | 1779 |
|          | Mr. Lott authorized to comply with the order, -                                                                                                                              | 1780 |
|          | Letter from William Hooper and Joseph Hewes, North Carolina Delegates, at Philadelphia, dated June 8, -                                                                      | 1780 |
|          | Answer of the Committee, -                                                                                                                                                   | 1780 |
|          | Letter to the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress, in reply to one from them, dated July 6, -                                                                     | 1780 |
|          | Letter from Governour Trumbull, dated Hartford, July 7, -                                                                                                                    | 1781 |
|          | Account of the Men who went from Manchester to Ticonderoga, dated June 10, -                                                                                                 | 1781 |
|          | Letter from Burnet Miller, Chairman of the Committee of Southampton, dated July 5, -                                                                                         | 1781 |
|          | Peter Herring, convicted of assisting one Lundin to get on board the Asia, man-of-war, ordered to be confined in Connecticut until discharged by the Continental Congress, - | 1782 |
| 12,      | Mr. Brasher directed to wait on the Mayor, and request him to deliver the City Arms to the Committee of Safety, -                                                            | 1782 |
|          | Letter to Colonel Hinman, at Ticonderoga, -                                                                                                                                  | 1783 |
|          | Letter to the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                              | 1784 |

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| 1775.    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |      |
| July 13, | Letter to General Schuyler, -                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1785 |
|          | Complaint from Captain Vandeput, that one of the Boats belonging to the Asia has been taken, and the crew made prisoners; and that His Majesty's Store, near the Hudson, was broken open last night, and divers effects carried off, - | 1785 |
|          | Letter to General Wooster, requesting information on the matter complained of by Captain Vandeput, -                                                                                                                                   | 1785 |
|          | Doctor Samuel Bard permitted to attend the sick Mariners of His Majesty's Ships, -                                                                                                                                                     | 1786 |
|          | The Recorder, and Aldermen Brewerton and Matthews, inform the Committee that the Boat of the Asia has been burnt, -                                                                                                                    | 1786 |
|          | Order to the Magistrates to inquire into the late outrages on His Majesty's property, and punish all persons concerned in them, as the law directs, -                                                                                  | 1786 |
| 14,      | Letter to John Sloss Hobart, informing him that certain persons in or near Huntington, on Long-Island, are engaged in shipping Provisions to General Gage, -                                                                           | 1787 |
|          | Committee to purchase old Copper, Brass and other materials for casting a Brass Fieldpiece, -                                                                                                                                          | 1787 |
| 15,      | Letter to the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                        | 1789 |
|          | Letter to General Schuyler, -                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1789 |
|          | Letter to General Wooster, informing him provision has been made for removing his Camp to Harlem, -                                                                                                                                    | 1789 |
|          | James Smith appointed to command on Lake Champlain, -                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1790 |
|          | Letter to General Schuyler, -                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1790 |
|          | Herman Zedtwitz appointed Major of the First Regiment of Troops now raising in this Colony, -                                                                                                                                          | 1790 |
| 17,      | Articles of Agreement with Thomas Blockley, who engages to send out from Britain ten good Gunsmiths and Locksmiths, to the Colony of New-York, to dwell and reside, there to carry on their respective trades and occupations, -       | 1791 |
|          | Letter to the Committee of Fairfield, in Connecticut, requesting them to grant some indulgence to Angus McDonald, -                                                                                                                    | 1791 |
|          | Letter to the Colonels of the Regiments now raising in this Colony, -                                                                                                                                                                  | 1792 |
| 18,      | Mayor of the City, and the Magistrates, having engaged a Carpenter to build a Boat for the Asia, to replace that lately burnt, their conduct is approved, -                                                                            | 1792 |
|          | Letter from Wolvert Ecker, Chairman of the Committees of Newburgh and New-Windsor Precincts, with three persons charged with being enemies to their Country, -                                                                         | 1792 |
|          | Order to Colonel McDougall to receive John Morrell, Adam Patrick and Isaiah Purdy, and keep them in custody, -                                                                                                                         | 1793 |
|          | Letter to the Committee of Albany: Powder forwarded for General Schuyler, -                                                                                                                                                            | 1793 |
|          | Letter to the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                        | 1793 |
| 19,      | Letter to Jacob Bayley, at Newbury, in Gloucester County, -                                                                                                                                                                            | 1794 |
|          | Letter to John Nicholson, New-Windsor, directing him to receive orders from Colonel James Clinton, -                                                                                                                                   | 1795 |
| 21,      | Letter to General Schuyler, enclosing a Resolution of the Continental Congress of July 17, -                                                                                                                                           | 1796 |
|          | Colonel McDougall ordered to take possession of the Town Barracks for the Troops under his command, -                                                                                                                                  | 1797 |
|          | Letter to the Committee of New-Brunswick, New-Jersey. Boats are frequently loaded there with Flour for the British, -                                                                                                                  | 1797 |
| 22,      | Letter to the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress: propose application for the New-Jersey Muskets, -                                                                                                                        | 1798 |
|          | Letter to Rev. John Peter Tetard, with his appointment as Interpreter to General Schuyler, and Chaplain to the New-York Troops, -                                                                                                      | 1798 |
| 24,      | Letter to the President of the Continental Congress, -                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1799 |
| 25,      | Adjourned to meet in Congress, to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, -                                                                                                                                                                   | 1799 |

NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

|     |                                                                   |      |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 26, | Provincial Congress meets, -                                      | 1800 |
|     | Committee of Safety delivered in a Report of their Proceedings, - | 1801 |



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| 1775.    | Letter to the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress, recommending Ebenezer Hazard for Postmaster of the City of New-York, - - - - -                                                                                                   | 1802 |
| July 27, | William Duer, appointed Deputy Adjutant-General, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1803 |
|          | Letter to the President of the Continental Congress, informing him of their appointment of Deputy Adjutant-General, - - - - -                                                                                                                  | 1803 |
|          | Letter to the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                        | 1804 |
|          | Military Committee appointed, for fourteen days, with full power, during that time, to order and dispose of all things whatsoever, relating to or concerning the Troops raised, or to be raised, in this Colony, - - - - -                     | 1804 |
| 28,      | Letter to the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress, on the subject of Tea, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                 | 1805 |
|          | Letter to the New-York Delegates in the Continental Congress, on the subject of Flaxseed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                            | 1806 |
|          | Letter to Governour Trumbull, on furnishing Tents for Colonel Hinman's Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                     | 1806 |
|          | Letter to Wolvert Ecker and Samuel Brewster, Chairmen of the Committees of New-Windsor and Newburgh, informing them that Morrell, Patrick and Purdy are released from confinement, - - - - -                                                   | 1806 |
|          | Peter T. Curtenius directed to forward one thousand Tents to Colonel Hinman, for the Connecticut Troops at Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                              | 1807 |
| 31,      | Letter to the Committee of Correspondence for Easthampton and Southold, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                              | 1809 |
| Aug. 1,  | The Congress informed by the Recorder that the Boat which had been building for the Asia, by order of the Committee of Safety, was sawed to pieces, and entirely destroyed, - - - - -                                                          | 1810 |
| 2,       | Letter from the New-Brunswick, New-Jersey, Committee, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                | 1811 |
|          | Motion by Mr. Low, that the persons who destroyed the Barge belonging to His Majesty's Ship Asia are base violators of the Association subscribed by the Congress, - - - - -                                                                   | 1812 |
|          | Mr. Low's motion to be considered on Friday next, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1812 |
|          | Queries presented to the Congress by the Company Officers of the First Regiment, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                     | 1812 |
|          | Answers to the Queries, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1812 |
| 3,       | Chairman of the New-York Committee requested to summon the Committee immediately, to consider the papers relating to George Coffin's Vessel and Cargo, - - - - -                                                                               | 1813 |
|          | Letter from Peter T. Curtenius, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1814 |
|          | Letter to the Committee of Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                | 1814 |
|          | Letter to General Washington, for blank Commissions for the Officers, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                | 1814 |
|          | Patrick Sinclair, having accepted the office of Lieutenant-Governour of Michilimackinack, is ordered by the Congress not to proceed thither, and is sent on his Parole to Suffolk County, - - - - -                                            | 1815 |
| 4,       | Permission given to Mr. Harper, of Harpersfield, near Cherry Valley, to purchase one hundred weight of Gunpowder, at the Mill of Robert R. Livingston, on his paying Money for the same, - - - - -                                             | 1815 |
|          | Patrick Sinclair, refusing to sign the Parole, is placed under Guard, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                | 1815 |
|          | Motion by Mr. Sears, that Capt. Patrick Sinclair be sent to Hartford, in Connecticut, rejected, - - - - -                                                                                                                                      | 1816 |
|          | Letter from Philip Livingston and George Clinton, at Philadelphia, informing them that Money will be forwarded immediately, - - - - -                                                                                                          | 1816 |
|          | Members who are absent by order of this, or the Continental Congress, to be counted as present, whenever a vote is taken, the Members present voting for the County, - - - - -                                                                 | 1816 |
|          | Mr. John De Lancey reprimanded by the President for language used to Mr. Scott, a Member, while the Congress was sitting, - - - - -                                                                                                            | 1817 |
|          | Mr. De Lancey and Mr. Scott directed to let the dispute drop, and proceed no further in it, - - - - -                                                                                                                                          | 1817 |
| 5,       | Committee appointed to consider of the Ways and Means best adapted to discharge the Debts already contracted, or which may hereafter be contracted for the exigencies of the Colony, in its present critical and alarming situation, - - - - - | 1817 |
|          | John Foster permitted to ship a cargo of Live Stock to the West-Indies, that he may be thereby enabled to procure Military Stores, - - - - -                                                                                                   | 1818 |

1775.

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|  | Pay and Clothing allowed to the Troops enlisted by this Colony, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                          | 1818 |
|  | Letter from the President of the Continental Congress, dated August 1, 1775, - - - - -                                                                                                                                             | 1818 |
|  | Proceedings on the Resolutions moved by Mr. Low, on the 2d instant, with respect to the insult offered to this Congress, by destroying the Boat belonging to the Asia, - - - - -                                                   | 1818 |
|  | Mr. Melancton Smith's motion to reject the Resolutions, rejected, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                        | 1818 |
|  | Resolutions adopted, and with their preambulatory recitals or introductions, as amended and agreed to, ordered to be entered on the Journals as part of the proceedings of Congress; and be published in the Newspapers, - - - - - | 1819 |
|  | Committee of the City of New-York requested to take the proper measures for discovering the persons who sawed and destroyed the Boat lately ordered to be built for the use of His Majesty's Ship Asia, - - - - -                  | 1820 |
|  | Secretary directed to procure a certified copy of the rates of the pay of the Troops in the Continental Army, from a Colonel downwards, - - - - -                                                                                  | 1820 |

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |
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| May 10, | The Congress convened in the State-House, at Philadelphia, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1819 |
|         | List of the Delegates from the several Colonies, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1819 |
|         | Peyton Randolph chosen President, and Charles Thomson Secretary, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1819 |
|         | Rev. Mr. Duché requested to open Congress with prayers to-morrow morning, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1820 |
| 11,     | Congress opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. Duché, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1820 |
|         | Credentials of the Delegates read and approved, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1820 |
|         | Doors to be kept shut during the time of business, and Members under the strongest obligations of honour to keep the proceedings secret, - - - - -                                                                                                                                  | 1824 |
|         | Letter from the Agents, William Bollan, Benj. Franklin and Arthur Lee, dated London, February 5, 1775, laid before Congress and read, - - - - -                                                                                                                                     | 1824 |
|         | Papers accompanying the Letter of the Agents, submitted to Congress this day, (Note,) - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1825 |
|         | Letters and Papers from the Massachusetts Congress, submitted by Mr. Hancock, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1826 |
|         | Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts to the American Continental Congress, dated May 3, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                   | 1826 |
|         | Resolves of the Massachusetts Congress, passed May 3, for borrowing One Hundred Thousand Pounds, enclosed in the preceding Letter, - - - - -                                                                                                                                        | 1828 |
|         | Depositions and Address ordered to be published, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1829 |
|         | State of America to be considered on Monday next in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1829 |
|         | Letter from Massachusetts referred to that Committee, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1829 |
| 12,     | Met and adjourned, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1829 |
| 13,     | Lyman Hall admitted as a Delegate from the Parish of St. John's, Georgia, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1829 |
|         | Mr. Hall's Credentials—Address of the Inhabitants of St. John's Parish to Congress; their Letter of February 2, to the Committee of Correspondence in Charlestown, South-Carolina;—answer of the Committee, dated February 9; and choice of the Delegate, March 21, 1775, - - - - - | 1829 |
|         | Petition from Frederick County, Virginia, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1831 |
| 15,     | Order of the Day read, and, after some debate, postponed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1831 |
|         | Application from New-York for advice, how to conduct themselves with regard to the Troops expected there, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1831 |
|         | Delegate from St. John's, in Georgia, to have the same privileges as the other Delegates, except voting when a question is taken by Colonies, - - - - -                                                                                                                             | 1831 |
|         | Credentials of Delegates from Rhode-Island, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1832 |
|         | Advice to the Inhabitants of New-York to act on the defensive, if the Troops, expected from England, arrive, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                              | 1832 |
|         | Committee appointed to consider what Posts should be occupied in New-York, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1832 |
|         | State of America to be further considered to-morrow, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1832 |
| 16,     | Memorial from Robert and John Murray, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1832 |
|         | Congress in Committee of the Whole, on the state of America, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1832 |
| 17,     | Exports to Quebec, Nova-Scotia, St. John's, Newfoundland, Georgia, (except the Parish of                                                                                                                                                                                            |      |



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| St. John's,) and to East and West Florida, prohibited, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1833 |
| May 18, Rules of last Congress adopted, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1833 |
| Intelligence received of the surprising and taking of Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1833 |
| Mr. Brown called in to give an account of the disposition of the Canadians, the taking of Ticonderoga, and the importance of that Post, - - - - -                                                                                                                                       | 1833 |
| Congress approve the taking of Ticonderoga, and direct the removal of the Cannon and Stores to the south end of Lake George, to be there taken care of, and returned when the restoration of harmony between Great Britain and the Colonies shall render it prudent to do so, - - - - - | 1833 |
| 19, List of the Delegates to the Congress in Philadelphia this day, (Note,) - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1834 |
| Report from the Committee on establishing Posts in New-York, read and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of America, - - - - -                                                                                                                                         | 1834 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1834 |
| 20, State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1834 |
| 22, State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1834 |
| 23, State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1834 |
| 24, John Hancock chosen President, Mr. Randolph being necessarily absent, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1835 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1835 |
| 25, State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1835 |
| Committee of the Whole report in part, recommending the establishment of Posts at King's-Bridge, and in the Highlands on Hudson River; the embodying of the Militia, and the enlistment and regulation of Troops by the Provincial Congress, - - - - -                                  | 1835 |
| Motion for an addition to the Resolutions respecting New-York, after some debate, postponed till to-morrow, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                   | 1836 |
| 26, Resolution of the Assembly of New-Jersey of May 20, with a copy of the Resolution of the House of Commons of February 27, laid before Congress by a Delegate from New-Jersey, and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of America, - - - - -                         | 1836 |
| Consideration resumed of the motion made yesterday, for an addition to the Resolutions respecting New-York, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                   | 1836 |
| Provincial Congress of New-York advised to persevere vigorously for their defence, as it is uncertain whether the endeavours of Congress to accommodate the differences with Great Britain by conciliatory measures will be successful, - - - - -                                       | 1836 |
| Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the People of Canada, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1836 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1836 |
| Committee of the Whole report further, several Resolutions, which were read and adopted, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1836 |
| The Colonies to be immediately put in a state of defence, to secure them against all attempts to enforce the Acts for taxing the Colonies by force of arms, - - - - -                                                                                                                   | 1837 |
| Petition to be presented to the King, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1837 |
| Measures for opening a negotiation, to accommodate the differences between Great Britain and the Colonies, to be made part of the Petition to the King, - - - - -                                                                                                                       | 1837 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1837 |
| 29, Letter from the Convention of New-Jersey, read and referred to the Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                | 1837 |
| A Gentleman introduced to the Congress, to give a just and full account of the state of affairs in Canada, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                    | 1837 |
| Report of the Committee to prepare a Letter to Canada, after some debate, recommitted, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1837 |
| Committee appointed to consider on ways and means to supply the Colonies with Ammunition and Military Stores, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1837 |
| Memorial of Robert Murray and John Murray considered, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1838 |
| Committees in the Colonies authorized to restore to publick favour persons convicted of violating the Continental Association, on their being satisfied they will not offend in future, - - - - -                                                                                       | 1838 |

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| May 29, Letter to the Inhabitants of Canada, again reported; and agreed to, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                    | 1838 |
| Provisions not to be sent to the Island of Nantucket, except from Massachusetts, - - - - -                                                                                                                                               | 1839 |
| Committee to consider the best means to establish a Post for conveying Letters and intelligence through the Continent, - - - - -                                                                                                         | 1839 |
| 30, Paper drawn up by Grey Cooper, brought by a Gentleman just from London, who received it from Lord North, presented by Mr. Willing, and read, - - - - -                                                                               | 1840 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1840 |
| 31, State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                             | 1840 |
| Letter from Colonel Arnold, dated Crown Point, May 23, calling for a re-enforcement and supplies, - - - - -                                                                                                                              | 1840 |
| Governour Trumbull requested to send a re-enforcement; and the Provincial Congress of New-York requested to furnish Provisions and other necessary Stores, - - - - -                                                                     | 1841 |
| Governour Trumbull requested to appoint a person to take command at Crown Point and Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                               | 1841 |
| June 1, Report of the Committee on supplying Ammunition and Military Stores, read and referred to the Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                  | 1841 |
| Congress, having nothing in view but the defence of the Colonies, direct that no expedition be undertaken against Canada, - - - - -                                                                                                      | 1841 |
| Petition from the Inhabitants of Augusta County, Virginia, west of the Alleghany Mountains, read and referred to the Delegates for Virginia and Pennsylvania, - - - - -                                                                  | 1841 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1841 |
| 2, Letter from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, dated Watertown, May 16, read, laid on the table, and Dr. Church, who brought the Letter, introduced and heard, - - - - -                                                       | 1842 |
| Resolutions prohibiting supplies of Money or Provisions to Officers of the British Army or Navy, - - - - -                                                                                                                               | 1843 |
| 3, Letter from New-York, with sundry Letters and Papers enclosed, from Albany, received and read, - - - - -                                                                                                                              | 1843 |
| Committee to consider the Letter from Massachusetts, dated May 16, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                             | 1843 |
| Committee to borrow Six Thousand Pounds for the use of America, and to apply it to the purchase of Gunpowder for the Continental Army, - - - - -                                                                                         | 1843 |
| Committees to report a Petition to the King; an Address to the Inhabitants of Great Britain; an Address to the People of Ireland; a Letter to the Inhabitants of Jamaica; and an estimate of the Money necessary to be raised, - - - - - | 1843 |
| 5, Several Colonies not being represented, adjourned till to-morrow, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                           | 1843 |
| 6, The several Committees not being ready to report, adjourned till to-morrow, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                 | 1844 |
| 7, Report of the Committee of an estimate of the Money necessary, read and referred to the Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                             | 1844 |
| Committee to prepare a Resolve appointing the 20th day of July next, for a day of Fasting and Prayer, - - - - -                                                                                                                          | 1844 |
| Report of the Committee on the Letter from Massachusetts, read and laid on the table, - - - - -                                                                                                                                          | 1844 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1844 |
| 8, Committee to examine the papers of Major Skene, who arrived last evening from London, - - - - -                                                                                                                                       | 1844 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                 | 1844 |
| 9, Report on the Letter from Massachusetts, considered and agreed to, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                          | 1844 |
| People of Massachusetts advised to elect Representatives, and exercise the powers of Government, - - - - -                                                                                                                               | 1845 |
| 10, Letters from Massachusetts-Bay, Ticonderoga, Crown Point, &c., received and read, - - - - -                                                                                                                                          | 1845 |
| New-Hampshire, Rhode-Island, Connecticut and interior Towns of Massachusetts, requested to furnish the American Army before Boston with all the Powder they can spare, - - - - -                                                         | 1845 |
| All the Colonies requested to collect Saltpetre and Sulphur, to be made into Gunpowder, for the use of the Continent, - - - - -                                                                                                          | 1845 |



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| 1775.    | Committee to devise the ways and means to introduce the manufacture of Saltpetre in these Colonies, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1846 |
|          | Governour Skene released on parole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1846 |
| June 12, | Report of the Committee on a day of Fasting and Prayer read and agreed to, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1846 |
|          | Ways and means of raising Money, considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1847 |
| 13,      | Ways and means of raising Money, and the state of America, further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1847 |
| 14,      | State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, and further report, in part, made, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1847 |
|          | Ten Companies of Riflemen to be raised for the Army near Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1847 |
|          | Committee to prepare Rules and Regulations for the government of the Army, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1847 |
| 15,      | Ways and means of raising Money, and the state of America, further considered in Committee of the Whole, and further report, in part, made, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                               | 1848 |
|          | George Washington unanimously elected General of all the Continental Forces, raised, or to be raised, for the defence of American Liberty, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                | 1848 |
| 16,      | The President, from the Chair, informed George Washington of his appointment, and requested his acceptance of it, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1848 |
|          | Colonel Washington's Answer, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1848 |
|          | Committee to prepare a Commission and Instructions for the General, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1849 |
|          | Committee to consider the Papers from New-York, relative to Indian Affairs, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1849 |
|          | State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, and further report, in part, made, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1849 |
|          | General and Staff-Officers to be appointed, and their pay fixed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1849 |
| 17,      | Commission for the General reported by the Committee, and agreed to, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1850 |
|          | Declaration of the Congress to maintain, assist, and adhere to the General with their lives and fortunes, in maintaining the liberties of America, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                        | 1850 |
|          | Artemas Ward and Charles Lee chosen Major-Generals, and Horatio Gates Adjutant-General, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1850 |
| 19,      | Letters from the Conventions of Massachusetts and New-York, received and read, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1850 |
|          | Committee to inform General Lee of his appointment, and request his answer whether he will accept the command, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1850 |
|          | General Lee, before he accepts, desires an interview with a Committee respecting his private fortune, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1851 |
|          | Committee appointed, and, after an interview, report an estimate of the estate he risked by this service, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1851 |
|          | Congress resolve to indemnify General Lee for any loss of property he may sustain by entering into their service, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1851 |
|          | Connecticut, Rhode-Island and New-Hampshire requested to re-enforce the Army before Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1851 |
|          | Philip Schuyler and Israel Putnam chosen Major-Generals, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1851 |
|          | Petition to the King reported by the Committee, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1851 |
| 20,      | Instructions to the General, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1851 |
| 21,      | Thomas Jefferson appeared as Delegate from Virginia, in place of Peyton Randolph, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1852 |
|          | Committee to consider sundry queries from the General, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1852 |
| 22,      | Eight Brigadier-Generals chosen, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1853 |
|          | Two Millions of Spanish Milled Dollars to be emitted by Congress in Bills of Credit, for the defence of America, and the Twelve Confederate Colonies pledged for their redemption, - - - - -                                                                                                                                        | 1853 |
|          | Pennsylvania to raise two more Companies of Riflemen, making eight Companies, to be formed into a Battalion, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1853 |
| 23,      | Letter from the Officer at Crown Point, dated June 10, received and read, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1853 |
|          | Colonel Allen and Captain Seth Warner called in to communicate important intelligence, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1853 |
|          | Provision for the payment of the Officers and Men employed in taking Ticonderoga, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1853 |
|          | New-York Convention requested to raise a body of Green Mountain Boys, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1853 |
|          | Committee to draw up a Declaration, to be published by General Washington, upon his arrival at the Camp before Boston, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1853 |
| 1775.    | State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, and further report, in part, made, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1854 |
|          | Number and denomination of Bills of Credit to be emitted, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1854 |
| June 24, | Committee on putting the Militia in a proper state for the defence of America, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1854 |
|          | Declaration to be published by General Washington, reported, read, debated, and referred for further consideration, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1854 |
| 26,      | Resolutions adopted, recommending to the People of North-Carolina to associate for the defence of American Liberty, and to embody as Militia, under proper Officers; and the Assembly or Convention of that Colony authorized to raise one thousand Men, to form part of the American Army, and be paid by this Congress, - - - - - | 1854 |
|          | Declaration further considered, debated, and re-committed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1855 |
|          | Committee for Indian Affairs reported, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1855 |
|          | Committee for the City of Philadelphia requested to furnish a supply of Powder for Ticonderoga and Crown Point, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1855 |
| 27,      | Governour Skene sent under guard to Connecticut, to be confined there on parole, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1855 |
|          | Letter from Massachusetts Convention, dated June 20, with several other Letters, received and read, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1855 |
|          | Instructions to General Schuyler, who is authorized to take possession of St. John's, Montreal, or any other part of Canada, if practicable, and not disagreeable to the Canadians, - - - - -                                                                                                                                       | 1855 |
|          | Address to the Inhabitants of Great Britain, reported, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1856 |
| 28,      | Consideration of the Articles of War resumed, and debated, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1856 |
| 29,      | Letters and Speeches from the Chiefs of the Stockbridge Indians, to the Congress, and a Message from them to the Canada Indians, received, and read, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                      | 1856 |
|          | Consideration of the Articles of War resumed, debated, and deferred till to-morrow, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1856 |
| 30,      | Articles of War further considered and agreed to, Committee to examine the Rules and Articles of War, and get them printed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1863 |
|          | Committee for Indian Affairs directed to prepare proper Talks for the Indians, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1863 |
| July 1,  | If any Agent of the Ministry shall induce any of the Indian Tribes to commit hostilities against the Colonies, then the Colonies ought to avail themselves of an alliance with such of the Indians as will unite with them to oppose British Troops, - - - - -                                                                      | 1863 |
|          | General Schuyler directed not to remove General Wooster from New-York, but to raise as many Green Mountain Boys as will be necessary to execute his Instructions of the 27th of June, - - - - -                                                                                                                                     | 1863 |
| 3,       | State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole, and further report, in part, made, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1863 |
| 4,       | Two Acts of the present Parliament for restraining the Trade and Commerce of the Colonies, are unconstitutional, oppressive, and cruel, and the Continental Association should apply to them, - - - - -                                                                                                                             | 1864 |
|          | Petition to the King further considered, debated, and postponed till to-morrow, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1864 |
| 5,       | Letters from General Schuyler of the 2d and 3d of July, received and read, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1864 |
|          | Order of the 27th of June, respecting the sending of Governour Skene to Connecticut, to be carried into immediate execution, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1864 |
|          | Petition to the King further considered, debated, and agreed to, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1865 |
| 6,       | Address to the Inhabitants of Great Britain further considered and re-committed, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1865 |
|          | Declaration by the Representatives of the United Colonies, of North-America, now met in Congress, at Philadelphia, setting forth the causes and necessity of their taking up arms, - - - - -                                                                                                                                        | 1865 |
|          | Fragment of a Speech made in the General Congress of America, by one of the Delegates, (Note,) - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1865 |
|          | Committee directed to prepare a Letter to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of London, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1869 |
| 7,       | Address to the People of Great Britain, again reported, and, after debate, the further consideration deferred till to-morrow, - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1869 |



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| July 8, Petition to the King, signed by the several Members,                                                                                                      | 1870 |
| Letter to the Lord Mayor, &c., of London, reported and read,                                                                                                      | 1872 |
| Committee to prepare a Letter to Richard Penn, and the Colony Agents, in England,                                                                                 | 1872 |
| Address to the Inhabitants of Great Britain, further considered, debated, and agreed to,                                                                          | 1872 |
| Letter to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of London,                                                                                                         | 1877 |
| Letter to Mr. Penn and the Colony Agents,                                                                                                                         | 1878 |
| 10, A Gentleman well acquainted with the situation and disposition of the Indians, introduced and heard by the Congress,                                          | 1878 |
| Talks to the Indians reported and read,                                                                                                                           | 1878 |
| Report of the Committee on putting the Militia in a proper state of defence, was made, read, debated, and deferred till to-morrow,                                | 1878 |
| 11, Report on Indian Affairs taken up, read, debated, and deferred till to-morrow,                                                                                | 1878 |
| An Address of the Deputies from the different Parishes of the Island of Bermuda, presented and read,                                                              | 1878 |
| 12, Gentleman in Town, from the Province of Quebec, called in to give intelligence of the disposition of the Canadians,                                           | 1878 |
| Report of the Committee on Indian Affairs, considered, debated, and agreed to,                                                                                    | 1878 |
| Committee to devise ways and means to protect the Trade of these Colonies,                                                                                        | 1880 |
| Speech to the Six Nations of Indians, read, debated, and agreed to,                                                                                               | 1880 |
| Commissioners for Indian Affairs in the Middle and Northern Departments chosen,                                                                                   | 1883 |
| 14, Report of the Committee on the Militia further considered and debated,                                                                                        | 1883 |
| 15, Report on the Militia resumed, and agreed to,                                                                                                                 | 1883 |
| Vessels importing Gunpowder, Saltpetre, Sulphur, Brass Fieldpieces, or good Muskets fitted with Bayonets, permitted to load with the produce of the Colonies,     | 1883 |
| Extracts from intercepted Letters from Lord Dartmouth to Governour Martin and Governour Wright, received and read,                                                | 1884 |
| Talk to the Stockbridge Indians considered, debated, and agreed to,                                                                                               | 1884 |
| 17, General Wooster directed to send one thousand of the Connecticut Forces under his command to Albany,                                                          | 1884 |
| President directed to write an Answer to the Address from Bermuda,                                                                                                | 1884 |
| 18, Commissioners of the Northern Department directed to employ Mr. Kirkland among the Six Nations of Indians,                                                    | 1886 |
| Report of the Committee on putting the Militia in a proper state of defence, considered and agreed to,                                                            | 1885 |
| 19, Letter from the General, with sundry Papers, received,                                                                                                        | 1886 |
| Company of Matrosses to be raised in Philadelphia, and sent to the Army before Boston,                                                                            | 1886 |
| Committee to report on the method of establishing a Hospital,                                                                                                     | 1886 |
| New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Connecticut requested to complete and forward their Regiments without delay,                                   | 1886 |
| Paragraph in the General's Letter, respecting an easier communication between him and the Congress, referred for consideration on Saturday next,                  | 1886 |
| Committee to bring in an estimate of the expenses incurred by the Votes and Resolves of Congress,                                                                 | 1886 |
| Choice of the Commissioners for Indian Affairs, in the Southern Department, left to the Council of Safety for South-Carolina,                                     | 1887 |
| 20, Letter from the Convention of Georgia, setting forth that that Colony had acceded to the General Association, and appointed Delegates to attend the Congress, | 1887 |
| General Schuyler empowered to dispose of and employ all the Troops in the New-York Department as he may think best,                                               | 1887 |
| 21, Address to the Inhabitants of Jamaica, reported and laid on the table,                                                                                        | 1887 |

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| Address to the Inhabitants of Ireland, reported and laid on the table,                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1887 |
| Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union, submitted by Dr. Franklin,                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1887 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole,                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1889 |
| Committee on protecting the Trade of the Colonies, reported,                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1889 |
| General Washington authorized to keep such a body of Forces in Massachusetts as he shall think necessary, provided they do not exceed twenty-two thousand,                                                                                                             | 1889 |
| July 22, Report of the Committee on protecting the Trade of the Colonies, considered, and postponed to some future day,                                                                                                                                                | 1889 |
| State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole,                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1889 |
| Committee to consider and report upon the Resolution of the House of Commons of February 20, commonly called Lord North's Motion,                                                                                                                                      | 1889 |
| 24, State of America further considered in Committee of the Whole,                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1890 |
| Report from the Committee for establishing a Hospital, presented,                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1890 |
| 25, Report of the Committee for establishing Posts, brought in,                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1890 |
| Answer to the Resolution of the House of Commons, presented, read, and ordered to lie on the table for consideration,                                                                                                                                                  | 1890 |
| Delegates for Pennsylvania directed to send under safe convoy to General Washington, six tons of the Continental Gunpowder, just arrived in Philadelphia,                                                                                                              | 1890 |
| Address to the Assembly of Jamaica,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1890 |
| Five thousand Troops to be stationed in the New-York Department,                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1892 |
| One Million of Dollars, additional, in Bills of Credit, to be emitted,                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1892 |
| Committee to sign the Bills,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1899 |
| Committee to revise the Journal, and prepare it for the press,                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1892 |
| 26, Report of the Committee on establishing a Post-Office, agreed to,                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1892 |
| Benjamin Franklin chosen Postmaster General,                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1893 |
| 27, Report of the Committee on establishing a Hospital, considered and agreed to,                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1893 |
| Fifty Thousand Dollars appropriated for the importation of Gunpowder for the Continental Armies,                                                                                                                                                                       | 1893 |
| 28, Address to the People of Ireland, considered and agreed to,                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1894 |
| 29, Pay of the Army established,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1897 |
| Michael Hillegas and George Clymer appointed Joint Treasurers of the United Colonies,                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1898 |
| Each Colony required to provide means to sink its proportion of the Bills of Credit emitted by this Congress,                                                                                                                                                          | 1898 |
| Proportion or quota of each Colony,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1898 |
| 31, Answer of the Congress to the Resolutions of the House of Commons of the 20th February last, Committee to make inquiry in the recess of Congress, in all the Colonies, for virgin Lead and Lead Ore, and the best methods of collecting, smelting and refining it, | 1902 |
| State of the Trade of the Colonies, after the 10th of September next, considered and postponed to a future day,                                                                                                                                                        | 1902 |
| Two Petitions respecting disputes between the People of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, presented, read, and laid on the table for the perusal of the Members,                                                                                                           | 1902 |
| Two Petitions, from sundry Merchants in New-York and Philadelphia, respecting the sale of Teas, imported before the Association, presented and laid on the table,                                                                                                      | 1902 |
| Aug. 1, Moneys appropriated for various purposes connected with the defence and protection of the Colonies,                                                                                                                                                            | 1902 |
| Petitions respecting the disputes between the People of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, referred to the next meeting of the Congress,                                                                                                                                    | 1904 |
| Explanation of the Resolve of the last Congress, prohibiting exportation to Great Britain, Ireland and the West-Indies                                                                                                                                                 | 1904 |
| Adjourned to Tuesday the fifth of September next,                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1904 |



## DOCUMENTARY HISTORY, &c.

CORRESPONDENCE, MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS, PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES, &c.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL COMMITTEE, AT CHARLESTOWN, S. C., TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, March 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: It was with equal surprise and concern that we read in the publick prints what passed in your House of Assembly on the 26th of *January*, with respect to the proceedings of the General Congress. It is impossible for us, at this distance, to conjecture the reasons which induced the Assembly to refuse their formal assent to the Solemn Agreement of all these Colonies. We are obliged to suspend our judgment until we hear from you; and will not even permit ourselves to conclude that it is owing either to a neglect of the united voice of *America*, or to want of spirit in the cause of freedom.—In the midst of the pain that we feel at this singular instance of Provincial policy, we console ourselves with the apprehension that it was intended, not as a declaration of their real inclinations, but only as a prudential measure: that they having been chosen antecedent to the present dispute, and therefore not with a particular view to it, might suppose the necessity of their interfering, superseded by a posterior choice. We console ourselves with the thought that the legal Representatives of your respectable Colony, by refusing to act, did not mean to hold up to the world the opinion of their Constituents, but have only left it to another representation, not so much according to the letter of the law, but equally respectable, and as much to be depended on.

We only beg leave to make this remark upon their policy: that they have therein singled themselves out from the rest of the Colonies; who, as far as they have had the opportunity, have come unanimously into the measures of the General Congress. And we cannot but think it would have been much more happy for the whole, had there been no exception. Indeed, although the House of Assembly in this Colony hath nobly and unanimously adopted the Proceedings of the General Congress, yet they have not had it in idea to take the matter wholly into their own hands, independent of the Provincial Congress; but even now, while that Assembly is sitting, the General Committee of the Colony also sits and does business, independent of the House. A measure this, necessary in the Royal Governments, where the lialeness of the Assembly to sudden prorogations and dissolutions, renders their proceeding in business wholly dependant on the creatures of the Crown. Much, therefore, as we are surprised at the conduct of your Assembly, we are not so ignorant as to imagine it is the definite voice of the Colony; and, indeed, we do not allow ourselves to entertain a suspicion that your Resolutions would not be the same with those of the rest of the Colonies, if you only had a full and free representation of the whole Colony elected on the present occasion: such a representation we hope to hear of in due time.

We are not insensible of the consequence of your Colony in the great chain of *American Union*.—Nor do we imagine the Ministry insensible of it; we are well aware of your unhappy situation, and of the many artful measures that have been, and now are, taking, if possible, to throw you into confusion. We are well aware of the poi-

son that is daily distilling from some of your pensioned presses, and the hireling writers that have crept in among you. We are not ignorant of that crowd of placemen, of contractors, of officers, and needy dependants upon the Crown, who are constantly employed to frustrate your measures. We know the dangerous tendency of being made the head-quarters of *America* for many years. All these things, though they necessarily tend to clog the wheels of publick spirit, yet do not cause us to doubt of your publick virtue, as a Colony: nay, we assure ourselves, that your love to Constitutional Liberty, to justice, and your posterity, however depressed for a little while, will at last surmount all obstacles, and do honour to *New-York*.

The present struggle seems to us most glorious and critical. We seem to ourselves to stand upon the very division line, between all the blessings of freedom, and the most abject vassalage. The very idea of an earthly power which shall bind the present and future millions of *America* in all cases whatsoever—in the direction of which we are to have no more voice than our oxen, and over which we can have no constitutional control, fills us with horror;—to hold not only our *liberty* and *property* at will, but our lives also, as well as the lives of all our posterity!—to be absolutely dependant for the air in which we breathe, and the water which we drink, upon a set of men at the distance of three thousand miles from us—who, even when they abuse that power, are out of the reach of our vengeance, is a proposal which this Colony hears with indignation, and can only submit to when there is no possible remedy. By the late detestable Acts of the *British Parliament* respecting *America*, all mankind will judge whether that body may be safely entrusted with such a power. We have now appealed to the remaining justice of the Nation; we have endeavoured to arouse them to a sense of their own dangers; we have appealed to their mercantile interests for our defence. Our hopes of success are not yet damped by any thing but the possibility of disunion among ourselves. We have the pleasure to inform you that in this Colony the Association takes place, as effectually as law itself. Sundry Vessels from *England* have already been obliged to return with their Merchandise, or have it thrown overboard as common ballast.

We may assure you of our fixed determination to adhere to the Resolutions at all hazards, and that Ministerial opposition is here obliged to be silent. We wish for the day when it shall be silenced among you likewise. And whatever noise is made by the friends of arbitrary rule about the design of those proceedings in your House of Assembly, we cannot and will not believe that you intend to desert the cause.

Three things, however, oblige us to write to you.

*First*. The general alarm which the proceedings above-mentioned have given, that we may obtain from you certain intelligence of the disposition of your Colony, whether those proceedings are to be understood as the general sense of the good people of *New-York*, or only of a bare majority of the House.



*Secondly.* That we may learn from you, whether the Association of the General Congress has actually been adopted by you, and is now put into execution. On these two points we beg you will give us the earliest intelligence possible, that we may be able (as we have not the least doubt that we shall be) thereby to quiet the anxiety of the people of this Province, and prevent the tools of Ministry from exulting at any appearance of disunion. And lastly, that we may suggest to you an expedient, which, with great success, has been tried in this Province, viz: that of a Provincial Congress, in which every corner of the Colony is fully and largely represented. As yet we have not had the pleasure of hearing that you have adopted this or any similar measure. And although we would not be understood as presuming to dictate to our brethren, yet we would take the liberty to inform them that this measure has given the greatest satisfaction here, and so firmly united the Town and Country, that we are thereby become one compact regularly organized body. The enemies of *American* freedom are aware of the cementing tendency of such a step, and wherever they have influence, endeavour to prevent it, well knowing that while the different Districts of a Colony are kept apart, they do not all receive the same information, and are exposed to the baneful effects of jealousy and division, especially when any considerable part supposes itself neglected by not being called in to give its voice. And we find, that the larger this representation is, the less the danger of corruption and influence; the more is sly deceit deterred from venturing its efforts; and the more weight goes with every determination. The Congress of this Colony consists of one hundred and eighty-four Members, and is by far the fullest representation of it that ever has been together before.

We, therefore, as brethren united in the same cause, do only beg leave to recommend the above measure, already found by experience, of such utility in sundry of the Royal Governments, but especially in this. The necessity of electing *Delegates* to the Congress in *May*, we are assured, will show the expediency of such a Provincial meeting.

We feel ourselves bound to you by the closest ties of interest and affection.—We consider this season as big with *American* glory, or with *American* infamy.

We therefore most ardently wish you the direction and aid of that *Almighty Being* who presides over all. We confidently expect to meet you in General Congress at *Philadelphia*, with hearts full of zeal in our Country's cause, and full of mutual confidence in the integrity of each other. We are, gentlemen, your friends and fellow-countrymen.

By order of the General Committee,  
CHARLES PINCKNEY, *Chairman*.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE FREEHOLDERS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

To JOHN MAYO and WILLIAM FLEMING, *Gentlemen, their Delegates*, MARCH, 1775.

We, the Freeholders of *Cumberland County*, having elected you to represent us in a Provincial Convention, to be held in the Town of *Richmond*, on *Monday*, the 20th of this instant, and being convinced that the safety and happiness of *British America* depend on the unanimity, firmness, and joint efforts of all the Colonies, we expect you will, on your parts, let your measures be as much for the common safety as the peculiar interests of this Colony will permit, and that you, in particular, comply with the recommendation of the Continental Congress, in appointing *Delegates* to meet in the City of *Philadelphia*, in *May* next.

The means of Constitutional legislation in this Colony being now interrupted, and entirely precarious, and being convinced that some rule is necessary for speedily putting the Colony in a state of defence, we, in an especial manner, recommend this matter to your consideration in Convention; and you may depend that any general tax, by that body imposed, for such purposes, will be cheerfully submitted to, and paid by the inhabitants of this County.

We desire that you will consider the *Bostonians* as suffering in the common cause, and cheerfully join in their support to the utmost of your power.

That you will direct the *Deputies* to Congress, on the

part of this Colony, to use their best endeavours to establish a trade between the Colonies; and to procure a quantity of *Gun-powder*, and a number of Cotton, and Wool Cards from the Northward, or elsewhere.

We desire further, that you will not depart from the Association formed by the Continental Congress in *September* last, but will strictly adhere to it in every particular.

Committee Chamber, New-York, 1st March, 1775.

To the Freeholders and Freemen of the City and County of NEW-YORK.

As the last Congress, held in *Philadelphia*, recommended that another Congress should be convened at the same place, on the 10th day of *May* next, and the election of *Delegates* ought not to be longer delayed, and most of the other Colonies having already appointed them, and as the Committee has no power, without the approbation of their constituents, to take any measures for that purpose: they therefore request, that the Freeholders and Freemen of the City and County of *New-York*, will be pleased to assemble at the Exchange, on *Monday*, the 6th instant, at twelve o'clock, to signify their sense of the best method of choosing such *Delegates*, and whether they will appoint a certain number of persons, to meet such *Deputies* as the Counties may elect for that purpose, and join with them in appointing out of their body, *Delegates* for the next Congress. By order of the Committee,

ISAAC LOW, *Chairman*.

#### ADDRESS TO THE SOLDIERS ORDERED TO AMERICA.

London, March, 1775.

The following Address has been sent to *Ireland* for publication, and should be published in all the *American Papers*:—

GENTLEMEN: You are about to embark for *America* to compel your fellow-subjects there to submit to Popery and Slavery.

It is the glory of the *British Soldier*, that he is the defender, not the destroyer of the civil and religious rights of the people. The *English* Soldiery are immortalized in history for their attachment to the religion and liberties of their Country.

When King *James* the Second endeavoured to introduce the *Roman Catholic* Religion and arbitrary power into *Great Britain*, he had an Army encamped on *Hounslow-Heath*, to terrify the people. Seven Bishops were seized upon and sent to the Tower. But they appealed to the laws of their Country, and were set at liberty. When this news reached the camp, the shouts of joy were so great, that they re-echoed in the Royal Palace. This, however, did not quite convince the King of the aversion of the Soldiers to be the instruments of oppression against their fellow-subjects. He therefore made another trial. He ordered the Guards to be drawn up, and the word was given that those who did not choose to support the King's measures should ground their arms. When behold, to his utter confusion, and their eternal honour—the whole body grounded their arms.

You, gentlemen, will soon have an opportunity of showing equal virtue. You will be called upon to imbrue your hands in the blood of your fellow-subjects in *America*, because they will not submit to be slaves, and are alarmed at the establishment of Popery and arbitrary power in one-half of their Country.

Whether you will draw those swords which have defended them against their enemies, to butcher them into a resignation of their rights, which they hold as the sons of *Englishmen*, is in your breasts. That you will not stain the laurels you have gained from *France*, by dipping them in civil blood, is every good man's hope.

Art will no doubt be used to persuade you, that it is your duty to obey orders; and that you are sent upon the just and righteous errand of crushing rebellion. But your own hearts will tell you, that the people may be so ill-treated as to make resistance necessary. You know, that violence and injury offered from one man to another, has always some pretence of right and reason to justify it. So it is between the people and their rulers.

Therefore, whatever hard names and accusations may be bestowed upon your fellow-subjects in *America*, be as-



sured that they have not deserved them; but are driven by the most cruel treatment into despair. In this despair they are compelled to defend their liberties, after having tried in vain every peaceable means of obtaining redress of their manifold grievances. *Before God and man they are right.*

Your honour then, gentlemen, as soldiers, and your humanity as men, forbid you to be the instruments of forcing chains upon your injured and oppressed fellow-subjects. Remember that your first obedience is due to *God*, and that whoever bids you shed innocent blood, bids you act contrary to His commandments. Yours, &c.

AN OLD SOLDIER.

*To the Honourable the Commons of GREAT BRITAIN, in Parliament assembled.*

London, March, 1775.

**GENTLEMEN:** At this important era, when the *British* Empire is in danger of being involved in a civil war; when Trade and Commerce are at a stand; when all the horrors of misery, poverty, and wretchedness, are hanging over our heads; when want and famine threaten to succeed our former plenty, must not every *Englishman* shudder at the approaching danger?

When from the height of power, opulence, and grandeur, we are on the point of being precipitated into the lowest abyss of slavery and insignificance; when from being the first and most respectable people in the world, we shall be sunk below the consequence of a Nation, what must not be the feelings of every man, whose generous soul is nobly excited by a love of his Country? What will not be his indignation? What bounds will there be to his resentment? Which of ye will then stand forth and confess you have been the author of these measures? The general calamity, I fear, is not far distant; and horrid as it must be to this Country in general, still it will bring with it this comfort, that wicked Ministers and corrupt Members of Parliament must then render an account of their actions. The publick justice of this Nation has been long eluded, and calls now aloud for redress.

Beware, ye Ministers; ye know not on how small a point ye stand; ye are now on the brink of an impenetrable gulf; still ye have time to retract; but if tempted by the placid flowings of its waters, ye think securely to swim along the summit, ye are deceived. When once immersed, the briny waves will use their wonted might, and foaming billows send you down to the regions below. The people of *England* are not yet fully apprised of their danger: but be assured when they once come to be thoroughly sensible of the calamities your wrong-headed measures have brought on them, it will not be easy to stand the torrent of their resentment. Your venal hirelings in the Senate will desert you, or, if sensible of their being equally involved in your guilt, from a sense of common danger they should stand by you, do not think their weak arguments will have any avail. The people without doors will resolve upon those measures which those within should have done; and ye can expect nothing but that just punishment which your folly, presumption, and wickedness, shall have merited.

It is foreign to my present purpose to enter into a discussion of those rights you, as the supreme power of this Nation, claim of sovereignty over the *Americans*; let it suffice to say, it is not probable that men, who are descended from the same common ancestors with ourselves; who have been bred up from their childhood in the principles of liberty, and have lived from their first settlements there in the actual possession of this invaluable blessing; it is not to be imagined, I say, that such men will quietly submit, and suffer themselves to be despoiled of that freedom their ancestors have transmitted to them pure and inviolate; nor is it to be conceived that men, who are not destitute of spirit, and who have arms in their hands, will quietly lay them down and bend their neck to the galling yoke of tyranny; or is it likely that those who have a superiour force, able to crush their opponents, will be terrified by empty threats or menaces, when those threats are unsupported by authority, and unaided by justice? Your decrees will fall into the same ignominy and contempt as the denunciations of the Court of *Rome*. You might as well think to intimidate these people by the Pope's Bulls, as by Acts of Parlia-

ment. For what, indeed, signify threats or menaces, without the two essentials necessary to support them—justice and power;—the one to persuade, the other to enforce? In the present contest with *America*, I think I may safely say you are destitute of both.

Is it reasonable or equitable that such of ye as represent *Northumberland, Cumberland*, or any other County in *England*, or more especially such of ye as are placed in the House of Commons by the servile and corrupt votes of dependant Boroughs in the different parts of the Kingdom, should govern a large and extensive Country at three thousand miles distant? What knowledge have ye of *America*? What know ye of its concerns? Have ye been instructed by the people of that land? Are ye acquainted with their manners and their customs; the state of their finances; the riches and numbers of their people, and what imposts they are able to bear, and what would entirely crush them? To all these questions I believe I may safely answer in the negative: But in reply you say, you think it is reasonable that they, as members of the *British* Empire, should bear a part of the burden and expense, not considering that by the advantages which accrue to *Great Britain* from the Commerce of these countries, and by the restrictions we have laid on their Trade with all other Nations, we already receive more and greater benefits from them than their proportion of taxes would amount to. Wisely then have ye done to stop this certain source of riches, from the vain and improbable hope of taking from them by force what they already paid with good will.

I need not remind you of the story of the old woman, whose hen brought her a golden egg every morning, and would have continued so to do had not the covetous old hag thought, by killing the hen, she should at once obtain the whole mass of riches, which now she could only receive by detail, and accordingly put in force this cruel resolution. The fable tells you what was the consequence.

Now, how nearly you stand in the same predicament with this old woman, I leave to yourselves to determine: But if I grant that the *Americans* should pay a proportional tax, besides maintaining their own internal Government, what right have ye to be the assessors? To sit in the *British* Parliament, a landed qualification is necessary. But where must that qualification be situated? Why, within the Island of *Great Britain*. It is a maxim of our law, that no man shall be taxed but by his own consent, given either in person or by his Representative. I should be glad to know what assent ye can give for the *Americans*. Few or none of ye possess any property in *America*, or if ye do, it is not in virtue of such property ye sit in the *British* Senate; therefore, whatever burden you lay on their shoulders will be so much clear gains to yourselves. You will not feel the weight of the taxes, which, with so much ease and confidence, you order to be levied on the *Americans*. Some of you, indeed, may know the value of the sums raised, by the shares you received of the spoils. The Minister cannot be so ungrateful as to neglect adding to your salaries, when by your means he shall have brought about his end, and increased his own. But how weak these measures are, and how ineffectual, a very short time will demonstrate. Indeed, except yourselves, who will not be convinced? Every one is sensible of the dangerous situation to which we are now reduced.

Now, gentlemen, let me advise you, as you regard your own prosperity—let me conjure you as you value your safety, to consider well the situation of this unfortunate Country; look on the dangers that threaten it on every hand; consider not only the inexpediency of those measures, but the total inability of this Country to go through with them. Do you imagine the *French* and *Spaniards* will be tame and idle spectators, when they see us once deeply involved in a war with our Colonies? Throw off then your supine indolence; awake from your lethargick state; and if ye will not be excited by the desire of doing good, awake at least to the sense of your own danger. Think when the general calamity comes, who will be the objects of publick odium. Will not the advisers of these destructive measures be the first sacrifices to the publick clamour? When the Merchants, Traders, and Manufacturers are starving; when the whole mass of the people are in misery and distress, what security can you expect to find? Where will you hope to conceal yourselves? Will you be safe



even within these sacred walls? Or rather, may you not fear being pursued, not only there, but even into your most secret lurking holes? *Strafford* and *Laud* were condemned, and justly executed for being the advisers of arbitrary measures. The King, had he been able, would have protected them; they only echoed back to him his own sentiments, strengthened by their flattery and obsequiousness. But weak is the power of rulers when opposed to the wants and distresses, the rage and resentment of the multitude.

When the artificers and handicraftsmen come by thousands to your House, demanding bread, it will be too late to argue;—the mischief will be done. You then will have only to conceal your obnoxious heads, and save yourselves if you can, from popular resentment and publick justice. There may be a time, and I believe that time will soon come, when the nod and smiles of the Minister will be shunned with as much care as they are now sought for with eagerness.

Once more I admonish you to awake before it is too late. Stop the further progress of the evil ye cannot now totally cure; and though ye will not be roused by a love of your Country, nor a sense of the impending ruin which threatens us, yet consider your own danger, as most assuredly such of ye as have been the advisers of these measures will be the first sacrifices. Repeal then these accursed Acts; acknowledge yourselves to have been in the wrong, and thus atone, as much as now lies in your power, for the mischiefs you have already occasioned. **MONITOR.**

#### COUNCIL OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

At a Council held at *Newbern*, in *North-Carolina*, the 1st of *March*, 1775,

Present: His Excellency the *Governour*, the Hon. *Jas. Hasell*, Hon. *John Ruherford*, Hon. *Samuel Strudwicke*, *Martin Howard*, and *Samuel Cornell*, Esquires.

His Excellency informed the Board that he had observed an Advertisement published in the Newspapers, and circulated through this Colony by Handbills, dated *Perquimons County*, 11th *February*, 1775, requesting the Counties and Towns thereof, to elect Delegates to represent them in Convention, at the Town of *Newbern*, on *Monday*, the third of *April* next, and signed *John Harvey*, Moderator. And considering such proceedings to be highly derogatory to the dignity of the Legislature appointed to meet at the same time, and in every light illegal and inconsistent with good order and Government, recommended the matter to the consideration of the Board, and desired their advice of the measures to be taken to contravene the design of said Advertisement.

The Board conceiving the highest detestation of such proceedings, were unanimous in advising His Excellency to issue a Proclamation to inhibit and forbid such illegal meeting; in the following words:

By His Excellency **JOSIAH MARTIN, Esquire, Captain General, Governour, and Commander-in-chief in and over the said Province:**

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, an Advertisement is printed in the publick Newspapers, and also industriously circulated about this Colony in handbills, dated from *Perquimons County*, the 11th day of *February*, 1775, requesting the Counties and Towns thereof to elect Delegates to represent them in Convention, at the Town of *Newbern*, on *Monday*, the 3d day of *April* next, and signed *John Harvey*, Moderator. And whereas, the name and authority of such an officer, and such meeting, is unknown to the Laws and Constitution of this Country; and such an invitation to the people may tend to ensnare the unwary and ignorant among His Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects in this Province, to partake in the guilt of such unlawful proceedings:

And whereas, the Assembly of this Province, duly elected, is the only true and lawful representation of the people, and is competent to every legal act that Representatives of the people can do; and as an attempt to excite the people to choose another body of Representatives to meet at the time and place appointed for the meeting of the Assembly, is to betray them into a violation of the Constitution, in a point wherein they are most materially concerned

to support it: a contempt of that branch of the Legislature which represents the people, and highly derogatory to its power, rights, and privileges; I have thought proper, by and with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Council of this Province, to issue this Proclamation: and I do hereby earnestly exhort the many good people of this Province, who have to their honour, hitherto prudently withstood the insidious attempts of evil-minded and designing men, that they do, on this occasion, steadfastly persevere in such loyal and dutiful conduct, and continue to resist and treat with just indignation all measures so subversive of order and Government, and so inconsistent with the allegiance they owe to His Majesty; and that they do not subject themselves to the restraints of tyrannical and arbitrary Committees, which have already, in many instances, proceeded to the extravagance of forcing His Majesty's subjects, contrary to their consciences, to submit to their unreasonable, seditious, and chimerical Resolves, doing thereby the most cruel and unparalleled violence to their liberties, under the pretence of releasing them from imaginary grievances; and I do further exhort all His Majesty's subjects in this Province, as they value their dearest rights under the present happy Constitution, and as they would testify their duty and allegiance to the best of Kings, that they forbear to meet to choose persons to represent them in Convention, pursuant to the advertisement herein before recited; and I also do most earnestly recommend to them to renounce, disclaim, and discourage all such meetings, cabals, and illegal proceedings, which artful and designing men shall attempt to engage them in, and which can only tend to introduce disorder and anarchy, to the destruction of the real interests and happiness of the people, and to involve this Province in confusion, disgrace and ruin.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the said Province, at *Newbern*, the first day of *March*, Anno Domini, 1775, and in the 15th year of His Majesty's reign.

God save the King.

**JOSIAH MARTIN.**

By His Excellency's command,

**SAMUEL STRUDWICKE, Secretary.**

#### TO THE PRINTERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

Philadelphia, February 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I rejoice to find that, in a Province distinguished for its progress in science and literature as *Pennsylvania*, the few sons of despotism are reduced to the pensioned pen of some ministerial hireling at *Boston*. Believe me, gentlemen, your Paper did not gain an extensive circulation from the gleanings of others; its value has been owing to the originality, as well as the elegance of its essays. Every Newspaper, from *New-Hampshire* to *Georgia*, (two at *Boston*, and one at *New-York*, excepted,) would furnish refutations of the re-publication in your last Paper, signed *Phileirene*. But I will not ask you to serve up to your readers, at second-hand, what will be more acceptable as an original, though of a coarser and humbler composition. I therefore beg leave to present to my fellow-subjects and citizens

#### The other side of the Question.

It is a just remark of the celebrated *Chesterfield* to his son, that grant him but two or three positions, and he would undertake, by fair inference, to prove that robbing on the highway is an honest, and ought to be a reputable calling. Happy would it be if the sacred rights of mankind were as safe in this respect, as the persons of individuals. But the superiour temptations to justify the invasion of the former, are too alluring not to afford melancholy proofs, in every age and Country, of a prostitution of the most shining talents, to gild the pill of arbitrary power and lawless domination. When we see a *Bacon*, a *Milton*, a *Strafford*, and *Bolingbroke*, sacrificing at their shrine, can we be surprised if men of such principles, but far inferior abilities, should appear among us, with the Treasury of *England* in full view, and hearts panting to lord it over their fellow-men? Divine Providence has endowed the inhabitants of *America* with rational powers not inferior to those of any other Country; it is but justice to say, they have generally improved them better than any other. By their good sense and judgment shall this author be tried, whose facts, modesty, style, accuracy, and precision, have been thought



worthy of a re-publication, which occupies half your last Paper, to the exclusion of all Foreign news, for which it has been distinguished. This fair structure is built on two principles.

1st. That the *Americans* have entire independence on the Mother Country in view, as the great object of their present contest.

2d. That all opposition to what is called Government, is rebellion.

Both these propositions are false and groundless; the writer was not able to prove, and therefore takes them for granted; but I may, with honest boldness, challenge him, or his adopting friend, to show, from the publick transactions of any Congress or Assembly throughout this great Continent, that such a claim was ever in their contemplation. Are the repeated and fervent acknowledgments of our allegiance to our common Sovereign; our submission to all his appointments of office, from the Governour to the lowest deputy's deputy; to his negative upon all our laws; to his decisions in Council, as the dernier resort in the administration of justice, and the payment of quit-rents; I ask if these are the badges of independence? But they do not end here. With what exemplary patience and obedience have we submitted to the restraints of Trade, and even an abridgment of the common bounties of Heaven. The water is not permitted to flow, or the earth to produce, for the same beneficial purposes to the *American* as for the *Briton*. In a Country where the price of manual labour calls for the utmost exertion of art and ingenuity, we are restrained from slitting or rolling iron, so as to answer some of the most important purposes in life. These are restrictions to which we not only have submitted, but to which the great Council of *America* has professed its willingness to submit. With what shameless affrontery can any writer, therefore, charge the people of *America* with seeking independence, when every transaction of Government, of trade, of justice, and manufactures, originates, proceeds, or terminates under the control of *Great Britain*. But the thirst of power is so raging and insatiable, that it esteems nothing possessed, while any thing remains to be possessed; impatient of all restraints, its desires perpetually outrun its enjoyments, and it can be satisfied with nothing less than an entire and full surrender of the liberty and happiness of mankind. What use it has made of its acquisitions, let the deserted villages, ruined towns, and uncultivated fields of arbitrary Countries declare. If to live by one man's will, would be all men's misery, can we suppose that we shall derive any relief from the number of our tyrants, or that our burden would be lighter, because many hands were concerned in the imposition.

Our author's next position is, that opposition of every kind to the powers set over us, however exercised, is rebellion. Those ornaments of human nature, *Locke*, *Sydney*, *Hoadley*, and many other illustrious names, have so refuted these absurd doctrines of passive obedience and non-resistance; and they are so repugnant to the common sense and happiness of mankind, that it would be an affront to the understandings of my countrymen to suppose they could now admit of a serious argument. If the good of the people is the end of all Government, if limitations of power have, by the experience of all ages, been found necessary for the safety of the governed, if a participation in legislation has been found to be the best and only limitation, with what pity and concern must we view that infatuation which can obtrude doctrines in *America* long since reprobated in *Britain*, as subversive of every principle of political safety and happiness. With men of such characters, the noble struggles of our ancestors against the prerogatives of the Crown were so many odious exertions of wickedness and folly.—*Magna Charta*, Trial by Juries, and exemption from arbitrary and perpetual imprisonment, are fruits of the most detestable impiety and treason; nay! the Resolution itself, as founded and formed by a resistance to that Government, but the basis and foundation of the present, was a successful rebellion. These are the stale artifices of our Court sycophants of every age. It would be an outrage upon the understandings, as well as rights of mankind, to call tyranny and slavery by their proper names, when they were seeking to establish them. Under the specious title of laws and Government, they hope to lull the vigilant, deter the timid, and damp the en-

terprising, till the shackles are riveted on, and the deluded wretches find, too late, that the will of their masters is the only law, and oppression the only Government. To draw the line, I confess, is no easy task; but wherever legal Government ends, there tyranny most certainly begins. To show that this terminated as to the Colonies, in the year 1763, a period in which the independency of *America* was never thought of, and to which our highest hopes and ambition is to return; to enumerate the proofs, the odious, but indisputable proofs of this, and to show that our present opposition has every prospect of success, I must refer to another letter, lest I should exclude some more able writer, or incur my own censure. In the mean time, my dear countrymen and fellow-citizens, read the histories of those Countries which were once free; converse with those, (for we have many among us) who have fled hither from arbitrary States; acquaint yourselves with their ruinous taxes, their venal courts of justice, their merciless depredations upon the chastity, property, liberty, and happiness of their vassals; then reason, and judge, and if you are not lost to every sentiment of publick virtue, the honour of your country, and regard for yourselves and your posterity, your hearts will rise in grateful emotions to the Giver of all good gifts, that He has cast your lot in a land of freedom; and I trust you will mingle with them a humble but firm resolution, by His assistance, to transmit the blessings you have received, undiminished, to the latest posterity. "He that would give up essential liberty for temporary safety, deserves neither liberty nor safety."—This was the favourite motto of many in this City but a very few years since. A principle of action and duty, founded upon truth and reason, will ever continue the same, however the persons or occasions may change. Come forward then, ye staunch advocates for Provincial Liberty, support your principles—this was once your Law and your Prophets—be consistent—convince the world that you do not act upon the local views of a party, but upon the manly and generous principle of publick good, which upon all occasions leads you to sacrifice temporary ease to essential liberty.

CAMILLUS.

TO THE PRINTERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

Philadelphia, March 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I wish to address the understandings of my fellow-citizens, not to inflame their passions. As inquirers after truth, my highest ambition is to assist them—to furnish the clew; their own good sense will enable them to pursue it. I think an attention peculiarly due to such publications as come recommended by the graces of style and language; the most deadly poison may be conveyed in the most beautiful cup; it may be more inviting, but it is not the less fatal. The piece signed *Phileirene* is not destitute of those graces, but he has raised a fabrick on a foundation which only existed in his own imagination. There must surely be singular merit in that claim which must be misrepresented to be opposed with success. When I hear *America* charged with aspiring after independence, I ask, Were we independent on *Great Britain* in 1762? That is the era to which we all look back with regret, and to which we are anxiously seeking to return.

When I hear the *Americans* termed *rebels*, I ask, Was the Revolution a rebellion? That was an opposition to Government, because Government was attempted to be exercised in a manner inconsistent with the safety, liberty and happiness of the governed. One man attempted to legislate without their participation; in our case, this attempt is made by about eight hundred; can this circumstance change the nature of the action?

When I hear any one declaiming against the *American* system, I ask, Are you willing to be taxed by the *British* Parliament? A fair answer to these questions I have generally found more decisive and convincing, than the best connected chain of reasoning. If any man can answer them in the affirmative, I may pity, but cannot blame him for withdrawing from the contest. If I was asked to state the claims of *America*, I should say she has none, but that *Great Britain* should desist from innovations, useless and disappointing to herself, but fatal to *America*. We are defendants in this great suit; we ask but to continue in that state, in which our own reason and judgment convinces



us our safety consists, and which the experience of one hundred years has confirmed, as the most beneficial for both countries.

For this long course of years, *America*, with a most unsuspecting confidence, resigned herself to the wisdom and virtue of the Parent State, whose wisest Ministers and ablest men were content with the benefits of Commerce, and sought no power but such as tended to its increase and security. After a long and expensive war, in which the *Americans* were repeatedly acknowledged the most loyal subjects and affectionate Colonists, a system was formed, which proceeded step by step in dreadful progression, till it has swallowed up every privilege and right which ought to distinguish an *English* Colonist from those of arbitrary States. Of what importance is it to us, that our fellow-subjects, three thousand miles off, should be distinguished from the other Nations of the earth, as free and happy, while we have no share in the distinction. Let us compare the rights of a *British* subject with those of an *American*, we shall see a very striking disparity.

#### In England.

1. A trial by a jury of his country, in all cases of life and property.

2. A trial where the offence was committed.

3. The Civil authority supreme over the Military, and no Standing Army in time of peace kept up, but by the consent of the people.

4. The Judges independent of the Crown and people.

5. No tax or imposition laid, but by those who must partake of the burthen.

6. A free trade to all the world, except the *East-Indies*.

7. A free use and practise of all engines and other devices, for saving labour and promoting manufactures.

8. A right to petition the King, and all prosecutions and commitments therefore illegal.

9. Freedom of debate and proceedings in their legislative deliberations.

10. For redress of grievances, amending, strengthening, and preserving the laws, Parliaments to be held frequently.

#### In America.

1. A trial by jury only in some cases; subjected in others, to a single Judge, or a Board of Commissioners.

2. A trial, if a Governour pleases, three thousand miles from the place where the offence was committed.

3. The Military superior to the Civil authority, and *America* obliged to contribute to the support of a Standing Army, kept up without and against its consent.

4. The Judges made independent of the people, but dependant on the Crown for the support and tenure of their commissions.

5. Taxes and impositions laid by those, who not only do not partake of the burthens, but who ease themselves by it.

6. A trade only to such places as *Great Britain* shall permit.

7. The use only of such engines as *Great Britain* has not prohibited.

8. Promoting and encouraging petitions to the King declared the highest presumption, and the Legislative Assemblies of *America* dissolved therefor in 1768.

9. Assemblies dissolved, and their legislative power suspended, for the free exercise of their reason and judgment, in their legislative capacity.

10. To prevent the redress of grievances, or representations tending thereto, Assemblies postponed for a great length of time, and prevented meeting in the most critical times.

In a former paper I observed, that the legal Government of *America* terminated in the year 1763. A series of acts since that time will evince the truth of my assertion.

Then, for the first time, the taxation of *America* was attempted, and has been continued with unremitted assiduity to the present moment—then the powers of Admiralty and Vice-Admiralty Courts were extended beyond their former limits—then our property, for the first time, was taken from us without our consent—trial by juries in many cases of property abolished, and an innocent suitor laid under every possible disadvantage in asserting his rights. Soon after, the absolute Statute of *Henry VIII*, was revived, by Resolves of both Houses of Parliament, by which *Americans* may be carried to *England*, and tried for offences alleged to be committed in *America*. In the twelfth year of His Majesty's reign, the charge of burning any of the King's Ships or Stores in *America* was expressly made triable in *England*, to the total exclusion of a jury of the vicinage. The Acts respecting *Massachusetts-Bay* are too recent to need particular enumeration; their charter privileges, their justice, trade, and Government are wholly subverted, without observing the common forms of justice. What has been their case, may be that of every other Province; and let me observe, that innocence is a poor protection, when no opportunity is given to manifest it.

What opinion now, my fellow-citizens, ought you to form of an author, who calls an opposition to these measures a

“utopian scheme, quickened into public life by an itch of superiority and thirst of applause;—an insatiation, over-leaping all the sober bounds of law and Government; conducted by men who delight in the destruction of peace and good order; whose safety consists in their precipitating their Country into anarchy and confusion.” Shameless falsehoods! calculated to impose on the weak and unwary; to foment those divisions, and bring on that ruin, upon which some men mean to build their own greatness. No, my dear fellow-citizens, look around you; are the men you deputed to the late Congress, those who have been active in Committees of publick transactions; are they men of doubtful characters and desperate fortunes? Are anarchy and confusion required for their safety or establishment in life? Is a bold step for the reformation of Government necessary to retrieve their characters? Have they been distinguished for a spirit of enterprise, wickedness, and folly, on other occasions?

The man whose signature is *A Friend to the Constitution*, and whose sentiments are in such unison with our author, shall determine these questions; for he must have supposed them applicable to this Province, or their publication here was idle. To arraign the justice of a cause; to entangle the honest mind in doubts and difficulties; to cut off all hopes and prospects of success; to paint in terrible colours events which have happened in dissimilar cases, and conceal the happy issue of similar struggles, are arts which will be practised, and against which we ought to be particularly guarded. I have attempted to vindicate the former, and in some future paper shall endeavour to show, that if unanimity accompanies our opposition, we have the utmost reason to hope that success will crown the work, and though we shall continue a dependant, we shall be a free and happy people.

CAMILLUS.

#### NEWPORT (RHODE-ISLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a Meeting of the Committee of Inspection, for the Town of *Newport*, held in the Council Chamber, on *Wednesday, March 1, 1775*,

Mr. JOHN TANNER in the Chair.

*Resolved*, That the freedom of the Press is of the utmost importance to civil society; and that its importance consists, “besides the advancement of truth, science, morality, and arts in general, in its diffusion of liberal sentiments on the administration of Government, its ready communication of thoughts between subjects, and its consequential promotion of union among them, where, by oppressive Officers, are shamed or intimidated into more honourable and just modes of conducting affairs;” and therefore it is the duty of every friend of Civil Government to protect, and preserve from violation, that invaluable right, that noble pillar, and great support of Public Liberty; and to countenance and encourage the Press, so long as it shall be employed in promoting those beneficial purposes. But when, instead thereof, a Press is incessantly employed and prostituted to the vilest uses; in publishing the most infamous falsehoods; in partial or false representations of facts; in fomenting jealousies, and exciting discord and disunion among the people; in supporting and applauding the worst of men, and worst of measures; and in vilifying and calumniating the best of characters, and the best of causes; it then behooves every citizen, every friend to truth, science, arts, liberality of sentiment, to that union between subjects, upon which depends their security against oppression, to discountenance and discourage every such licentious, illiberal, prostituted Press.

And whereas, a certain *James Rivington*, a Printer and Stationer in the City of *New-York*, impelled by the love of sordid pelf, and a haughty domineering spirit, hath, for a long time, in the dirty *Gazetteer*, and in pamphlets, if possible still more dirty, uniformly persists in publishing every falsehood which his own wicked imagination, or the imaginations of others of the same stamp, as ingenious perhaps in mischief as himself, could suggest and fabricate, that had a tendency to spread jealousies, fear, discord, and disunion through this country; and by partial and false representations of facts, hath endeavoured to pervert truth, and to deceive and mislead the incautious into wrong conceptions of facts reported, and wrong sentiments respecting the measures now carrying on for the recovery and establish-



ment of our rights, and the supporters of those measures; and particularly hath disgorged from his infamous Press, the most virulent, foul abuse, on the Members of the late Continental Congress—characters which, for wisdom, integrity, fortitude, and publick virtue, deserve, and have received, the applause of every inhabitant of this wide extended Continent, excepting a very few venal tools of a corrupt Administration.

And all this profusion of scurrility, abuse, and falsehood, this insidious, profligate Printer hath cast out, in order, if it were possible, to subvert the Association which all the American Colonies have approved, and for carrying of which into execution the General Assembly of this Colony have recommended Committees to be chosen:—Wherefore, we think it our bounden duty to hold up that infamous paricide, *James Rivington*, to the Continent in this odious light.

*Resolved, therefore*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that no further dealings or correspondence ought to be had with the said *James Rivington*; and we recommend it to every person who takes his Paper, called *Rivington's Gazetteer*, immediately to drop the same; and also take the liberty to recommend a similar conduct towards him to the other Towns in the Colony.

*Resolved*, That this Resolution be printed in the next *Newport Mercury*. By order of the Committee,

HENRY WARD, Clerk.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON TO HIS FRIEND IN BOSTON, DATED MARCH 2, 1775.

The Ministry, it is now generally thought, are inflexible. Lord North was asked again and again this week, in the House of Commons, whether he had any thing more of a lenient or conciliatory nature to propose. He said there was nothing farther of that kind intended; and acknowledged that the remainder of the scheme was entirely coercive. When he was asked, whether the three Bills of the last year were to be repealed, he replied, that when the Colonies had come to an unconditioned submission, Parliament would consider what was fit to be done.

The Ministry are now in pretty good spirits, on account of what they conceive to be a division among yourselves in favour of Government, both in *New-York* and *New-England*. We think that, like drowning men, they are catching at every straw. Such, however, we hope their present expectations will prove.

A friend of mine saw a Letter just received from Lord Percy, in which he expresses his apprehensions of an attack being made upon the Troops at *Boston*, before any reinforcement can arrive, as the people in the Province are provided with a competent train of Artillery; so that all their servants have not the same assurance of success with themselves. But, indeed, it is impossible that the Ministry should really think themselves so secure as they pretend to be; and it is even thought by many that Lord North, when he moved for the late Resolution, really meant to have advanced some steps towards a solid reconciliation, had it not been for what is called the *Bedford* party in the Cabinet. Instead of this, the terms that are now proposed amount to nothing but an insult upon your common sense and spirit, and, I doubt not, will be resented accordingly.

#### ESSEX COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for the County of *Essex*, in the Town of *Tappahannock*, in *Virginia*, on *Thursday*, the 2d of *March*, 1775, by special summons from the Chairman.

The Committee having been informed that Captain *Joseph Richardson*, master of the Brigantine *Muir*, since the first day of *February* last, had imported from the Island of *Antigua*, in the said Brigantine *Muir*, four pieces of *British* Osnaburghs, and three pieces of *Irish* Linen, some of which he had sold since his arrival; and the said *Richardson* having appeared before the Committee, agreeably to a previous summons for that purpose, on examination, confessed that upwards of two years ago he had imported into this Colony a quantity of *British* Osnaburghs from *London*, which he found himself unable to dispose of here, and therefore that he had carried some of it to *Antigua*, and left it there to be sold; and having found, upon his last

voyage to that Island, that the same had not been sold, he brought it back again to this Colony, where he arrived since the first of *February* last, and sold one piece of it to one *Thomas Wood*, and that he has the residue by him. And having also acknowledged that he had imported at the same time three pieces of *Irish* Linen for the use of his family, and the same having been confirmed by the oath of *William Moore*, mate of the said Brigantine, the Committee having taken the matter under consideration, and having found that the said *Richardson* was unacquainted with the Continental Association, and that he had no intention of violating the same, or any part thereof, but that he was willing to accede thereto, and actually did sign the same, upon the first opportunity of doing so, are of opinion that the said *Richardson* deserves no censure for his conduct; but that the said Osnaburghs and *Irish* Linen, being prohibited by the Association, be re-exported to the said Island of *Antigua*, which the said *Richardson* declared himself willing to do. And it is ordered that *Archibald Ritchie* and *John Brockenbrough* do procure from the said *Thomas Wood* the piece of Osnaburghs by him purchased, and see that the said *Richardson* carry the same, as well as the other before-mentioned Linen, with him to *Antigua*, upon his next voyage.

The Committee having determined to encourage Arts and Manufactures within this Colony, as far as it is in their power, do agree and oblige themselves to pay Fifty Pounds, current money, to any person or persons who shall first produce to the Committee five hundred pair of Stockings, men's and women's, manufactured in this County; a third of which to be reasonably worth One Shilling Sterling a pair; a third to be reasonably worth Two Shillings Sterling a pair; and the other third to be reasonably worth Three Shillings Sterling a pair; of all which, he or they must give this County the refusal, and that the County will give for the same seventy-five per cent. on the above prices. And that the Committee will give the best encouragement to worsted combers.

By order of the Committee,  
J. POWER, Clerk.

*Remarks on the late manœuvres in AMERICA, by a real friend to his King and Country, and an AMERICAN.*

New-York, March 2, 1775.

Nothing has surprised people more than the *Virginians* and *Marylanders* joining with so much warmth with the *New-England* Republicans in their opposition to the ancient Constitution, which has been the glory of an *Englishman* in every part of the world; as there are certainly no Nations under the Heavens more opposite to each other, than the inhabitants of these Colonies: it would be very difficult to account for it on the principles of religion or sound policy, had not the *Virginians* plainly discovered their indifference to both—so highly revered by their illustrious ancestors—by an act as tyrannical as it is unjust, calculated to serve private views, to distress thousands, and to sap all the foundations of honesty and morality, by destroying that confidence which is the support of our trade, without which every industrious man is deprived of his just demands. Can any thing more plainly discover the motives of their opposition than their having shut up all the Courts of Justice, by which they fraudulently deprive the honest merchant of his due, who generously administered to their wants and supplied their luxury; and return, with the blackest ingratitude, evil for good. Yet this is a notorious truth. *Sallust*, in enumerating the reasons that induced so many of the first families in *Rome* to join in *Cataline's* conspiracy to overturn the ancient Constitution of their Country, very naturally accounts for this conduct when he ascribes it to their desperate circumstances; involved in debt, slaves to luxury, and ruined by dissipation of every kind, they had no resource, no prospect for redemption, but what depended on the success of an impious civil war; through the horrors and calamities of which they were willing to wade, that they might avail themselves of their Country's distress, and find means to gratify their pride and unbounded lust; for this end every means was attempted, every virtue ridiculed, every friend to Government, and every lover of his country, branded with the most ignominious names, and held up as traitors, whom it would be glorious in their opinions to extirpate.



## ADDRESS TO THE INHABITANTS OF NEW-YORK

New-York, March 2, 1775.

The most authentick accounts have been received from *Great Britain*, that a large sum of money has been issued from the Treasury to the Minister of State, for secret services in *America*. The publick is extremely interested in the consequences of this dark manœuvre, and therefore every indication of corruption should be attended to, every order in favour of passive obedience noticed, and the authors of every measure tending to break the union and harmony of the Colonies, held up to publick view, and exposed to general indignation and contempt.

The application of publick moneys for secret services, has ever been considered as dangerous to the rights of a free people, especially in times of profound peace, when there is no necessity that spies should be maintained, or royal whores and favourites bribed. Such an attack upon us is, of all others, the most alarming. It is like destroying us by poison—it places us in dangers from false brethren, and converts those we esteemed our friends into insidious enemies—it teaches them to speak peace, when they mean destruction; and, under the specious pretence of supporting Government, to declare war against the Constitution.

History affords instances of men in every age, who have preferred the enjoyment of wealth, to the possession of a good conscience, and who have committed the most infamous actions to obtain the appellation of *honourable*, for themselves or families.

Prudence tells us, that what has happened in other Countries, and in other ages, may happen in our own. It certainly is wise, therefore, to be watchful of those whom we have made the guardians of our happiness, and take care that they do not turn the opportunities we have given them of doing us good, into occasions of bringing us to ruin and disgrace.

The world has long had reason to think that the dependants on the favour of a court, are not fit objects for the confidence of the people. It is difficult to serve two masters. Men in such circumstances frequently cleave to their interest, and reject the duty they owe their constituents.

It appears to me very extraordinary, that the people of this Colony in general, should consider a Congress as a necessary expedient in these perilous times, that the letters of the Committee of Correspondence appointed by the Assembly, should speak the same language, and that some of the members of that body should preside at the choice of the Delegates, and yet, that sundry individuals (who have heretofore been lights to the *blind*) should now take so much pains to decry the measure and prevent its influence. The inconsistency is obvious, and, I fear, nothing but a *golden key* can open the mystery.

Providence, R. I., March 4, 1775.

On *Thursday* last, the 2d instant, about twelve o'clock at noon, the Town Crier gave the following notice through the Town:—"At five o'clock, this afternoon, a quantity of *India Tea* will be burnt in the market-place. All true friends of their Country, lovers of Freedom, and haters of shackles and hand-cuffs, are hereby invited to testify their good disposition, by bringing in and casting into the fire, a needless herb, which for a long time hath been highly detrimental to our liberty, interest, and health."

About five o'clock, in the afternoon, a great number of inhabitants assembled at the place, when there was brought in about three hundred pounds weight of Tea, by the firm contenders for the true interest of *America*. A large fire was kindled, and the Tea cast into it. A tar barrel, Lord *North's* speech, *Rivington's* and *Mills's* and *Hicks's* newspapers, and divers other ingredients, were also added. There appeared great cheerfulness in committing to destruction so pernicious an article; many worthy women, from a conviction of the evil tendency of continuing the habit of Tea drinking, made free-will offerings of their respective stocks of the hurtful trash. On this occasion the bells were tolled, but it is referred to the learned whether tolling or ringing would have been most proper. Whilst the Tea was burning, a spirited Son of Liberty went along the streets with his brush and lamplblack, and obliterated or unpainted the word *TEA* on the shop signs.

## SAMUEL ADAMS TO A GENTLEMAN IN VIRGINIA.

Boston, March 2, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the 24th of *December* last, to Mr. *Cushing* and others, by Captain *Tompkins*, of the Schooner *Dunmore*, in which were brought several valuable donations from our friends in *Virginia*, to the sufferers in this Town by the Port-Bill, was communicated to the Committee appointed to receive such donations, and by their direction I am to acquaint you that they cheerfully consented at your request, that the Schooner should be discharged at *Salem*, thinking themselves under obligation to promote her despatch, more especially as there was unexpected delay in her loading; and you have very generously declined receiving demurrage. We have repeatedly had abundant evidence of the firmness of our brethren of *Virginia*, in the *American* cause; have reason to confide in them that they will struggle hard for the prize now contending for.

I am desired, by the Committee, to acquaint you that a Ship has lately sailed from this place, bound to *James River*, in *Virginia*; the Master's name *Crowel Hatch*. When he was building his Ship, a proposal was made to him by some of the Committee, to employ the tradesmen of this Town, for which he should receive a recompense by a discount or five per cent. on their several bills; but he declined to accept of the proposal. This you are sensible, would have been the means of his employing our sufferers at their usual rates, and at the same time, as cheap to him as if he had got his Vessel built by more ordinary workmen, from the country. There is also another circumstance which I must relate to you. Captain *Hatch* proposed that the Committee should employ our Smiths in making Anchors for his Vessel, at a price by which they could get nothing but their labour for their pains, because he could purchase cast Anchors, imported here for the same price, which was refused. At this he was very angry, and (perhaps in gust of passion) declared, in the hearing of several persons of credit, that he was used ill; threatening that "he would stop all the donations he could, and that no more should come from the place where he was going to," meaning *Virginia*. These facts the Committee thought necessary to communicate to you, and to beg the favour of you to use your influence, that Captain *Hatch* may not have it in his power (if he should be disposed) to traduce the Committee, and injure the sufferers in this Town, for whose relief our friends in *Virginia* have so generously contributed.

I am, in the name of the Committee, sir, your obliged friend, and humble servant,  
SAMUEL ADAMS.

Boston, Massachusetts, March 2, 1775.

His Excellency General *Gage*, in his answer to the Address of the Provincial Congress, in *October* last, was pleased to represent, as an instance of his lenity and forbearance, "that, notwithstanding the enmity shown the King's Troops, by withholding from them almost every necessary for their preservation, they have not yet discovered the resentment which might justly be expected to arise from such hostile treatment."

A second Provincial Congress has lately resolved, "That no person or persons ought to sell or dispose of any Straw which he or they may have on hand, except to the inhabitants of this Province, for their own private use, or the use of said Province."

Such a militation of sentiments between the Commander-in-chief and the Representatives of the people, must surely arise, from the different conceptions they have respectively formed of the end and design of the Troops being sent here: the General, that they were ordered here to strengthen the hands of Government, to preserve order, restore peace, and prevent confusion; that they are, therefore, to be considered as friends, and ought to be treated accordingly: the Congress, that they are sent to dragoon the good people of this Colony, and successively those of every other Colony upon the Continent, into a slavish submission to *British* Legislation; which, if it could be effected, must end in their ruin and destruction; that they are, therefore, to be considered as inveterate enemies; and that the pursuit of every measure, whereby to defeat their purposes, is strictly justifiable.



Straw is doubtless as necessary to make a Soldier's Tent comfortable, as a Mattress is to make an Officer's Tent so; and both would be alike withheld if they were equally in our power. From the Soldier, because he waits only for the word of command to cut our throats, and spread desolation as far and wide as his balls and bayonet, and the strength of his arm will enable him to extend it. From the Officer, because being better bred, his mind ought to be impressed with a due sense of the natural and civil rights of mankind; yet, nevertheless, can so steel his heart to the dictates of his conscience and the feelings of humanity, as wantonly to imbrue his hands in the blood of his innocent fellow-subjects, in obedience to the mandate of a petty Ministerial tyrant!—For I shall never be persuaded to believe, that the best of Kings, my most Gracious Sovereign, who, so early in life, is able to count a Royal dozen, can be so lost to the tender feeling of a parent, as coming to the knowledge of the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, that he would not, with the highest indignation, spurn from his presence into everlasting banishment, the wretch who would dare to suggest, under any pretence whatever, the horrid thoughts of shedding the blood of his innocent *American* subjects; who, notwithstanding all they have suffered from delegated power, are still earnestly desirous to be esteemed his children; and could the malevolent tongue of slander and defamation be silenced, would soon become the objects of his Royal patronage: for they never have forfeited it, unless a forfeiture can be incurred by refusing to become subject to their fellow-subjects in power; or to any other laws but those to which they or their Representatives have given their consent; and their firm attachment to that Constitution of Government under which they, or their forefathers, have lived peaceably and happily for more than a century past. I repeat it, therefore, if blood is to be shed, it will be at the mandate of a petty Ministerial tyrant!

The officer who stoops to execute the hangman's office, rather than lose his commission, must and will be viewed in a most infamous light; whilst the soldier is beheld with an eye of pity and compassion, because the consequence of his disobedience is *death without mercy*. Neither straw, therefore, nor any other convenience that can render a soldier's life comfortable, is withheld from him upon any other principle than that of self-preservation.

If the General requires proof of the certainty of what is here advanced, let him give a regular discharge to all the soldiers under his command, and at the hazard of my head, I will give him incontestable security, that not one of them who is bred to labour, and is willing to work for an honest livelihood, but his industry shall immediately be so conducted, as to gain him from eighteen pence to three shillings sterling, for every faithful day's work he shall perform. For those of them that are honest, industrious manufacturers, convenient room and rough materials shall be provided for them to manufacture; and for those who are bred to husbandry, and the cultivation of lands, they shall become freeholders—sufficient land shall be allotted to them—they shall be assisted to build their houses, and supplied with necessaries to begin their new Plantations. For all these, and more than these benefits, they shall have security, not from one Province only, but the whole Continent.

Although, therefore, their profession is war and bloodshed, must they not shudder at the horrid thought of butchering the lives, and destroying the substance of those who never willingly injured them; but, on the contrary, would rejoice to see their circumstances as comfortable and happy as the friendly offices of their fellow-subjects, and their own industry and economy can make them. For we have land enough, and, therefore, room enough for a million of them.\*

Let not then the community be charged with "shewing enmity to the King's Troops." Let not their "treatment" of them be stigmatized as "hostile." It arises from the "power of necessity, a solicitor that will not be denied; and, therefore, ought not to be resented.

It is difficult to conceive how the General, when he

\* Cannot the wisdom of the Continent devise motives sufficient to conciliate the friendship of the Officers to the dictates of humanity, and convince them that they ought, for their own sakes, to become the defenders, and not the destroyers of Civil and Religious Liberty; since the welfare and prosperity of every well regulated society can rest securely upon no other foundation.

talked of resenting the hostile treatment of the King's Troops since their arrival here, could avoid reflecting that the complaints might, and ought to be retorted an hundred fold.

Have not the inhabitants of this Continent, for years past, been every day defrauded (under colour of laws called *British Statutes*) of money, which has been shamefully lavished upon some of the most worthless characters? And does it not amount almost to a demonstration, that the baneful measure was adopted, not to lessen the national debt, as has been pretended, but with a premeditated design to plunder one part of the community, to bribe the other, and, by spreading general corruption, to establish universal slavery?

Have not the streets of our Capital been stained with the blood of its innocent inhabitants unnecessarily, and therefore wantonly shed by merciless military murderers? Are not our liberties abridged and our Constitution subverted to gratify the avarice and ambition of a few infamously distinguished parricides, who are willing, and by their conduct seem desirous to see their native country ruined, provided they may be permitted to riot in the spoils of it?

Does the *English* language afford words expressive of one half the hostile treatment—the cruel and unparalleled injuries, this Colony has suffered within these few years past, from the Parent State?

Is not our capital invaded by sea and land?—Are not the lives and property of its inhabitants at the mercy of Military and Naval Commanders?—Are not thousands of innocent persons deprived of the means of subsistence, by the annihilation of our Commerce? Must not many of them have inevitably perished with hunger, cold, and famine, had not their charitable brethren, throughout the Continent, come in aid of them?

Have we not been repeatedly threatened with an army of *Canadian* and *Indian* Savages to come, as soon as the season will permit, and invade our frontier settlements, to massacre the innocent inhabitants, and carry their children into captivity. Upon the arrival of every Vessel from *Europe*, are we not alarmed with the news of more Ships-of-war, and Transports with more Troops that are to be here in the Spring; when an open rupture is generally expected?

Has not an unmitred, unprincipled, would-be Bishop of *New-York*, in a pamphlet, under the specious title of "A Friendly Address," but with all the rancour and malice of an infernal fiend, threatened to let loose the dogs of war, like so many hell-hounds, to devour us? But let him beware lest the fate of *Actæon* should be verified in his own person.

*Britons and Americans*: Suffer me, for a moment, to arrest your attention; are not the facts above recited, not only true, but attended with innumerable circumstances of aggravation? Is not the provocation arising from them in a ratio of a million to one, compared with the provocation arising from the pretended hostile treatment of the King's Troops.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY.  
NO. V.

Boston, March 2, 1775.

*My Friends and Countrymen*:

The question which we have been considering is, whether we are not so far independent of the *British* Empire, as to have the exclusive right of legislation inherently and irrefragably in ourselves, except in the instance of regulating Trade. It would give me pain to dwell so long upon a subject so generally understood in its nature, importance, and consequences, were it not to show to what cob-web reasonings the present scheme of Colony administration has driven its votaries; what latitudinarians they have become, in order to *execute* that which, in better times, the proudest Minister that *Britain* ever saw would have been too undaring to have projected.

The right is so clear as to almost elude the force of argumentation—so obvious, as in spite of opposing efforts, to command conviction, and to rank high towards the scale of intuitions—so stale, as to be determined from the first commencement of that relation of things out of which it grew—so indisputable, as to be presumed, and practised



upon for about a century and a half, excepting in a very few instances of singular obliquity, by Kings, Lords, and Commons, by Governours, Counsellors, and Representatives—Parliaments, and Assemblies—*Britons and Americans*.—So confirmed as to have in its favour a whole torrent of histories, records, motives, principles, and proceedings, and, what is more, common sense and fixed habits, so importantly sacred, that no bold venal Parliament—no daring mercenary intriguing Minister, excepting as above, have ever ventured directly to encounter it. Ambition, avarice, venality, corruption, faction, and tyranny have all covered it.—Policy, law, ingenuity, and equity have found it unwieldy, and joined in ample subscriptions to its truth and justice.—How clear, how plain, must a right be, attended with such circumstances?—How cogent, how convincing the reasons which produced them?—It has passed through, almost unsuspected and unobscured, the storms of tyranny and the logs of faction, from *James the First* to a recent date—to the fertile exertions of some modern geniuses, who, by an archangel acuteness, have attempted to reverse the tables of eternal truth, to confound the established course of nature, and, by the awful splendour of an omnipotent Court, to extinguish the candle of human intelligence. Oh unheard of lust of power! *Quid non mortalia pectora cogis auri sacra fames?*

We have considered the principles, and weighed the motives that possessed the breasts of our *British* ancestors, and induced to their emigration hence. We have followed them down through their material walks, until their reception of Letters Patent, forming them into a particular corporate body. We have examined the evidence on the face of those Letters, in favour of a Parliamentary independence. It remains that we inquire whether the same sentiment prevailed under the enjoyment of those Letters Patent, or Charters, that preceded, and was concomitant with their reception.

King *Charles the First* was the ever memorable Prince from whom we received our first Charter. Soon after the restoration of his very pitiful son, *Charles the Second*, the history of the *Massachusetts-Bay* informs us—That the conduct of our Government respecting its rights, in an instance then under consideration, as well as in the then some former instances, might be well accounted for, upon the sentiments of some persons of influence then amongst them. The sentiments which this historian says our Assemblies then adopted, and were governed by in a number of instances, were the following, viz: That birth is no necessary cause of subjection;—that the subjects of any Prince or State had a natural right to remove to any other quarter of the world, and that upon their removal, their subjection determined and ceased;—that the Country to which they themselves had removed, was claimed and possessed by independent Princes, whose right to the sovereignty and lordship thereof had been acknowledged by the Kings of *England*; that they therefore had actually purchased, for valuable consideration, not only the soil, but the dominion, the lordship and sovereignty, of those Princes; and that they had also received a Charter of incorporation from the King, containing a mutual compact, from whence arose a new kind of subjection, to which they were held, and from which they would never depart; that this was what was called a voluntary civil subjection, arising merely from compact; and from thence it followed that whatsoever could be brought into question relative to their subjection, must be determined by their Charter. And that they were to be governed by Laws made by themselves, and by Officers elected by themselves, &c. These were the practical political principles of our Government in an instance of publick conduct, about five and thirty years after the granting of our first Charter, when the Patentees themselves were mostly upon the stage, and must be supposed to understand its tenour and meaning. There were instances of an earlier date, says the same historian, where these principles were practised upon by Government. A very ample testimony of the sense of our ancestors: and which shows that the present system of popular politics is not the creature of a modern patriot brain, that it was embraced from the beginning, and is as old as the Constitution—that it grew up with it, and has been its constant companion.

In the same arbitrary reign, several Acts of Trade and

Navigation respecting the Colonies passed the *British* Parliament, and the above historian informs us, that our Assembly had a difficulty in conforming to them, the reason for which, assigned in a Letter to their Agents then in *England*, was, that “they apprehend them to be an invasion of the rights, liberties, and properties of the subjects of his Majesty in the Colony, they not being represented in Parliament, and according to the usual sayings of the learned in the Law, the Laws of *England* were bounded within the four Seas, and did not reach *America*.” And in fact, as they were not then in a capacity to dispute the point, and vindicate their injured rights by opposing their operation, they made provision by a Law of their own, that they should be observed, and operate by force derived from their own acts, which would have been absurd had they admitted the supreme authority of Parliament.

*Edward Randolph*, who was a busy instrument in the hands of Government, and deeply interested in Colony affairs, in 1676, represents to the Lords of His Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council, appointed a Committee for Trade and Plantations—“That no Law is in force or esteem here, but such as are made by the General Court, and therefore it is accounted a breach of their privileges, and a betraying of the liberties of their Commonwealth, to urge the observations of the Laws of *England*.”

And further, that “there was no notice taken of the Act of Navigation, Plantation, or any other Laws made in *England* for the regulation of Trade;” that—“the Government would make the world believe they are a free State, and do act in all matters accordingly; that the Magistrates ever reserve to themselves a power to alter any Law not agreeing with the absolute authority of their Government, acknowledging no superiour;” and that “the Governour had declared to him, that the Laws of Parliament obligeth them in nothing but what consists with the interests of the Colony, and that the Legislative power and authority is and abides with the Colony solely.” This same *Randolph*, in a Letter to the Bishop of *London*, wherein he urges for a *quo warranto* against their Charter, says, that “independence in Government is claimed and daily practised.” *Vide The publication of Papers by the late Governour Hutchinson*. We have adduced a continued series of facts from an indisputable authority in this case, which proves beyond a doubt the sense that one of the parties had of our first Charter, almost from its first commencement to its final dissolution. Instances might be multiplied, but they are unnecessary to those who have not their minds steeled against the impressions of truth.—There are some, like the adder, whose deaf ear the thunder from *Sinai* would not penetrate—these must abide the consequences of their obstinacy, and grope in the dark at noon-day, until their feet stumble on the black mountains, clanking with chains and with fetters.

The Agents who were unsuccessfully employed by this Province to solicit at the Court of King *William* the restoration of our first Charter, and who, it must be presumed, well understood the second, being present and consulted upon framing of it upon its tenor and operation, gave as a reason for their acceptance:—“Our General Courts having, with the King’s approbation, as much power in *New-England* as the King and Parliament have in *England*; they have all *English* privileges, and can be touched by no law, and by no tax, but of their own making.”—*Vide History of New-England*.

Upon the arrival of our present Charter, in 1692, as appears by the History of this Government, “The first Act of our Assembly was a sort of *Magna Charta*, asserting and setting forth as a general privilege, ‘That no aid, tax, tallage, assessment, custom, loan, benevolence, or imposition whatever, shall be laid, imposed, or levied on any of their Majesties’ subjects, or their estates, on any pretence whatever, but by the Act and consent of the Governour, Council, and Representatives of the people assembled in General Court.’” The above are a few, out of the many instances that might be adduced, where the sense of our ancestors, in a continued and uniform succession of events, is clear, full, and to the point. Could these, and similar instances, have escaped the extensive reading of the fair, of the impartial, and modest *Massachusettsensis*? Especially as they are related by his favourite author, “his setting Sun?” Could he have read them, and yet, con-



sistent with that tremendous regard to truth and rigid impartiality which he every where superabundantly professes, with serious solemnity declare, that "the denial of our being subject to the authority of the *British* Parliament is new. And that it is beyond a doubt, that it was the sense, both of the Parent State and our ancestors, that they were to remain subject to Parliament?"—And, "that if a person had, some fifteen years ago, undertaken to prove that the Colonies were annexed to the Realm, were a part of the *British* Empire or Dominion, and, as such, subject to the authority of the *British* Parliament, he would have acted as ridiculous a part as to have undertaken to prove a self-evident proposition.—And had any person denied it, he would have been called a fool, or madman." Pause, my friends.

You may learn from this instance, the great facility of bare assertions without proof, as well as the persuasive air and graceful talent at making them—if misrepresentations can be graceful.

If the apprehension of the King, who was the other party to our Charter, and the sense of the Nation, at the time it was granted, coincided with the sentiments of our predecessors, it must exclude all doubt respecting our subjection; every quibbling mouth must be stopped from the irresistible conviction of the heart—and every honest man become an advocate for our exemption from the supreme authority of the *British* Parliament. To this, my countrymen, permit me to ask your close and candid attention.

The Colonies in general are in the same predicament. The independence of one will prove the independence of all.\* It may not be altogether impertinent to take a general survey of the doctrines and principles that formed the temper of the times in the reign of *Charles* the First. The ideas of *British* Government were founded upon the feudal system of policy, introduced by our *Saxon* auxiliaries, who, after subduing the Kingdom, divided the land among individuals in proportion to their rank and degree; and every man who by this division became a Freeholder, was then a Member of their Witten Gemote, or Parliament. This feudal polity was universally received, improved, and established in *England*, by the arbitrary will of the *Norman* Conqueror and his powerful Barons. In consequence of which it became a fundamental maxim and necessary principle in the *English* Constitution, "that the King was the universal Lord and original proprietor of all the lands in his Kingdom; and that no man doth, or can possess any part of it, but what was mediately or immediately derived as a gift from him, to be held upon feudal services." This scheme of policy, as it respected the King's prerogatives, continued down until the Statutes of the 12th *Charles* II., Cap. 24, by which all its branches were lopped off at one blow, and in the reign of *William* the Third, of glorious memory, by the Revolution principles, was torn up root and trunk, and the whole tables of power and property reversed. The policy and principles of their Witten Gemote, or Parliament, which contained the life and soul of the *English* Constitution, survived unimpaired this general wreck of preposterous prerogatives. The Nation viewed the power of Parliament as only extending to those assembled therein personally or by Representatives, and assenting to Laws so made. They must have considered, to be consistent with themselves, an extension of the authority of this Assembly to those who have no voice, connection, or influence therein, as unnatural, unjust, and repugnant to the first principles and policy of their Constitution. *Charles* the First, taught by the examples of his predecessors, and confirmed in his error by his Court sycophants, attempted to govern the Nation by the terrors of Royalty, and the absurd doctrine of a Divine, indefeasible right. In the reign of his father, *James* the First, the Judges of *England* determined that the King had a right to levy taxes, called tonnage and poundage, without the consent of Parliament. *Charles*, like an absolute monarch, governed the Nation eleven years without his Commons. For a long time he had exacted tonnage, poundage, ship-money impositions, with other arbitrary taxes, and exercised the right of selling monopolies, requiring benevolences, loans, &c., against the

repeated remonstrances of the Nation. The claiming of these rights, and contending for these prerogatives, was what finally cost him his Crown, and that head which was unworthy to wear it. Ship-money was the tax unauthorized by Parliament, in which the famous *Hampden* stood forth as a champion for the people. The cause was argued in the Court of Exchequer, before all the Judges of *England*. *Hampden* was cast—the Nation roused—and the struggle for Liberty soon began.

Can any one suppose, without doing violence to common sense, that a King, contending for such a plenitude of power, in which he was supported by the examples of his predecessors, and the solemn adjudication of his Judges; possessing such principles, of which he was so tenacious as to seal them with his own blood and the blood of his favourites, meant to imply, in a Charter given to our ancestors, where he grants and yields to them and their successors, that they and every one of them shall be free and quit from all taxes, subsidies, and customs in *New-England*, for the space of seven years, and from all taxes and impositions for the space of twenty-one years, upon all Goods and Merchandise, at any time or times hereafter, either upon importation thither, or exportation from thence, &c.—I say meant to imply that after the expiration of those terms, they should be liable to impositions and taxes from Parliament, and not from himself, (as he considered in some cases his subjects in *England*,) independent of Parliament, or rather, that during these terms he would not himself require us to grant him any subsidies, aids, &c. Can any person imagine this? Was *Massachusettsensis* serious when he said it? Thus we have an argument, *a priori*, the granting of our first Charter, of the sense of the grantor, as we had with respect to our ancestors.

I am not yet done with this clause, which, we are told with an air of merriment, is rather an unfavourable circumstance for those who call the three-penny duty on Tea unconstitutional. If the King has considered this Colony as a part of the *British* Empire, and subject to the authority of Parliament, would he, could he by his own authority, have exempted it from taxes for seven or twenty years? If he could grant to one part of the *British* Empire to be free and quit from taxes, for the same reason he might to any and every part, and so lay the whole expense of Government upon a few individuals. If he could do this for seven or twenty years, for the same reason he might for seventy or seventy times seventy. This proves to demonstration, either that *Charles* the First apprehended, however the fact might be, that this Colony was not a part of the *British* Empire, or if it was, that it was not within the jurisdiction of Parliament. He undoubtedly viewed us as holding our lands of him as Lord paramount, according to the fictitious doctrine of the feudal system, and the Parliament strangers to the transaction.

If it should be said, although this clause does not imply the right in Parliament, yet it proves a right in the King to tax us, and we had as good be under the arbitrary power of the former, as subject to the will or caprice of the latter; we answer, that the present question is not what is best, but what is in reality the fact—not concerning the power of the King, but the right of Parliament. However, it is infinitely better to have but one tyrant than a million. We should have no objection to the King's taxing us by our own Assemblies. But these matters we will consider when we come to them; at present they are nothing to the purpose.

"In 1621, when the Commons proposed a bill to *James* the First, for the free liberty of fishing and fishing voyages, to be made and performed on the sea-coasts and places of *Newfoundland*, *Virginia*, and *New-England*, and other Countries, and parts of *America*," the Secretary of State was sent by His Majesty with the following declaration to the House of Commons, viz: "*America* is not annexed to the Realm, nor within the jurisdiction of Parliament; you have, therefore, no right to interfere;" and for this reason the bill was crushed. In like manner, when a bill respecting *America* was offered by the two Houses of Parliament to King *Charles* the First, (the very Prince who granted our Charter,) for his Royal assent, he refused it, giving as a reason, "that the Colonies were without the Realm and jurisdiction of Parliament." This needs no comment.

\* By independence is not meant any thing inconsistent with the strictest allegiance or subjection to our gracious Sovereign, who glories in being born a *Briton*—the brightest gem in whose crown is to rule in the hearts, and reign over Freemen; or inconsistent with that authority of Parliament necessary for the regulation of Trade, the rectitude and fitness of which we cheerfully acknowledge.



This same King, in a Commission to the Right Reverend Father in God, the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, with a number of others, forming them into a Committee for Regulating of Plantations, after premising that divers of his subjects, with their exceeding industry and charge, had deduced great numbers of *English* subjects into several Colonies, in several places of the world, either altogether desert and unpeopled, or enjoyed by savage and barbarous Nations, gives of his mere grace to the said Commissioned, the following powers of protection and Government, over all *English* Colonies already planted, or that may in future be planted, viz : Power to make Laws, Ordinances, and Constitutions, concerning the publick state of the said Colonies or individuals.—Power for ordering and directing them in their demeanour towards foreign Princes and their subjects, towards ourselves and our subjects, within any foreign parts, beyond seas, during their voyages upon the seas, or to and from the same.—Power to inflict punishment on all offenders, violators of Constitutions and Ordinances, by imprisonment, restraint, or by loss of life or member.—To remove all Governours and Presidents from their places, and to appoint others in their stead ; to punish them by a deprivation of their Provinces, or pecuniary mulcts.—Power to ordain and constitute Judges, Magistrates, Tribunals, Courts of justice, forms of judicature, and manner of process, in all cases, civil or criminal.—Power to alter, revoke, and repeal, all the laws and ordinances, although they may have had our Royal assent ; to make new ones, and to new and growing evils and perils, to apply new remedies, in such manner and so often as unto you shall appear necessary and expedient.—And power to hear and determine all complaints against the whole bodies of the Colonies themselves, or any Governour, and to demand delinquent Governours to *England*, or into any other part, according to your discretion, and also to revoke Charters, if not duly obtained, or if hurtful to our Crown and Royal prerogatives ; and to do all other things which shall be necessary for the wholesome government and protection of the said Colonies, and our people therein abiding,” &c. &c. &c.

This was the very Prince who granted our Charter. If the *British* Parliament had been a Court, in the apprehension of this King, which had cognizance of those matters, would he have erected another, with all the powers that Parliament possess over any part of the *British* Empire for these regulations ? Or, if in apprehension of the *British* Parliament themselves, would they have acquiesced in, and submitted to the exercise of such powers ? Could the most absolute King that ever swayed the *British* Sceptre, have exercised such powers over any part of the Empire that was within the jurisdiction of Parliament ? Has the Grand Monarch more authority ? Does not this prove beyond a contradiction, that *Charles* the First viewed the Colonies as independent of the Empire, and exempt from the authority of Parliament, even in the matter of regulating Trade ? Lay your hand upon your breast, and let conscience answer.

In the reign of *Charles* the Second, several Acts passed abridging Trade with foreign Countries, and imposing duties upon several branches of Commerce between the Colonies, for the express purpose of regulating Trade, as the preamble of the Acts themselves demonstrate, and not to raise a Revenue to the Crown by the authority of Parliament. *Virginia* considered even these as grievances, and sent Agents to *England* to remonstrate against taxes and impositions being laid upon the Colony by the authority of Parliament.

This produced a declaration from the King, under the Privy Seal, asserting that “Taxes ought not to be laid upon the inhabitants and proprietors of the Colony but by the common consent of the General Assembly of the Colony.” Accordingly, this Monarch, when a permanent Revenue for the support of Civil Government in *Virginia* was deemed necessary, did not attempt it by Parliamentary authority, but applied to their General Assembly ; and an Act passed under the Great Seal, in which it was enacted, “by the King’s most Excellent Majesty,” by and with the consent of the Colony of *Virginia*, &c. This Act granted a duty on Tobacco, for the support of Civil Government, which is still paid by virtue of it. Had this Colony been a part of the *British* Empire, in the apprehension of the King, he could not have become a part of their Legislative authority, in making a law to tax the people there. This

would involve the political solecism, with a witness, of *imperium in imperio* ; the King, Lords, and Commons forming the only Legislative power over the *British* Empire. The Parliament passing this affair over *sub silentio*, shows sufficiently their apprehension of the matter. In these instances, the sense of *Charles* the First, of his immediate predecessor, and successor ; three successive Kings, privy in the order of events to our emigration, incorporation, and legislation under that incorporation, is as clear, and as full as words or actions could make them.

It is obvious to observe here, that a compact, or an agreement between parties, is only the mutual assent or consent of their minds, touching something which is the subject matter of their contract. The writing upon parchment or paper, is only the evidence of this assent. The agreement is, in the language of the learned, *aggregatio mentium in realiqua facta vel facienda*.

Make, my friends, a recollective pause. Permit me to ask you the following simple questions : Does not the King of *England* hold his Crown by compact ? Is not the relation that is subsisting between him and his subjects in *Great Britain*, founded upon compact ? Is not the relation that is subsisting between us and *Great Britain*, founded upon compact ? Was not our Charter the evidence of this compact ? Was it not the sense of King *Charles* the First, and of our ancestors, the parties to this Charter, that this Colony was not a part of the Empire, and should not be subject to the authority of Parliament ? Is not this sense of the parties, the very essence and vitals of the compact ? Were we not, then, upon the reception of our Charter, independent of the Supreme power of the Parent State ? And are we not so now, of course, unless some subsequent transaction has united us ? If you cannot answer all these questions clearly in the affirmative, I have only this favour to ask, which you cannot reasonably deny me, that you carefully review our past reasonings upon those subjects, with minds open to conviction ; reconsider adduced facts fairly in their nature, tendency, and circumstances ; and deliberately revolving the whole process in your own breast, judging for yourselves, yield your assent wherever the evidence preponderates.

You will excuse me, my fellow-countrymen, for having carried you into this dry detail of historical matters—matters that are well known—that have been often repeated. My design was to stir up your pure minds, by way of remembrance, when you are told, with an air of seriousness bordering upon devotion, that the Colonies have always been considered by the *British* Nation, and by the Colonists themselves, until within these few years, as within the jurisdiction of Parliament ; a representation as remote from truth, as was ever propagated by the tongue of man, or the pen of prostitution ; at a time when Royal Charters, National Faith, and the eternal principle of justice, on which they are founded, are puffed away by a *British* Senate, as motes and straws floating in the air ; and the civil and natural rights of as loyal a people as ever breathed *God’s* air, or trod his earth, all prostrate at the feet of a Minister of State, are by his \*\*\*\*\* wantonly trampled under foot.

It is unnecessary to say any thing to rouse the *Americans*. That man must be dead—past reanimating, who is not wide awake. He would discharge a kinder office, was there not danger of our dozing too long, who would administer political opiates, to render us, if possible, insensible of the cruel, barbarous, distressing, horrid oppressions we suffer, and unfeeling to the studied indignities that are offered us ; that would enable us to suppress the emotions and ebullitions of an *English* heart ; and by our spirit and firmness, moderation and forbearance, form a paradox which none but *Americans* can solve ; keeping our swords in their scabbards, unless urgent necessity, or self-preservation should call them forth, and sheath them elsewhere.

FROM THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK,  
DATED LONDON, MARCH 2, 1775.

The friends of *America*, on the arrival of the Packet, were much alarmed at a report, that *New-York* was disaffected to the common cause, and determined to break the Resolves of the Congress, especially that of non-importa-



tion ; however, we had the pleasure, from the best accounts, to find it otherwise, and that we had little reason to fear the late Resolutions of your Assembly would produce any change in your proceedings. I have now to inform you that, notwithstanding all we could do, the Fishery Bill was yesterday read the third time, and passed the House of Commons, whereby a stop is to be put to all the Fisheries on the first of *July*, except the Whale Fishery, which is to be continued to the first of *November*. Every impartial man must, in his heart, condemn a Bill so replete with inhumanity and cruelty ; and it will be an everlasting stain on the annals of our pious Sovereign, who, from the best accounts, is the grand promoter of these proceedings. We hope the firmness of your countrymen will evince to all the world your just sense of measures so unjust ; and will, in due season, retort them with vengeance, on the guilty heads of the enemies of the *British Empire*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MARCH 3, 1775.

Lest you should not have a true idea of Lord *North's* design in his motion, I send you the enclosed paper,\* which gives a pretty just account of what he said on the occasion, and shows plainly it was planned to divide the Colonies, as well as the friends of Liberty here ; in both of which I hope he will be deceived. The Bill against the four *New-England* Governments, of which you have had a copy, will finally pass the House of Commons this day, and is to take place the first day of *July* next. You may rely upon it, that in a few days another Bill will be brought into the House of Commons, to prohibit the other Colonies from any commercial intercourse with each other, and to confine their Trade in every individual article to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British West Indies* only. My best information tells me, that General *Gage* is still to continue in *Massachusetts-Bay* ; some of the Troops going from hence and *Ireland* are for *Boston*, the others for *New-York*, where they have, it is said, been requested to be sent, by *Delancy* and his band of traitors—*Cooper*, *White*, *Colden*, and *Watts*—to aid them in securing *New-York* for the Ministry. This, it seems, they have undertaken to do, with Military assistance.

*New-York* is to be a place of Arms, and Provisions are to be provided there for support of the Army in *New-England* ; at the same time they hope, by having possession of *New-York*, to prevent any assistance from *Virginia*, *Maryland*, *Pennsylvania*, and the other Southern Colonies, going to *New-England*, of which they are very apprehensive. I hope there is virtue enough in the people of *New-York* to defeat this scheme, and that they will banish from their society the heads, at least, of the traitors, before the Troops get there to back them, which cannot be sooner than the last of *May*.

I do not see occasion to advise what is best to be done in the present situation of things, because if you mean to continue Freemen, resistance, even to the last extremity, must be made, and, if with united efforts, it will, in my opinion, assuredly be successful. If you are willing to be Slaves, you are only to submit at once, and wear your chains quietly.

I do not entertain the least doubt of your persevering in so noble a contest, and with proper application the Colony of *New-York* will, I think, join you heartily.

EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOUR OF GEORGIA.

Whitehall, March 3, 1775.

SIR : I have received your letters of the 19th and 20th of *December*, the latter numbered thirty-five, and have laid them before the King. But having nothing in command from His Majesty thereupon, I have only to lament, that His Majesty's subjects in *Georgia*, who have hitherto, in general, shown so great respect for the Mother Country, and loyalty to the King, should have, at length, manifested a disposition to adopt the sentiments, and follow the ill example, of their neighbours. But I trust that the measures I have taken for your support, and the zeal and alacrity of the King's Officers, and of those gentlemen who you say stand forth in the maintenance of the publick peace, will

\* See Vol. I, Folio 1600, Note.

have the effect to prevent the Sons of Liberty, as they are called, from committing themselves in any act of violence.

I find, by a letter from Mr. *Cooper* to Mr. *Pownall*, that the Lords of the Treasury have had under their consideration, the proposition which you transmitted some years ago, in the shape of a Bill for better collecting His Majesty's Quit Rents. They seem, however, to be of opinion, that the provisions of an Act of the Province of *North-Carolina* for the same purpose, which they have had before them, are better calculated to answer the object in view than the Bill you recommended ; and principally, because it enacts, that no Patent, Deed, or Conveyance of Land shall be held valid, unless enrolled in the manner the Act directs ; whereas, in your Bill, the enrollment is enforced merely by penalty. I therefore think fit to send you a copy of the *North-Carolina Act* ; that, by comparing the two together, you may be enabled to frame and pass such a law, as shall correspond with the sentiments of that Board.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

Sir *James Wright*, Baronet, *Georgia*.

FROM THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOURS OF  
THE SEVERAL COLONIES.

[ Private. ]

Whitehall, March 3, 1775.

SIR : It is fit that I should acquaint you that the Resolutions of the House of Commons, which accompanies my separate despatch, passed in the Committee by a majority of two hundred and seventy-four to eighty-eight ; and was received and agreed to by the House without a division. And, indeed, the great majorities which have appeared in both Houses, upon every question that has been proposed for maintaining the supremacy of Parliament, is such an evidence of the general sense of the Nation upon that subject, as must show how little ground there has been for those assurances which have been artfully held out to the *Americans* of support here, in the dangerous conduct they have adopted ; and convince them that there neither can, nor will be any the least relaxation from those measures which that conduct has made indispensably necessary for reducing the Colonies to the constitutional authority of Parliament. I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governour of  
*South-Carolina*.

FROM THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOUR OF  
PENNSYLVANIA.

Whitehall, March 3, 1775.

SIR : By the mail of the last *New-York Packet*, I received your despatch of the 30th *January*, and have laid it before the King ; but as my Circular Letter to you of this date, enclosing the Resolution of the House of Commons on the 20th of *February*, contains such instructions as have been thought fit to be given to His Majesty's Governours in the Colonies, in the present situation of affairs, I have not any particular commands from the King to signify to you thereupon.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

Deputy Governour *Penn.*

FROM THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOURS OF  
THE COLONIES.

Whitehall, February 22, 1775.

SIR : Enclosed I send you, by the King's command, a Joint Address of both Houses of Parliament to His Majesty, upon a consideration of the Papers which had been communicated to them relative to the state of the *American Colonies*, together with His Majesty's most gracious answer to the said Address.

I likewise send you a printed copy of a Bill brought into the House of Commons, for Restraining the Trade and Fisheries of the four *New-England* Governments for a limited time ; together with a copy of a Resolution declaratory of the sense of Parliament upon the subject of Taxation, which Resolution was moved in the Committee on



*Monday* last, and carried by a majority of two hundred and seventy-four to eighty-eight.

As these two measures are as yet in the first stages only of consideration, and as the Bill may possibly admit, in its further progress, of some alteration, I shall only say upon them, that I flatter myself that the firm determination of Parliament to preserve the Colonies in a due dependance upon this Kingdom, tempered with the justice and moderation expressed in the last Resolution of the Committee, will have the effect to produce such a conduct on the part of the Colonies as shall lead to a restoration of the publick tranquillity.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

Deputy Governour of *Pennsylvania*.

FROM THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOURS OF THE COLONIES.

[ Separate. ]

Whitehall, March 3, 1775.

SIR: You will have seen, in the King's Answer to the Joint Address of both Houses of Parliament, on the 7th of *February*, (which Address and Answer have been already transmitted to you,) how much attention His Majesty was graciously pleased to give to the assurance held out in that Address, of the readiness of Parliament to afford every just and reasonable indulgence to the Colonies, whenever they should make a proper application, on the ground of any real grievance they might have to complain of; and therefore I have the less occasion now to enlarge upon the satisfaction it hath given His Majesty to see that Address followed by the enclosed Resolution of the House of Commons, which, whatever may be the effect of it, (I trust a happy one,) will forever remain an evidence of their justice and moderation, and manifest the temper which has accompanied their deliberations upon that question, which has been the source of so much disquiet to His Majesty's subjects in *America*, and the pretence of acts of such criminal disorder and disobedience.

His Majesty ardently wishes to see a reconciliation of the unhappy difference which has produced those disorders, through every means by which it may be obtained, without prejudice to the just authority of Parliament, which His Majesty will never suffer to be violated; approves the Resolution of his faithful Commons, and commands me to transmit it to you, not doubting that this happy disposition to comply with every just and reasonable wish of the King's subjects in *America*, will meet with such a return of duty and affection on their part, as will lead to a happy issue of the present disputes, and to a re-establishment of the publick tranquillity, on those grounds of equity, justice, and moderation, which the Resolution holds forth.

The King has the greater satisfaction in this Resolution, and the greater confidence in the good effects of it, from having seen that, amidst all the intemperance into which a people, jealous of their liberties, have been unfortunately misled, they have nevertheless avowed the justice, the equity, and the propriety of subjects of the same State contributing, according to their abilities and situation, to the Publick Burdens; and I think I am warranted in saying that this Resolution holds no proposition beyond that.

I am unwilling to suppose that any of the King's subjects in the Colonies can have so far forgot the benefits they have received from the Parent State, as not to acknowledge that it is to her support, held forth at the expense of her blood and treasure, that they principally owe that security which hath raised them to their present state of opulence and importance. In this situation, therefore, justice requires that they should, in return, contribute, according to their abilities, to the common defence; and their own welfare and interest demand that their Civil Establishment should be supported with a becoming dignity.

It has been the care, and, I am persuaded, it is the firm determination of Parliament to see that both these ends are answered; and their wisdom and moderation have suggested the propriety of leaving to each Colony to judge of the ways and means of making due provision for these purposes, reserving to themselves a discretionary power of approving or disapproving what shall be offered.

The Resolution neither points out what the Civil Establishment should be, nor demands any specific sum in aid

of the Publick Burdens. In both these respects it leaves full scope for that justice and liberality which may be expected from Colonies that, under all their prejudices, have never been wanting in expressions of an affectionate attachment to the Mother Country, and a zealous regard for the welfare of the *British Empire*; and therefore the King trusts that the provision they will engage to make for the support of Civil Government, will be adequate to the rank and station of every necessary Officer, and that the sum to be given in contribution to the common defence, will be offered on such terms, and proposed in such a way, as to increase or diminish, according to the Publick Burdens of this Kingdom are from time to time augmented or reduced, in so far as those Burdens consist of Taxes and Duties, which are not a security for the National Debt. By such a mode of contribution, the Colonies will have full security that they can never be required to tax themselves, without Parliament's taxing the subjects of this Kingdom in a far greater proportion; and there can be no doubt that any proposition of this nature, made by any of the Colonies, and accompanied with such a state of their facilities and abilities, as may evince the equity of the proposal, will be received with every possible indulgence, provided it be, at the same time, unaccompanied with any declaration, and unmixed with any claims which will make it impossible for the King, consistent with his own dignity, or for Parliament, consistent with their constitutional rights, to receive it. But I will not suppose that any of the Colonies will, after this example of the temper and moderation of Parliament, adopt such a conduct; on the contrary, I will cherish a pleasing hope that the publick peace will be restored, and that the Colonies, forgetting all other trivial and groundless complaint which ill humour hath produced, will enter into the consideration of the Resolution of the House of Commons with that calmness and deliberation which the importance of it demands, and with that good will and inclination to a reconciliation which are due to the candour and justice with which Parliament has taken up this business, and at once declare to the Colonies what will be ultimately expected from them.

I have already said that the King entirely approves the Resolution of the House of Commons, and His Majesty commands me to say, that a compliance therewith by the General Assembly of *New-York*, [which has already shewn so good a disposition towards a reconciliation with the Mother Country,\*] will be most graciously considered by His Majesty, not only as a testimony of their reverence for Parliament, but also as a mark of their duty and attachment to their Sovereign, who has no object nearer to his heart than the peace and prosperity of his subjects in every part of his Dominions. At the same time His Majesty considers himself bound by every tie to exert those means the Constitution has placed in his hands, for preserving that Constitution entire, and to resist with firmness every attempt to violate the rights of Parliament, to distress and obstruct the lawful Commerce of his subjects; and to encourage in the Colonies ideas of independence, inconsistent with their connection with this Kingdom.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

Governour of *New-York*.

*Copy of a Resolution of the House of Commons, 27th February, 1775, enclosed by the Earl of DARTMOUTH, in his Circular Letter to the Governours of the Colonies, dated March 3, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That when the Governour, Council and Assembly, or General Court of any of His Majesty's Provinces or Colonies in *America*, shall propose to make provision according to the condition, circumstances and situation of such Province or Colony, for contributing their proportion to the common defence, (such proportion to be raised under the authority of the General Court or General Assembly of such Province or Colony, and disposable by Parliament,) and shall engage to make provision also for the support of the Civil Government, and the Administration of Justice in such Province or Colony, it will be proper, if such proposal shall be approved by His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament, and for so long as such

\* These words were omitted in the Letters to the other Colonies.



provision shall be made accordingly, to forbear in respect of such Province or Colony, to levy any Duty, Tax or Assessment, or to impose any further Duty, Tax or Assessment, except only such Duties as it may be expedient to continue to levy, or to impose for the regulation of Commerce; the net produce of the Duties last mentioned to be carried to the account of such Province or Colony respectively

EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOUR OF NEW-YORK.

[Private.]

Whitehall, March 3, 1775.

SIR: My separate despatch of this day's date, enclosing a Resolution of the House of Commons, may be ostensibly of use in case the General Assembly should think fit to take up the consideration of that Resolution; but it is fit I should observe to you that it is not His Majesty's intention, for very obvious reasons, that you should officially communicate it to them; at the same time as I think it cannot fail to be an object of discussion in the Assembly, I must add that the King considers that the good effect of it will, in a great measure, depend upon your ability and address in a proper explanation of it to those whose situation and connections may enable them to give facility to the measures it points to. And His Majesty has no doubt that you will exert every endeavour to induce such a compliance on the part of the Assembly, as may correspond with His Majesty's ideas of their justice, and his earnest wishes to see a happy restoration of the publick tranquillity.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

Lientenant Governour of *New-York*.

FROM THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOUR OF NEW-YORK.

Whitehall, March 4, 1775.

SIR: The *American* Packets having been detained a few days beyond the usual time of their sailing, gives me an opportunity of acquainting you, that your despatch of the first of *February* has been received, and of assuring you that the sentiments of duty to the King, and wishes of a reconciliation with the Mother Country, so fully expressed in the Addresses of the Council and Assembly, in answer to your very prudent and proper Speech to them, have been very graciously received by His Majesty, and have given general satisfaction to all ranks of people in this Kingdom.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

Lieutenant Governour *Colden*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON, TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK, DATED MARCH 4, 1775.

The news which the Packet brought us of the conduct of the people of *New-York*, has filled every heart with joy, and employed every tongue in your praise. Even faction itself admires in sullen silence. Pursue the same line of mild and prudent counsel and conduct, and you will secure the liberties of your Country, and obtain immortal gratitude from the posterity of even your rivals.

I am glad you anticipated Lord *North's* proposition, as your honour will be so much the higher. Whatever the enemies of both Countries may say, the Resolution which was moved for by Lord *North*, is founded on the truest policy and benevolence. While it reserves and maintains the just and necessary sovereignty of Parliament, it invites the Colonists to an amicable settlement of the dispute. It draws a strong line between the seditious and honest (the misguided) citizen, and, while it leaves the former to be checked by the sword of justice, leads the latter to obedience, by granting him all the indulgence he could ask with safety to his own happiness. It blends that firmness and benevolence which are always united in the counsels of a prudent Legislature.

Such is the proposed Resolution; which Opposition will, without doubt, outrageously censure and traduce, because it will destroy their sanguine hopes of success, by tending to allay popular discontents, and renew the friendship of *Great Britain* and her Colonies. They foresee, with all the bitterness of envy, the triumph of their rivals, and

sicken at the prospect of that publick tranquillity, over the imaginary destruction of which they smiled with malignant joy.—In the rage of disappointment, they forgot the necessary appearance of consistency, and charge the same Administration with timidity and an ignorant retreat, which they, but yesterday, censured with obstinate perseverance and inflexible severity. The former accusation is as groundless as the latter. Administration pursues the equitable and honourable line between both extremes, equally remote from undistinguishing impetuosity and wavering irresolution. The proposition in question discovers not the faintest colour of a resignation of Parliamentary authority, or sacrifice of its dignity.

The proposals of the Colonies, which it invites, are to be made by their Assemblies. The contested question about the right of taxation is to cease, with respect to such Province or Colony as shall propose to make provision by its Assembly, according to its situation and circumstances, for contributing its proportion to the common defence, and for the support of the Civil Government, and the Administration of Justice within itself.

By this salutary measure, therefore, the necessity and just authority of Parliament will be preserved, and the *Americans* gratified in their wish of being taxed by their own Representatives. The Legislature will still possess the unalienable power of commanding and employing the strength of the State in the common defence; and the Colonies enjoy the privilege of levying taxes in such modes as are most expedient and agreeable to themselves. While they cheerfully contribute their proportion for the support of their own Civil Establishment, and the general preservation and defence of the Empire, no taxes will be attempted to be levied on them but what are imposed by their own Representatives. When they refuse to fulfil their engagements, and will not assist in bearing the common burdens, Parliament will then only interfere, and exert that power which must necessarily reside in the Supreme Legislature, of obliging all the subjects of the State to co-operate for its preservation and defence.

By this measure, therefore, Parliament will give a new and honourable proof, that its decisions are guided by benevolence and fortitude: that when it sends forth the sword of justice to restrain and punish the factious, it extends also the most reasonable and friendly proposals to invite the good, though deluded citizen, to peace and reconciliation.

CHOWAN COUNTY (NORTH-CAROLINA) COMMITTEE.

March 4, 1775.

The Committee met at the House of Capt. *James Sumner*, and the gentlemen appointed at a former meeting of Directors, to promote subscriptions for the encouragement of Manufactures, informed the Committee that the sum of Eighty Pounds Sterling was subscribed by the inhabitants of this County for that laudable purpose. The Committee, taking into consideration the manner in which said sum may be applied, so as to redound to the utility of this Province in general, and to this County in particular, resolved, that the sum of Forty Pounds Sterling be paid by the Chairman of the Committee to any person who shall, in eighteen months from the date hereof, first make in this Province, or cause to be therein made, under his direction, five hundred pair of Wool Cards, such as usually cost One Shilling and Three Pence Sterling, in *Great Britain*; and five hundred pair of good Cotton Cards, such as usually cost Two Shillings and Six Pence Sterling in *Great Britain*, which the Committee hereby oblige themselves to purchase and pay, ready money, for, at the rate of Two Shillings Sterling for the Wool Cards, and Three Shillings Sterling a pair for the Cotton Cards; and it is expected that the person entitled to such premiums shall furnish them at that price. The quality and price that such Cards usually cost in *Great Britain* to be submitted to the Committee.

The Committee also offer a premium of Forty Pounds Sterling, to be paid by the Chairman of the Committee, to the person who shall first make for sale, in this Province, two thousand pounds of good Steel, fit for edged tools. The Committee are apprehensive the premiums here offered are too inconsiderable to induce any person to attempt the



above branches of business ; but they flatter themselves that the other Counties in this Province, stimulated by the same laudable motives to promote industry, one of the primary sources of virtue and wealth, may join them, in order that the above branches of Manufacture may be effectually carried into execution ; in which case, it is hoped the Committees of such Counties as are desirous to contribute, will correspond with this Committee upon the subject, that the whole Premium offered may appear at once in the papers abroad, in which it is proposed to have it published.

The Committee likewise offer a Premium of Ten Pounds, Proclamation Money, to be paid by their Chairman, to any person who shall, within twelve months from this date, first produce one hundred yards of well fulled Woollen Cloth to the Committee, spun and wove in this County, and fulled in any County within the District of the Superiour Court of *Edenton*; and a Premium of Ten Pounds, like money, to be paid by the Chairman, to the person who shall, within twelve months from this date, first produce to the Committee one hundred yards of well bleached Linen, such as usually costs Two Shillings Sterling in *Great Britain*; and the sum of Five Pounds, like money, to any person who shall produce one hundred yards of Linen, next in quality, not of less value than what usually costs One Shilling and Eight Pence Sterling, in *Great Britain*; and both kinds of Linen to be manufactured in this County; and the quality of them to be submitted to the judgment of the Committee. Signed by order of the Committee,

SAMUEL JONES, Clerk.

Durham, New-Hampshire, March, 4, 1775.

MR. FOWLE: Whereas, some evil-minded and malicious persons have asserted that a number of people in the Town of *Durham* are about forming themselves into a Company, in order to throw off all obedience to the Militia Officers, and set at defiance the Laws of Government: I desire you to publish the Articles of Inlistment in your next paper, that the publick may judge how little foundation there is for so scandalous a report. The Articles are as follows:

"We, the Subscribers, do hereby agree to form ourselves into a Company, and meet at *Durham Falls*, on every *Monday* afternoon, for six months next coming, to acquaint ourselves with the Military Art, and instruct each other in the various manœuvres and evolutions which are necessary for Infantry in time of battle. We also agree to appear each time well furnished with Arms and Ammunition: And at our first meeting, to nominate and appoint the several Officers, who are to preside over us for the first month, and then proceed to appoint others for the next month, always avoiding to re-elect any that have served, until all the others have gone through their tour of duty, as Officers: And at any muster or field-day, we shall hold ourselves obliged to incorporate with the respective Companies to which we belong, and yield all due obedience to the proper Officers of the Militia, appointed by the Captain General; and endeavour to instruct those who are undisciplined in the best manner we are able."

Signed by eighty-two reputable inhabitants.

This is an exact copy of the Articles, which any person that yet remains in doubt may be satisfied of by applying to me and viewing the original, a sight of which may, at any time, be had; and was there nothing more illegal and injurious in a late paper, signed by several persons in this Province, I believe the signers would not take so much pains in keeping it from the publick view. But whatever may be the purport of that, I rejoice in laying the contents of this before the people, that they may judge whether it has the least appearance of an illegal combination, or whether, on the contrary, it does not appear to be a well concerted plan to promote and encourage the Military Art. I flatter myself that even malice itself could not adjudge this to be an unjustifiable measure, or suggest that any part of it looks like treason or rebellion; and I can account for the scandalous report concerning it, in no other way, but by supposing that these defamers expected (according to the custom of this day) to be rewarded for their slander by some posts of honour or profit.

Sir, I am your very humble servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

ON MR. SULLIVAN'S LETTER, OF MARCH 4, 1775.

MR. FOWLE: In a publication in your last paper, under the signature of Mr. *Sullivan*, we have been favoured with a copy of an Engagement entered into by a number of people to meet at *Durham Falls*, once a week, for the space of six months to come, in order to acquire Military skill, under Officers to be appointed by themselves, monthly.

As this is a matter of publick concern, I shall beg permission, Mr. Printer, through the channel of your paper, to lay some animadversions before the publick upon it, which, I think, it would be unpardonable to neglect.

In the first place, the appointment of all Military Officers, whether for a day, a week, or a month, is the sole right of the King, or of those deriving authority from him, and (to treat the matter in the most moderate terms) it is a very improper step for any body of men to assume that power to themselves, upon any occasion or pretence whatsoever.

The Laws of the Province require the Militia to be drawn forth, to learn the Military exercise, four times a year, and no more. Mr. *Sullivan* may, probably, tell us that this new-modeled Company does not come under this limitation; yet I presume he will not deny but that the meeting of any part of the Militia—and these people declare themselves to belong to it—any otherwise than the law directs, is, at least, an evasion, if not a direct violation of the law, both which ought to be equally avoided.

The Town of *Durham*, by having eighty-two of its inhabitants employed one day in a week, (for we cannot suppose they will mind any other business on those days,) for six months, in Military exercises, instead of their husbandry, will sustain a damage of Three Hundred and Twenty-Seven Pounds, lawful money, computing the loss of their labour only at half a dollar a day, for each person. Supposing, now, that all the men in the Province, fit to bear arms, which may be reasonably calculated at fourteen thousand, should catch this Military ardour, as most infections are catching; and according to the tendency of this plan, follow the example of *Durham*, it would, after *Durham* fashion, occasion a damage of Fifty-Four Thousand Pounds, lawful money, to the Province. A pretty tax, truly, for a new Country! Whatever reason Mr. *Sullivan* may have to rejoice in thus leading on the people to their own damage, I am sure the Province would have abundant reason not to rejoice in his rejoicing, but to regret their own folly; and it is well known that many are, at this day, in the like predicament on account of some past transactions amongst us. I hope, therefore, the people will judge for themselves, and avoid incurring a damage to the Province, which, no doubt, the Legislature had in contemplation to prevent, by limiting the times of training the Militia to four days in a year.

Moreover, this extraordinary spirit to acquire the use of Arms, at a juncture when the noise of civil discord begins to roar in our neighbourhood, marks strongly a disposition to employ our Arms against the power and authority we ought to support and defend; every appearance of which should be avoided with the utmost caution and circumspection.

As I wish not, Mr. Printer, to trespass too much on your indulgence, I shall, for the present, only take notice that, though *Sullivan* plainly discovers the *Durham* plan to be a child of his own; yet I still hope he will, upon reflection, have candour enough to acknowledge the deformities of his baby, and take it in good part in me, to advise him to abandon the system he hath for some time past been engaged in; a system manifestly tending to bring calamity and distress upon the good people of this once happy Province.

MONITOR.

MR. SULLIVAN'S REPLY TO "MONITOR."

MR. PRINTER: In your paper of the 17th instant, I observed a piece, signed by a person who calls himself *Monitor*, full of ill-natured reflections upon an Agreement entered into by a number of persons in *Durham*, to assemble once a week, for the space of six months, to instruct each other in the Military Art. The feeble attempts of this scurrilous writer to display his wit in the former and latter part of his nonsensical piece, can deserve nothing but contempt and ridicule.



His assertion, that a number of persons assembling for the purpose of instructing each other in the art of War, and appointing persons to give the words of command, interferes with the Royal prerogative in the appointment of Officers, and amounts to an evasion, if not a violation, of the Province Laws, fully demonstrates his ignorance, both of the Law and Constitution.

The curious calculation he makes of the loss *New-Hampshire* must sustain if the same military ardour (which he ignorantly calls an infection) should prevail throughout the Province, merits the ridicule of all mankind.

I am surprised that this curious calculator (while his hand was in) did not inform us of the amazing loss this Government sustains by devoting a seventh part of the time to religious exercises; and endeavour to convince us that, as our clothing costs a large sum, it would be best to go naked.

After which, I should be glad to know from him, if we were to lay down our arms, and make the infamous submission he contends for, how much money we should be able to earn in a day, and how much of our earnings we should be able to keep in our pockets.

I hope the publick will excuse my not giving a more serious and particular answer to the production of a dis-tempered brain, as that might make him wise in his own conceit, and induce this nonsensical scribbler to think himself a person of some consequence.

I shall conclude with reminding him, "that a shoe-maker never ought to go beyond his last."

Yours, JOHN SULLIVAN.

#### TO THE FREEMEN OF VIRGINIA.

Committee Chamber, Norfolk, March 6, 1775.

Trusting to your sure resentment against the enemies of your Country, we, the *Committee*, elected by *ballot* for the Borough of *Norfolk*, hold up for your just indignation Mr. *John Brown*, Merchant, of this place. We are fully sensible of the great caution with which publick censure should be inflicted; and, at all times, are heartily disposed to accomplish the great design of the Association by the gentle methods of reason and persuasion. But an unhappy proneness to unmanly equivocation, which has so much distinguished Mr. *Brown*, and for which he has, in more than one instance, been censured by the voice of the people, added to the present manifest discovery of his secret and most direct attempt to defeat the measures of the Congress, in the case now before us, and of some very unjustifiable steps taken to conceal his disingenuous conduct, hath precluded us from the milder methods we would wish to adopt, and compelled us to give the publick the following narration: On *Thursday*, the 2d of *March*, this *Committee* were informed of the arrival of the Brig *Fanny*, Captain *Watson*, with a number of *Slaves* for Mr. *Brown*; and, upon inquiry, it appeared that they were shipped from *Jamaica* as his property, and on his account; that he had taken great pains to conceal their arrival from the knowledge of the *Committee*; and that the shipper of the *Slaves*, Mr. *Brown's* correspondents, and the Captain of the Vessel, were all fully apprized of the Continental prohibition against that article. These circumstances induced a suspicion that Mr. *Brown* had given orders for the *Slaves* himself, which he positively denied, asserting that he had expressly forbidden his correspondents to send any, as being contrary to the Association, for the truth of which he appealed to his own letter-book. The Secretary being desired, at the request of Mr. *Brown*, to attend him to inspect the orders said to have been given, reported that he had had some slight and hasty glances at letters written between the middle of *December* and beginning of *January*, and was sorry to say he had seen one directed to Mr. *Henderson*, and another to Mr. *Livingston*, both of the date of *December*, and a third to Messrs. *Campbells*, of the first of *January*, all containing positive and particular orders for remittances to be made him in *Slaves*; at the same time hinting the necessity of secrecy, as it is an article, he writes, he could not avowedly deal in. The Secretary also reported, that he had seen a postscript, written a few days after the determination of this *Committee*, directing the return of a *Slave* imported from *Antigua*, in which postscript Mr. *Brown* writes his correspondent to send

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him no more than two *Negro* lads, as it would be dangerous to sell them here. But his orders to his other correspondents appear to have been so positive that they were complied with, notwithstanding his friend writes him that good *Slaves* would sell to more advantage in *Jamaica* than in *Virginia*. From the whole of this transaction, therefore, we, the *Committee* for *Norfolk* Borough, do give it as our unanimous opinion, that the said *John Brown* has wilfully and perversely violated the Continental Association, to which he had, with his own hand, subscribed obedience; and that agreeable to the Eleventh Article we are bound "forthwith to publish the truth of the case, to the end that all such foes to the rights of *British America* may be publickly known, and universally contemned, as the enemies of *American Liberty*, and that every person may henceforth break off all dealings with him."

MATTHEW PHRIPP, *Chairman*.

|                   |                     |                   |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| James Taylor,     | Thomas Newton, Jr., | Niel Jamieson,    |
| John Hutchings,   | Thomas Ritson,      | Robert Taylor,    |
| John Lawrence,    | John Boush,         | Thomas Claiborne, |
| Joseph Hutchings, | James Holt,         | Samuel Inglis.    |

Extract from the Minutes.

WILLIAM DAVIES, *Secretary*.

#### BALTIMORE (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a Meeting of the *Committee* of Observation at *Baltimore*, March 6, 1775, present Forty-two Members:—

Captain *William Moat*, of the Brig *Sally*, from *Bristol*, appeared before the *Committee*, and reported his cargo on oath, consisting of one hundred tons of *British Salt*, and twenty-four indented *Servants*. The Captain further reports that he took in his *Salt* before the 12th day of *December*, and on or about that day he fell down the River with his Vessel, to a place called *Rowland Ferry*, there to take in his *Servants*; that he continued there until the 23d, and sailed from *King-Road* the 24th of *December*.

On motion made by Doctor *John Stevenson*, to whom Captain *Moat's* Vessel and Cargo were addressed, that he might have liberty to land the said cargo of *Salt*, alleging it ought only to be considered as ballast, and was not intended to be prohibited by the Association of the Continental Congress,

The *Committee* took into consideration the state of the said Brig *Sally*, Captain *William Moat*:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the *Salt* imported in said Brig be not landed.

#### CUMBERLAND COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

Cumberland County, New-Jersey, March 6, 1775.

The *Committee* of the County of *Cumberland*, in *New-Jersey*, met at *Bridgetown*; and after reading the Association of the *American Congress*, it appeared, by the voluntary declaration of *Silas Newcomb*, Esquire, a Member of the *Committee*, that he had contravened the same, and, in open violation of the Third Article of the aforesaid Association, had drank *East-India Tea* in his family ever since the first day of *March* instant, and that he is determined to persist in the same practice. After much time spent in vain to convince Mr. *Newcomb* of his error, it was agreed, that it is the duty of this *Committee*, agreeable to the Eleventh Article of the above-mentioned compact, to break off all dealings with him, and in this manner publish the truth of the case, that he may be distinguished from the friends of *American liberty*.

By order of the *Committee*,  
THOMAS EWING, *Clerk*.

Cumberland County, New-Jersey.

Whereas, *Silas Newcomb*, Esquire, was, in *March* last, advertised by the *Committee* of said County, for a breach of the Association of the Continental Congress, and having since manifested a desire of making a publick acknowledgment for his former misconduct, the *Committee* accepted of the following recantation, viz:—

"I, the subscriber, do hereby publickly acknowledge my former error, and voluntarily confess myself to blame for obstinately refusing to submit to a majority of the *Committee*; and I do hereby ask pardon of the Members of the



Committee for the abuses offered them, and promise, for the future, to regulate my conduct agreeable to the aforesaid Association, and a majority of said Committee. Witness my hand, the 11th day of May, 1775.

"SILAS NEWCOMB."

Published by order of the Committee,  
THOMAS EWING, Clerk.

FREEHOLD (MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

Freehold, March 6, 1775.

Although the Committee of Observation and Inspection for the Township of *Freehold*, in the County of *Monmouth*, *New-Jersey*, was constituted early in *December* last, and the members have stately and assiduously attended to the business assigned them ever since, yet they have hitherto deferred the publication of their institution, in hopes of the general concurrence of the other Townships in the choice of a new County Committee, when one publication might have served for the whole; but finding some of them have hitherto declined to comply with the recommendation of the General Congress in that respect, and not knowing whether they intend it at all, they judge it highly expedient to transmit the following account to the Press, lest their brethren in distant parts of the Colony should think the County of *Monmouth* altogether inactive at the present important crisis.

"In pursuance of the recommendation of the Grand Continental Congress, and for the preservation and support of *American* freedom, a respectable body of the Freeholders, inhabitants of the Township of *Freehold*, met at *Monmouth* Court-House, on *Saturday*, *December* 10th, 1774, and unanimously elected the following gentlemen to serve as a Committee of Observation and Inspection for the said Town, viz: *John Anderson*, Esquire, Captain *John Covenhoven*, Messrs. *Peter Forman*, *Hendrick Smock*, *Asher Holmes*, *David Forman*, and *John Forman*, Doctor *Nathaniel Scudder*, and Doctor *Thomas Henderson*, who were instructed by their constituents to endeavour, to the utmost of their knowledge and power, to carry into execution the several important and salutary measures pointed out to them by the *American* Congress; and, without favour or affection, to make all such diligent inquiry as shall be found conducive to the accomplishment of the great and necessary purposes held up by them to the attention of *America*."

At an early meeting of said Committee, a pamphlet, entitled *Free Thoughts on the Resolves of the Congress*, by *A. W. Farmer*, was handed in to them, and their opinion of it asked by a number of their constituents then present. Said pamphlet was then read, and, upon mature deliberation, unanimously declared to be a performance of the most pernicious and malignant tendency; replete with the most specious sophistry, but void of any solid or rational argument; calculated to deceive and mislead the unwary, the ignorant, and the credulous; and designed, no doubt, by the detestable author, to damp that noble spirit of union, which he sees prevailing all over the Continent, and, if possible, to sap the foundations of *American* freedom. The pamphlet was afterwards handed back to the people, who immediately bestowed upon it a suit of tar and turkey-buzzard's feathers; one of the persons concerned in the operation, justly observing that although the feathers were plucked from the most stinking fowl in the creation, he thought they fell far short of being a proper emblem of the author's odiousness to every advocate for true freedom. The same person wished, however, he had the pleasure of fitting him with a suit of the same materials. The pamphlet was then, in its gorgeous attire, nailed up firmly to the pillory-post, there to remain as a monument of the indignation of a free and loyal people against the author and vender of a publication so evidently tending both to subvert the liberties of *America*, and the Constitution of the *British* Empire.

At a subsequent meeting of said Committee, it was resolved, unanimously, that, on account of sundry publications in the pamphlet way, by *James Rivington*, Printer, of *New-York*, and also a variety of weekly productions in his paper, blended, in general, with the most glaring falsehoods, disgorged with the most daring effrontery, and all

evidently calculated to disunite the Colonies, and sow the seeds of discord and contention through the whole Continent, they do esteem him a base and malignant enemy to the liberties of this Country, and think he ought justly to be treated as such by all considerate and good men. And they do, for themselves, now publicly declare, (and recommend the same conduct to their constituents,) that they will have no connection with him, the said *Rivington*, while he continues to retail such dirty, scandalous, and traitorous performances; but hold him in the utmost contempt, as a noxious exotick plant, incapable either of cultivation or improvement in this soil of freedom, and only fit to be transported.

This Committee did early make application to every other Township in the County, recommending the election of Committees; and they soon had information that those of *Upper Freehold*, *Middletown*, and *Dover*, had chosen theirs, and were resolved to enforce the measures of the Congress.

N. B. A very considerable number of the inhabitants of *Freehold* have formed themselves into Companies, and chosen Military Instructors, under whose tuition they are making rapid improvement.

Signed by order of the Committee,  
JOHN ANDERSON, Chairman.

MAJOR BENJAMIN FLOYD, ETC., TO COMMITTEE AT SMITH-TOWN.

Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New-York, March 6, 1775.

MR. RIVINGTON: A Committee of Observation for several Districts met on the 23d of *February* last, in *Smithtown*, *Suffolk* County, *Long-Island*; they should have told the publick that the few from *Brookhaven* were not of the Committee. Whether any Committee in the County has been chosen, in the manner they speak of, we know not. *Brookhaven* never was represented; so it has not, it cannot, approve of the Congress. We mean to consider only what concerns us—the fifth and sixth of the Committee Resolves.

Why does this Committee so highly disapprove of the Major and others? Is it because he fulfils his oath to, and exerts his power in defence of, Government? Does his example shame and upbraid them? They assuredly would commend and justify his conduct, were they not enchanted by seditious, independent, republican principles! It is your opinion, that most of the subscribers in Messrs. *Gaine* and *Rivington's* writing, were induced, &c. It is our opinion, that your opinion is a mere fiction. Have you heard both sides? Was there neither partiality or prejudice in the way? You may have an opinion that such as oppose you are traitors; this may lead you to proclaim them; this may excite you to imbrue your guilty hands in the blood of the saints! By what law did you form the opinion; what evidence have you to support it? For our part, we condemn the Court, and its arbitrary mandates, that carries its statutes and laws in its bosom. Tell us the law we have transgressed, "the unfair means we used," and who has used any. We, who carried the Petition, used none; the people needed none, being generally glad of an opportunity to sign it. You must know the Constitution disavows ill arts; it condemns tyranny and slavery, and yours among others. You say, you are informed a Court of Inquisition would have said as much. Who are your informers? "A great number are dissatisfied;" we call upon you now to name them, for "we are highly dissatisfied" with your unfair manner of stating things. We know not any "that are dissatisfied with what they have done." But we know some who are sorry that they missed the opportunity of "signing it." But we will bury this pious Resolve, with the solemnity of your next, saying it is replete with the most impudent falsehoods and grossest misrepresentations.

A very ingenious writer, who is an honour to the Province, somewhere says, "that Four Pence upon the Hundred for the fibs, falsehoods, and misrepresentations of *America's* Sons, would pay a considerable part of the Nation's Debt." We are of his opinion.

"The Major and abettors of the ingenious *A. W. Farmer*" call upon you to prove "them traitors." If they are in no sense traitors, it is base and abominable "to es-



teem and treat them as traitors to their Country." If what is generally said be true, that the Congress made no laws, then it can be no transgression to trample upon and condemn the Association. For where there is no law, there can be no transgression. Now if you fail in proof of so high and presumptuous an imputation, the impartial publick must esteem you a most abusive and unlawful body. No sacred pretext or design can justify the commission of the least evil.

Tell us what moved you to proclaim our patriotick Printers traitors? Do you really mean to immure the Colonies in Popish darkness, by suppressing the vehicles of light, truth, and liberty? Are none to speak, write, or print, but by your permission? Does a conscience of guilt and tyranny hurry the Committees to starve and murder our virtuous Printers? One would conclude, from Mr. *Holt's* papers, that they had lost virtue, honour, humanity, and common sense. A free Press has been the honour and glory of *Englishmen*; by it our most excellent Constitution has been raised to greater perfection than any in the world. But we are become the degenerate plants of a new and strange vine; and now it seems ignorance must be the mother of both devotion and politicks.

The Major and friends to Government desire the Committee, who had no right to represent *Brookhaven*, to take back the odious, despicable epithet of traitors, as it is peculiarly adapted to the enemies of the Country, and the deluded abettors of the rebellious saints at *Boston*. For we, in our turn, "think that they (if any) ought to be esteemed and treated as traitors to their Country, and enemies to the liberties of *America*."

Signed by Major *Benjamin Floyd*, and a great number of others.

#### MEETING AT DANVERS, (ESSEX COUNTY,) MASSACHUSETTS.

At a meeting of the people of the Alarm List of the Third Company in *Danvers*, held at said *Danvers* 6th March, 1775, for the purpose of electing Officers for said Alarm List Company, Rev. *Benjamin Balch*, Chairman:

Said people unanimously made choice of *Deacon Edmund Putnam* for Captain; Rev. *Benjamin Balch* for a Lieutenant; and Mr. *Tarrant Putnam* for an Ensign. The said Gentlemen being all present, declared their acceptance. Attest,

ARCH. DALE, Clerk of said Meeting.

Boston, March 6, 1775.

At this inauspicious day, when Tyranny lifts her shameless front, and is followed by a train of unfeeling Apostates, I cannot let my pen sleep. The enemies of Freedom, convinced that the *Americans* are not to be cheated, now openly declare that the Colonies must and will be subjected by force. This brings up the last and great question, whether the *United Colonies* can defend their rights? If they cannot, of all men they will be the most miserable. But I believe they can, and will defend them; and if the sword should be drawn against them, they may strike such a blow as will shake *Britain* to the centre. It is painful to the *Americans* to contemplate measures which may be ruinous to their brethren in *Britain*, but a tyrannical Ministry, encouraged by the Tories in both Countries, are now pushing their destructive plans with such rapidity and violence, that we must look forward to the last grand step for defence; and if they will not hearken to the wise and just proposals of the *American Congress*, but still continue to go on from bad to worse, the *Americans* will be compelled, by the great Law of Nature, to strike a decisive blow, and follow the example of the once oppressed *United Provinces*—publish a manifesto to the world, showing the necessity of dissolving their connection with a Nation whose Ministers were aiming at their ruin; offer a Free Trade to all Nations, and an asylum in the free regions of *America* to all the oppressed through the world. THIS IS THE *DERNIER RESORT*; and this, O *Americans*! you can do; and this you must do, unless tyranny ceases to invade your liberties. This great subject I have viewed on all sides; and it might be demonstrated by a million of reasons, that the *Americans* may thus secure to themselves and to posterity the blessings of Freedom. TIME AND JUDGMENT.

*An Oration delivered MONDAY, MARCH 6, 1775, at the request of the Inhabitants of the Town of BOSTON, to commemorate the bloody tragedy of the 5th of MARCH, 1770. By Doctor JOSEPH WARREN.*

*My ever honoured Fellow-Citizens:*

It is not without the most humiliating conviction of my want of ability that I now appear before you; but the sense I have of the obligation I am under to obey the calls of my Country at all times, together with an animating recollection of your indulgence exhibited upon so many occasions, has induced me once more, undeserving as I am, to throw myself upon that candour which looks with kindness on the feeblest efforts of an honest mind.

You will not now expect the elegance, the learning, the fire, the enrapturing strains of eloquence, which charmed you when a *Lovel*, a *Church*, or a *Hancock* spake; but you will permit me to say, that with a sincerity equal to theirs, I mourn over my bleeding Country; with them I weep at her distress, and with them deeply resent the many injuries she has received from the hands of cruel and unreasonable men.

That personal freedom is the natural right of every man, and that property, or an exclusive right to dispose of what he has honestly acquired by his own labour, necessarily arises therefrom, are truths which common sense has placed beyond the reach of contradiction; and no man, or body of men, can, without being guilty of flagrant injustice, claim a right to dispose of the persons or acquisitions of any other man, or body of men, unless it can be proved that such a right has arisen from some compact between the parties, in which it has been explicitly and freely granted.

If I may be indulged in taking a retrospective view of the first settlement of our Country, it will be easy to determine with what degree of justice the late Parliament of *Great Britain* have assumed the power of giving away that property which the *Americans* have earned by their labour.

Our fathers having nobly resolved never to wear the yoke of Despotism, and seeing the *European* world, through indolence and cowardice, falling a prey to tyranny, bravely threw themselves upon the bosom of the Ocean, determined to find a place in which they might enjoy their freedom, or perish in the glorious attempt. Approving Heaven beheld the favourite ark dancing upon the waves, and graciously preserved it, until the chosen families were brought in safety to these Western regions. They found the land swarming with Savages, who threatened death with every kind of torture; but Savages, and death with torture, were far less terrible than slavery. Nothing was so much the object of their abhorrence as a tyrant's power; they knew that it was more safe to dwell with man, in his most unpolished state, than in a Country where arbitrary power prevails. Even Anarchy itself, that bugbear held up by the tools of power, (though truly to be deprecated,) is infinitely less dangerous to mankind than arbitrary Government. Anarchy can be but of short duration; for when men are at liberty to pursue that course which is most conducive to their own happiness, they will soon come into it; and, from the rudest state of nature, order and good government must soon arise. But tyranny, when once established, entails its curse on a Nation to the latest period of time, unless some daring genius, inspired by Heaven, shall, unappalled by danger, bravely form and execute the arduous design of restoring liberty and life to his enslaved, murdered Country.

The tools of power, in every age, have racked their inventions to justify the few in sporting with the happiness of the many, and, having found their sophistry too weak to hold mankind in bondage, have impiously dared to force Religion, the daughter of the King of Heaven, to become a prostitute in the service of Hell. They taught that Princes, honoured with the name of Christians, might bid defiance to the Founder of their faith; might pillage Pagan Countries, and deluge them with blood, only because they boasted themselves to be the disciples of that Teacher who strictly charged his followers to "do to others as they would that others should do unto them."

This Country having been discovered by an *English* subject in the year 1620, was (according to the system which the



blind superstition of those times supported) deemed the property of the Crown of *England*. Our ancestors, when they resolved to quit their native soil, obtained from King *James* a grant of certain lands in *North-America*. This they probably did to silence the cavils of their enemies, for it cannot be doubted but they despised the pretended right which he claimed thereto. Certain it is, that he might, with equal propriety and justice, have made them a grant of the planet *Jupiter*; and their subsequent conduct plainly shows that they were too well acquainted with humanity and the principles of natural equity, to suppose that the grant gave them any right to take possession; they therefore entered into a treaty with the natives, and bought from them the lands. Nor have I yet obtained any information that our ancestors ever pleaded, or that the natives ever regarded the grant from the *English* Crown; the business was transacted by the parties in the same independent manner that it would have been had neither of them ever known or heard of the Island of *Great Britain*.

Having become the honest proprietors of the soil, they immediately applied themselves to the cultivation of it, and they soon beheld the virgin earth teeming with richest fruits; a grateful recompense for their unwearied toil. The fields began to wave with ripening harvests, and the late barren wilderness was seen to blossom like the rose. The savage natives saw with wonder the delightful change, and quickly formed a scheme to obtain that, by fraud or force, which nature meant as the reward of industry alone. But the illustrious emigrants soon convinced the rude invaders that they were not less ready to take the field for battle than for labour; and the insidious foe was driven from their borders as often as he ventured to disturb them. The Crown of *England* looked with indifference on the contest; our ancestors were left alone to combat with the natives. Nor is there any reason to believe that it ever was intended by the one party, or expected by the other, that the grantor should defend and maintain the grantees in the peaceable possession of the lands named in the patents. And it appears plainly, from the history of those times, that neither the Prince, nor the people of *England*, thought themselves much interested in the matter; they had not then any idea of a thousandth part of those advantages which they since *have*, and we are most heartily willing they should *still continue* to reap from us.

But when, at an infinite expense of toil and blood, this wide extended Continent had been cultivated and defended; when the hardy adventurers justly expected that they and their descendants should peaceably have enjoyed the harvest of those fields which they had sown, and the fruit of those vineyards which they had planted, this Country was then thought worthy the attention of the *British* Ministry; and the only justifiable, and only successful means of rendering the Colonies serviceable to *Britain*, were adopted. By an intercourse of friendly offices, the two Countries became so united in affection that they thought not of any distinct or separate interests; they found both Countries flourishing and happy. *Britain* saw her Commerce extended, and her wealth increased; her lands raised to an immense value; her fleets riding triumphant on the Ocean; the terror of her arms spreading to every quarter of the globe. The Colonist found himself free, and thought himself secure; he dwelt "under his own vine, and under his own fig-tree, and had none to make him afraid." He knew, indeed, that by purchasing the manufactures of *Great Britain*, he contributed to its greatness; he knew that all the wealth that his labour produced centred in *Great Britain*; but that, far from exciting his envy, filled him with the highest pleasure; that thought supported him in all his toils. When the business of the day was past, he solaced himself with the contemplation, or perhaps entertained his listening family with the recital of some great, some glorious transaction, which shines conspicuous in the history of *Britain*; or perhaps his elevated fancy led him to foretel, with a kind of enthusiastick confidence, the glory, power, and duration of an Empire, which should extend from one end of the earth to the other; he saw, or thought he saw, the *British* Nation risen to a pitch of grandeur which cast a veil over the *Roman* glory; and, ravished with the preview, boasted a race of *British* Kings, whose names should echo through those Realms where *Cyrus*, *Alexander*, and the *Cæsars*, were

unknown; Princes for whom millions of grateful subjects, redeemed from Slavery and Pagan ignorance, should, with thankful tongues, offer up their prayers and praises to that transcendantly Great and Beneficent Being "by whom Kings reign, and Princes decree justice."

These pleasing connections might have continued, these delightful prospects might have been every day extended, and even the reveries of the most warm imagination might have been realized; but, unhappily for us, unhappily for *Britain*, the madness of an avaricious Minister of State has drawn a sable curtain over the charming scene, and in its stead has brought upon the stage discord, envy, hatred, and revenge, with civil war close in the rear!

Some demon, in an evil hour, suggested to a shortsighted financier the hateful project of transferring the whole property of the King's subjects in *America* to his subjects in *Britain*. The claim of the *British* Parliament to tax the Colonies can never be supported but by such a transfer; for the right of the House of Commons of *Great Britain* to originate any tax, or to grant money, is altogether derived from their being elected by the people of *Great Britain* to act for them; and the people of *Great Britain* cannot confer on their Representatives a right to give or grant any thing which they themselves have not a right to give or grant personally. Therefore it follows, that if the Members chosen by the people of *Great Britain* to represent them in Parliament have, by virtue of their being so chosen, any right to give or grant *American* property, or to lay any tax upon the lands or persons of the Colonists, it is because the lands and people in the Colonies are, *bona fide*, owned by, and justly belong to the people of *Great Britain*. But (as has been before observed) every man has a natural right to personal freedom, consequently a right to enjoy what is acquired by his own labour; and as it is evident that the property in this Country has been acquired by our own labour, it is the duty of the people of *Great Britain* to produce some compact in which we have explicitly given up to them a right to dispose of our persons or property. Until this is done, every attempt of theirs, or of those whom they have deputed to act for them, to give or grant any part of our property, is directly repugnant to every principle of reason and natural justice. But I may boldly say that such a compact never existed, no, not even in imagination. Nevertheless, the Representatives of a Nation, long famed for justice, and the exercise of every noble virtue, have been prevailed on to adopt the fatal scheme; and although the dreadful consequences of this wicked policy have already shaken the Empire to its centre, yet still it is persisted in, regardless of the voice of reason, deaf to the prayers and supplications, and unaffected with the flowing tears of suffering millions, the *British* Ministry still hug the darling idol, and every rolling year affords fresh instances of the absurd devotion with which they worship it. Alas! how has the folly—the distraction of the *British* Councils, blasted our swelling hopes, and spread a gloom over this Western hemisphere! The hearts of *Britons* and *Americans*, which lately felt the generous glow of mutual confidence and love, now burn with jealousy and rage. Though but of yesterday, I recollect (deeply affected at the ill-boding change) the happy hours that passed whilst *Britain* and *America* rejoiced in the prosperity and greatness of each other. Heaven grant those halcyon days may soon return! But now the *Briton* too often looks on the *American* with an envious eye, taught to consider his just plea for the enjoyment of his earning as the effect of pride and stubborn opposition to the Parent Country; whilst the *American* beholds the *Briton* as the ruffian, ready first to take away his property, and next, what is dearer to every virtuous man, the liberty of his Country.

When the measures of Administration had disgusted the Colonies to the highest degree, and the people of *Great Britain* had, by artifice and falsehood, been irritated against *America*, an Army was sent over to enforce submission to certain Acts of the *British* Parliament, which reason scorned to countenance, and which placemen and pensioners were found unable to support.

Martial Law, and the government of a well regulated City, are so entirely different, that it has always been considered as improper to quarter Troops in populous Cities, as frequent disputes must necessarily arise between the



citizen and the soldier, even if no previous animosities subsist; and it is farther certain, from a consideration of the nature of mankind, as well as from constant experience, that Standing Armies always endanger the liberty of the subject. But when the people, on the one part, considered the Army as sent to enslave them; and the Army, on the other, were taught to look on the people as in a state of rebellion, it was but just to fear the most disagreeable consequences. Our fears, we have seen, were but too well grounded.

The many injuries offered to the Town I pass over in silence. I cannot now mark out the path which led to that unequalled scene of horror, the sad remembrance of which takes the full possession of my soul. The sanguinary theatre again opens itself to view; the baleful images of terror crowd around me; and discontented ghosts, with hollow groans, appear to solemnize the anniversary of the *fifth of March*.

Approach we then the melancholy walk of death! Hither let me call the gay companion; here let him drop a farewell tear upon that body which so late he saw vigorous and warm with social mirth! Hither let me lead the tender mother, to weep over her beloved son! Come, widowed mourner, here satiate thy grief. Behold thy murdered husband gasping on the ground! And, to complete the pompous shew of wretchedness, bring in each hand thy infant children to bewail their father's fate. Take heed, ye orphan babes, lest, whilst your streaming eyes are fixed upon the ghastly corpse, your feet slide on the stones bespattered with your father's brains.\* Enough! This tragedy need not be heightened by an infant weltering in the blood of him that gave it birth. Nature, reluctant, shrinks already from the view, and the chilled blood rolls slowly backward to its fountain. We wildly stare about, and with amazement ask, Who spread this ruin round us? What wretch has dared to deface the image of his *God*? Has haughty *France*, or cruel *Spain*, sent forth her myrmidons? Has the grim Savage rushed again from the far distant wilderness? Or does some fiend, fierce from the depth of Hell, with all the rancorous malice which the apostate damned can feel, twang her destructive bow, and hurl her deadly arrows at our breast? No, none of these. But how astonishing! It is the hand of *Britain* that inflicts the wound; the Arms of *George*, our rightful King, have been employed to shed that blood which freely would have flown at his command, when justice, or the honour of his Crown, had called his subjects to the field.

But pity, grief, astonishment, with all the softer movements of the soul, must now give way to stronger passions. Say, fellow-citizens, what dreadful thought now swells your heaving bosoms? You fly to arms; sharp indignation flashes from each eye; revenge gnashes her iron teeth; death grins a hideous smile, secure to drench his greedy jaws in human gore; whilst hovering furies darken all the air.

But stop, my bold adventurous countrymen; stain not your weapons with the blood of *Britons*; attend to reason's voice; humanity puts in her claim, and sues to be again admitted to her wonted seat—the bosom of the brave. Revenge is far beneath the noble mind. Many, perhaps, compelled to rank among the vile assassins, do, from their inmost souls, detest the barbarous action. The winged death, shot from your arms, may chance to pierce some breast that bleeds already for your injured Country.

The storm subsides; a solemn pause ensues; you spare upon condition they depart. They go; they quit your City; they no more shall give offence. Thus closes the important drama.

And could it have been conceived that we again should have seen a *British* Army in our land, sent to enforce obedience to Acts of Parliament destructive of our liberty? But the Royal ear, far distant from the Western world, has been assaulted by the tongue of slander; and villains, traitorous alike to King and Country, have prevailed upon a gracious Prince to clothe his countenance with wrath, and to erect the hostile banner against a people ever affectionate and loyal to him and his illustrious predecessors of the House of *Hanover*. Our Streets are again filled with armed men, our Harbour is crowded with Ships-of-war; but these cannot intimidate us; our liberty must

be preserved; it is far dearer than life; we hold it even dear as our allegiance; we must defend it against the attacks of friends as well as enemies; we cannot suffer even *Britons* to ravish it from us.

No longer could we reflect with generous pride on the heroick actions of our *American* forefathers; no longer boast our origin from that far-famed island, whose warlike sons have so often drawn their well-tried swords to save her from the ravages of tyranny, could we but for a moment entertain the thought of giving up our liberty. The man who meanly will submit to wear a shackle, contemns the noblest gift of Heaven, and impiously affronts the *God* that made him free.

It was a maxim of the *Roman* people, which eminently conduced to the greatness of that State, never to despair of the Commonwealth. The maxim may prove as salutary to us now as it did to them. Short-sighted mortals see not the numerous links of small and great events, which form the chain on which the fate of Kings and Nations is suspended. Ease and prosperity (though pleasing for a day) have often sunk a people into effeminacy and sloth. Hardships and dangers (though we forever strive to shun them) have frequently called forth such virtues as have commanded the applause and reverence of an admiring world.

Our Country loudly calls you to be circumspect, vigilant, active, and brave. Perhaps, (all-gracious Heaven avert it) perhaps the power of *Britain*, a Nation great in war, by some malignant influence may be employed to enslave you; but let not even this discourage you. Her Arms, it is true, have filled the world with terror; her Troops have reaped the laurels of the field; her Fleets have rode triumphant on the sea; and when or where did you, my countrymen, depart inglorious from the field of fight? You, too, can show the trophies of your forefathers' victories and your own; can name the fortresses and battles you have won, and many of you count the honourable scars of wounds received, whilst fighting for your King and Country.

Where justice is the standard, Heaven is the warrior's shield; but conscious guilt unnerves the arm that lifts the sword against the innocent. *Britain*, united with these Colonies by commerce and affection, by interest and blood, may mock the threats of *France* and *Spain*; may be the seat of universal Empire. But should *America*, either by force, or those more dangerous engines—luxury and corruption, ever be brought into a state of vassalage, *Britain* must lose her freedom also. No longer shall she sit the Empress of the sea; her ships no more shall waft her thunders over the wide ocean; the wreath shall wither on her temples; her weakened arm shall be unable to defend her coasts; and she at last must bow her venerable head to some proud foreigner's despotick rule.

But if from past events we may venture to form a judgment of the future, we justly may expect that the devices of our enemies will but increase the triumphs of our Country. I must indulge a hope that *Britain's* liberty, as well as *ours*, will eventually be preserved by the virtue of *America*.

The attempt of the *British* Parliament to raise a Revenue from *America*, and our denial of their right to do it, have excited an almost universal inquiry into the rights of mankind in general, and of *British* subjects in particular; the necessary result of which must be such a liberality of sentiment, and such a jealousy of those in power, as will, better than an adamant wall, secure us against the future approaches of despotism.

\* The patience with which this people have borne the repeated injuries which have been heaped upon them, and their unwillingness to take any sanguinary measures, has very injudiciously been ascribed to cowardice, by persons both here and in *Great Britain*. I most heartily wish that an opinion so erroneous in itself, and so fatal in its consequences, might be utterly removed before it be too late; and I think nothing farther necessary to convince every intelligent man that the conduct of this people is owing to the tender regard which they have for their fellow-men, and an utter abhorrence to the shedding of human blood, than a little attention to their general temper and disposition discovered when they cannot be supposed to be under any apprehension of danger to themselves. I will only mention the universal detestation which they shew to every act of cruelty, by whom, and upon whomsoever committed; the mild spirit of their Laws; the very few crimes to which capital penalties are annexed, and the very great backwardness which both Courts and Juries discover, in condemning persons charged with capital crimes. But if any should think this observation not to the purpose, I readily appeal to those gentlemen of the Army who have been in the camp, or in the field, with the *Americans*.

\* After Mr. Gray had been shot through the body, and had fallen dead on the ground, a bayonet was pushed through his skull; part of the bone being broken, his brains fell out upon the pavement.



The malice of the *Boston Port Bill* has been defeated, in a very considerable degree, by giving you an opportunity of deserving, and our brethren in this and our sister Colonies an opportunity of bestowing, those benefactions which have delighted your friends, and astonished your enemies, not only in *America*, but in *Europe* also; and what is more valuable still, the sympathetick feelings for a brother in distress, and the grateful emotions excited in the breast of him who finds relief, must forever endear each to the other, and form those indissoluble bonds of friendship and affection, on which the preservation of our right so evidently depends.

The mutilation of our Charter has made ever Colony jealous for its own; for this, if once submitted to by us, would set on float the property and Government of every *British* settlement upon the Continent. If Charters are not deemed sacred, how miserably precarious is every thing founded upon them?

Even the sending Troops to put these Acts in execution, is not without advantages to us. The exactness and beauty of their discipline inspire our youth with ardour in the pursuit of military knowledge. *Charles* the Invincible taught *Peter* the Great the Art of War. The battle of *Pultowa* convinced *Charles* of the proficiency *Peter* had made.

Our Country is in danger, but not to be despaired of. Our enemies are numerous and powerful, but we have many friends determined to be free, and Heaven and earth will aid the resolution. On you depend the fortunes of *America*. You are to decide the important question, on which rest the happiness and liberty of millions yet unborn. Act worthy of yourselves—the faltering tongue of hoary age calls on you to support your Country. The lisping infant raises its suppliant hands, imploring defence against the monster slavery. Your fathers look from their celestial seats with smiling approbation on their sons, who boldly stand forth in the cause of virtue; but sternly frown upon the inhuman miscreant who, to secure the loaves and fishes to himself, would breed a serpent to destroy his children.

But pardon me, my fellow-citizens; I know you want not zeal or fortitude. You will maintain your rights, or perish in the generous struggle. However difficult the combat, you never will decline it when freedom is the prize. An independence on *Great Britain* is not our aim. No, our wish is that *Britain* and the Colonies may, like the oak and ivy, grow and increase in strength together. But whilst the infatuated plan of making one part of the Empire slaves to the other is persisted in, the interest and safety of *Britain*, as well as the Colonies, require that the wise measures recommended by the Honourable the Continental Congress be steadily pursued; whereby the unnatural contest, between a parent honoured, and a child beloved, may probably be brought to such an issue, as that the peace and happiness of both may be established upon a lasting basis. But if these pacifick measures are ineffectual; and it appears that the only way to safety is through fields of blood, I know you will not turn your faces from your foes, but will undauntedly press forward until tyranny is trodden under foot; and you have fixed your adored Goddess, Liberty, fast by a *Brunswick's* side, on the *American* Throne.

You, then, who nobly have espoused your Country's cause—who generously have sacrificed wealth and ease—who have despised the pomp and show of tinselled greatness—refused the summons to the festive board—been deaf to the alluring calls of luxury and mirth—who have forsaken the downy pillow to keep your vigils by the midnight lamp for the salvation of your invaded Country, that you might break the fowler's snare and disappoint the vulture of his prey, you then will reap that harvest of renown which you so justly have deserved. Your Country shall pay her grateful tribute of applause. Even the children of your most inveterate enemies (ashamed to tell from whom they sprang, while they in secret curse their stupid, cruel parents) shall join the general voice of gratitude to those who broke the fetters which their fathers forged.

Having redeemed your Country, and secured the blessing to future generations, who, fired by your example, shall emulate your virtues, and learn from you the Heavenly art of making millions happy, with heart-felt joy—with

transports all your own, you cry, *the glorious work is done!* then drop the mantle to some young *Elisha*, and take your seats with kindred spirits in your native skies.

#### TO THE INHABITANTS OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, Monday, March 6, 1775.

**MY FELLOW-CITIZENS:** As you are called on this day to give your voices on a measure of importance, permit one who has your welfare most anxiously at heart, to state the matter as it is. On the 2d instant, the Committee published an Advertisement to call you together, upon the business therein expressed. They do not pretend that this is in consequence of any powers you have vested with them; it is, therefore, a proposal coming from them as so many individuals. On *Friday*, the third instant, a number of Citizens, equally reputable in their characters with the members of the Committee, and far superiour in numbers, upon mature deliberation, conceived that this measure ought to be postponed. Every person who wants the sanction of your approbation should maintain his proposals with reasons, and the advocates for postponing the question have assigned a number in support of it. These you have seen in a handbill, and you are the judges of the weight they deserve. What arguments there are to hasten and precipitate this question, is not known, nor is it proper in the hurry and confusion of a crowd, to discuss questions which require time and attention for a sober, judicious determination. It seems proper, therefore, to postpone this question, from which no disadvantage can possibly arise.

A FREEMAN.

#### TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, Monday, March 6, 1775.

It has been the practice of some people in this City, upon all occasions, in order to defeat the well meant endeavours of its real friends, to misrepresent their intentions. With this view, it has been artfully propagated, that the Citizens who assembled at *Montagne's* on *Friday*, had resolved to oppose the appointment of Delegates. Disposed as I am, as an individual, for the measure of Delegates, I was alarmed at this insinuation; and having attentively considered the proceedings of the Meeting on *Friday*, find that the report is entirely false, and calculated to mislead you. The only measure proposed by the friends of Constitutional Liberty is, that the nomination of Delegates may be postponed; the time appointed by the Committee being so short as not to admit of deliberating on the most proper mode of electing them, and of framing proper instructions for their government. The method proposed by the Committee being extremely exceptionable, and such as will put this City, which pays one third of the taxes of the Colony, upon a footing with the smallest County in it.

A BURGHER.

#### TO THE RESPECTABLE INHABITANTS OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, Monday, March 6, 1775.

**FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS:** By the general tenour of your conduct, since the commencement of our unhappy disputes with *Great Britain*, you have uniformly and fully evinced yourselves to be possessed of an inviolable attachment to the cause of Constitutional Liberty, as well as of unshaken Loyalty to our most Gracious Sovereign, and a just abhorrence of such irregular proceedings as indicated a spirit of disaffection, or independency in any of the Colonists. These virtues, always valuable in a high degree, are peculiarly so in times like the present, when a dangerous infatuation has seized so many; when discord and tyranny, in the guise of liberty, stalk forth among us; and, under specious pretences, would entail misery, ruin, and the most abject slavery upon us. These virtues, which you have nobly exerted on several occasions, will soon be called to another trial.

A summons has been issued last *Thursday*, by the Chairman, and by order of the Committee, commanding your attendance at the Exchange on *Monday*, the 6th instant, for the purpose of choosing Delegates to go to the next Continental Congress. Considering our late transactions



here relative to this matter, I am sure you must be greatly surprised at such a step as this. Especially when you are not called to deliberate on the expediency or propriety of appointing Delegates for the above purpose; but actually to choose them! and this, in consequence of an edict from the late Congress, whose views and proceedings you most cordially disapprove!—Willing or unwilling, you are required to comply with this mandate.

Our only legal, Constitutional Representatives, the Members of our Assembly, to whom we have voluntarily committed the guardianship of our liberties, and the direction of our publick affairs, and who are vested with full authority for these important ends, have absolutely refused to appoint any Delegates for the ensuing Congress. Would not such an attempt in you, therefore, be an open violation of their just authority, and a glaring insult on them?

Whatever reasons might have existed for sending Delegates to the former Congress, there are none such now; but many cogent reasons to the contrary. Our Assembly have taken the subject of our grievances into consideration, and are vigorously pursuing the most effectual methods for obtaining their redress. The proceedings of the late Congress were violent and treasonable. Instead of healing the unnatural breach between us and the Parent State, which was the ardent wish of every honest, good man, they shut up every avenue to an accommodation. An adherence to their proceedings must have infallibly involved us in all the horrors of a Civil War, and ended in our ruin. Fully sensible of this, and of the unjust tyrannical power usurped by that Congress over *North America*; our Assembly—to their immortal honour be it spoken—had virtue and fortitude enough to reject those proceedings. Like faithful guardians of the great trust committed to them, they have taken the proper Constitutional steps to snatch us from impending ruin; restore harmony between this Country and *Great Britain*, and to secure our liberties on the firm basis of Constitutional principles.

Now reflect, my fellow-citizens, will not your sending Delegates to the next Congress directly tend to frustrate these laudable endeavours, of whose success we have a moral certainty? Will it not place this Province in the most absurd, inconsistent point of light, as bursting the bands of all Government, both with respect to *Great Britain* and our own Legislature? May I not aver, with truth, that you hold the violent proceedings of the late Congress in abhorrence? What can you expect from the next Congress but such measures as were adopted by the last, when you know the same Delegates are generally appointed by the other Colonies? Few alterations have been made; and where any have taken place, they were for the worse—persons more violent, if possible, being chosen. In what other view can we appear to *Great Britain*, than as heartily concurring with those who have attempted to throw off all allegiance—all subordination whatever? Nay! as acting in concert with those who have been guilty of open treason in the broad face of day? for that is the case of one of the *New-Hampshire* Delegates. I forget his name—it is the fellow who headed a riotous mob, stormed one of His Majesty's Forts, and forcibly carried off the Cannon, Arms, and Ammunition lodged there for the express purpose of using them against his Sovereign. A gentleman is known by the company he keeps; and so is an honest man, or a loyal subject.

But this proposed meeting on *Monday* is replete with further mischief; for you are to assemble, not only for choosing Delegates; but also “to signify your sense, whether you will appoint a certain number of persons to meet such Deputies as the Counties may elect for that purpose, and join with them in appointing, out of their body, Delegates for the next Congress.” Here you may perceive the first outlines of a Provincial Congress—the first artful advance towards bringing on us one of the heaviest curses. If the abettors of Republicanism can gain this advantage over the friends of our Constitution, the consequences must be terrible. Our Constitutional Assembly will become a mere cypher, and all order subverted.

I beseech you, fellow-citizens, to think for yourselves. Turn your eyes to those Colonies where Provincial Congresses are chosen; see the effects produced by them, and judge from those facts. In *South-Carolina* the Provincial Congress has shut up all the Courts of Justice. No man

dare attempt to recover a just debt, unless graciously permitted by the Committee of the County. By very late accounts from *Virginia*, I am informed that matters there are in much the same predicament. In *Maryland*, the Provincial Congress has wrested the Militia out of the King's hands, and has levied immense sums of money—extorted large contributions from the inhabitants for the purpose of raising Troops to fight against His Majesty. The Provincial Congress of *Pennsylvania* met lately to carry the same design into execution, and were near effecting their purpose; and there the liberty of the Press is utterly destroyed. As for *Massachusetts*, you know the Provincial Congress have appointed a Treasurer, levied money, enlisted Minute Men, and are taking every step totally to annihilate the King's just and legal authority in that Province.

These are notorious, indubitable facts. They cannot be denied. Say, then, fellow-citizens, do you choose to bring yourselves into a similar situation? If so, then do not fail to appoint a certain number of persons, on *Monday*, the 6th instant, to meet such Deputies as the County may elect for that purpose, and to join with them. By this means a Provincial Congress will be immediately formed; and as the warmest and most forward persons are generally chosen on those occasions, I may venture to pronounce our Provincial Congress will not fall short of others in usurping an unjust authority, in being tenacious of it, and plunging this Province into the greatest confusion and irregularities. But if you detest, as I know you do, the thoughts of such proceedings, then unite as one man in opposing them. Let neither indolence, or any other consideration, prevent you from exerting your usual fortitude and spirit to stop the mischief which is swiftly approaching. Do not sully your former reputation, by suffering this maddest freak of rampant Republicanism to take place—the appointment of a Provincial Congress. Crush this accursed cockatrice whilst it is in embryo; if you permit it to grow up to maturity, it will sting you to death.

I am very sensible that no gentleman or man of character among us would, as matters are now circumstanced, accept of the appointment of Delegate to the Continental Congress, or of Deputy to a Provincial Congress. But you very well know that there are several here, who are under no restraints of delicacy, or regard to decorum and order on this head. These having no consequence, but such as they derive from our confusions, would willingly perpetuate those confusions, as it would raise their importance, and flatter their vanity. Against these you should be peculiarly on your guard. They will not fail to improve any supineness you may show on this occasion. Men of property should be alert and watchful, in the highest degree, on this emergency; for these having little or no property of their own, will be the more apt to make free with that of others; and we have no check or control on them, if they are once exalted into a Provincial Congress. To levy money will be one part of their office, and, besides, their intemperate measures will probably lead to confiscations, by which they can lose nothing.

That wisdom, loyalty, firm attachment to your excellent Constitution, and zealous assiduity may guide you at this most important crisis, is the unfeigned wish of

A CITIZEN OF NEW-YORK.

#### TO THE PUBLICK.

New-York, Tuesday, March 7, 1775.

“*A Citizen of New-York*,” has attempted, in Mr. *Gaine's* last Paper, to sow the seeds of discord among us, and interrupt our union and harmony. Those who read his performance attentively, will easily see his design; but cursory and less intelligent readers may be deceived by him. To prevent this, I will make a few remarks upon his curious publication.

As soon as he has finished his introduction, (which consists of nothing more than common-place phrases and trite expressions,) he begins to abuse our virtuous and patriotick Committee; and in the most villanous manner represents them as having done what they never did, and, I dare say, never thought of. He says, “a summons has been issued last *Thursday*, by the Chairman, and by order of the Committee, commanding your attendance at the Exchange on



*Monday*, the 6th instant, for the purpose of choosing Delegates to go to the next Continental Congress." Is this true? It is not;—it is a wilful misrepresentation. Examine the Committee's advertisement: "they request that the Freeholders, &c., will be pleased to assemble, to signify their sense of the best method of choosing Delegates, and whether they will appoint a certain number of persons, to meet such Deputies as the Counties may elect for that purpose, and join with them in appointing Delegates out of their body for the next Congress." Can any thing be more modest? Can words express a greater deference to the opinion of the publick? Or could the Counties be treated in a more respectful manner? There is no such thing as "commanding your attendance," nor was it the design of the meeting "actually to choose" Delegates, as plainly appears from the Committee's advertisement. It is true, you were "not called to deliberate on the expediency and propriety of appointing Delegates;" but the reason for this was, not an overbearing disposition in the Committee, but because the "expediency and propriety" of the measure was allowed on all hands; even those who met at *Montagnie's*, where Mr. *John Thurman* was Chairman, did not deny either of them, but implicitly agreed to both, and only proposed trying to get "the meeting of *Monday* next postponed until the 20th of *April*." So you see the artful falsehood used by this same Mr. Citizen.

The arguments drawn from the conduct of our Assembly are futile and ridiculous. What have they done about the matter? They have determined "not to take into consideration the proceedings of the Continental Congress, held in the City of *Philadelphia*, in the months of *September* and *October* last;" and that the sense of the House should "not be taken on the necessity of appointing Delegates for this Colony, to meet the Delegates for the other Colonies on this Continent in General Congress, on the 10th day of *May* next." If I understand *English*, this is nothing more than if the Honourable House had said, these are matters with which we do not choose to have any connexion, and therefore shall neither censure nor applaud, but leave it entirely to our constituents, to act as they think proper; if they choose to approve the proceedings of the Congress, and adhere to their determinations, let them do it; if not, let them disapprove of them, and signify their approbation or disapprobation in their own way. This seems to me the most natural construction of the conduct of the Honourable House; and that of some of the Members yesterday appears to justify this construction, for a number of them attended the meeting at the Exchange; and to suppose they would encourage, by their presence, a meeting which was (as the Citizen is pleased to call it) "an open violation of their just authority, and a glaring insult on them," contains such a reflection on the good sense of those gentlemen, and the propriety of their conduct, as I do not choose to make, and think ought not to be made by any person whatever. It appears, then, very plain, that the Citizen must have entirely mistaken the matter, or wilfully misrepresented it, that he might be furnished with weighty arguments against the meeting. From his perversion of the Committee's advertisement, I strongly suspect the latter was the case, but it is not right to use our firm attachment to our Constitutional Legislature as an instrument to deceive us. Fie! Mr. Citizen; that is a low-lived trick.

The remainder of the Citizen's Address is such an incoherent confusion of Provincial Congress, Republicanism, Constitutional Assemblies, Militia, Legal Authority, Cockatrices, Embryos, &c., that I am apt to think the man was *non compos mentis* when he wrote it, and I shall not attempt to answer it, lest the publick should think that I am mad too.

You see, my friends, what arts are used to support a faction; be on your guard; you acted yesterday in a manner worthy of yourselves; continue to act on all future occasions with the same order, decency, unanimity, and firmness; you will thereby confound the friends of despotism, convince them your attachment to "the best of Kings" and Constitutional Government is inviolable, and will preserve your own liberty, and that of your posterity, till time shall be no more.

ANOTHER CITIZEN.

City of New-York, March 7, 1775.

Personally came and appeared before me, *David Matthews*, Esquire, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, for the City and County of *New-York*, *John Graham*, Clerk to *Robert* and *John Murray*, of this City, Merchants, and being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, did depose and say, that he left this City on *Monday* morning last, in company with the said *John Murray*, and proceeded with him on board the Ship *Beulah*, then lying at the watering place; that shortly after they arrived on board said Ship they weighed anchor, and proceeded to *Sandy Hook*, where the said Ship continued until about seven of the clock this morning, at which time they weighed anchor and stood out to Sea; that the said deponent and the said *John Murray* left the said Ship, and came up opposite to *Staten Island*, where the said *John Murray* landed, about two of the clock this afternoon, and was going (as the deponent understood from the said *John Murray*) to *Elizabethtown*, to settle some business with Lord *Sirling*; that the deponent saw the said Ship pass the Light-House about eight of the clock this morning; that neither the said *John Murray* or the deponent was on board the said Ship after the anchor was weighed; that the deponent did not hear any conversation between the said *John Murray* and any other person, relative to the taking any goods out of the said Ship, nor does he believe that any boat was employed for that purpose; that the deponent's business on board was to copy invoices and letters. And further this deponent saith not.

JOHN GRAHAM.

Sworn, this 7th day of *March*, before me,

D. MATTHEWS.

New-York, Wednesday, March 8, 1775.

On *Friday* evening last, a number of persons who disapproved of the proposal made by the Committee for this City and County, in their advertisement, published *Thursday*, met at the house of the widow *De La Montagnie*, and after choosing Mr. *John Thurman* Chairman, proposed attempting to get the business intended for last *Monday*, (viz: the choice of persons to meet the Deputies from the Counties, for the purpose of choosing Delegates for the next Congress) postponed until the 20th of *April*, and published a handbill, desiring those who were of their sentiments to meet them there on *Monday*, the 6th instant, at ten o'clock, and proceed from thence to the Exchange.

A number of the friends of Constitutional Liberty, hearing of this manœuvre, and apprehending a scheme was on foot to defeat the design of sending Delegates to the Congress, met on the next evening, and determined to support the Committee, of whose virtue and patriotism we have had ample experience. At the close of the meeting, a gentleman having informed the company that the owners of the Ship *Beulah* (some time since arrived from *London*) had not performed their promise of sending her back, and that, therefore, the Committee's Boat had left her; about three hundred citizens unanimously determined to wait upon the owners to know why the *Beulah* had not sailed, and required the Captain's repairing immediately on board his Ship, then lying at the watering place, in order to her departure with the first fair wind. This service was effectually performed; and next day the Vessel fell down to the *Hook*, from whence she put to Sea on *Tuesday*.

Early on *Monday* morning preparations were made for the meeting at the Exchange. A Union Flag, with a red field, was hoisted on the Liberty-pole, where, at nine o'clock, the friends of Freedom assembled, and having got in proper readiness, about eleven o'clock the body began their march to the Exchange. They were attended by musick; and two standard bearers carried a large Union Flag, with a blue field, on which were the following inscriptions: On one side, *George III.—Rex* and the Liberties of *America*.—No Popery. On the other: The Union of the Colonies, and the Measures of Congress. Some time after they had arrived at the Exchange, came also the other company, who had met at the widow *De La Montagnie's*, among whom were some Officers of the Army and Navy, several of His Majesty's Council, and those



Members of the House of Representatives, who had refused taking into consideration the proceedings of the Congress, together with Officers of the Customs, and other dependants on the Court, &c. Soon after the parties met, some confusion arose, but subsided without any bad consequences. The Chairman of the Committee then proceeded to explain the design of the meeting; after which he proposed the following questions, viz:

*First Question.* Whether a certain number of persons shall be appointed and authorized to meet such Deputies as the Counties may elect, and join with them for the sole purpose of appointing out of their body, on the 20th of April next, Delegates for the next Congress?

*Second Question.* Whether this meeting will authorize the Committee to nominate eleven Deputies for their approbation?

Both of which were carried in the affirmative. The meeting, and the majority which determined the questions, are supposed to have been the most numerous and respectable ever known in this City on the decision of any public proposal. The business of the day being finished, the friends of Freedom paraded through one of the principal streets of the City, to the Liberty-pole, and there dispersed, in the most quiet and orderly manner.

New-York, March 8, 1775.

The notification of the Committee, dated March 1, induced several worthy citizens, friends of Liberty and the Constitution, to assemble at the widow *De La Montagnie's*, on Friday evening, the 3d instant. The measure suggested by the Committee appeared to them to be liable to exception, as the probable tendency of it seemed to be the introduction of a *Provincial Congress*. They thought, too, that in a measure of so much importance to the community, no *precipitate* steps should be taken; that our fellow-citizens had a right to a little longer time than the Committee had thought proper to allow them; and they objected to the mode of taking the sense of the City by *collecting the people together*. They were apprized of the confusion, the heats and animosity, of which such a proceeding is generally productive; that on such occasions those citizens, who alone ought to be consulted, and who alone have a right to give their voices, namely, the *Freeholders* and *Freemen*, were liable to insults and indignities; and that, as it was impossible to discriminate between them and such as were collected on purpose to make a *show of numbers*, they foresaw that the mode proposed was entirely inadequate to the purpose of taking the sense of the City, in which they were confirmed by the experience of last year; when, after the Town had been kept in confusion, tumult, and disorder, for a long time, about the election of Delegates, the passing Resolves, meeting in the Fields, &c., the late reputable Committee of Correspondence had recourse to a *poll*, which was found the only essential measure of ascertaining what the sense of their fellow-citizens was. With the benefit of this experience, and under the influence of sentiments founded in prudence and moderation, as well as deference and respect for their fellow-citizens, the friends of Constitutional Liberty could not but disapprove of the measure adopted by the Committee. They proposed that the election of Delegates should be postponed for a time, when they intended, if, from the determinations of our Assembly now sitting, and the advices which might arrive by the expected Packet, some measure could not be adopted with the consent of *all parties*, and without division, that in such case the sense of the free-spirited and independent Electors of this City should be taken by a *poll*, by which those who had a right to give their voices might be distinguished from such as had not, and when the respectable citizens, in the exercise of Constitutional rights and franchises, lie blended with the rabble, which may always be collected by the pageantry of a flag, and the sound of a drum and fife. Unfortunately, however, the hopes which might be entertained from a calm, deliberate consideration of this measure, and thereby of healing our divisions, and of deriving weight to our determinations from the unanimity with which they might be carried, were defeated; for the day was fixed, and at hand. Accordingly on Monday, at the Exchange, a vast concourse of people were assembled; the Chairman of the Com-

mittee put two questions, upon each of which there was a very great division. Those who were opposed to the question, demanded a *poll*, for these reasons: that the business of the day was to take the sense of the Freeholders and Freemen; that none but such had a right to give their voices, and that it was impossible to discriminate them from those who had not such right. It is said that the Committee, in the evening, took up the consideration of the proceedings of the day; that many of them reported, that the majority of the people were in favour of the question; that they were, therefore, authorized to proceed to the election of Deputies to meet Deputies from the Counties in Provincial Convention. On the contrary, it is the opinion of a very great majority of our fellow-citizens, that no new powers would have been vested in the Committee by the transactions of that day; that they were appointed in matters relative to the Association only; that they had themselves disclaimed all other powers; that they had called the Freeholders and Freemen together in order to take their sentiments; that it was impossible, from the nature of the thing, to determine on which side the majority was.

The weight of the objections, therefore, to the measure of collecting the people together, appears from the event; and after the most disagreeable consequences which have followed, it will still be necessary to take that, as the last resource, which in prudence should have been the first measure, namely, taking every Elector's vote by a regular poll.

IMPARTIAL.

Committee Chamber, New-York, March 8, 1775.

*Ordered*, That *Philip Livingston* and *John Jay*, Esquires, be a Committee to wait on Mr. *James Rivington*, and request of him to acquaint this Committee by whose information, or by what authority, he published the following paragraph in his *Gazetteer* of 2d March, 1775:

"Last Monday the Committee of Observation met. It was proposed that they should nominate Delegates to the Continental Congress, for the approbation of this City and County; but being opposed, the final determination of the Committee was deferred until their next meeting."

The said paragraph being entirely and wholly false and groundless; and also to inform Mr. *Rivington*, that in printing the notice of the Committee of the 27th February, 1775, respecting the non-consumption of *India Tea* being then soon to take place, it was inserted, *non-importation*, instead of *non-consumption*; and desire him to correct the mistake in his next Paper. And that the said Committee do make their report at their next Meeting.

Committee Chamber, New-York, March 13, 1775.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In pursuance of an order of this Committee, of the 8th instant, we waited upon Mr. *Rivington*, and requested him to acquaint this Committee, by whose information, or by what authority he published the paragraph mentioned in the said order, in his *Gazetteer* of the 2d instant. Mr. *Rivington* told us he published it from common report, but would be more careful for the future, and was willing to contradict it.\* The error Mr. *Rivington* committed in printing the notice of this Committee of the 27th February, 1775, respecting the non-consumption of *India Tea* being then soon to take place, he has corrected.

PHIL. LIVINGSTON,  
JOHN JAY.

*Resolved*, That common report is not sufficient authority for any Printer in this City to publish any matters as facts relative to this Committee, and tending to expose them to the resentment of their Constituents, and the odium of the Colonies; for that the transactions of this Committee are not kept secret, and any person may, with ease, know the

\* The Committee have not been precise in their manner of publishing my reply; to the above particulars, I added, "that what was related in my Paper was credited; yet if they would furnish me with accounts of their Proceedings, I might be able to print them without error."

I cannot think my conduct on this occasion merits so formal and public a reprehension; a reprehension highly favouring of Legislative authority, seemingly calculated to aggrandize the power of the accusers, and to disparage the political reputation of a persecuted, and, to the everlasting disgrace of many County Committees, a proscribed Printer.

JAMES RIVINGTON.

New-York, March 16, 1775.



truth of such reports, by applying to any of the Members of the Committee, who are numerous, and to be found in almost every part of the City.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Order, Report, and Resolve, be forthwith printed in all the Papers.

By order of the Committee,  
ISAAC LOW, *Chairman*.

TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.

London, March 7, 1775.

Some three, four, and five centuries ago, it was usual at the close of our Parliament to distinguish them, according to their deserts, by some particular epithet, whether good, bad, or indifferent. In consequence of this laudable usage, I find one of our Parliaments stands stigmatized with the opprobrious epithet of "ignorant;" a second with that of "insane;" and a third with that of the "merciless Parliament."

Any one of these severe, yet just epithets, our readers most probably will think a sufficient mark of detestation to damn the actors and acts of such a Parliament to all posterity. But what must posterity think of that Parliament, who, at this present hour, have actually two Bills before them, the first of which is to attain, and consequently to hang, draw, and quarter, one half of our *American* brethren; while the second is to prohibit their Fisheries, and consequently to starve the other half to death. Should these two Bills be enacted into two Laws, will not posterity deservedly brand that Parliament with all the three com-  
mited epithets abovementioned; and whenever they make mention of it with horror, as they must always do, will they not have reason to call it "the ignorant-insane-merciless Parliament of 1775?" But in clarity to the two Houses, let us hope the King, whose most amiable prerogative is certainly that of "mercy," will pay some little attention to his coronation-oath. Let us hope, as his coronation-oath absolutely enjoins that "mercy" shall pervade and govern all the acts of his own judgment, he will not deliberately and indelibly blot his name with so foul a stain, by lending it to either of these two merciless, unnatural, inhuman Bills.

After this seasonable, and I hope successful admonition to the Royal ear, I proceed to show my countrymen, that as the *Americans* have not taken any step but what is fully guarantied by the *Runnymede* Treaty, so, no act of any preceding, or of the present, or of any future Parliament can either declare or enact them to be guilty of any one breach of the Constitution, and consequently they are not guilty of high treason.

That the *Americans* have convened a Continental Congress without any writs of Summons from the King; that they have actually called out and arrayed their Militia without any orders from Government here at home; and that they are determined to resist with an armed force certain unconstitutional Acts of the last Parliament, I readily agree with the Royalists. But, that these same *Americans* are guilty of high treason against the King or Kingdom, by reason of any one, or all of these self-defensive proceedings, I absolutely deny. For I neither know of, nor ever will acknowledge, any deed of the subject to be high treason but what is stipulated, ratified, and confirmed to be such by some one of our four Constitutions or definitive Treaties.

Let us see, then, by what constitutional characteristics we may infallibly know what this crime of high treason is.

From the *Norman* Treaty we may learn by the several Articles, "De Proditione, that it is high treason against the King where any liege subject shall insidiate the King's death, either by himself, or by hired assassins, or by his own servants." Thus stood high treason against the King till the *Runnymede* Treaty took effect, when this species of it was enlarged so as to include not only the King's person, but also that of his Queen, and of all their children. "*Sa va persona regis, et regina, et eorum liberorum.*"

There is another species of high treason mentioned in the *Norman* Treaty, and that is, where any liege subjects of the King, or any liege men of some Baron, shall, either on a Naval or Land Expedition, desert from the Commander-in-chief or his associate, through fear of the war or

death, "*timiditate belli vel mortis.*" And this is properly called high treason, not against the King singly, but against the King and Kingdom. I do not find any other high treasons affecting the subject in any one of our four Constitutions.

Agreeable then to the Constitutional Law of this Realm, I define high treason against the King to be "an insidious attempt or design of a liege subject (either with his own hand or that of his servants) to take away the life of the King, the Queen, or any of their children; but it must be done insidiously, and not otherwise."

I also define high treason against the King and Kingdom to be "a desertion of our Sea or Land Forces, either in a sea or land expedition, or in the day of battle;" but not at any other times.

Compare the present resistance of the *Americans* with either of these two definitions, and I shall challenge any man to point out any one stage of their conduct that amounts to high treason, or, indeed, to any crime or offence whatsoever against the *British* Constitution. When, for instance, were they ever charged, or suspected of any sinister attempt, or insidious design against the lives of any of the Royal family? Or, when were they ever known to have deserted in the day of battle? Can the Crown Lawyers produce any Constitution, or even any one Act of Parliament that impeaches the credit or bottomness of my definition? If not, will they submit their own definition to the same unerring criterion and fair test? Their best definition, and that in which they all concurred, was, "that to resist any Law with an armed force, is high treason." This is an imperfect, lame definition, at best, for it only defines what high treason is, but is entirely silent as to what is not high treason. Besides, how can this definition of theirs stand with the *Runnymede* Treaty, which imperatively enjoins, not barely licences, but absolutely, I say, enjoins, the subjects, when they find any Laws made in violation, derogation, or abrogation of any one Article of the *Runnymede* Treaty, to take up arms *toties quoties*, and resist the execution of such unconstitutional Laws, if the King for the time being shall not previously, upon Petition, have repealed the same? This is the very case at present with the *Americans*. Acts of Parliament have been made in oppression of them, and in express violation of the *Runnymede* Treaty. They have petitioned against these Acts. The King first, and afterwards the two Houses of Parliament, have turned a deaf ear to their Petitions. Obtaining no redress from King or Parliament, they have recourse to Arms. "Yes—but (say the Crown Lawyers) that very resistance, according to our definition, is high treason." What! shall that be high treason in any subjects of the *British* Empire, for the doing of which they not only are imperatively enjoined by, but have the guarantee and sanction of the *Runnymede* Treaty? Or, is there any Act of Parliament now in being, that makes the *American* resistance to be high treason? If not, shall an *ex-post-facto* Law, and that too made in glaring violation of *Magna Charta*, overrule, nay, abrogate, *Magna Charta* itself? Look over your whole range of high-treason Laws, (those excepted which I have mentioned as constitutionally such,) and what are they, in fact, but so many Parliamentary assurances of the people, that they will not call these treason-enacting Kings to publick account for certain alarming deeds, which, though perhaps they may be strictly legal of themselves, yet, by an overstrained interpretation, might be adjudged to be of a doubtful, if not of a criminal nature? I scarcely recollect one high-treason Law to have been enacted, except it was during a reign in which the National Religion was abolished, or the New Religion not thoroughly established, or the hereditary succession to the Crown interrupted, or where the King upon the Throne either was a notorious usurper, or a parricide, or had murdered his uncle, his brother, his wives, or his nephews. Let me add, too, that these temporary high-treason Acts of Parliament have always been deemed so highly odious, or suspicious, that they have generally been repealed by the next immediately succeeding King, unless indeed he stood (which hath sometimes been the case) in the same predicament with his Royal predecessor. Let us hear, then, no more of a definition, which absurdly tells us, "That to resist a Law, however unconstitutional it may be, is nevertheless high treason." If this definition be



admissible, I am afraid it will go so far as to make our very Statute Books guilty of high treason; for if your readers will turn to the general index of our Statute Books, under the article "King," they will there find the title of one of our Acts of Parliament running in the very words following: "*Resistance of evil Administration, by War, justified.*" The Statute to which this title refers is penned in the old French law-language, and the translator of it has mistranslated the word "War," for an armed force, or a strong hand. I made this observation, because, by our Constitution, there is an essential distinction between an armed force and a War. The latter is applicable only where the subjects of two different Kings, or two sovereign States, are fighting against one another: by the former, we understand, here in England, that the subjects of one and the same King are fighting against each other. The word "*Guerre*," or War, is twice used in this Statute, and in both places it speaks of War with foreign Kings; but whenever, in this Statute, there is any mention of the resistance which the Duke of Gloucester made to the King's Troops, it is not called a "*Guerre*," or War, but a *combatement*, or combat. The same nicety of expression is sedulously observed in the *Runnymede Treaty*; for whenever King John uses the word "*Guerre*," or "*Guerrena*," it is clearly expressive of a war with the King of England, and some other King or Nation: for instance, "*cum scimus quomodo mercatores terræ nostræ tractantur, qui inveniuntur in terra contra nos in guerrina, si nostri salva sint ibi, alii salvi sint in terrâ nostrâ.*" On the contrary, when this same King John mentions the resistance which the Barons made against his authority, he does not call it by the odious name of "a War," but only by that of "discord." As for example, "*a tempore discordia plene omnibus remisimus et condonavimus.*" This distinction, I say, is essentially necessary; for every War, properly so called, between one King and another, hath always for its object (however that object may be modified or disguised) either the preservation or extension of their respective Dominions; but that resistance which in the *Runnymede Treaty* is called "discord," and in the Statute above alluded to is called "combat," hath no other object in view but the mere preservation of the people's rights and liberties; besides, in the former, if the King be taken prisoner, his life is forfeited; in the latter, his life is sacred; and this accounts for the justification of resistance, for if the object itself be just, then the resistance of course is justifiable.

I have been careful to simplify this distinction, because it will explain a clause in the Twenty-fifth of our Third Edward, which hath been either grossly misunderstood, or wickedly perverted, by the King's Judges. The clause I allude to is that by which "to levy War against our Lord the King, within his Realm," is declared to be high treason. And doubtless it is; not because it is one of the special prerogatives of the Crown to make or denounce War, but because the King, if taken prisoner by a subject in a War levied by a subject, would certainly meet with no quarter; and where the "*salva persona regis*" is not observed, there it would be high treason, and constitutionally so, which is an irrefragable, indestructible, proof of the genuineness and bottomness of my definition of high treason. But treasonable levying of War by no means concludes that species of resistance against the kingly authority, in which the *Americans* are at this moment actually embarked; for that resistance amounts to nothing more than "a discord," very properly so called; for the King himself may, whenever he pleases, restore it to harmony, by relaxing the over-strained, jarring, chord of Government. If, on the contrary, he attempts to strain it one note higher, the chord itself, in this over tension, may burst asunder. But even then the consequences would not be fatal to him; for should they chance to take him prisoner, he would not only be entitled to his "*salva persona*," but it would be unconstitutional in them to put him to death.

That levying of War, properly so called, does not extend to constitutional resistance, also plainly appears from a Proclamation in Parliament, issued by this Edward the Third, in whose reign this same Statute of high treason was ordained. For this blessed King, (as Sir Edward Coke, in his exposition of this Statute, gravely calls him,) having dethroned and imprisoned his own father, openly

proclaims in Parliament, "that no person, great or small, who pursued and took his father in custody, and who still remains in custody, shall be any ways hindered, molested, or grieved, for or by reason of such pursuit and imprisonment of his said father." A similar Proclamation was also made, word for word, in Parliament, by our Fourth Henry, who, while he was only a subject, had pursued and taken into safe custody, Richard the Second; so that these Proclamations being conformant to the true spirit of the *Runnymede Treaty*, were matters of course; and the Proclamations above mentioned only revived and enforced that clause of the treaty, but enacted no new Law, which no Proclamation can do.

Thus, sir, I have clearly proved that the present resistance of the *Americans* is imperatively enjoined by our great Charter of Liberties; that it is supported and corroborated by Statutes and Proclamations, all penned in the true spirit of our great Charter; and that it does by no means come within the description of levying War against the King, nor in any manner within the purview of the Twenty-fifth of Edward the Third; and that consequently the resistance of the *Americans* cannot justly or constitutionally be enacted by the present or any future Parliament to be high treason.

BRECKNOCK.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY.

London, Tuesday, March 7, 1775.

The Treasurer to the Constitutional Society reported that he had received the following Letters, with the enclosed sums.

#### To the Constitutional Society:

GENTLEMEN: The Collector of the Land Tax received from me this week Seven Pounds Thirteen Shillings; and I know it will be employed as usual, to pay prostituted Parliament pensioners for voting away the liberty of *Englishmen* as well as *Americans*. I send you Fifteen Pounds, and for every Pound that is taken from me for the bad purposes of the present plans of Administration, I will hereafter regularly send you Two, to be applied in defence of *American Liberty*, and I hope others will do the same. I have no objections to pay Taxes in support of an honest Government; but will voluntarily pay double against an infamous cabal, who are openly destroying the free Constitution of this Country.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

T. R.

#### To Richard Oliver, Esq.:

SIR: I saw in the Newspapers that the Constitutional Society had given a Hundred Pounds to the distressed inhabitants of Boston. If the trifle I send herewith is thought worthy of acceptance by the Society, I beg they would apply it to the same purpose; if not, I desire it may be returned to the person who will bring the corner that is torn off from this letter. Most of the gentlemen in my neighbourhood are desirous to assist them; and if I know it will be acceptable, I will take care to forward their subscriptions to you. Any message given to the person who will bring the torn corner of this letter will be faithfully delivered to, sir, your humble servant,

(With Twenty Pounds.)

J. J.

#### To Richard Oliver, Esq.:

SIR: Enclosed I send you a Bank note, of Ten Pounds, which I desire you to pay into the Constitutional Society. I mean it towards the relief and assistance of the distressed inhabitants of Boston, in America, and beg that it may make part of the next vote of supply from that Society, in favour of the *Americans*. Their cause is the cause of England.

\* This Parliamentary Declaration divides treason into two distinct branches, namely, high and petit treason. But it is to be observed, the Lords and Commons most carefully and skilfully avoided to give their accord to that branch of it which respects high treason, and only gave their simple accord to that branch of it which specifies the offences of petit treason; so that this Statute is of force only so far as it declares what offences are petit treason, and abates, (as the Lawyers phrase it,) as to that part of it which declaratively specifies what particular crimes are high treason, and consequently leaves that heinous crime upon its proper constitutional basis. And to what particular crimes high treason is restricted by the Constitution, I have sufficiently explained and ascertained in my two definitions of it before mentioned.



What have we at home but to resist a victorious Army, which will have been tried and modeled there, and devoted to the Crown, returning to *England* from the conquest of *America*? All is at stake! The single question is, whether the King of *Great Britain* shall, in future, be as absolutely despotick in every part of the Empire, as a late Act of Parliament appointed him to be forever in *Canada*? If despotism had not been the favourite form of Government with the proposers of that Bill, they would not have established that form, when they had it at their option which to appoint. After the conquest over freedom in *America*, your Army will give them the same option in *England*; and we already know their inclinations.

I therefore set my foot here, and have as many Thousands as I now send Pounds, which I shall be willing to dedicate to the same purpose, if the situation of the *Americans* shall continue to require, and their conduct to deserve, support.

I am, sir, with the greatest esteem for you and the gentlemen of the Society, your humble servant, H. B. J.

#### *To the Constitutional Society:*

When the common rights of *Englishmen* are invaded in any part of the *British* Dominions, my mite shall never be wanting to assist those who struggle like men for the rights of men. This Twenty Pounds and my prayers, is all I have to give. May *God* prosper the honest efforts of the *Americans*, and make them at length the happy instruments of bringing to justice those traitors who have long trampled upon us here with impunity. And may *God* bless you, gentlemen, for the honest example you have set us.

WILLIAM FINCH.

The Treasurer likewise reported that he had received a Ten Pound Bank note and Four Guineas, enclosed in a cover, directed to him with these words, "To the *Bostonians*."

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON, DATED MARCH 7, 1775.

Yesterday, No. III of a periodical Paper, called "*The Crisis*," and a pamphlet with the same title, containing Thoughts on *American* Affairs, were burnt by the common hangman, at *Westminster* Hall gate, pursuant to an unanimous order of the House of Lords and Commons. As soon as the condemned papers were burnt, a man threw into the fire the "Address of both Houses of Parliament to His Majesty, declaring the *Bostonians* in actual Rebellion;" likewise the Address of the Bishops and Clergy assembled in Convocation. The Sheriffs were much hissed for attending, and the populace diverted themselves with throwing the fire at each other.

And this day, at twelve o'clock, the Sheriffs attended at the Royal Exchange for the above purpose; but as soon as the fire was lighted, it was put out, and dead dogs and cats thrown at the Officers; a fire was then made in *Cornhill*, and the executioner did his duty. Sheriff *Hart* was wounded in the wrist, and Sheriff *Plomer* in the breast, by a brick-bat; Mr. *Gates*, the City Marshal, was dismounted, and with much difficulty saved his life.

No less than three publications, under the name of *The Crisis*, have come under Parliamentary inquiry; the first in the year 1714, written by Sir *Richard Steele*, a Member of Parliament, for which he was expelled the House; and the two which were burnt at the *Royal Exchange* yesterday.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, February 27, 1775.

Complaint was made to the House of a printed Paper, intituled, "*The Crisis*, No. III, *Saturday, February 4, 1775*, printed and published for the Authors, by *T. W. Shaw*, *Fleet Street*, opposite *Anderton's Coffee-House*."

The said Paper was read by the Clerk.

The Earl of *Radnor* moved to "Resolve, that the Paper called '*The Crisis*, No. III,' is a false, daring, infamous, seditious, and treasonable libel on His Majesty, designed to alienate the affections of His Majesty's subjects from his Royal Person and Government, and to disturb the Peace of the Kingdom."

Then an amendment was proposed to be made to the said motion, by leaving out the word "treasonable."

Which being objected to, after debate, the question was put, "Whether the word 'treasonable' shall stand part of the motion?"

And it was resolved in the affirmative.

Then it was moved, "To agree to the said Resolution, as at first proposed."

Which being objected to, the question was put thereupon:

And it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, That His Majesty's Attorney General do prosecute the Printer and Authors of the said Paper.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, February 27, 1775.

A complaint being made to the House of a printed Paper, intituled, "*The Crisis*, No. III, dated *Saturday, February 4, 1775*, printed and published for the Authors, by *T. W. Shaw*, in *Fleet Street*,"

The said Paper was delivered in at the Clerk's table, and read.

Resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That the said Paper is a false, scandalous, and seditious libel, highly and unjustly reflecting on His Majesty's sacred person, and tending to alienate the affections, and inflame the minds, of His Majesty's subjects against his person and Government.

Resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That one of the said printed Papers be burnt by the hands of the common hangman in *New-Palace Yard, Westminster*, on *Monday*, the 6th day of *March* next, at one of the clock in the afternoon; and that another of the said printed Papers be burnt by the hands of the common hangman, before the *Royal Exchange* in *London*, on *Tuesday*, the 7th day of *March* next, at the same hour; and that the Sheriffs of *London* and *Middlesex* do attend at the said times and places respectively, and cause the same to be burnt there accordingly.

#### THE CRISIS.—NO. I.

##### *To the People of ENGLAND and AMERICA:*

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-SUBJECTS: It is with the greatest propriety I address this paper to you. It is in your defence, at this great, this important crisis, I take the pen in hand. A crisis big with the fate of the most glorious Empire known in the records of time; and by your firmness and resolution only, it can be saved from destruction. By your firmness and resolution, you may preserve to yourselves, your immediate offspring, and latest posterity, all the glorious blessings of freedom given by Heaven to undeserving mortals; by your supineness and pusillanimity, you will entail on yourselves, your children, and millions yet unborn, misery and slavery.

It is in your defence I now stand forth to oppose the most sanguinary and despotick Court that ever disgraced a free Country. It is in your defence I now unsheath the sword of Justice, to oppose the most profligate and abandoned Administration that ever showed the weakness, or abused the confidence, of a Prince. It is in your defence I now stand forth, with a firmness and resolution becoming an *Englishman* determined to be free, to oppose every arbitrary and every unconstitutional Act, of a venal and corrupt majority, smuggled into the present new-fangled Court Parliament, through the villany of Lord *North*, and purchased with the publick money, to betray their trust, enslave the people, subvert the Protestant religion, and destroy the glory, the honour, interest, and commerce, both foreign and domestick, of *England* and *America*; and all this villanous sacrifice of a great Empire, a brave people, and the glorious truths of Heaven, to ambitious views, and to gratify the mean vindictive spirit of one, assisted by a numerous train of deputy tyrants, whose sole aim has been to trample under foot the sacred rights of mankind, and the *English* Constitution.

It is in your defence, and in defence of the liberties of my Country, that I now stand forth, with a fixed resolution, to oppose, and show to the world, unawed by fear, the dangerous tendency of every act of lawless power, whether it shall proceed from the King, the Lords, or the Commons.



I will endeavour, in conjunction with my fellow-labourer in this great work, to rescue the liberty of the Press (that bulwark of freedom) from the ruin with which it is now threatened, by special juries of *Middlesex*, and the arbitrary decisions of a *Scotch* Chief Justice, the glorious advocates for despotick sway. The heavy fines and cruel imprisonment of the two *Woodfalls*, without even the appearance of guilt, and contrary to the intention of the Jury, will be faithfully recorded by the pen of truth, and fill many pages in the black catalogue of *Murray's* crimes. It shall be my endeavour, in this degenerate age, to revive the dying embers of freedom, and rouse my countrymen in *England* from that lethargick state of supineness and inattention, in which they seem to sleep at this time of national danger, when a mighty Kingdom, and all the dearest rights of men are hastening to their ruin; that they may yet stand high on the roll of fame, equal with their brave and virtuous brethren in *America*, who are now struggling in the glorious cause of liberty, against the cruel oppressions and the destructive designs of exalted villains, whose actions will be transmitted to posterity in characters of blood, and their names forever branded with eternal marks of infamy; while *America* will remain the glory and admiration of the world, and be held in the highest veneration to the end of time. Let not the long envied glory of *Britain*, O my countrymen! be eclipsed by the virtuous actions of the *Americans* in the new world. Our danger is the same; their cause is our cause; with the constitutional rights of *America*, must fall the liberties of *England*. Let us, then, show ourselves equal to them in virtue, courage, firmness, and resolution; and as they have done, prove to the world we are alike enemies to tyranny, and that we never will be slaves to one, nor to a majority of five hundred and fifty-eight tyrants. We will strain every nerve, and brave every danger, to stimulate our countrymen on this side the *Atlantick*, to a noble exertion of their rights as freemen; to show them the danger, as well as the infamy, of remaining quiet spectators of their own destruction; and to remove that dark cloud of slavery, which now obscures the glorious light of freedom; and but for the virtue of our forefathers, would, ages ago, have overwhelmed this Kingdom, like the States around us, in a long, a lasting night of misery and ruin.

Upon this plan, and with these principles, we set out, and intend to proceed, that the present (if not too far degenerated) and future generations may enjoy, undiminished, all the blessings of liberty. To accomplish this end we will risk every thing that is dear to man, and brave both Royal and Ministerial vengeance, to preserve from ruin, if possible, the natural rights of mankind, the sacred Constitution of the *British* Empire, and the freedom of our Country.

Agreeable to our motto, we shall ever think "liberty with danger, is preferable to servitude with security." We should glory in the smiles of our Sovereign, but will never purchase them at the expense of our liberty; nor will we ever give up, but with our lives, the right to expose, and publicly display, in all its hideous forms, the cruel despotism of tyrants. We can conceive no reason why the laws and religion of *England* should be sported with, and trampled under foot, by a Prince of the House of *Brunswick*, rather than by one of the House of *Stuart*. Surely, upon every principle of justice, reason, and common sense, whatever is tyranny and murder in one man, is equally so in another; and if it is just to oppose and resist one, it is as just to oppose and resist the other. It is not a name, nor an office, however important, that can or ought to bring respect and reverence to the possessor, while he acts below, and is unworthy of them. Folly and villany ought to have no asylum; nor can titles sanctify crimes, though, in our days, they protect criminals. A royal, right honourable, or a right reverend robber, is the most dangerous robber, and consequently the most to be detested.

Our modern advocates for villany and slavery, have found out a new way of arguing and convincing the judgments of men; they make nice distinctions without a difference, and tell the world what was tyranny in the time of *Charles* the First, is not tyranny in the reign of *George* the Third; and to this they add a long catalogue of virtues, which he never possessed. They say he is pious; that his chief aim is to render his subjects a happy, great, and free people. These, and many other falsehoods equally wick-

ed and absurd, they endeavour to instil into the minds of the too easily deluded *English*. These, and such like artifices, have ever been made use of in the reign of arbitrary Kings, to deceive the people, and make them, with more ease, and to chains well polished, submit their necks, and even reverence and adore the hand that rivets them. Thus do tyrants succeed, and the galling yoke of slavery, so much complained of by almost every Nation in the world, becomes a crime of the first magnitude in the people, through their own credulity and vile submission. Truth, in spite of all the false colouring of venal writers, speaks a different language, and declares, in opposition to the pen of falsehood, that bloodshed and slaughter, violence and oppression, Popery and lawless power, characterize the present reign; and we will defy even the pensioned *Johnson*, after the closest examination of the two reigns, to tell which is the best. *Charles* broke his coronation oath, butchered his subjects, made ten thousand solemn promises he never intended to perform, and often committed perjury; (but these are no crimes in a King, for all Kings have a divine right to be devils.) He tried to overturn the Constitution by force, but found his mistake when it was too late, and that even royal villany does not always succeed, and when the just vengeance of Heaven overtook him, he saw (though he would not believe it before, and imagined he had a divine right to shed human blood) that the same power which raised him up could pull him down. The present Sovereign, not willing to make a figure in history without a head, and being more mild and gentle, just and good, has improved upon the plan, and is now tearing up the Constitution by the roots, under the form of law. This method of proceeding is certainly much safer, and more judicious, as well as just; for what right can an *Englishman* have to complain, when he is legally made a slave by Act of Parliament. How wicked! how rebellious! must the *Americans* be, and what levelling principles must they possess, to resist the divine right of the Lords and Commons, under the sanction of a divine Act of Parliament, sent from Heaven to plunder, butcher, starve, or enslave them, just as it shall come into their divine heads, or the heads of their divine instruments; and when once they have carried this divine law into execution, according to their righteous intention, we shall soon see, on this side the *Atlantick*, that they have the same divine right to use us in the same merciful and divine manner. This is but the first divine step of a diabolical plan for shedding human blood, reducing an industrious, brave, flourishing, and free people, from a state of affluence to that of misery, beggary, and slavery; and nothing but a resolution in the people here, will be able to prevent the next divine step of the same plan, from laying in ruins all the rights of the *British*, with those of the *American*, world.

The altar of despotism is erected in *America*, and we shall be the next victims to lawless power; all the horrors of slavery now stare us in the face; our religion subverted; freedom, law, and right, artfully undermined; the *Roman* Catholick religion not tolerated but established; a majority of the House of Commons and the House of Lords mere creatures of the King; in short, every engine of oppression and arbitrary power is at work, to accomplish our ruin.

O, my countrymen, that we could but inspire you with noble sentiments of liberty, rouse you to a just sense of your immediate danger, and make you feel, sensibly feel, all the blessings derived from freedom, the natural right of every man, but more particularly of *Englishmen*; it is our birthright, our inheritance; it was handed down to us by our ancestors, and sealed often with their blood. Let us, then, in justice to them, to ourselves, and to posterity, make a noble constitutional stand, in conjunction with our noble and spirited, but suffering, fellow-subjects in *America*, against the present plan, long fixed by the minions of power to destroy it, and overturn the Constitution, a Constitution ten thousand times superiour to any system ever devised by the *Greeks* or *Romans*.

At such a time as this, when the merciless, the relentless hand of tyranny is tearing out the vitals of freedom, sapping the foundations of publick security, making a mockery of publick justice, and destroying all the envied rights of *Britain*, and the truths of Heaven;—I say, at such a time, to be inattentive or inactive, is infamy; and



he who can tamely see his Country upon the brink of ruin, without putting out his arm, and lending a helping hand to rescue her from destruction, must be an abandoned wretch, a disgrace to the name of *Englishman*, and to his Country.

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THE CRISIS.—NO. II.

*A bloody Court, a bloody Ministry, and a bloody Parliament.*

The sudden and unexpected dissolution of the last ruinous Parliament, gave a just and general alarm to the whole Nation; and we may search in vain the voluminous pages of *Grecian*, *Roman*, or *English* history, to find such another plan of premeditated villany, for destroying, at one grand stroke of Royal and Ministerial policy, all the rights of a free people. Lord *North*, engendered in the womb of Hell; raised by the fostering hand of infernal spirits; and possessing principles which have eclipsed all the glories of his satanick parents, had the effrontery to declare, in the face of the House of Commons, and the world, but a few day before the recess of the late Parliament, that they should meet again early in *October* for the despatch of business. When he uttered the falsehood, it was suspected by many, and he well knew it had been determined that they should be dissolved, although the precise time was not fixed. On the 16th day of *September*, 1774, a notice was published in the *Gazette* for the last Parliament to meet on the 15th of *November*; eleven days had not elapsed before a Proclamation appeared for its dissolution, and calling a new Parliament. Who can guard against deception, artifice, and villany, when stamped with Royal authority? The very thought of an honest House of Commons struck terror into the guilty soul of Lord *North*, the diabolical minion of Royal favour, and instrument of Royal vengeance; nay, even the King, virtuous as he is, had his fears; and in order to secure their own creatures and dependants, or, in other words, to have the old Parliament revived, and smuggle a majority of venal, abandoned miscreants, who would deny their *God*, or sell their souls for money, into the present House of Commons, Lord *North* sent letters to all his friends, that they might be prepared; and it was known in the most distant parts of *England*, and even the time of election fixed in several Boroughs in *Cornwall*, some days before the Parliament was dissolved. This is a truth which Lord *North*, with all his consummate impudence, cannot deny.

The Ministerial hacks were again set to work, to fabricate lies, and publish them in the Newspapers, to elude and deceive the electors, that little or no opposition might be made to the tools of Government. One report said the dissolution of Parliament was owing to some disagreeable advices received from *America*; and that our virtuous King, with his still more virtuous Ministers, intended to adopt some conciliating measures with respect to the Colonies; and that it would betray a weakness in the King to let the same Parliament meet again to repeal those Acts which they but a few months before passed. Another report, equally *true*, asserted it was on account of intelligence received from the North, of a very alarming nature. And a third, that it was occasioned by a difference between the *French* and *English* Ministry, which rendered such a step necessary, as there was great reason to believe we should soon be involved in War, and that it would be exceedingly improper to have the Nation put in a ferment by a general election at so critical a time as that, and when the assistance of Parliament would be particularly wanted. A fourth report was, that Lord *Chatham* and his friends would be immediately taken into favour, and that there was to be an entire change in the Ministry. By these low artifices and Ministerial lies, the people of *England* were lulled into a state of supineness, and even made to lend a helping hand to complete their own ruin.

The subsequent part of this paper will unravel the diabolical scheme. Lord *North* saw a powerful opposition forming in every part of *England*; he was fearful of associations—he dreaded a Solemn League and Covenant, which he was certain the people would have entered into for the preservation of their rights and liberties, before next *May*, the time when the Parliament would have been dissolved of course; he trembled for the event, conscious of his own

villany, and that his head had been long forfeited to the justice of his Country; he determined to take the electors by surprise, to put them off their guard, and rob them of time, that no opposition might be made to his creatures; and the people being prevented from fixing upon men of honest, independent principles, to whom they might with safety, delegate the important, the sacred trust of representation.

Lord *North* communicated his fears to the King; painted the daring rebellious spirit of the *Americans*; and told him that the people here were as disloyal and disaffected, and that hints had been thrown out in the publick prints, of plans forming in different parts of *England* for keeping out of the new Parliament most of his friends, and unless prevented by some well-concerted scheme, there was but too much reason to believe, from the spirit of the people, that they would succeed; an event, says this traitor, much feared, and greatly dreaded by every well-wisher to your person and Government, should it ever take place; and there is a Country party, or a majority of mock Patriots in the House of Commons, who are enemies to all order and Government—you must be reduced to the most degrading situation; indeed, your present friends will then be unable to give you any assistance; and instead of the power being in your hands, it will then be in the hands of the people; and you will be under the disgraceful necessity of giving your assent to the repeal of every Act which has been lately passed for the purpose of raising a revenue, and enforcing a due obedience to your authority. In short, you will be a King without power, and subject to the control of a few demagogues for liberty—the dregs of mankind—and a common rabble who will always support them; nay, it may even endanger the security of your Throne; for what will not a hot-headed Parliament do, with whom the voice of the people can have any weight. The plan for reducing the *Americans*, and making them dependant on your will, must be crushed; they will triumph in the victory obtained over the just power of Parliament, and your prerogative; your faithful servants will be compelled to leave you, and you will be without a real friend to advise with. If your Majesty can get a majority of your friends rechosen in the new Parliament, you will be able to raise what money you please, with their assistance; you will then be able to keep your present Ministers, and preserve them from the resentment (which has been incurred by serving you) of an enraged rabble, who are made to believe, through the licentiousness of the press, that they labour under a load of accumulated grievances. You will then be able to trample under foot faction, sedition, and rebellion throughout your Dominions, and to carry every thing before you, agreeable to your Royal pleasure. With the power of Parliament, and your Majesty's firmness and perseverance, you may bring *England* and *America* into a proper state of subjection to your will. To accomplish this, it will be necessary to prorogue the Parliament to some future day, then to meet, and immediately after call a Council and dissolve them; in the mean time, your friends may be made acquainted with the determination, and be prepared for the election, before any opposition can possibly be made, or the people know any thing of the matter.

The King, firmly resolved on the people's ruin, caressed his villanous minion, admired the plan formed for our destruction, and, drunk with the prerogative, he sucked in the baneful advice, and pursued it.

Thus the present Parliament was smuggled; and thus, in a most shameful, unprecedented, artful, and sudden manner, was the last House of Commons dissolved by the King, to answer his own and his Minister's wicked, tyrannical, and bloody designs against the people and Constitution of this Kingdom. Such an instance of an infamous exertion of the Royal prerogative, and under the like circumstances, is not to be found in the history of *England*; such an injury and insult was never before offered to a free people, and never ought to be forgiven. It was a piece of *Hanoverian* treachery, baseness, and ingratitude, which has far exceeded all the artful villany and low cunning of the discarded *Stuarts*. His Majesty, (Heaven protect so much goodness,) out of a tenderness to the Constitution, could not make so bad a use of his prerogative, five years back, as to dissolve the same Parliament, when their iniquitous



proceedings, and their violations of justice had roused the indignation of the people, and he was requested to do it by upwards of eighty thousand freeholders, (signed,) and the general voice of the whole Nation. But in 1774 he got the better of that tenderness; and to answer his own purposes, could exert the Royal prerogative, which he had absolutely refused to his subjects in the haughty terms of a despot, with no other view but to overturn the Constitution of the *British Empire*, in *England* and *America*, and destroy or enslave the people.

His Majesty, his minions, and instruments of slaughter, are now safe in robbing the people of their property, by shameful and iniquitous taxes, in time of peace; safe in their subversion of the Protestant Religion; safe and successful in their cruel plan for starving the honest and industrious inhabitants, and destroying the trade of the Town of *Boston*, in *America*, and the Commerce of *England*; safe so far in their attempt to destroy the lives, rights, liberties, and privileges of millions; I say they are safe in all these violations of, and depredations on our National security, and natural rights—because we are tame.

THE CRISIS.—NO. III.

To the King :

SIR: To follow you regularly through every step of a fourteen years' shameful and inglorious reign, would be a task as painful as disagreeable, and far exceed the bounds of this paper: But we are called upon by the necessity of the times, the measures you are pursuing, by every principle of justice and self-preservation, and by the duty we owe to *God* and our Country, to declare our sentiments (with a freedom becoming *Englishmen*) on some of those dreadful transactions and oppressions which the Kingdom has laboured under since the glory and lustre of *England's* Crown was doomed to fade upon your brow; and to point out to you, Sir, your own critical and dangerous situation.

Sir, it is not your rotten troop, in the present House of Commons; it is not your venal, beggarly, pensioned Lords; it is not your polluted, canting, prostituted Bench of Bishops; it is not your whole set of abandoned Ministers; nor all your army of *Scotch* cut-throats, that can protect you from the People's rage, when driven by your oppressions, and, until now, unheard of cruelties, to a state of desperation.

The day, we fear, is not far distant, when you will have reason, too much reason, to wish you had acted like a father, and not like a tyrant; when you will be bound to curse those traitors, those exalted villains, who now, in the face of day, without a blush, you can be base enough to call your friends. Be assured, Sir, your danger is great, amidst all the fancied security; and it will be impossible for them to preserve you from the just resentment of an enraged, long abused, and much injured Nation. Should that day ever come, (but Heaven avert the stroke,) where can you hide yourself from the tenfold vengeance of a brave and mighty people, with law, justice, Heaven, and all their sacred truths on their side?

Then, like the wounds that bleed afresh, will be brought to their minds your barbarous and unprovoked *massacre* in *St. George's Fields*; when men and women were indiscriminately and inhumanly slaughtered, to gratify what would have disgraced even your footman—a pitiful revenge! Then, Sir, they will remember with horror and indignation, the letter of thanks, sent from the Secretary at War, by your order, to the Officer on duty, the 10th of *May*, 1768, (the day of carnage,) and likewise your pensioning and screening the murderers from the punishment of the law. Then, Sir, they will remember, the horrid plan laid at *Brentford*, for destroying the right of election; or in the most savage manner to take away the lives of the Freeholders of *Middlesex*, which was (to make use of a word from your merciful Royal dictionary,) effectually carried into execution, and several people killed; to this plan, Sir, formed by *Proctor* and your minions, you must have been privy, as the event afterwards sufficiently proved. Then, Sir, they will remember the mean, low, and criminal subterfuge you had recourse to, to dispense with the laws, and set aside the just verdict of an honest jury, to

pardon those hired ruffians, *Balf* and *McQuirk*, convicted upon the clearest evidence, of premeditated murder. Then, Sir, they will remember the insults they received, and the ignoble answers you gave to the remonstrances and petitions, delivered by them to the Throne, praying the dissolution of Parliament. Nor will they forget, Sir, the infernal plan for smuggling the present House of Commons, and destroying all the rights of this free Country. In a word, Sir, these and every other despotick and bloody transaction of your reign will rise fresh in their minds, if they should be driven by your encouragement of Popery, your persecutions, your oppressions, your violations of all justice, your treachery, and your weakness, into a fatal and unnatural Civil War in *America*; I say, they will rise fresh in their minds, and stimulate them to deeds of glory; nay, they may pursue with implacable revenge the author of all their miseries.

The people, Sir, with a candour and indulgence peculiar to *Englishmen*, passed over the injuries and insults in the first part of your reign, or kindly laid the blame at the door of your Ministers; but it is now evident to the whole world, that there was a plan formed by Lord *Bute* and yourself, either before, or immediately after you came to the Crown, for subverting the *British* Constitution in Church and State; which, to our grief, with indefatigable pains and too much success, Lord *Bute's* tools, and your infernal minions, have carried into execution; therefore it no longer remains to determine who is now the greatest criminal in *England*.

Consider, Sir, if, through the late and present iniquitous measures, and an obstinate resolution in your Majesty to pursue them, the sword is forced to be drawn in *America*, it cannot remain long unsheathed in *England*. We hope there is some virtue here; and we entertain a better opinion of our countrymen than to believe they are so far degenerated as to tamely see a mercenary army of soldiers, who are at all times a terror to the peaceable inhabitants of every free State, butcher their brethren and fellow-subjects in *America*, because they are determined to defend their own rights and the *British* Constitution. I say they never will tamely see that, without putting out a helping hand, and sharing with them the glory of a decisive victory over tyranny, and all the agents of the infernal monarch of the dark regions of hell, who would enslave the world.

Should you, Sir, still pursue the tyrannical measures, only to gratify a mean vindictive spirit, and be the author of such dreadful mischiefs, O, we shudder at the thought, the people will then perhaps treat you with as little ceremony, as little respect, and as little mercy, as you and your minions have them; for, Sir, whenever the State is convulsed by civil commotions, and the Constitution totters to its centre, the Throne of *England* must shake with it; a Crown will then be no security, and at one stroke all the gaudy trappings of royalty may be laid in the dust; at such a time of dreadful confusion and slaughter, when the son's weapon drinks the father's blood, and we see the ruffian's blade reeking from a brother's heart; when rage is burning in the breasts of *Englishmen*, provoked by wrongs not to be borne by men, all distinctions must cease, the common safety and the rights of mankind will be the only objects in view, while the King and the peasant must share one and the same fate, and perhaps fall undistinguished together.

Let these things, Sir, be well weighed; tremble for the event; drive those traitors from your breast, who now surround you; let the just and honest have your confidence; and once more make your people happy, great and free; be not the instrument of their destruction; consider the solemn and sacred oath you made at your coronation to protect your subjects in all their rights and liberties, and the Protestant Religion as by Law established: consider, Sir, what a perversion of all right and justice that must be (besides the heinous crime of perjury,) when, instead of being their protector, you become their destroyer.

Your plan, Sir, for bringing the Colonies by force of arms into a state of subjection to your will, is cruel, bloody, and (I hope) impracticable; it is repugnant to every principle of humanity, justice, and sound policy, and the natural rights of mankind; it is the foulest disgrace to you, and



will reflect eternal infamy on your reign and memory as the Sovereign and father of a free people. It is such a plan of encroaching violence and lawless power, as the *Americans* never can, never ought, nor ever will, submit to; it is such a scheme for enslaving, or destroying the human race, as every man ought to execrate and condemn, and to oppose even till he perish.

Men, Sir, at three thousand miles distance, must think it extremely hard to work, toil, and run hazards, only to support the infamous luxury of high pampered Lords, a rotten Court, and your tribe of venal Senators, minions, pimps, and parasites—the pests of society; and to be taxed and mulcted by them at their pleasure. All nature, Sir, revolts even at the idea of such a state of human misery.

Force, Sir, can never be used effectually to answer the end, without destroying the Colonies themselves. Liberty and encouragement are necessary to keep them together; and violence will hinder both. Any body of Troops, considerable enough to awe them, keep them in subjection, and under the direction of a needy *Scotch* Governour, sent only to be an instrument of slaughter, and to make his fortune, would soon put an end to planting, and leave the country to you, Sir, and your merciless plunderers only; and if it did not, they would starve the inhabitants and eat up all the profit of the Colonies. On the contrary, a few prudent laws, Sir, (but you seem to be a stranger to prudence as well as to justice and humanity,) and a little prudent conduct, (that, too, has long been despaired of by the Kingdom,) would soon give us far the greatest share of the riches of all *America*; perhaps drive other Nations out of it, or into our Colonies for shelter.

If violent methods be not used (at this time) to prevent it, your Northern Colonies, Sir, must constantly increase in people, wealth, and power; their inhabitants are considerably more than doubled since the Revolution; and in less than a century must become powerful States; and the more powerful, the more people will flock thither. There are so many exigencies in all States, so many foreign wars and domestic disturbances, that these Colonies can seldom want opportunities, if they watch for them, to do what you, Sir, might be extremely sorry for—throw off their dependance on the Mother Country; therefore, Sir, it should be your first and greatest care, that it shall never be their interest to act against that of their native Country; an evil that can no otherwise be averted, than by keeping them fully employed in such trades as will increase their own, as well as our wealth; for, Sir, there is too much reason to fear, if you don't find employment for them, they may find some for you. Withdraw, then, Sir, from *America*, your armed ruffians, and make a full restoration of the people's rights; let them tax themselves, and enjoy their property unviolated by the hand of tyranny. Thus, Sir, the subsequent part of your reign may yet be happy and glorious. May the compact between you and the people be no more invaded; may you be speedily reconciled to the just demands of the Colonies; may Lord *Bute*, Lord *Mansfield*, Lord *North*, and all your Majesty's infamous minions, who would precipitate you and the Kingdom into ruin, answer with their heads (and soon) for their horrid crimes; and may the succession in your Majesty's Royal House, and the Religion, Laws, Rights and Liberties, of the subject, go hand in hand down to all posterity, until this globe shall be reduced to its original chaos, and time be swallowed up in eternity.

#### THE CRISIS.—NO. IV.

*To the Conspirators against the Liberties of mankind, at St. James's, in St. Stephen's Chapel, the House of Lords, or amongst the Bench of Bishops.*

The steady and uniform perseverance in a regular plan of depotism, since the commencement of this reign, makes it evident to the meanest capacity, that a design was formed (and it has with too much success been carried into execution) for subverting the Religion, Laws, and Constitution of this Kingdom, and to establish upon the ruins of public liberty, an arbitrary system of Government: in a word, the destruction of this Kingdom will soon be effected by a Prince of the House of *Brunswick*.

The bloody Resolution has passed the House of Commons and the House of Lords, to address our present humane, gentle Sovereign, to give directions for enforcing the cruel and unjust edicts of the last Parliament against the *Americans*. His Majesty, possessing principles which nothing can equal but the goodness of his heart, will no doubt give immediate orders for carrying effectually into execution the massacre in *America*; especially as he is to be supported in polluting the earth with blood with the lives and fortunes of his faithful butchers—the Lords and Commons. Would to *God* they only were to fall a sacrifice in this unnatural Civil War.

The day of trial is at hand; it is time to prove the virtue, and rouse the spirit of the people of *England*; the prospect is too dreadful, it is too melancholy to admit of farther delay.

The Lord Mayor of *London* ought immediately to call a Common-Hall for the purpose of taking the sense of his fellow-citizens at this alarming crisis, upon presenting a remonstrance to the Throne, couched in terms that might do honour to the City, as the first and most powerful in the world, and to them as men determined to be free; in terms that might strike conviction into his Majesty's breast, and terror into the souls of his minions. This is not a time for compliments, nor should tyrants, or the instruments of tyranny ever be complimented.

The Merchants of *London*, it is to be hoped, and the whole commercial interest of *England*, will exert themselves upon this great occasion, by sending to the Throne spirited and pointed remonstrances, worthy of *Englishmen*; by noble and generous subscriptions; and in every other manner, give all the relief, and all the assistance in their power, to their oppressed and injured fellow-subjects in *America*.

Let them heartily join the *Americans*, and see whether tyranny and lawless power, or reason, justice, Heaven, truth, and liberty, will prevail.

Let them, together with the gentlemen of landed property, who must greatly suffer by this unnatural Civil War, make a glorious stand against the enemies of publick freedom, and the constitutional rights of the Colonies; for, with the ruin of *America*, must be involved that of *England*.

Let them, in plain terms, declare their own strength, and the power of the people; a power that has hitherto withstood the united efforts of fraud and tyranny; a power which raises them to a Throne; and when unworthy of their delegated trust, can pull them down.

Let them declare to the world they will never be so base and cowardly as quietly to see any part of their fellow-subjects butchered or enslaved, either in *England* or *America*, to answer the purpose of exalted villany; and by that means become the detested instruments of their own destruction.

Let them declare to the world they are not yet ripe for slavery; that their forefathers made a noble resistance, and obtained a decisive victory over tyranny and lawless power, when the *Stuarts* reigned; that they are determined to do themselves justice, and not to suffer any farther attacks upon their freedom, from the present Sovereign, who is exceedingly desirous, as well as ambitious, to destroy the liberties of mankind, but that they do insist upon a restoration of their own violated rights, and the rights of *British America*. Let them enter into an Association for the preservation of their lives, rights, liberties, and privileges, and resolve at once to bring the whole legion of publick traitors, who have wickedly entered into a conspiracy to destroy the dear-bought rights of this free Nation, to condign punishment, for their past and present diabolical proceedings, which have already stained the land with blood, and threaten destruction to the human race.

A few spirited resolutions from the City of *London*, and the whole body of Merchants of *England*, would strike terror into the souls of those miscreants—the authors of these dreadful publick mischiefs.

The grand principle of self-preservation, which is the first and fundamental law of nature, calls aloud for such exertions of publick spirit; the security of the Nation depends upon it; justice, and the preservation of our own, and the lives of our fellow-subjects in *America*, demand it;



the very being of the Constitution makes it necessary ; and whatever is necessary to the publick safety must be just.

The present conspirators against the happiness of mankind ought to know that no subterfuges, no knavish subtilties, no evasions, no combinations, nor pretended commissions, shall be able to screen or protect them from publick justice. They ought to know that the PEOPLE can follow them through all their labyrinths and doubling meanders ; a power confined by no limitations but of publick justice and the publick good ; a power that does not always follow precedents, but makes them ; a power which has this for its principle, that extraordinary and unprecedented villanies ought to have extraordinary and unprecedented punishments.

*To the Officers, Soldiers, and Seamen, who may be employed to butcher their Relations, Friends, and Fellow-Subjects in AMERICA.*

You can neither be ignorant of, nor unacquainted with, the arbitrary steps that the present King, supported by an abandoned Ministry, a venal set of prostituted Lords and Commons, is now pursuing to overturn the sacred Constitution of the *British Empire*, which he had sworn to preserve.

You are not, or will not long be ignorant, that the King, the Lords and Commons, have (to satiate their revenge against a few individuals) declared the whole people of *America* to be in a state of rebellion, only because they have avowed their resolution to support their Charters, Rights, and Liberties against the secret machinations of designing men ; who would destroy them, and you are fixed upon as the instruments of their destruction. However, I entertain too good an opinion of you, to believe there is one true *Englishman* who will undertake the bloody work. Men without fortunes, principles, or connexions, may indeed handle their arms in any desperate cause, to oblige a tyrant or monster in human shape ; but men of family or fortune, or of honest principles, I hope could never be prevailed upon to sheath their swords in the bowels of their countrymen. *Englishmen* surely cannot be found to execute so diabolical a deed, to imbrue their hands in innocent blood, and fight against their friends and Country ; actions which must brand them with perpetual marks of reproach and infamy.

O my countrymen, let neither private interest nor friendship, neither relations nor connexions, prevail with or induce you to obey (as you must answer at the last day before the awful Judge of the world for the blood that will be wantonly and cruelly spilt) the murderous orders of an inhuman tyrant ; who, to gratify his lust of power, would lay waste the world. No, rather enter into a solemn league, and join with the rest of your countrymen, to oppose the present measures of Government, planned for our ruin.

When your Country calls, then stand forth and defend the cause of liberty, despise the degeneracy of the age, the venality of the times, and hand freedom down to posterity, that your children may smile and bless, not curse your warlike resolution. To die gloriously fighting for the Laws and Liberties of your Country, is honourable, and would deserve a crown of martyrdom ; to die fighting against it is infamy, and you would forever deserve the heaviest curses and execrations.

I hope neither you nor the *Irish* have forgot the shameful insults you have received from the King ever since the conclusion of the last war ; you have been despised, neglected, and treated with contempt, while a parcel of beggarly *Scotchmen* only have been put into places of profit and trust, in the *East* and *West-Indies*, in *England* and *America*, and the preference has, of honour and promotions, been constantly given to those people ; nay ! even to rebels, and some who have served in the *French* service. Be assured if you can be prevailed upon to butcher or enslave your fellow-subjects, and to set up an arbitrary power on the ruins of publick liberty, that your substance would soon be reduced to the miserable pittance of Foreign Troops ; and you, with the surviving subjects of *England* and *America*, be reduced to the miserable condition of being ruled by an army of *Scotch* Janizaries, assisted by *Roman Catholics*.

Let every *English* and *Irish* Officer, Soldier, and Sea-

man, seriously weigh these things, and then, if they are valiant, courageous, magnanimous, and free, like their forefathers ; if they are true to their King and their Country ; if they value their religion, laws, lives, liberties, families, and posterity, no consideration can prevail with them to engage against the *Americans* in an inhuman, bloody civil war.

Let every man, then, who is really and truly a Protestant, who wishes well to his Country and the rights of mankind, lay aside his prejudices and consider the cause of *America*, and her success in this struggle for freedom, as a thing of the last consequence to *England*, upon which our salvation depends ; for the present plan of Royal despotism is a plan of general ruin. I say, let us all speedily unite, and endeavour to defend them from their open, and ourselves from our own secret and domestick enemies ; and if any are lukewarm in this great publick cause, and at this time of imminent danger, let them be made an example of treachery and cowardice, that the present generation may detest and abhor them, and posterity exclaim against and curse them, as unnatural monsters, who would destroy the human race.

THE CRISIS.—NO. V.

*To the People :*

At a juncture like the present, when the National reputation of *Britain*, as well as her absolute safety, stands tottering on the brink of destruction ; when Liberty and Freedom, the great pillars of the Constitution, are, by force and fraud, undermined, and tumbling into ruins ; when the bloody sword of tyranny is drawn against *America*, and soon to be plunged into the bowels of her innocent inhabitants ; when the present Sovereign, aided by a despicable junto, the rebel, outcast, and refuse of *Scotland*, and a Parliament not returned by the free suffrages of the People, are rioting with impunity in the spoils of an insulted powerful Kingdom ; when they, by cruel oppression, have spread terror and civil war in every part of the *British Empire* ; when they have destroyed or suspended her trade, and sap the credit of publick security ; when the most iniquitous and unjust Laws are daily passed to curb the spirit, and bind in chains the hands of a brave and free People ; when *St. James's* is made the slaughter-house of *America* ; when the Sovereign has become a National Executioner, and for a sceptre carries a bloody knife ; when, by a most scandalous and shameful profusion of the publick money, we are hourly robbed and plundered to answer all the purposes of kingcraft and villany ; when new Taxes are daily imposed upon the People in time of peace, to the almost entire ruin of the State ; when the minions of despotism are increasing the Land Forces, for the open and avowed purpose of wading knee-deep in blood through the Liberties of *Britain* ; when the Protestant Religion is openly subverted, and the *British* subjects in *Canada* deprived of those great securities of their personal liberty and property—the Habeas Corpus Act, and Trial by Juries ; when a suspending and dispensing power is assumed by the Crown ; when opposition to the most cruel and wanton acts of lawless power is deemed Rebellion ; when the Senators, designed as the protectors of the People, are become their destroyers ; when the appointed guardians of publick freedom are become base apostates and conspirators against the Liberties of mankind ; when neither oaths nor conscience can bind the Sovereign or his Ministers ; when both publick and private justice is denied to a subject, nay, to the whole body of the People at large ; when our lives are exposed to false accusations, and our persons to arbitrary imprisonment and heavy fines ; when the Judges before whom we are to stand upon life and death, and before whom all cases concerning liberty and property must be brought, are too much devoted to the will and pleasure of the Crown, and enemies to the natural rights of mankind ; when Juries, who are to decide our fate, are packed, bribed, or modeled to the pernicious designs of a wicked and detestable Ministry ; when every post, Civil, Naval, and Military, is filled by Northern flatterers and their adherents, by men of no principles, by parasites, pimps, catnites, and the advocates for arbitrary power ; when the People can see nothing but misery and slavery before their eyes ; when this vast and mighty Empire, the admiration and envy of



the world, is, through corruption and villany, fallen into ruins :

At such a juncture as this, and under these dreadful and alarming circumstances of experienced and impending danger, it becomes the duty of every *Englishman* to stand forth to defend his life, his liberty, and his property, from lawless violence, and to save his Country from perdition.

So highly did our brave and worthy ancestors value and esteem their rights, liberties, and privileges, that they spared neither blood nor treasure in their defence, when invaded, as they too often were, by some of our Kings, who, in the pursuit of lawless power, pulled down all the fences of liberty, and broke in, like the present Sovereign, upon the Constitution, so far that the lives, liberties, and properties of the subjects of this Realm were hourly in danger, and many fell sacrifices to Royal or Ministerial vengeance.

Then it was, that our generous forefathers nobly associated themselves in defence of their inherent and legal rights, and made an offering of the best and choicest blood in the Kingdom to the shrine of Liberty, that we, their posterity, might be free and happy. To them and the glorious struggles they made with power, we owe all the blessings we enjoy, and the *English* Constitution—our greatest boast and their greatest glory.

It was in such times as these, when our brave progenitors behaved like *Britons*; with a true patriot-zeal, with which almost every breast was fired, they spurned the yoke, and broke the chains that were prepared for them, letting their King and his minions know they would not suffer him nor them to destroy their birthrights, and dispense with the known laws of the land, by which they were resolved to be governed, and not by his will, or any other lawless power upon earth.

Let us at this time, in this hour of imminent danger, follow so bright and glorious an example, by a well-timed, noble resistance to the present Royal and Ministerial plan for subverting the Laws and Religion, and overturning the Constitution of the *British* Empire in *England* and *America*; a resistance that will secure freedom to posterity, and immortal honour to ourselves. The field of glory is open before us; let us rouse from a state of apathy, and exert ourselves in a manner becoming of *Englishmen*, worthy of men who love liberty, and deserve to be free. Let us show to the world we are not to be enslaved by one nor by five thousand tyrants; for the sons of cruelty, corruption, and despotism, will pursue their bloody designs with great vigour, and with all the unrelenting malice of barbarians, against our fellow-subjects in *America*, in proportion as we are tame and acquiescing; and if once they can succeed, through our baseness and cowardice, the sword will be immediately turned against us—the sacred Constitution of our Empire dissolved, and we shall fall despised, unlamented, and detested, into the same horrible gulf of arbitrary power.

Let us take advantage of the present opportunity, while our resentments boil high; while every *English* breast is fired with indignation against those who are the authors of all our past and present calamities, which now convulse the State to its centre. Let us by all proper, just, and legal means, exemplarily punish the parricides, and avowed enemies of mankind. Let neither private acquaintance nor personal alliance stand between us and our duty to our Country. Let all who have an interest in the publick safety join in common measures to defend the publick safety. Let us pursue to disgrace, destruction, and even death, all those who have brought this ruin upon us, let them be ever so great, or ever so many. Let us stamp and deep engrave, in characters legible to all *Europe* at present, and to all posterity hereafter, what vengeance is due to crimes which have no less objects in view than the ruin of Nations and the destruction of millions. Let us frustrate their present desperate and wicked attempt to destroy *America*, by joining with our injured fellow-subjects, and bravely striking one honest and bold stroke to destroy them. Nay, although the designs of the conspirators should be laid deep as the centre; although they should raise hell itself, and should fetch legions of votaries from thence to avow their proceedings; yet, let us not leave the pursuit till we have their heads and their estates.

Hear part of the Address of your injured and oppressed fellow-subjects in *America*, to you, upon this melancholy

occasion—upon the dreadful prospect of impending ruin. Let every *Englishman* lay his hand upon his heart, and declare whether he does not think they have been most cruelly treated; and whether he can, in justice, conscience, and humanity, draw the sword against them; or whether he would not rather join with them, and endeavour to obtain a decisive victory over tyranny, or fall gloriously with the liberties of his Country. These are their words:

“When a Nation, led to greatness by the hand of Liberty, and possessed of all the glory that heroism, munificence, and humanity can bestow, descends to the ungrateful task of forging chains for her friends and children; and instead of giving support to freedom, turns advocate for slavery and oppression, there is reason to suspect she has either ceased to be virtuous, or been extremely negligent in the appointment of her rulers.

“In almost every age, in repeated conflicts, in long and bloody wars, as well civil as foreign, against the many powerful Nations, against the open assaults of enemies, and more dangerous treachery of friends, have the inhabitants of your Island—your great and glorious ancestors—maintained their independence, and transmitted the rights of men and the blessings of liberty to you their posterity.

“Be not surprised, therefore, that we, who are descendants from the same common ancestors; that we, whose forefathers participated in all the rights, the liberties, and the Constitution you so justly boast, and who have carefully conveyed the same fair inheritance to us, guarantied by the plighted faith of Government, and the most solemn compacts with *British* Sovereigns, should refuse to surrender them to men who found their claims on no principles of reason, and who prosecute them with a design that, by having our lives and property in their power, they may, with the greater facility, enslave you.

“The cause of *America* is now the object of universal attention; it has at length become very serious. This unhappy Country has not only been oppressed, but abused and misrepresented; and the duty we owe ourselves and posterity, to your interest, and the general welfare of the *British* Empire, leads us to address you on this very important subject.

“We call upon you yourselves to witness our loyalty and attachment to the common interest of the whole Empire. Did we not, in the last war, add all the strength of this vast Continent to the force which repelled our common enemy? Did we not leave our native shores, and meet disease and death, to promote the success of the *British* Arms in foreign climates? Did you not thank us for our zeal, and even reimburse us large sums of money, which you confessed we had advanced beyond our proportion, and far beyond our abilities? You did.

“To what causes, then, are we to attribute the sudden change of treatment, and that system of slavery which was prepared for us at the restoration of peace?

“Let justice and humanity cease to be the boast of your Nation! Consult your history, examine your records of former transactions; nay, turn to the annals of the many arbitrary States and Kingdoms that surround you, and show us a single instance of men being condemned to suffer for imputed crimes, unheard, unquestioned, and without even the specious formality of a trial; and that, too, by laws made expressly for the purpose, and which had no existence at the time of the fact committed. If it be difficult to reconcile these proceedings to the genius and temper of your Laws and Constitution, the task will become more arduous when we call upon Ministerial enemies to justify, not only condemning men untried, and by hearsay, but involving the innocent in one common punishment with the guilty; and for the act of thirty or forty, to bring poverty, distress, and calamity on thirty thousand souls, and those not your enemies, but your friends, brethren, and fellow-subjects.

“Admit that the Ministry, by the power of *Britain* and the aid of our *Roman Catholic* neighbours, should be able to carry the point of Taxation, and reduce us to a state of perfect humiliation and slavery, such an enterprise would doubtless make some addition to your National debt, which already presses down your liberties, and fills you with pensioners and placemen. We presume, also, that your Commerce will somewhat be diminished. However, suppose you should prove victorious, in what condition will you then



be? What advantage or what laurels will you reap from such a conquest?

"May not a Ministry, with the same Armies, enslave you? It may be said, you will cease to pay them; but remember the Taxes from *America*; the wealth, and we may add the men, particularly the *Roman Catholics* of this vast Continent, will then be in the power of your enemies. Nor will you have any reason to expect that, after making slaves of us, many among us should refuse to assist in reducing you to the same abject state."

THE CRISIS.—NO. VI.

To the Right Honourable Lord NORTH, first Lord of the Treasury, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Ranger of Bushy Park, &c.

MY LORD: We know not which is most to be detested, your Lordship's pusillanimity, or your villany. Such a miscreant never before disgraced the administration of any Country, nor the confidence of any King. One day you are all fire and sword; *Boston* is to be laid in ashes, and the rivers of *America* are to run with the blood of her inhabitants; Ships are prepared, Troops embarked, and Officers appointed for the threatened carnage. You no sooner find the brave *Americans* are determined to resist your instruments of slaughter, and to oppose the cruel designs of a despotick tyrant, or rob them of their rights, than all the bravadoing and all the blustering of your Lordship is immediately softened into a calm, and you relax; fear seizes your dastardly soul, and you sink beneath the weight of accumulated guilt.

One day we hear of nothing but accusations, proscriptions, impeachments, and bills of attainder against the Patriots of *America*, and they are speedily to be apprehended, and to receive a punishment due to their crimes—due to rebels. Three days do not elapse, before this just and noble resolution of your Lordship to bring those traitors to a trial is dropped, and lenient, or no steps are to be taken against them. Another day all the Colonies are in a state of rebellion, and the last advices received from *America*, you tell the House of Commons, were of a very alarming nature, and such a daring spirit of resistance had manifested itself throughout the Continent, that it was now high time Parliament should adopt measures for enforcing obedience to the late Acts. A plan is no sooner proposed by you, but carried by a rotten majority, for reducing them to a state of subjection to your, and your Royal master's will, and bloodshed and slaughter stare them in the face. They laugh at your impotent malice, and, with a spirited firmness becoming of freemen, dare you to the stroke; when, behold, your threats, and the resolution of your venal troop, (I will not call it a *British Senate*,) become like the threats and resolutions of a society of coal porters, who declare vengeance against another body of men who will not comply with their unlawful impositions, but fear the next day, without even the shadow of justice on their side, to carry their desperate designs into execution. The motion you made, my Lord, in the House of Commons, on *Monday* last,\* for a suspension of the several *American* Acts till it is known which of the Provinces will raise a Revenue, and contribute to the luxuries of the Parent State, subject to the control of the *British* Parliament, is a subterfuge too low, and too thinly disguised, to deceive the *Americans*, or to impose upon the understanding of the meanest capacity. It is evident to the world this is only a villanous plan to divide them, who, while united together, may bid defiance to all your Lordship's cunning, fraud, force, and villany. The *Americans*, my Lord, are too sensible, and too brave, to be drawn into any trap, either of your, or your Royal master's making. You may weave the web as artfully as you please for their destruction, and they will be sure to break it. Their cause is just; it is the cause of Heaven, and built upon the solid foundation of truth and liberty. They will carefully watch over the sacred gifts of God, and never surrender them to you, nor any power upon earth, but with their lives. You have found, my Lord, that your hostile invasion, and all your force and violence, would not terrify them into a compliance with your measures, nor answer the infamous design of making the King absolute

in *America*; and now you are determined to try whether, by fraud and artifice, you can effect your purpose.

You have, my Lord, by the most cruel oppressions, drove the *Americans* to a state of desperation. You have destroyed their Charters, invaded their Rights, and imposed Taxes contrary to every principle of justice and to every idea of representation; and by blockading the Port of *Boston*, reduced near thirty thousand people, in easy circumstances, to a state of dependance upon the charity and benevolence of their fellow-subjects; and now, rare condescension, suspension of the several *American* Acts, or, in other words, Ministerial oppression and villany, is to be granted them, provided they will raise a Revenue in *America*, still subject to the control of the King and Parliament in *England*. This suspension scheme, my Lord, will not do. The *Americans* will have a repeal of all the Acts they complain of, and a full restoration of all their Charters, Rights, Liberties, and Privileges, before they grant you a single farthing, and then not subject to the control of a banditti of rotten Members in *St. Stephen's Chapel*, of your appointing. For where would be the difference between their taxing themselves, subject to the control and at the disposal of the King and Parliament here, or of the House of Commons in *England* taxing them in the first instance? There would be none, my Lord, and they would still be in the same situation they are now—still subject to the will of the King, and the corrupt influence of the Crown. This scheme, my Lord, appears to me as ridiculous and absurd as the negative still vested in the Court of Aldermen, of the City of *London*, which gives a power to a majority of twenty-six to set aside the choice of seven thousand livery-men, in the election of their Mayor. Be assured, my Lord, this new plan must fall to the ground, with all your former ones in this business. The day of trial is at hand; the *Americans* will be firm. They will have a confirmation of all their rights; they will have a redress of all their grievances; they will levy their own Taxes, not subject to any controlling power; and they will fix the Constitutional Liberties of *America* upon a foundation not to be again shaken by you, nor any pusillanimous, weak, wicked, or cruel tyrant.

It is unnatural.—But for a moment, my Lord, suppose the *Americans* should come into your proposals, or agree with the terms of your motion, how, my Lord, can you make reparation for the injuries *England* and *America* have sustained; or will it, in any degree, lessen your villany, or atone for your crimes? What compensation can you make for the loss of our Trade, to the amount of near three millions? What compensation can you make for robbing the Nation of near one million and a half of money, to carry on your execrable designs against your fellow-subjects in *America*? You can make none. Your head, indeed, would be a pleasing spectacle upon Temple Bar; but the loss of that, and your estates, would never atone for a ten thousandth part of your crimes and villany. Still it is to be hoped the minority of the House of Commons, and the people, will never leave you till they have both—till you are made a publick example, and brought to condign punishment.

Every measure, my Lord, of your administration at home has been cruel, arbitrary, and unconstitutional; and every measure, with respect to Foreign Affairs, has been weak, cowardly, absurd, and ridiculous; unbecoming an *English* Minister, and only calculated to destroy the honour and interest of this Kingdom.

The glory and dignity of the *British* Nation was never so infamously sacrificed, both by you and the King, as in the year 1770, by a scandalous secret Convention with *Spain*, concerning *Falkland Islands*.

With respect to Domestick Affairs, you have endeavoured to erect the Sovereign into a despotick tyrant; you have made him destroy the Rights and Liberties of the people in every part of the *British* Empire. You have made it apparently his interest to promote divisions at home; you have obliged him to quit the glorious title of Father of his People, and debase himself into the head of a party, whom he has invested with an absolute dominion over him; and whilst he monarchs it in his own closet, becomes contemptible in the eyes of his subjects, and the whole world. Weak, timid, and irresolute, he deeply en-

\* February 20, 1775.



gages in all your Lordship's infamous measures, and the rest of his Ministers; and it is for this reason we see every act of Ministerial villany and murder sanctified by Royal authority.

THE CRISIS.—NO. VIII.

To the Lords SUFFOLK, POMFRET, RADNOR, APSLEY, and SANDWICH:

MY LORDS: You have a peculiar claim to an Address from the Authors of the Crisis, and it shall be our business in this Paper to preserve, if possible, the perishable infamy of your names.

The motion made by Lord Radnor, on Monday, the 27th of February, concerning No. III, of the Crisis, was unjust and villanous. The Paper contains nothing but the most sacred truths, and therefore could not be a false or scandalous libel. The amendment of the epithet, treasonable, proposed and supported by the Lords Pomfret, Suffolk, Apsley, and Sandwich, was infamous, and of a piece with every other proceeding of the present reign and present Ministry. It showed, in a particular manner, the bloody-minded dispositions of prostituted Court Lords, the instruments of murder and publick ruin. The immaculate Lord Sandwich insisted that the word treasonable should stand part of the motion, as a proper foundation for bringing the Authors to exemplary and condign punishment. Suppose, my Lords, this infamous amendment to the Radnor motion had been carried, and it had stood a false, scandalous, and treasonable libel, could the mere *ipse dixit* of a few venal Lords make that treason which, in the literal or constructive sense of the word, was not so.

The Author of No. III, is perfectly well acquainted with the Statute of Treasons, passed in the reign of Edward the Third, and likewise with the various expositions and interpretations of it. He well knew the Paper was written upon the true principles of the Revolution, and that it could be justified by the laws of the land. He well knew (though there is hardly any villany but what Court sycophants may do with ease) that it was not in the power of Lord Mansfield, with all his chicanery, with all his artifice, with all his abuse of the law, with all his perversion of justice, with all the aid of false construction and forced inuendoes, to bring it within the meaning of that Statute. He well knew the disposition of the Sovereign and his minions, and that nothing would or can satiate Royal, Scotch, or Ministerial revenge, but the blood of those who oppose the present most horribly cruel, and most infamously wicked, measures of Government. And, my Lords, he well knew the shocking prostitution of hereditary peerage, and the barefaced treachery and villany of a purchased majority in the House of Commons.

Has there not, my Lords, been innocent blood enough shed in this reign, that your Lordships should still thirst for more. Why should your Lordships be so desirous of stopping every channel of publick information? The infamy of your actions are sufficiently known, and will be handed down to the latest ages of time, while your names will stink in the nostrils of posterity.

The Statute of Treasons, my Lords, passed in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of Edward the Third, was an act of vast importance to the publick weal, for till then there was hardly a word spoke, or a paper written, but what was deemed treason; and the Parliament which passed it was called *Benedictum Parliamentum*—the Blessed Parliament.

The substance of this Statute is branched out by my Lord Coke into six heads, which we shall here give, with some observations of our own, to show your Lordships and the world, that No. III, of the Crisis, is not within the meaning of either of these heads, and that by your amended motion you designed to lay the ground-work of a prosecution the most cruel and infamous ever carried on in this Country, worse than those which, without proof or the colour of guilt, took away the lives of the great Lord Russel and Algernon Sidney.

The first head is concerning death, by compassing or imagining the death of the King, Queen, or Prince, and declaring the same by some overt deed; by killing or murdering the Chancellor, Treasurer, Justice of either Bench,

Justice in Eyre, Justices of Assize, Justices of Oyer and Terminer, in their places during their offices.

The second is, to violate, that is, to know carnally, the Queen, the King's eldest daughter unmarried, the Prince's wife.

The third is, levying war against the King.

The fourth is, adhering to the King's enemies, within the Realm or without, and declaring the same by some overt act.

The fifth is, counterfeiting the great, the privy-seal, or the King's coin.

The sixth and last, by bringing into this Realm counterfeited money, to the likeness of the King's coin.

*First.* To compass and imagine, is to contrive, design, or intend the death of the King; but this must be declared by some overt act; declaring by an open act a design to depose or imprison the King, is an overt act; to manifest the compassing his death. I believe, my Lords, the Author of Number III of the Crisis, is not under the predicament of this exposition.

*Second.* By the word King, is intended, 1. A King before his coronation, as soon as ever the Crown descends upon him; for the coronation is but a ceremony. 2. A King *de facto*, and not *de jure*, is a King within this Act; and treason against him is punishable, though the right heir get the Crown.

*Third, NOTE.* It is very strange, but in the printed Statute Book, it is there said, *probably attained*, which is a gross error; for the words of the Record are, *et de ceux provablements soit atteint*; and shall be thereof probably attain; and it is amazing to me, that so gross a mistake should be suffered, since my Lord Coke has so expressly observed the difference in these words following. 3. Inst. fol. 12. In this branch, saith he, four things are to be observed: 1. This word (*provablement*) *probably*, that is, upon direct and manifest proof, not upon conjectural presumptions or inferences, or strains of wit, but upon good and sufficient proof; and herein, the adverb (*provablement*) *probably* hath great force, and signifieth a direct and plain proof; and, therefore, the offender must *provablely* be attained, which words are as forcible, as upon direct and manifest proof. *Note.* The word is not *probably*, for then *commune argumentum* might have served, but the word is *provablely* be attained. 2. The word *attain* necessarily implieth, that he be proceeded with, and attained, according to the due course of law, and proceedings of law, and not by absolute power, or by other means, as in former times had been used; and, therefore, if a man doth adhere to the enemies of the King, or be slain in open war against the King, or otherwise die before the attainer of treason, he forfeiteth nothing, because (as the Act saith) he is not attained; wherein this Act hath altered that, which, before this Act, in case of treason, was taken for law. And the Statute of 34 Ed. III., saves nothing to the King, but that which was in *esse*, and pertaining to the King at the making of that Act. And this appeareth by a judgment in Parliament, in ann. 29 H. VI., that Jack Cade, being slain in open rebellion, could no ways be punished, or forfeit any thing, and, therefore, was attained by that Act of high treason. 3. Of open deed, *per opertum factum*; these words strengthen the former exposition of *provablement*; an overt act must be alleged in every indictment upon this Act, and proved; compassing, by bare words, is not an overt act, as appears by many temporary Statutes against it. But there must be some open act, which must be manifestly proved. As if divers do conspire the death of the King, and the manner how, and thereupon provide weapons—powder, poison, harness, send letters and the like, for the execution of the conspiracy. If a subject conspire with a foreign Prince to invade the Realm by open hostility, and prepare for the same by some overt act, this is a sufficient overt act for the death of the King. 4thly. A conspiracy is had to levy war; this is no treason by this act, until it be levied; therefore it is no overt act, or manifest proof of the compassing the death of the King within this act, for the words are, *deceo*, &c., thereof, that is, of the compassing of the death. The wisdom of the makers of this Law would not make bare words to be treason, seeing such variance commonly among the witnesses, about the same, as few of them agree together.

In the preamble of the Statute of 1 Mar. (concerning



the repeal of certain treasons declared after this Statute of 25 *Edw. III.* and before that time, and bringing all things to the measures of this Statute) it was agreed by the whole Parliament, that Laws justly made for the preservation of the Commonwealth, without extreme punishment, are more often obeyed and kept, than Laws and Statutes made with great and extreme punishments; and in special such Laws and Statutes so made, whereby not only the ignorant and rude unlearned people, but also learned and expert people, minding honesty, are oftentimes trapped and snared, yea, many times for words only, without other fact or deed done or perpetrated. Therefore this Act of the 25th *Ed. III.* doth provide that there must be an overt act. 5thly. As to treason, by levying war against the King, we must note, that though conspiring or compassing to levy war, without a war *de facto*, be no treason, yet it may conspire a war, and only some few actually levy it, all are guilty of the treason. Raising a force to burn or throw down a particular enclosure, is only a riot; but if it had been to have gone from Town to Town, to throw down all enclosures, or to change Religion, or the like, it were levying of war, because the intended mischief is publick. Holding a Fort or Castle against the King's force, is levying war. 6th. Counterfeiting the great or privy-seal, is treason, but it must be an actual counterfeiting thereof; compassing to do it is no treason; affixing the great seal by the Chancellor, without warrant, is no treason; fixing a new great seal to another patent is misprision, but no treason, being not counterfeiting within this Act. But aiders and consenters are within this Act. 7th. Treason concerning coin, is counterfeiting the King's coin; and this was treason at common law, and judgment only as of petty treason; but clipping, &c., being made treason by other Statutes, the judgment is, to be drawn, hanged, and quartered. Money, here, extends only to the proper money of this Realm. 8th. As this Statute leaves all other doubtful matters to be declared treason in Parliament, but not to be punished as such till so declared, so in succeeding Kings' reigns abundance of other matters were declared treason, which being found very grievous and dangerous, by this Statute, 1 *Mar.*, it is enacted that thenceforth no act, deed, or offence, being by Act of Parliament or Statute made treason, petty treason, or misprision of treason, by words, writing, cyphering, deeds, or otherwise however, shall be taken, had, deemed or adjudged to be high treason, petty treason, or misprision of treason, but only such as be declared and expressed to be treason, petty treason, or misprision of treason, by this Statute of 25 *Edw. III.*

Here we rest the matter, my Lords, convinced that the author of Number III, is not within the meaning of this Statute, nor any exposition of it, and that the design of your Lordships in adding the epithet treasonable, was wicked, base, and infamous, and will be sure to secure to you the contempt and detestation of every honest man.

THE CRISIS.—NO. IX.

To the King :

SIR : You ascended the Throne of these Realms with advantages which, if properly improved, would have rendered your reign not only glorious and happy, but have made you the most powerful monarch upon earth; you might have kept the world in awe. Yet, O shame to tell, though the times demand it, you soon sacrificed your own peace, the tranquillity, honour, and interest of this great and mighty Kingdom, to the ambitious views and pernicious designs of your infernal minion, Lord *Bute*, and his profligate, abandoned adherents. Your accession to the Throne filled with joy the breast of every *Englishman*; but, alas! it was of short duration; you soon convinced them of their mistake, and the compliments paid to your understanding, the calm hour of reason soon convinced us were ill-founded.

No sooner seated upon the Throne of this vast Empire, than you, like all other Kings, as well as tyrants, made the people many and fair promises. You told your Parliament that the suppression of vice and immorality, the encouragement of Trade and Commerce, and the preservation of peace and harmony amongst your people, should be the rule of your conduct, and your principal study. How far

you have kept your word, the sacred pen of truth shall now declare.

Scarce seated in regal dignity, before you drove from your presence and councils, by the advice of your *Scotch* favourite, Lord *Bute*, every man of honour and integrity, who was valued for his love to his Country, and affection to your family; you implicitly followed the advice of your Northern minion, and in their room took those only who were the most conspicuous for their vices, and the most abandoned in principle. These are facts which *Sandwich*, *Bute*, *Grafton*, *North*, &c., will confirm.

These men you still continue to countenance; every scene of iniquity they have been concerned in, and every act of violence, oppression, and murder they have committed, has been by you tacitly approved, nay, applauded! Adultery, debauchery, and divorces, are more frequent now than in the corrupt and profligate days of *Charles the Second*; these, Sir, prove incontestably your religious principles, and show how far you have suppressed vice and immorality.

It will now be necessary to inquire how far you have encouraged Trade and Commerce. Was it by illegally imposing a stamp-duty on the *Americans*, and taxing those commodities which we supplied them with from this Country, which has stopped, for near six years, a great traffick between this Kingdom and the Colonies? Was it by suffering, with the most shameful impunity, the *Portuguese* to infringe upon the privileges of the *English* Merchants at *Lisbon*, by which many were not only injured, but almost totally ruined? Was it by blocking up the Port and destroying the trade of the Town of *Boston*, thereby reducing to a state of miserable dependance more than thirty thousand people, and giving a vital stab to the whole Commerce of *America*?

We will now examine, Sir, how far you have preserved peace and harmony among your people. Was it by providing for all the beggarly relations, and miserable dependants of your *Scotch* minion, in preference to your *English* subjects, especially those who were the chief instruments of placing your family upon the Throne? Was it by ordering the late Lord *Halifax* to issue an illegal warrant for apprehending Mr. *Wilkes*? Was it by rewarding that delinquent after he had been found guilty of a breach of the *English* Laws? Was it by screening your Minister behind the Throne, who violated the rights of the Freeholders of *England*? Was it by rejecting the Petitions of your injured subjects, and laughing at the remonstrance presented to you from the first City in the world, the great capital of the *British* Empire? Was it by not granting the supplications of your people, and meanly referring those Petitions and Remonstrances to the consideration of those very men, whose conduct they arraigned, and who were only the slavish tools of your abandoned Ministers? Was it by sending Troops to *Boston*, depriving people of their Constitutional rights; and, contrary to all the Laws of this free Country, enforcing the tyrannical and oppressive Acts of your abandoned Parliament with the sword, and laying *America* under a Military Government? Was it by rewarding the profligate, the corrupt, and the plunderers of their Country, with titles and honours? Was it by a tame dastardly submission to the insults of the *Spaniards*, and a sacrifice of the honour of the *British* Nation? These, Sir, are the means you have made use of for preserving peace and harmony among your people. But, Sir, the greatest piece of ministerial villany, and diabolical cruelty is still behind—it is now going through the House of Lords, and you, Sir, will soon be called upon to sign it; it is a Bill for restraining the *American* Fishery, and starving to death, or driving to a state of desperation, more than three hundred thousand people. Consider, Sir, the fatal tendency of this Bill; determine no longer to be the dupe of an abandoned set of men; act from yourself, and refuse to sign an Act of Parliament which must involve one part of the Empire in a civil war, and reduce thousands of your subjects to poverty and want. Let no consideration prevail with you to execute a deed, at the idea of which humanity revolts. Consider, Sir, how much this will raise the indignation of your people here, when they find you are destitute of the common feelings of humanity, and that you can be so easily prevailed upon to sacrifice your subjects to the cruel designs of your Ministers and favourites. Give some



proof of a determined resolution no longer to pursue measures which must end in the destruction of your Kingdom, and perhaps in the ruin of your family.

Consider, Sir, how despicable you appear in the eyes of the world; who, instead of governing, suffer yourself to be governed; who, instead of being a leader, are led; who, instead of being a King, are nothing but a mere cypher of State, while your favourite and Ministers wear all the appendages to sovereignty.

It has long surprised the Kingdom to think how you could bear such wretches to prey upon you; to think how you could suffer them to aggrandize themselves and creatures; to possess the greatest wealth, and to hold the first offices in the Kingdom; and all this by imposing upon you, by making you break your coronation-oath, by making you violate every promise you made with your people, and by filling your ears with lies, instead of truth. How is it possible you can bear such usage, which no sensible man in a private capacity can bear? and to be the dupe of the vilest of the creation, is so much beneath the dignity of a man who pretends to govern, that it is astonishing such fiends should prevail as they do. Indeed they never could, unless you, Sir, like them, was inclined to establish an arbitrary system of Government, and to set up your own will in opposition to the laws of the land.

Let me advise you, Sir, as you regard your own prosperity and the welfare of your Kingdom; let me conjure you, as you value your own safety, to consider well the fatal and ruinous measures your Ministers are pursuing, and you sanctifying with the Royal authority; consider the miserable, the unfortunate situation of this Country; think on the dangers which threaten on every side; consider we are now upon the eve of a Civil War with our Colonies; from the present face of things, it is inevitable; Trade and Commerce is at a stand, and all the horrors of wretchedness and want stare them in the face. Consider, Sir, the feelings of men, reduced in the short space of a few days, through wanton acts of power, from a state of ease and plenty to that of misery and famine. I ask, is it possible for them to set bounds to their resentment? Consider, Sir, the *French* and *Spaniards* will not long remain idle spectators, when once they see us deeply engaged in a war with the Colonies. Throw off then your supine indolence; awake from your lethargick state; and if you will not be excited by the desire of doing good, awake at least to a sense of your own danger; think when the general calamity comes on, who will be the objects of publick hatred. Will not the advisers of these destructive measures be the first sacrifices to the popular resentment? When the Merchants, Traders, and Manufacturers are starving, when the whole body of the people are in misery and distress, what security, Sir, can you expect to find? Where will your Ministers conceal themselves? They will not be safe even within the walls of your Palace!

Let these things, Sir, be well weighed, and no longer persuade yourself the people were made for you, and not you for them; no longer believe that you do not govern for them but for yourself; that the people live only to increase your glory, or to furnish matter for pleasure. For once, Sir, consider what you may do for them, and not what you may draw from them.

The people, Sir, think it to be a crime of the first magnitude to convert that power to their hurt which was intended for their good; and to obey a King while he acts in this manner, and tramples under foot all laws, divine and human, argues not only a want of sense in the highest degree, but a want of love for our Country, and a disregard for ourselves and posterity.

Your subjects, Sir, are under no obligations to you, nor do they owe you any allegiance any longer than you continue to protect them, and make their good the chief end of your Government. When a Prince assumes to himself an extravagant or an unlawful power, then all respect ceases, and he ceases to be a King; whilst he protects and preserves his people in their just rights, and governs them by the laws of the land, all good men will love and esteem him, and risk their lives and fortunes in his service; but when he begins to invade their liberties, to set up an arbitrary power, to impose unlawful taxes, raise forces, and make war upon his people, and suffer foreign States to insult and injure them, then all virtuous and good men will

detest and abhor him, and endeavour to remove him from a throne he unworthily fills.

In such cases resistance is a virtue; and to say that some should passively suffer, lest, by resisting, they should cause the ruin of many, is not a just reason; because, in all probability, they will be the cause that millions unborn shall live happy and free; and what can be a more noble, glorious, and pious motive for suffering, than to transmit liberty to posterity? For this our fathers bravely fought—and many of them gloriously fell—to preserve themselves and their descendants free, and to destroy the tyranny and despotism of the *Stuarts*, and, Sir, (let me beg you will remember with gratitude,) to place your family upon the throne of the *British Empire*.

The author of this paper is far from advising violent measures upon every error or misconduct of a Prince; but resistance becomes a duty when they attempt the ruin of the State, the subversion of liberty, or overturning the Constitution of the Kingdom. It is notorious to the world, Sir, that your Ministers are guilty of all these black and deadly crimes, and yet you screen and protect them. The conclusions to be drawn from thence are obvious, and you, like *Charles*, may live to see your favourites fall.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, IN SOUTH-CAROLINA, TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED MARCH 7, 1775.

I do assure you I am not now near so strenuous for *America* as when I left *London*. I am far, however, from being able to judge of the state of the Continent, in general; but sure I am this Province cannot long subsist without a free Trade, and a mutual dependance on the Mother Country. Many articles which *Great Britain* furnishes are now become very scarce; Rice and Indigo, the grand staple of our Commerce, are a drug.

Before the Non-Exportation scheme took effect, you would have been surprised to see the number of Ships in our harbour, and the Trade carried on in the Town; in short, on my arrival I observed as much hurry and bustle as in the streets of *London*; and I could not but admire the liveliness of the people. But the contrast is now visible; their tempers are soured; their fortunes, for want of Trade, consuming fast. A train of consequences must inevitably ensue which, in my opinion, they will not be able to retrieve in the space of a dozen years. It is the wish, therefore, of the wise and sober, that a speedy reconciliation with the Mother Country may be effected; but as this Province has bore so high a part in their opposition to Government, they are unwilling to give out till the terms offered become general.

PRINCESS ANNE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, Kempe's Landing, March 7, 1775.

The conduct of Mr. *John Saunders* being taken into consideration, relative to the Provincial and Continental Associations, at this important crisis, when the liberties of *America* are in danger of being subverted, it was thought expedient that he be held up to publick censure, and the rather because he hath had the advantage of a liberal education, and for some time past hath studied the law.

The facts upon which our censure is grounded are as follows: The said *John Saunders* was present at the meeting of a respectable body of Freeholders of the County, at the Court-House, in *July*, 1774, for the purpose of choosing Deputies to attend the Convention in *Williamsburg*, the first day of *August* last, and of entering into resolutions expressive of the sentiments of the County, in support of their just rights and privileges; which not one refused signing but said *Saunders*, who obstinately refused, though particularly solicited by some of the principal gentlemen then present.

When the Provincial Association, entered into in *August*, 1774, was read, and offered to the people that they might express their approbation by signing it, at a meeting of the Freeholders, on *Tuesday*, the 16th day of the said month, and afterwards at almost every publick meeting within this County, at many of which the said *Saunders* appeared, yet he constantly persisted in his refusal to accede thereto.

When the Continental Association was also offered him



to sign, he likewise refused, alleging that the way of proceeding was illegal; of which the Committee for the County being informed, they, at a meeting held the 5th day of *January*, 1775, considering that the said *Saunders* was a young man, and might be better advised, appointed a Sub-Committee to wait on the said *Saunders*, who, agreeable thereto, waited on him at his own house, expostulated with him on his conduct, and desired him to retract these words, viz: "that the way of proceeding was illegal," which he spoke to Mr. *Lemuel Thorowgood*, who was appointed by the Committee to offer the said Association; upon which he replied, "that he did not intend such a return should have been made by Mr. *Thorowgood*;" and being asked whether those words were inadvertently uttered, he answered, "they were not." Mr. *Saunders* likewise acquainted them that he told Mr. *Thorowgood*, "it was his opinion he had no right to call upon him." They then desired him to give his reasons for not signing the Association: to which he answered, "if they had come as private gentlemen, he would have given them his reasons, but as they came in the capacity they did, he chose not to do so." A few days after being greatly pressed by Mr. *Hunter*, one of his most intimate acquaintances, he signed it; but, behold! at the end of his name he added the negative *no*, with a capital N! The Committee being informed of this additional mark of contempt, they then appointed a Sub-Committee, to summon the said *Saunders* to appear this day before them, who failed so to do.

On the same day, the Committee having maturely deliberated on the behaviour of one *Benjamin Dingly Gray*, concluded that his conduct ought to be inserted in the *Gazette*, and exposed to publick animadversion, of which the following is an exact detail:

On the 5th day of *January* last, in Committee, it was resolved that a list of the Non-Associators in this County, of whom the said *Benjamin Dingly Gray* was one, be entered in the Minute-Book, and a true copy thereof delivered to each Merchant residing in this County, and other copies fixed up at several publick places, and likewise in *Norfolk* County and Borough; and further, it was recommended to all persons not to have any dealings, or commercial intercourse with the said Non-Associators. The said *Gray* being apprized of this, and hearing that a list of the Non-Associators in this County was fixed up at the Market-House in *Norfolk* Borough, and that he was included in the said list, uttered the following disrespectful, scurrilous, and abusive words, to wit: "That he looked upon this Committee as a pack of damn'd rascals, for advertising him in the manner they had done, and that they ought to have advertised him in the publick papers, alleging in that case he would have had an opportunity of vindicating himself." The Committee being informed of the invectives thrown out, did, on *Thursday*, the 2d day of *March*, appoint three of their body to summon him to appear before them this day, who, when summoned, declared it was uncertain whether he could attend or not, being at that time indisposed, but added, that his sentiments were still the same with regard to this Committee.

Also, on the same day, the Committee being acquainted that Captain *Mitchell Phillips* had refused to appear before them, agreeable to an order made last meeting, that he might give his reasons for his late very extraordinary behaviour touching the Association, it was thought proper that such his behaviour should be made publick. The said *Mitchell Phillips* being always averse to the measures adopted by the *Americans* to preserve their just rights and privileges inviolate, and being Captain of a Company of Militia, over whom he has great influence, has exerted every effort to deter the men under his command from acceding to the Association, and represented all the *American* proceedings in the light of absolute rebellion, which, it is feared, may have a bad tendency.

And thereupon the Committee came to the following Resolve, to wit: That the aforesaid *John Saunders*, *Benjamin Dingly Gray*, and *Mitchell Phillips*, be looked upon as inimical to the liberties of this Country, and the means entered into by the *American* Continental Congress for the restoration of them, and that no person ought to have any commercial intercourse or dealing with them.

By order of the Committee,

THOMAS ABBOTT, Clerk.

#### ACCOUNT OF AN OUTRAGE COMMITTED BY CAPT. GRAVES.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1775.

On the 7th instant, as *George Taylor*, of *Wilmington*, in his own Shallop, was on his passage from thence to this City, he was boarded by a party of ruffians from the King's armed Schooner the *Diana*, commanded by Captain *Graves*, (nephew to Admiral *Graves*, now at *Boston*,) who brought *Taylor* to, and on boarding him, demanded what he had on board; to which he answered, only Rum and Limes; but civilly told them they might go down and look. They then demanded his papers, which were pronounced authentick; but this not satisfying them, they entered the cabin, wherein was several Hundred Pounds cash, which *Taylor*, no doubt justly thinking proper to have his eye toward, went after them to the cabin door, without going down; whereupon he was immediately menaced and insulted, as suspecting the honour of the King's men; and although he made no other than a moderate civil reply, as several passengers on board can testify, he was immediately furiously attacked and knocked down, where he was beaten in a most inhuman manner till the deck was besmeared with blood, and at the same time shamefully insulted with the infernal language common to such crews, (and which, but for offending the civilized ear, might be repeated.) They then threatened to throw him overboard and drown him, took the command of his boat, and after gratifying their malice by towing her about in the river, took her along-side the Schooner, where the illustrious Captain detained her a considerable time, insulting and abusing the Skipper, and justifying and applauding the conduct of his heroick men, who had thus brought him a common Shallop, with two or three men on board, without the least appearance of clandestine conduct. After the gallant Captain, with his crew, had somewhat glutted their rancour, they dismissed the Shallop; but *Taylor* was so wounded and abused, that he was not able to conduct her; yet, by the assistance of those on board, she was got up to this City, and he afterwards conveyed home to *Wilmington*, where he lay dangerously ill.

#### TO THE PRINTERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

GENTLEMEN: Seeing in your Paper of *Wednesday*, *March* 15th, a most scandalous, false, and base representation of the conduct of a gentleman and boat's crew belonging to the King's armed Schooner *Diana*, I must, as a lover of truth, and being privy to the whole matter respecting *George Taylor*, of *Wilmington*, beg leave to assure the publick, that he was not struck, or in any manner molested, (though he used many provoking speeches,) till he took hold of the gentleman on duty by the collar, who then struck *Taylor* one blow, the matter there ending, as *Taylor* did not return it; neither was he taken along-side the Schooner, having produced the proper papers.

DASHWOOD BACON.

We, whose names are here under mentioned, from our personal knowledge of Mr. *Bacon*, as a gentleman and man of honour, are convinced he would not sign to any thing that was not strictly true. And we do further aver, on our honour, that the Shallop was not brought along-side, or detained longer than is usual in examining vessels.

JOHN DOWSON, Master.

JOHN BIRTHWHISTLE, Surgeon.

#### TO THE PUBLICK.

You have, no doubt, generally seen an attempt made, in a late number of the *Pennsylvania Packet*, by *Dashwood Bacon* and others, (probably confederates,) in order to exculpate the perpetrators of the atrocious fact committed upon the body of *George Taylor*, in his own vessel, in the *King's-Road*, by some of the *Diana's* crew, under the command of Captain *Graves*. That they should attempt to clear themselves in the manner they have, is not much to be admired, since it commonly happens that the most daring murderers plead "not guilty;" but when those who are called men, are grown so callous as to be insensible of the compunctions of conscience, and hardened as to deny the voice of truth, even in the face of the sun, it then becomes necessary more methodically to arraign them, and investigate their conduct before the tribunal of the people, that



so, if possible, they may be subjected to the punishment and contempt which they justly deserve; for which purpose the following Depositions, relative to the aforesaid abuse, are here presented to the world, viz:

*Wilmington Borough, ss.*

Personally appeared before me, *John McKinley, Esq.*, Chief Burgess of said Borough, *Nathan Wood*, who, being solemnly affirmed, doth declare and say, that he was lately a passenger on board *George Taylor's* Shallop, at the time when, on her passage from this Borough to *Philadelphia*, she was brought to by a party belonging to the King's armed Schooner *Diana*, Captain *Graves* commander; that on coming on board the Shallop, an Officer asked what was on board, and being answered by *Taylor*, only Rum and Limes, and the Officer demanding proper papers, *Taylor* immediately produced them. The hatch was then opened, and the hogsheads counted and compared, which agreeing with the papers, the Officer asked further, whether *Taylor* had not something more on board, or in the cabin, and in a very scoffing manner inquired whether he had not some Teas; *Taylor* replied, he was welcome to go into the cabin and see himself, assuring him at the same time that nothing was on board besides the Rum and Limes. Then the Officer and two Sailors went into the cabin and stayed some time, on which *Taylor* went to the cabin door and looked in; the Officer asked what he wanted; *Taylor* replied, I did not know there was any body in the cabin but you. The Officer then got into a violent rage, cursing and swearing in the most dreadful manner, and coming upon deck used many horrid imprecations and threats against *Taylor*, that he would kick him overboard, &c., for suspecting the King's men, and still vaunting that he was a King's Officer, at the same time striking and wounding *Taylor*, so that the deck was prodigiously besmeared with his blood. And this affirmant farther saith, that *Taylor* gave not the least provocation, but, on the contrary, both in his words and behaviour, showed the greatest respect and submission, and never resisted or attempted to touch the Officer. The Shallop coming abreast the Schooner, the Officer told Captain *Graves*, who was walking on the quarter-deck of the Schooner, that "this fellow has Limes and Rum on board;" whereupon the Captain immediately got into the boat with several sailors, came on board the Shallop, and, without any examination, highly approved of the conduct of the Officer in beating *Taylor*, (who, at that time, was leaning bleeding violently in the cockpit,) and said that if he had been on board he would have given him twice as much, and threatened to kick his teeth down his throat, and to take him on board the Schooner, and there to tie him up and whip him. The Captain then ordered four men into the boat to tow the Shallop along-side the Schooner, which had then drifted a small distance astern, but finding they could not tow her against the wind and tide, the anchor was ordered out; and the Captain asking for the papers, they were handed to him, and he having examined and found them authentick, ordered *Taylor* to go about his business, after having been detained nearly an hour and a half. And further this affirmant saith not.

NATHAN WOOD.

Affirmed this 1st day of *April*, 1775, before

JOHN MCKINLEY.

Likewise, *William Carter, Mary Johnston*, and *Daniel Nicholson*, being solemnly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, do severally depose and say, that they, respectively, were on board *George Taylor's* Shallop at the time afore-mentioned, and were particularly attentive to the transactions afore-related, and that what *Nathan Wood*, the above affirmant, hath declared in his examination, is just and true, and particularly that *George Taylor* gave not the least provocation, but on the contrary behaved in the most respectful and submissive manner.

WILLIAM CARTER,  
MARY JOHNSTON,  
DANIEL NICHOLSON.

Sworn this 1st day of *April*, 1775, before

JOHN MCKINLEY.

Now if conduct of this kind is permitted with impunity, let us no longer exclaim against the piratical States of *Barba-*

*ry* for committing outrages upon the subjects of *George* the Third, since we see *British* barbarians, subjects of *George* the Third, under his commission, sanction, and authority, commit such audacious outrages upon the persons and property of his subjects. From what hath been heretofore offered against the present cause of complaint, some may perhaps have been ready to treat it as a fiction; but since the matter is here so amply confirmed, may we not with confidence look to the King, and call aloud upon him, or those who represent him in cases of this nature, strictly to examine into this conduct of his servants, so that justice, which is the boasted glory of the *English* Nation, may take place, and that they may thereby, in some measure, redeem the honour and dignity of the Crown from the obloquy and contempt to which such conduct has too justly subjected it.

TO THE PRINTERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

Philadelphia, March 8, 1775.

RESPECTED FRIENDS: Observing that, in your Paper of the week before last, you published a piece styled "The Testimony of the Representatives of the people called Quakers," signed *James Pemberton*, but as there was a piece published in *Bradford's Journal*, signed *B. L.*, which, as it is esteemed necessary towards elucidating several expressions not properly comprehended by those who are unacquainted with Friends' writings, I therefore hope, as you have favoured the publick with one, you'll do them the justice to publish the other.

AMICUS VERITATIS.

To the Printers of the PENNSYLVANIA JOURNAL:

It is a duty incumbent on societies or individuals, to vindicate or explain any publick transaction which excites general disgust or uneasiness, be the ground ever so slight. I have therefore preferred your Paper, as being more generally read by those calling themselves the Sons of Liberty, in order to remove those suspicions and misapprehensions which a late publication, as from the Society of Friends, I find has produced. Those who suppose this Testimony to be pointed against the measures thought necessary for the publick interest, have not attended to its language, or the conduct of that Society, since our unhappy dispute with the Mother Country commenced. A due regard to these will shew, that it is intended to preserve the general cause from being sullied by the violence or caprice of rash and turbulent minds. The Society hath ever been distinguished for its loyalty to the King, and obedience to his Government. This is therefore recommended in the strongest terms, but by no means implies a loyalty to Parliament, or a Government of fellow-subjects over fellow-subjects, the impropriety and injustice of which must be obvious to the meanest capacity. A due submission to the King and his Government most evidently means such a Government as an *English* King rightfully has over *English* subjects; a Government bounded and limited by law, and founded upon the two great principles of the *English* Constitution, which entitle the governed to dispose of their own property, and to partake in legislation. This is the Government for which *America* is contending, in which our duty to our King and our own rights are so happily blended.

A due caution is also given against riots, routs, illegal combinations, and assemblies, which, by a strange and forced inference of some weak or prejudiced minds, has been supposed to allude to the Congress, Committees, &c., bodies to which such terms are by no means applicable, and which are certainly not meant in the publication in question, for the following plain reasons:—

*First.* The peaceable meeting of persons, and discussion of publick affairs, let it be called by what name it will, is so far from being condemned by any law, that it is the best security of our happy Constitution that it is lawful.

*Secondly.* It cannot be supposed that any *English* subject, possessing the smallest portion of virtue and knowledge in the *English* Constitution, would, by such an imputation, condemn the three noblest assemblies who dignify the page of that history: The Barons who obtained *Magna Charta* from King *John*; the Assembly which restored *Charles* the Second and Monarchy; and the Convention at the Revolution, which placed King *William* on the Throne,



and opened the way for the accession of the present Royal family. These were all Congresses, formed on the same principles and the same necessities as the late *American Congress*.

*Thirdly.* The supposition would condemn the very meeting whose publication we are considering. It is called a meeting of Representatives from *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*. By what authority did these Representatives meet? The discussion of political questions is no part of the discipline or system of a Religious Society, nor comprised within the jurisdiction of any meeting among Friends, which only affect religious concerns, or the economical affairs of the Society. An extraordinary occasion produced an extraordinary meeting, but not an illegal one; because there is no law which prohibits the King's subjects from meeting to discuss any political questions. In this case it was a laudable one, as its intention must have been to make a timely provision against those irregularities and tumults which publick commotions often create.

*Fourthly.* That the present Congresses and Committees were not meant, appears from the conduct of the worthy Friend whose name is to the publication, who has been present in such Assemblies, and took an active part in the choice of the Committee last summer; measures which could not have had his concurrence, if included under any of the descriptions of a riot, rout, illegal combination, or assembly. I might add, that several respectable members of this Society have not only served on former Committees of this kind, and acquiesced in the present measures, but have returned their thanks to the Committee of this City, for an alteration made in disposing or storing their Goods imported under the Association of the late Congress—procedures wholly inconsistent with the idea of its being an illegal assembly.

Upon the whole, it is presumed enough has been offered to show that this Testimony could not be intended to cast any disrespect upon the cause of publick liberty; much less to create division or discord. Taken in its true and proper light, it is calculated to point out those rocks of licentiousness and outrage, which often lay concealed under the smooth surface of the fairest pretensions, and have proved fatal to the best of causes. It is, indeed, to be wished it could have derived more respect and authority from the numbers and weight of the representation. But the intention certainly has merit, however it may be thought to fall short in the execution. B. L.

Philadelphia, March 8, 1775.

When those who think themselves entitled to write for the publick proceed with openness, ingenuity, and candour, if they do not merit the publick attention and approbation, they certainly deserve their indulgence. But when any man undertakes to give the publick advice, and to call upon them in the warmest and most passionate terms, to follow his directions, every degree of deceit, hypocrisy, or unfair proceeding, is so far from meriting approbation, that the man who attempts it deserves to be treated with the utmost indignation, and to meet with the fate of the worst of villains.

The person who takes an active part in any controversy carried on in the publick Papers, and desires to enter the lists as a champion on either side, should be possessed of that degree of candour and honesty which obliges a man to enter into the real merits of the cause, and to give a full, fair, and impartial state of the controversy, in order to entitle him to a place in any Paper of reputation. When he has done this, he ought to have full liberty to use every argument with which reason and truth could supply him; but the instant he attempted to impose on the publick by unfair representations, lies, or assertions without argument, he should be packed off to the common receptacle of all such materials.

In our present contest with *Great Britain*, the question is, Whether the Parliament of *Great Britain* has a right to make Statutes which shall bind us in all cases whatever? Now, if any one, without ever bringing this question in view, or attempting to discuss it, will undertake, by hard names, to frighten us into a submission, I think he wants that candour and ingenuity which alone can entitle him to a place in a Paper of character, and his manner of proceeding gives the Printer thereof a just right to refuse his lucubrations.

I believe I may appeal even to our adversaries, whether the writers in favour of our cause have not always begun by stating the case, as far as they intended to touch upon it, in the fairest and fullest manner, and then discussed it by arguments drawn from the nature of *God* and man, and the well-known and fundamental principles of the *British Constitution*. Had their opponents acted with equal ingenuity, it would have saved much trouble, wholly prevented all that heat and acrimony which has appeared at one time or another, and saved the pains of replying to many productions against which nothing but the fear of their affecting weak minds could ever induce any friend to his Country to take up the pen. Of this kind is the piece signed *Phileirene*, which contains nothing but bold assertions, couched in strong language, and most of them notorious falsehoods. Since this writer, at the request of *A Friend to the Constitution*, has been indulged with a republication in a reputable and extensively circulating Paper, I would beg leave to select a few of his assertions, and request the *Friend to the Constitution* to support them by the facts he refers to.

1. "That a submission to the laws and authority of *Great Britain*, in the cases we complain of, would alone make us a free, wealthy, and happy people." In order to make this assertion good, it will be necessary to prove that submission to laws neither made by ourselves, nor by our Representatives, and to be taxed by men who have no interest in our affairs, constitute *true British freedom*; that taking our Money from us without our consent will increase our wealth; that to be deprived of Trial by Jury will enlarge and confirm personal security; that our happiness consists in submitting to become the slaves of the worst sort of tyrants, viz: of such, that every alleviation of their own misery must be obtained by a proportional increase of ours; and that to be removed for trial to *Great Britain* is preferable to being tried by a Jury of the vicinity. And as all our Assemblies, from the one end of the Continent to the other, have petitioned against these Laws as infringements of their rights and privileges, it may not be amiss to point out to them the error of their proceedings, and to prove that they are not intended by the Constitution for Legislators. For, if the *British Parliament* has a right to bind us in all cases whatever, it is impossible for them to have the same right—the one right necessarily destroying the other.

2. "That we are arrived to such a pitch of infatuation, as to be unwilling to confine ourselves within the bounds, or to submit to the Laws prescribed by the Government to which we are subjects; that our conduct has justly merited punishment and contempt, and must inevitably sink us in infamy and obscurity; that our wickedness and folly is such, that we set about a reformation of a Government already the envy of every other Nation, and are determined to accomplish our views, or perish in the attempt; and that not the united misery of all our fellowmen, nor the destruction of the peace and good order of the world, will ever deter us from our desperate undertaking; but that rather than fail in our enterprise, we will exult to introduce anarchy and confusion into the State, and glory to riot upon the miseries of mankind in private life." That masterly pen which drew a finished character of the most consummate villain that ever breathed on the earth, fell greatly short of this picture, and, had he lived to this day, must have obtained some master strokes from *Phileirene*. But *Cataline* himself never equalled this. How *Phileirene* could attempt to fix such a character upon a people whose most violent struggle to preserve themselves from a ten years' perseverance in oppressive measures has been a Non-Importation Agreement, is yet more extraordinary than the celerity and cheerfulness with which he asserts such infamous lies. I beg pardon for the expression; I forgot that the truth of it can be proved by facts.

3. "That we aim at an independency, replete with the most distressing calamities, destructive mischiefs, and aggravated miseries; and that the darling object of our wishes is an Independent Republic." In supporting this, it will be necessary to prove that the Congress, which spoke the sentiments of all those whose conduct *Phileirene* condemns, and whose measures every Colony in *America* has adopted, mistook its own intentions, when it absolutely denied the charge in the strongest terms, and defied its most



inveterate enemies to make good the charge. It will also be proper to make out to the satisfaction of impartial people, that our contending for *British Liberty* will be the sure means of being deprived of it, if we should prove successful.

4. "That our expectations of accomplishing our undertaking, are mad, and must at once appear groundless, when we consider that the Throne was never more secure in the hearts of a free and happy people; the Nation never more powerful in its resources, nor more respected abroad; nor Administration more firmly established in the esteem and approbation of a great majority of the people, than at this day."

That these assertions may not meet with unexpected difficulties in the proof, it will not be amiss to lay before you the present situation of *Great Britain*, that, having this in view, the demonstration may be suited accordingly. Her credit depending on her Trade, and a principal part of that cut off by our Non-Importation Agreement. *Ireland*, though in slavery, poverty, distress, and unarmed, hitherto scarcely restrained within bounds by the dread of a military force, but now reduced to that last stage of oppression which makes a wise man mad. *Scotland*, filled with resentment for the injuries offered her by the *English*. The *English* full of hatred and indignation against the *Scotch*, for the undue preference showed to them by the Court. The Capital of the Kingdom exerting its utmost influence against the present Administration; and in all probability she will find her measures supported by the united efforts of all the Trading Cities and Manufacturing Towns in the Kingdom. A general discontent through that Nation, on account of the Act of Parliament which establishes the *Roman Catholic* Religion in *Canada*. *France* professing the most pacifick disposition, but continually augmenting her Sea and Land Forces. *Spain* arming as fast as possible, and insulting her in almost every quarter of the globe—she bearing these insults with the tame submission, and unable, in the space of twelve years, to prevail upon her to pay the *Manilla* Ransom. *Portugal*, though under her protection, insulting her Merchants and restricting her Trade. It is too degrading to mention the *Dey of Algiers*. Her Army and Navy not fifty thousand strong, yet the annual expense of the Nation near Ten Millions Sterling. This sum raised with difficulty when she enjoyed all our Customs and Duties. These being stopped, there will be a failure of One Million at least, which must be raised by additional Taxes laid on those who are scarcely able to bear their present load. A debt of Forty Millions due to the *Hollanders*, who are a very jealous people, and who know that the security of their money depends entirely on the Trade of the Nation, which must suffer a most dreadful shock from our Non-Importation Agreement. Should they become fearful, and begin to draw their money out of the publick funds, all the circulating cash in the Kingdom would not more than pay the half of it. The Emperour of *Germany* at the head of two hundred thousand, and the King of *Prussia* at the head of three hundred thousand well disciplined Troops, overawing all her Continental allies, and in a capacity to take possession of her *German* Dominions whenever they please. *Russia* aiming at Commerce, and becoming a rival maritime Power. *America* determined to resist every further attempt which she shall make to enslave her, by force, and accessible only by her capital Cities, and those protected by a debt of about Six Millions Sterling, every Shilling of which must be totally lost, if our Cities are injured; besides, if matters should become more critical, these will be principally inhabited by the tools of the Ministry, for all such will be obliged to fly to them for safety, as is evident from the present state of *Boston*; which will be a very considerable additional security to our Cities. Able and judicious Statesmen in *England*, though unconnected with *America*, giving their opinion in favour of our conduct, and openly declaring the inability of the Nation to subjugate the Colonies by force. These are some of the facts, against which others of superiour force, certainty, and weight, must be produced, or it will be in vain to attempt to prove that the Nation was never more powerful in resources.

I am under the necessity of passing by, for the present, a multitude of assertions equally in need of facts to support them; but as there is one or two of a curious and ex-

traordinary nature, and which I long to see demonstrated, I must crave the indulgence of the publick a few moments longer.

It is asserted "that the people in *America* can have no idea of the various manœuvres, evolutions, marchings, countermarchings, advancing, retreating, breaking, rallying, &c., which are practised in the Army, and, therefore, they will be astonished, confounded, and put to flight by attacks from every quarter." Now, a demonstration of this assertion must be a great curiosity, and will please many. But as one circumstance seems to make against it, I would be glad not to have it forgotten, viz: that though we may have little idea of their rallying, yet we must be allowed to have some confused notions of their breaking and running, especially such of us as can remember that when they were broke, within about forty miles of Fort Pitt, by a handful of *Canadians* and bush-fighting *Indians*, they never stopped flying until they arrived at *Philadelphia*. Impartiality, however, obliges me to mention one circumstance, which is rather in favour of some part of the assertion, viz: that the *Americans* have not a true idea of breaking and running, though it at the same time shows that they know how to rally; what I allude to is the behaviour of about three hundred *Virginians*, who, on that occasion, voluntarily formed, and covered the retreat of the flying Regulars. *Ticonderoga* has also furnished some of us with similar ideas. It is also asserted, "that at one time we will seem to have only a handful of Troops to encounter, and the next minute they will appear almost innumerable, merely from their dexterous movements, and the different situations in which they will be placed; and that, should we be able to perfect ourselves in this part of the discipline, (which we never can, as we are incapable of forming the least idea of it,) our skill will rebound with tenfold destruction upon our own heads, for by far the greatest part, when matters shall be brought to such extremities, will declare on the loyal side, and extricate themselves from the guilt of rebellion by the most vigorous efforts to suppress it."

I think it will be quite as hard to prove these assertions as to square the circle. It will require both fluxions, and an infinite series to do it. To make an handful of men appear almost innumerable to a people who know that every addition to that handful must first cross the great *Atlantick*, exceeds the power of magick. And I should not like to see it proved, lest it might lessen the merits of a General, "who, although respected and amiable for his social virtues, for his prudence, humanity, long-suffering, and clemency, of which we all cannot but be sensible, is nevertheless universally allowed to be a brave soldier, cool, intrepid, watchful, and resolute, and perfectly acquainted with the military art." Now if this be his character, how can he be excused for not putting these manœuvres in practice, instead of sending for more Troops? Can it be imagined that the freemen of the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* are so determined as to refuse submission, if they saw an innumerable host of such well disciplined Troops ready to fall upon them? They must be heroes indeed, or at least resolved to lose life and liberty together if they are.

I will take no advantage of his glaring contradictions in one paragraph, representing us as the most resolute and desperate of men, who have no regard for our lives, and that we are willing to sacrifice all that is dear to us to obtain our beloved point; and in the next assures us that we will by and by be so terrified at the name of Rebellion, that we will murder one another to prove our loyalty. I will not require the facts which can prove these inconsistencies. I am not inclined to raise a suspicion of the abilities or courage of the *British* Troops. There are many circumstances which present themselves at this day, to show they have a tincture of the true *British* spirit still remaining, though the laws and regulations to which they are subject are of the most slavish, arbitrary, and despotick kind. It is hard to divest a real *Englishman* of his love of liberty, or admiration of those who are willing to risk their all in defence of it. There may be some mongrels among them, as well as among ourselves; yet the reluctance of the Officers to the service, and the desertion of the Soldiers, prove that they are not divested of feeling, and far from becoming Ministerial butchers. If things should come to extremities it is not to be doubted but



they will discover further signs of a true *English* spirit. However, should they prove as loyal as *Phileirene* wishes them to be, twenty riflemen will, I doubt not, prove a match for any ten of them; and if we reason from former experience, *Braddock* and *Howe* have left us a proportion still more favourable. As to the common Soldiers, they have no great inducement to make them fight. If they will fight for pay, I think we could increase their wages. At any rate, a *groat* a day to feed upon, half an hour's exercise in the week, and ten years' loitering in crowded barracks, can give them but an indifferent title to the character of true *British* veterans.

That our skill in the military art, could we but attain it, would rebound with ten-fold destruction on our own heads, is rather hard. For shall we take that immense pains which it will cost an *American* to acquire it, and which alone can put us on an equal footing with these veterans, and then turn it against ourselves? This would be an infatuation which *Phileirene* and all his fellow-blusters have not been able to accomplish, and, I fear, never will, notwithstanding the facts which can demonstrate its truth.

I once thought of touching on the doctrine of Rebellion and our duty to *God*; but as the facts necessary to demonstrate his assertions on this head might border on impiety, and the attempt itself would be blasphemous, I would not have it entered on; for if one man sin against another, the Judge may plead for him; but if a man sin against *God*, who shall entreat for him? Yet the matter may be settled in few words. *God* is certainly on the side of justice and the oppressed, and the *Devil* on the side of injustice and oppression. They may be considered as the leaders in this cause, and every man as actuated by the spirit of his leader. I will leave it to *Phileirene* and the world to determine which spirit *he* and *his* party are inspired with.

*To the Friend to the Constitution :*

SIR: As you may be acquainted with facts which have escaped the notice of all beside yourself; as you may be able to defend your cause by arguments, which, though hitherto concealed, will strike conviction into the hearts of the most stupid, insensible, and obstinate bigots; and as your proofs may be derived from sources hitherto unexplored by any other; I call upon you to exercise those political talents and abilities which, doubtless, you are possessed of, in demonstrating the truth of the foregoing assertions of Mr. *Phileirene*. Should the task prove hard or laborious, you must comfort yourself with this reflection, that it is the only means whereby you can prove yourself possessed of that candour and honesty, which is so rare amongst your party. If, in the course of your demonstration, this one point should fall in our favour, viz: that the present is a struggle of *might* against *right*, and that *right* is on our side, we have little to fear, even should every other assertion of *Phileirene* prove true. For when was arbitrary power successful in *Great Britain*? Not in the days of *Charles* the First, nor yet at the Revolution. *William* the Bastard is the principal instance of the kind I now recollect. If we be permitted, then, to draw any conclusions from former experience, while we have a legitimate King, on the Throne we have little to fear. Had arbitrary power succeeded in the days of *Charles* the First, or *James* the Second, we should at present be in the same state or a worse than the people of *France*. Now would you, Sir, or *Phileirene*, or any of your party, rather find yourselves in this state and condition, than that your forefathers had pursued the measures they then adopted? According as you answer this question, we shall be condemned or justified, even should we be forced to draw the sword.

A LOVER OF ENGLISH LIBERTY.

*To the Author of a Pamphlet, entitled "A Candid Examination of the Mutual Claims of GREAT BRITAIN and her COLONIES, &c."*

Philadelphia, March 8, 1775.

SIR: When your pamphlet was first put into my hands, I accidentally opened it at the last page but one, and was pleased to see the following words: "Thus I have, my dear countrymen, with the utmost candour and freedom, and the most benevolent regard for your true interest and happiness, laid before you the Constitutional extent of Par-

liamentary jurisdiction, and deduced your rights from the most solid foundation, and explained your duties." Pleased with this declaration, I eagerly began a careful perusal of the pamphlet; but what was my surprise to find that instead of deducing the rights of *America* from a "most solid foundation," you have laboured to show that *America* has no rights at all; and that we are the most abject slaves on earth. This set me upon an examination of the principles on which you have grounded your arguments; and from this examination it evidently appeared that you have ignorantly misunderstood or wilfully misapplied them.

The first principle which you lay down, and which, indeed, is the groundwork of your whole performance, is this: "There must be in every State a supreme Legislative power of the Colonies, and that the Colonists are, therefore, subject to its laws."

It may be proper before we proceed, to observe, that though there is no difficulty in laying down general principles on the nature of Government, yet it requires judgment and understanding to make a proper application of them. If it shall appear that your several quotations are totally inapplicable to the situation of the Colonies, with respect to their connection with *Great Britain*, your arguments must fall, of course, to the ground. And I apprehend I shall not only be able to make this appear, but clearly to show, as I said before, that you either did not understand the authors quoted, or that you have wilfully misapplied them.

Whoever has read, and is conversant with the authors on Government, will agree that whenever the above principle is laid down, it amounts in substance to this, and this only, viz: Wherever men have, from a state of nature, entered into a state of society, there must be somewhere a power lodged to make laws obligatory on all the members of that society. This power of making laws, however modified, is called the Legislative power; and any one will readily assent to the necessity there is, that this Legislative power should be supreme over the members; for if, after the Legislative power has ordained any thing to be done, the members should afterwards be left to their own choice to adopt or reject it, it follows clearly there must be an end of Government. Now let us consider whether this principle is not fully satisfied in the several Governments of *America*, without having recourse for an application of it to the Parliament of *Great Britain*. I will undertake to show that the principle is applicable to our several Governments, and to them only; and this I shall do from your own quotations.

Mr. *Locke* tells us that "The first fundamental positive law of all Commonwealths is the establishing the Legislative power; this Legislative is not only the supreme power of the Commonwealth, but is sacred and unalterable in the hands where the community have placed it." It cannot be denied. It is as well established as the Legislature of *Great Britain*; its powers within the bounds of the Province are as supreme and unlimited as the power of the Legislature of *Great Britain*. Here, then, the principle applies;—as there is a Legislative power in the Province of *Pennsylvania*, that power is, from the nature of all Governments, supreme, and all the inhabitants of the Province must be obedient to its laws. But to proceed: "There can be but one supreme power, which is the Legislative; to which all the rest are, and must be subordinate." This principle is certainly right; but let us see how judiciously it is applied. Certainly in the Province of *Pennsylvania* there neither is nor can be more than one supreme power, viz: the Legislature of the Province. To them the several Corporations, and other inferior jurisdictions must submit. But observe how completely wretched you aim to make the *Americans*. You quote *Locke* to prove that there can be but one supreme power, which is the Legislature; if so, and if the Parliament, as you say, is the Legislature of the Colonies, it follows that we have hitherto been deceived, and that there is no such thing as a Colony Legislature in existence. But, Sir, this supreme power, the community of *Pennsylvania* have undeniably vested in the Assembly and Governour, subject to our Sovereign's negative; and, of course, the Legislature of *Great Britain* is not the Legislature of *Pennsylvania*; for it would be "irregular and monstrous" to suppose us subject to two Legislatures. But this will not satisfy you. You will have



it, that we shall be subject, not according to Mr. *Locke*, to "one" but to two supreme Legislative powers. Your quotation from *Acherley* is more pointed: "The supreme power in every Government and Nation is the Legislative power of making and altering those laws of it by which every man is to be bound, and to which he is to yield obedience." Is not every man in *Pennsylvania* bound by, and is he not to yield obedience to such laws as the Legislature of the Province shall enact? Every man will answer affirmatively; if so, is not this Legislative power of *Pennsylvania*, according to the express words of the above quotations, the supreme power in this Government? Can we then be subject to two supreme Legislative powers? But let us see whether you will not yourself prove sufficient for my argument. Page 43 you say, "Each Colony in the present Constitution, is capable, by its own internal Legislature, to regulate its own police within its particular circle of territory; but here it is confined: thus far, and no further can its authority extend." This, I hope, is sufficient to show that each Legislature is supreme within its own circle; and that this is all that is required to satisfy the principle on which you have benevolently endeavoured to build your system of tyranny.

You proceed next to a perplexed, inaccurate, and defective delineation of the *English* Constitution, and of the different capacities of the King, in order to point out the absurdity (as you call it) of the Colonies in acknowledging allegiance to the King, and denying obedience to the laws of Parliament. In this also, I apprehend, you are equally wrong. Let us attend to your argument. "To the King, in his representative capacity, and as supreme executor of the laws, made by a joint power of him and others, the oaths of allegiance are taken; and by him, that obedience in the subjects to the laws, which entitle them to protection in their persons and properties, is received. Is it then to him, as representative of the State, and executor of its laws, that the *Americans* profess their allegiance? This cannot be; because it would be owing an obedience to the laws of the State which he represents. It would be easy to prove that your idea of allegiance is totally defective; but as I intend only to expose the fallacy of your arguments, without advancing any *plan* of my own, it will perhaps be more satisfactory to refute you from your own words.

We *Americans* can, then, it seems, owe no allegiance to the King without involving in it a submission to the laws of the supreme Legislature of *Great Britain*, of which he is representative. Strange, indeed, that even our allegiance shall be drawn in as an argument in favour of Parliamentary power! But, Sir, let me, as a *Pennsylvanian*, address you and examine your argument. "The allegiance I owe to the King is due to him in his representative capacity, as supreme executor of the laws made by a joint power of him and others." Agreed, Sir, for argument's sake; but is not the King vested with the Executive power of this Government? Is he not the representative of our whole State, to see that our laws are duly carried into execution? And is not (on your principles) an oath of allegiance by a *Pennsylvanian* to the King, made to him as supreme executor of the laws of *Pennsylvania*? And if, Sir, an oath of allegiance, taken by a subject in *England* to the King, is to him as representative of the supreme Legislature of *Great Britain*, I ask, where is the absurdity of supposing an oath of allegiance taken by a *Pennsylvanian*, to be taken by him to the King, as the representative of the Legislative power of *Pennsylvania*, which is the supreme power of the Government in which he lives? There can be none. But further, Sir; does not every *American* acknowledge that he is bound by the common law of *England*, and such statutes as were made before the settlement of the Colonies, and which are applicable to our situation? Is not the King supreme executor of these laws? And where is the impropriety of supposing the oath of allegiance to relate to him as supreme executor of these laws, which we acknowledge do bind us, and at the same time rejecting the absurd and dangerous idea of its including an obligation to be bound by every law that the *British* Parliament has, or may make?

I have sufficiently destroyed, I trust, the two main pillars of your system. But not content with endeavouring to prove the *Americans* subject to the uncontrolled power of

the *British* Parliament, you are for reducing the Legislatures of the several Colonies to the degrading situation of mere corporations. "The original intent of the prerogative, under which the inhabitants of particular districts of territory have been incorporated into bodies politick, was to enable the representative of the State to form inferior communities, with municipal rights and privileges; this prerogative is very ancient; *William* the Conqueror granted to *London* two Charters," &c.

If we examine into the nature of corporations erected by the prerogative, we shall find you are still unhappy in the application of your principles. That the King, by his prerogative, may erect the inhabitants of particular districts into inferior communities, with "municipal rights and privileges," is readily granted. But it requires more than this to show that the Colonies are mere Corporations. After granting all you call for, your conclusions do not follow; for though, as you say, the King may incorporate inferior communities with municipal rights, yet it does not follow that the King can grant to mere corporations full Legislative power. Let any one consider what is the object of corporations, and the purpose for which they are granted, and the comparison must vanish. But, Sir, is not the King visiter of all corporations? And has not the Court of King's Bench a power to inquire into, and correct all the irregularities that have arisen in any of them? And is this, Sir, one of the "solid foundations" from which you have deduced the rights of *Americans*? Certainly you will have the thanks of the *British* Ministry for going further than even they have dared. They contend only that we are subject to the power of Parliament: You, Sir, go further, and meritoriously endeavour to prove that we not only are subject to Parliament, but to the Court of King's Bench, where that friend to liberty, Lord *Mansfield*, now presides.

Let us next examine your favourite position, that the rights of the Commons to a share in legislation is derived from, and represent the lands within the Realm. Having, as you think, fully shown this, you proceed (no doubt, with "ineffable pleasure") to show that, by necessary consequence, the *Americans* have lost, not the right, but the exercise of the right of being represented in the *British* Parliament, though they still continue subject to all its laws. What does this amount to? Why, you have a right, but it is impossible you can derive any advantage from it. You have a right, but it is impossible you can exercise it. Want of right and want of remedy, is said, in law, to be the same. What an insult to an oppressed people, to tell them they have a right, but that it is impossible they can either exercise it, or derive any advantage from it. But let us next examine your position, and see if it is well founded. I apprehend it is not, and that your idea of representation is partial and inadequate. That the landed interest is represented in part, is granted, and you might have saved yourself the trouble of several tedious pages to prove what every man would immediately assent to. But is the landed the only interest that is represented? Or, does representation arise from land only? I answer both in the negative; and thus I prove it: The Commons is the Democratic part of the *English* Constitution. In small Democracies, the people should, and in many (in *Greece*) they did exercise the Legislative power in their aggregate capacity. In so large a State as *England*, such a tumultuous meeting would be attended with danger and inconveniences; and, therefore, it is provided by the *English* Constitution, that the people shall exercise this power by their Representatives, which it would be inconvenient should be done in their collective capacity. This, Sir, is the principle of representation, and by which every man of property in *England* has a voice in Parliament. It is upon this principle that the landed interest is represented by their Knights of the *Shire*. This, Sir, is not the origin, but the consequence of representation. Are not the Citizens and Burgesses chosen by the Mercantile or Trading interest of the Nation? Has not every man who is free of a Borough a vote, and consequently, is he not represented in Parliament, although he has not a foot of land? In short, the whole of representation, according to the *English* Constitution, is this: in all free Governments a branch of the Legislative power should reside in the people. In so large a Government as *England*, this is not



practicable to be exercised in their collective capacities; from hence arose the necessity of representation, upon the genuine principles of which, every member of the community should have a voice. In forming this representation, care was taken of the landed interest, and Knights of the *Shire* were elected by proprietors of land to represent it. But this alone would have been a partial, inadequate representation; care was also taken to have the trading interest represented, that so not the landed interest only, but the whole body of the people should be represented by the House of Commons; in choosing whom, says a learned Judge, there is scarce a free agent in *England* who has not a vote. This subject might be continued further if necessary, but enough has been said to show your idea of representation to be erroneous.

According to you, Sir, we are bound by all laws made by the *British* Parliament. We have a right to be represented there, but it is impossible we can enjoy that right. So that the "persons, lives, and estates of the subjects in *America* are at the disposal of an absolute power, without the least security for the enjoyment of their rights." This is a dreadful situation! And the very reading it is sufficient to freeze the blood of any man that has a spark of liberty in him. How it has roused your passions! How animated is your observations on it! You say, "most certain it is, that this is a situation which people accustomed to liberty cannot sit easy under." Sit easy under slavery! It is a situation that all your sophistry, threats, or the arms of *Britain* will never make an *American* sit under at all.

But now the curtain is drawn up—the plan of union gentlemen, which is to restore us to the enjoyment of our lost rights! Having shown, as you think, that we have no rights at all, you very patriotically propose a plan, by which, if the *British* Administration pleases, we may be restored to some. But the very position tells us we are slaves. If our restoration to rights depends upon the pleasure and will of the *British* Legislature, they are our masters; we must submit to their pleasure. But send the author of the plan over as a delegate to solicit your cause, "the expense will be trifling;" it is a task he would, no doubt, perform "with ineffable pleasure."

You say, Sir, you have often conversed with the author of the plan, and well understand his principles. Pray, Sir, ask him whether he did not, in a Committee of Congress, deny, from the same learned quotations about landed property, the power of Parliament to bind the Colonies in any case. His conclusions from the same premises were, I am told, very different from what you have drawn in this pamphlet. He insisted that the right of *English* liberty is a right to participate in legislation; that as the lands in *America* are not represented, *Americans* could not be represented, and not being represented, they, of course, could not be bound; from hence he drew an inference of the necessity of some plan of union. Did he not, Sir, on this principle, deny the power of Parliament even to regulate Trade? And did he not even vote against it in Congress?

Much has been said against the Congress for rejecting this plan. The matter, I am told, stands thus: When it was first introduced in Congress, most of the members heard it with horror, as an idle, dangerous, whimsical, Ministerial plan. Some of the "*Pennsylvania* Oracles," Friends, with whom infinite pains had been taken before hand, moved to have it committed. This was rejected; then a motion was made that the plan might lie on the table, to be taken up at any future day. This was carried in the affirmative. When the minutes came to be revised, towards the end of the sitting, the plan was omitted. Here the patriot raged, and insisted on his right to have it on the minutes. The question was put, and a great majority thought the inserting it in the Journal would be disgracing their records, and accordingly rejected it. Certainly in such a society, every question must, of course, be determined by a majority. If, then, a majority were of opinion that the inserting it on their Journal would be disgraceful and injurious, they unquestionably had a right to reject it. If his plan was defensible, why did he not enter into the argument with a gentleman from *Virginia*, who challenged him to it, and who said he could prove it to be big with destruction to the Colonies? 'Tis true he did, when thus

called upon, say that he would defend it, if the Congress would appoint a day for that purpose. But this, Sir, was when all was hurry, and the forms of business only delayed their breaking up. Besides, it was a little remarkable, that this "*Oracle*" was not ready to undertake the defence of a plan, when he had been for months haranguing and caballing about it.

You have mentioned some of the objections that were hinted against the plan, for it is false to say that the merits of it were ever regularly debated in Congress. One of those objections is, that the members of the Grand Council would be corrupted, and betray the interest of the Colonies. To this you answer, "that if *American* virtue was not firm enough to maintain liberty; it could be supported by no wisdom or policy whatever. But supposing the people to be in so corrupt a state, yet as the election was to be triennial, they might change them every three years, &c.; and besides, to avoid all risks of the Country, they might, by altering one word, as the plan, make the election duannual or annual, which must certainly remove the objection." No, Sir! it will not do yet, not even with the alteration. For let us once suppose this darling plan executed, an *American* Parliament met. Suppose when thus met, a motion is made, showing the inconvenience and difficulties of frequent elections, and proposing the making a law extending their political existence for seven years; precedents may be pleaded for it. But, Sir, supposing this Parliament to be but annual, may they not in one year, one month, one day, nay, in one hour, pass a vote, which may forever annihilate the liberties of all *America*? But will you not trust the virtue of *Americans*? Sir, I entertain a high reverence for the virtue of my countrymen. But the trust is too sacred. Permit me to tell you, that neither "wisdom or policy" would dictate the leaving the liberties of a Country to the virtues of any men, however great or conspicuous. We know too well the fallibility of human nature, and both "wisdom and policy" teach us to support our liberties with other props and pillars. I did not intend to have touched on the merits of the plan, but when I saw one of the objections to it so mutilated, I thought proper to state the objections more fully and forcibly. The whole of the plan is confused, impracticable, and dangerous, as probably soon will be shown.

I have reserved till now, purposely, my remarks on the gross abuse and calumny thrown out in your pamphlet against the Congress. How unfair, how ungenerous, to take detached parts of their proceedings, and from thence draw inferences as to their principles! How dare you, Sir, in the face of *America*, assert that they have proposed no plan of accommodation? That every page conveys sentiments of independence? Have they not expressly said, (and is it not the groundwork of their whole proceedings,) place *America* in the situation she was in before 1763, and all our complaints will subside? Is this not proposing a plan of accommodation? Yes, Sir, and the only reasonable constitutional plan that can be devised. Tear away that system of Revenue Laws, and their attendants, and peace will be restored. And is this, Sir, talking of independence? Consider the Statutes prior to 1763, to which *America* concedes obedience; consider the acknowledged prerogatives of the King of *Great Britain*, in all the Colonies; the appeal to the King and Council from judicial determinations; his negative to laws; and let any impartial man say, whether this is a system of independence. The labours and virtue of the Congress in the cause of liberty, will, to latest ages, be revered and esteemed, while you and your attempts will only be remembered to show posterity that even in these days of liberty, *America* had some degenerate sons—a *Jefferies* and a *Filmer*.

But, good Sir, before we part, let me ask you how you came to publish your friend to the world as a man of no principle or virtue. I see he has signed the Association. I am told he signed the Petition to the King. I find in the Association he says, (for it is certainly the act of all who signed it,) "the present unhappy situation of our affairs is occasioned by a ruinous system of Colony administration, adopted by the *British* Ministry about the year 1763, evidently calculated for enslaving those Colonies." And, Sir, I find further, that he did, for himself and those he represented, firmly agree and associate, under the sacred ties of virtue, honour, and love of his Coun-



it, that we shall be subject, not according to Mr. *Locke*, to "one" but to two supreme Legislative powers. Your quotation from *Acherley* is more pointed: "The supreme power in every Government and Nation is the Legislative power of making and altering those laws of it by which every man is to be bound, and to which he is to yield obedience." Is not every man in *Pennsylvania* bound by, and is he not to yield obedience to such laws as the Legislature of the Province shall enact? Every man will answer affirmatively; if so, is not this Legislative power of *Pennsylvania*, according to the express words of the above quotations, the supreme power in this Government? Can we then be subject to two supreme Legislative powers? But let us see whether you will not yourself prove sufficient for my argument. Page 43 you say, "Each Colony in the present Constitution, is capable, by its own internal Legislature, to regulate its own police within its particular circle of territory; but here it is confined: thus far, and no further can its authority extend." This, I hope, is sufficient to show that each Legislature is supreme within its own circle; and that this is all that is required to satisfy the principle on which you have benevolently endeavoured to build your system of tyranny.

You proceed next to a perplexed, inaccurate, and defective delineation of the *English* Constitution, and of the different capacities of the King, in order to point out the absurdity (as you call it) of the Colonies in acknowledging allegiance to the King, and denying obedience to the laws of Parliament. In this also, I apprehend, you are equally wrong. Let us attend to your argument. "To the King, in his representative capacity, and as supreme executor of the laws, made by a joint power of him and others, the oaths of allegiance are taken; and by him, that obedience in the subjects to the laws, which entitle them to protection in their persons and properties, is received. Is it then to him, as representative of the State, and executor of its laws, that the *Americans* profess their allegiance? This cannot be; because it would be owing an obedience to the laws of the State which he represents. It would be easy to prove that your idea of allegiance is totally defective; but as I intend only to expose the fallacy of your arguments, without advancing any plan of my own, it will perhaps be more satisfactory to refute you from your own words.

We *Americans* can, then, it seems, owe no allegiance to the King without involving in it a submission to the laws of the supreme Legislature of *Great Britain*, of which he is representative. Strange, indeed, that even our allegiance shall be drawn in as an argument in favour of Parliamentary power! But, Sir, let me, as a *Pennsylvanian*, address you and examine your argument. "The allegiance I owe to the King is due to him in his representative capacity, as supreme executor of the laws made by a joint power of him and others." Agreed, Sir, for argument's sake; but is not the King vested with the Executive power of this Government? Is he not the representative of our whole State, to see that our laws are duly carried into execution? And is not (on your principles) an oath of allegiance by a *Pennsylvanian* to the King, made to him as supreme executor of the laws of *Pennsylvania*? And if, Sir, an oath of allegiance, taken by a subject in *England* to the King, is to him as representative of the supreme Legislature of *Great Britain*, I ask, where is the absurdity of supposing an oath of allegiance taken by a *Pennsylvanian*, to be taken by him to the King, as the representative of the Legislative power of *Pennsylvania*, which is the supreme power of the Government in which he lives? There can be none. But further, Sir; does not every *American* acknowledge that he is bound by the common law of *England*, and such statutes as were made before the settlement of the Colonies, and which are applicable to our situation? Is not the King supreme executor of these laws? And where is the impropriety of supposing the oath of allegiance to relate to him as supreme executor of these laws, which we acknowledge do bind us, and at the same time rejecting the absurd and dangerous idea of its including an obligation to be bound by every law that the *British* Parliament has, or may make?

I have sufficiently destroyed, I trust, the two main pillars of your system. But not content with endeavouring to prove the *Americans* subject to the uncontrolled power of

the *British* Parliament, you are for reducing the Legislatures of the several Colonies to the degrading situation of mere corporations. "The original intent of the prerogative, under which the inhabitants of particular districts of territory have been incorporated into bodies politick, was to enable the representative of the State to form inferiour communities, with municipal rights and privileges; this prerogative is very ancient; *William* the Conqueror granted to *London* two Charters," &c.

If we examine into the nature of corporations erected by the prerogative, we shall find you are still unhappy in the application of your principles. That the King, by his prerogative, may erect the inhabitants of particular districts into inferiour communities, with "municipal rights and privileges," is readily granted. But it requires more than this to show that the Colonies are mere Corporations. After granting all you call for, your conclusions do not follow; for though, as you say, the King may incorporate inferiour communities with municipal rights, yet it does not follow that the King can grant to mere corporations full Legislative power. Let any one consider what is the object of corporations, and the purpose for which they are granted, and the comparison must vanish. But, Sir, is not the King visiter of all corporations? And has not the Court of King's Bench a power to inquire into, and correct all the irregularities that have arisen in any of them? And is this, Sir, one of the "solid foundations" from which you have deduced the rights of *Americans*? Certainly you will have the thanks of the *British* Ministry for going further than even they have dared. They contend only that we are subject to the power of Parliament: You, Sir, go further, and meritoriously endeavour to prove that we not only are subject to Parliament, but to the Court of King's Bench, where that friend to liberty, Lord *Mansfield*, now presides.

Let us next examine your favourite position, that the rights of the Commons to a share in legislation is derived from, and represent the lands within the Realm. Having, as you think, fully shown this, you proceed (no doubt, with "ineffable pleasure") to show that, by necessary consequence, the *Americans* have lost, not the right, but the exercise of the right of being represented in the *British* Parliament, though they still continue subject to all its laws. What does this amount to? Why, you have a right, but it is impossible you can derive any advantage from it. You have a right, but it is impossible you can exercise it. Want of right and want of remedy, is said, in law, to be the same. What an insult to an oppressed people, to tell them they have a right, but that it is impossible they can either exercise it, or derive any advantage from it. But let us next examine your position, and see if it is well founded. I apprehend it is not, and that your idea of representation is partial and inadequate. That the landed interest is represented in part, is granted, and you might have saved yourself the trouble of several tedious pages to prove what every man would immediately assent to. But is the landed the only interest that is represented? Or, does representation arise from land only? I answer both in the negative; and thus I prove it: The Commons is the Democratic part of the *English* Constitution. In small Democracies, the people should, and in many (in *Greece*) they did exercise the Legislative power in their aggregate capacity. In so large a State as *England*, such a tumultuous meeting would be attended with danger and inconveniences; and, therefore, it is provided by the *English* Constitution, that the people shall exercise this power by their Representatives, which it would be inconvenient should be done in their collective capacity. This, Sir, is the principle of representation, and by which every man of property in *England* has a voice in Parliament. It is upon this principle that the landed interest is represented by their Knights of the *Shire*. This, Sir, is not the origin, but the consequence of representation. Are not the Citizens and Burgesses chosen by the Mercantile or Trading interest of the Nation? Has not every man who is free of a Borough a vote, and consequently, is he not represented in Parliament, although he has not a foot of land? In short, the whole of representation, according to the *English* Constitution, is this: in all free Governments a branch of the Legislative power should reside in the people. In so large a Government as *England*, this is not



practicable to be exercised in their collective capacities; from hence arose the necessity of representation, upon the genuine principles of which, every member of the community should have a voice. In forming this representation, care was taken of the landed interest, and Knights of the *Shire* were elected by proprietors of land to represent it. But this alone would have been a partial, inadequate representation; care was also taken to have the trading interest represented, that so not the landed interest only, but the whole body of the people should be represented by the House of Commons; in choosing whom, says a learned Judge, there is scarce a free agent in *England* who has not a vote. This subject might be continued further if necessary, but enough has been said to show your idea of representation to be erroneous.

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You say, Sir, you have often conversed with the author of the plan, and well understand his principles. Pray, Sir, ask him whether he did not, in a Committee of Congress, deny, from the same learned quotations about landed property, the power of Parliament to bind the Colonies in any case. His conclusions from the same premises were, I am told, very different from what you have drawn in this pamphlet. He insisted that the right of *English* liberty is a right to participate in legislation; that as the lands in *America* are not represented, *Americans* could not be represented, and not being represented, they, of course, could not be bound; from hence he drew an inference of the necessity of some plan of union. Did he not, Sir, on this principle, deny the power of Parliament even to regulate Trade? And did he not even vote against it in Congress?

Much has been said against the Congress for rejecting this plan. The matter, I am told, stands thus: When it was first introduced in Congress, most of the members heard it with horror, as an idle, dangerous, whimsical, Ministerial plan. Some of the "*Pennsylvania* Oracles," Friends, with whom infinite pains had been taken before hand, moved to have it committed. This was rejected; then a motion was made that the plan might lie on the table, to be taken up at any future day. This was carried in the affirmative. When the minutes came to be revised, towards the end of the sitting, the plan was omitted. Here the patriot raged, and insisted on his right to have it on the minutes. The question was put, and a great majority thought the inserting it in the Journal would be disgracing their records, and accordingly rejected it. Certainly in such a society, every question must, of course, be determined by a majority. If, then, a majority were of opinion that the inserting it on their Journal would be disgraceful and injurious, they unquestionably had a right to reject it. If his plan was defensible, why did he not enter into the argument with a gentleman from *Virginia*, who challenged him to it, and who said he could prove it to be big with destruction to the Colonies? 'Tis true he did, when thus

called upon, say that he would defend it, if the Congress would appoint a day for that purpose. But this, Sir, was when all was hurry, and the forms of business only delayed their breaking up. Besides, it was a little remarkable, that this "*Oracle*" was not ready to undertake the defence of a plan, when he had been for months haranguing and caballing about it.

You have mentioned some of the objections that were hinted against the plan, for it is false to say that the merits of it were ever regularly debated in Congress. One of those objections is, that the members of the Grand Council would be corrupted, and betray the interest of the Colonies. To this you answer, "that if *American* virtue was not firm enough to maintain liberty, it could be supported by no wisdom or policy whatever. But supposing the people to be in so corrupt a state, yet as the election was to be triennial, they might change them every three years, &c.; and besides, to avoid all risks of the Country, they might, by altering one word, as the plan, make the election duannual or annual, which must certainly remove the objection." No, Sir! it will not do yet, not even with the alteration. For let us once suppose this darling plan executed, an *American* Parliament met. Suppose when thus met, a motion is made, showing the inconvenience and difficulties of frequent elections, and proposing the making a law extending their political existence for seven years; precedents may be pleaded for it. But, Sir, supposing this Parliament to be but annual, may they not in one year, one month, one day, nay, in one hour, pass a vote, which may forever annihilate the liberties of all *America*? But will you not trust the virtue of *Americans*? Sir, I entertain a high reverence for the virtue of my countrymen. But the trust is too sacred. Permit me to tell you, that neither "wisdom or policy" would dictate the leaving the liberties of a Country to the virtues of any men, however great or conspicuous. We know too well the fallibility of human nature, and both "wisdom and policy" teach us to support our liberties with other props and pillars. I did not intend to have touched on the merits of the plan, but when I saw one of the objections to it so mutilated, I thought proper to state the objections more fully and forcibly. The whole of the plan is confused, impracticable, and dangerous, as probably soon will be shown.

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But, good Sir, before we part, let me ask you how you came to publish your friend to the world as a man of no principle or virtue. I see he has signed the Association. I am told he signed the Petition to the King. I find in the Association he says, (for it is certainly the act of all who signed it,) "the present unhappy situation of our affairs is occasioned by a ruinous system of Colony administration, adopted by the *British* Ministry about the year 1763, evidently calculated for enslaving those Colonies." And, Sir, I find further, that he did, for himself and those he represented, firmly agree and associate, under the sacred ties of virtue, honour, and love of his Coun-



try, to carry the Association into execution. Let us now hear your account of your friend's conduct. Deluded by hopes that his plan would be considered, he was led weakly to sign the Association. And your inference is plain, that he is released from the obligation, because he was disappointed in his expectation. What, Sir, would your friend bind not only himself but his constituents to the performance of an agreement which must, in his opinion, lead to their destruction? Does his notions of the "sacred ties of honour, virtue, and love of his Country," sit so easy on him, that he can enter into them to carry a favourite political point, and shake them off at pleasure, when his views are disappointed? One of the *Pennsylvania* Delegates, who dissented on the Association, and could not agree to carry into execution, staid away and declined signing it. I have now done with you. My view in writing these hasty remarks was not merely to defend the Congress, but to remove any bad impressions from your ill-grounded, base, and illiberal attack on them. To the impartial public I submit how far I have succeeded.

#### CUMBERLAND COUNTY (MASSACHUSETTS) CONVENTION.

At a Convention of Delegates from the several Towns in the County of *Cumberland*, held at the Court-House in *Falmouth*, *Wednesday, March 8, 1775*,

ENOCH FREEMAN, *Chairman*.

Adjourned to the Assembly Room, twelve o'clock.

Met at the Assembly Room, according to adjournment.

The following new Members were admitted, viz:

From *NORTH YARMOUTH*—The Hon. *Jeremiah Powell*, Esquire, and *Jonas Mason*, Esquire.

From *NEW GLOUCESTER*—Mr. *Abel Davis* and Mr. *Moses Merril*.

*Resolved*, That this Convention do earnestly recommend to the several Towns in this County strictly to observe the Resolutions of the Provincial Congress with respect to paying their Province Taxes to *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, of *Stow*; and considering the alarming situation which this Province is now unhappily brought into, it is further recommended that they comply with this Resolve as soon as possible.

Then adjourned to *Thursday* morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, March 9, 1775.

Met, according to adjournment.

Whereas, for the information of the inhabitants of the remote Towns of this County, several of the Members thereof are desirous of knowing the circumstances that attend the importation of certain Goods which have arrived in the harbour of *Falmouth*, from *Bristol*, since the first of *February* last,

*Voted*, That Mr. *Parsons*, Clerk of the Committee of Inspection for said *Falmouth*, be desired to attend on this Convention, with the proceedings of said Committee respecting said Goods.

Mr. *Parsons* accordingly attended with said proceedings, which being read,

*Voted*, That Captain *Thomas Coulson*, the Importer of said Goods, be desired to attend on this Convention.

*Voted*, That a Committee of three persons wait on Captain *Coulson*, to desire his attendance.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Isley*, Col. *Mitchel*, and Col. *Thompson*, be of this Committee.

Captain *Coulson* accordingly attended, and being asked for a manifest of the cargo brought for him by a vessel which lately arrived from *Bristol*, he presented to this Convention a manifest of two hogsheads of Lines and sundry Rigging, Sails, and Stores for a new Ship lately built by him in this place, which he said was the original and only account he had received of said cargo. Being then interrogated whether he intended to send the same back to *Bristol*, agreeable to the opinion of the Committee of Inspection for the Town of *Falmouth*, he answered, that he would send back the vessel with the two hogsheads of Lines, (when the vessel was repaired,) but that he could not send back the Rigging, Sails, and Stores, as he wanted them for his new Ship, which, he said, he could not send home without, but that he was willing to let the vessel lay in the harbour with the said Rigging, Sails, and Stores on board, until the sitting of the Provincial Congress.

Said *Coulson* was then asked whether he would send back the said Vessel and Stores to *Bristol*, if it should be the opinion of the said Congress that he ought so to do. He answered that he would, if they would put him in a way to get his said new Ship home; but that otherwise he could not do it.

Captain *Coulson* was likewise asked whether the articles contained in the said manifest were all the vessel brought. He answered that there was nothing else on board said vessel; that nothing had been taken out of her but a bed belonging to one of the sailors, and that nothing should be taken out till he had the opinion of the Provincial Congress.

Then adjourned to the Library Chamber, three o'clock, P. M.

Three o'clock, P. M.

Met, according to adjournment.

After a full consideration of the foregoing matter respecting Captain *Coulson*, it appears to this Convention that the importation of the foregoing Rigging, Sails, and Stores, is a violation of the Continental Association. And whereas the said Committee of Inspection have given it as their opinion, that the same ought forthwith to be sent back, without breaking any of the packages thereof; therefore,

*Voted*, (by a majority of twenty-three to three,) That this Convention do highly approve of the proceedings of said Committee, and we do earnestly request that said Committee would pursue every measure recommended by the Association of the Continental Congress for putting into execution the several articles thereof.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended, and it is hereby strongly recommended to the several Towns in this County, that they immediately take effectual care to provide themselves a stock of Ammunition, double at least to that required by the Province Law, and such a quantity of Provisions as may by them respectively be thought necessary for the exigencies of the present season. And as it is of the utmost importance that husbandry should at this day be more particularly encouraged, it is earnestly recommended that the inhabitants of this County would exert themselves, as far as possible, to promote the raising such necessaries of life as may be suitable to the qualities of their respective lands.

*Voted*, That the several Members of this Convention be and hereby are desired to recommend to the inhabitants of their several Towns, strictly to adhere to the Resolves of the Continental and Provincial Congresses. And that they use their best endeavours to discourage riots, mobs, and all tumultuous proceedings, and that they would endeavour, as much as in them lies, to promote peace, order, and decorum, as essentially necessary for the safety of the people at this critical day.

*Voted*, That such of the proceedings of this Convention be published as the *Falmouth* Delegates shall think fit.

*Voted*, That this Convention be dissolved.

SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Clerk*.

#### GEORGE MASON TO GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Gunston-Hall, (Virginia,) March 9, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I have at last finished the *Potomack* River Bill, which I now send you, together with some very long remarks thereon, and a letter to Mr. *Johnston*, into which you will be pleased to put a wafer, when you forward the other papers to him. I also return the Acts of Assembly, and Mr. *Johnston's* notes which you sent me. This affair has taken me five times as long as I expected; and I do assure you I never engaged in any thing which puzzled me more—there were such a number of contingencies to provide for, and drawing up laws, a thing so much out of my way. I shall be well pleased if the pains I have bestowed upon the subject prove of any service to so great an undertaking. But by what I can understand, there will be so strong an opposition from *Baltimore* and the head of the Bay, as will go near to prevent its passage through the *Maryland* Assembly in any shape it can be offered.

I suppose you have heard of the late purchase made by some *North-Carolina* gentlemen from the *Cherokee* Indians, of all the country between the *Great Kanawha* and the *Tennessee* Rivers. I think, considering this Colony has just expended about One Hundred Thousand Pounds



upon the defence of that country, that this is a pretty bold stroke of the gentlemen. It is suspected some of our *Virginia* gentlemen are privately concerned in it.

I have always expected that the new-fangled doctrine lately broached, of the Crown having no title beyond the *Alleghany* Mountains until after the purchase at *Fort Stanwix*, would produce a thousand other absurdities and squabbles. However, if I am not mistaken, the Crown, at that Treaty, purchased of the *Six Nations* all the Lands as low as the *Tennessee River*. So now, I suppose, we must have a formal trial, whether the *Six Nations* or the *Cherokees* had the legal right; but whether this is to be done by Ejectment, Writ of Inquiry, Writ of Partition, or what other process, let those who invented this curious distinction determine. The inattention of our Assembly to so grand an object as the right of this Colony to the Western Lands, is inexcusable, and the confusion it will introduce endless.

We make but a poor hand of collecting; very few pay, though every body promises, except Mr. *Hartshorn*, of *Alexandria*, who flatly refused; his conscience, I suppose, would not suffer him to be concerned in paying for the instruments of death. Your affectionate humble servant,  
G. MASON.

*George Washington*, Esquire.

Boston, (Monday,) March 13, 1755.

Last *Thursday* morning, the 9th instant, a countryman was tarred and feathered, and carried through some of the streets of this Town by a party of Soldiers, attended by some Officers.

The following is the man's own Deposition relative to that affair, sworn to before a Magistrate, upon which we shall make no remarks, but leave the publick to judge of the conduct of some of those who are said to have been sent among us to preserve peace and good order, and to prevent mobs, tumults, and other unlawful assemblies.

*Deposition of THOMAS DITSON.*

I, *Thomas Ditson*, Jun., of *Billerica*, husbandman, testify and declare, that while walking in *Fore-street*, on the 8th of *March*, in the forenoon, I inquired of some townsmen, who had any guns to sell? One, whom I did not know, replied he had a very fine gun to sell. The man appeared to be a Soldier, and I went with him to a house where one was, whom the Soldier called Sergeant, and seeing some old clothes about the house, I asked whether they sold such things. The Sergeant replied that they did frequently. I then asked his price for an old red coat, ript to pieces. He asked Three Shillings and Six Pence Sterling; but I refused to give it. Then one *McClenchy*, the Soldier I met with at first in the street, said he had some old clothes to sell, and sent his wife out after them to a man he called Sergeant, and she soon brought an old jacket and an old coat. I then asked him if he had any right to sell them, and the Sergeant said that they frequently sold them, and he would give me a writing if I desired it; but said there was no occasion. I then bought the said coat and jacket, and gave Two Pistareens, and then put the clothes in a bag, which I left behind. After which I went to *McClenchy's* to see his gun, which he said was a very fine piece. I asked him if he had any right to sell it. He replied he had, and that the gun was his to dispose of at any time. I then asked whether the sentry would not take it from me at the Ferry, as I had heard that some persons had had their guns taken from them, but never thought there was any law against trading with a soldier. He then told me he had stood sentry, and that they frequently let them pass. He then asked me what I would give for the gun. I told him I would give Four Dollars, if there was no risk in carrying it over the Ferry. He said there was not, and that I might rely on his word. I then agreed to give Four Dollars for his gun, but did not take it nor pay the money. Coming away, he followed me down stairs, and said there was a Sergeant that had an old rusty piece he would sell cheap. I asked him his price. He said he would sell it for One Dollar and a Half, if I would pay the money down; and he urged me to take it. I then agreed to give him said sum. His wife, as he called her, then came down, and said, *McClenchy*, what are you going to do to bring that man into a scrape. I then told them that if there was any

difficulty to give me my money again; but he refused, and replied his wife made an oration about nothing, and that he had a right to sell his gun to any body. I was afraid from her speaking, that there was something not right in it, and left the gun; and coming away, he followed me, and urged the guns upon me. I told him I had rather not take them, for fear of what his wife said. He then declared there was no danger, for he had spoken to the Officer or sentry, who said he had a right to dispose of them, and urged me to pay the Four Dollars I had offered for the gun; which I then refused, and desired I might have the One and Half Dollar back which I had paid him for the gun. He refused, saying there was no danger, and damned me for a fool. I then paid him the Four Dollars for the good gun, but did not receive any one of them. After I had paid the money, he then said, take care of yourself; and the first thing I saw was some men coming up. I then stepped off to go after my great coat, but they followed and seized me, and carried me to the Guard-house upon *Foster's Wharf*. This was about six or seven o'clock in the evening. When I came into the Guard-house they read me a law which I never before saw nor heard of. I was detained there till about seven in the morning, when I expected I should have been obliged to pay the Five Pounds mentioned in the law read to me, and hired a Regular to carry a letter to some friends over the Ferry, which was to desire them to come to me as quick as possible, with money to pay my fine. Soon after the Sergeant came in and ordered me to strip. I then asked him what he was going to do with me. He said, damn you I am going to serve you as you have served our men; then came in a Soldier with a bucket of tar and a pillow of feathers. I was then made to strip, which I did to my breeches; they then tarred and feathered me; and while they were doing it, an Officer who stood at the door said, tar and feather his breeches, which they accordingly did, and I was then tarred and feathered from head to foot, and had a paper read to me, which was then tied round my neck, but afterwards turned behind me, with the following words wrote upon it, to the best of my remembrance: "*American Liberty*, or Democracy exemplified in a villian who attempted to entice one of the Soldiers of His Majesty's Forty-Seventh Regiment to desert, and take up Arms with Rebels against his King and Country." I was then ordered to walk out and get into a chair fastened upon trucks, which I did, when a number of the King's Soldiers, as I imagined about forty or fifty, armed with guns and fixed bayonets, surrounded the trucks, and they marched, with a number of Officers before them, one of whom I was told was the Colonel of the Forty-Seventh Regiment, who I have since heard was named *Nesbit*, together with a number of drums and fifes, from the Wharf up *King-street*, and down *Fore-street*, and then through the main street passing the Governour's house, until they came to *Liberty-tree*; they then turned up *Frog-lane*, and made a halt, and a Sergeant, as I took him to be, said, get down. I then asked him which way I should go, and he said, where you please. Near the Governour's house, the inhabitants pressed in upon the Soldiers; the latter appeared to me to be angry, and I was then afraid they would have fired, they being ordered to load their muskets, which they did.

THOMAS DITSON, Jun.

SUFFOLK, BOSTON, ss., *March 9, 1775*:

The above-named *Thomas Ditson*, Jun., personally appearing, maketh solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing Deposition by him subscribed. Before

EDM. QUINCEY, *Justice of the Peace*.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

NO. V.

Boston, *March 9, 1775*.

MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: In our last we showed that the torrent of evidence, the run of history, a series of facts, the scheme of *British* policy, the principles of the *English* Constitution, and the prevailing sentiments of our predecessors, and the *English* Nation, all united in support of our claim. Perhaps there is no one fact in all historick existence of a similar nature, and the same antiquity, supported by such a variety of arguments and uniformity of evidence. Was it a truth, that by our Charter we were to be considered as a distinct State uniting



under one common Sovereign with our Mother Country, we could not have reasonably expected fuller proof, at this day, near a hundred and forty years since. Many truths more recent have nothing but habit and usage to stand upon. Evidence, like all other things, wastes by the current of time. It is diminished in passing from one generation to another, in the same proportion as it is removed from those transactions to which it is applicable. That which is certainly in one age (such is the constitution of human affairs in the present imperfect state) may become probability the next, and by a third, dwindle into a bare possibility. It is a maxim, that where a proposition is attended with as much evidence as the nature of the thing will admit, and could reasonably be expected, upon supposition of its truth, there the mind ought to yield its assent, and embrace the position.

As on the one hand it must be confessed there are instances where the Nation hath chosen to consider us as subject to her supreme authority, and our predecessors, from an unsuspecting confidence and veneration for their Mother Country, (that authority not being the object immediately in view, or the question under consideration) have inadvertently done, or omitted to do, that which may be construed into a seeming concession. And what rights or privileges are enjoyed by any people under Heaven, which have not been at one time or another invaded? So, on the other hand, there are instances where the Nation has disclaimed this authority; and our ancestors, whenever it has been made a question directly, have declared themselves with spirit, in the strongest terms against it. Supposing, then, for the present, that nothing absolutely conclusive could be inferred from the sense of the Nation, or the sentiments of our predecessors, after the reception of the Charter, it would not materially affect the argument. For had there been a perfect harmony of sentiment, and uniformity of practice, all conspiring to proclaim our union and consequent subjection, it would, indeed, have been circumstantial evidence of a previous connexion; but would not, of itself, have united us or confirmed our dependance, if we were not united before. Such evidence, however cogent, can never invalidate that of a higher nature; nor is it admissible, where we have direct positive proof. In the present case we have the deed of compact, the Charter-rights in our own hands, under the solemnities of seals, and the established formalities of law; we can, therefore, judge for ourselves, and ought to do it from the perceptions of our own minds, and not upon the authority of others.

Admitting, for argument's sake, that it was the opinion of both parties that this Colony was united to the *British* Empire in such a sense as to be subject to her supreme Legislative authority, and that the subsequent line of conduct observed by both corresponded with such an apprehension, it only proves them guilty of an egregious mistake, arising from inattention to consequences, or a confusion of ideas.

It is admitted by all; it is an indisputable truth, that our predecessors came to *America* with the express and notorious design of enjoying, and in the first instance actually declared for a free Government. It is equally true that the *British* Nation never pretended, nor does she even now pretend, to any authority over us, which she apprehends inconsistent with such a Government. This was what was declared for at the first, and agreed to by all parties as a leading and controlling principle throughout the whole transaction. This was the cardinal hinge on which all their movements were to turn—the broad and permanent basis on which their civil superstructure was to rise. Every transaction, therefore, mutual or partial, abhorrent to this principle, however clear and formal, must be void *ab initio*, as founded in error—going upon a mistaken supposition of its compatibility with our general position. Supposing, then, that our Charter proved, and it was clearly the sense of the parties to it, that we were to be bound by *British* laws in all cases whatever; if it can be shown that such an agreement was repugnant to their first and common principle, its obligation ceases, as founded on mistake, and void from the beginning. This general agreement that our Government should be free, dispenses with, and voids the obligation of the particular one, that it should be subject to the authority of Parliament, if they are incompatible with each other.

To a fair and impartial consideration of the consistency and possible co-operation of these two principles, let us now afford our close attention. At first blush I confess they strike me as heterogeneous. Let us examine them. The very terms, Free Governments, plainly suppose that there are such sort of creatures in being as Governments that are not free, to which they are opposed. These are ordinarily called, in common parlance, as well as in technical language of the law, absolute, arbitrary, tyrannick, despotick, &c., and the subjects of them are, with equal propriety, said to be in a state of bondage, servitude, vassalage, and slavery.

Tyranny, despotism, and the like, are general abstract terms, expressive of a certain relation subsisting between different communities, or different parts of the same community, similar to that subsisting between a master and his servant, from which the term slavery, as applicable to States, probably took its rise. An individual who has the absolute right to direct the conduct, dispose of the property, and command the services of another, is, with propriety, called a master. The person who is under an obligation to obey his commands and submit to his authority, is, in appellation and reality, his servant. It is this right of commanding, and obligation to obey, that constitutes the servitude, and not the actual exercise of it. He is a good master that does not use his right, but still he is a master, and may become a hard—a cruel one, at pleasure.

A community so organized as to have one supreme power, may be resembled to a single person, which speaks and commands by the voice of law. If this community has an absolute right to direct the conduct, dispose of the property, and command the service of another State; or, in other words, to make laws binding upon it in all cases whatsoever, it stands precisely in the same relation to this State that a master stands in to his servant; and, of consequence, it is in a condition of complete servility, and the individuals composing it in abject slavery. The same holds with respect to different parts of the same State. It is of no importance as it regards the relation, that the right or authority is not exercised, or is used with lenity. This, indeed, may determine the character of the master State, in point of goodness, but the servile relation still remains. Soon may it exert itself to its utmost latitude, with unbounded rigour and accumulated vengeance. Recent facts evince the truth of this observation. Look to your Capital, the head and heart of this Province. Give way to reflection for a moment. There you may learn possible projections from real executions, and argue coming calamities from the power of afflicting. The question for us to determine, my countrymen, then is, whether we will be slaves or freemen; for I defy the veriest Tory of them all, the acutest jacobite that ever lived, to difference our case from the above stated ones.

If our positions are then true, and our reasonings upon them unsophisticated, the conclusion is irresistible, not only that we are exempted from the supreme authority of the *British* Parliament, but also that she is inconsistent with herself in claiming our subjection; as she does not pretend, in profession at least, even now, when nothing but her own power and will bounds her pretensions, to any authority inconsistent with civil liberty, or the rights of *Englishmen*; and yet assumes a power subversive of their real essence, and very shadows. Such is the conduct of those who sit at the helm, and by the reins of modern policy have practised the Nation into present measures. We hope if common sense, political discernment, and public virtue, have forsaken the mansions of high life, they are still resident in the Island, and will soon unite superiour to opposition.

Perhaps it will be said, as has been often said with little truth and less knowledge, if we were perfectly independent in the first formation of our Government, we have rendered ourselves since dependant by our General Assemblies recognising the authority of Parliament, and submitting to her Acts, in various instances; and by our receiving protection from our Parent State. To which we answer, that it was not in the power of all the Assemblies, from their first commencement to the present day, to have effected this union and consequent dependance.

The authority of General Courts do not extend to the alteration of the fundamentals of Governments, much less to their subversion. This can be done only by the express



voice of the whole people at large. The Governour, Council, and House of Representatives, which compose the Assembly, are creatures of, and derive all their power from a Constitution agreed upon and previously established, which has for its *primum mobile*, groundwork and leading principle, Liberty, civil and religious. All transactions, therefore, growing out of such a Constitution, and founded upon it, as are the acts and doings of an Assembly, must breathe the spirit of freedom, and be governed by it, as by a pole-star in the political hemisphere. The election of Deputies, from time to time, is only a designation of persons, who are immediately vested with their authority by the foundation-principles of Government. Their power is only in a line of conduct chalked out by the Constitution. In their deviations they act in their private capacity, and not as the substitutes of the people. Acting within their delegated sphere, their constituents are, in speculation, virtually present, acting themselves by the votes and suffrages of their Representatives. This is what gives universal obligation to their proceedings. But it would be absurd to suppose a privity between principals and substitutes, respecting a matter for which the former were not represented. Hence the irresistible conclusion, that our Constitution has not been destroyed or altered by Provincial Assemblies.

This is not only a truth in politicks, but also a certainty in metaphysics. It is the first principles of Government that give political existence to substitutes, and support them in every instance of their publick conduct; of consequence these principles must be pre-existent in point of time to every constitutional transaction of theirs. Representatives, then, to effect the ruin or subversion of the Constitution, must remain such by virtue of it, during the process, and until they complete its destruction; and so it must survive its own dissolution, acting after it ceases to be. And further, if they can act as Representatives the very instant it is destroyed, which they must, in order to complete its ruin, they can for the succeeding, and so on. The consequence of which would be obviously this, that there could be substitutes of the people to act according to a Constitution, when there was no such thing existing in nature. An absurdity of the first magnitude. The same argument holds with respect to an alteration. This reasoning may be unentertaining, and at first view will perhaps seem a little obscure to a mind not cast in a metaphysical mould. I aim at perspicuity, at the expense of elegance, in every instance of ratiocination; if in this I have failed of success, it is imputable to a misfortune in the choice of words, not to a confusion of perceptions. Sure I am, that I clearly perceive the connection, or disagreement of ideas, and that you must subscribe to my conclusions, being masters of the train of reasoning as it passed in my own mind. Our opposers must either deny our premises, or admit our inference; that is, they must deny that Representatives are constitutional officers, and, as such, bound by it; or admit that we are still independent of the Parent State, notwithstanding their supposed recognition of the authority of Parliament. I have laboured this the more, as it is a general truth so very material in politicks. It was directly in the face of this principle that the *British* Senate became septennial, which probably is the cause, *sine qua non*, of our present difficulties. However, the application of this principle, as now established, is obvious, and its use important in the present case, as it evinces, to a demonstration, that had our Assemblies (which is directly the reverse of the truth, as we have already proved) not only acquiesced in, and submitted to Statutes enacted by the *British* Legislature, but had also, in express terms and in a manner the most cogent, passed Acts declaring this Province annexed to the Empire of *Great Britain*, and, as such, subject to her laws, this would by no means have united us without the consent of the people, nor have given our Parent State any new rights over us. Such Acts must have been void in their own nature.

*A fortiori* the adopting of the Statute and Common Law of *England* in our Courts of Justice, argues no such connection, or subjection, though it has been urged with a zeal not according to knowledge by some, and an address nearly allied to chicanery by others. It is the misfortune, generally, of arguments adduced in support of error, like *Prior's* darts, to return with effect upon those who advance

them. If the practising upon the Common and Statute Law of *England* in our judicial proceedings, implied our subjection to her authority, (and if it does not prove this it proves nothing to the purpose,) for the same reason *Great Britain's* practising upon the laws of the *Normans, Saxons, &c.*, would prove her subject to those Northern Powers; and the adopting the Civil Law of *Rome*, without an Act of their own Legislature, would infer the *Briton's* subjection to her infallible authority; which would carry the Nation right back again into the bosom of that mother of harlots, from whose arms *Henry* the Eighth wrested our parent, that he might enjoy the foster indulgence of a kinder companion. From this instance, learn what motives may reach a Royal breast. As a single amour induced one King to change the National Religion from the *Roman Catholick* to the *Protestant*, so a passion not more justifiable, though perhaps less personal, may influence some future Monarch to barter away the *Protestant* for the religion of the *Canadians*. Ages may first roll away. Empires roll and roll, and will forever roll. It is said they steer a Western course. Unborn *Americans* may bid them welcome. Present actors speed their progress; and future patriots enjoy their blessings. But to return to the subject.

The genuine history of the matter is simply this: The Common Law of a Country is of reciprocal and personal obligation upon each of its inhabitants, independent of the law-giver. In *England* it is considered as the birthright of *Englishmen*. When individuals remove to Countries uninhabited, or to Territories already peopled, if they do not incorporate with the original inhabitants, so as to be subject to their laws, they are considered as carrying with them, and being bound by those laws which were obligatory upon them in the abandoned State, so far as is applicable, upon change of circumstances, with other necessary restrictions. And this, not because they are the Statutes of the deserted State, but as they are convenient rules of conduct, which had induced a mutual, personal obligation, whose force was to be commensurate with the possibility and fitness of their operation. In this view our ancestors considered themselves bringing from the land of their nativity the Common Law, together with such Statutes as were in being at the time of their emigration, disclaiming the validity of all subsequent Acts. Our Courts of Justice have always been thoroughly penetrated with a sense of the propriety of this distinction. If, in some instances, unmindful of their judicial department, *in favorem*, to say the least of it, they have trespassed in untrodden paths, and, by a dangerous metamorphose, become Legislators, it would be as irrational to argue our subjection from this extra-judicial courtly conduct, as from the aberration of the fixed stars. But I quit the delicate subject. A sentiment of the ingenious *Blackstone* is much to our purpose. "For," says that learned Judge, "the Common Law of *England*, as such, has no allowance or authority in our *American* Plantations, they being not part of the Mother Country."

The affair of receiving protection from *Great Britain*, is an argument urged, I presume, for the want of a better. On this score, it has with truth been said, we owe her nothing. Our Trade, which she monopolizes, as to its profit, is more than an equivalent. From this she realizes annual millions; by this we cheerfully pay her, like children possessing property, a large annuity, as has been clearly shown in the ingenious observations of the imitable *Novanglus*, to which I beg leave to refer you. But if our arrears were great, would it give her a right to make us her slaves? In our infant state, and during the long and bloody conflicts with the savage natives, she neither gave, or offered us aid. Of later years, we have neither wanted, or received protection, except from the bare existence of her Navy, in common with *Portugal*, and other places, in the articles of Trade and Commerce, and this for her own emolument. The *American* Trade carries its own reward with it, especially to the Parent State, which names, with the strictest attention to her own interest, the ports and channels of its circulation. We are, and from the beginning have been, of sufficient ability to defend ourselves against all our own proper enemies. And what is more, we actually have done it. Mr. *Hutchinson*, in his History, speaking of the famous *Phillipick* war, says: "This is certain, as this Colo-



ny was at first settled, so it was now preserved from ruin, without any charge to the Mother Country." We have ever contributed our full proportion for the annoyance of the common adversary. In the last war, *America* was one of the principal seats of action. It was a National, a *British*, a general war, originating from National motives, and directed against *Britain's* inveterate enemy. We were not involved in it as *Americans*, as Colonists, but as subjects of the King of *England*. When war is made upon a common Sovereign, it must have a local existence. It is accidental that one particular place, rather than another, is made the scene of it. Therefore it most certainly ought to be supported by the joint assistance of the whole. As subjects of an *English* King, we have always been lavish of men and money for military operations. In the last war we much exceeded our proportion; at the close of which a reimbursement was made us by Parliament. For the truth of this, we may appeal to the recorded acknowledgment of the House of Commons. This undisputed fact proves, also, to the satisfaction of every reasonable man, that we had not been deficient on former occasions; otherwise she would not have reimbursed to us what had been long due to herself. Since this period, it must be confessed, her exertions have been very extraordinary for the administration of justice and the support of Civil Government in *America*, and in this Province in particular. Within a year, Ships have been manned, and Armies transported at a great expense, destined to our Ports and Towns, to distress, impoverish, abuse, and enslave the best of subjects. Whether we are bound to bear a part of this expense; to pay the whole; or ten thousand times as much, if the Parliament should call for it, is the question we are considering.

But we stand upon a foundation still more stable, deeper rooted, and more highly exalted, whose chief corner-stone was laid in Heaven. Nature has disjoined us by one of her insuperable barriers—an Ocean, a thousand leagues wide. And her Omnipotent Sovereign has rendered the union, and consequent subjection contended for, morally impossible, by making us moral agents, subject to the immutable and eternal laws of our being. We can challenge a freedom; challenge rights inconsistent with the claims of Parliament under the broad seal of Heaven—from the King of Kings, and Lord of all the earth; rights that were born with us; created in us by the decrees of Providence; that cannot be surrendered even by ourselves; that cannot be taken from us but by the same Almighty arm that bestowed them. So that had it been the sense of our ancestors, the sense of the King, and the sense of the Nation previous to our emigration, that we were to continue subject to the Parent State; had we declared for this subjection in the first instance; had we received a Charter in confirmation of this declaration; had our Assemblies and Courts of Justice strengthened and corroborated this relation by unnumbered acts and proceedings; had the body of the people, with full satisfaction and indescribable avidity, sanctified the same by their express fiat; and lastly, had we been defended by the parental arm from our first settlement to the present day, and still needed the same protection; I say, had this been the state of facts, the reverse of all which we have proved to be true, it would not, it could not oblige us to submit to the supreme authority of Parliament to the degree she contends for. For this would be to relinquish our duty which we owe to that Being whose will alone gives universal obligation.

Such is the nature of man, such the constitution of things, that his duty is discoverable by reason, aided by revelation; and is discharged by conforming to the laws of eternal justice, and the practice of every social virtue. On this depends man's truest happiness and best good. This happiness is said to be the foundation of natural law, or ethicks, it being inseparably interwoven with our frame, and forming all the principles and springs of action. This natural law is coeval with mankind, implanted by the Deity, and of the highest obligation. It is binding all over the globe, in all countries, at all times; the same at *Rome*, at *Athens*, in *Britain*, and *America*. No Senate, no Parliament, no Assembly, can dispense with it, retrench or alter it. Whoever violates it, says *Cicero*, renounces his own nature, divests himself of humanity, and will be rigorously chastised for his disobedience in the coming

world. No law, no transaction repugnant to this law, is of any validity. It is the origin of all power, and the support of all authority.

We being then, in common with all mankind, under an indispensable obligation to pursue our own happiness in a course of religious and social duties; it will hence follow, that we cannot surrender those rights which are necessary for our happiness, or give up that liberty which is necessary for the performance of our duty: also, that we cannot divest ourselves of our natural freedom, so far as to submit to the absolute will either of an individual or a State, who might treat us according to their arbitrary whim and fancy. This is what *Great Britain* requires of us. This is the situation into which she has for years been plotting to force us.\* A voluntary submission to her claim in its full latitude will be submitting to a necessity of doing whatever she commands, of course to the necessity of doing wrong at her sovereign nod; for I presume she does not as yet pretend to infallibility. In short, it would be in effect abandoning our lives, which we are not masters of; renouncing our duty, which we are not permitted to do; selling our Country, our wives, and our children, which are not ours so to dispose of; betraying our religion, which would be treason against *Christ*; and exchanging happiness for misery, which would be, as much as in us lay, reversing *God's* benevolent plan of moral Government in the world.

To illustrate this by a similar instance. Suppose in some future day *Great Britain*, intoxicated by a lust for innovations, dazzled with the overflows of power, unchecked by her own sentiments, or our cries and groans, which would never reach her, should pass a law tolerating the Papistical religion in all the *English* Colonies; suppose she should advance one step further, and establish it with disqualifications and penalties, (the transition being easy from one to the other.) To submit to such a law would be betraying our religion, to oppose treason and rebellion, the consequence of which would be loss of life, confiscation of goods, corruption of blood, and a reducing to beggary wives and children. I do not mention this as what would probably take place: it is enough that it is possible. The established religion of the Nation has been repeatedly changed. What has been may again be. The claim of Parliament is to legislate for us in all cases whatever. If she establishes this claim, we are slaves; I speak it with anguish—we are miserable!

To put ourselves then into the absolute power of another, be it State or individual, is violating a first law of nature, whose seat has been said "to be the bosom of *God*"; her voice the harmony of the world. All things in Heaven and earth do her homage; the very least as feeling her care, and the greatest as not exempted from her power."

The next inquiry is, whether successful opposition be possible; if possible, whether prudent and safe. If measuring upon the scale of probability, we are led to conclude in favour of both, our duty is plain.

FROM THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.

FOR THE MASSACHUSETTS GAZETTE.

Boston, March 9, 1775.

*My worthy Friends and Fellow-Countrymen:*

The more I reflect upon the Petition, so called, of the *American* Continental Congress to the King, the more I am surprised, astonished, and amazed at the unaccountable folly it discovers. One would think that an assembly, allowed on all hands to be unknown in the Constitution, would, in an undertaking of this kind, have endeavoured to obviate any objections to their authority by the moderation, truth, justice, and equity of their complaints; would have recommended themselves by that decent demeanour and dutiful behaviour which would have insured an attention to their requests from the Throne, and interested the Nation in their favour; but alas for us, we find them, contrary to their own declaration, actuated by "a restless levity of temper, unjust impulses of ambition, and artful suggestions of seditious persons," instead of that quiet submission to lawful authority, that decent moderation, and those loyal principles which ought to have been the characteristic of their councils.

\* By *Great Britain*, I would be understood to mean those Ministers who have been vibrating the political pendulum.



But I shall waive any further general observations, until I have particularly examined the remaining grievances complained of, of which the next in order, is, "The Judges of Courts of common law have been made entirely dependant on one part of the Legislature for their salaries, as well as for the duration of their commissions."

By this, so far as it respects this Province, can be intended only the Judges of the Superiour Court, as it is confined to such as receive salaries; and the Judges of the Inferiour Courts have only court fees, upon the several causes which come before them. And here let us examine what was formerly our situation in this respect, and thence determine the expediency, propriety, and necessity of the alteration. The Judges of the Superiour Court were before dependant upon the annual grants of the House of Representatives for their salaries, which have ever been so small, that they would scarce defray the necessary expense of attending the Courts, and never sufficient to maintain a family; so that unless the Judges had a private estate to subsist their families upon, they must have been constantly kept in the most pressing circumstances, if not greatly involved in debt. Of this repeated remonstrances were made and petitions presented for relief, but without success; and what was a still greater hardship, they were in continual danger, that by any unpopular adjudications, even these scanty pittances would be curtailed. Under these circumstances, could the dignity of the King's Judges be properly supported and preserved? Could they act with that firmness, spirit, freedom, and resolution requisite to maintain so important a character? Could they be considered as not "dependant on one part of the Legislature for their salaries?"

To these questions let every impartial observer return an answer, and determine for himself, whether they were rendered more dependant on one part of the Legislature, when they were made entirely independent of every part. Add to this, that they and some other Civil Officers who were formerly paid by the Province, are now paid out of that fund which you are taught to believe is squandered away upon a set of worthless placemen and pensioners; and thereby an internal tax upon your estates for these purposes prevented. As to the "duration of their commissions," they are now removable only by an order from His Majesty, under his sign manual; and it is paying but an ill compliment to His Most Excellent Majesty, whom they profess to believe the gracious father of his people, and ever attentive to the reasonable complaints of his subjects, to suppose that he will make an improper or wanton use of this power. However, there is no doubt to be entertained, that even in this instance, as soon as we return to our former state of obedience, such an alteration will be made upon a dutiful application to the King and Parliament, as will remove every ground of complaint on this account.

The next article is, "Counsellors holding their commissions during pleasure, exercise Legislative authority." This is very extraordinary; we all profess to think the *British* Constitution the best that now is or ever has been established in the world; we are all striving after the rights, liberties, and privileges of *Englishmen*; we all wish to be under a Government as nearly similar as the difference of our circumstances will admit; and yet this alteration, which certainly reduces us to a much nearer resemblance of that *great original*, which we so much and so justly admire, is complained of as a grievance. Before the late Act of Parliament for regulating the government of the *Massachusetts-Bay*—for I consider this grievance as confined to this Province, for reasons I shall hereafter explain—the Council was annually chosen by the House of Representatives, and consequently, by adopting any unpopular measures, were in danger of losing their election the ensuing year. This we have seen verified in many instances of the most worthy and sensible men in the Province being left out of the Council merely on this account. On the other hand, if any members, who were zealous in support of the popular schemes were elected into the Council, they were liable to be turned or kept out by the negative which the Governour had upon the election. By the late Act they are appointed by His Majesty, with the consent of his Privy Council, and rendered independent of any branch of

the Legislature here, and, therefore, may be presumed to be impartial and unbiased in their councils. In which of those modes of appointment the Council best resembles the House of Lords in *England*, who hold their seats by hereditary right, independent of the King or the Commons, let every one judge for himself, and thence conclude what a grievance we labour under in this respect.

They go on to complain that "humble and reasonable Petitions from the Representatives of the people have been fruitless." Had they been more explicit in their declaration of the instances of this kind referred to, we might better judge of the justice of their complaint. The Congress knew that in consequence of the Petitions from the Colonies, the Stamp Act was repealed; they knew that certain Duties, imposed upon several articles by another Act of Parliament, were taken off in consequence of a similar application, from all the articles except Tea, and that this was kept on only to save the legal and constitutional right and supreme jurisdiction of the *British* Parliament; they know that whenever this right is acknowledged, and their honour thereby saved, that even this Duty will be taken off, and no further occasion of complaint given. They must have seen, that, had it not been for the high-handed, unwarrantable measures adopted by those who call themselves Whigs; had they instead thereof proposed any plan of accommodation, any means of settling the dispute amicably and honourably; all things would have been adjusted upon an equitable, a constitutional and permanent foundation. There can be no reasonable doubt that this has been the disposition of Administration for some years past; but that our daring outrageous behaviour, instead of the "humble and reasonable Petitions from the Representatives of the people" that we are told of, has compelled them to use coercive measures, to bring us to a due sense of that dependance upon the *British* Nation which our forefathers, and we, until very lately, have uniformly acknowledged. Can it be supposed that a powerful, a brave-spirited, and generous Nation can, on the one hand, admit such extravagant claims as the Colonies now set up, or, on the other, entertain a design of oppressing and enslaving them? Both these things are equally incompatible with her own interest, and therefore equally improbable. Yet you are made to believe them by your leaders, who find it their interest to fish in troubled waters; who know that as soon as the ball of contention is once taken away, they must sink into their native obscurity, and therefore seek their own advancement in your ruin. Could I suppose that views so dishonourable and base influenced the *British* Councils, as an attempt to injure and enslave you, no one would more readily join heart and hand in a forcible opposition to their measures, if all peaceable and reasonable means failed of success. But I am firmly persuaded, and upon the best grounds, that your fears are without foundation; that your danger exists only in your own imaginations; and I pray *God* that your eyes may be opened, that you may see things in their true and natural colours, and escape the impending evils before they burst upon you.

The next complaint is, that "the agents of the people have been discountenanced, and Governours have been instructed to prevent the payment of their salaries." Let us examine the grounds of this complaint. Formerly, while we were convinced that our own interest was inseparably connected with that of *Great Britain*; while we were willing to submit to the rightful exercise of her authority over us, and in this submission found that we were happy, peaceful, and free, an agent was chosen by the three branches of the Legislature, who took care of the concerns of the Province at the Court of *Great Britain*. To this no objection was ever made, but a salary was granted and regularly paid, and the interest of the Province carefully attended to by the agent. Of late years the demagogues on this side the *Atlantick*, finding they should not be able to accomplish their sinister purposes unless they had an agent of their own appointment, who would join in forwarding and promoting their own rash measures, determined to effect this point; accordingly the House of Representatives, when they found the Governour would not approve the choice of an agent they had made, to answer these ends, instead of electing a suitable person, in whom



all parties might agree, proceeded in their separate capacity to choose one, who should serve the House alone, and the Council appointed one for themselves. These agents were never admitted as such, at any board or office in *England*, not being properly appointed, and were therefore useless to all good intents and purposes whatever. This measure was also justly deemed offensive by His Majesty, as introducing unnecessary innovations, and he accordingly, to save a useless expense of money to the Province, instructed his Governour to refuse his consent to the payment of the salaries granted to the agents thus appointed, which he, without doubt, had not only a legal and constitutional right to do, but therein consulted the true interest of the Province, and which ought by no means to be considered as a grievance, as every valuable, just, and lawful purpose may be answered by the former as well as the latter mode of election. With how much reason, then, a complaint is made on this account, it is for you, my fellow-countrymen, to determine, before you adopt any forcible measures for redress. Admitting, indeed, that these things are really illegal and oppressive, every method ought to be tried for relief before you proceed to such desperate extremities; and if you fail of success, you ought even then to consider whether the miseries and calamities necessarily attendant upon and consequent to a forcible opposition to the Parent State, do not far exceed any advantages which you can expect to gain from the fullest satisfaction of your wishes in this unnatural contest. But when you consider that your complaints are for the most part groundless, that you are seduced, deceived, and misled by your worst enemies, under the mask of patriots, you cannot, I think, hesitate immediately to think and judge for yourselves, to exercise that virtue, prudence, and wisdom, which you naturally possess; and now, while it is in your power, secure your happiness and freedom undiminished, lest you be finally compelled to make the greatest sacrifices to maintain even a partial enjoyment of them.

PHILEIRENE.

TO THE PRINTERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GAZETTE.

Boston, March 9, 1775.

Please to insert the following Recantation and Confession:—

To err is incident to every human being, but candidly to confess errors when conscious of them, I am apprehensive is the property of but few. No man is blame-worthy for natural imperfection, but obstinacy and perverseness, as they are enemies to truth and right, so they are characteristic of a wrong head and a bad heart. I am now about to produce to the world one instance of a candid acknowledgment of having possessed erroneous principles in politics, and consequently must have been guilty of a wrong conduct in society. In the beginning of our political confusion here in *America*, I was what you may truly call a Whig, in the modern acceptation of the word. Not that I ever justified or countenanced mobs and riots; I was ever an advocate of harmony, peace, and good order in society. But being so often told, and conceiving it to be the basis of the *English* Constitution, that no person, properly qualified, should have his money taken from him but by his own consent, or that of his Representative, I conceived it to be unconstitutional even for the Parliament of *Great Britain* to make any Act which should necessarily and unavoidably affect the properties of the Colonists. I conceived, moreover, that though we were subjects of the King of *England*, yet we had a Constitution of our own, no ways controllable by the Lords and Commons of *Great Britain*; and that the Parliament had no more right to legislate for us, than our Legislature here had to legislate for them. (Such was, I now freely confess, my ignorance then of the *English* Government and Constitution, and the relation between the Colonies and the Parent State, which I now plainly perceive, taken altogether, compose one entire Empire, and the Parliament its supreme legislative head.)

Upon these principles, when the Stamp Act first came over, which, if carried into execution, would necessarily affect our properties, I loudly exclaimed against it, and considered it as a most violent infraction of the *English*

Constitution, and a direct taxing of the Colonies. That Act, so inexpedient and unreasonable in its nature and operation, was never carried into execution, but speedily repealed, though succeeded by another, which we apprehended almost as bad, viz: An Act for imposing duty on Glass, Painters' Colours, Paper, Tea, &c., articles which, though not absolutely necessary for life, yet so very useful, that we could not well do without them; and besides, the duty was solely for the purpose of raising a Revenue in *America*, and was introductory to every other species of taxation. The design was very evident in the Stamp Act, therefore the general cry was, among us Whigs, (or patriots, as we called ourselves,) let us by all means oppose it with violence; if we do not, we shall become the most abject slaves to the Parliament of *Great Britain*. Our opposition was the means of the Stamp Act being repealed, and will produce the same effect as to this, if we show the same temper and resolution. The truth was, the duty was soon taken off from all the articles except Tea, (though I now believe more owing to the influence of our friends at home, than our clamour here.) We then, however, exulted in our patriotism, and considered ourselves as the instruments of saving our Country from impending ruin. We were so elated with success, that we doubted not any Act of Parliament relative to the Colonies would be repealed, if we opposed it with firmness and resolution. Our pride was so elevated, that we could not have patience with those who would not heartily join us in our plan. We considered them as cowardly wretches, or mean, selfish governmental expectants. Our candour and charity did not extend so far as to suppose it possible for them to speak their real sentiments when they differed from us. My conscience now, upon recollection, abundantly tells me how deficient I was at that time, in those amiable qualities.

We were not, however, entirely acquiescent, though we had struck such a noble stroke, and got the duty taken off of every article but one, it was with great reluctance we could suffer it to remain on Tea; but as the Merchants in this Province (who, though their profession is Commerce, are generally the springs which keep in motion the wheels of Government) appeared to be tolerably easy, (some importing Tea directly from *England*, paying the duty, others illicitly running it from the *Dutch*, taking their chance of seizure,) the spirit of uneasiness seemed in some measure to subside, and both Whigs and Tories purchased and drank Tea freely in this Province, without particular inquiry whether it paid the duty or not, from the year 1767, to the time the *East India* Company were permitted by Parliament to send their Tea immediately to *America*. This, like a spark falling upon gunpowder, immediately set us into a flame again. We considered the Parliament as granting a monopoly to one trading Company, to the detriment of all *America*. We then thought it our duty once more to rouse ourselves in defence of our injured Country. Though I was very warm in the cause, yet I never advised to the destruction of the Tea, but, in an evil hour, it was all destroyed. The particular circumstances are too well known to need repeating; but it is a thousand pities they could not be buried in eternal oblivion. The action struck me so horribly, as being repugnant to every principle of justice, and a downright piece of piracy, that I could not help exclaiming against it, as being pregnant with the most ruinous consequences to us. I then began to be afraid of the chastisement of an incensed and powerful Nation. I thought it was high time to stop in our career, and seriously consider what we were about, lest we should plunge ourselves into ruin before we were aware of it. But my brother Whigs, having more courage and resolution than I had, perceiving me to begin to waver, exerted themselves to keep up my spirits, and continually exhorted me to stand firm and unshaken. Nothing is wanting, said they, but resolution and unity; desperate diseases require desperate remedies; we have, as it were, passed the *Rubicon*; the other Colonies will stand by us; our Committees of Correspondence have wisely taken care to secure their principal men; if we do not appear unanimous, we are lost; we must not look back, but forward; we are afraid of nothing but the miscreant Tories, who endeavour to prevent our union; we must keep them down



by continued threats, and now and then a little chastisement; the Printers we have got under our thumbs; they dare not print any thing but what is on the side of liberty; if any one of them does, we are determined he shall lose our custom; and never fear, if we only stand firm in our opposition, we gain our point.

Still further to secure me and keep me steadfast, (for they were sensible I had some influence,) they chose me one in a Committee of Correspondence, &c., and then, I acknowledge, I was for a considerable time wound up to a higher pitch of enthusiasm than ever. We met often; indeed we made it almost our whole business; but our conversation was altogether upon politicks, and always upon the side of liberty, rights, and privileges. Every argument was defensive of liberty, and instead of an opponent, each was an applauder of the other, and a reviler of all Tories; and each, perhaps to inspirit the other, expressed more than was his just and real sentiments. The same thing took place with respect to other Committees, with whom we always kept up a continued intercourse by letters. How often have we expressed ourselves, with a studied zeal and determined resolution, purposely to prevent any flagging of spirit in other Committees, and how often have we received as spirited answers in reply! Thus we went on animating and supporting each other, till the *Suffolk* Resolves appeared; then, I acknowledge, I was almost as much struck as when the Tea was destroyed, but throughout our circle shouts of applause echoed round the room. I could not help at that time seriously observing, that I was fearful we went too fast; the Continental Congress, which was then sitting, might not justify such very spirited Resolves, and then our cause would be injured, as we must certainly acquiesce in their determinations. Therefore I apprehended it would be most prudent for us to take our hints from them, rather than lead. The reply was, that our Delegates were men of sense, and some of them good speakers; one of them particularly could carry almost any point he was determined upon, therefore they must have great influence in the Congress; and as there was a continued correspondence kept up between the Committee of *Boston* and the Delegates, there was no doubt but they were apprized of them previously to their publication, and depended upon their being adopted by the Continental Congress. Accordingly they were adopted and approved of, though they do not appear in the pamphlet containing their doings. But still, notwithstanding the authority of the Continental Congress, and the high spirits and assurance of our and other Committees, I could not help, upon serious reflection, when alone, having many compunctions of heart, as it evidently appeared to me that all could not be right. The course seemed to me to lead directly to rebellion, which my soul abhorred, and was never in my intention.

From that time I was determined seriously and impartially to examine for myself, and attend to all that was said on both sides. Our custom ever had been, not to attend, and scarcely to read any thing that was not wrote on the right side of the question, as we called it. The first thing I read with attention was a letter from a *Virginian* to the Continental Congress, while they were sitting at *Philadelphia*. That letter I found contained many serious and just observations, sufficient to awaken in any unprejudiced mind alarming apprehensions of the consequences of our hasty conduct. Afterwards I met with the "Friendly Address," and many other pamphlets wrote on the side of Government, together with some excellent pieces published in *Mills* and *Hicks's*, and *Draper's* Papers. These, taken altogether, seem to me fairly to lay open and expose the whole scene of our political errors and iniquities. And what confirms me still more in the justness of their observations, and the conclusiveness of their reasonings is, that they seem unanswerable by the whole Whig party. The weak and futile replies that have been made to some of them do not deserve the name of answers. What I have seen contains little more than scurrility and illiberal abuse; instead of sober reason and candid reply, they spend their shafts in invective and indecent railing. Indeed, from the beginning, notwithstanding my prejudices in favour of their cause, I have been often disgusted at their manner of treating men and measures. It appeared to me it was by no

means calculated to persuade or convince serious and rational men. I am now fully convinced, however high I once was, that the cause of the Whigs is not a just one, otherwise they surely must have defended it with a better appearance of reason and plausibility. Another reason which tended not a little to cure me of my whiggish principles, was the crabbed fruits they produced. In contending for liberty, they seem inclinable to engross it all themselves; the prevailing temper and disposition among them seems by no means to be pacifick; they are arbitrary and even tyrannical in the whole tenour of their conduct; they allow not to others who differ from them the same liberty of thinking and acting that they claim themselves, but shamefully abuse them, and treat them with spite, malice, and revenge. The instances of that kind are too numerous and notorious to require a particular detail.

How shockingly extravagant are the late Resolves of the County of *Worcester*? What a shameful attempt to discourage the liberty of the Press, that glorious palladium of *English* liberty. Let an honest Whig seriously consider whether such a conduct can flow from good principles, any more than a bad tree can bring forth good fruit. I now seriously advise all my former brethren of the Whig party to follow me in my recantation, rather than to throw out squibs at me in *Edes* and *Gill's*, or *Thomas's* Papers. All that I can now do, (and that I shall do,) in the way of atonement for my former whiggish conduct, is to endeavour to proselyte as many as I can; and I find myself happy in being as successful at least in leading people from error, as I was once in persuading them into it.

A CONVERTED WHIG.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO MR. RIVINGTON, IN NEW-YORK, DATED BOSTON, MARCH 9, 1775.

Last *Monday* the annual Oration was pronounced in the old *South Meeting*; there was a very numerous audience. Some gentlemen of the Army placed themselves on the top of the pulpit stairs. In the pulpit were *Warren*, the orator of the day, *Hancock*, *Adams*, *Church*, &c. &c. I had been informed that the Military were determined not to suffer the least expression that had a tendency to reflect on the King or Royal family to pass with impunity; of course, my attention was directed to *their* conduct on the critical occasion. The Republican was, I fancy, apprehensive of this, for through the whole oration there was an affectation of loyalty and veneration for the King and the *Brunswick* line; it was, however, replete with invective, inflammatory expressions, denials of Parliamentary claim, abuse of Ministry, &c., &c. The officers frequently interrupted *Warren* by laughing loudly at the most ludicrous parts, and coughing and hemming at the most seditious, to the great discontent of the devoted citizens. The oration, however, was finished; and it was afterwards moved by *Adams* that an orator should be named for the ensuing fifth of *March*, to commemorate "the bloody and horrid massacre, perpetrated by a party of soldiers under the command of Captain *T. Preston*." At this the officers could no longer contain themselves, but exclaimed, *fie, shame!* and, *fie, shame!* was echoed by all the Navy and Military in the place; this caused a violent confusion, and in an instant the windows were thrown open, and the affrighted Yankees jumped out by fifties, so that in a few minutes we should have had an empty house; in the meantime, a very genteel, sensible officer, dressed in gold-lace regimentals, with blue lapels, moved with indignation at the insult offered the Army, since Captain *Preston* had been fairly tried and most honourably acquitted by a *Boston* Jury, advanced to *Hancock* and *Adams*, and spoke his sentiments to them in plain *English*; the latter told the officer he knew him, and would settle the matter with the General; the man of honour replied, "you and I must settle it first." At this the demagogue turned pale and waived the discourse. It is said this gallant gentleman's life is threatened, but I fancy there is little danger. The Town was perfectly quiet all night; no exhibition or ringing of bells; they knew better.

You will soon have in *New-York* the *Asia*, a fine Sixty-four, commanded by an excellent seaman, son of your old friend *Sir George Vandeput*.



## CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

At a General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Connecticut*, in *New-England*, in *America*, holden at *New-Haven*, by adjournment and special order of the Governour of said Colony, on *Thursday*, the second day of *March*, *Annoque Domini*, 1775 :

It being represented to this Assembly that *Abraham Blackslee*, of *New-Haven*, Captain of a Military Company in the Second Regiment in this Colony, is disaffected to this Government, and the privileges thereof, as established by Charter, and has frequently spoken contemptuously of the measure taken by this Assembly for maintaining the same, and threatened to act in his office in opposition to the lawful authority of the Colony contrary to the duty of his office :

*Resolved*, By this Assembly, that *James A. Hilhouse* and *Samuel Bishop*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to inquire into said matters, and make report of what they find, with their opinion thereon, to this Assembly at the next session.

It having been represented to this Assembly that *Isaac Quintard*, of *Stamford*, in the County of *Fairfield*, Captain of the Second Military Company in the Town of *Stamford*, in the Ninth Regiment in this Colony, and *Filer Dibble*, of said *Stamford*, Captain of the First Military Company in the Town of *Stamford*, in said Regiment, at said *Stamford*, in *January* last, in contempt of the authority in this Colony, did attempt and endeavour to prevent the introduction of certain barrels of Gunpowder into this Colony for the Government use, agreeable to the order and directions of legal authority, which conduct is inconsistent with the duty of their said office and of dangerous tendency :

Whereupon it is *Resolved*, By this Assembly, that *Gold Sillick Silliman*, and *Jonathan Sturgess*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners, and are fully authorized and empowered to notify said *Quintard* and *Dibble* to appear before them, at such time and place as shall be by them appointed, and to examine the witnesses relative to said conduct, and examine into the truth of said representation, and to report what they shall find to the General Assembly, at their session in *May* next.

It being represented to this House, that the Towns of *Ridgefield* and *Newtown* have come into and published certain Resolutions injurious to the rights of this Colony, in direct opposition to the repeated Resolves of this House, and of dangerous tendency :

*Resolved*, That Col. *Joseph Platt Cook* and Col. *John Read*, be a Committee to inquire into the truth of said representation, and how far any person or persons holding commissions under this Government have been any way active or concerned in promoting the measures taken by said Towns, and make report of what they shall find to the General Assembly, to be held at *Hartford*, in *May* next.

—  
Wednesday, March 8, 1775.

In the House of Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut*, assembled at *New-Haven* :—

Whereas, our brethren of the Town of *Boston* have long suffered, and are yet suffering under the hand of oppression, grievous and unparalleled hardships and distresses, in consequence of their resolution to support the great principles of Constitutional Liberty ; and having endured, and yet enduring those sufferings in the common cause of *America*, with most exemplary fortitude and magnanimity ; the principles of humanity and justice to ourselves and them, require that they should not be left to sink under the weight of burdens which, without assistance, may become absolutely insupportable.

And although many donations have been made them by this and the other Colonies ; yet, upon authentick intelligence, it appears they are inadequate to the real distresses in which thousands of their innocent and virtuous inhabitants are involved by means as aforesaid.

This House, taking the matters aforesaid into their serious consideration, do *Resolve*, That it be, and it is hereby earnestly recommended to the several Towns in this Colony, to continue cheerfully and liberally to contribute to the relief of their suffering brethren in said Town, according to the several abilities which *Divine Providence* has given

them ; esteeming it an incumbent duty, and an acceptable service in the sight of *God* and their Country.

By order of the House,

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, *Speaker*.

—  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

New-Haven, March, 1775.

*Colony of Connecticut*, ss.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this House be given to the worthy and patriotick House of Assembly for the Island of *Jamaica*, for their kind and seasonable mediation in favour of the Colonies on this Continent, by their late humble Petition and Remonstrance to His Majesty. And that the Speaker of this House be, and he is hereby directed to write to the said Honourable Assembly, and enclose a copy of this Resolution ; also of the Resolution of this House, at their session in *May*, 1773, appointing a Committee of Correspondence, and invite them to come into that, or a similar method of mutually communicating such intelligence, as may be of publick importance, and more immediately affecting the inhabitants of the *British Colonies* and Islands in *America*.

Test :

RICHARD LAW, *Clerk*.

—  
*Colony of Connecticut*, Lebanon, March 14, 1775.

SIR : In pursuance of the direction of the Honourable House of Representatives for this Colony, I have the pleasure of transmitting the enclosed Resolutions, and at the same time to return you their unfeigned thanks for your late kind and seasonable, yet spirited and pertinent mediation, in their behalf, by your Remonstrance and Petition to His Most Gracious Majesty.

The clear knowledge you have of the inherent and unalienated rights of the Colonists, and the readiness you have shewn to assert them, with a temper and firmness worthy of such a cause, of *Englishmen* and *Americans*, at once reflects the highest honour on your worthy and patriotick Assembly, and merits the most grateful acknowledgments of this whole Continent.

The unnatural contest between the Parliament of *Great Britain* and these Colonies is at length, by the unwearied efforts of our enemies for a course of years, brought (to all human appearance) near to a most alarming crisis ; in which, threatened as we are by the dreadful alternative of surrendering *all* for which our fathers suffered and bled, *all* that is deserving of *men*, *Englishmen* and *Americans*, in life ; or suffer all the horrors of a military contention with the Parent State ; the striking union of these Colonies, a consciousness of the justice of our cause, and the rectitude of our views, with the approbation of our fellow-men, seem, under Heaven, our greatest consolation and support.

The representations of so respectable a body as the Assembly of your large and important Island will, we flatter ourselves, meet with the most favourable attention of His Majesty and his Ministers, and have a happy tendency towards procuring for us and you, (and indeed the whole Nation, ultimately interested in this great common cause,) the redress of those grievances under which we labour, and the establishment of the liberties and privileges of the whole Empire, on the most sure and permanent basis.

We shall ever be happy in keeping up an intercourse with your Island, and shall, from time to time, with pleasure embrace every opportunity to give you the earliest intelligence, of whatever we shall judge of publick concern, or more immediately affecting the Colonies in general, or your Island in particular ; and shall gratefully receive the like favours from you.

I am, by order, and in behalf of the House of Representatives for this Colony, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WM. WILLIAMS, *Speaker*.

Hon. Speaker of the House of Assembly, *Jamaica*.

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LETTER FROM THE HONOURABLE J. TRUMBULL, GOVERNOUR OF CONNECTICUT, TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH, ONE OF HIS MAJESTY'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARIES OF STATE.

New-Haven, March, 1775.

MY LORD : I duly received your Lordship's Letter of the 10th of *December* last, enclosing His Most Gracious Majesty's Speech to his Parliament, and the Addresses in



answer thereto, which I have taken the earliest opportunity to lay before the General Assembly of the Colony; and am now to return you their thanks for this communication.

It is, my Lord, with the deepest concern and anxiety, that we contemplate the unhappy dissensions which have taken place between the Colonies and *Great Britain*, which must be attended with the most fatal consequences to both, unless speedily terminated. We consider the interests of the two Countries as inseparable, and are shocked at the idea of any disunion between them. We wish for nothing so much as a speedy and happy settlement upon constitutional grounds, and cannot apprehend why it might not be effected, if proper steps were taken. It is certainly an object of that importance as to merit the attention of every wise and good man, and the accomplishment of it would add lustre to the first character upon earth.

The origin and progress of these unhappy disputes, we need not point out to you; they are perfectly known to your Lordship. From apprehensions on one side, and jealousies, fears, and distresses on the other, fomented and increased by the representations of artful and designing men, unfriendly to the liberties of *America*, they have risen to that alarming height at which we now see them, threatening the most essential prejudice, if not entire ruin, to the whole Empire. On the one hand, we do assure your Lordship that we do not wish to weaken or impair the authority of the *British* Parliament in any matters essential to the welfare and happiness of the whole Empire. On the other, it will be admitted that it is our duty, and that we should be even highly culpable, if we should not claim and maintain the constitutional rights and liberties derived to us as men and *Englishmen*; as the descendants of *Britons*, and members of an Empire whose fundamental principle is the liberty and security of the subject. *British* supremacy and *American* liberty are not incompatible with each other. They have been seen to exist and flourish together for more than a century. What now renders them inconsistent? Or, if any thing be further necessary to ascertain the one or limit the other, why may it not be amicably adjusted, every occasion and ground of future controversy be removed, and all that has unfortunately passed, be buried in perpetual oblivion?

The good people of this Colony, my Lord, are unfeignedly loyal, and firmly attached to His Majesty's person, family, and Government. They are willing and ready, freely as they have formerly most cheerfully done upon every requisition made to them, to contribute to the utmost of their abilities to the support of His Majesty's Government, and to devote their lives and fortunes to his service; and, in the last war, did actually expend in His Majesty's service more than Four Hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling beyond what they received any compensation for. But the unlimited powers lately claimed by the *British* Parliament drove them to the borders of despair. These powers, carried into execution, will deprive them of all property, and are incompatible with every idea of civil liberty. They must hold all that they possess at the will of others, and will have no property which they can, voluntarily and as freemen, lay at the foot of the Throne as a mark of their affection and devotion to His Majesty's service.

Why, my Lord, should our fellow-subjects in *Great Britain* alone enjoy the high honour and satisfaction of presenting their free gifts to their Sovereign? Or, if this be a distinction in which they will permit none to participate with them; yet, in point of honour, it should be founded on the gift of their own property, and not of that of their fellow-subjects in the more distant parts of the Empire.

It is with particular concern and anxiety that we see the unhappy situation of our fellow-subjects in the Town of *Boston*, in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, where we behold many thousands of His Majesty's virtuous and loyal subjects reduced to the utmost distress by the operation of the Port Act, and the whole Province thrown into a state of anarchy and confusion, by the Act for changing the Constitution of the Province, and depriving them of some of their Charter-rights. We are at a loss to conceive how the destruction of the *East-India* Company's Tea could be a just or reasonable ground for punishing so severely thousands of innocent people who had no hand in

that transaction, and that even without giving them any opportunity to be heard in their own defence.

[And we submit whether the conditions of their being restored to their former privileges, are not becoming impracticable under their present circumstances, since the Town is not, by law, authorized to tax the inhabitants for such a purpose; and the Province is not permitted the privilege of the Assembly; nor, they conceive, could they constitutionally hold one, until their Charter-rights are restored. Indeed, how can they constitutionally give His Majesty any security for their future good behaviour, but by their Representatives in General Assembly. Were the Acts for shutting up their Port and altering the Government of the Province, repealed; the armed force withdrawn from *Boston*, and the people put upon a footing to act freely and constitutionally, we cannot doubt but that as they have, upon all former occasions, shown themselves to be a generous, brave, and loyal people, they would comply with any reasonable requisition that should be made by his Majesty.]

Give us leave to recommend to your Lordship's most serious and candid attention the unhappy case of that distressed people, and in effect of all the Colonies, whose fate seems to be involved in theirs, and who are therefore most anxiously distressed for them. Permit us to hope, that, by your Lordship's kind and benevolent interposition, some wise and happy plan will be devised which may relieve us from our present anxieties, and restore that harmony between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, which we all most ardently wish for, and which alone can render us truly happy.

I am, my Lord, in behalf of the Governour and Company of *Connecticut*, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant,

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, *New-Haven*, March, 1775.

In the Upper House the foregoing draught for a Letter to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, being read, is approved, and his Honour the Governour is desired to sign a transcript thereof, and transmit the same to his Lordship as soon as opportunity will permit.

Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

In the Lower House, Mr. *Strong*, Mr. *Deane*, Colonel *Talcott*, Mr. *Hosmer*, Mr. *Wales*, and Mr. *Sturges*, are appointed a Committee to confer with such gentlemen as the Honourable Upper House shall appoint to confer on the subject-matter of the foregoing Letter.

Test: RICHARD LAW, Clerk.

In the Upper House, *William Samuel Johnson* and *Oliver Wolcott*, Esquires, are appointed to confer with the Committee of the Lower House on the subject-matter of the foregoing Letters.

Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary."

[At the Conference of the Committees of the two Houses, it was agreed to amend the draught by striking out the paragraph between brackets, in which form it was adopted by the Lower House.]

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, *New-Haven*, March, 1775.

In the Lower House, the foregoing draught for a Letter to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, is read and approved, and his Honour the Governour is desired to sign a transcript thereof, and transmit the same to his Lordship as soon as opportunity will permit. Test: RICHARD LAW, Clerk.

Concurred in in the Upper House.

Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CONNECTICUT TO MR. RIVINGTON, NEW-YORK, DATED MARCH 13, 1775.

Our Assembly met on the 2d of *March*. The two first days were chiefly employed in examination of the conduct of Captain *Glover* and the Representatives of *Ridgfield*, which Town had very freely declared against adopting the Congress's measures. A Committee was appointed to superintend this business, and make a report at the next *May* session. The debates of a week's duration upon the matters cost the Colony One Hundred and Seventy-Five Pounds. In the next place, many long and learned ar-



guments were produced by the old leaven, the Republicans, urging the necessity of an Army to be immediately raised. The matter was recommended to a Committee, consisting of the most inflammatory and the truest malignant men, who openly declare for independence. After two days they produced a Report, as follows:

"That a Major General and two Brigadier Generals be appointed; that ten thousand bushels of Wheat, two thousand barrels of Pork, three thousand stands of Arms with Bayonets, be provided; and the Assembly emit Bills to the amount of Thirty Thousand Pounds, lawful money."

This was craftily concerted; for had the Bill succeeded, of course a subsequent one must have passed to raise a number of Troops to eat the provisions. But Heaven be praised, by this time the eyes of the most respectable Members were opened; they saw that all the old firebrands were the promoters of these destructive measures; and to the eternal honour of many Members who spoke and acted on behalf of the Constitution, a majority of the House was roused, and they then proceeded to vote by paragraph upon the Bill. They allowed the creation of General Officers, but all the rest were thrown out of the House; and, instead of the destructive measure concerted by the *Cromwellites*, a vote was passed by a great majority to petition his Majesty for a redress of such *American* grievances as should be enumerated by a Committee then appointed by the House to compose and report it for their approbation.

This Assembly was a special one, called for the express purpose of raising, &c., six thousand men. And notwithstanding the Secretary and Squire *Wylls*, who went to *Cambridge* to consult the Provincial Congress, assured the House that the Congress then met at *Cambridge*, on mature deliberation, wanted not assistance from this Colony, they being sufficiently able to fight all the Troops General *Gage* had then at *Boston*, our warm sons of — insisted on raising an Army in this Province, and, at any rate, drive the King's General out of this religious land.

A Letter, carrying with it, in effect, a Petition, was sent down to the Lower House from the Upper House, addressed to Lord *Dartmouth*. The *Wasp* immediately seized, and clumsily attacked those parts of it which were calculated to conciliate and restore harmony between *Great Britain* and *America*; but he was overruled, and returned home grievously disappointed.

LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN CONNECTICUT TO MR. HOLT, NEW-YORK, DATED MARCH 29, 1775.

Mr. *James Rivington* has often been animadverted on in a publick manner, and sundry Resolves have been passed in the different Colonies, respecting his conduct as a Printer; not only as being partial, but as publishing falsehoods tending to disunite them in their great struggle to support constitutional liberty, destroy their mutual confidence, and render abortive that system of conduct recommended by the Congress as the most certain and advisable expedient for obtaining a redress of our grievances. Mr. *Rivington*, or his partisans, have represented this as an attempt to destroy the liberty of the press. But shall a press disgorge calumny and falsehood with impunity? Shall the most innocent actions of a community be traversed, and the most reputable characters, even Legislative bodies, be traduced with passive tameness? This would be a tacit acknowledgment of the charge. Is it not notorious, that he, while *America* is anxiously struggling to preserve her constitutional liberties, like an invidious spy, watches every motion towards the grand point, and strives to frustrate every design, by disseminating distrust and falsehood among the people, in order to intimidate or divide them, thereby rendering his press an engine of tyranny, as well as a sink of the most impure productions. An instance of this we have, in his "uninfluenced" paper of last week, termed "Extract of a Letter from *Connecticut*."

It is evident, from the whole strain of this epistle, that the writer attempts to set the General Assembly of this Colony in a disadvantageous point of light, villify and disgrace some of its most worthy members, and create a distrust of them among the Colonies, as though they had changed measures, which is wide of the truth, as I shall show anon. He says—

"Our Assembly met on the second of *March*, and the

two first days were spent in examining the conduct of Captain *Glover* and the *Ridgfield* Representatives, which had declared against the measures of the Congress." Here he stumbles at the very threshold; I am very certain nothing of that matter was debated the first day. His account of the Committee is very confused; if it is intelligible, he means the Committee were appointed to superintend the examination of the Representatives; but while the House spent two days in examining them, how could any Committee superintend? Did they appoint a Committee to superintend themselves? He says a Committee were appointed to superintend the business, and make report in *May*. The meaning (if any) is obscure, at best. If he intends such a Committee were appointed to superintend the examination of the first two days, or while the examination lasted, it is not true.

He next observes: "The debates of a week's duration upon the matter cost the Colony One Hundred and Seventy-five Pounds." Here, again, he needs a comment. If he is intelligible, he must mean a week was spent in debating such matters as he had before mentioned, *i. e.* examining the Representatives; but this is not true. At first he speaks of but two days himself, and I before observed on the first day none of his matters were agitated; now he seems to assign a whole week to that business, for he can't be supposed so silly as to accuse the Assembly of sitting a week on matters at large. His design was doubtless to insinuate that the House spent a week about a trifling examination, which cost the Colony One Hundred and Seventy-Five Pounds. This might raise a clamour, and this, I charitably believe, was his design.

The next clause is remarkable; he says, "In the next, many long and learned arguments were produced by the old leaven, the Republicans, urging the necessity of an Army to be immediately raised; the matter was recommended to a Committee, consisting of the most inflammatory, who openly declare for independence." Such a high charge against the Committee ought to be supported by the strongest evidence; but the whole weight rests on the mere *ipse dixit* of an anonymous author. Should this dirty performance gain any credit, what idea must the community entertain of the Committee, and Assembly that appointed them? He says, "They were Republicans, who openly declare for independence, *i. e.* such as disavow Monarchy, and admit no King to preside in the State." Is this true? I ask this vile calumniator whether he ever heard any such doctrine advanced in that Assembly, or by the Members of it? If so, let him support the charge, and give us his name; otherwise he will be accounted a malicious defamer. Is a Printer to be tolerated who charges the Representatives of a Colony with treasonable principles from an anonymous scribbler? He ought to publish the name of his correspondent, or take the blame of this scurrilous accusation to himself. But I must inform him that the Committee consisted of gentlemen of the first character, for ability as well as loyalty, and firm attachment to the *British* Constitution.

The Report of the Committee, and vote for a Petition to His Majesty, which next occur, I shall remark on hereafter. He then proceeds: "This Assembly was a special one, called for the express purpose of raising six thousand men." How he obtained this intelligence I cannot conjecture. Did the Governour mention it in his speech, or was it ever declared in the Upper or Lower House of Assembly? I am confident he never heard it from the first or the last, and cannot suppose him a Member of the second; whence, then, did he derive his intelligence of the express purpose? I presume it was a creature of his own morbid imagination. He next acquaints us, "Two gentlemen went to *Cambridge* to consult the Provincial Congress." This, I conceive, was mentioned with a malevolent design towards them, in order to asperse their characters. That they were there is conceded; but whether with a design to consult the Congress or not, is, I believe, mere conjecture. If that was really their errand, where is the crime? Is not *America* engaged in supporting the Town of *Boston*? Is it then a crime to consult them in affairs of common concern?

He proceeds: "Our warm sons of — insisted on raising an Army in this Province, and, at any rate, drive the King's General out of this religious land." This is



mere rant. No such thing was proposed in the Assembly (I am very certain) through the whole session.

He subjoins: "A Letter, carrying with it in effect a Petition, was sent down to the Lower House from the Upper House, addressed to Lord *Dartmouth*." A Letter was sent from the Upper Board to the Lower House, for their concurrence and approbation; it was an answer to one received from Lord *Dartmouth*, and addressed to that Nobleman; in this they declare the loyalty of themselves and the other Colonies to his present Majesty, and their concern at the claims of the *British* Parliament, which have occasioned so much anxiety among the Colonists; they decently asserted our Constitutional rights, and consoled the unhappy sufferers of *Boston* as a virtuous and loyal people; in fine, they requested his Lordship's kind interposition with His Majesty for our relief.

He concludes: "The *Wasp* immediately seized and clumsily attacked those parts of it which were calculated to restore harmony between *Great Britain* and *America*; but he was overruled, and returned home grievously disappointed." Whoever was designed by the *Wasp*, the epithet, clumsy, is not so applicable to that insect as to his own dull performance. But here again he errs from the truth. When the Letter was read in the Lower House, sundry clauses were objected to. Though (in my opinion) the fair import of the Letter was unexceptionable, yet, as not only one, but several Members were of opinion that some expressions were too vague, and might be wrested to a noxious sense, they were cautious of making any seeming concessions of their indubitable rights. After some debate, a Committee was appointed from both Houses to make some amendments, which they did, by substituting more cautious and determinate expressions, and varying rather the diction than sense; when it passed the House (as I thought) without a dissent. So that instead of being overruled, as he falsely suggests, there was an amendment to the general acceptance; and no one (I believe) returned home grievously disappointed, except the author or his voucher.

As to what he says in this polite way, "that the *Wasp* clumsily attacked those parts of the Letter that were calculated to restore harmony between *Great Britain* and *America*:" no parts were attacked except such as I just noticed. Doubtless he was offended that any corrections were made, and intended they should be understood in the noxious sense to which the House feared they might be wrested, else why is he angry with others for attacking those parts which, it was apprehended, might be taken in such a sense? By such as might restore harmony, it is evident he designed such parts as might gratify the Ministry, at the expense of our liberties.

I promised to consider the Report of the Committee, and the vote for a Petition to His Majesty. The House considered at large the alarming situation of *America*; they professed their allegiance to his present Majesty, and firm resolution to support our Constitutional liberties. They desire to live peaceable and loyal subjects to His *Britannick* Majesty. But should violence essay to enslave them, they believe they are warranted by the example of *Great Britain* and the Constitution itself, to defend themselves, and repel any lawless invasion. Though they were well united in the grand principle of Constitutional liberty, yet it is no wonder, in this sad dilemma, if their councils were serious. After considerable debates on affairs the most interesting that ever were agitated in a Senate, the Committee withdrew, and framed a Bill, (as their author informs,) that the minds of the Assembly might be known. Every Article of this Bill was calmly debated; and approving that for appointing General Officers, (such as have been in some of the neighbouring Provinces for a long time,) the rest of the Bill was prudently dismissed. In these debates, a concern for the publick weal so far predominated over private resentment, that the whole was conducted with the greatest friendship and harmony, so that when a great part of the Bill was rejected, yet it seemed to be with a general approbation of the Committee themselves, as every one seemed inclined to pursue the most prudent advice, whether suggested by himself or another.

I now proceed to consider the Petition to His Majesty: here our author fails of telling the whole truth. Mr. *Rivington*, the week before he published the extract now un-

der consideration, mentions this Petition as cause of great joy.\* One would think from this, that the Colony had been in open rebellion, and was now returning to their duty; else why this transport? Did he never hear that this Colony petitioned their Sovereign before? I can tell him they have repeatedly. Did not the Congress petition? He knows they did. Whence, then, this exultation? Doubtless he had an eye to those parts of the Letter which were calculated to restore harmony between *Great Britain* and *America*, which his correspondent informed him were clumsily attacked by the *Wasp*; but he returned home grievously disappointed. That this is mere fiction, I have shown before. But being deceived by his correspondent, he felt a glow of uncommon joy, which he could not conceal until he might publish the Letter. He thought, perhaps, *Connecticut* had made a compliment of her liberties to the Ministry; and this he was impatient to publish.

This Colony, ever attached to the present reigning family, did vote to prefer a Petition to His Majesty; but on a little reflection, it was thought inexpedient at this juncture, as the Congress had petitioned in behalf of *America* in general, and they had not then heard what reception their Petition met with; and by some it was thought, in every such step we ought to advise with the other Colonies. In short, I have the satisfaction to see, that the very same reasons that the worthy Representatives of *Pennsylvania* offered their Governour as an excuse for not petitioning at present, prevailed on this Assembly to defer it to a future session.

A MEMBER OF THE LOWER HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN IN VIRGINIA, DATED MARCH 10, 1775.

Our political madness is still in its zenith, and we are consequently taking the most effectual measures that the wit or folly of man can devise to render *America* totally independent of this Country. You must, by this time, have heard of the Bill prohibiting the four *New-England* Governments from Fishing, &c. Another Bill is also in its motion, to confine *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, and *South-Carolina*, to trade no where but with *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British West-Indies*. By the long silence of the *London* Merchants, they were considered as men not very serious in the business of *America*, (which was really the case, a very few excepted,) and have been treated with the utmost contempt; and the Cabinet, owing to this dilatory conduct, have had time to get every one of their plans confirmed by Parliament. Those of *Glasgow* sent up a very spirited Petition, but at the same time let Lord *North* know, by their Member, Lord *F. Campbell*, that they did not mean any opposition by it, but only to get credit in *America*. The Ministers seem now convinced if *America* continues united, and perseveres in her Non-Importation and Non-Exportation scheme, it will, without one blow, distress the Nation so much that they must yield to the most humiliating terms *America* can demand. Therefore, bribes, pensions, places, contracts, and all other arts, are attempted to divide the Colonies, particularly *New-York*; and by the most irritating measures they are provoking to blows, in hopes to rouse the resentment of the Nation against *America*, which is at present strong against themselves, and less than twelve months brings on their long-deserved fate. The way to defeat such diabolical schemes is to bear every thing that human nature can bear, and only, as common prudence directs, be prepared to resent any force or injury that may be offered. I wish this universally known. Your Governour, besides the parts of his letters published, and other parts transcribed to you, has written for five thousand Troops, or else he cannot stir in *Virginia*; but they can-

\* We hear from *Connecticut*, that last Friday, the Assembly of that Colony, after sitting ten days, adjourned to meet at *Hartford*, on the 13th of April. The Printer has received many particulars of their proceedings, but they must be deferred, as they came too late for this week's paper; we have only room to inform the publick, that a Letter was sent from the Upper Board for the approbation of the Lower House, addressed to Lord *Dartmouth*. It contains every mark of loyalty to the King, and carries with it, in effect, a Petition. The House of Assembly, by a great majority, voted a ~~petition~~ petition to His Majesty, and a Committee was appointed to draw it up. The event has afforded unspeakable satisfaction to the friends of our happy Constitution.



not even spare the ten thousand which *Gage* wrote for. The Address to the Soldiers had very great effect in *England* and *Ireland*.\*

ADDRESS OF THE INHABITANTS OF ANSON COUNTY, NORTH-CAROLINA, TO THE GOVERNOUR.

To His Excellency JOSIAH MARTIN, Esq., &c.:

MOST EXCELLENT GOVERNOUR: Permit us, in behalf of ourselves, and many others of His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects within the County of *Anson*, to take the earliest opportunity of addressing your Excellency, and expressing our abomination of the many outrageous attempts now forming on this side the *Atlantick*, against the peace and tranquillity of His Majesty's Dominions in *North America*, and to witness to your Excellency, by this our Protest, a disapprobation and abhorrence of the many lawless combinations and unwarrantable practices actually carrying on by a gross tribe of infatuated anti-monarchists in the several Colonies in these Dominions; the baneful consequence of whose audacious contrivance can, in fine, only tend to extirpate the fundamental principles of all Government, and illegally to shake off their obedience to, and dependance upon, the imperial Crown and Parliament of *Great Britain*; the infection of whose pernicious example being already extended to this particular County, of which we now bear the fullest testimony.

It is with the deepest concern (though with infinite indignation) that we see in all publick places and papers disagreeable votes, speeches, and resolutions, said to be entered into by our sister Colonies, in the highest contempt and derogation of the superintending power of the legislative authority of *Great Britain*. And we further, with sorrow, behold their wanton endeavours to vilify and arraign the honour and integrity of His Majesty's most honourable Ministry and Council, tending to sow the seeds of discord and sedition, in open violation of their duty and allegiance.

We are truly invigorated with the warmest zeal and attachment in favour of the *British* Parliament, Constitution, and Laws, which our forefathers gloriously struggled to establish, and which are now become the noblest birthright and inheritance of all *Britannia's* sons. We should be criminally wanting in respect and gratitude to the manes of those ancestors, and ill deserve the protection of that superiour Parliamentary power, could we tamely suffer its authority to be so basely controverted and derided, without offering our protest to your Excellency against such ignominious disobedience and reproach; for we consider that, under Divine Providence, it is solely upon the wisdom and virtue of that superiour legislative might that the safety of our lives and fortunes, and the honour and welfare of this Country, do most principally depend.

Give us leave, therefore, Sir, to express our utter detestation and abhorrence of the late unjustifiable violation of publick commercial credit in the *Massachusetts* Government. We protest against it with the utmost disdain, as the wicked experiment of a most profligate and abandoned Republican faction, whereby the general repose and tranquillity of His Majesty's good subjects on this Continent are very much endangered and impaired. We think it indis-

\* *Williamsburgh, Va., June 17, 1775.*—It was with great surprise, and, I must confess, with a good deal of concern, that I observed in Mr. *Purdie's Gazette*, of the 9th instant, an extract of a letter from *London*, dated the 10th of *March* last, which mentions, "that the Merchants of *Glasgow*, upon the present unhappy differences subsisting betwixt *Great Britain* and her *American* Colonies, sent up a very spirited Petition to Parliament, but at the same time let Lord *North* know, by their Member, Lord *Frederick Campbell*, that they did not mean any opposition by it, but only to get credit in *America*." The writer of this letter must have either been greatly misinformed, or actuated by interest or resentment; for from the most certain intelligence, I can assure the good people of this Colony that the latter part of the paragraph mentioned is equally false as it is injurious to the Merchants of the City of *Glasgow*, and the gentlemen with whom they are connected in this Colony. No part of the *British* Nation have exerted themselves with greater warmth, and, I may truly add, with greater sincerity, than the Merchants of *Glasgow*, for a restoration of that happy union so ardently wished for by every true friend to *America* or *Great Britain*; and I am fully convinced that every Merchant in this Colony views with the greatest abhorrence the very idea of such villainous, disingenuous, and unmanly conduct, as the writer of the above letter charges them with.

The greatest unanimity, gentlemen, is essentially necessary at this period, in this as well as every other Colony in *America*. Surely, then, our publick Printers should be extremely careful to promote, by their publications, an object of such importance, and avoid, with the greatest caution and resolution, every thing that may have a contrary effect.

MERCATOR.

pensably necessary, and our duty at this alarming crisis, to offer this memorial and protest to your Excellency, against all such enthusiastick transgressions, (more especially the late ones committed by the common cause Deputies within this Province,) to the intent that it may be delivered down to posterity, that our hands were washed pure and clear of any cruel consequence, lest the woful calamities of a distracted Country should give birth to sedition and insurrection, from the licentiousness of a concert prone to rebellion.

And we cannot omit expressing further to your Excellency, that we consider all such associations at this period of a very dangerous fatality against your Excellency's good Government of this Province, being calculated to distress the internal welfare of this Country, to mislead the unwary ignorant from the paths of their duty, and to entail destruction upon us, and wretchedness upon our posterity.

We do, most excellent Governour, with all obedience and humility, profess and acknowledge, in our consciences, that a law of the high Court of Parliament of *Great Britain* is an exercise of the highest authority that His Majesty's subjects can acknowledge upon earth, and that we do believe it hath legal power to bind every subject in that land, and the dominions thereunto belonging. And we do, moreover, with all duty and gratitude, acknowledge and reverence in the utmost latitude an Act of Parliament made in the sixth year of the reign of his present most sacred Majesty, entitled "An Act for the better securing the dependance of His Majesty's Dominions in *America* on the Crown and Parliament of *Great Britain*."

And we do further beg leave to express our detestation of the many scandalous and ignorant deliberations on the power of that Parliament in the control of His Majesty's Provincial Charters. For could the doctrine of such unruly propositions possibly exist, or should their insolent attempt unhappily prevail, it must at once extinguish those Laws and that Constitution which are the glory of the *British* Empire, and the envy of all Nations around it.

We are truly sensible that those invaluable blessings which we have hitherto enjoyed under His Majesty's auspicious Government, can only be secured to us by the stability of his Throne, supported and defended by the *British* Parliament, the only grand bulwark and guardian of our civil and religious liberties.

Duty and affection oblige us further to express our grateful acknowledgments for the inestimable blessings flowing from such a Constitution. And we do assure your Excellency that we are determined, by the assistance of *Almighty God*, in our respective stations, steadfastly to continue His Majesty's loyal subjects, and to contribute all in our power for the preservation of the publick peace; so that, by our unanimous example, we hope to discourage the desperate endeavours of a deluded multitude, and to see a misled people turn again from their atrocious offences to a proper exercise of their obedience and duty.

And we do furthermore assure your Excellency, that we shall endeavour to cultivate such sentiments in all those under our care, and to warm their breasts with a true zeal for His Majesty, and affection for his illustrious family. And may the *Almighty God* be pleased to direct his Councils, his Parliament, and all those in authority under him, that their endeavours may be for the advancement of piety, and the safety, honour, and welfare of our Sovereign and his Kingdoms, that the malice of his enemies may be assuaged, and their evil designs confounded and defeated; so that all the world may be convinced that his sacred person, his Royal family, his Parliament, and our Country, are the special objects of Divine dispensation and Providence.

Signed by two hundred and twenty-seven of the Inhabitants of the County of *ANSON*.

ADDRESS OF THE INHABITANTS OF ROWAN AND SURRY COUNTIES, NORTH-CAROLINA, TO THE GOVERNOUR.

To His Excellency JOSIAH MARTIN, &c.:

Permit us, on the behalf of ourselves and many others of His Majesty's most dutiful subjects within the Counties of *Rowan* and *Surry*, to protest against any person or persons, who may violate any of His Majesty's laws, or the peace of this Government. We are truly invigorated with the warmest zeal and attachment to the *British* Constitu-



tion and Laws, upon which our lives and fortunes, and the welfare of the Province now depend; and utterly protest against meetings of people against the peace thereof, or any thing which may give birth to sedition and insurrection. We cannot but express to your Excellency that we consider all such associations, at this crisis, of a very dangerous fatality against your Excellency's good Government of this Province, and to distress the internal welfare of this Country, and to mislead the unwary from the paths of their duty. And we do assure your Excellency that we are determined, by the assistance of *God*, in our respective stations, to continue His Majesty's loyal subjects, and to contribute all in our power for the preservation of the publick peace, and that we shall endeavour to cultivate such sentiments in all those under our care, and warm their breast with a true zeal for His Majesty, and affection for his illustrious family.

May the *Almighty God* direct his Council, his Parliament, and all those under him, that their endeavours may be for the advancement of piety, and the safety, honour, and welfare of our Sovereign and his Kingdoms, that the malice of his enemies may be assuaged, their evil designs confounded and defeated, so that the whole world may see his sacred person, our laws, and Country, are the special objects of Divine dispensation and Providence.

*Signed by one hundred and ninety-five of the Inhabitants of the Counties of ROWAN and SURRY.*

ADDRESS OF THE INHABITANTS OF GUILFORD COUNTY,  
NORTH-CAROLINA, TO THE GOVERNOUR.

To His Excellency JOSIAH MARTIN, &c. :

We, His Majesty's most loyal subjects of the County of *Guilford*, and Province of *North-Carolina*, beg leave to lay before your Excellency, that we hold in open detestation all illegal and unwarrantable proceedings against His Majesty's crown and dignity. That whereas there is a general dispute between His Majesty and the Colonies of *America*, past our knowledge to determine what the event may be, we therefore hold a firm attachment to His Majesty King *George* the Third, his crown and dignity; and we being a poor and unhappy people, lying under the reflection of the late and unhappy insurrection, we therefore have taken this opportunity to show forth our loyalty to His Majesty and his lawful commands; and for further confirmation hereto subscribe our names, as maintaining our rights under a legal authority.

*Signed by one hundred and sixteen of the Inhabitants of the County of GUILFORD.*

DECLARATION OF INHABITANTS OF BROOK-HAVEN, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

Brook-Haven, March 10, 1775.

Whereas, Major *Benjamin Floyd* was mentioned in Mr. *Hugh Gainé's* Paper of the 6th of *February*, as having got a number of subscribers to a certain Petition, said to be signed to the General Assembly of this Province.\* Wherefore we desire to inform the publick, that whereas, he, the said *Benjamin Floyd* and *Joseph Denton* did carry about this Town a paper, calling of it a Petition to the General Assembly of this Province, and did earnestly urge and persuade all that they could to sign the same, calling of it a good thing, and telling people that it was to support the laws of the Province, which was likely soon to fail; and that it was an instrument well drawn, and the best calculated for that purpose: And as we, the subscribers, did, by their persuasions, without having a proper knowledge of the design of said instrument, sign our names to the same; but as we since have learned that the said instrument, called a Petition, was designed and is calculated, as we think, to make divisions and disagreement between the Legislative authority, viz: the Governour, the Council, and General Assembly, and the commonalty of the good people of this Province, with respect to

\* We hear from *Brook-Haven*, *Suffolk* County, that Major *Benjamin Floyd* found, on a strict inquiry, one hundred good men in the first Company of that Township, to support the King and his Government; but no officer would join him above the rank of Sergeant. All the above persons signed a Petition to the General Assembly, expressing that they will entirely abide by the old Constitution, viz: The Governour, Council, and General Assembly of this Province, without any regard to the proceedings and determinations of the Continental Congress.

the observing of the Counsels and Resolves of our worthy Delegates, recommended in Continental Congress for the good people of this Province to observe, as being the most likely method to obtain a redress of our publick grievances; and we do hereby publicly declare our dislike and disapprobation of said pretended Petition, and of all such instruments as may have a like tendency to make divisions and parties among the good people of this Province. In witness whereof, we have hereunto signed our names.

N. B.—The reader will please to note that the above is a true copy of what is now carrying about in the Township of *Brook-Haven*, and to which a considerable number have signed, (of those that subscribed the pretended Petition above alluded to,) whose example, it is not doubted, will be followed by many more.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON, TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MARCH 11, 1775.

You have herewith enclosed some of the late *English* papers, and a peculiar fiery piece called the *Crisis*, wrote professedly in favour of Liberty and *America*, and which, from its freedom, has suffered martyrdom at *Westminster* and the *Exchange*, by order of a prostituted Parliament.

The plan of this accursed Ministry is, to divide and govern, in hopes of completing their principle of slavery, by the base advantages and preferences now held out to *New-York*, *North-Carolina*, and *Georgia*. Surely *Americans* must see through the flimsy texture, and nobly spurn at the offer! I cannot suffer myself to believe that these Provinces will desert the cause of liberty, by accepting the ignoble Commerce offered to them by this abhorred Parliament. But should it be the unhappy case, which *God* forbid, why then, let all the rest of *America* unite in a firm determination never to trade or have any connection with them again. With what contempt ought the base majority of the *New-York* Assembly to be held! Have they not been honoured with that disapprobation, to wit: *Tarring and Feathering*? It ought to be administered as a deterrent to others. For if that defection had not happened, we had the utmost reason to expect other measures would have been adopted than these villanous Acts passed and passing. But for the satisfaction of my countrymen, let me assure them, that if they will but steadily abide by the Resolutions of the Congress, this hateful Ministry must retire; and then, under the auspices of the wide-expanded soul of *Chatham*, his noble conciliatory plan of a union must be adopted, and that, in spite of open enemies, or the more concealed and dangerous ones lurking under the specious title of *moderation*, we shall be free for ever.

It gives every friend to *American* liberty the greatest satisfaction to find Doctor *Franklin* will return by the *April* Packet; for his long acquaintance with the machinations of this infamous Administration will enable him to spirit up the lukewarm, and confirm the Patriot, as well in the Congress as throughout *America*.

Once more, let the *Americans* be united, and they shall obtain the glorious prize; but if they divide, they are irretrievably ruined.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA,  
DATED LONDON, MARCH 11, 1775.

My zeal for the liberties of *America* will not let me rest; I think those valuable blessings are more in danger than ever, and I therefore warn my friends of it, and yourself in particular.

I am well assured that the *Americans* are not to be intimidated by force, and that they are prepared to oppose force to force, if violent measures should be openly and steadily pursued; but I am fearful that they may be lulled asleep by the insidious arts of Administration. The despicable junto that govern all our publick proceedings have at length discovered their error, and that the hostile measures they have begun with, have united the Colonies in one common bond, which they were taught to believe would produce a contrary effect; and they are now shifting their battery—conciliatory steps are continually talked off, and an abatement of their demands is echoed by every tool in office.

Beware of this snake in the grass, and give no credit to



any pacifick proposals, till you have a certain and total disavowal of all their unconstitutional claims.

You will have heard, before this reaches you, of that infamous and cruel bill, which we call the Fishery Bill; which, I take upon me to say, was, in its original dress, as black a bill as ever was brought into a *British* Parliament. It is true they have softened it from reading to reading, by various salvos and exceptions, but all tending to divide. The *Quakers* of *Nantucket* have been excepted, on Petition from the Society here; and there are to be other exceptions in favour of those who are willing to subscribe to certain secret compacts, which are yet kept in the breast of the Ministry, but which, I take it, are somewhat of the same nature of those made formerly between the Devil and his adherents, by which, for some trifling gratification (and in which they were commonly deceived) they sold themselves to everlasting slavery.

Our Parliament have also another bill before them, called a Conciliatory Bill; the purport of which amounts to this: that if any of the Colonies on the arrival and publication of said Bill shall agree to tax themselves to such an amount as the Parliament shall approve, (which money is also to be under the direction of Parliament) that such Colonies shall be taken into favour, and the Penal Acts suspended; but which are still to remain as a rod hanging over them, to be used as occasion shall require.

And a third bill is also in agitation, which is to include all the disobedient Colonies in the same predicament as the *Massachusetts*, viz: to prohibit their exports to any other parts than *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *West-Indies*.

I should inform you that *New-York* is not in this list. The late Resolves of their Assembly have been very grateful incense to the nostrils of our Ministry; and though, in my opinion, a matter of little consequence, yet they have afforded great triumph and exultation, and have given an opening to favour that Colony at the expense of the rest.

But I trust that the majority, even of that City, are with us, and that they will maintain the Non-Importation Agreement, in its utmost rigour. And now I am on this topick, let me advise you of one loophole, where the enemy may attempt to come in. The King's Ships that are now preparing, both the Men-of-War and the Transports, will be in some degree freighted with *European* Goods—great quantities are getting ready; this you may depend on. I speak on the best authority, though perhaps not on my own certain knowledge; for I would have it understood that I would not execute an order for the best friend I have for those purposes.

Our Merchants and Traders in this City have had several publick meetings, and have made such application to the governing powers as they thought would produce the most salutary effects; or rather, (if I may express myself without reserve,) such application as they could all concur in; for it must be confessed, and indeed it cannot be concealed, that a very considerable part, though not the majority of the Merchants and Traders, are averse to the *Americans*.

In short, your cause is not a favourite cause in this Kingdom, as I believe I have already wrote you. Having submitted, in some degree, to slavery ourselves, we do not so fully feel the distress it may occasion in others; and partly through interest, partly through prejudice, and partly through ignorance, I fear the majority are against you. But I wish you not to be disheartened, since, to say the worst, you have a most respectable minority; a minority that will never give up your cause, if you do not desert it yourselves; nay, some of us, as I know, will maintain your rights, though you should be so base to barter them for a mess of pottage.

I can assure you that, exclusive of those publick and Constitutional Societies already established, some others are forming, for the avowed purpose of supporting *British* and *American* liberty; and I make no doubt that some good will happen from these associations; the *English* are slow in resentment, as in deliberation: but they are determined in the prosecution of either when they once engage.

We have already commenced a publick subscription for the relief of the sufferers in *Boston*; some handsome sums have already been subscribed; but, as yet, it wants the usual enthusiasm that accompanies things of this sort;

however, I don't despair that it will ultimately succeed, and it will be a glorious declaration of our principles, by the most undoubted touchstone.

#### ORANGE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

March 11, 1775.

An accusation being lodged with the Committee of *Orange County* against *Francis Moore*, Jun., of his having violated the Eighth Article of the Continental Association, by gaming: the said *Moore* was cited, and appeared before the Committee convened *February 23*, 1775. The testimony of a witness, as well as the confession of the accused, convinced the Committee that the charge was well founded; but Mr. *Moore* gave such evidence of his penitence, and intention to observe the Association strictly for the future, and alleging, moreover, that he was not thoroughly aware of the extent of the prohibition contained in that article, that the Committee think it proper to readmit him into the number of friends to the publick cause, till a second transgression.

It need scarcely be added, that this mitigation of the punishment prescribed in the Eleventh Article, proceeds from a desire to distinguish penitent and submissive, from refractory and obstinate offenders.

FRANCIS TAYLOR, Clerk.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BOSTON TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK, DATED MARCH 12, 1775.

Last *Monday* Doctor *Warren* delivered an Oration against the effects of Standing Armies in free Governments, &c. There was a prodigious concourse of people present, and amongst them, in the most conspicuous part of the house, about forty Officers. The oration was spirited, yet free from particular reflections on mercenary Troops.

The red-coated gentry behaved with tolerable decency till after the Doctor had finished; when, taking exception at the words of the vote that was put for the appointment of an orator for the next year, one of them cried out *fie! fie!*—This exclamation was seconded by two or three others; and the people thinking that it was the cry of fire, great confusion was occasioned; many of the women jumped out of the windows, and much mischief would have ensued, had not the gentlemen in the desk very strenuously exerted themselves to restore quiet, which, after some time, they effected.

The pronouncing this oration must be construed as a publick affront to Mr. *Gage* in both his stations—as General of the Army and Governour of the Province. In the first, as it was a reflection, in general, on Standing Armies in time of peace; and in the other, as it was in a Town Meeting, held directly contrary to an Act of Parliament; to enforce which, His Excellency came to *Boston*. Nor is it a small proof of the spirit of the inhabitants, who, in defiance of a Fleet and Army, with the muzzles of their guns at their doors, dared to tell them that they were an illegal body of men, and the tools of tyrants.

We had a most extraordinary exhibition here last *Thursday*. As the populace of *Boston* had thought fit to repeal the tarring and feathering act, the King's Troops have thought fit to revive the said statute; and in consequence of such a determination, gave us a specimen of a *Royal mob*. The Soldiers have been encouraged by their Officers to take every method of tricking the unwary. An honest countryman, on *Wednesday*, was inquiring for a firelock; a Soldier heard him, and told him, he had one which he would sell. Away goes the ignoramus, and after paying the Soldier very honestly for the gun (which was only an old one, without a lock) was walking off, when half a dozen seized him, and hurried the poor fellow away under guard, for breach of the Act against trading with the Soldiers; and after keeping him in duress all night, the next morning, instead of carrying him before a Magistrate, who, on complaint, would have fined him, (as has been the case in several instances,) the Officers condemned the man, without a hearing, to be tarred and feathered; which was accordingly executed. After stripping him naked and covering him with tar and feathers, they mounted him upon a one-horse truck, and surrounding the



truck with a guard of twenty Soldiers with fixed bayonets, accompanied with all the drums and fifes of the Regiment, (Forty-Seventh) and a number of Officers, Negroes, Sailors, &c., exhibited him as a spectacle through the principal streets of the Town. They fixed a label on the man's back, on which was wrote, "*AMERICAN Liberty, or a specimen of Democracy;*" and, to add to the insult, they played *Yankee doodle*.

O Britain! How art thou fallen! Is it not enough that *British Troops*, who were once the terror of *France* and *Spain*, should be made the instruments of butchering thy children; but must they descend also to exploits too infamously dirty for any but the meanest of the mobility to practise? What a wretched figure will the *Boston* expedition hereafter make in the historick page!

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN VIRGINIA, DATED MARCH 13, 1775.

I did myself the pleasure of writing you the first of this month, and then sent you a copy of such part of the Earl of *Dunmore's* Letter to Lord *Dartmouth* as had been laid before both Houses of Parliament; since which time I have had an opportunity of knowing the secret part of his Lordship's Letter which was not laid before Parliament; and as it particularly marks his character as Governor of *Virginia*, in reference to the good people of that brave Colony, and will, I trust, be so instructive to the Members of their House of Burgesses as never hereafter to confide in him, but to consider and treat him as their confirmed enemy, I beg that you will use the best and speediest means to communicate it to them, as I pledge myself to you for the truth of the information.

After Lord *Dunmore* had given his uncandid representation of *Virginia*, as transmitted to you on the first of this month, he proceeded warmly to recommend to Lord *Dartmouth* that some Men-of-War should be stationed in *Chesapeake Bay*, to prevent the *Virginians* from carrying on any external trade except with this Country; and that all communication might be cut off between them and the Northern Colonies, he advised that some Sloops or Tenders should be placed in *Chester* and *Sassafras Rivers*; and as he observed that the Council as well as the House of Burgesses, and almost every person of fortune and consideration in the Colony, except the Attorney General, were as deeply engaged as the inferiour planters in factious associations and plans of resistance, great outrages and disorders would soon take place among them, from a want of a regular distribution of law; and therefore he strongly urged the King's Ministers, as a sure method to increase these disorders, and which, in the end, he asserted, could not fail to produce Petitions from the rich praying the protection of this Legislature, that His Majesty would, without delay, order himself and all the other Executive Officers of *Virginia*, to withdraw from thence.

This, I faithfully assure you, is the secret counsel of Lord *Dunmore*. Can you, therefore, my dear sir, wonder that Administration persevere in their ruinous and despotick system of *American* politicks? Be you firm, however, in your wise Resolutions of Non-Importation, Non-Exportation, and Non-Consumption, and to these add an immediate accomplishment in the art of war, and in the end you will establish the rights of *America* upon an immovable basis. But you must first make the luxurious proud people of this Kingdom feel the want of your Commerce and affection, before they will do you any degree of justice.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN MARYLAND, DATED MARCH 13, 1775.

I wrote you by Captain *Falconer*, since which some very material changes have happened in the state of political affairs. The Minister, finding a general discontent take place on account of the measures pursuing with regard to *America*, and in order to save the Stocks, which began to give way, gave out that he intended to extend the olive branch to the people on your side the water. The very sound exhilarated the minds of the people here; the Funds immediately recovered, and the people began to conclude that every thing would soon be settled in an amicable way. And what was this olive branch? Nothing but the

motion, which will have reached you before this comes to hand. A motion which, at first, nobody could comprehend; a motion couched in such cabalistical terms, on purpose to confound the understandings of mankind, but which, when understood, was found to contain nothing of the least healing tendency, only calculated to separate and divide the Colonies from each other. *Divide et impera* is an old adage, and now they are in hopes of practising it with success amongst you. The Ministry, indeed, begin to plume themselves already on their success in this way. The proceedings at *New-York*, and the last advices from General *Gage*, flatter them exceedingly that the seeds of dissension are growing very fast even in the *New-England* Provinces. How far this is true, a little time will discover; in the meantime military operations are carrying on with the same zeal as before. The Troops are to be sent, and a Bill is ordered into Parliament for restraining not only the *New-England* Fishery, but another to stop the Trade of all the Colonies except *New-York*, *North-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, which they hope will declare on the side of Government, in consideration of which particular indulgences will be granted them. Whatever these indulgences may be, I have no doubt they will only be of a temporary nature till Government has got a firm footing.

I have told you before that your salvation is in your own hands, if you will be but firm and unanimous. You have but to adhere closely to your Non-Importation and Non-Exportation Agreement. If there was danger before of your disunion, I cannot help hoping that this last restraining Bill will come in aid, in order to link you closer to each other. It comes now to be tried what materials you are made of. If you have not virtue enough to withstand this attack, you will become a scorn and a laughing stock to all the world, a reproach to human nature; and depend upon it the burdens that will be laid upon you will be in proportion to the temper you have shown to resist them. I shall not attempt to point out any particular modes of proceeding; these, I trust, will be concerted with wisdom, firmness, and resolution. Be assured the good of the community at large is not the object certain persons in power have in view; they mean to make you beasts of burden, or, as the Congress have very properly expressed it, "hewers of wood and drawers of water;" but I hope you are all of their mind in this respect. You perhaps imagine that Government is nothing more than a power delegated in a few for the good of the whole. If you think that this is the opinion of the people in power, you are very much mistaken; they think that the community at large are to labour, toil, and sweat, in order to maintain a few great people wallowing in luxury, idleness, extravagance, and all manner of debauchery. If the present measures succeed, depend upon it you will have tax-gatherers in various shapes swarming in upon you in abundance. If you patiently submit, there will be none to pity you.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MARCH 13, 1775.

The people in general are much alarmed at the measures now pursuing; and I have no doubt that when they come to feel the effects of your Non-Import and Non-Export Resolutions, their resentment will break forth with great violence. The City of *London* and all the great trading and manufacturing Cities and Towns, are exceedingly averse to the present proceedings, and apprehensive of the worst consequences.

The Ministry are sensible of and declare the dangers and difficulties of their undertaking. But they are encouraged to the attempt by a firm persuasion of success in corrupting *New-York* and intimidating *New-England*. Did they believe the *Americans* would be united and firm, I am sure they would not venture upon coercive measures. Even as it is, should the seduction of the one and the intimidation of the other not produce a general relaxation of your Resolutions, they will be disposed to accommodate rather than risk a serious and determined opposition. For you must remember that the resolute face they put on is merely on supposition that if pushed you will submit. But should the whole Continent appear firm and determined, should their seducing and intimidating schemes prove abortive, depend upon it that they must submit to



what you ask. Their plans are calculated for immediate operation, and one year's perseverance on your part will totally and entirely defeat them. I have the most absolute trust that the virtue of our countrymen will support a resolute resistance, and I therefore look forward to your success with entire confidence. The Ministerial language is, the unconditional submission of the Colonies. But if you are firm, faithful, and united, the unconditional submission will be theirs.

By whatever means you can keep the Assembly of *New-York* from deserting, even by out-bidding the Ministry, it will be worth the purchase; for nothing will more effectually damp their hopes than the declaration of the Assembly of that Province in favour of the Congress. They have therefore despatched emissaries to exert every effort of corruption there by bribery and places for individuals, endowments for the College, and the establishment of Royal Docks, Arsenal, &c., in the City.

A reinforcement of two thousand men at the utmost is to be sent to General *Gage*, and four Regiments to *New-York*. They will probably arrive the latter end of *May*.

The Bill for prohibiting the Commerce and Fishery of the *New-England* Provinces has passed the Commons, and leave is given to bring in a Bill to extend the prohibition to all the Colonies, *New-York*, *North-Carolina*, and *Georgia* excepted. They are determined you shall live within yourselves, which, if you can effect, your triumph is secure.

#### BALTIMORE (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation at *Baltimore*, the 13th of *March*, 1775. Present, forty-eight Members.

Captain *Henry Tickle*, of the Brig *Henry* and *Joseph*, from *Liverpool*, addressed to Mr. *George Woolsey*, appeared and reported on oath his cargo, consisting of five thousand one hundred and thirty-three bushels of *British* Salt, six half-crates of Earthen-ware, and one hogshead of Rum for ship-stores; and further made oath "that he had not broken bulk or landed any part of his cargo since his arrival in this Province."

Captain *George Woolsey*, the Consignee of the afore-said Vessel, made oath that he hath not, nor hath any person by his order, or with his privity or consent, unladen or taken out any part of the cargo imported in said Vessel since her arrival.

Ordered, That notice be given to Dr. *John Stevenson*, that the Committee requests his attendance with Captain *William Moat*, of the Brig *Sally*, at two o'clock, P. M.

The Committee proceeded to consider the state of the Brig *Henry* and *Joseph*, and of the cargo imported in the same.

Resolved unanimously, That the said cargo be not landed.

Upon application made by Captain *Woolsey* to the Committee, for leave to reship the cargo of the Brig *Henry* and *Joseph*; and on Captain *Woolsey* his engaging that the said cargo shall not be landed in any part of *North America*, between *Nova-Scotia* and *Georgia*; and on his further engagement, that the master of the Vessel in which the said cargo is to be reshipped, shall engage on oath, that he will not (unless compelled to do so by stress of weather) land the same within the parts before limited; and that he will produce a certificate from the place where the said cargo shall be landed, of the landing of the same:

Resolved, That leave be given agreeable to the above.

Doctor *John Stevenson*, with Captain *William Moat*, attending agreeable to notice;

The Chairman acquainted them that information was made to the Committee, that the cargo of Salt imported in the Brig *Sally*, or part thereof, had been unladen, contrary to the Resolution of the Committee made the sixth instant.

Doctor *Stevenson* declared that, apprehending the Resolution entered into by the Committee on the sixth instant did not prohibit him from shipping the Salt to any other part of this Province, or *Virginia*, he had, in consequence of such opinion, shipped a quantity on board four Bay crafts, to be disposed of for his account; that no part of the said Salt had been landed in *Baltimore* County; that he

will deliver into the Committee the names of the skippers of the several crafts, and will return an account of the proceeds of the Salt, and the same will freely give for the relief of the poor of *Boston*; and that the remainder of the Salt now on board the said Brig shall not be landed in any part of *America*, between *Nova-Scotia* and *Georgia*: And Captain *William Moat*, having declared on oath, that the remainder of the Salt now on board the Brig shall not be landed within the limits aforesaid:

Resolved by the Committee, that the said apology be accepted.

Information being made to the Committee, that many misrepresentations of the proceedings of the Continental Congress had been made, with a view to lessen the influence which the Association drawn, entered into, and recommended by them, justly merited, and had almost universally obtained; and it appearing to the Committee that such misrepresentations are made by artful, designing, and wicked men, to divide the people, and defeat the measures now wisely pursued for the preservation of *American* liberty:

Resolved unanimously, That it is the duty of this Committee, and of every member thereof, and that we will collectively and severally persevere to carry strictly into execution the Association of the Continental Congress, and enforce an observance of the same; and that any attempt to defeat such purpose will, with its author, be exposed to the publick.

The Congress, by the Third Article of Association, having recommended the disuse of all *East-India* Teas; the Committee request that their Constituents, in their several families, will strictly adhere to this resolution; and, however difficult the disuse of any article which custom has rendered familiar, and to many almost necessary, may be, yet they are induced to hope the ladies will cheerfully acquiesce in this self-denial, and thereby evince to the world a love to their friends, posterity, and Country.

A very extraordinary arrangement having been lately made in the Magistracy of this County, the Committee reflecting on the conclusions which may probably be drawn from it in distant places to the disadvantage of the gentlemen superseded, cheerfully embrace the opportunity afforded by the present meeting, to testify in favour of their conduct while they were in office. From personal acquaintance, we know them to have been irreproachable in private, faithful and impartial in publick life; and deservedly entitled to the thanks of the whole County, for the conscientious discharge of the trust reposed in them.

Resolved, therefore, unanimously, That this Committee ought, and we hereby do, in our own names, and in the names of our constituents, sincerely thank those worthy gentlemen, whose abrupt dismission, with all the circumstances attending it, does them the greatest honour. They return to a private station with the general approbation of the County, and the pleasing satisfaction of having honourably acquitted themselves of their obligations during their continuance in office. Their dismission is a real loss; it is the more to be regretted as, from the manner of it, we can hardly expect that any of equal worth and character will hereafter be prevailed on to undertake the troublesome, unprofitable employment, now rendered distasteful to men of independent spirit and firmness; and evidently exposing them to unmerited insult.

CHARLES RIDGELY, *Chairman*.

A true copy from the minutes.

ROBERT ALEXANDER, *Sec'y pro tem*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN HARFORD COUNTY, IN MARYLAND, TO HIS FRIEND IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MARCH 13, 1775.

I was last week at *Baltimore*, where I was witness to a manœuvre in Government which has greatly astonished and alarmed the people. It is nothing less than almost a total revolution in the Magistracy, which, we hear, is to be executed throughout the Province. The reason of this unprecedented stretch of power is now easily understood, the Magistrates of this Province being, in general, firmly attached to the liberties of their Country, and resolved strictly to adhere to the determination of the Congress.



Those of *Baltimore County* were men of firm and independent spirits, having nothing to hope, and nothing to fear from Government, and were highly acceptable to the people for their faithful and unwearied attendance on public business. During the sitting of Court, which was last week, a rumour was spread abroad that a new commission was expected, and some of the old Magistrates were said to be dismissed, and a set of men introduced in their places, the very mentioning of whose names was looked upon as a burlesque on Magistracy. The commission, however, was produced in Court, and read, when it was found that nine of the oldest and best Magistrates were left out, and eleven others named, some of whom had never been heard of by the people, and others but too well known for their uniform opposition to every measure that has been adopted for the preservation of *American* freedom. The astonishment, contempt, and indignation, which were visible in the countenance of all present, gave disagreeable apprehensions lest some violence should succeed; but temperate resentment was adopted, and will be pursued.

No reason was alleged for such a violent insult on the Bench, nor could at first be conjectured. The Magistrates who were thus disgracefully dismissed had been earnestly solicited to engage in the business, and often refused, but at length, out of respect to the Governour, and desirous that the public peace and good Government might be maintained, they were prevailed on to act, and accordingly executed their trust with great fidelity, much to the satisfaction of the people, and with evident detriment to their own private affairs. The affront that was designed has totally failed of its intended effect; for it was soon known that the honour of their dismissal was procured by the vilest means of a contemptible junto in *Baltimore Town*, who are incurably inimical to the rights of *Americans*, and the veriest tools of Government. Their number and characters are exceedingly trifling; but they have found means, by the lowest sycophantism, to attach themselves to men who have the ear of our too easy Governour, and by the basest calumnies and suggestions, have brought about this change so irritating to the people. The better to conceal their insidious design, some of the good old Magistrates were permitted to keep their stations a little longer, till the tyros should be fixed securely in their seats; then it was not doubted but they were to follow their brethren. But these gentlemen, seeing through the flimsy veil, with a proper and becoming spirit rejected the bait, and nobly threw up their commissions, refusing to countenance such unworthy treatment of their brethren, or associate with men whose political principles they detested.

Two of the youngest Justices in the old commission were made of the quorum in the new; and whether they were childishly tickled with this trifling distinction, or had been tampered with, is not certainly known; but, to the mortification and grief of their friends, they were prevailed on to qualify, by which they have shaken their credit greatly with their countrymen. They were, indeed, men of merit, and esteemed by the people, and inadvertently engaged in this dirty business, not discovering the real design of the manœuvre, or adverting to the general characters of the men who were placed by their sides. It is thought they will yet resign, and thus regain the confidence of their countrymen; for the refusing or accepting of a seat on this courtly Bench is now, very justly, made a criterion, by which to know a man's political principles. He that refuses, acts consistently, and exhibits an unequivocal proof of his unshaken attachment to his Country; he that accepts cannot hope that any declarations of his own will wipe off a well-founded suspicion that he is at least a negative character.

I may, perhaps, by another opportunity, give you a specifick description of the individuals who compose this right worshipful group. Indeed, they are in general below contempt, having no respect or authority among the people, and I hear, are daily insulted in the streets, and lampooned from all quarters. Can it be expected that men who are the contempt and detestation of the people, will ever be able to keep peace and good order in the community? These are the blessed effects of that arbitrary spirit of Government which, issuing from a polluted source, have descended with increased contaminations to the remotest departments of office.

## DELAWARE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, March 13, 1775.

The House met at *New-Castle*, pursuant to their adjournment, [on the 26th of *October* last,] and adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, March 14, 1775.

Messrs. *George Read*, *Thomas McKean*, and *John Clark*, Members of this House, who were absent at the beginning of this session, now appeared in the House, took and subscribed the usual qualifications, and took their seats accordingly.

Mr. *McKean* informed the House, that the late Representatives of the Freemen of this Government met in Convention at *New-Castle*, on the first and second days of *August* last, and among other things nominated and appointed the Honourable *Cesar Rodney*, Esq., *George Read*, Esquire, and himself, or any two of them, Deputies or Delegates on the part and behalf of this Government, in a General Continental Congress, then proposed to be held at the City of *Philadelphia*, on the first *Monday* in *September* following, or at any other time or place that might be generally agreed on, then and there to consult and advise with the Deputies from the other Colonies, and to determine upon all such prudent and lawful measures as might be judged most expedient for the Colonies immediately and unitedly to adopt, in order to obtain relief for an oppressed people, and the redress of our general grievances; the proceedings of which Convention he delivered in at the table, and the same were, by order, read.

He then proceeded to inform the House, that they, the said *Cesar Rodney*, *George Read*, and himself, repaired to the City of *Philadelphia*, according to appointment, and that the Congress had agreed to the several particulars contained in a printed pamphlet, intituled, "The Journal of the Proceedings of the Congress held at *Philadelphia*, *September* 5th, 1774," and certified to be a genuine and exact copy of the original by *Charles Thomson*, their Secretary, which he delivered in at the table for the perusal and consideration of the House.

Ordered, That the same be read.

And the same was done accordingly.

Resolved, That the same be detained under consideration till to-morrow morning.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

Wednesday, March 15, A. M.

The House resumed the consideration of the Proceedings of the late Convention, and of the Continental Congress; and after due deliberation,

Resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That this House do approve of the conduct of the late Representatives of this Government in their said Convention, and of their appointment of the said *Cesar Rodney*, *Thomas McKean*, and *George Read*, as Deputies on the part and behalf of this Government.

Resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That this House do approve of the Proceedings of the late Congress held at the City of *Philadelphia*, and of the conduct of the gentlemen appointed Deputies to attend the same on the part of this Government.

On motion,

Resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That the thanks of this House be given to all the Members of the said Congress, and in particular to the gentlemen who represented this Government at the same, for their faithful and judicious discharge of the trust in them reposed.

Ordered, That the Minutes and Journal of the said Convention and Congress be deposited amongst the files and Minutes of this House.

On motion,

Resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That this House will make an allowance to the gentlemen who represented this Government at the Congress, for their expense in attending the service aforesaid.

On motion,

Ordered, That Messrs. *McKinly*, *Robinson*, and *Ridgely*, be a Committee for that purpose, and make report of their proceedings this afternoon.



On motion of Mr. *Ridgely*,

That a Committee be appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to prohibit the importation of Slaves into this Government,

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Ridgely*, *Read*, and *Clowes* be a Committee for that purpose.

Thursday, March 16, 1775.

The Committee appointed to consider of an allowance to be made to the gentlemen who attended the late Congress at *Philadelphia*, on behalf of this Government, for their expenses during the sitting thereof, now report to the House that they have considered the same, and are of opinion that the sum of Sixty Pounds be allowed to each of the said gentlemen, for their expenses on that service.

*Resolved*, *nemine contradicente*, That the House do approve of the same, and that Orders be drawn by the Speaker on the Trustees of the several Loan-Offices of this Government for the same, according to the directions of the Proportion Act.

On motion,

*Resolved*, *nemine contradicente*, That the Honourable *Cæsar Rodney*, Speaker, *Thomas McKean*, and *George Read*, Esquires, be and they are hereby appointed and authorized to represent this Government at the *American Congress*, proposed to be held at the City of *Philadelphia*, on the tenth day of *May* next, or at any other time and place, with full power to them or any two of them, together with the Delegates from the other *American Colonies*, to concert and agree upon such further measures as shall appear to them best calculated for the accommodation of the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, on a Constitutional foundation, which the House most ardently wish for, and that they report their proceedings to this House at their next meeting.

Friday, March 17, 1775.

On motion,

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Evans*, *Ridgely*, *McKinly*, *Hall*, and *Rench*, be a Committee to prepare Instructions for the gentlemen appointed to represent this Government at an *American Congress* to be held at *Philadelphia*, in *May* next.

Monday, March 20, 1775.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter which he had received from three of the Colony Agents in *London*, which was, by order, read, and ordered to be transcribed upon the Minutes of the House; and follows in these words, viz :

London, December 24, 1774.

SIR: This is just to inform you, that having received the Petition of the General Congress to the King, we immediately communicated the same to Lord *Dartmouth*, Secretary of State for the *American Department*, as the regular official method, and that by which only we could have expectation of obtaining an answer. His Lordship this day informed us, that he had laid the same before the King; that His Majesty had been pleased to receive it very graciously, and to say it was of so great importance that he should, as soon as they met, lay it before his two Houses of Parliament. We can now only add, that we are in great respect, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servants,

W. BOLLAN,  
B. FRANKLIN,  
ARTHUR LEE.

To the Honourable the Speaker of the Assembly of the three Lower Counties on *Delaware*.

Tuesday, March 21, 1775.

A Petition from several Inhabitants of *New-Castle County*, and two Petitions from a number of the Inhabitants of *Kent County*, praying the House to pass a Bill for establishing a Militia, were presented to the Chair, and by order read the first time.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the Counties of *NEW-CASTLE, KENT, and SUSSEX*, in General Assembly met, 14th March, 1775.

The Petition of the Inhabitants, freemen of *Kent County*, most humbly sheweth :

That we conceive a well-regulated Militia, composed of the gentlemen Freeholders and other free men, to be not only a Constitutional right, but the most natural strength and most stable security of a free Government, from the exercise of which a wise people will not excuse themselves even in time of peace.

That, happily secure in the affectionate protection of our Mother Country, we have for some time past been carelessly negligent of Military art and discipline, and are, therefore, the more exposed to the insult and ravages of our natural enemies at this unhappy time, when we have lost our interest in the esteem and affection of our Parent State.

We, therefore, pray your Honours to take our case into your most serious consideration, and by passing an Act of Assembly establishing a Militia throughout this Government, grant us relief in the premises, and your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Thursday, March 23, 1775.

The Doorkeeper informed the House that Mr. Secretary waited at the door.

*Ordered*, That he be admitted; and he was admitted accordingly, and presented to the Chair a written Message from his Honour the Governour, with copies of two Proclamations, referred to in the same.

On motion,

*Ordered*, That the same be read; which was done accordingly.

*Ordered*, That his Honour the Governour's Message be transcribed on the Minutes; and follows in these words, to wit :

*A Message from the Governour to the Assembly.*

GENTLEMEN: At your last sessions in *October*, I informed you that the jurisdiction of this Government had been extended to the boundary lines now run and marked by Commissioners appointed by the proprietors of *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland*, and recommended it to you to establish such divisional lines in the Counties as the settlement of the new boundary might require; but soon after your last adjournment, I was obliged, by His Majesty's commands, signified to me in a letter from the Secretary of State, by my Proclamation, dated the 2d of *November*, to supersede that which I had issued on the 15th of *September*, for the above purpose of extending the jurisdiction until His Majesty's pleasure should be further known therein.

I have now, gentlemen, the satisfaction to acquaint you, that I have lately been advised by the Right Honourable the Earl of *Dartmouth*, that His Majesty, on further consideration of the matter, is graciously pleased to approve of the arrangement made by my Proclamation of the 15th of *September*, and to permit me to recall that of the 2d of *November*, so that you are now at full liberty to resume the business I recommended to you at your last session.

JOHN PENN.

New-Castle, 23d March, 1775.

Friday, March 24, 1775.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to prohibit the importation of Slaves into this Government, now laid one on the table, which they submitted to the correction of the House.

On motion, by order, the same was read the first time.

The Committee appointed to prepare Instructions for the gentlemen appointed by the House to represent this Government at the *American Congress*, proposed to be held at *Philadelphia* in *May* next, now report, that they have essayed a draught of the same, which they laid on the table for the inspection and correction of the House.

On motion, by order,

The same was read the first time.

On motion, by special order,

The Bill to prohibit the importation of Slaves into this Government, was read the second time, paragraph by paragraph, and, after sundry amendments, passed the House, and was ordered to be engrossed.

Saturday, March 25, 1775.

The engrossed Bill to prohibit the importation of Slaves into this Government, was read and compared.



On motion,

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Ridgely*, *Clowes*, and *Clark*, be a Committee to wait upon his Honour the Governour, with the Bill to prohibit the importation of Slaves into this Government, for his perusal and concurrence.

Monday, March 27, 1775.

The Doorkeeper informed the House that Mr. Secretary waited at the door.

*Ordered*, That he be admitted; and he was admitted accordingly, and informed the House that his Honour the Governour, by him, returned the Bill to prohibit the importation of Slaves into this Government, to which his Honour cannot give his assent.

Wednesday, March 29, 1775.

On motion,

The draught of Instructions for the gentlemen appointed by the House to represent this Government at an *American* Congress, proposed to be held at *Philadelphia* in *May* next, was, by order, read the second time, paragraph by paragraph, agreed to, and ordered to be transcribed on the minutes, and follows in these words, to wit:

*Instructions to the Deputies appointed by this Government to meet in General Congress on the tenth day of MAY next.*

1. That in every act to be done in Congress, you studiously avoid, as you have heretofore done, every thing disrespectful or offensive to our most gracious Sovereign, or in any measure invasive of his just rights and prerogative.

2. That you do adhere to those claims and resolutions made and agreed upon at the last meeting of the Congress; yet, for the restoration of that harmony with the Parent State which is so essential to the security and happiness of the whole *British* Empire, and which is so ardently wished for by this House, you may, on your parts, yield such contested claims of right as do not apparently belong to the Colonists, or are not essentially necessary to their well being.

3. If His Majesty should be pleased graciously to appoint any person or persons to treat with the Colonies on the present unhappy disputes subsisting between them and the Parent State, you, or any of you the Congress shall nominate, may treat with such person or persons on behalf of the inhabitants of this Government.

4. If the Congress, when formed, shall not, in every question to be voted by Provinces, allow this Government an equal vote with any other Province or Government on this Continent, you are decently but firmly to urge the right of this Government to an equal voice in Congress with the other Colonies.

The House adjourned till the fifth day of *June* next.

#### PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL.

At a Council held at *Philadelphia*, on *Monday*, 13th *March*, 1775:

Present, the Hon. *John Penn*, Esquire, Governour, *Benjamin Chew* and *Edward Shippen*, Junior, Esquires.

The Governour laid before the Board a Letter that he received last night by the Packet from the Right Honourable the Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, dated the 7th of *January*, 1775, which was read, and follows in these words, viz:

Whitehall, January 7, 1775.

SIR: I am very much obliged to you for the early communication of the proceedings of the General Congress.

These proceedings are of a very extraordinary nature, and it is with concern I see, by your letter of the 6th of *December*, that the Resolution for Non-Importation has been so generally adopted in the Colony under your government. Such measures and proceedings are but ill calculated to restore peace and union between *Great Britain* and the Colonies. But though they may in the moment provoke the vengeance of Government, I will hope that we may yet, in the consideration of the business, be led to some proposition that may ultimately bring about a happy accommodation upon some general constitutional plan.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Your letter of the 3d of *November*, No. 5, states the case respecting the boundary line between *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland*, in a very different light from that in which it was represented to me. And the King, confiding in your assertion that the extension of the jurisdiction of *Pennsylvania* up to the line settled and marked by the Commissioners, had been so far from having the effect to disturb the peace of his subjects, and occasioning violence and bloodshed, that it had a quite contrary tendency, and given universal satisfaction, is graciously pleased to approve the arrangement made by your Proclamation of the 15th of *September*, and permit you to recall that issued on the 2d of *November*.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

Deputy Governour *Penn*.

The Board, taking the latter part of the above Letter into consideration, were of opinion that it would be advisable for the Governour to issue a Proclamation agreeable to His Majesty's permission, signified in the said Letter, to recall the Governour's Proclamation of the 2d of *November* last. It is accordingly ordered that a draught of a Proclamation be prepared, to be laid before the Board at their next meeting.

Memorandum, March 16, 1775.

The Governour this day wrote to Governour *Eden* the following Letter, on the subject of the Proclamation to be issued respecting the boundary between *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland*:

Philadelphia, March 16, 1775.

SIR: I make no doubt you have been informed, since your return from *England*, that in the month of *September* last I issued a Proclamation for extending the jurisdiction of *Pennsylvania* and the Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent*, and *Sussex*, up to the boundary lines run and marked by the Commissioners appointed to that service, and that I afterwards revoked that Proclamation by a subsequent one of the 2d of *November*, in consequence of His Majesty's orders, signified to me by the Secretary of State, "that I should desist from issuing any orders for extending the jurisdiction of *Pennsylvania* beyond those places where it had been usually exercised, until His Majesty's further pleasure should be made known therein." I am now to inform you that I have received a letter from the Earl of *Dartmouth* by the last Packet, advising me that His Majesty, "on further consideration, is graciously pleased to approve the arrangement made by my Proclamation of the 15th of *September*, and to permit me to recall that of the 2d of *November*;" and I propose immediately to issue a new Proclamation, to make known His Majesty's pleasure in this matter, and to enforce that of the 15th of *September*.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN PENN.

To His Excellency *Robert Eden*, Esquire, Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of *Maryland*, *Annapolis*.

#### BOSTON TOWN-MEETING.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, on *Monday*, *March* 13th, 1775, upon a motion made and seconded,

*Voted*, That the Committee of Correspondence be directed to draw up an exact state of the behaviour of the Troops under the command of General *Gage*, and of the Navy under the command of Admiral *Graves*, going as far back as they shall judge proper; and also carefully to observe their conduct in future, taking their information upon oath before two Justices of the Peace, *quorum unus*, always giving legal notice to the persons accused of disorderly proceedings, and report to the Town.

Attest: WILLIAM COOPER, Town Clerk.

#### MEETING OF THE INHABITANTS OF HACKENSACK, NEW-JERSEY.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Precinct of *Hackensack*, in the County of *Bergen* and Province of *New-Jersey*, held pursuant to an Act of Assembly of the



said Province, on *Tuesday*, the 14th of *March*, in the year of our *Lord* 1775,

THOMAS MOOR, Esq., *Chairman*.

This Meeting being heartily grieved at the unhappy disputes now subsisting between *Great Britain* and her *American Colonies*, and earnestly wishing that the present misunderstandings may be removed, and such a reconciliation take place as may be consistent with the dignity of *Great Britain* and the true interest of the Colonies; and being unanimously of opinion that it is the duty of every loyal subject to adopt and encourage the most lenient measures, which may tend to heal and not inflame the present differences:

We, therefore, in order to contribute what is in our power to this salutary purpose, and to show our loyalty to our King, and love to our Country, do *Resolve*,

1. That we are and will continue to be loyal subjects to His Majesty King *George*, and that we will venture our lives and fortunes to support the dignity of his Crown.

2. That we disavow all riotous mobs whatsoever.

3. That by humbly petitioning the Throne, is the only salutary means we can think of to remove our present grievances.

4. That we have not, nor (for the future,) will not, be concerned in any case whatever with any unconstitutional measures.

5. That we will support His Majesty's Civil Officers in all their lawful proceedings.

*Signed by thirty-seven Inhabitants.*

COMMITTEE OF FREEHOLD, (MONMOUTH COUNTY,) NEW-JERSEY.

March 14, 1775, P. M.

The Committee of Observation for the Township of *Freehold*, in the County of *Monmouth*, *New-Jersey*, have made repeated applications to the inhabitants of the Township of *Shrewsbury*, earnestly requesting and exhorting them to comply with the instructions of the late *American Congress*, in constituting for themselves a Committee of Observation, that they might conspire with their brethren in the other Towns belonging to the County, in executing the Resolves of said Congress; but, although they have entertained hopes, notwithstanding their former opposition, that they would do it at their stated annual town-meeting, they are, at this late hour, informed, that the said annual meeting of *Shrewsbury* is broke up without a Committee being chosen, or any one step taken whereby the least disposition is discovered of their being inclined to adopt the Resolutions of said Congress. They think it, therefore, their duty, however painful the declaration, to bear publick testimony against them.

And we do now unanimously enter into the following Resolve, viz: That from and after this day, during our continuance as a Committee, (unless they shall turn from the evil of their ways, and testify their repentance by adopting the measures of the Congress,) we will esteem and treat them, the said inhabitants of *Shrewsbury*, as enemies to their King and Country, and deserters from the common cause of true freedom; and we will hereafter break off all dealings and connection with them while they continue their opposition. We do furthermore recommend the same conduct towards them to our constituents, and all others; earnestly hoping it may be a means of reclaiming those deluded people to their duty and interest, whom we shall always be pleased to receive and treat as returning prodigals. Signed by order of the Committee,

NATHANIEL SCUDDER, *Clerk*.

MEETING OF FREEHOLDERS, &c., IN NEW-WINDSOR, (ULSTER COUNTY,) NEW-YORK.

March 14, 1775.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other inhabitants of the Precinct of *New-Windsor*, in the County of *Ulster*, and Province of *New-York*, legally convened by mutual consent, in order to elect a Committee of Observation, and deliberate on other matters relative to our political welfare, this 14th day of *March*, 1775.—Then proceeded, and chose Mr. *George Denniston*, Chairman, and the following persons for the above named Committee, viz: Mr. *George*

*Denniston*, Mr. *Robert Cross*, Mr. *Joseph Belknap*, Mr. *Francis Mandiville*, Mr. *Nuac Shutts*, and Mr. *Hezekiah White*; afterwards did solemnly agree to, and with each other, in observing the following Resolutions ourselves, and, as far as our influence may extend, recommend them to the observation of others, viz:

*Resolved 1st, nem. con.*, That we acknowledge no other Sovereign or Potentate on earth to be our lawful and liege Sovereign, save His Majesty King *George* the Third, of legal descent from that illustrious House of *Brunswick*, which was, by the kind providence of *God*, established to sway the *British* sceptre on just and equitable principles, but more emphatically described and known by the name of *Revolution principles*.

*Resolved 2dly, nem. con.*, That we will yield to none in point of affection and loyalty to our most gracious Sovereign, but will each one for himself, when thereunto legally called, (even though to the most distant and remote parts of His Majesty's Empire,) venture our lives and properties in defence of our Sovereign's person, family, and Government, when exercised on the above-named principles.

It is with the greatest regret, and deepest concern of heart, we conceive a plan adopted and invariably pursued for a number of years past, by the *British* Parliament, for enslaving us, by levying taxes on us without our consent, and declaring they (the Parliament) are fully vested with power to make laws obligatory on us, in all cases whatsoever:

*Resolved, therefore, 3dly, nem. con.*, That such declarations and unbounded power assumed, are subversive of our natural and legal rights as *British* subjects; and that we would be far deficient in point of duty to our King and the *British* Constitution, were we to yield a tame submission to them.

But as the wisdom and prudence of the whole Continent hath been called forth in appointing and holding a Continental Congress, in order to state our grievances, and point out the means by which we may be relieved from them:

*Resolved 4thly, nem. con.*, That we do sincerely and willingly accord to the Association entered into by that body, with a full determination to abide by and observe the same, and do unfeignedly thank our worthy Delegates of the Province of *New-York*, in conjunction with the rest of that honourable body, for the care they have taken for the security of our liberties, and the patriotick principles they have exhibited to the world, which will remain more sure and permanent in the annals of *American* history than monuments either of brass or marble erected to their honour and perpetuity of their memory.

And whereas it is agreed in the Seventh Article of the Association, to improve the breed, and increase the number of Sheep:

*Resolved 5thly, nem. con.*, That we will use our best endeavours in promoting so laudable and beneficial an undertaking, and do promise that we will not kill any Sheep under four years old, or procure them to be killed by others; neither will we sell the best of our Sheep to butchers, or others employed by them to purchase, whereby the breed of our Sheep is much injured.

And further, we consider the Freedom of the Press as the great palladium of *English* liberty; therefore we will do all in our power to encourage and support the same. But there is a certain news-printer in *New-York*, named *James Rivington*, who appears to us divested of every principle of honour, truth, or modesty; his papers being filled with pieces replete with falsehoods and mere chicanery, only designed, as we believe, to divide and lead astray the friends of our happy Constitution:

*Resolved, therefore, 6thly, nem. con.*, That we will have no connection or intercourse with said *Rivington*, nor will we purchase any of his publications until we receive sufficient evidence of his sincere repentance; for we do believe he is a Ministerial hireling, an enemy to his Country, and a traitor to the *British* Constitution.

And as a certain pamphlet, signed *A. W.*, *A Farmer*, hath been for some time circulating among us, which is artfully designed to impose on the illiterate and unthinking part of mankind, having a show of plausibility, but the foundation-principles on which it proceeds are notoriously false:



*Resolved, therefore, 7thly, nem. con.,* That the said pamphlet be now publicly burnt in contempt and abhorrence of the author, publisher, and vender of it, at the same time holding them in our estimation as enemies to their Country, with whom no friend to it should have any connection, intercourse, or commerce; well knowing that every shilling of property we put into their hands, we are in a certain proportion enabling them to purchase chains to bind us in slavery. [And said pamphlet was burnt accordingly.]

And further, as we do much esteem the wisdom and prudence of the late Continental Congress held at *Philadelphia*, in *September* and *October* last, as well for their recommending another Congress to be held in *May* next, as for the other important services they have done us:

*Resolved, 8thly, nem. con.,* That we are ready and willing to co-operate with our brethren of the different Towns and Precincts in this County, in choosing a Delegate or Delegates to represent us in the next General Congress, believing that the resolutions and determinations of any man, or body of men on earth, cannot legally divest us of this inherent right and privilege we enjoy as *British* subjects.

*Ordered,* That these Resolves be printed by *John Holt*.  
GEORGE DENNISTON, *Chairman*.

LETTERS FROM PHILADELPHIA, TO MR. RIVINGTON, NEW-YORK.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1775.

What in the name of common sense can make the Whigs exult? Can you find out wherein Lord *North* has flinched? Do you see any prospect of His Majesty's relaxing, applauding the Congress, or being dumbfounded at their proceedings? I am sure I cannot. It is true a number of Merchants in the Trading Cities have petitioned, and they will probably be followed by the Manufacturing Towns; but do they ask a repeal of all the Acts which the Congress have recited as grievances? No: they wish a restoration of peace between the State and its members to take place; but is it likely a lasting harmony can issue from a compliance with all the demands of *America*—by gratifying her petulant humours? If she be now indulged, she will rise in her demands, till there will be no end of them. But if every Act relating to the Colonies should be repealed; if the Parliament should relinquish all claim of power whatever over the Colonies, I declare I should be surprised to see the warm patriots rejoice, although they might perhaps force a superficial smile. They know, and the Tories know full well, that all their consequence is derived from the calamities of this convulsed Country, who, like salamanders, glory in a *fiery* element. 'Tis true, there are great numbers of honest, well-meaning people, who have been so far deluded as perhaps to approve of every act of violence which has been committed; these probably would most sincerely rejoice in an amicable adjustment of the dispute; and they would be told by their leaders it was owing to them that the salvation of their Country was brought about, although a more prudent conduct on our part would have effected it more certainly, and with a thousandth part of the noise and confusion, without creating party strife amongst one another, and without alienating the affections of the Colonists from the best of Sovereigns that ever held the *British* sceptre.

Ambition, and a thirst of power, are dangerous to combat with. Our patriots have in general chosen for their leaders the most violent and zealous; and I cannot persuade myself but that they would sacrifice their Country to their ambitious views. They are elated beyond measure at the thoughts of filling such exalted stations, having usurped not only the Legislative, but the Executive branches of Government, and both of them unlimited and unbounded. They will not, I am confident, part with these precious offices without great reluctance and pain; and they will regret any circumstance that shall deprive them of them. I do not indiscriminately aim at all Committee-men, or all persons who side with them; I only direct my discourse to such as are active in widening the breach, and have had the art or address to make the vulgar believe liberty is the grand object of their pursuit. These are dangerous men, of whom we ought to beware, who have designs, and are

carrying on intrigues unknown, unsuspected but by too few. For my part I shall be happy beyond expression at any step which may check the career of these unskilful pilots, and place men of more ability and more integrity at the helm. Let me most heartily felicitate you on the King's having received the Petition. It will have two good effects. It will convince the world that he is disposed to hear the complaints of his subjects, and give them the weight they may deserve. It will, besides, deprive our Republicans of the pleasure they would take in inveighing against him, which they would certainly have done most bitterly, had he rejected their Petition without a hearing.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1775.

You cannot conceive with what pleasure our Patriots circulated a false report that the mob had pulled down Mr. *Rivington's* house; had cut off the ears of a number of Tories; and that Mr. *Rivington*, in making his escape, had broke his back. This they told with every mark of joy, approaching almost to rapture. But how inconceivably were they dejected, when they found the whole was a *Putnamitish* lie. Their lank, lean visages betrayed the most mortifying affliction, which they have not yet got the better of, although this was almost as improbable as the lie which the same party set on foot respecting the bombardment of *Boston*; yet as blood-thirsty Demagogues were rejoiced at the report, they really believe it true. To what a shift are the sons of licentiousness driven, when nothing but lies will serve to keep alive the dying faction. In *Boston*, the Republican Printers assert, that the Testimony which the loyal Friends gave forth the beginning of this year was wrote ten years ago, and accuse the few Printers of altering the date from 1765 to 1775. This is so bare-faced a *Putnamite*, that it will not gain ground even in the faction. This same party have had generalship enough so far to invert the order of nature and reason as to make a Whig a Tory, and a Tory a Whig; which denominations are now generally adopted. They have done the same by slavery and liberty; and truths by them are called lies, and the most gross and palpable falsehoods secure a credit equal to proofs of holy writ.

Philadelphia, March 16, 1775.

Our *Fanus*, *Tornado*, and the lean *Cassius*, are the triumviri who now support the sons of violence. To these the Patriots look up as naturally as the mariner to the vane, or the philosopher to the thermometer; and they have lately seen a gleam of joy darting from their countenances. At this the whole race of Whigs appeared to rejoice; for they were before indeed in a state of desperation. Like a drowning man, they catch at a straw, but, alas! it will not support them. It is, however, a gross imposition on the publick for them to attempt to make the world believe that it would please them to have the matter finally settled; and you may depend, if their numbers (now fast decreasing) should not fail, they will make some excuse, if possible, to keep up the ball; for when that drops, their whole importance will evaporate in *fumo*.

J. POWNALL, SECRETARY TO THE BOARD FOR TRADE AND PLANTATIONS, TO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOUR COLDEN.

Whitehall, March 15, 1775.

SIR: I am desired by the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, to send to you for your information, the inclosed Extracts of the Minutes of their Lordships' Proceedings upon several Petitions and Memorials referred and presented to them, relative to the pretensions of sundry persons to the District, commonly called *King's* District, and other lands adjacent thereto, in the Province of *New-York*, heretofore claimed by Mr. *Van Rensselaer*.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

J. POWNALL.

Lieutenant Governour Colden.

At a Meeting of His Majesty's Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, *Thursday, February 23, 1775*. Present: Mr. *Jenyns*, Mr. *Keene*, Mr. *Gascoyne*, Mr. *Greville*.

The Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State attends.



Their Lordships took into consideration the state of His Majesty's Province of *New-York*, in respect to the disputes which have arisen in that Province, and the disorders that have prevailed therein, to the disturbance of the publick peace, by means of the claims and pretensions that have been set up on different grounds and titles to Lands in that Province; and the following Papers relative to a tract of Land laying between *Hudson's River* and the boundary line between *New-York* and *Massachusetts-Bay*, heretofore claimed under an ancient Grant by Mr. *Van Rensselaer* and others, were read and considered, viz:

Order of the Lords of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs, dated 26th *August*, 1773, referring to this Board, for their consideration and report, the Petition of Major General *Simon Fraser*, on behalf of himself and sixteen other Officers, praying that they may be included in any grant or order, hereafter to be made in favour of the Captains *Campbell* and *Ourry*, and their associates, of Lands in the Province of *New-York*, so as to entitle the Petitioners to a share thereof, agreeable to the proportions specified in the Royal Proclamation of the 7th of *October*, 1763:

Order of the Lords of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs, dated *August* 26, 1773, referring to this Board, for their consideration and report, the Petition of Lieutenant Colonel *Stewart*, and seven others, in behalf of themselves, and several other Officers, who served in *America* during the late war, setting forth their services, and the expenses they have incurred in prosecuting His Majesty's right to certain Lands claimed by *John Van Rensselaer*, Esq., in *New-York*, and praying for a grant of a tract containing two hundred and fifty thousand acres of the said Land:

Petition of the proprietors of the *Westenhook* Patent to Governour *Tryon*, praying that patent may be granted to each proprietor for such share of the Lands contained in several lots therein specified, as to each of them shall, upon the said division, be allotted, (except out of the lots No. 9, 12, and —, the land formerly granted to *Stephen Bayard* and his associates,) and that the said grants be subject to those conditions to which they are now subject by their present patent:

Petition of *James Savage* in behalf of himself and several hundred others, to the Board, dated *September* 20, 1774, praying the confirmation of their title to certain Lands, therein described, in the Province of *New-York*, which are possessed and have been cultivated by them.

Letter from Mr. *Savage* to the Secretary to this Board, dated *February* 17th, 1775, relative to his Petition, and inclosing—

A Letter to him from *P. V. Schaack*, dated *New-York*, *December* 24th, 1774, on the same subject:

Mr. *Savage's* case:

Memorial of *Samuel Bayard*, in behalf of himself and his associate, praying to be put in quiet possession of their property in a tract of Land called *Westenhook* Patent, by the dismission of Mr. *Savage's* Petition, and the prohibition of all acts of violence by his adherents:

Copy of a Letter from Mr. *Samuel Bayard*, Junior, to *William Knox*, Esquire, dated *June* 11th, 1774, on the same subject.

It appearing, that Mr. *Bayard's* Memorial was not subscribed by any person, and the Secretary having informed the Board that it had been delivered to him this morning by Captain *Williams*, on behalf of the proprietors of the *Westenhook* Patent, who claim a part of the Lands in question: Captain *Williams* was called in; and being asked if he had authority from the proprietors of the *Westenhook* Patent to act for them in their business, he said he had, and accordingly subscribed his name to the Memorial above-mentioned, as their agent. And the Board being informed that Mr. *Savage* attended without, in behalf of the present occupants and possessors of the Lands in question, with Mr. *Ingersoll*, his solicitor and advocate, and also Colonel *McLean*, and others, on behalf of the Officers, whose Petitions are mentioned above, they were called in, and each respectively heard in support of their claims and pretensions.

Colonel *McLean* having stated that the Governour and Council of *New-York* had, in direct disobedience to an order in Council, (made in behalf of the reduced officers,)

confirmed to Mr. *Van Rensselaer*, by patent, Lands which they claimed; and had not taken any notice of a caveat entered by them against such confirmation: Mr. *Tryon*, who was present, desired that a letter to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, containing his reasons for such confirmation might be read; and Lord *Dartmouth* having directed the said letter to be produced, it was accordingly read.

At a Meeting of His Majesty's Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, *Friday*, *February* 24th, 1775. Present: Mr. *Jenyns*, Mr. *Keene*, Mr. *Gascoyne*, Mr. *Greville*.

The Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State attends, and also Mr. *Tryon*, Governour of *New-York*.

Their Lordships made a further progress in the consideration of the business of *New-York*, mentioned in the preceding Minutes; and the parties were further heard in what they had to offer in support of their respective claims and pretensions.

At a Meeting of His Majesty's Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, *Monday*, *February* 29th, 1775. Present: Mr. *Jenyns*, Mr. *Jolliffe*, Mr. *Gascoyne*, Mr. *Keene*.

The Earl of *Dartmouth* took into further consideration the business of *New-York*, mentioned in the two preceding days' Minutes, and the parties interested in the Lands in question attending again; Mr. *Dagge*, solicitor for the reduced Officers, submitted to the Board the following proposal for adjusting the matter in controversy, so far as it regarded the claims of said Officers, and those of the present possessors and occupants, viz:

"That the Petitioners be allowed to locate their Lands, claimed under the Proclamation, upon that tract within the Province of *New-York* which lies between the North and South Manors of *Rensselaer*, bounded on the West by the *Kinderhook* Patent, and on the East by the jurisdiction line between the Provinces of *New-York* and *Massachusetts*, as far as such locations can be made without prejudice to the present occupancies, (now under actual improvement,) allowing to each occupant at the rate of fifty acres of woodland for every two hundred acres of Land under actual improvement, and so in proportion for a greater or lesser number of acres; such parcels of woodland to be as contiguous as possible to each occupancy, to which the same shall be respectively allotted. And if any quantity of woodland shall have been already inclosed by any of the occupants, such woodland, if less than the proportion above-mentioned, shall be reckoned as part of the woodland so directed to be allotted to each occupancy as aforesaid; and if it exceeds the number of fifty acres, in that case no woodland shall be allotted; and that, in so far as the vacant Lands shall fall short of the quantity claimed by the Petitioners, they be allowed to locate double the quantity of such residue in some other part of the Province of *New-York*, or elsewhere in *North America*, not already granted."

Mr. *Savage* having desired, by his solicitor, some time to consider the said proposal, the parties withdrew; and, after a short time, they desired to be called in, when Mr. *Savage* signified his consent to and approbation of the said proposal, in which the Board acquiesced, not thinking that any thing had been stated or proved on the part of the *Westenhook* proprietors, that made them, in this case, objects of the attention of Government; and, therefore, that they should be left to prosecute their claims, if they had any, in such other manner as they should be advised.

At a Meeting of His Majesty's Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, *Thursday*, *March* 2d, 1775. Present: Mr. *Jenyns*, Mr. *Keene*, Mr. *Greville*.

The Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State attends; also Mr. *Tryon*, Governour of *New-York*.

Their Lordships took into further consideration the state of the Province of *New-York*, more particularly in regard to the Lands between the Rivers *Hudson* and *Connecticut*, upon which both the Province of *New-York* and that of *New-Hampshire* heretofore claimed a right of jurisdiction; and upon parts of which settlements have been made by grants of the Governours of both Provinces, in some in-



stances, of the same Land, by means whereof the publick peace hath been disturbed, and the course of publick justice obstructed.

Upon the subject of those claims, it was proposed by Governour Tryon, and agreed to by the Board, that such of the grants made by the Governour of *New-Hampshire* to the West of *Connecticut* River as have not yet been confirmed, and do not interfere with any grants made by the Government of *New-York*, or that of *Canada* before the conquest, should now be confirmed to the present occupants and possessors, subject to the payment of the quit-rent reserved upon all Lands granted in *New-York*.

That with regard to those grants made by the Governour of *New-Hampshire*, of Lands in those districts, which do either interfere with grants made by the Governour of *New-York*, or the Governour of *Canada* before the conquest, it would be advisable to recommend the having some question stated, that should comprehend the whole of the case, so as to include every claim, and an action brought thereupon in the Supreme Court of *New-York*, upon such grounds that, either by means of special verdict, or upon some plea of error, an appeal might lie from the judgment of the said Court to the Governour and Council, and from them to His Majesty in his Privy Council; or otherwise, that the matter should be left to be settled by arbitration, in any mode that should be satisfactory to the different parties.

At a Meeting of His Majesty's Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, *Thursday, March 9th, 1775*. Present: Mr. *Jenyns*, Lord *Robert Spencer*, Mr. *Gascoyne*, Mr. *Jolliffe*, Mr. *Keene*.

The Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, attends.

The Governour of *New-York* attending without, with Mr. *Burke*, agent for that Province, and also Colonel *Read*, lately arrived from thence; they were called in, and their Lordships resumed the consideration of the state of the disputes touching the propriety of Lands in *New-York* between *Hudson* River and *Connecticut* River; and Colonel *Read*, who is largely interested in those lands, having stated that he had material evidence and information to lay before their Lordships touching this matter, it was agreed to reconsider the propositions stated in the Minutes of the 2d instant, when Governour Tryon, who was going to *Bath* on account of his health, should return from thence.

Their Lordships being of opinion that it would be proper, in order to prevent any further survey or location of Lands in *King's* District, and on the other Lands surrendered by Mr. *Van Rensselaer*, that a copy of the Minutes of their Lordships' proceedings on this subject should be sent to Lieutenant Governour *Colden*, the Secretary was ordered to transmit a copy of those Minutes, and also to give another copy thereof to Mr. *Savage*.

A true copy:

J. POWNALL.

Committee Chamber, New-York, 15th March, 1775.

The Sub-Committees appointed by this Committee to join with the Vestrymen of each Ward in this City, in superintending the polls held this day, in the said Wards, for taking the votes of the Freeman and Freeholders on the question, "Whether they would choose Deputies for this City and County, to meet such Deputies as the Counties may elect, and join with them for the sole purpose of appointing out of their body Delegates for the next Congress?" And if yea, who such Deputies should be;

Reported, That they had accordingly attended the said polls, and delivered to the Committee the several poll-lists by them taken, under their hands, and the hands of the Vestrymen of such Wards, from which it appears that eight hundred and twenty-six Freeholders and Freeman voted for Deputies, and elected the eleven persons nominated by this Committee; and that one hundred and sixty-three voted against the measure of appointing Deputies. The said Sub-Committees also informed this Committee that almost all those who voted against the appointment of Deputies, declared they were nevertheless for Delegates.

Ordered, That the said reports and poll-lists be lodged with the Secretary, and that Circular Letters be written to all the Counties in the Colony, informing them of the ap-

pointment of Deputies for this City and County, and requesting them, with all convenient speed, to elect Deputies to meet in Provincial Convention at the City of *New-York*, on the 20th day of *April* next, for the sole purpose of appointing Delegates to represent this Colony at the next Congress to be held at *Philadelphia*, the 10th day of *May* next.

Ordered, That the above extracts from the proceedings of the Committee be published.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN ALSOP, Deputy Chairman.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, TO ALL THE COUNTIES IN THE COLONY.

New-York, 16th March, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The late Congress having deemed it expedient that, in the present critical state of *American* affairs, another should be held at *Philadelphia* the 10th of *May* next; and the neighbouring Colonies having already appointed Delegates for that purpose, we beg leave to call your attention to that subject, and to remark, that the honour, as well as the interest of the Province requires that we also should be fully and properly represented.

Influenced by these considerations, this City and County conceive it highly necessary that a Provincial Convention should, without delay, be formed of Deputies from all the Counties, for the sole purpose of appointing out of their body Delegates for the next Congress; and, therefore, have already chosen their Deputies. They prefer this mode to any other, as it tends to unite the Counties, and to preserve that harmony between them so essential to the interest of our common cause.

Be pleased to communicate this letter to the inhabitants of your County; and should they concur with us in sentiment, we beg they will consider whether it would not be best to choose their Deputies so soon as that they may be down here by the 20th of *April* next; which day we take the liberty of proposing to you as proper for the meeting of the Convention.

We forbear urging any arguments to induce your concurrence, being well persuaded you are fully sensible that the happiness of this Colony, and the preservation of our rights and liberties depend on our acceding to the general union, and observing such a line of conduct as may be firm, as well as temperate.

By order of the Committee:

ISAAC LOW, Chairman.

ELECTION OF DEPUTIES TO THE CONVENTION IN NEW-YORK.

New-York, March 16, 1775.

On *Monday*, the 6th instant, the Freeholders and Inhabitants of this City and County, by a very great majority, assented to the following mode of proceeding, viz:—That the General Committee should nominate eleven persons to be, on *Wednesday*, the 15th, proposed to the choice of the Freeman and Freeholders, as Deputies, to meet on the 20th of *April* such Deputies as the other Counties might elect, and join with them, for the sole purpose of appointing out of their body Delegates for the next General Congress, agreeable to the recommendation of the last. Accordingly the Committee nominated the following persons, viz: *Philip Livingston*, *John Jay*, *James Duane*, *John Alsop*, *Isaac Low*, *Francis Lewis*, *Abraham Walton*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Leonard Lispenard*, and *Isaac Roosevelt*.

From the time of the nomination every artifice was used, (by the same party who have constantly exerted their utmost abilities to obstruct and disconcert every measure of opposition to the tyrannical acts of the *British* Ministry,) in order to prevent the election of the Deputies nominated by the Committee, and to frustrate the design of a Provincial Congress, and of sending Delegates (at least with full powers from the whole Province) to the next General Congress. Before the day of election a great number of pieces were published on both sides, full of artifice and specious pretences on the Ministerial part, and of sound weighty argument on the other. Between the two, the



argument and the views of each party were pretty well understood at the day of decision, when the votes of the Free-men and Freeholders were fairly taken, as follows, viz :

| For the Deputies. |     | Against the Deputies. |    |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------------|----|
| Out Ward,         | 66  | Out Ward,             | —  |
| North Ward,       | 99  | North Ward,           | 36 |
| East Ward,        | 125 | East Ward,            | 22 |
| South Ward,       | 42  | South Ward,           | 23 |
| West Ward,        | 213 | West Ward,            | 23 |
| Dock Ward,        | 52  | Dock Ward,            | 32 |
| Montgomery Ward,  | 228 | Montgomery Ward,      | 27 |
| <hr/> 825         |     | <hr/> 163             |    |

Besides great numbers of the majority, who, finding their votes not wanted, did not vote.

It is hoped the transactions of this day will in some measure restore the generality of the people to the good opinion and esteem of the neighbouring Colonies.

Last night our General Committee appointed a Sub-Committee to draw up, and report at the next stated meeting, a state of the facts relative to the landing of Goods out of the *Beulah*.

— New-York, March 16, 1775.

Yesterday polls were opened in the different Wards, for the election of eleven Delegates for this City, to meet Deputies who may be chosen by the Counties to form a Convention, out of whom to elect Delegates for the next Congress at *Philadelphia*. Of those who voted for this measure, it may with truth be affirmed, there was a great proportion who did it because there was no alternative. The disposition of our fellow-citizens is in favour of Delegates to meet the sister Colonies in Congress, as it is supposed that their principles respecting the unhappy situation we are in, with relation to *Great Britain*, are so well known, that no violent or unjustifiable measures will be assented to on their part. Sensible that the people were determined to send Delegates, it was the art of those who framed the question, upon which the poll was taken, to state it in such a manner that the electors might be led to think that they would be deprived of Delegates unless they pursued the mode pointed out to them, for when numbers of voters demanded that their votes might be taken for the five Delegates, it was absolutely refused. Had a poll been opened upon fair principles, stating the alternative, concerning which the division of sentiments arose, there is no doubt but the old five Delegates would have been elected almost unanimously. When the warmth of opposition has a little subsided, and those generous, candid, and liberal sentiments are suffered to prevail which have characterized the good people of this City, they will see who have endeavoured to mislead them; they will be shocked to think that they have espoused a measure which is founded upon depriving a very great number of their fellow-citizens of the liberty of declaring their sentiments; and they will suspect that cause which would require such a conduct, and those leaders who could adopt it; they will be alarmed when they consider that they have been instrumental in turning out those very Delegates, of whose conduct certain folks pretend to be such admirers.

They will see that all this is a scheme to supplant some of them, and to introduce into the Congress a man who has fomented all our intestine divisions for a number of years past, and who, in the course of the last year, so much disturbed the peace of this City by his presumptuous attempts. They will perceive that if it was only intended to have a Provincial Delegation, five Deputies would have answered as well as eleven on behalf of this City, for they will altogether make but one vote, as they will doubtless vote by Counties, not individually. Consider, then, what dependance can be placed in those who insidiously pretended that the number eleven was fixed upon, on purpose that the six might have an opportunity of putting in the old five! Consider that these schemes have been the means of depriving us of a Delegate, whose conduct at the last Congress was equally spirited and independent with any other of that body, and in all probability one more of the old Delegates will follow the same example; and then reflect what you have gained by this measure.

A CITIZEN.

Philadelphia, March 16, 1775.

According to publick notice, the subscribers towards a fund for establishing an *American Manufactory* of Woollens, Linens, and Cottons, met in *Carpenters' Hall*, on the 16th of *March*, 1775, to consider of a plan for carrying the same into execution. *Daniel Roberdeau* being chosen President, opened the business of the day with a sensible and elegant speech, pointing out the advantages of establishing the aforesaid Manufactories in this Country. The Company afterwards proceeded to the election of Officers, when the following gentlemen were chosen:—Treasurer, *Joseph Stiles*; Secretary, *James Cannon*; Managers, *Christopher Marshall*, *Richard Humphreys*, *Jacob Winey*, *Isaac Gray*, *Samuel Wetherill*, Junior, *Christopher Ludwick*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Robert S. Jones*, *Richard Wells*, *Thomas Tilbury*, *James Popham*, *Isaac Howell*.

The business of the day being finished, the Company unanimously voted their thanks to the President, and requested that he would favour them with a copy of his Speech for publication, which he politely consented to.

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*A Speech delivered in CARPENTERS' HALL, MARCH 16th, before the Subscribers towards a fund for establishing Manufactories of Woollen, Cotton, and Linen, in the City of PHILADELPHIA.*

GENTLEMEN: When I reflect upon the extent of the subject before me, and consider the small share of knowledge I possess of it, I confess I rise with timidity to speak in this assembly; and it is only because the requests of fellow-citizens in every laudable undertaking should always operate with the force of commands, that I have prevailed upon myself to execute the task you have assigned me.

My business, upon this occasion, is to lay before you a few thoughts upon the *necessity*, *possibility*, and *advantages* of establishing Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Manufactories among us.

The *necessity* of establishing these Manufactories is obvious from the Association of the Congress, which puts a stop to the importation of *British* goods, of which woollens, cottons, and linens always made a considerable part. So large has been the demand for these articles, and so very necessary are they in this Country, that it is impossible for us to clothe ourselves without substituting some others in their room. I am far from thinking that the Non-Importation Agreement will be so transitory a thing as some have supposed. The appearance of a change of measures in *England* respecting the Colonies, does not flow from a conviction of their injustice. The same arbitrary Ministers continue in office, and the same arbitrary favourites continue to abuse the confidence of our Sovereign. Sudden conversion should be trusted with caution, especially when they have been brought about by interest or fear. I shall think the liberties of *America* established at an easy price by a two or three years' Non-Importation Agreement. By union and perseverance in this mode of opposition to *Great Britain*, we shall afford a new phenomenon in the history of mankind, and furnish posterity with an example to teach them that peace, with all the rights of humanity and justice, may be maintained by the exertion of economical as well as military virtues. We shall, moreover, demonstrate the falsehood of those systems of Government which exclude patriotism from the list of virtues, and show that we act most surely for ourselves, when we act most disinterestedly for the publick.

The *possibility* of establishing Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Manufactories among us, is plain, from the success which hath attended several attempts that have been made for that purpose. A great part of the inhabitants of several of the Counties in this Province clothe themselves entirely with woollens and linens manufactured in their own families. Our wool is equal in quality to the wool of several *European* Countries; and if the same pains were bestowed in the culture of our Sheep, which are used in *England* and *Spain*, I have no doubt but in a few years our wool would equal the wool of *Segovia* itself. Nor will there be a deficiency in the quantity of wool which will be necessary for us, if we continue to adhere to the Association of the Congress as strictly as we have done. If the City of *Philadelphia* consumes 20,000 Sheep less this year than it did last, how many 20,000 Sheep may we suppose will be saved



throughout the whole Province? According to the ordinary increase in the breed of Sheep, and allowing for the additional quantity of wool, which a little care of them will produce, I think I could make it appear that in five years there will be wool enough raised in the Province to clothe the whole of its inhabitants. Cotton may be imported upon such terms from the *West-Indies* and Southern Colonies, as to enable us to manufacture thicksets, calicoes, &c., at a much cheaper rate than they can be imported from *Britain*. Considering how much these stuffs are worn by those classes of people who constitute the majority of the inhabitants of our Country, the encouragement of the Cotton Manufactory appears to be an object of the utmost consequence. I cannot help suggesting in this place, although it may appear foreign to our subject, that the Trade to the *West-Indies* and Southern Colonies for cotton would create such a commercial union with the Middle and Northern Colonies, as would tend greatly to strengthen that political union which now subsists between them. I need say nothing of the facility of cultivating flax, nor of the excellent quality of the linens which have been already manufactured among us. I shall only add, that this manufactory may be carried on without lessening the value of that trade which arises from the exportation of our flaxseed to *Ireland*.

I cannot help laying a good deal of stress upon the public spirit of my countrymen, which removes the success of these Manufactories beyond a bare possibility, and seems to render it in some measure certain. The Resolves of the Congress have been executed with a fidelity hardly known to laws in any Country, and that too without the assistance of fire and sword, or even of the Civil Magistrate, and in some places in direct opposition to them all. It gives me the utmost pleasure to mention here, that our Province is among the foremost of the Colonies in the peaceable mode of opposition recommended by the Congress. When I reflect upon the temper we have discovered in the present controversy, and compare it with the habitual spirit of industry and economy for which we are celebrated among strangers, I know not how to estimate our virtue high enough. I am sure no objects will appear too difficult, nor no undertakings too expensive for us in the present struggle. The sum of money which has been already subscribed for the purpose of these Manufactories, is a proof that I am not too sanguine in my expectations from this Province.

I now come to point out the *advantages* we shall derive from establishing the Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Manufactories among us. The first advantage I shall mention is, we shall save a large sum of money annually in our Province. The Province of *Pennsylvania* is supposed to contain 400,000 inhabitants. Let us suppose that only 50,000 of these are clothed with the woollens, cottons, and linens of *Great Britain*, and that the price of clothing of each of these persons, upon an average, amounts to Five Pounds sterling a year. If this computation be just, then the sum annually saved in our Province by the manufactory of our clothes, will amount to £250,000 sterling.

Secondly: Manufactories, next to Agriculture, are the basis of the riches of every Country. Cardinal *Ximenes* is remembered at this day in *Spain*, more for the improvement he made in the breed of Sheep, by importing a number of rams from *Barbary*, than for any other services he rendered his Country. King *Edward* the Fourth and Queen *Elizabeth*, of *England*, are mentioned with gratitude by historians for passing Acts of Parliament to import a number of Sheep from *Spain*; and to this mixture of *Spanish* with *English* Sheep, the wool of the latter owes its peculiar excellence and reputation all over the world. *Louis* the Fourteenth, King of *France*, knew the importance of a Woollen Manufactory in his Kingdom, and in order to encourage it allowed several exclusive privileges to the Company of Woollen Traders in *Paris*. The effects of this Royal patronage of this Manufactory have been too sensibly felt by the *English*, who have, within these thirty or forty years, had the mortification of seeing the trade up the *Levant*, for woollen cloths, in some measure monopolized by the *French*. It is remarkable that the riches and naval power of *France* have increased in proportion to this very lucrative trade.

Thirdly: By establishing these Manufactories among us, we shall employ a number of poor people in our City, and that too in a way most agreeable to themselves, and least expensive to the Company; for, according to our plan, the principal part of the business will be carried on in their own houses. Travellers through *Spain* inform us, that in the Town of *Segovia*, which contains 60,000 inhabitants, there is not a single beggar to be seen. This is attributed entirely to the Woollen Manufactory which is carried on in the most extensive manner in that place, affording constant employment to the whole of their poor people.

Fourthly: By establishing the Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Manufactories in this Country, we shall invite manufacturers from every part of *Europe*, particularly from *Britain* and *Ireland*, to come and settle among us. To men who want money to purchase lands, and who, from habits of manufacturing, are undisciplined to agriculture, the prospect of meeting with employment as soon as they arrive in this Country, in a way they have been accustomed to, would lessen the difficulties of emigration, and encourage thousands to come and settle in *America*. If they increased our riches by increasing the value of our property, and if they added to our strength by adding to our numbers only, they would be a great acquisition to us. But there are higher motives which should lead us to invite strangers to settle in this Country. Poverty, with its other evils, has joined with it, in every part of *Europe*, all the miseries of slavery. *America* is now the only asylum for liberty in the whole world. The present contest with *Great Britain* was, perhaps, intended by the Supreme Being, among other wise and benevolent purposes, to show the world this asylum, which, from its remote and unconnected situation with the rest of the globe, might have remained a secret for ages. By establishing manufactories, we stretch forth a hand from the ark to invite the timid manufacturers to come in. It might afford us pleasure to trace the new sources of happiness which would immediately open to our fellow-creatures from their settlement in this Country. Manufactories have been accused of being unfriendly to population. I believe the charge should fall upon slavery. By bringing manufacturers into this land of liberty and plenty, we recover them from the torpid state in which they existed in their own Country, and place them in circumstances which enable them to become husbands and fathers, and thus we add to the general tide of human happiness.

Fifthly: The establishment of Manufactories in this Country, by lessening our imports from *Great Britain*, will deprive *European* luxuries and vices of those vehicles in which they have been transported to *America*. The wisdom of the Congress cannot be too much admired, in putting a check to them both. They have in effect said to them, "Thus far shall ye go, and no farther."

Sixthly: By establishing Manufactories among us, we erect an additional barrier against the encroachments of tyranny. A people who are entirely dependant on foreigners for food or clothes, must always be subject to them. I need not detain you in setting forth the misery of holding property, liberty and life upon the precarious will of our fellow-subjects in *Britain*. I beg leave to add a thought in this place which has been but little attended to by the writers upon this subject, and that is, that poverty, confinement, and death are trifling evils when compared with that total depravity of heart which is connected with slavery. By becoming slaves we shall lose every principle of virtue. We shall transfer unlimited obedience from our Maker to a corrupted majority in the *British* House of Commons, and shall esteem their crimes the certificates of their commission to govern us. We shall cease to look with horror upon the prostitution of our wives and daughters, by those civil and military harpies who now hover around the liberties of our Country. We shall cheerfully lay them both at their feet. We shall hug our chains. We shall cease to be men. We shall be slaves.

I shall now consider the objections which have been made to the establishment of Manufactories in this Country.

The first, and most common objection to Manufactories in this Country is, that they will draw off our attention from Agriculture. This objection derives great weight from being made originally by the Duke of *Sully*, against



the establishment of Manufactories in *France*. But the history of that Country shows us, that it is more founded in speculation than fact. *France* has become opulent and powerful in proportion as Manufactories have flourished in her; and if Agriculture has not kept pace with her Manufactories, it is owing entirely to that ill-judged policy which forbade the exportation of grain. I believe it will be found, upon inquiry, that a greater number of hands have been taken from the plough, and employed in importing, retailing, and transporting *British* woollens, cottons, and linens, than would be sufficient to manufacture as much of them as would clothe all the inhabitants of the Province. There is an endless variety in the geniuses of men; and it would be to preclude the exertion of the faculties of the mind to confine them entirely to the simple arts of agriculture. Besides, if these Manufactories were conducted as they ought to be, two-thirds of the labour of them will be carried on by those members of society who cannot be employed in agriculture, namely, by women and children.

A second objection is, that we cannot manufacture cloths so cheap here, as they can be imported from *Britain*. It has been the misfortune of most of the Manufactories which have been set up in this Country, to afford labour to journeymen only for six or nine months in the year, by which means their wages have necessarily been so high as to support them in the intervals of their labour. It will be found, upon inquiry, that those Manufactories which occupy journeymen the whole year, are carried on at as cheap a rate as they are in *Britain*. The expense of manufacturing cloth will be lessened from the great share women and children will have in them; and I have the pleasure of informing you that the machine lately brought into this City for lessening the expense of time and hands in spinning, is likely to meet with encouragement from the Legislature of our Province. In a word, the experiments which have been already made among us, convince us that woollens and linens of all kinds may be made and bought as cheap as those imported from *Britain*; and I believe every one who has tried the former, will acknowledge that they wear twice as well as the latter.

A third objection to Manufactories is, that they destroy health, and are hurtful to population. The same may be said of Navigation, and many other arts which are essential to the happiness and glory of a State. I believe that many of the diseases to which the manufacturers in *Britain* are subject, are brought on, not so much by the nature of their employment, but by their unwholesome diet, damp houses, and other bad accommodations, each of which may be prevented in *America*.

A fourth objection to establishing Manufactories in this Country, is a political one. The liberties of *America* have been twice, and we hope will be a third time preserved by a non-importation of *British* manufactures. By manufacturing our own clothes we deprive ourselves of the only weapon by which we can hereafter effectually oppose *Great Britain*. Before we answer this objection, it becomes us to acknowledge the obligations we owe to our Merchants for consenting, so cheerfully, to a suspension of trade with *Britain*. From the benefits we have derived from their virtue, it would be unjust to insinuate that there ever will be the least danger of trusting the defence of our liberties to them; but I would wish to guard against placing one body of men only upon that forlorn hope to which a non-importation agreement must always expose them. For this purpose I would fill their stores with the manufactures of *American* looms, and thus establish their trade upon a foundation that cannot be shaken. Here, then, we derive an answer to the last objection that was mentioned; for in proportion as manufactures flourish in *America*, they must decline in *Britain*, and it is well known that nothing but her Manufactories have rendered her formidable in all our contests with her. These are the foundations of all her riches and power. These have made her Merchants Nobles, and her Nobles Princes. These carried her so triumphantly through the late expensive war; and these are the support of a power more dangerous to the liberties of *America* than her Fleets and Armies—I mean the power of corruption. I am not one of those vindictive patriots

who exult in the prospect of the decay of the Manufactories of *Britain*. I can forgive her late attempts to enslave us, in the memory of our once mutual freedom and happiness. And should her Liberty, her Arts, her Fleets and Armies, and her Empire, ever be interred in *Britain*, I hope they will all arise in *British* garments only in *America*.

JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

Committee Chamber, March 16, 1775.

The Committee met, by adjournment, this evening at the Exchange: Present,

|                              |                     |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Low, <i>Chairman</i> , | Joseph Totten,      | Comfort Sands,      |
| John Jay,                    | Thomas Ivers,       | John Berrian,       |
| Isaac Sears,                 | Hercules Mulligan,  | Nicholas Roosevelt, |
| Alexander McDougall,         | John Anthony,       | Edward Fleming,     |
| John Broome,                 | Theophilus Anthony, | Frederick Jay,      |
| Abraham P. Lott,             | William Goforth,    | George Janeway,     |
| Abraham Duryee,              | Francis Basset,     | Lindley Murray,     |
| Francis Lewis,               | Jeremiah Platt,     | Lancaster Burling.  |
| John Lasher,                 |                     |                     |

Mr. Lewis, from the Sub-Committee appointed to state the case of Messrs. Robert Murray and John Murray respecting their having landed Goods from on board the Ship *Beulah*, reports a Letter from the Committee of *Elizabethtown* to this Committee, which Letter is in the words following, viz:

Elizabethtown, Friday, 12 o'clock P. M., March 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of the information received from Captain Sears relative to the suspicion that some part of the Cargo of the Ship *Beulah* had been unladed before she quitted this coast, the Committee of Observation of this Town met this evening, and made inquiry respecting the affair; and thereupon have to inform you, that it appears to them that a Boat belonging to this Town did, last Monday morning, sail from *New-York* to *Sandy-Hook*; that on Tuesday evening she returned here. Two of the witnesses examined were the boatmen, and the person who we suspect engaged the Boat, who refused to be sworn; but from their behaviour, and what they said on examination, and other circumstances, we believe that it was the Boat seen to be hovering about the *Beulah*, and took Mr. John Murray out of the Ship, and that Goods from said Ship were landed by the said Boat at *Staten-Island*. We are not able at present to furnish you with any further particulars. The Committee will make further inquiry into this matter, and if any thing further appears, will give you immediate information; in the mean time we thought proper to give the above early intelligence, to furnish you with a clue in all probability of making more important discoveries on *Staten-Island*, where we think the Goods were undoubtedly landed, at the *East Ends*, or in the *Kills*. Signed by order of the Committee:

JONATHAN HAMPTON, *Chairman*.

To the Committee of Observation of *New-York*.

The said Sub-Committee further report another Letter to this Committee, from the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, which is in the words following, viz:

Elizabethtown, March 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of Observation of this Town have this day used their endeavours to make a further discovery relating to the unlading part of the Cargo of the Ship *Beulah*, but are not able to give you the information they desire. Samuel Lee, a boatman of this Town, employed and accompanied by Ichabod B. Barnet, Esq., (son-in-law to Robert Murray,) appear, from very strong circumstances, to have been the persons concerned in that affair, who went from *New-York* on Monday last to the Ship.

We have had Lee before us. He appears greatly perplexed, but cannot be persuaded to give any clear information of the matter, he being under an apprehension that he, by that means, may be the ruin of some particular persons in *New-York*. The said Barnet was also before us, but refused to answer the questions proposed to him; he only offered to swear (if it would be any satisfaction to us) that no Goods from the *Beulah* were landed at this Town,



which, however, we did not accept. And there is reason to believe that *Lee* would have given information, had it not been for said *Barnet*, who, it appears, has prevented him from making the desired discovery.

We have only to add, that the Boat employed on this occasion is the property of *Isaac Woodruff*, Esq., who, it clearly appears, was perfectly innocent, and knew nothing of the affair.

Signed by order of the Committee :

JONATHAN HAMPTON, *Chairman*.

To the Committee of Observation of *New-York*.

The Sub-Committee also report, that on the same evening, and before this Committee had received any further evidence respecting this matter, Messrs. *Murrays* voluntarily produced to this Committee, at their meeting on the 13th *March*, instant, a Letter in the words following :

To the General Committee for the City and County of  
NEW-YORK :

GENTLEMEN : Having been disappointed in our design of reshipping the Cargo of the Ship *Beulah* (lately arrived from *London*) in another bottom, by which we were great sufferers, and though we then conceived that such our design, if executed, would have been a compliance with the Resolution of the Congress; we acknowledge that, to alleviate in some measure the great loss we sustained, we have been induced to land a small part of her Cargo; and notwithstanding we are persuaded that it would be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to obtain full and sufficient evidence of the fact, and that the Goods are secured in a place of safety where they cannot be discovered, yet, upon mature reflection, and with a view to satisfy the publick and this Committee, as well as to prevent the trouble of any further inquiries upon this subject, we are led to make this declaration, and to acknowledge that we are sorry for the imprudent step we have taken, and that we do condemn the same as an unjustifiable measure; and as a further proof of our willingness to conform to the Resolution of the Congress, as far as is now in our power, we do hereby engage to reship all the said Goods, according to the tenour of the Association, and to give the Committee full and satisfactory proof thereof, within seven days from this time.

Dated 13th *March*, 1775.

ROBERT MURRAY,  
JOHN MURRAY.

And that they did then offer to make a full and ample confession of every fact relative to the unloading Goods from the *Beulah*, and to deliver to the Committee at their then next meeting, a full state of the case, under their oath and affirmation.

The said Sub-Committee further report, that Messrs. *J. and R. Murray* did accordingly deliver a statement of that transaction, which is in the words following, viz :

*Inventory of Goods taken out of the Ship BEULAH, at  
SANDY-HOOK.*

Eighty-four bolts of *Russia Duck*.  
Twenty pieces of *Raven Duck*.  
Two hundred and forty packs of *Pins*.  
Five bales of *Pepper*, two of which are in hlds.  
Sixty-five bolts *Oznaburghs*.  
Ten pieces *Blue Strouds*.  
Fourteen pieces *Irish Linen*.  
Six pieces *White Hessen*.  
Eleven pieces *Irish Sheeting*.  
One paper bundle directed to *Henry Van Vleck*.  
One bundle *Straw*, supposed a *Case-maker's Cushear*.  
One small box of *Books, Papers, &c*.  
Wrapper for the *Strouds*.  
With wrappers for said Goods.

City of *NEW-YORK*, ss.

*John Murray*, of the City of *New-York*, Merchant, being duly sworn, saith, that the above is a full, just, and true inventory of all the Goods which were lately taken out of the Ship *Beulah* at *Sandy-Hook*, by the deponent, and were by him landed at *Elizabethtown* in *New-Jersey*. That the deponent did, yesterday, voluntarily make an acknowledgment to the Committee of *Elizabethtown* aforesaid, that he had so taken and landed the said Goods,

and did this day deliver the whole of said Goods to the said Committee, who took the same into their custody and possession; where he believes the same now are. That the Boat in which the said Goods were taken out of the said Ship belonged to *Isaac Woodruff*, which the deponent hired for the purpose, of *Samuel Lee*, who was master of the said Boat. That Mr. *Woodruff* did not know (as this deponent believes) for what purpose the said Boat was hired, nor did the deponent inform the said Mr. *Lee* on what business he wanted the said Boat; nor did he appear to know at the time the Boat was hired, that he was employed on any business contrary to the Association. That the agreement with the said *Lee* was only to go with the Boat where he was directed, and to do what he was bid. That Mr. *Ichabod Barnet*, of *Elizabethtown*, and *Samuel Reade*, of this City, went with the said *Samuel Lee* in the said Boat down to the said Ship, at the time aforesaid. That Mr. *Barnet* was acquainted with the design of the Boat's going down to the said Ship; but the deponent does not know that Mr. *Reade* was previously acquainted with such design, though at the Vessel he assisted in taking the said Goods out by the direction of this deponent, in whose store he is an assistant. That *John Graham*, clerk to this deponent and his partner, was on board the Ship with the deponent, at the time when the Goods were taken out, but did not see the Goods taken out, being (as the deponent believes) asleep at that time in the cabin; and that his business on board was to copy invoices and letters; neither does this deponent know or believe that the said *Graham* ever heard any conversation between the deponent and any other person respecting the taking out the said Goods. That when the Goods were on board the Boat, the deponent, and all the other persons above-mentioned, proceeded with her for *Elizabethtown*, but stopped at *Staten-Island*, where they all went on shore; and *Graham* and *Reade* took passage from thence in the *Staten-Island Ferry-Boat* for *New-York*; and the deponent, with *Lee* and Mr. *Barnet*, proceeded from *Staten-Island* to *Elizabethtown* in the said Boat, where all the said Goods were landed by them, and put into Mr. *Ichabod Barnet's* store; that the said *Ichabod Barnet* had no interest in the said Goods, but what he did in the said business was merely at the request of this deponent and his said partner, and the deponent believes with an intention entirely to oblige them. That while the Ship lay at the watering-place, the Captain and this deponent took into *Kipp's* small sailing-boat sundry small articles, the principal of which the deponent believes were presents, but does not know the particulars. That the deponent at the same time took into the said little Boat, two small Cheeses, about two hundred Lemons and Oranges, and a dozen and nine bottles of Beer, and about two bushels of Potatoes for the use of the deponent and his brother, all which were brought up in the said Boat by this deponent and Captain *Bussell*; and the Cheeses, and the other aftermentioned articles, except the Beer, were presents from the Captain. That in the whole of this transaction, so far as respects the delivery of the Goods from on board the Ship at the *Hook*, Captain *Bussell* acted by the order and direction of this deponent and his partner, having no interest in the Goods so delivered. And this deponent further saith, that he neither knows nor believes that any Goods were taken out of the said Ship after her arrival here, nor since her sailing from *Sandy-Hook*, except the Baggage belonging to some passengers, and except the Goods herein before enumerated and mentioned; nor that any other persons than those above-mentioned, had any agency or concern in taking out or landing the said Goods, except the Ship's crew, and except also one *Marsh*, who, at *Elizabethtown*, accidentally passing by, was employed to assist in landing the same; but the deponent believes he did not know where the Goods came from. And further saith not.

JOHN MURRAY.

Sworn the 15th day of *March*, 1775, before me,

ANDREW GAUTIER.

City of *NEW-YORK*, ss.

*Robert Murray*, of the said City, being duly affirmed according to law, doth declare and affirm, that so far forth as he is acquainted with the facts contained in the foregoing Deposition, the same are true; and that he neither



knows nor believes that any more or other Goods, or things were taken out of the said Ship *Beulah*, since her arrival here, than what are specified in the foregoing Deposition; and that he believes no other person to have been concerned in the said business, except those mentioned in this Deposition.

ROBERT MURRAY.

Affirmed the 15th *March*, 1775, before me,

ANDREW GAUTIER.

The said Sub-Committee further report, that the said Messrs. *Robert* and *John Murray* did write a Letter to this Committee, accompanying the said state of the case; which Letter is in the words following:

To the General Committee for the City and County of  
NEW-YORK:

GENTLEMEN: The annexed Depositions contain as full and candid an account of the transaction relative to the landing the Goods from the Ship *Beulah*, as we are able to give; in the doing of which we have studied to give the Committee, and our fellow-citizens, the utmost satisfaction we are capable of.

*John Murray* being obliged to go to *Elizabethtown* to take an inventory of the Goods, found the Committee then sitting, and conceived it to be his duty, as the Goods were within their jurisdiction, to give them notice thereof, and to make a full acknowledgment to them: upon doing which, they took, with his consent, possession of the Goods as mentioned in the affidavit.

We still declare our readiness to reship the said Goods as nearly as is now in our power, agreeable to the tenour of the Association, or to do otherwise with them, as the Committee of *Elizabethtown* shall think proper to intimate or direct; and that we are also ready to give this Committee any further satisfaction respecting the said Goods, that they may recommend. Being desirous further to testify the sense we have of the imprudent measure we have taken, as well as our concern for the trouble and uneasiness it has given our fellow-citizens, we would wish to make such further satisfaction to the publick as might be most agreeable to them; and therefore do hereby cheerfully engage to give the sum of Two Hundred Pounds towards repairing the hospital in this City, lately destroyed by fire.

We are, gentlemen, very respectfully, your assured friends,

ROBERT MURRAY,  
JOHN MURRAY.

New-York, March 15, 1775.

The said Sub-Committee further report another Letter from the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, enclosing an Affidavit of *Samuel Lee*; which Letter and Affidavit are in the words following, viz:

Elizabethtown, March 14, 1775.

SIR: Enclosed I send you the Affidavit of *Samuel Lee*, boatman, relative to the unlading part of the Cargo of the Ship *Beulah*, which needs no comment.

I am, however, particularly desired by our Committee, earnestly to request of your Committee to protect Mr. *Lee*, as far as lies in their power, from any insult on account of this affair. He is a person well known here to be of good character, and who, by his honesty and industry, has justly acquired the esteem of all the inhabitants of this Town; and it is the opinion of our Committee he was unwarily led to act the part he did, as will, in part, appear by his Affidavit. I will only add, that we should be glad that whenever the Affidavit shall be read, this Letter may be read also.

By order of the Committee:

JONATHAN HAMPTON, *Chairman*.

NEW-JERSEY, Borough of ELIZABETH, ss.

*Samuel Lee*, of *Elizabethtown*, boatman, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, deposeth and saith, That on *Sunday* the 5th instant, he (at the request of *Ichabod B. Barnet*, Esquire) sailed from *Elizabethtown* aforesaid, to *New-York*, in the Boat or Sloop he usually goes in, the said *Barnet* going as a hand with him; that he arrived there the same evening; that while they were on their passage, said *Barnet* informed this deponent that he must make haste to unlade his Boat as soon as he should arrive at *New-York*, for that a Vessel was arrived

at the *Hook* from the *West-Indies*, and that he wanted this deponent to go with him with his Boat, and take some Goods out of her; that said Boat was unloaded at *New-York* on *Monday* morning, and immediately thereafter this deponent, and the said *Barnet*, sailed with the said Boat for *Sandy-Hook*; that at the dusk of the evening of the same day they came along-side of a Ship, which this deponent believes was the *Beulah*, and about eight o'clock he was told he might go to bed, which he accordingly did, and went to sleep. About twelve, was awakened, and desired to put off from said Ship, and make sail, which accordingly was done; that he saw the said *Barnet*, with Mr. *John Murray*, and one *Graham*, his clerk, were then on board his Boat; that on *Tuesday* morning they touched on *Staten-Island*, where Mr. *Graham* landed, but no Goods were landed there; that on *Wednesday* morning, about one o'clock, they came along-side the store of said *Barnet*, at *Elizabethtown*, where the said *John Murray*, *Ichabod B. Barnet*, and this deponent, landed and stored in the said *Barnet's* store, as near as he can remember, the following Goods, to wit: a small bale, a box about three feet long, one box about a foot square, the contents of which are unknown to this deponent; also a quantity of Sail Duck, a number of bolts of *Oznaburghs*, about half a dozen pieces of Linen, and some pieces of Linen Cloth, which this deponent supposed to be *Drilling*; which Goods, in the whole, this deponent thinks were in quantity about one ton and a half, or not exceeding two tons. And this deponent saith, that said Goods must have been taken out of said Ship, and put on board said Boat, while he was below as aforesaid, as there were no Goods on board his Boat when he left *New-York* to go to said Ship; and further the deponent saith, that he did not sleep so sound but that he heard the noise of people working upon the deck, and that when he was called up as aforesaid, and had come upon deck, he perceived the hatches of his Boat open, and the said Goods then lying in the hatchway. And further the deponent saith not.

SAMUEL LEE.

Sworn at *Elizabethtown*, this 13th day of *March*, 1775, before me,

JOHN BLANCHARD, *Alderman*.

Which Report being read,

Resolved, That this Committee do approve thereof: and

Ordered, That the same be published agreeable to the directions of the Eleventh Article of the Association.

By order of the Committee:

ISAAC LOW, *Chairman*.

#### TO THE INHABITANTS OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, March 16, 1775.

BELOVED COUNTRYMEN: Let us read, hear, and endeavour rightly to understand the subsequent passages and injunctions of the most Holy Bible, that divinely perfect, infallible, and eternal rule of all our voluntary acts and moral behaviour. Read, heard rightly, fully understood, and with exact punctuality obeyed, they may, for aught any mortal knows to the reverse, by a divine benediction operate powerfully, and contribute much to the restoration of that union and harmony between *Great Britain* and her *American Colonies*, so essentially requisite to promote the prosperity, welfare, and felicity of the whole *English Empire*; and, therefore, so very ardently wished and longed for by all good Protestant, loyal subjects of our very gracious Sovereign, and most august Monarch, King *George* the Third.

The texts referred to, and recommended to a candid perusal, and attentive, exact deliberation, are these:

*Exodus* xxii. 28: Thou shalt not revile the gods, nor curse the ruler of thy people. See also *Math.* xxii. from the 17th to the 21st, inclusive. The words run thus, verbatim: Tell us, therefore, what thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto *Cesar*, or not? But *Jesus* perceived their weakness, and said, why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? Show me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny; and he saith unto them, whose is this image and superscription? They say unto him, *Cesar's*. Then saith he unto them, render therefore unto *Cesar* the things which are *Cesar's*, and unto *God* the things that are *God's*. Also, *Rom.* xiii. 1—8: Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of *God*; the powers that be are ordained of *God*.



Whosoever, therefore, resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of *God*. And (note well) they that resist shall receive unto themselves damnation: For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou not be afraid of the power? Do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: for he is the Minister of *God* to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid, for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the Minister of *God*, a revenger, to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore, ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For this cause pay ye tribute also; for they are *God's* Ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues; tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour. Owe no man any thing; but to love one another. For he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. *2 Peter* ii. 13, 14: Submit yourselves to every ordinance of men for the *Lord's* sake; whether it be to the King as supreme, or unto Governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evil doers, and for the praise of them that do well. *Prov.* xx. 2: The fear of the King is as the roaring of the lion; whoso provoketh him to anger, sinneth against his soul. Be just, be free.

New-York, March 20, 1775.

MR. HOLT: In *Rivington's Gazetteer* of last week, I saw a collection of Scripture texts adduced to countenance the doctrines of passive obedience and non-resistance. This attempt reminded me of *Satan's* quoting Scripture to encourage presumption; and indeed absolute passive obedience and non-resistance in all cases, is as contrary to the word of *God*, as presumption. That your readers may be convinced of this, I here furnish you with the following texts of Scripture, which I desire you would publish the first opportunity.

*Exodus* i. 15—20: The *Egyptian* midwives disobeyed the cruel order of their King, to kill the male infants of the *Israelites*, and for this generous and humane refusal, they were signally blessed of the *Lord*. The *Israelites*, with reason, disobeyed the inhuman mandate of their Monarch. *1 Sam.* xiv. 15. And his footman justly disobeyed him. Also, (*1 Sam.* xxii. 17,) *Mordecai*, *Shadrach*, *Meschach*, and *Abednego*. The Prophet *Daniel*, and the Apostles disobeyed the unlawful commands of Kings and Magistrates. Compare *Esther* iii. 1—9; *Daniel* iii. 15—18; *Daniel* vi. 7—10; *Acts* iv. 18—20; *Acts* v. 27—29. From these quotations, it appears that when resistance to the orders of Magistrates is forbidden in Scripture, it is meant of resistance to just and legal orders. To be convinced that oppression, tyranny, and unrighteous acts of Government, are odious to the Supreme Being, consider the following texts: *2 Sam.* xxiii. 3: He that ruleth over man must be just, ruling in the fear of *God*. *Jer.* xxx. 20: I will punish all that oppress my people. *Isaiah* x. 1: Wo unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness, which they have prescribed to turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor of my people. *Ezek.* xiv. 9: Thus saith the *Lord God*, remove violence and spoil, and execute judgment and justice; take away your exactions from my people, saith the *Lord*. *Ecclesiastes* vii. 7: Surely oppression maketh a wise man mad. *Psalms* lxxii. 4: He shall break in pieces the oppressor. *Exodus* iii. 7, 8, 9: And the *Lord* said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people, which are in *Egypt*, and have heard their cry, by reason of their task-masters, for I know their sorrows and am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the *Egyptians*, and to bring them up out of that land, unto a good land, and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey. Now, therefore, behold, the cry of the children of *Israel* is come up unto me, and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the *Egyptians* oppress them; and accordingly he brought them out of the house of bondage with an high hand and an outstretched arm, and drowned their oppressors, *Pharaoh* and his *Egyptians*, in the *Red-Sea*. *Rehoboam* took the council of the young men, and rejected the old men's advice; and answered the people roughly, and said he would add to their burdens, and not ease them; whereupon many of the tribes revolted, and

the King thereupon going to fight against them to reduce them to submission, is forbidden of *God*. Compare *2 Chron.* x. and 14, with *1 Kings* xii., and *2 Chron.* xi. Thus saith the *Lord*, ye shall not go up nor fight against your brethren. A good hint for the Army! Peruse the iii. iv. v. vi. and vii. chapters of the book of *Esther*. Chapter iii. 8: And *Haman* said unto King *Ahasuerus*, there is a certain people scattered abroad, and dispersed among the people in all the Provinces of thy Kingdom, and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the King's law; therefore, it is not for the King's profit to suffer them. If it please the King, let it be written, that they may be destroyed, and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business to bring it into the King's treasuries; and the King took the ring from his hand, and gave it unto *Haman*, the *Jew's* enemy; and the King said unto *Haman*, the silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee. *Haman*, however, failed in his bloody designs against the *Jews*; they were delivered from the meditated destruction, and he was hanged on a gallows of his own raising. A dreadful warning this to all vindictive and sanguinary Ministers! When the *Jews* were devoted to destruction by the edict of King *Ahasuerus*, all avenues to the throne were shut up, and free access to the Monarch prohibited, on pain of death. Queen *Esther*, urged by absolute necessity, ventured to petition the King in these dangerous circumstances, and succeeded. An apology this, for our glorious Congress, if it needs one. O that it may be an example of the success of their Petition. Bribery is expressly forbidden in the word of *God*. *Exodus* xxiii. 8: Thou shalt not take a gift, for a gift blindeth the eyes of the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous. *Prov.* xxix. 4: He that receiveth gifts overthroweth the land. See persons threatened for this sin, *1 Sam.* viii. 3; *Isaiah* i. 23, v. 22; *Jer.* xxii. 17; *Ezek.* xxii. 27; *Hos.* iv. 18; *Amos* v. 12; and *Mich.* iii. 11.

The whole tenour of the Gospel is diametrically opposite to every species of tyranny and oppression; the love of mankind is its grand peculiarity. Our *Saviour* informs us that the love of our neighbour is the great commandment of the Law; and he exhorts his disciples to do to others whatsoever they would that others should do unto them; this, he says, is the law and the prophets. The celebrated Doctor *Newton*, now Bishop of *Bristol*, in his *Dissertations* on the Prophecies, having shewn how minutely and remarkably the predictions concerning the destruction of tyrants were accomplished, adds this remark: (vol. I. p. 312:) "But not only in this particular, but in the general, the Scriptures, though often perverted to the purpose of tyranny, are yet in their own nature calculated to promote the civil, as well as the religious liberties of mankind. True religion, and virtue, and liberty, are more nearly related, and more intimately connected with each other than people commonly consider. It is very true, as *St. Paul* saith, (*2 Cor.* iii. 17,) that where the spirit of the *Lord* is, there is liberty; or, as our *Saviour* expresseth it, (*John* viii. 31, 32,) If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed, and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." What a pity is it, that this learned and ingenious Bishop and all the rest of his Right Reverend brethren have not acted in the legislative capacity according to those liberal, generous, and noble sentiments!

I shall conclude with an extract from the polite, Catholic, and elegant Doctor *Balguy's* dedication of his Sermons to his Grace Doctor *Thomas Herring*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, at the time of the last rebellion in *Scotland* in favour of the Pretender. "What follows, my Lord, not only seems to claim a place, but cannot be omitted without a crime—I mean that exemplary love of your Country, which burns so nobly in your own breast, and has kindled or spread that generous passion all around you. You teach us by all fit means and methods, not only to be good Clergymen, but good *Englishmen*; not only to be wise and virtuous, but brave and free. You set before us, in the strongest light, the charms of liberty, and execrable evils of tyranny and bondage; inflaming our minds with an ardent love for the one, and an unconquerable aversion to the other. From your Grace we learn how to oppose the arts and intrigues of modern *Rome* with the spirit of ancient *Romans*; and cheerfully to sacrifice our lives and fortunes to the preservation of our



liberties, and the defence of our Country." Oh that the generous ardour which flames and shines in these lines animated the breasts of all the Bishops and Clergymen in *England* and *America*, and every Protestant heart in the world!

PHILALETHES.

DECLARATION OF THE GRAND-JURY AND MAGISTRATES,  
ETC., AT THE COURT OF QUARTER-SESSIONS, AT JOHNSTOWN, TRYON COUNTY, NEW-YORK, MARCH 16, 1775.

Whereas, the Supervisors of the several Districts in the County of *Tryon*, with the entire approbation of some of the most respectable persons in that County for character and property, did, so early as *June* last, by letters to the gentlemen of the *New-York* Committee, decline entering into the unhappy dispute between *Great Britain* and its Colonies; and therein assigned their reasons for so doing, as according to their humble conceptions it did not appear to tend to the violation of their civil or religious rights, but merely regarded a single article of Commerce, which no person was compelled to purchase, and which persons of real virtue and resolution might easily have avoided or dispensed with; instead of which the inhabitants of one capital had committed an outrageous and unjustifiable act on the private property of the *India* Company, and therefore appeared to be alone affected by or really interested in the measures then taken by the King and Parliament, in support of what was and is deemed by many persons of good abilities and integrity, its just right and prerogative, then necessarily asserted for the preservation of order and due obedience to Government.

And whereas, these Supervisors, at a subsequent publick meeting, called in their own vindication, had the satisfaction to find that their conduct met with the entire approbation of a large majority; and their former proceedings were signed as such, by those who had not before been consulted upon it. And they have, moreover, since had the additional pleasure to observe, that notwithstanding all the artifices used by violent and designing men to practise on the easy credulity of the good people of this Country, their conduct now stands justified, as well from the wise and temperate Resolves of the true Representatives of this Colony, as from the opinion of all good subjects and real lovers of order and subordination. Therefore, at a time when so many Districts, &c., are manifesting in a publick manner their loyal attachment to Government, in opposition to the specious illusion and independency with which they had been amused, the Grand-Jury of a County which had been foremost in avowing its sentiments, could not pass over the present opportunity that offers, of bearing testimony to the prudent conduct and invariable resolutions of their County, as a respectable part of which they declare in few and plain words, but in the language of truth, that they abhorred, and still do abhor, all measures tending, through partial representation, to alienate the affections of the subjects from the Crown; or by wresting the intent and meaning of a particular Act, to draw in the inhabitants of a wide and extensive Territory to a dangerous and rebellious opposition to the Parent State, when exerting itself to preserve that obedience, without which no State can exist; in which opinion they are strengthened by the certain knowledge that a large body of them have of the superiour advantage of the *British* Constitution, not only over those under which so many of them were born, but with which they have been in any wise acquainted; and that this excellent Constitution does appear to be in more danger from the intemperate warmth and dangerous politicks of ignorant men, or crafty Republicans, than from any measures which it appears to be either the aim or interest of Government to enforce.

They do, therefore, resolve to bear faith and true allegiance to their lawful Sovereign King *George* the Third, "and that in the true and plain sense of the words," as they are or ought to be commonly understood, without the prevarication which has often accompanied the same expressions from his warmest opponents. And as these have been the sentiments of the most respectable people of this County from the beginning, His Majesty's faithful Grand-Jurors will, in any extremity, exert themselves in the support of Government, as men who, whilst they have a true sense of generous liberty, are equally sensible of the just claim he has to their warmest loyalty for the enjoyment of

these blessings, which his gentle reign has afforded, and who are heartily disposed to give him the strongest marks of it.

Signed by the Grand-Jury:

|                           |                     |                        |
|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Guy Johnson,              | } Judges.           | Robert Wells, Foreman. |
| John Butler,              |                     | Robert Picken,         |
| John Johnson,             | } Assistant Judges. | Abraham Garrason,      |
| Daniel Claus,             |                     | Henry Hare,            |
| Jelles Fonda,             | } Justices.         | Nicholas Felling,      |
| Peter Tenbroeck,          |                     | John Smith,            |
| Joseph Chew,              |                     | Andrew Wemple,         |
| Frederick Young,          |                     | John Bauman,           |
| Adam Laucks,              |                     | Samuel Gardener,       |
| Rudolph Shomaker,         |                     | John Fonda,            |
| John Collin,              |                     | John Davis,            |
| Alexander White, Sheriff. |                     | John Wolgimot,         |
| Bryan Lefferty, Clerk.    |                     | Jacob Felling,         |
| D. Davis,                 |                     | Isaac Collier,         |
| Walter Butler,            | } Attorneys.        | James Scott,           |
|                           |                     | Michael Stoller,       |
|                           |                     | David Quackenbush,     |
|                           |                     | John Flint.            |

And a number of the principal Freeholders and Inhabitants.

REV. ELEAZER WHELOCK TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Dartmouth College, March 16, 1775.

MUCH HONOURED SIR: I think that a concern for my own and my Country's safety, may be esteemed sufficient excuse for my acting so much out of character as I may seem to do, in intermeddling in our present publick and distressing affairs; and relying upon your candour and friendship to accept this for excuse, and to suppress whatever you may think may disserve me or that cause which has long been, and still is, my object, I shall freely hint something which I don't know but may be useful, and consequently would be criminal to withhold.

You are not insensible, Sir, how calamitous and distressing the case of these new and defenceless settlements will likely be, if such a Northern Army of Savages, &c., as we have been threatened with should be prevailed upon to join *European* forces against these Colonies, and how much of the strength of the Country below us must necessarily be diverted from the sea-coast to defend and secure us, if such an event should take place. For this, among other reasons, I have this spring sent Mr. *James Dean*, (who, among other excellent qualifications, is a great master of the language of the *Indians* at *Caghnavaga*.) as a Missionary, to itinerate for a short time among the tribes in *Canada*, to keep the fire burning, and brighten the chain (as they speak) of that friendship lately commenced between those tribes and this Seminary, which at present seems to be high in the esteem of many of them, as their conduct has fully testified, by receiving our Missionaries, and treating them with respect; sending their children from time to time with cheerfulness to school, &c. I have ten of their sons now with me, eight of whom are descendants from *English* captives, and one a son of the chief Sachem at *St. Francis*, and another is brother to the youth who was lately elected and crowned Sachem at *Caghnavaga*, which young Sachem I expect also will come hither to receive an education, as his father, who was here with him, promised to send him to me as soon as certain rites, customary among them to ratify and publish his election to and investiture in said office, should be performed. A number who have been at school here, have returned on one occasion and another, and made favourable reports of the treatment they met with among the *English*, and an honourable representation of the kind design of this school. I expect a number more from those tribes soon, and likely may have more than I can at present find means to support. This connexion, Sir, I esteem, under *God*, our strongest bulwark, if such invasion from the northward should be made.

I would also further inform you that Mr. *Dean* was brought up and naturalized among the *Six Nations*; is a great master of their language, and much esteemed as an orator among them; and his influence among them I apprehend to be greater than any other man's, unless it be their present Superintendent, and is esteemed by the best judges to be a man of genius, learning, piety, and great prudence. He was of opinion, (though he thought nothing of any mention being made of it,) that if there should be occasion, and he should be properly authorized for it, he could influence all those *Six Nations* to join these Colo-



nies against any invasion that should be made or attempted against them, and I don't think he did at all overrate his ability or influence for that purpose. Mr. *Dean* designed to return as soon as the Lake should be clear of ice, and the streams and roads should favour it, which will likely be in May.

If what I have hinted shall suggest the least advantage to the cause, I am well repaid for writing; and if none at all, yet you have a testimonial of the good wishes and desires of him who is, with much esteem and respect, your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,

ELEAZER WHELOCK.

Governour *Trumbull*.

REMONSTRANCE PRESENTED BY THE SELECTMEN OF BILLERICA TO HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL GAGE, MARCH 16, 1775.

*May it please your Excellency:*

We, the Selectmen of the Town of *Billerica*, beg leave to remonstrate to your Excellency that, on the 8th of this instant, (*March*,) one *Thomas Ditson*, an inhabitant of said Town of *Billerica*, was tarred and feathered, and very much abused, by a party of His Majesty's Forty-Seventh Regiment, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel *Nesbit*. As guardians for said Town, and from a regard to the liberties and properties of its inhabitants, we cannot but resent this procedure. Your Excellency must be sensible that this act is a high infraction on that personal security which every *Englishman* is entitled to, and without which his boasted Constitution is but a name.

It is sufficiently unhappy for us, that we find Troops quartered among us for the purpose of enforcing obedience to Acts of Parliament of *Great Britain*, in the highest sense iniquitous, cruel, and unjust. It is still more unhappy, if these Troops, instead of preserving the character which *British* Troops once had, should pour in additional insult, and be guilty of the most brutal outrages. We hope your Excellency will take some steps for accommodating this affair; for we assure you we cannot, consistent with our duty, pass this matter over. We have been told by your Excellency, that you never meant to disturb the intercourse between the Town and the Country; confiding in this, we have passed and repassed in our usual manner. We therefore hope your Excellency will make it evident, by your conduct, that you are determined the intercourse shall be preserved, and we be not buoyed up with promises which, in the end, we unhappily find not to be depended upon. Lieutenant Colonel *Nesbit* is an Officer under your Excellency's command; of you, therefore, we demand satisfaction for the insult committed by him; we think it is in your power. We beg your Excellency that the breach, now too wide between *Great Britain* and this Province, may not, by such brutality of the Troops, still be increased. We assure you, Sir, it always has been, and still is, our sentiment and prayer, that harmony may be restored, and that we may not be drove to the last distress of Nations.

But may it please your Excellency, we must tell you we are determined, if the innocent inhabitants of our Country Towns (for we must think this man innocent in this affair) must be interrupted by Soldiers in their lawful intercourse with the Town of *Boston*, and treated with the most brutish ferocity, we shall hereafter use a different style from that of petition and complaint.

If the grand bulwarks of our Constitution are thus violently torn away, and the powers on earth prove unfriendly to the cause of virtue, liberty, and humanity, we are still happy. We can appeal to Him who judgeth righteously, and to Him we cheerfully leave the event.

TO THE GENTLEMEN OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS  
OF VIRGINIA.

Williamsburg, Virginia, March 17, 1775.

The addresses presented to their Lieutenant-Governour by the Council and eleven polluted Members of the Assembly of *New-York*, are, to every sensible thinking *American*, of infinitely a more alarming nature than the threats of the Minister, the *brutum fulmen* of the King's speech, (if that can properly be termed the King's speech which the Minister has publicly avowed to be his own compo-

sition,\*) or the echoing back this speech by a hireling majority of the Peers to their paymaster; for as long as a spirit of union subsists through this Continent, and as long as the people at home have reason to think that this spirit does subsist, these threats of the Minister (although vibrated from the sounding-board of the Throne) and the echoing it back by a hired chorus of Peers, must cast more ridicule upon those by whom they are uttered, than give terror to those at whom they are levelled. But the suspicion or report of any defection amongst ourselves, is a matter of most serious concern; it behooves you, therefore, gentlemen; it behooves every Provincial Congress of the Continent, to consider immediately of some effectual means to prevent the mischievous consequences intended by these abandoned and senseless men. Have we then formed a General Association of our Provinces? Have we pledged ourselves to each other, to our posterity, to mankind? Have we made so great (temporary at least) sacrifices in Commerce? Have we solemnly engaged to make still greater sacrifices in the glorious cause of Liberty? Have we confounded our enemies by a strain of virtue scarcely credible in these modern ages, and with a spirit of harmony that has surpassed the most sanguine expectation? Have we acted this noble part? And shall the Council and eleven contemptible Assemblymen of *New-York* attempt to render all we have done abortive? Contemptible in all respects—in numbers, in understanding, in knowledge, and in principles! For what other tendency can their addresses to their Lieutenant-Governour possibly have but to counteract the Resolves of the Congress, and render every thing ye have done abortive? These compositions of pusillanimity, abject servility, and disgusting folly, amount simply to this: That the utmost exertions of this United Continent (consisting of half a million of fighting men) can have no effect; that all the resistance (civil or military) which they can make, must be in vain; but that redress alone must be sought, and can be expected from the magnanimity of the *British* Nation, and the known goodness and virtue of the King. Gracious Heaven! grant us patience for to be told that we are to expect any thing from the magnanimity of a people who, for twelve years successively, have suffered themselves to be insulted, disgraced, trampled upon, plundered, and butchered with impunity! Or to be told that we are to look up to the goodness and virtue of a King who, for the same number of years, has been influenced to make incessant war upon the property, rights, privileges, laws, honour, and integrity of his people, in every part of the Empire, is enough to drive moderation itself into violence.

But, continue these admirable Senators, what opens still a surer prospect of redress is, that His Excellency Governour *Tryon* is now near the Throne. So it seems that what the petitions, supplications, and remonstrances of the whole Colonies; of the City of *London*; of the great commercial Towns of the leading Counties of *England*; what the voice of policy, reason, justice, and humanity, could not effect, Colonel *Tryon's* being in *England* will accomplish. I know not whether this Colonel *Tryon* is a man of so extraordinary talents, eloquence, and influence, as to work these mighty miracles. I never understood that he was; but I am sure, if he has common sense, and any manly feelings, he cannot help being somewhat disgusted at this ill-timed, impertinent flattery, and that he must conceive the greatest contempt for the parasites who, regardless of the most important concerns to their Country and humanity, and at the very crisis which is to determine whether themselves and their posterity are to be freemen or slaves, could step out of their way to offer up incense to an unimportant individual. It may be said, this is all declamation; it may be so, but it is a declamation which an honest zeal in the publick cause has forced me into. It is now time, gentlemen, to devise some means of putting a stop to this cancer before it spreads to any dangerous degree. You, gentlemen of *Virginia*, and your neighbours of *Maryland* have, perhaps, these means in your hands.

\* The affected friends to Government often complain that His Majesty is not treated with the respect due to his character and station; but it appears to me, that a Minister's declaring in an open Senate that the speech from the Throne is not the King's, but is his own, is going beyond disrespect. It is a most outrageous insult; it is representing His Majesty as a mere puppet, that squeaks just as he, the prompter, breathes.



I would propose, then, that after a spirited manifesto, expressing your abhorrence of the Council\* and prostitute eleven of *New-York*, you should proceed to punish the individuals of this wicked junto who are in your power. Some of them have great contracts for wheat and corn in these Provinces, from *Norfolk, Alexandria, Chester, Baltimore*, and other ports. They export prodigious quantities, and enrich themselves considerably by this commerce. I would propose, that all commerce with these assassins should be laid immediately under an interdict; that not a single Ship belonging to a counsellor of *New-York*, (unless he purges himself by oath from having consented to the address,) or of one of the prostitute eleven, should be furnished with a freight within the Capes *Henry* or *Charles*; and I have that opinion of the virtue of these Provinces to think your injunctions would be efficacious. But here I must beg leave to pause for an instant, and ask pardon of the publick for my apparent presumption. An individual who offers his thoughts to so respectable a body as a Congress, delegated by the voice of a whole people, has certainly the air of presumption; it is in some measure attributing to himself superiour lights and abilities. But, on the other hand, it is allowed that an individual has frequently been fortunate enough to chalk out lines in which the most sagacious and respectable bodies have not disdained to walk.

If his proposals or hints be weak and absurd, they will naturally be laughed at; but if his intentions be honest, the consciousness of having acted from motives of rectitude, and the love of his Country, will sufficiently compensate for any ridicule which his scheme can incur. I would therefore wish, that what I offer should rather be understood as hints than advice. If these hints are attended to, I shall reap no personal glory; if they are despised, I shall be no personal sufferer, as my name will probably never be known; for I have too great confidence in the integrity of the printer to apprehend he will insinuate, even the most remotely, his conjectures of the author. But to proceed with my proposals, or hints, in which latter light I am most desirous they should be considered: I could wish to the above-mentioned manifesto was subjoined the warmest letter of thanks to the virtuous ten of the Assembly of *New-York*, for their endeavours to stem the profligacy and wickedness of the majority, and for the noble part they have acted as true *Americans* and excellent citizens; that another address, not less warm, should be presented to the gentlemen and people of *New-York* at large, expressing your opinion of their honesty and publick spirit, and lamenting their peculiar circumstances, which, to those who are strangers to these circumstances, may inculcate a belief that they alone are exceptions to the character of patriotism which the *Americans* are now indisputably entitled to. But above all, I could wish that it were recommended to every Province of the Continent, more particularly to their immediate neighbours of *Pennsylvania*, the *Jerseys*, and *Connecticut*, not to suffer one of this depraved undecimvirate to set his foot on their territories, until he invokes the forgiveness of his Country, and solemnly engages that his future life shall be employed in making compensation for his present conduct, of so obviously a mischievous tendency.

P. S. The epithets prostitute, profligate, &c., which I have so freely made use of, may probably appear illiberal; but when we consider the mischievous consequences which the conduct of these Council and Assemblymen of *New-York* are fraught with, it must be allowed that no language can furnish opprobrious terms adequate to their delinquency. I am far indeed from apprehending that their weight and influence are sufficient to shake the virtue of the Continent, or occasion any defection. I do not believe that an individual (much less a set of men) will be found who will be stupid and wicked enough to tread in their steps, the infamous \*\*\* of *Philadelphia*, and a small perverse drivelling knot of *Quakers*, who form his Senate and Court, excepted. This worthy lately fixed his residence at *New-York*, with the professed intention of work-

\* I cannot persuade myself that the Council were unanimous in this infamous address; there are individuals amongst them of known probity, sense, and patriotism. But these gentlemen, so far from objecting to the obligation of purging themselves by oath of having had any share of the guilt, will rejoice in the opportunity of acquitting themselves.

ing with some congenial spirits in that City towards the ruin of the whole fabrick which the Congress had been raising. Indeed, it is most probable that he was the principal compiler, if not the dictator, of these wretched addresses. The style and sentiments are certainly his; the same mist, fog, and darkness, which overcast all his productions, envelop these addresses; and the same narrow, crooked politicks, low cunning, malignancy, and treachery, discoverable through the mist, fog, and obscurity of all his works and actions, betray themselves in these addresses. It may now be asked, as I have represented the character, weight, and credit of these eleven Assemblymen, of the majority of the Council of *New-York*, and their *Philadelphia* coadjutor, or more properly dictator, in so despicable a light, wherefore I should sound the alarm? What mischiefs can possibly result from the utmost such men can do? I answer, that although they can neither occasion any defection, nor present the least prospect of success to the enemies of *America* and liberty, they can do very considerable mischief. They can procrastinate the issue; they can (and most probably will) prolong the inconveniences which we must, more or less, feel during the contest. There is nothing more certain than that the Ministry have proceeded to the enormous lengths they have done upon the presumption that the attacks upon *Boston* would not have been taken up by the other Provinces, as the cause of the whole.\* There is, therefore, nothing more certain than that the appearance of our firmness and unanimity must soon have overthrown them, or forced them into a total change of measures; but the least appearance that this firmness and unanimity no longer subsists, will encourage them to persist, and enable them to keep their ground some time longer. These addresses of *New-York* will give this appearance; so that whatever the gentlemen, the merchants, the tradesmen, the mechanicks, and the people of *America* at large suffer from the prolongation of the contest; whatever shall be added to the distresses and burden of the people at home; whatever shall farther impair the commerce, strength, credit, and reputation of the Mother Country, and bring her still nearer to total bankruptcy and ruin; whatever shall farther alienate the affections of the child from the parent, may justly be imputed to this abject Council and eleven prostitute Assemblymen of *New-York*.†

Boston, March 17, 1775.

The *Massachusetts Gazette* of *February* 23d, has given the publick a long and laboured account of the terrible mischiefs done by mobs in this Province, and the names of the persons who are said to have suffered by them.‡ I own I was not displeased at the particular mention of their names, nor would I have had one left out of this shining list: for the world ought to know, and posterity to remember the men who have taken so open and decisive a part against their Country, at a time when it was nobly exerting itself in one of the most important and severe contests that ever fell to the share of any community. That they have suffered, and will continue to suffer as long as any remains of honour and conscience, and feelings for the estimation and love of their fellow-subjects reside with them, I firmly believe. This is all the revenge their much injured Country has hitherto taken of them.

That they live, some of them in affluence and splendour, upon the revenue extorted from their much injured Country, live to combine their heads and hearts for enslaving *America*, is a striking proof of the moderation and

\* That this is the principle they acted upon, is now put out of dispute by the conduct of Lord *North* in the House of Commons, and some speeches directed to him.

† *Williamsburgh*, March 24, 1775.—The author of the piece addressed to the Provincial Congress of *Virginia*, having written in the heat of resentment, on the first news of the conduct of the Council and Assembly of *New-York*, and having been since assured, from the best authority, that the majority of the former are men of so good personal characters as to be incapable of doing injury intentionally to their Country; he begs leave publicly to retract the harsh terms he has applied to these gentlemen, and to impute the unhappy step they have taken to error and seduction, not to any sinister designs. One gentleman in particular, who has large dealings in this Country, he has heard so great a character of, in the article of integrity and benevolence, as to render it impossible that he should do any thing inimical to the community, unless deceived into it by other men. The gentleman I allude to is Mr. *Wallace*.

‡ See Volume I, Folio 1260.



lenity of that people in whose power it was, had it been equally their inclination, to have taken another kind of revenge.

The Act for shutting up the Port of *Boston*, which the Tories themselves did not scruple at first to call unjust and cruel, and which the whole world regards with abhorrence and indignation, was received by the inhabitants of that Town in a manner that does them everlasting honour. Neither transported by resentment, nor sunk with fear, nor warped by a regard to their private interest, they have now for near nine months endured all the relentless rigour of that Act, and a total deprivation of the commerce upon which they subsisted, rather than set an example to *America* of a tame and base resignation of our invaluable rights. They calmly referred their cause to the whole Continent, knowing it to be a common one; they have accordingly been applauded and supported by all the Colonies, and are now waiting with a patience and fortitude that will never be forgotten, the final issue of this reference.

With respect to the other Acts of Parliament that soon followed, (for vacating our Charter, in the important article of appointing His Majesty's Council, a branch of our Legislature, and for altering the mode of administering justice,) it was impossible for the people of this Province to exhibit the same patience. They waited indeed till the moment these Acts were to take effect, when they found themselves reduced to this cruel alternative, either tamely to submit to a deprivation of privileges which they held dearer than life, or run the risk of an immediate opposition. Had they bowed their necks to the yoke at that important moment, it would have been riveted upon them forever; no resistance could afterwards have been made with any prospect of success. The force of humble petitions and complaints had been already tried for a succession of years, and the men who had distinguished themselves in defence of our inalienable rights would have felt all the resentment of Government, in its new and tyrannical form; and juries, pricked off by a Sheriff appointed and removable at the pleasure of the Chair, instead of acquitting, might only have given a sanction to the sufferings of the virtuous and loyal, though accused subject.

In this extremity, which they had been endeavouring by every means in their power to avoid, they determined upon a virtuous and brave opposition; an opposition, all circumstances considered, planned and conducted with great prudence, and a lenity not to be exemplified. The freeholders of the several Counties, headed by men of the first estimation and character among them, peaceably assembled, and without doing injury to a single person, or any man's property, calmly, though resolutely prohibited the courts of justice from sitting and acting upon a plan that must have ruined the liberties of their Country, and destroyed every security for their property and lives. In the same manner the people demanded of the Mandamus Councilmen a resignation of an office totally inconsistent with their Charter rights. Those who resigned were restored to the good opinion of their fellow-citizens, and have had nothing to fear. Others deluded their honest open-hearted neighbours, who were ready to accept the slenderest pledges of an intention not to destroy their civil rights. When these men had gained the protection of the Army, they insulted the credulity of their countrymen, and have been incessant in their endeavours to bring military vengeance upon a people to whose tenderness and forbearance they owe their own safety.

After the well known Powder expedition, the general alarm consequent upon it, and the resolution of General *Gage* to reside, with all his Troops, in *Boston*, great pains were taken to induce all the friends of Government, that is, all the enemies to the claims of *America*, to remove to the same place, and claim the protection of the Army. Of such a measure the Commissioners of the Customs had before set an example, with no small success. Accordingly, some who might have remained at home in safety, and at ease too, had it not been for a consciousness that their own views and inclinations were directly opposite to what the whole community deemed its most important interests, removed with their families to *Boston*. It is easy to see with what views this measure was taken, and what consequences were expected and wished to follow from it.

History does not afford an instance of a people so long

irritated by cruel and oppressive innovations in their Government, harassed by Fleets and Armies, and an unheard of Port Bill, and obliged by the last necessity to oppose the mere forms of law to preserve the spirit and blessings of the *British* Constitution, who have conducted their opposition with more caution and moderation, and with less damage to those who have all along obstructed them in every probable method they could devise for their safety. This will appear more remarkable, when we consider, that in such contests injuries from brethren, men born and bred in the community, and under every obligation to protect its rights, are more severely resented than from strangers, and that many of these unnatural children of the *Massachusetts* were known to be its most implacable enemies, most ready to expose it by their speeches and writings to the scorn and hatred of the world, and most eager to whet the sword that might deluge it in blood.

In all this exertion for publick safety not a life nor a limb has been taken away; not a field has been laid waste, nor a dwelling destroyed. Some indiscretions and violences may have been committed by boys and the lowest of the people, which cannot, in such circumstances as this community has unhappily been reduced to, be prevented or properly punished. But are these to be compared with the horrid scene exhibited a few years ago, in *King-street*, on the fifth of *March*; with the bloody and dangerous affrays with the soldiery since that time, notwithstanding the utmost caution and exertion of the Commander-in-Chief to prevent them? Are they to be compared with the loss of property sustained by the Port Bill, and the distress and anxious apprehensions brought upon a large community of merchants, mechanicks, and yeomanry, by large Fleets and Armies, in hostile array? Or with the painful solicitude with which all our bosoms have been agitated for those rights, without which life itself would be a burden? And yet all these evils have been brought upon their Country, chiefly by the very men and their connexions who would represent themselves in the world as suffering from it in the most inhuman manner. For it is plain, even to demonstration, that had these men, and their head, now residing in *England*, concurred with their Country in a love to its ancient Constitution, and its sacred rights; and had they honestly and steadily resolved to accept no commissions, nor to act from any under an innovated Government; had they done this at the beginning of our troubles, Administration must of necessity have given up the design of taxing *America*, and vacating our Charter; and all the distressing measures we have since endured for the purposes, would have been peaceably avoided. Instead of this, the Tories of this Province, under the auspices of *Bernard* and *Hutchinson*, have been the most zealous promoters, if not the original contrivers of this most injurious design, and the methods taken to effect it.

It is astonishing to observe how alienated these men are from the interest of the community in which they were born and educated, and still live; how inflexibly opposed to its prevailing sentiments and principles; and with what scorn and detestation they regard the united exertions of all *America* to defend itself from the attempts of a corrupt Administration to enslave it. In their account, the love of liberty is sedition; a claim of the rights of *Englishmen*, which are no more than the rights of human nature, is treason; and a deliberate united determination to defend them, is rebellion. If the people, the fountain of all civil honour and authority, and of whom the first rulers are indeed servants; if the people, I say, assemble and consult for the preservation of their rights, these men immediately cry out in a rage, a mob! and seem to wish, like *Nero*, that the whole Province had but one neck, that they might divide it at a stroke. They will plead in excuse for the *Quebeck* Bill, which establishes the *Roman Catholic* Religion and a *French* Government in a *British* Colony, that it is tenderly accommodated to the prejudices of the majority in that Colony; but for the prejudices and misapprehensions of their brethren in the Protestant Colonies, allowing them to be in an error, they have no indulgence. It is humane and just that the *Canadians* should claim and enjoy the tyranny of *French* laws; but for the *British* inhabitants of the other Colonies to urge their claim for *British* privileges, deserves confiscation of estate and a halter.

Let these men, if they please, go on to call the orderly



assembling of the freeholders of this Province in defence of their unalienable rights, a *mob*. It is such a kind of *mob* as has more than once preserved the *British* Constitution from absolute ruin; such a *mob* as rose in *England*, in the reign of *James* the Second, consisting of the body of the people, and the first characters in every literary and honourable department; a *mob* which the two Universities, the Clergy, and even the Army itself did not hesitate to join, and of which the great *Churchill*, afterwards *John* Duke of *Marlborough*, was a principal ringleader. The difference is, they opposed an arbitrary Monarch, while we are only defending ourselves against the unconstitutional, despotick power of our fellow-subjects—the Lords and Commons of *Great Britain*. They took the field. We have not yet been reduced, and I hope never shall, to that cruel necessity. May *American* mobs be crowned with the same success, and all posterity will revere them as the glorious conservators of the rights of mankind. LUCIUS.

TO GOVERNOUR WENTWORTH.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, March 17, 1775.

MUCH DELUDED SIR: AS I have no desire to detract from the merit of your former actions, I readily allow, that for many years your prudent conduct gained you the affections of almost all the people in this and the neighbouring Colonies. No man in your station could be more honoured and revered; no person could exert himself more in favour of the Province, or exceed you in promoting the true interest of it. You did not prostitute commissions, but endeavoured to add dignity to your Courts and honour to your Militia. You caused harmony to subsist between the several officers and soldiers throughout the Province; and doubtless felt that satisfaction yourself, which ever results from the consciousness of having done well. You well know what effects this produced; and with pleasure saw the zeal with which the people espoused and defended your cause against the rage and malice of some who have since become your bosom friends. But, Sir, let me ask you, whether your late conduct has not been totally different? Have you not, without provocation, risen up against your native Country, and done all in your power to enslave it? Have you not used your utmost endeavours to enforce those unconstitutional Acts, against which *America* has made so violent an opposition? Have you not arbitrarily deprived the people from any share in their own Government for near twelve months, and reduced your people to the sad necessity of being governed by the Crown, or its immediate servants; or of being reduced to a state of anarchy? Have you not devised various methods to divide and weaken the people, that their opposition to Parliamentary measures might be less powerful? Have you not issued your writs for the election of Representatives to Towns where the number of inhabitants were inconsiderable, when compared with others, which you chose to pass by without the least notice? Have you not executed your vengeance on all those who have stood forth to defend the liberties of their Country, upon the members of the late Congress; upon Civil Magistrates and Military Officers? You have. How then can you expect to rule in the hearts of this people? Can you conceive that they take no notice of these things? Be not deceived. A few fawning sycophants may endeavour to flatter you; but believe me, Sir, the affections of the people will never be possessed by you in future. They well know that you were the only person who endeavoured to procure workmen to build barracks for the enemies of *America*; they are fully sensible, that the officers who have been foremost in disciplining their men, and fitting them for action; and the men who have been engaged for the preservation of the sacred rights of the people, who have warned the people of their danger and exhorted each to shun it, have been made the objects of your resentment, these men you have dismissed from every civil and military employment. But what is the consequence? You already see that numbers of officers have resigned, nobly refusing to hold commissions when nothing can secure them but consenting to the ruin of their Country; and you will soon find that the same spirit will discover itself to every part of the Government; and, of course, the militia will be in the same state as that of the *Massachusetts*, *Maryland*, &c.

I suppose that in excuse for this conduct, you will say that you were expressly ordered to do this, and could by no means avoid it, and secure your own standing; which perhaps may be the case. But then I must beg leave to observe, that if those orders were from General *Gage*, and you can by no means secure your standing but by obeying them, you can claim but little merit for any acts you may do in future; as General *Gage*, with his nod, can direct the publick affairs of this and every other Colony upon the Continent. If it proceeded from the mandates of a Minister, then it is immaterial whether we are governed by Lord *North* or any other person, as every thing is to be regulated by his arbitrary will and pleasure.

I however incline to think that this is our deplorable situation, that the person who presides over us has little more to do than echo the voice of a despotick Minister, and see that his mandates are obeyed; I must therefore pity the person appointed to preside, and the unhappy people who are called to obey. No situation can be more unhappy; no slavery can be more complete. I think myself acquainted with the natural goodness of your heart, and will venture to affirm, that you would not (if left to yourself) make such a wanton use of the prerogative, or deprive the people for such a length of time from having a share in their own Government. You well know that by the same kind of conduct, the people may be deprived of the inestimable right of representation, whenever and for whatever length of time an arbitrary Minister may think proper. I shall conclude, by assuring you that I am far from being your enemy; and that I sincerely grieve for you, and a number of others, who I am persuaded must, if they retain their commissions, owe their future greatness to their Country's ruin. THE SPECTATOR.

TO D \* \* \* C \* \* \* \* \*, ESQ.

New-Jersey, March 18, 1775.

DEAR SIR: You expect my sentiments on our publick affairs, and, indeed, I can with freedom unburden my full heart to one whom I esteem a true friend to *George* the Third, our rightful Sovereign, to the Protestant succession in his family, and to the real interest and greatest good of the whole *British* Empire. And were such as truly the character of every *British* subject as it is yours, and every mind properly informed, all our unhappy differences would soon be amicably settled, and every disagreeable commotion and unfriendly passion subside. But a strong party too near the Throne, of a quite opposite character, are opposing the general good of the Nation, to the great danger of the King, the Protestant succession and interest, and even the very existence of the Empire as such.

You need not be told, Sir, the many well known facts on which this great danger is founded. Have not that party invaded the rights of mankind in every part of the Empire? Hath not that invasion stirred up a spirit of jealousy, disaffection, and opposition to those hateful measures, more or less, in almost every City, County, and Colony in the *British* Dominions? For instance, the noble spirit and manly opposition shewn by the citizens of *London*, and the electors of *Middlesex*, when their right of election was trodden under foot by that party, in the case of *Wilkes* and *Luttrell*. And the many Petitions and Remonstrances from every quarter, are so many instances of the like kind. Hence it appears that *America* is not singular in her opposition. He must be ignorant of the present state of our Nation, who is not sensible that there are still millions in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, who are possessed of the same virtuous principles with us; and who have shown, or soon must show themselves on the side of Liberty, Protestantism, and the Constitution. Their eyes are opening. They see more and more, this great truth, that the ruin of the whole Empire is involved in that of *America*. In short, such is the state of our publick affairs, that should the friends of despotism carry their point a little higher, and begin with the sword to enforce submission to tyranny, the whole Empire would fall into the most dreadful convulsions, and shake to the very centre. Then, when these convulsions shall have subsided, through the loss of much blood; then (may Heaven prevent it) the *Atlantic* Ocean, the *Irish* Sea, and the River *Tweed*, will probably be what the *English* Channel is



now—a divider of Kingdoms, or the whole to be swallowed up by *Bourbon*.

Nor can *Stuart* himself, whom *America* abhors, expect more than a part of the Empire. For *France* and *Spain*, now grown stronger, will, no doubt, at such a time, do all that in them lies to divide and weaken the *British* Empire; when the *Romish* religion in *Ireland*, the love of *Stuart* in *Scotland*, and the lust of gold in *England*, will forward their design: for what but the love of money could have calculated the present ministerial plan so exactly to suit the meridian of *Paris*?

Some may imagine that *America* may be subjugated without any such ill consequences to the *European* part of the *British* Dominions, and that the *Americans*, were the case once to be put, sword in hand, would make but a feeble resistance; because, they say, many in hopes of present profit or future favours, and many through fear of punishment, will join the ministerial party, and thereby so divide as to destroy, in a great measure, every mode of opposition; and that those who still continue their opposition will be so disheartened and unsupported as to fall an easy prey to their enemies. On which let it be remarked, that those who hold and endeavour to propagate such slavish *anti-American* doctrines, betray in themselves either ignorance, cowardice, or treachery; which are directly opposite to the true character of *America* in general. The *Americans* are a sensible, learned, brave, loyal, free, Protestant people. And though there are some who are otherwise, yet they are a diminutive number, so comparatively few, that they never have, and it is to be hoped they never will take the lead in our publick affairs. Those who think *England* may be safe while in an open rupture with *America*, do not duly consider their danger from their internal and external enemies—the *French*, *Spaniards*, *Catholics*, *Jacobites*, and *Tories*; of which it is hard to say who are the greatest enemies of the *British* Constitution, and the Protestant interest. Be that as it may, it has been openly declared in Parliament, that were the banners of rebellion once spread in *America*, *England* would be a ruined people. And many of the most sensible *Britons* have given it as their opinion, that *Great Britain* and her Colonies must stand or fall together. They are therefore often calling upon us to stand firm and united in our virtuous opposition; adding, that thereby we shall save ourselves and them. This is doubtless true; and it is allowed by friends and foes, that our danger principally, if not wholly lies in our being divided among ourselves. What punishment, therefore, is adequate to their guilt, who use every vile artifice to deceive and divide us, and thereby ruin the whole Empire? And yet, these same traitorous vermin would cloak all their foul conduct under the specious pretence of loyalty, and curse the honest Whigs for traitors; whose loyalty, in fact, is the very thing that vexes them. Would it then be any wonder, if under such provocations, the friends of the Constitution should, in some instances, through their zeal for the publick good, go beyond the line of duty.

The *Americans* are, of all His Majesty's subjects, the greatest admirers of the *British* Constitution; because they esteem it the grand charter of their liberties, civil and religious, which they love as they do their lives; and their loyalty to the present reigning family is as pre-eminent as their love of liberty, and always has been; because they esteem that family as the proper guardians of the Constitution on which alone their throne is built, and under the protection of which we hold our liberties. In this view of things, no wonder if we should esteem those traitors to the King who are using their utmost efforts to undermine his throne by destroying its basis—the Constitution. Hence loyalty itself justifies us in opposing such men and such measures.

This view justifies all the military preparations now making in *America*. The stronger we are in these, the safer is the Empire. We mean to act only on the defensive. We ought by no means to strike the first blow, nor to provoke those who would. This is certainly a great point to carry against those who call us *Rebels*, and would make us so if they could. I know you will strictly adhere to the wise directions of our loyal Congress, according to which, while you encourage the doubtful and instruct the ignorant, you will punish the guilty, and thereby greatly oblige your humble friend,

ESSEX.

DR. FRANKLIN TO ARTHUR LEE.

Craven-Street, London, March 19, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I leave directions with Mrs. *Stephenson* to deliver you all the *Massachusetts* papers, when you please to call for them. I am sorry that the hurry of preparing for my voyage, and the many hinderances I have met with, prevented my meeting with you and Mr. *Bollan*, and conversing a little more on our affairs before my departure. I wish to both of you health and happiness, and shall be glad to hear from you by every opportunity.

I shall let you know how I find things in *America*. I may possibly return again in the autumn, but you will, if you think fit, continue henceforth the Agent for *Massachusetts*, an office which I cannot again undertake. I wish you all happiness, and am ever yours, affectionately,

B. FRANKLIN.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, March 20, 1775.

Last Tuesday, March 14th, Mr. *Robert Smyth*, Merchant, Master *Smyth*, his son, and Master *Ward*, son of *John Ward*, Esquire, returned here from *London*, in the *Snow Proteus*, Captain *Papley*, having touched at *Falmouth* and *St. Christopher's* by the way.

The said vessel having on board, (besides seven cases of merchandise, said to be Globes and Mathematical Instruments, consigned to Mr. *Robert Wells*, one hogshead, one puncheon, seven casks, thirteen cases, five crates, and one bottle, said to contain Drugs and Medicines, consigned to Mr. *Edward Gunter*,) two puncheons, one box, one tierce, forty bundles, nine cases, and seven hampers, said to contain Household Furniture, and two Horses, belonging to Mr. *Smyth*, all which he declared were brought out by him on the supposition that it was not meant by the Continental Association to prohibit the importation of such articles, and had been in use in his family in *England*. The Committee of Observation requested the sense of the General Committee respecting said Horses and Furniture. This matter accordingly came under the consideration of the General Committee on Wednesday evening, thirty-three members present; when, after a long debate whether the landing the said Horses and Furniture might not be construed a violation of the Association, there appeared to be an equal number for and against that opinion. And the question being put, whether Mr. *Smyth's* Horses, under the circumstances they had been represented, might be landed, it was carried in the affirmative by the Chairman's casting vote. It was at the same time resolved, without a division upon the question, that such part of Mr. *Smyth's* Furniture as, upon inspection by the Committee of Observation, should appear to them to have been in use in his family, (but no other,) might also be landed.

The next morning a great number of the inhabitants appeared extremely uneasy, lest, from the admission of the Horses, it should be suggested that there was an inclination in this Colony to depart from the Association; they feared that the conduct of the people, which had always been consistent, and who continued remarkably strict in their adherence to the Resolves and recommendations of the Congress, might, in this instance, be misrepresented abroad. Their zeal for the reputation of their Country threw them into great agitation; none meant the least reflection on the conduct of their Committee, but all wished that the Horses might not be landed; yet they were then at a loss what measure might be most proper to pursue. On Friday morning, however, a Petition was agreed on, and, after having two hundred and fifty-six names subscribed thereto, presented to the Chairman of the General Committee, in the following words:

"We, a number of the inhabitants of *Charlestown*, conceive that our liberties at this time depend on our unanimity and confidence in our Committee, who, we doubt not, in all things will act according to the best of their judgment for the publick good. But your Petitioners are informed that, by a vote carried by a very small majority, divers Horses and Furniture are permitted to be landed, which many persons, who have the liberty of *America* much at heart, think an infringement of the Association entered into by the General Congress. In order, therefore, to quiet the minds of the people, we pray that there may be a reconsideration of the said matter in a full Committee."



In consequence of this Petition, the said Committee was summoned to meet that evening; but no more than forty-two members then attending, it was thought advisable to adjourn till *Monday* morning, nine o'clock, in order that, if it should be thought necessary to reconsider the matter, it might be done at a very full meeting. Accordingly this morning a very full Committee met, not less than seventy members being present, when the above Petition was taken into consideration; the Resolves of *Wednesday*, respecting the Horses, rescinded, by a majority of one vote; and a Resolution entered into, that they should be sent back, with the Merchandise and Furniture (if any) that should appear not to have been in use. A general satisfaction was expressed upon this occasion, and the quiet of the community seems to be perfectly restored.\*

*Instructions drawn up for the Delegates to the Convention at RICHMOND, the 20th of MARCH, from a certain County in VIRGINIA.*

GENTLEMEN: Although we are fully assured that the worthy gentlemen who lately represented us in General Congress were actuated by motives not to be reprehended, and in their proceedings against the designs of Parliament, have recommended to us a mode of opposition, in their

\* In *South-Carolina* the Association was punctually complied with; no goods from *England* being allowed to be landed, nor were any other importations, contrary to the provisions of that instrument, permitted. About this time the Ship *Charming Sally* had arrived from *Bristol*, in *England*, with three thousand eight hundred and forty-four bushels of Salt, thirty-five chaldrons of Coal, and forty thousand five hundred Tiles; all of which were (25th *February*, 1775,) thrown into *Hog-Island* Creek, by the proprietors or their agents, rather than they would be at the charge and trouble of sending them back to *England*, in pursuance of the tenth article of the Association. So, also, a cargo of near three hundred Slaves was sent out of the Colony by the consignee, as being interdicted by the second article of the Association. In short, the publick regulations were duly and patriotically observed. A case, however, arose, which called forth the spirit of the people, and evinced their determination to support and enforce the Association, in all its various provisions.

A respectable family had been residing in *England* for some time, and were returning home; in which removal it was expected the household furniture and horses, which had been in use, would also be brought over. Some attempts had therefore been made to declare the importation of household furniture and horses, that had been in use, and might be imported from *England*, not to be within the meaning of the tenth article of the Association, as relating to goods or merchandise, but they had been unsuccessful. At length the horses and furniture arriving from thence, application was made on the 15th day of *March* for their being landed; and after a long contest in a thin General Committee of only thirty-three members, the motion was carried by the voice of the Chairman. This permission occasioned a ferment among the citizens, and they almost generally exclaimed "*The Association was broken*," and that the horses at least should not be landed. Some hundreds of the inhabitants assembled, and many active and influential members of the Committee endeavoured to satisfy them respecting the vote of permission which had passed, but in vain. On the contrary, they continued in their opposition, and supported it with a representation signed by a considerable number of persons, and which was presented to the Chairman of the General Committee, desiring the Committee would reconsider their late vote. In pursuance of this request the Committee was convened on the 17th day of *March*, 1775, and the room of meeting was crowded with people. *Edward Rutledge*, who had been one of the most active in the affair, now commenced censuring the people, in thus questioning the vote which had been given, but he was received with a clamour. The General Committee now began to think their authority insulted. Some members accordingly departed in anger, others became vociferous in rage, and for a few minutes all was in confusion. At length tranquillity prevailed; the consideration of the subject was postponed until a more full Committee could be procured; and the third day after was appointed for a final decision. To procure the presence of all the members of the Committee within reach, was now an object of importance, and great exertions for that purpose were made by both parties.

When the appointed time arrived the General Committee convened, and great was the press of people who attended; for the Town was in universal commotion, and application had even been privately made to the incorporated armed companies to cover the landing of the horses. Some individuals of the companies agreed to do so, but the majority of them refused; and the people declared if the horses were landed, they would put them to death. Under these unpleasant aspects the debates began, when Mr. *Gadsden* moved to reverse the former determination, relative to landing the horses. He urged the vote had been carried in a thin Committee; that it was contrary to the Association; that it would alarm the Northern Colonies in a most lively manner; and that our people were highly dissatisfied with it. And he contended this last of itself was a cogent reason to reverse such a determination. The Rev. Mr. *Tennent* next addressed the Committee to the same purpose; as did Mr. *Rugely*, who, in addition, urged that, as the horses paid a duty, they ought not to be landed. These gentlemen, in speaking, spoke immediately after each other. On the other side *Edward Rutledge*, *Ravilins Lowndes*, *Thomas Bee*, and *Thomas Lynch*, contended that the vote of the General Committee ought not to be reversed, but on the contrary ought to be maintained, otherwise the Committee would fall into contempt. That the opinions of the General Committee, now sitting, ought not to be influenced by the petition, as the spirit and not the letter of the Association ought to be attended to.

opinions, the most efficacious and salutary: Nevertheless, as we are entitled to determine upon the propriety of any measures whereby we are bound, and upon the success of which our political and civil interests depend; we must, after expressing all deference and respect for our honest countrymen, who have by their councils and advice stood forth in our cause, beg leave to dissent from them in such points as we think exceptionable. We desire, gentlemen, inviolably to adhere to the civil obligation binding us to our Sovereign, and by no means to assent to any measures that may ultimately affect the faith we owe to our King, or the duty we owe to his people. We desire you neither to censure or patronise the proceedings of those people who destroyed the property of the *East-India* Company, in the Port of *Boston*; this we deem a breach of civil order, and an invasion of private right. But as we know not what circumstances might induce, or cause impel the perpetration of that act, it is too delicate a case, too foreign for us to meddle with. The grand principles for which we contend are, the rights of legislation and taxation; of legislation respecting our internal police, and of taxation independent of every power on earth. These inestimable privileges we will maintain at the risk of our lives and fortunes; but we will justify no proceedings inconsistent with our duty to our King, repugnant to the rights of individuals,

That temporizing did not become honest men and statesmen, who ought to declare their opinions according to their consciences. That if we adhered to the letter of the Association, no arms or ammunition could be received from *England*; and when the letter of the law bore hard against an individual, Lord Chief Justice *Hale* allowed him to escape by any subterfuge; and that it was never the idea of Congress to exclude such articles.

*William Henry Drayton* was the only person who rose in reply. He contended that because an error had been committed, it was no reason it should be continued; that the people thought an error had been committed, and it was our duty to satisfy our constituents, as we were only servants of the publick. That such conduct was evinced by every day's practice in Parliament, therefore it could not be disgraceful to reverse the vote of the Committee, as on such occasions Parliament had often done so. That our present application to the King was for such a purpose; and if we defended ourselves on the principle of falling into contempt, might it not be as reasonable for the King to retort the same argument upon us? That it was always safer to follow the letter than to explore the spirit of a law. That in the case of the *St. John's* people of *Georgia*, we preferred the letter to the spirit of the Association, as was evident by our refusal and advice; then why not adhere to the letter of that instrument now? That temporizing ever was practised in publick affairs by the most honest men, witness *Cato*, of *Utica*, in *Cæsar's* election to the Consulship; and by the best statesmen, witness *Cicero's* letter to *Atticus*, relating to a good pilot's shifting his helm, if he could not reach his port by a direct course; witness the conduct of the Long Parliament, and all history in general. That to discharge a statesman's conscience was to aim at the publick good, and not be pertinacious of his own opinion. That even if there had been an article in the Association, that we should not receive arms and ammunition from *England*, the publick necessity would cause it to be a dead letter, as self-preservation was the first obligation, and *fas est, ab hoste doceri*. He farther contended that Lord *Hale's* principle was just, when applied to an individual, in the event of whose case the publick could not be interested; but it never could be applicable to such a case as the present, where the convenience of the individual and the national interests of the publick were in direct opposition; and that he could not hold the understanding of the late General Congress in so trivial a light, as to entertain a thought of looking for the sense in direct opposition to the words of one of the principal articles of the Association.

He farther said the present case stood divided into two points—the spirit of the regulations, and the union of the people; and that the latter was infinitely of the greater consequence. That the letter of the Association was clearly in support of the motion, and in the present situation of affairs the spirit of that instrument was equally in favour of it. That union was the rock upon which the *American* political edifice was founded; and whatever hazards its existence, is to militate against the ground-work of the Association. Hence it was evident, landing the horses hazarded our union, for the people were in commotion against it. Upon all publick and general questions, the people ever are in the right; so said Lord *Mansfield*, in the House of Commons; and the people now think the late vote was wrong. Can it be prudent to oppose our constituents? In civil commotions the common people ever struck those blows which were of any effect. If you retract, there can be no just cause of fearing contempt; as it is not reasonable those should condemn you who have ever honoured you, and whose opinions would be in favour of your retraction. The *Roman* Senate were a wise body; they often yielded to the people; but nobody supposed their concessions brought them into contempt, and they continued illustrious during the existence of the Commonwealth. Let us imitate, on this occasion, so great, so successful an example, and endeavour, by the same means, to call forth the affections of our fellow-citizens, and to bind them to us by the same ties.

*John Rutledge* now rose and endeavoured to take off the force of the arguments which had been urged, but failing in his endeavours, he only added to the many instances he had previously given of his ability as a good speaker. The debate was then closed; and the question being put, was carried in the affirmative. It is worthy of remark, that this is the first instance of a point of importance and controversy being carried against those, by whose opinions the people had been long governed. And such was the powerful effect of habit, that this important question was carried only by a majority of one voice—thirty-five against thirty-four.—*Drayton*.



or the laws of society. We are greatly alarmed at the resolution to suspend our commercial intercourse with *Great Britain*. To stop her imports must be fatal to her; but to retain from her our exports, by which alone we can be enabled to discharge the heavy debt we owe her, by which the balance of trade might in a few years preponderate in our favour, by which alone we can be kept in peace, or armed for war, is a measure not to be justified by the laws of morality or the rights of policy. We, therefore, especially require of you to procure this resolution of the Congress to be rescinded. It is a duty you owe us, to obtain a proper representation of the Tobacco planters in this Colony, for we must deem a license to any of the inhabitants in *America* to export Wheat, Rice, or any other commodity a partial exemption in their favour, and a sacrifice of our interest to a general cause, which should only be affected in an equal degree with all other object of commercial intercourse. You need not interfere with the *Quebeck Bill*; a law respecting that conquered Country is without our policy, and beyond our ideas. We hear daily of personal insults, and invasions upon private property, from those little Democracies erected in every precinct through this extensive Continent. Reduce these men, we pray you, to the rank of citizens, and let them lord it over their fellows no longer!

Pursue, gentlemen, with prudence and fortitude the cause of your Country, and you may always depend upon the protection of your constituents.

#### VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

At a Convention of Delegates for the Counties and Corporations in the Colony of *Virginia*, at the Town of *Richmond*, in the County of *Henrico*, on *Monday*, the 20th of *March*, 1775. Present:

**CITY OF WILLIAMSBURGH.**—The Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire.  
**ACCOMACK COUNTY.**—*Isaac Smith*, Esquire.  
**ALBEMARLE.**—*Thomas Jefferson* and *John Walker*, Esquires.  
**AMELIA.**—*John Tabb* and *John Winn*, Esquires.  
**AMHERST.**—*William Cabell*, Junior, and *Joseph Cabell*, Esquires.  
**AUGUSTA.**—*Thomas Lewis*, *Samuel McDowell*, and *John Harvie*, Esquires.  
**BEDFORD.**—*John Talbot* and *Charles Lynch*, Esquires.  
**BOTETOURT.**—*Andrew Lewis* and *John Bowyer*, Esquires.  
**BRUNSWICK.**—*Frederick Maclin* and *Henry Tazewell*, Esquires.  
**BUCKINGHAM.**—*John Nicholas* and *Anthony Winston*, Esquires.  
**BERKELEY.**—*Robert Rutherford* and *Adam Stephen*, Esquires.  
**CAROLINE.**—*Edmund Pendleton* and *James Taylor*, Esq's.  
**CHARLES CITY.**—*Benjamin Harrison* and *William Acrill*, Esquires.  
**CHARLOTTE.**—*Paul Carrington* and *Isaac Read*, Esquires.  
**CHESTERFIELD.**—*Archibald Cary* and *Benjamin Watkins*, Esquires.  
**CULPEPPER.**—*Henry Pendleton* and *Henry Field*, Junior, Esquires.  
**CUMBERLAND.**—*William Fleming* and *John Mayo*, Esquires.  
**DINWIDDIE.**—*John Bannister* and *William Watkins*, Esquires.  
**DUNMORE.**—*Jonathan Clarke*, Esquire, and *Peter Muhlenburg*, Clerk.  
**ELIZABETH CITY.**—*Henry King* and *Wolrich Westwood*, Esquires.  
**ESSEX.**—*James Edmondson* and *Meriwether Smith*, Esquires.  
**FAIRFAX.**—*George Washington* and *Charles Broadwater*, Esquires.  
**FAUQUIER.**—*Thomas Marshall* and *James Scott*, Esquires.  
**FREDERICK.**—*Isaac Zane*, Esquire, and *Charles Minn Thruston*, Clerk.  
**FINCASTLE.**—*William Christian*, Esquire.  
**GLOUCESTER.**—*Thomas Whiting* and *Lewis Burwell*, Esquires.  
**GOOCHLAND.**—*John Woodson* and *Thomas Mann Randolph*, Esquires.

**HALIFAX.**—*Nathaniel Terry* and *Micajah Watkins*, Esquires.

**HAMPSHIRE.**—*James Mercer*, Esquire.

**HANOVER.**—*Patrick Henry*, Junior, and *John Syme*, Esquires.

**HENRICO.**—*Richard Adams* and *Samuel Du-Val*, Esquires.

**JAMES CITY.**—*Robert C. Nicholas* and *William Norvell*, Esquires.

**ISLE OF WIGHT.**—*John S. Wills* and *Josiah Parker*, Esquires.

**KING GEORGE.**—*Joseph Jones* and *William Fitzhugh*, Esquires.

**KING AND QUEEN.**—*George Brooke* and *George Lyne*, Esquires.

**KING WILLIAM.**—*Carter Braxton*, and *William Aylett*, Esquires.

**LANCASTER.**—*James Selden* and *Charles Carter*, Esquires.

**LOUDOUN.**—*Francis Peyton* and *Josiah Clapham*, Esquires.

**LOUISA.**—*Thomas Johnson* and *Thomas Walker*, Esquires.

**LUNENBURGH.**—*Richard Claiborne* and *David Garland*, Esquires.

**MIDDLESEX.**—*Edmund Berkeley*, Esquire.

**MECKLENBURGH.**—*Robert Burton* and *Bennett Goode*, Esquires.

**NANSEMOND.**—*Lemuel Riddick* and *Willis Riddick*, Esquires.

**NEW-KENT.**—*Burwell Bassett* and *Bartholomew Dandridge*, Esquires.

**NORFOLK COUNTY.**—*Thomas Newton*, Junior, and *James Holt*, Esquires.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—*John Burton*, Esquire.

**NORTHUMBERLAND.**—*Rodham Kenner* and *Thomas Jones*, Esquires.

**ORANGE.**—*Thomas Barbour* and *James Taylor*, Esquires.

**PITTSYLVANIA.**—*Peter Perkins* and *Benjamin Lankford*, Esquires.

**PRINCE EDWARD.**—*Robert Lawson* and *John Nash*, Esquires.

**PRINCE GEORGE.**—*Richard Bland* and *Peter Poythress*, Esquires.

**PRINCESS ANNE.**—*William Robinson* and *Christopher Wright*, Esquires.

**PRINCE WILLIAM.**—*Henry Lee* and *Thomas Blackburn*, Esquires.

**RICHMOND.**—*Robert Wormeley Carter* and *Francis Lightfoot Lee*, Esquires.

**SOUTHAMPTON.**—*Edwin Gray* and *Henry Taylor*, Esquires.

**SPOTSYLVANIA.**—*George Stubblefield* and *Mann Page*, Junior, Esquires.

**STAFFORD.**—*John Alexander* and *Charles Carter*, Esquires.

**SURRY.**—*Allen Cocke* and *Nicholas Faulcon*, Junior, Esquires.

**SUSSEX.**—*David Mason* and *Henry Gee*, Esquires.

**WARWICK.**—*William Langhorne*, Esquire.

**WESTMORELAND.**—*Richard Henry Lee* and *Richard Lee*, Esquires.

**YORK.**—*Dudley Digges* and *Thomas Nelson*, Junior, Esquires.

**JAMESTOWN.**—*Champion Travis*, Esquire.

**NORFOLK BOROUGH.**—*Joseph Hutchings*, Esquire.

The Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, was unanimously elected President of this Convention, and *Mr. John Tazewell*, Clerk thereof.

The President then recommended it to the Convention to proceed in the deliberation and discussion of the several important matters which should come before them, with that prudence, decency, and order which had distinguished their conduct on all former occasions; and laid before the Convention the proceedings of the Continental Congress, together with a letter from *Benjamin Franklin*, *William Bolla*n, and *Arthur Lee*, Esquires, advising that the Petition to His Majesty had been presented and graciously received.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress be postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That the Reverend *Mr. Selden* be desired to read prayers to the Convention, every morning, at nine o'clock.



*Resolved*, That this Convention will observe, in their debates, the same rules and orders as are established in the House of Burgesses in this Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow 10 o'clock.

Tuesday, March 21, 1775.

A Letter from the Inhabitants of that part of *Augusta* County which lies to the westward of the *Alleghany* Mountain, desiring that *John Nevill* and *John Harvie*, Esquires, may be admitted into this Convention as their Delegates, being read; upon a motion,

*Resolved*, That the said *John Nevill* and *John Harvie* be admitted as Delegates for the County of *Augusta*.

The Convention then took into their consideration the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, agreeably to the order of yesterday; but not having time to go through the same, postponed the further consideration thereof till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow 10 o'clock.

Wednesday, March 22, 1775.

The Convention then, pursuant to the order of yesterday, resumed the consideration of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress; and, after the maturest deliberation, came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Convention doth entirely and cordially approve the Proceedings and Resolutions of the *American* Continental Congress, and that they consider this whole Continent as under the highest obligations to that very respectable body, for the wisdom of their counsels, and their unremitted endeavours to maintain and preserve inviolate the just rights and liberties of His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects in *America*.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the warmest thanks of this Convention, and all the inhabitants of this Colony, whom they represent, are particularly due, and that this just tribute of applause be presented to the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, *Richard Henry Lee*, *George Washington*, *Patrick Henry*, Junior, *Richard Bland*, *Benjamin Harrison*, and *Edmund Pendleton*, Esquires, the worthy Delegates deputed by a former Convention to represent this Colony in General Congress, for their cheerful undertaking, and faithful discharge of the very important trust reposed in them.

Adjourned till to-morrow 10 o'clock.

Thursday, March 23, 1775.

A copy of the Petition and Memorial of the Assembly of *Jamaica* to the King's most Excellent Majesty, was laid before the Convention, and being read, and maturely considered:

*Resolved*, That the unfeigned thanks, and most grateful acknowledgments of this Convention be presented to that very respectable Assembly, for the exceeding generous and affectionate part they have so nobly taken in the unhappy contest between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, and for their truly patriotick endeavours to fix the just claims of the Colonists upon the most permanent constitutional principles.

That the Assembly be assured, that it is the most ardent wish of this Colony (and we are persuaded of the whole Continent of *North America*) to see a speedy return of those halcyon days when we lived a free and happy people.

*Resolved*, That the President be desired to transmit these Resolutions to the Speaker of the *Jamaica* Assembly, by the earliest opportunity.

*Resolved*, That a well regulated Militia, composed of Gentlemen and Yeomen, is the natural strength, and only security of a free Government; that such a Militia in this Colony would for ever render it unnecessary for the Mother Country to keep among us, for the purpose of our defence, any Standing Army of mercenary forces, always subversive of the quiet, and dangerous to the liberties of the people, and would obviate the pretext of taxing us for their support.

That the establishment of such a Militia is at this time peculiarly necessary, by the state of our laws for the protection and defence of the Country, some of which have already expired, and others will shortly do so; and that the known remissness of Government, in calling us together in

a legislative capacity, renders it too insecure, in this time of danger and distress, to rely, that opportunity will be given of renewing them in General Assembly, or making any provision to secure our inestimable rights and liberties from those farther violations with which they are threatened.

*Resolved therefore*, That this Colony be immediately put into a posture of defence; and that *Patrick Henry*, *Richard Henry Lee*, *Robert Carter Nicholas*, *Benjamin Harrison*, *Lemuel Riddick*, *George Washington*, *Adam Stephen*, *Andrew Lewis*, *William Christian*, *Edmund Pendleton*, *Thomas Jefferson*, and *Isaac Zane*, Esquires, be a Committee to prepare a plan for the embodying, arming, and disciplining such a number of men as may be sufficient for that purpose.

Adjourned till to-morrow 10 o'clock.

Friday, March 24, 1775.

The Committee appointed for that purpose reported a plan for embodying, arming, and disciplining the Militia of this Colony; the consideration whereof is postponed till to-morrow.

Certain paragraphs in the publick Papers, said to be votes of the House of Representatives of *New-York*, being read,

The Convention, taking into their consideration that the said Province of *New-York* did, by their Delegates in General Congress, solemnly accede to the compact of Association there formed for the preservation of *American* rights, that a defection from such their compact would be a perfidy too atrocious to be charged on a sister Colony but on the most authentick information, and also doubting whether, from some radical defect in the Constitution of that Government, the sense of their House of Representatives, on questions of this nature, should be considered as the sense of the people in general, came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the Committee of Correspondence for this Colony, that they procure authentick information from the Committee of Correspondence in the Province of *New-York*, or otherwise, whether their House of Representatives, by any vote or votes whatsoever, have deserted the union with the other *American* Colonies, formed in General Congress, for the preservation of their just rights; whether the other Colonies are to consider such vote or votes as declaring truly the sense of the people of their Province in general, and as forming a rule for their future conduct; and, if they are not to be so considered, that then they inform us, by their names and other sufficient descriptions, of the individuals who may have concurred in such vote or votes; and that the said Committee lay such their information before the next Convention, or Assembly.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the Committees of the several Counties and Corporations in this Colony do exert themselves in procuring and continuing Contributions, for supplying the necessities and alleviating the distresses of our brave and worthy fellow-subjects of *Boston*, now suffering in the common cause of *American* freedom, in such manner, and so long as their occasions may require.

*Resolved unanimously*, In compliance with the recommendation of the late Continental Congress, that Delegates ought to be appointed to represent this Colony at the approaching Congress, to be held in the City of *Philadelphia*, the 10th day of *May* next.

*Resolved*, That the delegation from this Colony do consist of seven Members, and that they be chosen by ballot.

Adjourned till to-morrow, 10 o'clock.

Saturday, March 25, 1775.

*Resolved*, As the opinion of this Convention, that, on account of the unhappy disputes between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, and the unsettled state of this Country, the lawyers, suitors, and witnesses ought not to attend the prosecution or defence of civil suits at the next General Court; and it is recommended to the several Courts of Justice not to proceed to the hearing or determination of suits on their dockets, except attachments; nor to give judgments but in the case of Sheriffs or other collectors for Money or Tobacco received by them; in other cases, where such judgment shall be voluntarily confessed, or upon such



amicable proceedings as may become necessary for the settlement, division, or distribution of estates. And, during this suspension of the administration of justice, it is earnestly recommended to the people to observe a peaceable and orderly behaviour; to all creditors to be as indulgent to their debtors as may be, and to all debtors to pay as far as they are able; and where differences may arise which cannot be adjusted between the parties, that they refer the decision thereof to judicious neighbours, and abide by their determination.

The Convention then took into their consideration, according to the order of yesterday, the plan for embodying, arming, and disciplining the Militia; which, being read, and amended, was unanimously agreed to, as follows:

The Committee propose that it be strongly recommended to the Colony, diligently to put in execution the Militia Law passed in the year 1738, entitled "An Act for the better regulating of the Militia," which has become in force by the expiration of all subsequent Militia Laws.

The Committee are further of opinion that, as from the expiration of the above-mentioned latter laws, and various other causes, the legal and necessary disciplining the Militia has been much neglected, and a proper provision of Arms and Ammunition has not been made, to the evident danger of the community in case of invasion or insurrection, it be recommended to the inhabitants of the several Counties of this Colony that they form one or more volunteer Companies of Infantry and Troops of Horse, in each County, and to be in constant training and readiness to act on any emergency.

That it be recommended, particularly to the Counties of *Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Chesterfield, Henrico, Hanover, Spotsylvania, King George, and Stafford*, and to all Counties below these, that out of such, their volunteers, they form each of them one or more Troops of Horse; and to all the Counties above these, it is recommended that they pay a more particular attention to the forming a good Infantry.

That each Company of Infantry consist of sixty-eight rank and file, to be commanded by one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, and four Corporals; and that they have a Drummer, and be furnished with a Drum and Colours; that every man be provided with a good Rifle, if to be had, or otherwise with a common Firelock, Bayonet, and Cartouch-box, and also with a Tomahawk, one pound of Gunpowder, and four pounds of Ball, at least, fitted to the bore of his Gun; that he be clothed in a Hunting Shirt, by way of uniform; and that all endeavour, as soon as possible, to become acquainted with the military exercise for Infantry, appointed to be used by His Majesty in the year 1764.

That each Troop of Horse consist of thirty, exclusive of Officers; that every Horseman be provided with a good Horse, Bridle, Saddle, with Pistols and Holsters, a Carbine, or other short Firelock, with a Bucket, a Cutting Sword, or Tomahawk, one pound of Gunpowder, and four pounds of Ball, at the least, and use the utmost diligence in training and accustoming his Horse to stand the discharge of fire-arms, and in making himself acquainted with the military exercise for Cavalry.

That, in order to make a further and more ample provision of Ammunition, it be recommended to the Committees of the several Counties, that they collect from their Constituents, in such manner as shall be most agreeable to them, so much money as will be sufficient to purchase half a pound of Gunpowder, one pound of Lead, necessary Flints and Cartridge Paper, for every tithable person in their County; that they immediately take effectual measures for the procuring such Gunpowder, Lead, Flints, and Cartridge Paper, and dispose thereof, when procured, in such place or places of safety as they may think best: and it is earnestly recommended to each individual to pay such proportion of the money necessary for these purposes as by the respective Committees shall be judged requisite.

That as it may happen that some Counties, from their situation, may not be apprized of the most certain and speedy method of procuring the articles before-mentioned, one General Committee should be appointed, whose business it should be to procure, for such Counties as may make application to them, such articles, and so much thereof as the moneys wherewith they shall furnish the said

Committee will purchase, after deducting the charges of transportation, and other necessary expenses.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Carter Nicholas, Thomas Nelson, and Thomas Whiting*, Esquires, or any two of them, be a Committee for the purpose afore-mentioned.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the most cordial thanks of the people of this Colony are a tribute justly due to our worthy Governour, Lord *Dunmore*, for his truly noble, wise, and spirited conduct on the late expedition against our *Indian* enemy; a conduct which at once evinces his Excellency's attention to the true interests of this Colony, and a zeal in the Executive Department which no dangers can divert or difficulties hinder from achieving the most important services to the people who have the happiness to live under his administration.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the gentlemen Officers and Soldiers who lately so nobly defended this Colony from the savage enemy on our frontiers, and by their bravery, not only procured success to our arms, but must have convinced the enemy it will be their true interest to preserve the peace on the terms stipulated by his Excellency Lord *Dunmore*; that we sincerely condole with the relations and acquaintance of those brave men who so nobly fell in battle on that mournful event, and assure all who have rendered such important services to this Colony that, so soon as opportunity permits, we will most cheerfully do every thing on our part to make them ample satisfaction.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Carter Nicholas, Richard Bland, James Mercer, Edmund Pendleton, Archibald Cary, Charles Carter of Stafford, Benjamin Harrison, Richard Henry Lee, Josias Clapham, George Washington, Patrick Henry, James Holt, and Thomas Newton*, Esquires, be a Committee to prepare a plan for the encouragement of Arts and Manufactures in this Colony.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of Delegates by ballot, to represent this Colony in General Congress, to be held at the City of *Philadelphia*, on the 10th day of *May* next; when the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, *George Washington, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Edmund Pendleton, Benjamin Harrison, and Richard Bland*, Esquires, were chosen for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Carter Nicholas*, Esquire, be desired to lay before the Convention, on *Monday* next, an account of the Money received from the several Counties and Corporations in this Colony, for the use of the Delegates sent to represent this Colony in General Congress.

Adjourned till *Monday*, 10 o'clock.

Monday, March 27, 1775.

The Committee appointed to prepare a plan for the encouragement of Arts and Manufactures, reported the following Resolutions; which, being severally read, were unanimously agreed to.

Whereas, it hath been judged necessary for the preservation of the just rights and liberties of *America*, firmly to associate against Importations; and as the freedom, happiness, and prosperity of a State greatly depend on providing within itself a supply of articles necessary for subsistence, clothing, and defence; and whereas, it is judged essential, at this critical juncture, to form a proper plan for employing the different inhabitants of this Colony, providing for the poor, and restraining vagrants and other disorderly persons, who are nuisances to every society; a regard for our Country, as well as common prudence, call upon us to encourage Agriculture, Manufactures, economy, and the utmost industry: Therefore, this Convention doth Resolve as follows:

*Resolved unanimously*, That it be earnestly recommended to the different Magistrates, Vestries and Churchwardens throughout this Colony, that they pay a proper attention, and strict regard to the several Acts of Assembly made for the restraint of vagrants and the better employing and maintaining the poor.

*Resolved unanimously*, That from and after the first day of *May* next, no person or persons whatever ought to use, in his or their families, unless in case of necessity, and on no account sell to butchers, or kill for market, any Sheep under four years old; and where there is a necessity for using any mutton in his, her, or their families, it is recom-



mended to kill such only as are least profitable to be kept.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the setting up and promoting Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Manufactures ought to be encouraged in as many different branches as possible, especially Coating, Flannel, Blankets, Rugs, or Coverlids, Hosiery, and coarse Cloths, both broad and narrow.

*Resolved unanimously*, That all persons having proper lands for the purpose, ought to cultivate and raise a quantity of Flax, Hemp, and Cotton, sufficient not only for the use of his or her own family, but also to spare to others on moderate terms.

*Resolved unanimously*, As Salt is a daily and indispensable necessary of life, and the making of it amongst ourselves must be deemed a valuable acquisition, it is therefore recommended that the utmost endeavours be used to establish Salt Works, and that proper encouragement be given to Mr. *James Tait*, who hath made proposals, and offered a scheme to the publick, for so desirable a purpose.

*Resolved unanimously*, That Saltpetre and Sulphur, being articles of great and necessary use, the making, collecting, and refining them to the utmost extent, be recommended, the Convention being of opinion that it may be done to great advantage.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the making of Gunpowder be recommended.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the manufacturing of iron into Nails and Wire, and other necessary articles, be recommended.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the making of Steel ought to be largely encouraged, as there will be a great demand for this article.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the making of different kinds of Paper ought to be encouraged; and as the success of this branch depends on a supply of old Linen and Woollen Rags, the inhabitants of this Colony are desired, in their respective families, to preserve these articles.

*Resolved unanimously*, That whereas Wool Combs, Cotton and Wool Cards, Hemp and Flax Heckles, have been for some time made to advantage in some of the neighbouring Colonies, and are necessary for carrying on Linen and Woollen Manufactures, the establishing such Manufactures be recommended.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the erecting Fulling Mills and mills for breaking, swingling, and softening Hemp and Flax, and also that the making Grindstones be recommended.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the brewing Malt Liquors in this Colony would tend to render the consumption of foreign Liquors less necessary. It is therefore recommended that proper attention be given to the cultivation of Hops and Barley.

*Resolved unanimously*, That it be recommended to all the inhabitants of this Colony, that they use, as the Convention engageth to do, our own Manufactures, and those of other Colonies, in preference to all others.

*Resolved unanimously*, That for the more speedily and effectually carrying these Resolutions into execution, it be earnestly recommended that Societies be formed in different parts of this Colony; and it is the opinion of this Convention, that proper Premiums ought to be offered in the several Counties and Corporations, to such persons as shall excel in the several branches of Manufactures, and it is recommended to the several Committees of the different Counties and Corporations, to promote and encourage the same to the utmost of their power.

The Members of the Convention then, in order to encourage Mr. *James Tait*, who is about to erect Salt Works, undertook, for their respective Counties, to pay the sum of Ten Pounds to *Robert Carter Nicholas*, Esquire, for the use of the said *James Tait*, on or before the 10th day of *May* next.

His Excellency the Governour having, by Proclamation bearing date the 21st day of *March*, in the present year, declared that His Majesty hath given orders, that all vacant Lands within this Colony shall be put up in lots at publick sale, and that the highest bidder for such lots shall be the purchaser thereof, and shall hold the same subject to a reservation of one-half penny sterling per acre, by way of annual quitrent, and of all Mines of gold, silver, and pre-

cious stones, which terms are an innovation on the established usage of granting Lands within this Colony:

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to inquire whether His Majesty may, of right, advance the terms of granting Lands in this Colony, and make report thereof to the next General Assembly or Convention; and that, in the mean time, it be recommended to all persons whatever to forbear purchasing or accepting grants of Lands on the conditions before-mentioned; and that *Patrick Henry*, *Richard Bland*, *Thomas Jefferson*, *Robert Carter Nicholas*, and *Edmund Pendleton*, Esquires, be appointed of the said Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Delegates from the several Counties in this Colony, as also from the City of *Williamsburgh*, and Borough of *Norfolk*, do, without delay, apply to their respective Counties and Corporations for Fifteen Pounds, current money, and transmit the same, so soon as collected, to *Robert Carter Nicholas*, Esquire, for the use of the Deputies sent from this Colony to the General Congress.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Jefferson*, Esquire, be appointed a Deputy to represent this Colony in General Congress, in the room of the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, in case of the non-attendance of the said *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire.

*Resolved*, That the said Deputies, or any four of them, be a sufficient number to represent this Colony in General Congress.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. *Selden*, for performing Divine Service, and for his seasonable and excellent Sermon yesterday.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention are justly due to the Town of *Richmond* and the neighbourhood, for their polite reception and entertainment of the Delegates.

Mr. *Alexander Purdie* having offered to print the proceedings of this Convention, for the use of the Members thereof, it is ordered, that the Clerk deliver him a copy of the said proceedings for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That this Convention doth consider the delegation of its members as now at an end; and that it be recommended to the People of this Colony to choose Delegates to represent them in Convention for one year, as soon as they conveniently can.

PEYTON RANDOLPH, *President*.

JOHN TAZEVELL, *Clerk of the Convention*.

#### FIELD OFFICERS, FOR NEW-CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE.

On *Monday*, the 20th of *March*, agreeable to appointment, the Captains and Subaltern Officers of *New-Castle County (Delaware)* met at *Christiana Bridge* to choose commanders, when the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: For the Upper Division, *James McKinley*, Esquire, Colonel; *James Latimer*, Esq., Lieutenant Colonel; *Thomas Duff*, Esq., Major. For the Lower Division: *Thomas Cooch*, Esq., Colonel; *Samuel Patterson*, Lieutenant Colonel; *Gunning Bedford*, Major.

#### CHESTER-COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

March 20, 1775.

Pursuant to adjournment, and publick notice given, the Committee of *Chester County* met at the house of *Richard Cheyney*, in *East-Caln*.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Hockley*, Mr. *Johnston*, Mr. *Gronow*, Mr. *Lloyd*, Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Moore*, and Mr. *Taylor*, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to essay a draught of a Petition to present to the General Assembly of this Province, with regard to the manumission of Slaves; especially relating to the freedom of infants hereafter born of black women within this Colony; and do make report of the same to this Committee at their next meeting.

On motion, *Ordered*, That each member in this Committee will use his utmost diligence in collecting the several sums of money subscribed for the use of *Boston*, and pay the same into the hands of *Anthony Wayne*, Esq., Treasurer, at the next meeting of this Committee.



The Committee then adjourned to meet at the house of Mr. *David Coupland*, in the Borough of *Chester*, on *Wednesday*, the 31st of *May* next.

By order of the Committee :

FRANCIS JOHNSTON, *Secretary*.

LETTER FROM BOSTON TO NEWPORT, RHODE-ISLAND,  
DATED MARCH 20, 1775.

We are constantly agitated by hearing complaints from different persons, of the more than savage barbarity of the Soldiers, encouraged, and often joined and headed by the Officers. They are now become so insolent, that it is hardly safe to walk the streets at noon-day, and there seems to be no check or control; but they are rather countenanced and encouraged by their superiors in their lawless outrage. They appear to me to be a banditti of licensed free-booters, just let loose upon us, for the *innocent* and *laudable* purposes of robberies, rapes, and murders; nor can I at present see any prospect of avoiding these calamities, but by a general evacuation of the Town. The late news seems to increase their insolence, which was barely tolerable before. The reason is obvious: the common soldiers and their wives have frequently and loudly complained of the fallacy and injustice of the officers, who promised them fine houses, rich plunder, and a thousand other gratifications, which they hoped to be in possession of long before this, the expectation of which has, in my opinion, prevented the desertion of hundreds; but they grow more and more impatient, so that I fear violence will sooner or later take place, let what will be the determinations in *England*, unless some method can be adopted to prevent or restrain them, tantamount to leaving the Town, as the people in general do not seem inclined to go out.

On *Thursday* last a friend of mine was beat stone blind by some soldiers on the *Neck*, in presence of their commanding officer, who seemed to be highly gratified, and on *Saturday* I saw three men (two white and one black) who had just before been most barbarously cut and mangled by a gang of those military highwaymen, who have for a long time infested our out-passage to and from the Town. Their method is for a large party, some with swords or cutlasses, others with guns and bayonets fixed, to surround an unarmed man, and order him to deliver, after which they mangle the poor wretch till their malice is sufficiently glutted, then suffer him, if able, to crawl away.

LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN THE SERVICE OF AN OFFICER OF STATE AT PARIS, TO HIS FRIEND IN NEWPORT, RHODE-ISLAND.

MY DEAR CHEVALIER: You are nearly of my opinion respecting the affairs between *Great Britain* and her Colonies. Believe me, some years have elapsed since the scheme was projected for the alteration of Government. As soon as the project was resolved upon the Cabinet of *Great Britain* used all possible means to procure peace with her neighbouring Nations. The fall of the Duke de *Ch—*! was a mark of the highest complaisance to her. It is well known that this Minister (though in disgrace) directed all, or at least the greater part of the business of our Cabinet. *Britain* was well enough assured that they could keep the House of *Bourbon* still; but *Spain* had given such instructions to her Ambassador as would have caused a rupture, had they been observed. But Prince *Masserano* was recalled.

The death of *Louis* the Fifteenth, set the spirits of our people in agitation, the old Parliament made remonstrances, and our clergy murmurs, on account of the new regulations against them. It was then Lord *North* caused a report to circulate at *London*, of his being ill, that he might come to *Paris incog*. in order to ascertain himself of the disposition of our Court. He remained there but two days, which time he spent in conference with the Ministry, who, like another *Danaë*, were tempered by the *British* gold scattered by *Jupiter North*. His policy was seducing, and retained us in the same state of inaction we now continue, that he might be at liberty to set your part of the world in confusion.

Assure yourself that *Great Britain* is not much more quiet than you are. It is almost the general opinion here

that a revolt will take place in *England*, if the trade be interrupted between that Kingdom and the Colonies.

The Royal family of *England* is too numerous for the taxes of the Nation to maintain them alone. Besides the great debt under which they now labour, they expend much for the support of *Hanover*; this accounts why King *George* thinks himself obliged to deal with *America* as *Frederick* does with his neighbours.

Orders are given to *Isle of Rhé* for the transport of four thousand men, in two *Frigates* and three *Ships-of-the-Line*, to our Colonies: I cannot tell you their destination.

We are busy to complete all the Regiments that are deficient. The King has caused a general state of his Marine Force to be laid before him; and, to conclude, I assure you that a rupture between *Spain* and *England* is at no great distance.

By His Excellency the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governour-General of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, and Vice-Admiral of the same:

A PROCLAMATION.

VIRGINIA to wit:

Whereas His Majesty did, at the request of the Assembly of this Colony permit the Western Boundary thereof to be extended as the same has been run and ascertained by Colonel *Donelson*, and other surveyors deputed for the purpose; and whereas, His Majesty hath for the greater convenience of, and the preventing of litigation and disputes among such persons as shall be inclined to settle upon any of his vacant Lands, ordered that all that tract of Land included within the aforesaid boundary, and all other vacant Lands within this Colony be surveyed in districts, and laid out in lots of from one hundred to one thousand acres, and as fast as the said surveys shall be completed by the surveyors duly authorized, and the surveys thereof returned, that the Lands so surveyed and allotted be put up to publick sale, at such time and place as shall be appointed by publick notice; and that the highest bidder for such lots and parcels of Land at such sales, be the purchaser thereof, and be entitled to a grant in fee simple of the Land so purchased as aforesaid, by letters patent under the great seal of the Colony, subject to no conditions or reservations whatever, other than the payment of the annual quitrent of one half-penny sterling per acre; and also of all mines of gold, silver, and precious stones. And whereas advice has been received, that one *Richard Henderson*, and other disorderly persons, his associates, under pretence of a purchase made from the *Indians*, contrary to the aforesaid orders and regulations of His Majesty, do set up a claim to the Lands of the Crown within the limits of this Colony; I have thought fit, therefore, to issue this my Proclamation, strictly charging all Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, and other officers, civil and military, to use their utmost endeavours to prevent the unwarrantable and illegal designs of the said *Henderson*, and his abettors; and if the said *Henderson*, or others concerned with him, shall take possession of, or occupy any Lands within the limits of His Majesty's Government of *Virginia*, merely under any purchase, or pretended purchase made from *Indians*, without any other title; that he or they be required in His Majesty's name forthwith to depart, and relinquish the possession so unjustly obtained; and in case of refusal, and of violent detaining such possession, that he or they be immediately fined and imprisoned in the manner the laws in such cases direct.

Given under my hand, and the seal of the Colony, this 21st day of *March*, in the fifteenth year of His Majesty's reign.

DUNMORE.

God save the King.

Committee Chamber, Norfolk, Va., March 21, 1775.

TO THE PUBLICK.

We, the Committee for *Norfolk* Borough, find ourselves under the disagreeable necessity of publishing to the world the conduct of Captain *Sampson*, Master of the *Snow Elizabeth*, from *Bristol*. It is not in one instance alone that he has discovered his opposition to the measures adopted for the security of our rights and liberties, nor can



he, on any account, justify his repeated prevarications. It is not our business to take notice of his passionate and disrespectful behaviour towards this Committee, nor his indiscreet conduct without doors. We shall confine ourselves to the relation of the following facts: On the 13th day of *February* he informed the Committee of his arrival with a quantity of Salt, that his Snow wanted repairs, and as he should find it necessary to heave her down here, he demanded the consent of this Committee to store the Salt till the Snow could be refitted. The Committee, after careful inquiries, (some of his answers to which we find to be false,) did, at length, consent, upon condition the Salt should be taken on board again as soon as possible, which Captain *Sampson* promised to do. Thus matters rested till the 8th of *March*, when this Committee were surprised with information, that he had given bond at the Custom-House, and was taking in Lumber without the Salt. He was sent for, and after discovering a great degree of heat, did, at length, give his repeated promise to take the Salt on board as soon as possible, and that he would begin the next day. More than a week, however, has elapsed, and he has as yet complied with no part of his promise, nor taken any of the Salt on board again, but has actually applied for protection to the Ship-of-War now in this harbour, under whose stern the Snow lies, where it appears he intends to load with Grain. We, the Committee, do therefore declare Captain *Sampson* a violator of the Association, and an enemy to *American* liberty; and we trust the Merchants, Planters, and Skippers of Vessels in this Colony, will make him feel their righteous indignation, by breaking off all kinds of dealings with him, and that they will, in no wise, be aiding or assisting in procuring a cargo for a man, who, from the whole tenour of his late conduct, has openly set the good people of this Country at defiance, and contributed his utmost endeavours to destroy their most essential interests.

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| MATTHEW PHRIPP, | JOHN BOUSH,    |
| JAMES TAYLOR,   | ROBERT TAYLOR, |
| JOHN HUTCHINGS, | T. CLAIBORNE,  |
| JOHN LAWRENCE,  | SAMUEL INGLIS. |
| THOMAS RITSON,  |                |

Extract from the minutes:

WILLIAM DAVIES, *Secretary*.

N. B. The other Members of the Committee were out of Town at the time of signing.

#### TALBOT COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

March 21, 1775.

A meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County being requested by Mr. *Charles Crookshanks*, on *Tuesday*, the 21st of *March*, 1775, the following gentlemen did accordingly meet at Mr. *Brascup's* Tavern, viz:

*James Lloyd Chamberlaine*, Esq., Chairman, *James Hindman*, Dr. *Moses Allen*, *John Stevens*, *John Cochran*, *Nathaniel Cooper*, *John Gibson*, *Jacob Hindman*, *Francis Baker*, *William Hindman*, *Robert Lloyd Nicols*, *Samuel Thomas*, *Thomas Ray*, *Thomas Martin*, Jun., *Samuel Sharp*, Dr. *John Troupe*.

Mr. *Crookshanks* thereupon made the following Report: That the Ship *Baltimore*, *James Longmuir*, consigned to himself by Messrs. *Spiers, French & Co.*, had arrived the evening before, with two bales of Goods on board, which, as would appear by letters he was ready to produce from the said gentlemen, had been shipped at *Glasgow*, *November* 10th, 1774, and were part of a cargo intended to have been sent by a former Ship; that the said *Longmuir* came by the way of *Rotterdam*, and had been there detained by the ice, which had protracted his voyage. The Committee, upon examination, being satisfied of the truth of the above report, were of opinion that no imputation ought to be thrown upon the said Company, of an intention to contravene the Non-Importation Agreement entered into by the Colonies, as it was not possible for them to receive an account of the proceedings of the Continental Congress, at the time of shipping the said Goods; and as Mr. *Crookshanks* voluntarily proposed, and solemnly plighted his honour, that the said bales should not be landed, but sent back in the same bottom, the Committee were much pleased with his readiness to comply with the Resolution of the Continental Congress, accepted the proposal, and

resolved unanimously that the said Goods be sent back to *Glasgow* in the same Ship without landing.

CHARLES TROUPE, *Clerk pro tem*.

#### ALBANY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Correspondence for the City and County of *Albany*, held the 21st day of *March*, 1775:

Resolved unanimously, That *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., *Walter Livingston*, Esq., Colonel *Schuyler*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, and Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, are appointed to represent the City and County of *Albany* at the intended Provincial Congress to be held at the City of *New-York*, the 20th day of *April* next, for the purpose of appointing Delegates to represent this Colony at the next Continental Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* the 10th day of *May* next. By order of the Committee:

JOHN N. BLEECKER, *Clerk*.

#### RENSSELAERWYCK MANOR (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection for the Manor of *Rensselaerwyck*, held the 21st of *March*, 1775, it was unanimously resolved, that the thanks of this Committee be given to Colonel *Abraham Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Philip Schuyler*, and Colonel *Peter Livingston*, for their faithful services in the cause of liberty, in the last session of the General Assembly of this Colony.

By order of the Committee:

ABRAHAM J. LANSING, *Chairman*.

Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, N. Y., March 23, 1775.

On the 21st of *March*, a few friends to liberty met at the house of Mr. *John Bailey*, about two or three miles from *Poughkeepsie*, and erected a pole on his land, with a flag on it, bearing on one side the King, and on the other the *Congress and Liberty*; but the Sheriff of *Dutchess* County the next day, attended by a Judge of the Inferiour Court, two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and a Constable, with some others, friends to constitutional liberty and good order, cut the same down, as a publick nuisance.

#### FAIRFIELD (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection for the Town of *Fairfield*, in *Connecticut*, held in *Fairfield*, on the 21st day of this instant *March*:

*Daniel Wheeler*, *Obadiah Platt*, and *Ebenezer Hall*, all of said *Fairfield*, being duly notified to appear before said Committee, and answer to the complaints made against them, did not appear.

Whereupon the Committee proceeded to examine the evidences, and upon a full and impartial hearing of them, they were unanimously of opinion that the said *Wheeler*, *Platt*, and *Hall*, were guilty of a breach of the Association of the Continental Congress; and that, pursuant to the directions of the County Congress, all connections, commerce, and dealings, ought to be withdrawn from them by every friend to his Country.

And ordered, That the Clerk of this Committee make this judgment publick, that they may be dealt with accordingly.

THADDEUS BURR, *Clerk to the Committee*.

SAMUEL ADAMS TO R. H. LEE.

Boston, March 21, 1775.

SIR: I am much obliged to you for your favour of 4th of *February* last, by Captain *Layton*. From the beginning of this great contest with the Mother Country, I have seen *Virginia* distinguishing herself in the support of *American* liberty; and in the liberal donations received from all parts of that Colony for the sufferers in this Town, we have had abundant testimonies of their unanimity and zeal for that all-important cause. I have the pleasure to assure you, that the people of this Colony, (saving a few detestable men, most of whom are in this Town,) are also firm and united. General *Gage* is still here, with eleven Regiments, besides several detachments; yet, it is generally supposed, that there are not more than two thousand five hundred effective men in all. They have been very sickly through the winter past; many have died, and many others



have deserted. I have seen a joint list, and I believe it to be a true one, of the Royal *Irish*, and the detachments from the Fifty-Sixth, in which the whole number was one hundred and sixty-seven, and only one hundred and two of them effective. But though the number of the Troops is diminished, the insolence of the Officers (at least some of them) is increased. In private rencontres, I have not heard of a single instance of their coming off other than second best. I will give you several instances of their behaviour in publick. On the 6th instant there was an adjournment of one of our Town-meetings, when an oration was delivered in commemoration of the massacre on the 5th of *March*, 1770. I had long expected that they would take that occasion to beat up a breeze, and, therefore, (seeing many of the Officers present before the orator came in,) as moderator of the meeting, I took care to have them treated with civility, inviting them into convenient seats, &c., that they might have no pretence to behave ill; for it is a good maxim, in politicks as well as in war, to put and keep the enemy in the wrong. They behaved tolerably well until the oration was finished, when, upon a motion made to appoint another orator, as usual, they began to hiss, which irritated the assembly to the greatest degree, and confusion ensued; they, however, did not gain their end, which was apparently to break up the meeting, for order was soon restored, and we proceeded regularly and finished the business. I am persuaded, that were it not for the danger of precipitating a crisis, not a man of them would have been spared. It was provoking enough to the whole corps, that while there were so many Troops stationed here, with the design of suppressing Town-meetings, there should yet be one for the purpose of delivering an oration to commemorate a massacre perpetrated by Soldiers, and to show the danger of Standing Armies; they, therefore, it seems, a few days after, vented their passion on a poor simple countryman, the state of whose case is drawn up by himself, and sworn to before a Magistrate, as you will see by the enclosed; thus you see, that the practice of tarring and feathering, which has so often been exclaimed against by the Tories, and even in the *British House of Commons*, as inhuman and barbarous, has, at length, been revived by some of the polite Officers of the *British Army*, stationed in this place professedly to prevent riots. Some gentlemen of the Town waited on the General on this occasion; he appeared to be angry at it, and declared that he knew nothing about any such design; he said that he had, indeed, heard an irregular beat of the drum, (for they passed by his house,) but thought they were drumming a bad woman through the streets! This, to be sure, would not have been a riot. The Selectmen of *Billerica*, an inland Town, about thirty miles distant, to which the abused man belonged, have made a remonstrance to the General, a copy of which is enclosed. The General promised them that he would inquire into the matter, but we hear nothing more about it. Some say that he has lost the command over his Officers, and is afraid of displeasing them; how this may be I cannot say.

SAMUEL ADAMS.

COLONEL E. DOOLITTLE TO JOHN HANCOCK.

Petersham, March 21, 1775.

SIR: Please to communicate the following to your body. Having received a requisition from the honourable Congress, directing of me to make a return of my Regiment, their numbers and equipments for war, I have accordingly applied myself to the business, but have not as yet obtained a return of but two or three companies, and if I can obtain a full account before the Congress rises, shall forward it immediately. But we are in a most lamentable situation, for want of a sanction of Government on our establishments, our Tory enemies using all their secret machinations to divide us and break us to pieces. Add to this the difficulties that arise by ambitious men, who are endeavouring to break our companies to pieces, in order to get promotion; for as there is no establishment but what arises in the breasts of individuals, we are continually breaking to pieces, and a number of companies in my Regiment are now in such circumstances; and I fear if we are not soon called to action, we shall be like a rope of sand, and have no more strength. If it may be received with candour, I should be exceedingly glad if our Continental Committee might be

instructed to lay the difficulties we labour under for want of a Civil Constitution before that body, and that they endeavour to obtain their voice in justification of this Province in establishing one. God give you all grace and wisdom to direct you in the important affairs of *American* liberty. I remain your and the publick's well wisher and humble servant,

EPHRAIM DOOLITTLE.

To the Honourable John Hancock, President of the Honourable Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts*.

Frankfort, March, 1775.

To the Right Honourable JOHN WILKES, Lord Mayor of the City of LONDON, at the Mansion House:

MY LORD: I am not informed of any person who has business with some merchants in *Maryland* or *Pennsylvania*. I read the *London Chronicle*, but I do not find out any direction; therefore I think it very excusable for a stranger to take the liberty to address these lines to you, as the Chief Magistrate of all the *British* Dominions, especially as it gives me at the same time the opportunity to pay you my respects, and to tell you that I admired and defended in our *Germany*, (where slavery prevails,) always your spirit and intrepidity towards bad Ministers, being a great lover and well wisher of true *English* liberty. I live in a great City of *Germany*. Some weeks ago a printer came to me, and showed me two Bank-notes,\* (not knowing the language nor the contents,) which two foreigners brought to him, to reprint them exactly; I found the one to be a Bank-note of *Annapolis*, in *Maryland*, and the other of *Pennsylvania*, of Fifty and of Five Shillings, both of 1774. I was surprised, and told the printer he should not at all meddle with the rascals who brought him these papers. Afterwards I heard that they have been at two engravers, to get two others counterfeited, and they refused likewise. But I don't doubt they will find out in another Town some ignorant or hungry engraver or printer. I beg your Lordship to communicate these contents of my letter to the publick, in the *London Chronicle*, to prevent any mischief and imposition on the honest *Americans*, vexed not only by taxes, but also by bad Bank-notes. It will give me great pleasure to read in this paper my notice to frustrate the designs of these impostors.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, my Lord, your most humble and obedient servant,

BRITANNOPHILUS.

The above is a true copy of an original letter, delivered to me by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of *London*.

ARTHUR LEE.

London, March 22, 1775.

PRIVATE NEGOTIATIONS OF DR. FRANKLIN IN LONDON, RELATED IN A LETTER TO HIS SON, DATED AT SEA, MARCH 22, 1775.

On board the *Pennsylvania Packet*, Captain Osborne, }  
bound to Philadelphia, March 22, 1775. }

DEAR SON: Having now a little leisure for writing, I will endeavour, as I promised you, to recollect what particulars I can of the negotiations I have lately been concerned in, with regard to the misunderstandings between *Great Britain* and *America*.

During the recess of the last Parliament, which had passed the severe Acts against the Province of *Massachusetts Bay*, the minority having been sensible of their weakness as an effect of their want of union among themselves, began to think seriously of a coalition. For they saw in the violence of these *American* measures, if persisted in, a hazard of dismembering, weakening, and perhaps ruining the *British* Empire. This inclined some of them to propose such an union with each other, as might be more respectable in the ensuing session, have more weight in opposition, and be a body out of which a new Ministry might easily be formed, should the ill success of the late measures, and the firmness of the Colonies in resisting them, make a change appear necessary to the King.

I took some pains to promote this disposition, in conversation with several of the principal among the minority of both Houses, whom I besought and conjured most earnestly not to suffer, by their little misunderstandings, so glori-

\* Meaning our bills of credit.



ous a fabrick as the present *British Empire* to be demolished by these blunderers; and for their encouragement assured them, as far as my opinions could give any assurance, of the firmness and unanimity of *America*, the continuance of which was what they had frequent doubts of, and appeared extremely apprehensive and anxious concerning it.

From the time of the affront given me at the Council Board in *January*, 1774, I had never attended the levee of any Minister. I made no justification of myself from the charges brought against me; I made no return of the injury by abusing my adversaries, but held a cool sullen silence, reserving myself to some future opportunity; for which conduct I had several reasons, not necessary here to specify. Now and then I heard it said, that the reasonable part of the Administration was ashamed of the treatment they had given me. I suspected that some who told me this, did it to draw from me my sentiments concerning it, and perhaps my purposes; but I said little or nothing upon the subject. In the mean time, their measures with regard to *New-England* failing of the success that had been confidently expected, and finding themselves more and more embarrassed, they began (as it seems) to think of making use of me, if they could, to assist in disengaging them. But it was too humiliating to think of applying to me openly and directly, and therefore it was contrived to obtain what they could of my sentiments through others.

The accounts from *America*, during the recess, all manifested that the measures of Administration had neither divided nor intimidated the people there; that, on the contrary, they were more and more united and determined, and that a Non-Importation Agreement was likely to take place. The Ministry thence apprehending that this, by distressing the trading and manufacturing Towns, might influence votes against the Court in the elections for a new Parliament, (which were in course to come on the succeeding year,) suddenly and unexpectedly dissolved the old one, and ordered the choice of a new one within the shortest time admitted by law, before the inconveniences of that agreement could begin to be felt, or produce any such effect.

When I came to *England* in 1757, you may remember I made several attempts to be introduced to Lord *Chatham*, (at that time first Minister,) on account of my *Pennsylvania* business, but without success. He was then too great a man, or too much occupied in affairs of greater moment. I was therefore obliged to content myself with a kind of non-apparent and unacknowledged communication through Mr. *Potter* and Mr. *Wood*, his Secretaries, who seemed to cultivate an acquaintance with me by their civilities, and drew from me what information I could give relative to the *American* war, with my sentiments occasionally on measures that were proposed or advised by others, which gave me the opportunity of recommending and enforcing the utility of conquering *Canada*. I afterwards considered Mr. *Pitt* as an *inaccessible*; I admired him at a distance, and made no more attempts for a nearer acquaintance. I had only once or twice the satisfaction of hearing, through Lord *Shelburne*, and I think Lord *Stanhope*, that he did me the honour of mentioning me sometimes as a person of respectable character.

But towards the end of *August* last, returning from *Brighthelmstone*, I called to visit my friend, Mr. *Sargent*, at his seat, *Halsted*, in *Kent*, agreeably to a former engagement. He let me know that he had promised to conduct me to Lord *Stanhope's*, at *Chevening*, who expected I would call on him when I came into that neighbourhood. We accordingly waited on Lord *Stanhope* that evening, who told me that Lord *Chatham* desired to see me, and that Mr. *Sargent's* house, where I was to lodge, being in the way, he would call for me there the next morning, and carry me to *Hayes*. This was done accordingly. That truly great man received me with abundance of civility, inquired particularly into the situation of affairs in *America*, spoke feelingly of the severity of the late laws against the *Massachusetts*, gave me some account of his speech in opposing them, and expressed great regard and esteem for the people of that Country, who he hoped would continue firm and united in defending, by all peaceable and legal means, their constitutional rights. I assured him that I made no doubt they would do so; which he said he was

pleased to hear from me, as he was sensible I must be well acquainted with them. I then took occasion to remark to him, that in former cases great Empires had crumbled first at their extremities, from this cause; that Countries remote from the seat and eye of Government, which therefore could not well understand their affairs, for want of full and true information, had never been well governed, but had been oppressed by bad Governours, on presumption that complaint was difficult to be made and supported against them at such a distance; hence such Governours had been encouraged to go on, till their oppressions became intolerable. But that this Empire had happily found, and long been in the practice of a method, whereby every Province was well governed, being trusted in a great measure with the government of itself; that hence had risen such satisfaction in the subjects, and such encouragement to new settlements, that had it not been for the late wrong politics, (which would have Parliament to be omnipotent, though it ought not to be, unless it could at the same time be omniscient,) we might have gone on extending our western Empire, adding Province to Province, as far as the *South Sea*. That I lamented the ruin which seemed impending over so fine a plan, so well adapted to make all the subjects of the greatest Empire happy; and I hoped that if his Lordship, with the other great and wise men of the *British Nation*, would unite and exert themselves, it might yet be rescued out of the mangling hands of the present set of blundering Ministers; and that the union and harmony between *Britain* and her Colonies, so necessary to the welfare of both, might be restored. He replied, with great politeness, that my idea of extending our Empire in that manner was a sound one, worthy of a great, benevolent, and comprehensive mind; he wished with me for a good understanding among the different parts of the Opposition here, as a means of restoring the ancient harmony of the two Countries, which he most earnestly desired; but he spoke of the coalition of our domestick parties as attended with difficulty, and rather to be desired than expected. He mentioned an opinion prevailing here, that *America* aimed at setting up for itself as an independent State, or at least to get rid of the Navigation Acts. I assured him that, having more than once travelled almost from one end of the Continent to the other, and kept a great variety of company, eating, drinking, and conversing with them freely, I never had heard in any conversation from any person, drunk or sober, the least expression of a wish for a separation, or a hint that such a thing would be advantageous to *America*; and as to the Navigation Act, the main material part of it, that of carrying on trade in *British* or Plantation bottoms, excluding foreign Ships from our Ports, and navigating with three quarters *British* seaman, was as acceptable to us as it could be to *Britain*. That we were even not against regulations of the general Commerce by Parliament, provided such regulations were *bona fide* for the benefit of the whole Empire, not for the small advantage of one part to the great injury of another, such as the obliging our Ships to call in *England* with our wine and fruit from *Portugal* or *Spain*; the restraints on our Manufactures, in the woollen and hat-making branches, the prohibiting of slitting-mills, steel-works, &c. He allowed that some amendment might be made in those Acts; but said those relating to the slitting-mills, trip-hammers, and steel-works, were agreed to by our agents in a compromise on the opposition made here to abating the duty.

In fine, he expressed much satisfaction in my having called upon him, and particularly in the assurances I had given him that *America* did not aim at independence, adding that he should be glad to see me again as often as might be. I said I should not fail to avail myself of the permission he was pleased to give me, of waiting upon his Lordship occasionally, being very sensible of the honour, and of the great advantages and improvement I should reap from his instructive conversation, which indeed was not a mere compliment.

The new Parliament was to meet the 29th of *November*, 1774. About the beginning of that month, being at the Royal Society, Mr. *Raper*, one of our members, told me there was a certain lady who had a desire of playing with me at chess, fancying she could beat me, and had requested him to bring me to her; it was, he said, a lady with whose acquaintance he was sure I should be pleased, a



sister of Lord *Howe's*, and he hoped I would not refuse the challenge. I said I had been long out of practice, but would wait upon the lady when he and she should think fit. He told me where her house was, and would have me call soon, and without further introduction, which I undertook to do; but thinking it a little awkward, I postponed it; and on the 30th, meeting him again at the feast of the Society election, being the day after the Parliament met, he put me in mind of my promise, and that I had not kept it, and would have me name a day, when, he said, he would call for me and conduct me. I named the *Friday* following. He called accordingly; I went with him, played a few games with the lady, whom I found of very sensible conversation and pleasing behaviour, which induced me to agree most readily to an appointment for another meeting a few days afterwards, though I had not the least apprehension that any political business could have any connexion with this new acquaintance.

On the *Thursday* preceding this chess party Mr. *David Barclay* called on me, to have some discourse concerning the meeting of merchants to petition Parliament. When that was over, he spoke of the dangerous situation of *American* affairs, the hazard that a civil war might be brought on by the present measures, and the great merit that person would have who could contrive some means of preventing so terrible a calamity, and bring about a reconciliation. He was then pleased to add, that he was persuaded, from my knowledge of both Countries, my character and influence in one of them, and my abilities in business, no man had it so much in his power as myself. I naturally answered, that I should be very happy if I could in any degree be instrumental in so good a work, but that I saw no prospect of it; for though I was sure the *Americans* were always willing and ready to agree, upon any equitable terms, yet I thought an accommodation impracticable, unless both sides wished it; and by what I could judge from the proceedings of the Ministry, I did not believe they had the least disposition towards it; that they rather wished to provoke the *North American* people into an open rebellion, which might justify a military execution, and thereby gratify a grounded malice which I conceived to exist here against the Whigs and dissenters of that Country. Mr. *Barclay* apprehended I judged too hardly of the Ministers; he was persuaded they were not all of that temper, and he fancied they would be very glad to get out of their present embarrassment on any terms, only saving the honour and dignity of Government. He wished, therefore, that I would think of the matter, and he would call again, and converse with me further upon it. I said I would do so, as he requested it, but I had no opinion of its answering any purpose. We parted upon this. But two days after I received a letter from him, enclosed in a note from Dr. *Fothergill*, both which follow.

Youngsbury, near Ware, 3d 12 mo. 1774.

ESTEEMED FRIEND: After we parted on *Thursday* last, I accidentally met our mutual friend Doctor *Fothergill*, in my way home, and intimated to him the subject of our discourse; in consequence of which, I received from him an invitation to a further conference on this momentous affair, and I intend to be in Town to-morrow accordingly, to meet at his house between four and five o'clock; and we unite in the request of thy company. We are neither of us insensible, that the affair is of that magnitude as should almost deter private persons from meddling with it; at the same time we are respectively such well-wishers to the cause, that nothing in our power ought to be left undone, though the utmost of our efforts may be unavailable. I am thy respectful friend,

DAVID BARCLAY.

Doctor *Franklin*, Craven Street.

DOCTOR FOTHERGILL presents his respects to Doctor *Franklin*, and hopes for the favour of his company in *Harper Street* to-morrow evening, to meet their mutual friend *David Barclay*, to confer on *American* affairs. As near five o'clock as may be convenient.

*Harper Street*, 3d inst.

The time thus appointed was the evening of the day on which I was to have my second chess party with the agreeable Mrs. *Howe*, whom I met accordingly. After playing as long as we liked, we fell into a little chat, partly on a

mathematical problem,\* and partly about the new Parliament then just met, when she said, "And what is to be done with this dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies? I hope we are not to have a Civil War." They should kiss and be friends, said I; what can they do better? Quarrelling can be of service to neither, but is ruin to both. "I have often said," replied she, "that I wished Government would employ you to settle the dispute for them; I am sure nobody could do it so well. Do not you think that the thing is practicable?" Undoubtedly, madam, if the parties are disposed to reconciliation; for the two Countries have really no clashing interests to differ about. It is rather a matter of punctilio, which two or three reasonable people might settle in half an hour. I thank you for the good opinion you are pleased to express of me; but the Ministers will never think of employing me in that good work; they choose rather to abuse me. "Aye," said she, "they have behaved shamefully to you. And indeed some of them are now ashamed of it themselves." I looked upon this as accidental conversation, thought no more of it, and went in the evening to the appointed meeting at Doctor *Fothergill's*, where I found Mr. *Barclay* with him.

The Doctor expatiated feelingly on the mischiefs likely to ensue from the present difference, the necessity of accommodating it, and the great merit of being instrumental in so good a work; concluding with some compliments to me; that nobody understood the subject so thoroughly, and had a better head for business of the kind; that it seemed therefore a duty incumbent on me, to do every thing I could to accomplish a reconciliation; and that as he had with pleasure heard from *David Barclay*, that I had promised to think of it, he hoped I had put pen to paper, and formed some plan for consideration, and brought it with me. I answered, that I had formed no plan; as the more I thought of the proceedings against the Colonies, the more satisfied I was that there did not exist the least disposition in the Ministry to an accommodation; that therefore all plans must be useless. He said, I might be mistaken; that whatever was the violence of some, he had reason, *good reason*, to believe others were differently disposed; and that if I would draw a plan which we three upon considering should judge reasonable, it might be made use of, and answer some good purpose, since he believed that either himself or *David Barclay* could get it communicated to some of the most moderate among the Ministers, who would consider it with attention; and what appeared reasonable to us, two of us being *Englishmen*, might appear so to them. As they both urged this with great earnestness, and when I mentioned the impropriety of my doing any thing of the kind at the time we were in daily expectation of hearing from the Congress, who undoubtedly would be explicit on the means of restoring a good understanding, they seemed impatient, alleging that it was uncertain when we should receive the result of the Congress, and what it would be; that the least delay might be dangerous; that additional punishments for *New-England* were in contemplation, and accidents might widen the breach, and make it irreparable; therefore, something preventive could not be too soon thought of and applied. I was, therefore, finally prevailed with to promise doing what they desired, and to meet them again on *Tuesday* evening at the same place, and bring with me something for their consideration.

Accordingly, at the time, I met with them, and produced the following paper:

*Hints for Conversation upon the subject of terms that might probably produce a durable Union between BRITAIN and the Colonies.*

1. The Tea destroyed to be paid for.
2. The Tea-duty Act to be repealed, and all the duties that have been received upon it to be repaid into the treasuries of the several Provinces from which they have been collected.
3. The Acts of Navigation to be all re-enacted in the Colonies.
4. A Naval Officer appointed by the Crown to reside in each Colony, to see that those Acts are observed.

\* This lady (which is a little unusual in ladies) has a good deal of mathematical knowledge. [Note of Dr. *Franklin*.]



5. All the Acts restraining Manufactures in the Colonies, to be repealed.

6. All Duties arising on the Acts for regulating Trade with the Colonies, to be for the publick use of the respective Colonies, and paid into their Treasuries. The Collectors and Custom-House Officers to be appointed by each Governour, and not sent from *England*.

7. In consideration of the *Americans* maintaining their own Peace Establishment, and the monopoly *Britain* is to have of their Commerce, no requisition to be made from them in time of peace.

8. No Troops to enter and quarter in any Colony, but with the consent of its Legislature.

9. In time of war, on requisition made by the King, with the consent of Parliament, every Colony shall raise money by the following rules or proportions, viz: If *Britain*, on account of the war, raises Three Shillings in the Pound to its Land Tax, then the Colonies to add to their last general Provincial Peace Tax a sum equal to one-fourth thereof; and if *Britain* on the same account pays Four Shillings in the Pound, then the Colonies to add to their said last Peace Tax a sum equal to half thereof; which additional tax is to be granted to His Majesty, and to be employed in raising and paying men for land or sea service, furnishing provisions, transports, or for such other purposes as the King shall require and direct: and though no Colony may contribute less, each may add as much by voluntary grant as they shall think proper.

10. *Castle William* to be restored to the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and no fortress built by the Crown in any Province, but with the consent of its Legislature.

11. The late *Massachusetts* and *Quebeck* Acts to be repealed, and a free Government granted to *Canada*.

12. All Judges to be appointed during good behaviour, with equally permanent salaries, to be paid out of the Province revenues by appointment of the Assemblies: or, if the Judges are to be appointed during the pleasure of the Crown, let the salaries be during the pleasure of the Assemblies, as heretofore.

13. Governours to be supported by the Assemblies of each Province.

14. If *Britain* will give up its monopoly of the *American* Commerce, then the aid above-mentioned to be given by *America* in time of peace, as well as in time of war.

15. The extension of the Act of *Henry VIII.*, concerning treasons, to the Colonies, to be formally disowned by Parliament.

16. The *American* Admiralty Courts reduced to the same powers they have in *England*, and the Acts establishing them to be re-enacted in *America*.

17. All powers of internal legislation in the Colonies to be disclaimed by Parliament.

In reading this paper a second time, I gave my reasons at length for each article.

On the first I observed, that when the injury was done, *Britain* had a right to reparation, and would certainly have had it on demand, as was the case when injury was done by mobs in the time of the Stamp Act: or she might have a right to return an equal injury, if she rather chose to do that; but she could not have a right both to reparation and to return an equal injury, much less had she a right to return the injury ten or twenty fold, as she had done by blocking up the Port of *Boston*: all which extra injury ought, in my judgment, to be repaired by *Britain*: that therefore if paying for the Tea was agreed to by me, as an article fit to be proposed, it was merely from a desire of peace, and in compliance with their opinion expressed at our first meeting, that this was a *sine qua non*, that the dignity of *Britain* required it, and that if this were agreed to, every thing else would be easy: this reasoning was allowed to be just; but still the article was thought necessary to stand as it did.

On the second, That the Act should be repealed, as having never answered any good purpose, as having been the cause of the present mischief, and never likely to be executed. That the Act being considered as unconstitutional by the *Americans*, and what the Parliament had no right to make, they must consider all the money extorted by it as so much wrongfully taken, and of which therefore restitution ought to be made; and the rather as it would

furnish a fund, out of which the payment for the Tea destroyed might best be defrayed. The gentlemen were of opinion, that the first part of this article, viz: the repeal, might be obtained, but not the refunding part, and therefore advised striking that out: but as I thought it just and right, I insisted on its standing.

On the third and fourth articles I observed, we were frequently charged with views of abolishing the Navigation Act. That, in truth, those parts of it which were of most importance to *Britain*, as tending to increase its Naval strength, viz: those restraining the Trade, to be carried on only in Ships belonging to *British* subjects, navigated by at least three quarters *British* or Colony seamen, &c., were as acceptable to us as they could be to *Britain*, since we wished to employ our own Ships in preference to foreigners, and had no desire to see foreign Ships enter our ports. That indeed the obliging us to land some of our commodities in *England* before we could carry them to foreign markets, and forbidding our importation of some Goods directly from foreign Countries, we thought a hardship, and a greater loss to us than gain to *Britain*, and therefore proper to be repealed: but as *Britain* had deemed it an equivalent for her protection, we had never applied or proposed to apply for such repeal; and if they must be continued, I thought it best (since the power of Parliament to make them was now disputed) that they should be re-enacted in all the Colonies, which would demonstrate their consent to them: and then if, as in the sixth article, all the duties arising on them were to be collected by officers appointed and salaried in the respective Governments, and the produce paid into their treasuries, I was sure the Acts would be better and more faithfully executed, and at much less expense, and one great source of misunderstanding removed between the two Countries, viz: the calumnies of low officers appointed from home, who were for ever abusing the people of the Country to Government, to magnify their own zeal, and recommend themselves to promotion. That the extension of the admiralty jurisdiction, so much complained of, would then no longer be necessary; and that besides its being the interest of the Colonies to execute those Acts, which is the best security, Government might be satisfied of its being done, from accounts to be sent home by the Naval Officers of the fourth article. The gentlemen were satisfied with these reasons, and approved the third and fourth articles; so they were to stand.

The fifth they apprehended would meet with difficulty. They said, that restraining manufactures in the Colonies was a favourite idea here; and therefore they wished that article to be omitted, as the proposing it would alarm and hinder perhaps the considering and granting others of more importance: but as I insisted on the equity of allowing all subjects in every Country to make the most of their natural advantages, they desired I would at least alter the last word from repealed to reconsidered, which I complied with.

In maintaining the seventh article (which was at first objected to, on the principle that all under the care of Government should pay towards the support of it,) my reasons were, that if every distinct part of the King's Dominions supported its own Government in time of peace, it was all that could justly be required of it; that all the old or confederated Colonies had done so from their beginning; that their taxes for that purpose were very considerable; that new Countries had many publick expenses which old ones were free from, the works being done to their hands by their ancestors, such as making roads and bridges, erecting churches, court-houses, forts, quays, and other publick buildings, founding schools and places of education, hospitals and alms-houses, &c., &c.; that the voluntary and the legal subscriptions and taxes for such purposes, taken together, amounted to more than was paid by equal estates in *Britain*. That it would be best for *Britain*, on two accounts, not to take money from us as contribution to its publick expense, in time of peace; first, for that just so much less would be got from us in Commerce, since all we could spare was already gained from us by *Britain* in that way; and secondly, that coming into the hands of *British* Ministers, accustomed to prodigality of publick money, it would be squandered and dissipated, answering no good general purpose. That if we were to be taxed towards the support of Government in *Britain*,



as *Scotland* has been since the union, we ought then to be allowed the same privileges in trade as she has been allowed. That if we are called upon to give to the sinking fund or the national debt, *Ireland* ought to be likewise called upon; and both they and we, if we gave, ought to have some means established of inquiring into the application, and securing a compliance with the terms on which we should grant. That *British* Ministers would perhaps not like our meddling with such matters; and that hence might arise new causes of misunderstanding. That upon the whole, therefore, I thought it best on all sides, that no aids shall be asked or expected from the Colonies in time of peace; that it would then be their interest to grant bountifully, and exert themselves vigorously in time of war, the sooner to put an end to it. That specie was not to be had to send to *England* in supplies, but the Colonies could carry on war with their own paper money; which would pay Troops, and for Provisions, Transports, Carriages, Clothing, Arms, &c. So this seventh article was at length agreed to without further objection.

The eighth the gentlemen were confident would never be granted. For the whole world would be of opinion that the King, who is to defend all parts of his Dominions, should have of course a right to place his Troops where they might best answer that purpose. I supported the article upon principles equally important in my opinion to *Britain* as to the Colonies: for that if the King could bring into one part of his Dominions, Troops raised in any other part of them, without the consent of the Legislatures of the part to which they were brought, he might bring Armies raised in *America* into *England* without consent of Parliament, which probably would not like it, as a few years since they had not liked the introduction of the *Hessians* and *Hanoverians*, though justified by the supposition of its being a time of danger. That if there should be at any time real occasion for *British* Troops in *America*, there was no doubt of obtaining the consent of the Assemblies there; and I was so far from being willing to drop this article, that I thought I ought to add another, requiring all the present Troops to be withdrawn, before *America* could be expected to treat or agree upon any terms of accommodation; as what they should now do of that kind might be deemed the effect of compulsion, the appearance of which ought as much as possible to be avoided, since those reasonable things might be agreed to, where the parties seemed at least to act freely, which would be strongly refused under threats, or the semblance of force. That the withdrawing the Troops was therefore necessary to make any treaty durably binding on the part of the *Americans*, since proof of having acted under force, would invalidate any agreement: and it could be no wonder that we should insist on the Crown's having no right to bring a Standing Army among us in time of peace; when we saw now before our eyes a striking instance of the ill use to be made of it, viz: to distress the King's subjects in different parts of his Dominions, one part after the other, into a submission to arbitrary power, which was the avowed design of the Army and Fleet now placed at *Boston*. Finding me obstinate, the gentlemen consented to let this stand, but did not seem quite to approve of it: they wished, they said, to have this paper or plan, that they might show as containing the sentiments of considerate impartial persons, and such as they might as *Englishmen* support, which they though could not well be the case with this article.

The ninth article was so drawn, in compliance with an idea of Dr. *Fothergill's*, started at our first meeting, viz: that Government here would probably not be satisfied with the promise of voluntary grants in time of war from the Assemblies, of which the quantity must be uncertain; that therefore it would be best to proportion them in some way to the Shillings in the Pound raised in *England*; but how such proportion could be ascertained he was at a loss to contrive; I was desired to consider it. It had been said, too, that Parliament was become jealous of the right claimed and heretofore used by the Crown, of raising money in the Colonies without Parliamentary consent; and therefore, since we would not pay Parliamentary taxes, future requisitions must be made with consent of Parliament, and not otherwise. I wondered that the Crown should be willing to give up that separate right, but had no objection to its limiting itself, if it thought proper: so I

drew the article accordingly, and contrived to proportion the aid by the tax of the last year of peace. And since it was thought that the method I should have liked best would never be agreed to, viz: a Continental Congress to be called by the Crown, for answering requisitions and proportioning aids; I chose to leave room for voluntary additions by the separate Assemblies, that the Crown might have some motive for calling them together, and cultivating their good will, and they have some satisfaction in showing their loyalty and their zeal in the common cause, and an opportunity of manifesting their disapprobation of a war, if they did not think it a just one. This article, therefore, met with no objection from *them*; and I had another reason for liking it, viz: that the view of the proportion to be given in time of war, might make us the more frugal in time of peace.

For the tenth article, I urged the injustice of seizing that Fortress, (which had been built at an immense charge by the Province, for the defence of their Port against National enemies,) and turning it into a citadel for awing the Town, restraining their Trade, blocking up their Port, and depriving them of their privileges: that a great deal had been said of their injustice in destroying the Tea; but here was a much greater injustice uncompensated, that Castle having cost the Province Three Hundred Thousand Pounds: and that such a use made of a Fortress they had built, would not only effectually discourage every Colony from ever building another, and thereby leave them more exposed to foreign enemies, but was a good reason for their insisting that the Crown should never erect any hereafter in their limits without the consent of the Legislature: the gentlemen had not much to say against this article; but thought it would hardly be admitted.

The eleventh article it was thought would be strongly objected to; that it would be urged the old Colonists could have nothing to do with the affairs of *Canada*, whatever we had with those of the *Massachusetts*; that it would be considered as an officious meddling merely to disturb Government; and that some even of the *Massachusetts* Acts were thought by Administration to be improvements of that Government, viz: those altering the appointment of Counsellors, the choice of Jurymen, and the forbidding of Town-meetings. I replied, that we having assisted in the conquest of *Canada*, at a great expense of blood and treasure, had some right to be considered in the settlement of it: that the establishing an arbitrary Government on the back of our settlements might be dangerous to us all; and that loving liberty ourselves, we wished it to be extended among mankind, and to have no foundation for future slavery laid in *America*. That as to amending the *Massachusetts* Government, though it might be shown that every one of these pretended amendments were real mischiefs, yet that Charters being compacts between two parties, the King and the People, no alteration could be made in them, even for the better, but by the consent of both parties. That the Parliament's claim and exercise of a power to alter our Charters, which had always been deemed inviolable but for forfeiture, and to alter laws made in pursuance of these Charters which had received the Royal approbation, and thenceforth deemed fixed and unchangeable but by the powers that made them, had rendered all our Constitutions uncertain, and set us quite afloat: that as by claiming a right to tax us *ad libitum*, they deprived us of all property, so by this claim of altering our Laws and Charters at will, they deprived us of all privilege and right whatever, but what we should hold at their pleasure: that this was a situation we could not be in, and must risk life and every thing rather than submit to it. So this article remained.

The twelfth article I explained, by acquainting the gentlemen with the former situation of the Judges in most Colonies, viz: that they were appointed by the Crown, and paid by the Assemblies: that the appointment being during the pleasure of the Crown, the salary had been during the pleasure of the Assembly: that when it has been urged against the Assemblies, that their making Judges dependant on them for their salaries, was aiming at an undue influence over the Courts of Justice, the Assemblies usually replied, that making them dependant on the Crown for continuance in their places, was also retaining an undue influence over those Courts; and that one



undue influence was a proper balance for the other; but that whenever the Crown would consent to Acts making the Judges during *good behaviour*, the Assemblies would at the same time grant their salaries to be permanent during their continuance in office. This the Crown has, however, constantly refused: and this equitable offer is now again here proposed; the Colonies not being able to conceive why their Judges should not be rendered as independent as those in *England*: that, on the contrary, the Crown now claimed to make the Judges in the Colonies dependant on its favour for both place and salary, both to be continued at its pleasure: this the Colonies must oppose as inequitable, as putting both the weights into one of the scales of justice: if, therefore, the Crown does not choose to commission the Judges during good behaviour, with equally permanent salaries, the alternative proposed, that the salaries continue to be paid during the pleasure of the Assemblies as heretofore. The gentlemen allowed this article to be reasonable.

The thirteenth was objected to, as nothing was generally thought more reasonable here, than that the King should pay his own Governour, in order to render him independent of the people, who otherwise might aim at influencing him against his duty, by occasionally withholding his salary. To this I answered, that Governours sent to the Colonies were often men of no estate or principle, who came merely to make fortunes, and had no natural regard for the Country they were to govern: that to make them quite independent of the people, was to make them careless of their conduct, whether it was beneficial or mischievous to the publick, and giving a loose to their rapacious and oppressive dispositions: that the influence supposed could never extend to operate any thing prejudicial to the King's service, or the interest of *Britain*: since the Governour was bound by a set of particular instructions, which he had given surety to observe; and all the laws he assented to were subject to be repealed by the Crown if found improper: that the payment of the salaries by the people was more satisfactory to them, as it was productive of a good understanding, and mutual good offices between Governour and governed, and therefore the innovation lately made in that respect at *Boston* and *New-York* had in my opinion better be laid aside. So this article was suffered to remain.

But the fourteenth was thought totally inadmissible. The monopoly of the *American* Commerce could never be given up, and the proposing it would only give offence without answering any good purpose. I was therefore prevailed on to strike it wholly out.

The fifteenth was readily agreed to.

The sixteenth it was thought would be of little consequence, if the duties were given to the Colony Treasuries.

The seventeenth it was thought could hardly be obtained, but might be tried.

Thus having gone through the whole, I was desired to make a fair copy for Dr. *Fothergill*, who now informed us, that having an opportunity of seeing daily Lord *Dartmouth*, of whose good disposition he had a high opinion, he would communicate the paper to him, as the sentiments of considerate persons who wished the welfare of both Countries. Suppose, said Mr. *Barclay*, I were to show this paper to Lord *Hyde*; would there be any thing amiss in so doing? He is a very knowing man, and though not in the Ministry, properly speaking, he is a good deal attended to by them. I have some acquaintance with him; we converse freely sometimes, and perhaps if he and I were to talk these articles over, I should communicate to him our conversation upon them some good might arise out of it. Dr. *Fothergill* had no objection; and I said I could have none. I knew Lord *Hyde* a little, and had an esteem for him. I had drawn the paper at their request, and it was now theirs to do with it what they pleased. Mr. *Barclay* then proposed, that I should send the fair copy to him, which, after making one for Dr. *Fothergill* and one for himself, he would return to me. Another question then arose, whether I had any objection to their mentioning that I had been consulted? I said, none that related to myself; but it was my opinion, if they wished any attention paid to the propositions, it would be better not to mention me; the Ministry having, as I conceived, a prejudice against me and every thing that came from me. They said on that

consideration it might be best not to mention me, and so it was concluded. For my own part, I kept this whole proceeding a profound secret; but I soon after discovered that it had taken air by some means or other.

Being much interrupted the day following, I did not copy and send the paper. The next morning I received a note from Mr. *Barclay*, pressing to have it before twelve o'clock. I accordingly sent it to him. Three days after I received the following note from him:

D. *BARCLAY* presents his respects, and acquaints Dr. *Franklin*, that being informed a pamphlet, entitled "*A Friendly Address*," has been dispersed to the *disadvantage* of *America*, (in particular by the Dean of *Norwich*,) he desires Dr. *Franklin* will peruse the enclosed, just come to hand from *America*; and if he approves of it, republish it, as D. *Barclay* wishes something might be properly spread at *Norwich*. D. *Barclay* saw to-day a person with whom he had been yesterday, (before he called on Dr. *Franklin*,) and had the satisfaction of walking part of the way with him to another noble person's house, to meet on the *business*, and he told him, that he could say, that he saw some *light*.

Cheapside, 11th instant.

The person so met and accompanied by Mr. *Barclay*, I understood to be Lord *Hyde*, going either to Lord *Dartmouth's* or Lord *North's*, I knew not which.

In the following week arrived the proceedings of the Congress, which had been long and anxiously expected, both by the friends and adversaries of *America*.

The Petition of Congress to the King was enclosed to me, and accompanied by the following letter from their President, addressed to the *American* Agents in London, as follows:\*

The first impression made by the proceedings of the *American* Congress on people in general, was greatly in our favour. Administration seemed to be staggered, were impatient to know whether the *Petition* mentioned in the proceedings was come to my hands, and took roundabout methods of obtaining that information, by getting a ministerial merchant, a known intimate of the Solicitor-General, to write me a letter, importing that he heard I had received such a petition, that I was to be attended in presenting it by the merchants, and begging to know the time, that he might attend "on so important an occasion, and give his testimony to so good a work." Before these proceedings arrived, it had been given out, that no Petition from the Congress could be received, as they were an illegal body; but the Secretary of State, after a day's perusal, (during which a Council was held,) told us it was a decent and proper Petition, and cheerfully undertook to present it to His Majesty, who, he afterwards assured us, was pleased to receive it very graciously, and to promise to lay it, as soon as they met, before his two Houses of Parliament; and we had reason to believe that at that time the Petition was intended to be made the foundation of some change of measures; but that purpose, if such there was, did not long continue.

About this time I received a letter from Mr. *Barclay*, then at *Norwich*, dated *December* 18th, expressing his opinion, that it might be best to postpone taking any further steps in the affair of procuring a meeting and petition of the Merchants, (on which we had had several consultations,) till after the holidays, thereby to give the proceedings of Congress more time to work upon men's minds, adding, "I likewise consider that our superiours will have some little time for reflection, and perhaps may contemplate on the propriety of the Hints in their possession. By a few lines I have received from Lord *Hyde*, he intimates his hearty wish that they may be productive of what may be practicable and advantageous for the Mother Country and the Colonies." On the 22d, Mr. *Barclay* was come to Town, when I dined with him, and learned that Lord *Hyde* thought the propositions too hard.

On the 24th I received the following note from a considerable merchant in the City, viz:

Mr. *WILLIAM NEATE* presents his most respectful compliments to Dr. *Franklin*, and as a report prevailed yesterday evening, that all the disputes between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies were, through his application

\* See Vol. I. Fol. 929, and Fol. 934.



and influence with Lord *North*, amicably settled, conformable to the wish and desire of the late Congress, *W. N.* desires the favour of Dr. *Franklin* to inform him by a line, per the bearer, whether there is any credit to be given to the report?

St. Mary Hill, 24th December, 1774.

My answer was to this effect, that I should be very happy to be able to inform him that the report he had heard had some truth in it; but I could only assure him that I knew nothing of the matter. Such reports, however, were confidently circulated, and had some effect in recovering the Stocks, which had fallen three or four per cent.

On Christmas day, visiting Mrs. *Howe*, she told me as soon as I went in, that her brother, Lord *Howe*, wished to be acquainted with me; that he was a very good man, and she was sure we should like each other. I said, I had always heard a good character of Lord *Howe*, and should be proud of the honour of being known to him. He is just by, said she; will you give me leave to send for him? By all means, madam, if you think proper. She rang for a servant, wrote a note, and Lord *Howe* came in a few minutes.

After some extremely polite compliments as to the general motives for his desiring an acquaintance with me, he said he had a particular one at this time, which was the alarming situation of our affairs with *America*, which no one, he was persuaded, understood better than myself; that it was the opinion of some friends of his, that no man could do more towards reconciling our differences than I could, if I would undertake it; that he was sensible I had been very ill treated by the Ministry, but he hoped that would not be considered by me in the present case; that he himself, though not in opposition, had much disapproved of their conduct towards me; that some of them, he was sure, were ashamed of it, and sorry it had happened: which he supposed must be sufficient to abate resentment in a great and generous mind; that if he were himself in Administration, he should be ready to make me ample satisfaction, which he was persuaded would one day or other be done; that he was unconnected with the Ministry, except by some personal friendships, wished well however to Government, was anxious for the general welfare of the whole Empire, and had a particular regard for *New-England*, which had shown a very endearing respect to his family; that he was merely an independent Member of Parliament, desirous of doing what good he could, agreeably to his duty in that station; that he therefore had wished for an opportunity of obtaining my sentiments on the means of reconciling our differences, which he saw must be attended with the most mischievous consequences, if not speedily accommodated; that he hoped his zeal for the publick welfare would, with me, excuse the impertinence of a mere stranger, who could have otherwise no reason to expect, or right to request me to open my mind to him upon these topicks; but he did conceive, that if I would indulge him with my ideas of the means proper to bring about a reconciliation, it might be of some use; that perhaps I might not be willing myself to have any direct communication with this Ministry on this occasion; that I might likewise not care to have it known that I had any indirect communication with them, till I could be well assured of their good dispositions; that being himself upon no ill terms with them, he thought it not impossible that he might, by conveying my sentiments to them, and theirs to me, be a means of bringing on a good understanding, without committing either them or me, if his negotiation should not succeed; and that I might rely on his keeping perfectly secret every thing I should wish to remain so.

Mrs. *Howe* here offering to withdraw, whether of herself or from any sign from him, I know not, I begged she might stay, as I should have no secret in a business of this nature that I could not freely confide to her prudence, which was truth; for I had never conceived a higher opinion of the discretion and excellent understanding of any woman on so short an acquaintance. I added, that though I had never before the honour of being in his Lordship's company, his manner was such as had already engaged my confidence, and would make me perfectly easy and free in communicating myself to him. I begged him, in the first place, to give me credit for a sincere desire of healing the breach

between the two Countries; that I would cheerfully and heartily do every thing in my small power to accomplish it; but that I apprehended from the King's speech, and from the measures talked of, as well as those already determined on, no intention or disposition of the kind existed in the present Ministry, and therefore no accommodation could be expected till we saw a change. That as to what his Lordship mentioned of the personal injuries done me, those done my Country were so much greater, that I did not think the other, at this time, worth mentioning; that besides it was a fixed rule with me, not to mix my private affairs with those of the publick; that I could join with my personal enemy in serving the publick, or, when it was for its interest, with the publick in serving that enemy; these being my sentiments, his Lordship might be assured that no private considerations of the kind should prevent my being as useful in the present case as my small ability would permit. He appeared satisfied and pleased with these declarations, and gave it me as his sincere opinion, that some of the Ministry were extremely well disposed to any reasonable accommodations, preserving only the dignity of Government; and he wished me to draw up in writing some propositions containing the terms on which I conceived a good understanding might be obtained and established, and the mode of proceeding to accomplish it; which propositions, as soon as prepared, we might meet to consider, either at his house or at mine, or where I pleased; but as his being seen at my house, or me at his, might he thought occasion some speculation, it was concluded to be best to meet at his sister's, who readily offered her house for that purpose, and where there was a good pretence with her family and friends for my being often seen, as it was known that we played together at chess. I undertook, accordingly, to draw up something of the kind; and so for that time we parted, agreeing to meet at the same place again on the *Wednesday* following.

I dined about this time, by invitation, with Governour *Pownall*. There was no company but the family, and after dinner we had a *tête-à-tête*. He had been in the opposition, but was now about making his peace, in order to come into Parliament on Ministerial interest, which I did not then know. He told me what I had before been told by several of Lord *North's* friends, that the *American* measures were not the measures of that Minister, nor approved by him; that, on the contrary, he was well disposed to promote a reconciliation upon any terms honourable to Government; that I had been looked upon as the great fomentor of the opposition in *America*, and as a great adversary to any accommodation; that he, Governour *Pownall*, had given a different account of me, and had told his Lordship that I was certainly much misunderstood. From the Governour's further discourse I collected that he wished to be employed as an Envoy or Commissioner to *America*, to settle the differences, and to have me with him; but as I apprehended there was little likelihood that either of us would be so employed by Government, I did not give much attention to that part of his discourse.

I should have mentioned in its place, (but one cannot recollect every thing in order,) that, declining at first to draw up the propositions desired by Lord *Howe*, I alleged its being unnecessary, since the Congress, in their Petition to the King, just then received and presented through Lord *Dartmouth*, had stated their grievances, and pointed out very explicitly what would restore the ancient harmony; and I read a part of the Petition, to show their good dispositions, which, being very pathetically expressed, seemed to affect both the brother and sister. But still I was desirous to give my ideas of the steps to be taken, in case some of the propositions in the Petition should not be thought admissible; and this, as I said before, I undertook to do.

I had promised Lord *Chatham* to communicate to him the first important news I should receive from *America*. I therefore sent him the proceedings of the Congress as soon as I received them; but a whole week passed after I received the Petition before I could, as I wished to do, wait upon him with it, in order to obtain his sentiments on the whole; for my time was taken up in meetings with the other Agents to consult about presenting the Petition, in waiting three different days with them on Lord *Dartmouth*, in consulting upon and writing letters to the Speakers of Assemblies, and other business, which did not allow me a



day to go to *Hayes*. At last, on *Monday*, the 26th, I got out, and was there about one o'clock; he received me with an affectionate kind of respect, that from so great a man was extremely engaging; but the opinion he expressed of the Congress was still more so. They had acted, he said, with so much temper, moderation, and wisdom, that he thought it the most honourable assembly of statesmen since those of the ancient *Greeks* and *Romans*, in the most virtuous times. That there was not, in their whole proceedings, above one or two things he could have wished otherwise; perhaps but one, and that was their assertion that the keeping up a Standing Army in the Colonies in time of peace, without consent of their Legislatures, was against law; he doubted that was not well founded, and that the law alluded to did not extend to the Colonies. The rest he admired and honoured; he thought the Petition decent, manly, and properly expressed. He inquired much and particularly concerning the state of *America*, the probability of their perseverance, the difficulties they must meet with in adhering, for any long time, to their resolutions; the resources they might have to supply the deficiency of Commerce; to all which I gave him answers, with which he seemed well satisfied. He expressed a great regard and warm affection for that Country, with hearty wishes for their prosperity, and that Government here might soon come to see its mistakes, and rectify them; and intimated that possibly he might, if his health permitted, prepare something for its consideration, when the Parliament should meet after the holidays, on which he should wish to have previously my sentiments. I mentioned to him the very hazardous state I conceived we were in, by the continuance of the Army in *Boston*; that whatever disposition there might be in the inhabitants to give no just cause of offence to the Troops, or in the general to preserve order among them, an unpremeditated, unforeseen quarrel might happen, between perhaps a drunken porter and a soldier, that might bring on a riot, tumult, and bloodshed, and its consequences produce a breach impossible to be healed; that the Army could not possibly answer any good purpose there, and might be infinitely mischievous; that no accommodation could be properly proposed and entered into by the *Americans*, while the bayonet was at their breasts; that to have any agreement binding, all force should be withdrawn. His Lordship seemed to think these sentiments had something in them that was reasonable.

From *Hayes* I went to *Halsted*, Mr. *Sargent's* place, to dine, intending thence a visit to Lord *Stanhope*, at *Chevening*; but hearing there that his Lordship and the family were in Town, I staid at *Halsted* all night, and the next morning went to *Chiselhurst*, to call upon Lord *Camden*, it being in my way to Town. I met his Lordship and family in two carriages just without his gate, going on a visit of congratulation to Lord *Chatham* and his lady, on the late marriage of their daughter to Lord *Mahon*, son of Lord *Stanhope*. They were to be back to dinner; so I agreed to go in, stay dinner, and spend the evening there, and not return to Town till next morning. We had that afternoon and evening a great deal of conversation on *American* affairs, concerning which he was very inquisitive, and I gave him the best information in my power. I was charmed with his generous and noble sentiments, and had the great pleasure of hearing his full approbation of the proceedings of the Congress, the Petition, &c., &c., of which, at his request, I afterwards sent him a copy. He seemed anxious that the *Americans* should continue to act with the same temper, coolness, and wisdom, with which they had hitherto proceeded in most of their publick assemblies, in which case he did not doubt they would succeed in establishing their rights, and obtain a solid and durable agreement with the Mother Country; of the necessity and great importance of which agreement, he seemed to have the strongest impressions.

I returned to Town the next morning, in time to meet at the hour appointed by Lord *Howe*. I apologized for my not being ready with the paper I had promised, by my having been kept longer than I intended in the Country. We had, however, a good deal of conversation on the subject, and his Lordship told me he could now assure me of a certainty, that there was a sincere disposition in Lord *North* and Lord *Dartmouth* to accommodate the differences with *America*, and to listen favourably to any propo-

sitions that might have a probable tendency to answer that salutary purpose. He then asked me what I thought of sending some person or persons over, commissioned to inquire into the grievances of *America* upon the spot; converse with the leading people, and endeavour with them to agree upon some means of composing our differences. I said that a person of rank and dignity, who had a character of candour, integrity, and wisdom, might possibly, if employed in that service, be of great use. He seemed to be of the same opinion, and that whoever was employed should go with a hearty desire of promoting a sincere reconciliation, on the foundation of mutual interests and mutual good-will; that he should endeavour not only to remove their prejudices against Government, but equally the prejudices of Government against them, and bring on a perfect good understanding, &c. Mrs. *Howe* said, I wish, brother, you were to be sent thither on such a service; I should like that much better than General *Howe's* going to command the Army there. I think, madam, said I, they ought to provide for General *Howe* some more honourable employment. Lord *Howe* here took out of his pocket a paper, and offering it to me said, smiling, if it is not an unfair question, may I ask whether you know any thing of this paper? Upon looking at it, I saw it was a copy, in *David Barclay's* hand, of the *Hints* before recited, and said that I had seen it; adding, a little after, that since I perceived his Lordship was acquainted with a transaction, my concern in which I had understood was to have been kept a secret, I should make no difficulty in owing to him that I had been consulted on the subject, and had drawn up that paper. He said he was rather sorry to find that the sentiments expressed in it were mine, as it gave him less hopes of promoting, by my assistance, the wished-for reconciliation, since he had reason to think there was no likelihood of the admission of these propositions. He hoped, however, that I would reconsider the subject, and form some plan that would be acceptable here. He expatiated on the infinite service it would be to the Nation, and the great merit in being instrumental in so good a work; that he should not think of influencing me by any selfish motive, but certainly I might with reason expect any reward in the power of Government to bestow. This to me was what the *French* vulgarly call *spitting in the soup*. However, I promised to draw some sketch of a plan at his request, though I much doubted, I said, whether it would be thought preferable to that he had in his hand. But he was willing to hope that it would, and as he considered my situation, that I had friends here and constituents in *America* to keep well with, that I might possibly propose something improper to be seen in my handwriting; therefore, it would be better to send it to Mrs. *Howe*, who would copy it, send the copy to him to be communicated to the Ministry, and return me the original. This I agreed to, though I did not apprehend the inconvenience he mentioned. In general I liked much his manner, and found myself disposed to place great confidence in him on occasion, but in this particular the secrecy he proposed seemed not of much importance.

In a day or two I sent the following paper, enclosed in a cover, directed to the honourable Mrs. *Howe*:

"It is supposed to be the wish on both sides, not merely to put a stop to the mischief at present threatening the general welfare, but to cement a cordial union, and remove not only every real grievance, but every cause of jealousy and suspicion.

"With this view the first thing necessary is, to know what is, by the different parties in the dispute, thought essentially necessary for the obtaining such an union.

"The *American* Congress, in their Petition to the King, have been explicit, declaring that, by a repeal of the oppressive Acts therein complained of, 'the harmony between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, so necessary to the happiness of both, and so ardently desired of them, will, with the usual intercourse, be immediately restored.'

"If it has been thought reasonable here to expect that, previous to an alteration of measures, the Colonies should make some declaration respecting their future conduct, they have also done that, by adding, 'that when the causes of their apprehensions are removed, their future conduct will prove them not unworthy of the regard they have been accustomed in their happier days to enjoy.'



"For their sincerity in these declarations, they solemnly call to witness the Searcher of all hearts.

"If *Britain* can have any reliance on these declarations, (and perhaps none to be extorted by force can be more relied on than these which are thus freely made,) she may, without hazard to herself, try the expedient proposed, since, if it fails, she has it in her power at any time to resume her present measures.

"It is, then, proposed,

"That *Britain* should show some confidence in these declarations, by repealing all the laws or parts of laws that are requested to be repealed in the Petition of the Congress to the King.

"And that at the same time orders should be given to withdraw the Fleet from *Boston*, and remove all the Troops to *Quebeck* or the *Floridas*, that the Colonies may be left at liberty in their future stipulations.

"That this may, for the honour of *Britain*, appear not the effect of any apprehension from the measures entered into and recommended to the people by the Congress, but from good will, and a change of disposition towards the Colonies, with a sincere desire of reconciliation; let some of their other grievances, which, in their Petition, they have left to the magnanimity and justice of the King and Parliament, be at the same time removed, such as those relating to the payment of Governours' and Judges' salaries, and the instructions for dissolving Assemblies, &c., with the declarations concerning the Statute of *Henry VIII*.

"And to give the Colonies an immediate opportunity of demonstrating the reality of their professions, let their proposed ensuing Congress be authorized by Government, (as was that held at *Albany* in 1754,) and a person of weight and dignity of character be appointed to preside at it on behalf of the Crown.

"And then let requisition be made to the Congress, of such points as Government wishes to obtain, for its future security, for aids, for the advantage of general Commerce, for reparation to the *India Company*, &c., &c.

"A generous confidence thus placed in the Colonies, will give ground to the friends of Government there, in their endeavours to procure from *America* every reasonable concession or engagement, and every substantial aid that can fairly be desired."

On the *Saturday* evening I saw Mrs. *Howe*, who informed me she had transcribed and sent the paper to Lord *Howe* in the country, and she returned me the original. On the following *Tuesday*, *January* 3d, I received a note from her, (enclosing a letter she had received from Lord *Howe* the last night,) which follows:

"Mrs. *Howe's* compliments to Dr. *Franklin*; she encloses him a letter she received last night, and returns him many thanks for his very obliging present,\* which has already given her great entertainment. If the Doctor has any spare time for chess, she will be exceedingly glad to see him any morning this week, and as often as will be agreeable to him, and rejoices in having so good an excuse for asking the favour of his company.

"*Tuesday*."

[Letter enclosed in the foregoing.]

Porter's Lodge, *January* 2d, 1775.

I have received your packet; and it is with much concern that I collect, from sentiments of such authority as those of our worthy friend, that the desired accommodation threatens to be attended with much greater difficulty than I had flattered myself, in the progress of our intercourse, there would be reason to apprehend.

I shall forward the propositions as intended. Not desirous of trespassing further on our friend's indulgence; but returning sentiments of regard, which his candid and obliging attention to my troublesome inquiries, will render ever permanent in the memory of your affectionate, &c.

I ought to make excuses likewise to you. *HOWE*.  
Hon. Mrs. *Howe*, *Grafton Street*.

His Lordship had, in his last conversation with me, acknowledged a communication between him and the Ministry, to whom he wished to make my sentiments known. In this letter from the country he owns the receipt of them, and mentions his intentions of forwarding them, that is, as

\* His philosophical writings.

I understood it, to the Ministers; but expresses his apprehensions that such propositions were not likely to produce any good effect. Some time after, perhaps a week, I received a note from Mrs. *Howe*, desiring to see me. I waited upon her immediately, when she showed me a letter from her brother, of which, having no copy, I can only give from the best of my recollection the purport of it, which I think was this: that he desired to know from their friend, meaning me, through her means, whether it might not be expected that, if that friend would engage for the payment of the Tea as a preliminary, relying on a promised redress of their grievances on future petitions from their Assembly, they would approve of his making such engagement; and whether the proposition in the former paper, (the *Hints*;) relating to aids, was still in contemplation of the author. As Mrs. *Howe* proposed sending to her brother that evening, I wrote immediately the following answer, which she transcribed and forwarded:

"The proposition in the former paper relating to aids, is still in contemplation of the author, and, as he thinks, is included in the last article of the present paper.

"The people of *America*, conceiving that Parliament has no right to tax them, and that, therefore, all that has been extorted from them by the operation of the Duty Acts, with the assistance of an armed force, *preceding* the destruction of the Tea, is so much injury, which ought, in order of time, to be first repaired, before a demand on the Tea account can be justly made of them; are not, he thinks, likely to approve of the measure proposed, and pay in the first place the value demanded, especially as twenty times as much injury has since been done them by blocking up their Port; and their Castle also seized before by the Crown, has not been restored, nor any satisfaction offered them for the same."

At the meeting of Parliament, after the holidays, which was on the 19th of *January*, (1775,) Lord *Howe* returned to town, when we had another meeting, at which he lamented that my propositions were not such as probably could be accepted; intimated that it was thought I had powers or instructions from the Congress to make concessions on occasion that would be more satisfactory. I disclaimed the having any of any kind but what related to the presenting of their Petition. We talked over all the particulars in my paper, which I supported with reasons; and finally said, that if what I had proposed would not do, I should be glad to hear what would do; I wished to see some propositions from the Ministers themselves. His Lordship was not, he said, as yet fully acquainted with their sentiments, but should learn more in a few days. It was, however, some weeks before I heard any thing further from him.

In the meanwhile, Mr. *Barclay* and I were frequently together on the affair of preparing the Merchants' Petition, which took up so much of his time that he could not conveniently see Lord *Hyde*; so he had no information to give me concerning the *Hints*, and I wondered I heard nothing of them from Dr. *Fothergill*. At length, however, but I cannot recollect about what time, the Doctor called on me, and told me he had communicated them, and with them had verbally given my arguments in support of them, to Lord *Dartmouth*, who, after consideration, had told him some of them appeared reasonable, but others were inadmissible or impracticable: that having occasion to see frequently the Speaker,\* he had also communicated them to him, as he found him very anxious for a reconciliation: that the Speaker had said it would be very humiliating to *Britain* to be obliged to submit to such terms: but the Doctor told him she had been unjust; and ought to bear the consequences, and alter her conduct; that the pill might be bitter, but it would be salutary, and must be swallowed: that these were the sentiments of impartial men, after thorough consideration and full information of all circumstances, and that sooner or later these or similar measures must be followed, or the Empire would be divided and ruined: the Doctor, on the whole, hoped some good would be effected by our endeavours.

On the 19th of *January*, I received a card from Lord *Stanhope*, acquainting me, that Lord *Chatham* having a motion to make on the morrow in the House of Lords, con-

\* Sir Fletcher Norton.



cerning *America*, greatly desired that I might be in the House, into which Lord *S.* would endeavour to procure me admittance. At this time it was a rule of the House that no person could introduce more than one friend. The next morning, his Lordship let me know by another card, that if I attended at two o'clock in the lobby, Lord *Chatham* would be there about that time, and would himself introduce me. I attended and met him there accordingly. On my mentioning to him what Lord *Stanhope* had written to me, he said, "Certainly; and I shall do it with the more pleasure, as I am sure your being present at this day's debate will be of more service to *America* than mine;" and so taking me by the arm, was leading me along the passage to the door that enters near the throne, when one of the Doorkeepers followed and acquainted him that, by the order, none were to be carried in at that door but the eldest sons or brothers of Peers; on which he limped back with me to the door near the bar, where were standing a number of gentlemen waiting for the Peers who were to introduce them, and some Peers waiting for friends they expected to introduce; among whom, he delivered me to the Doorkeepers, saying aloud, this is Doctor *Franklin*, whom I would have admitted into the House; when they readily opened the door for me accordingly. As it had not been publicly known that there was any communication between his Lordship and me, this I found occasioned some speculation. His appearance in the House, I observed, caused a kind of bustle among the officers, who were hurried in sending messengers for Members, I suppose those in connection with the Ministry, something of importance being expected when that great man appears; it being but seldom that his infirmities permit his attendance. I had great satisfaction in hearing his motion and the debate upon it, which I shall not attempt to give here an account of, as you may find a better in the papers of the time. It was his motion for withdrawing the Troops from *Boston*, as the first step towards an accommodation. The day following, I received a note from Lord *Stanhope*, expressing that, "at the desire of Lord *Chatham*, was sent me enclosed, the motion he made in the House of Lords, that I might be possessed of it in the most authentick manner, by the communication of the individual paper which was read to the House by the mover himself." I sent copies of this motion to *America*, and was the more pleased with it, as I conceived it had partly taken its rise from a hint I had given his Lordship in a former conversation. It follows in these words:

*Lord Chatham's Motion, January 20, 1775.*

"That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, most humbly to advise and beseech His Majesty, that, in order to open the way towards a happy settlement of the dangerous troubles in *America*, by beginning to allay ferments and soften animosities there; and above all, for preventing in the mean time any sudden and fatal catastrophe at *Boston*, now suffering under daily irritation of an Army before their eyes, posted in their Town; it may graciously please His Majesty, that immediate orders may be despatched to General *Gage*, for removing His Majesty's Forces from the Town of *Boston*, as soon as the rigour of the season and other circumstances, indispensable to the safety and accommodation of the said Troops, may render the same practicable."

I was quite charmed with Lord *Chatham's* speech in support of his motion. He impressed me with the highest idea of him as a great and most able statesman. Lord *Camden*, another wonderfully good speaker and close reasoner, joined him in the same argument, as did several other Lords, who spoke excellently well; but all availed no more than the whistling of the winds. This motion was rejected. Sixteen *Scotch* Peers, and twenty-four Bishops, with all the Lords in possession or expectation of places, when they vote together unanimously, as they generally do for Ministerial measures, make a dead majority, that renders all debating ridiculous in itself, since it can answer no end. Full of the high esteem I had imbibed for Lord *Chatham*, I wrote back to Lord *Stanhope* the following note, viz:

Dr. FRANKLIN presents his best respects to Lord *Stanhope*, with many thanks to his Lordship and Lord *Chat-*

*ham*, for the communication of so authentick a copy of the motion. Dr. *F.* is filled with admiration of that truly great man. He has seen in the course of his life, sometimes eloquence without wisdom, and often wisdom without eloquence; in the present instance he sees both united, and both, as he thinks, in the highest degree possible.

Craven Street, Jan. 23, 1775.

As in the course of the debate, some Lords in the Administration had observed, that it was common and easy to censure their measures, but those who did so proposed nothing better; Lord *Chatham* mentioned that he should not be one of those idle censurers, that he had thought long and closely upon the subject, and proposed soon to lay before their Lordships the result of his meditation, in a plan for healing our differences, and restoring peace to the Empire, to which his present motion was preparatory: I much desired to know what his plan was, and intended waiting on him to see if he would communicate it to me; but he went the next morning to *Hayes*, and I was so much taken up with daily business and company, that I could not easily get out to him. A few days after, however, Lord *Mahon* called on me, and told me Lord *Chatham* was very desirous of seeing me; when I promised to be with him the *Friday* following, several engagements prevented my going sooner. On *Friday*, the 27th, I took a post-chaise about 9 o'clock, and got to *Hayes* about eleven, but my attention being engaged in reading a new pamphlet, the postboy drove me a mile or two beyond the gate. His Lordship being out on an airing in his chariot, had met me before I reached *Hayes*, unobserved by me, turned and followed me, and not finding me there concluded, as he had seen me reading, that I had passed by mistake, and sent a servant after me. He expressed great pleasure at my coming, and acquainted me, in a long conversation, with the outlines of his plan, parts of which he read to me. He said he had communicated it only to Lord *Camden*, whose advice he much relied on, particularly in the law part; and that he would, as soon as he could get it transcribed, put it into my hands for my opinion and advice, but should show it to no other person before he presented it to the House; and he requested me to make no mention of it, otherwise parts might be misunderstood and blown up beforehand, and others perhaps adopted and produced by Ministers as their own. I promised the closest secrecy, and kept my word; not even mentioning to any one that I had seen him. I dined with him, his family only present, and returned to Town in the evening.

On the *Sunday* following, being the 29th, his Lordship came to Town, and called upon me in *Craven Street*. He brought with him his plan transcribed, in the form of an Act of Parliament, which he put into my hands, requesting me to consider it carefully, and communicate to him such remarks upon it as should occur to me. His reason for desiring to give me that trouble was, as he was pleased to say, that he knew no man so thoroughly acquainted with the subject, or so capable of giving advice upon it; that he thought the errors of Ministers in *American* Affairs had been often owing to their not obtaining the best information: that, therefore, though he had considered the business thoroughly in all its parts, he was not so confident of his own judgment, but that he came to set it right by mine, as men set their watches by a regulator. He had not determined when he should produce it in the House of Lords; but in the course of our conversation, considering the precarious situation of his health, and that if presenting it was delayed, some intelligence might arrive which would make it seem less seasonable, or in all parts not so proper; or the Ministry might engage in different measures, and then say, if you had produced your plan sooner, we might have attended to it; he concluded to offer it the *Wednesday* following, and, therefore, wished to see me upon it the preceding *Tuesday*, when he would again call upon me, unless I could conveniently come to *Hayes*. I chose the latter, in respect to his Lordship, and because there was less likelihood of interruptions: and I promised to be with him early, that we might have more time. He staid with me near two hours, his equipage awaiting at the door; and being there while people were coming from church, it was much taken notice of and talked of, as at that time was every little circumstance that men thought might possibly any



way affect *American* affairs. Such a visit from so great a man, on so important a business, flattered not a little my vanity; and the honour of it gave me the more pleasure, as it happened on the very day twelve months that the Ministry had taken so much pains to disgrace me before the Privy Council.

I applied myself immediately to the reading and considering the plan, of which, when it was afterwards published, I sent you a copy, and therefore need not insert it here. I put down upon paper, as I went along, some short memorandums for my future discourse with him upon it, which follow, that you may, if you please, compare them with the plan; and if you do so, you will see their drift and purpose, which otherwise would make me much writing to explain.

Tuesday, January 31, 1775.

Notes for discourse with Lord *Chatham* on his plan:

Voluntary grants and forced taxes, not to be expected of the same people at the same time.

Permanent revenue will be objected to; would not a temporary agreement be best, suppose for one hundred years?

Does the whole of the rights claimed in the Petition of Rights relate to *England* only?

The *American* Naturalization Act gives all the rights of natural born subjects to foreigners residing there seven years. Can it be supposed that the natives there have them not?

If the King should raise Armies in *America*, would *Britain* like their being brought hither? as the King might bring them when he pleased.

An Act of Parliament requires the Colonies to furnish sundry articles of provision and accommodation to Troops quartered among them; this may be made very burdensome to Colonies that are out of favour.

If a permanent revenue, why not the same privileges in trade with *Scotland*?

Should not the lands conquered by *Britain* and the Colonies in conjunction, be given them (reserving a quitrent) whence they might form funds to enable them to pay.

Instructions about Agents to be withdrawn.

Grants to be for three years, at the end of which a new Congress—and so from three to three years.

Congress to have the general defence of the frontiers, making and regulating new settlements.

Protection mutual.

We go into all your wars.

Our settlements cost you nothing.

Take the plan of union.

“Defence, extension, and prosperity of”—The late *Canada* Act prevents their extension, and may check their prosperity.

Laws should be secure as well as Charters.

Perhaps if the legislative power of Parliament is owned in the Colonies, they may make a law to forbid the meeting of any Congress, &c.

I was at *Hayes* early on *Tuesday*, agreeably to my promise, when we entered into consideration of the plan; but though I staid near four hours, his Lordship, in the manner of, I think, all eloquent persons, was so full and diffuse in supporting every particular I questioned, that there was not time to go through half my memorandums; he is not easily interrupted, and I had such pleasure in hearing him, that I found little inclination to interrupt him; therefore, considering that neither of us had much expectation that the plan would be adopted entirely as it stood; that in the course of its consideration, if it should be received, proper alterations might be introduced; that before it would be settled, *America* should have opportunity to make her objections and propositions of amendment; that to have it received at all here, it must seem to comply a little with some of the prevailing prejudices of the Legislature; that if it was not so perfect as might be wished, it would at least serve as a basis for treaty, and in the mean time prevent mischiefs, and that as his Lordship had determined to offer it the next day, there was not time to make changes and another fair copy. I therefore ceased my querying; and though afterwards many people were pleased to do me the honour of supposing I had a considerable share in composing it, I assure you, that the addition of a single word only was made at my instance, viz: “*Constitutions*” after “*Charters*,” for

my filling up at his request a blank with the titles of Acts proper to be repealed, which I took from the proceedings of the Congress, was no more than might have been done by any copying clerk.

On *Wednesday*, Lord *Stanhope*, at Lord *Chatham*’s request, called upon me, and carried me down to the House of Lords, which was soon very full. Lord *Chatham*, in a most excellent speech, introduced, explained, and supported his plan. When he sat down, Lord *Dartmouth* rose, and very properly said, it contained matter of such weight and magnitude as to require much consideration, and he therefore hoped the noble Earl did not expect their Lordships to decide upon it by an immediate vote, but would be willing it should lie upon the table for consideration. Lord *Chatham* answered readily, that he expected nothing more. But Lord *Sandwich* rose, and in a petulant vehement speech, opposed its being received at all, and gave his opinion, that it ought to be immediately rejected with the contempt it deserved; that he could never believe it to be the production of any *British* Peer; that it appeared to him rather the work of some *American*; and, turning his face towards me, who was leaning on the bar, said, he fancied he had in his eye the person who drew it up, one of the bitterest and most mischievous enemies this Country had ever known. This drew the eyes of many Lords upon me: but as I had no inducement to take it to myself, I kept my countenance as immoveable as if my features had been made of wood. Then several other Lords of the Administration gave their sentiments also for rejecting it, of which opinion also was strongly the wise Lord *Hillsborough*; but the Dukes of *Richmond* and *Manchester*, Lord *Shelburne*, Lord *Camden*, Lord *Temple*, Lord *Lyttleton* and others, were for receiving it, some through approbation, and others for the character and dignity of the House. One Lord mentioning with applause the candid proposal of one of the ministers, Lord *Dartmouth*, his Lordship rose again, and said, that having since heard the opinions of so many Lords against receiving it to lie upon the table for consideration, he had altered his mind, could not accept the praise offered him, for a candour of which he was now ashamed, and should therefore give his voice for rejecting the plan immediately. I am the more particular in this, as it is a trait of that Nobleman’s character, who, from his office, is supposed to have so great a share in *American* affairs, but who has in reality no will or judgment of his own, being, with dispositions for the best measures, easily prevailed with to join in the worst. Lord *Chatham*, in his reply to Lord *Sandwich*, took notice of his illiberal insinuation, that the plan was not the person’s who proposed it: declared that it was entirely his own, a declaration he thought himself the more obliged to make, as many of their Lordships appeared to have so mean an opinion of it; for if it was so weak or so bad a thing, it was proper in him to take care that no other person should unjustly share in the censure it deserved. That it had been heretofore reckoned his vice not to be apt to take advice; but he made no scruple to declare, that if he were the first Minister of this Country, and had the care of settling this momentous business, he should not be ashamed of publickly calling to his assistance a person so perfectly acquainted with the whole of *American* affairs as the gentleman alluded to, and so injuriously reflected on; one, he was pleased to say, whom all *Europe* held in high estimation, for his knowledge and wisdom, and ranked with our *Boyles* and *Newtons*, who was an honour, not to the *English* Nation only, but to human nature! I found it harder to stand this extravagant compliment, than the preceding equally extravagant abuse, but kept as well as I could an unconcerned countenance, as not conceiving it to relate to me.

To hear so many of these *hereditary* Legislators declaiming so vehemently against, not the adopting merely, but even the consideration of a proposal so important in its nature, offered by a person of so weighty a character, one of the first Statesmen of the age, who had taken up this Country when in the lowest despondency, and conducted it to victory and glory, through a war with two of the mightiest Kingdoms in *Europe*; to hear them censuring his plan, not only for their own misunderstandings of what was in it, but for their imaginations of what was not in it, which they would not give themselves an opportunity of rectifying by a second reading; to perceive the total ignorance of



the subject in some, the prejudice and passion of others, and the wilful perversion of plain truth in several of the Ministers; and, upon the whole, to see it so ignominiously rejected by so great a majority, and so hastily too, in breach of all decency, and prudent regard to the character and dignity of their body, as a third part of the National Legislature, gave me an exceeding mean opinion of their abilities, and made their claim of sovereignty over three millions of virtuous sensible people in *America* seem the greatest of absurdities, since they appeared to have scarce discretion enough to govern a herd of swine. *Hereditary Legislators!* thought I. There would be more propriety, because less hazard of mischief, in having (as in some University of Germany) *hereditary professors of mathematicks!* But this was a hasty reflection, for the *elected* House of Commons is no better, nor ever will be while the electors receive money for their votes, and pay money wherewith Ministers may bribe their Representatives when chosen.

After this proceeding I expected to hear no more of any negotiation for settling our difference amicably; yet in a day or two, I had a note from Mr. *Barclay*, requesting a meeting at Dr. *Fothergill's*, the 4th of *February* in the evening. I attended accordingly, and was surprised by being told that a very good disposition appeared in Administration; that the *Hints* had been considered, and several of them thought reasonable, and that others might be admitted with small amendments. The good Doctor, with his usual philanthropy, expatiated on the miseries of war; that even a bad peace was preferable to the most successful war; that *America* was growing in strength, and whatever she might be obliged to submit to at present, she would in a few years be in a condition to make her own terms. Mr. *Barclay* hinted how much it was in my power to promote an agreement; how much it would be to my honour to effect it, and that I might expect, not only restoration of my old place, but almost any other I could wish for, &c. I need not tell you, who know me so well, how improper and disgusting this language was to me. The Doctor's was more suitable. Him I answered, that we did not wish for war, and desired nothing but what was reasonable and necessary for our security and well-being. To Mr. *Barclay* I replied, that the Ministry, I was sure, would rather give me a place in a cart to *Tyburn*, than any other place whatever. And to both, that I sincerely wished to be serviceable; that I needed no other inducement than to be shown how I might be so; but saw they imagined more to be in my power than really was. I was then told again that conferences had been held upon the *Hints*; and the paper being produced was read, that I might hear the observations that had been made upon them separately, which were as follows:

1. The first Article was approved.
2. The second agreed to, so far as related to the repeal of the Tea Act. But repayment of the Duties that had been collected, was refused.
3. The third not approved, as it implied a deficiency of power in the Parliament that made those Acts.
4. The fourth approved.
5. The fifth agreed to, but with a reserve, that no change prejudicial to *Britain* was to be expected.
6. The sixth agreed to, so far as related to the appropriation of the Duties: but the appointment of the Officers and their salaries to remain as at present.
7. The seventh, relating to aids in time of peace, agreed to.
8. The eighth, relating to the Troops, was inadmissible.
9. The ninth could be agreed to, with this difference, that no proportion should be observed with regard to preceding Taxes, but each Colony should give at pleasure.
10. The tenth agreed to, as to the restitution of *Castle William*; but the restriction on the Crown in building fortresses refused.
11. The eleventh refused absolutely, except as to the *Boston* Port Bill, which would be repealed; and the *Quebeck* Act might be so far amended, as to reduce that Province to its ancient limits. The other *Massachusetts* Acts, being real amendments of their Constitution, must for that reason be continued, as well as to be a standing example of the power of Parliament.
12. The twelfth agreed to, that the Judges should be appointed during good behaviour, on the Assemblies pro-

viding permanent salaries, such as the Crown should approve of.

13. The thirteenth agreed to, provided the Assemblies make provision as in the preceding article.

15. The fifteenth agreed to.

16. The sixteenth agreed to, supposing the Duties paid to the Colony Treasuries.

17. The seventeenth inadmissible.

We had not at this time a great deal of conversation upon these points, for I shortened it by observing, that while the Parliament claimed and exercised a power of altering our Constitutions at pleasure, there could be no agreement; for we were rendered unsafe in every privilege we had a right to, and were secure in nothing. And it being hinted how necessary an agreement was for *America*, since it was so easy for *Britain* to burn all our sea-port Towns, I grew warm, said that the chief part of my little property consisted of houses in those Towns; that they might make bonfires of them whenever they pleased; that the fear of losing them would never alter my resolution to resist to the last that claim of Parliament, and that it behooved this Country to take care what mischief it did us, for that sooner or later it would certainly be obliged to make good all damages with interest! The Doctor smiled, as I thought, with some approbation of my discourse, passionate as it was, and said he would certainly repeat it to-morrow to Lord *Dartmouth*.

In the discourse concerning the *Hints*, Mr. *Barclay* happened to mention, that going to Lord *Hyde's*, he found Lord *Howe* with him, and that Lord *Hyde* had said to him, "you may speak any thing before Lord *Howe*, that you have to say to me, for he is a friend in whom I confide;" upon which he accordingly had spoken with the same freedom as usual. By this I collected how Lord *Howe* came by the paper of *Hints* which he had shown me: and it being mentioned as a measure thought of, to send over a Commissioner with powers to inquire into grievances and give redress on certain conditions, but that it was difficult to find a proper person; I said, why not Lord *Hyde*? he is a man of prudence and temper; a person of dignity, and I should think very suitable for such an employment: or, if he would not go, there is the other person you just mentioned, Lord *Howe*, who would, in my opinion, do excellently well. This passed as mere conversation, and we parted.

Lord *Chatham's* rejected plan being printed for the public judgment, I received six copies from Lord *Mahon*, his son-in-law, which I sent to different persons in *America*.

A week and more passed, in which I heard nothing further of the negotiation, and my time was much taken up among the Members of Parliament, when Mr. *Barclay* sent me a note to say, that he was indisposed, but desirous of seeing me, and should be glad if I would call on him. I waited upon him the next morning, when he told me that he had seen Lord *Hyde*, and had some further discourse with him on the *Articles*; that he thought himself now fully possessed of what would do in this business; that he therefore wished another meeting with me and Doctor *Fothergill*, when he would endeavour to bring prepared a draught conformable chiefly to what had been proposed and conceded on both sides, with some propositions of his own. I readily agreed to the meeting, which was to be on *Thursday* evening, *February* 16th.

We met accordingly, when Mr. *Barclay* produced the following paper, viz:

*A Plan, which it is believed would produce a permanent union between GREAT BRITAIN and her Colonies.*

1. The Tea destroyed to be paid for; and, in order that no time may be lost to begin the desirable work of conciliation, it is proposed that the Agent or Agents, in a petition to the King, should engage that the Tea destroyed shall be paid for, and in consequence of that engagement, a Commissioner to have authority, by a clause in an Act of Parliament, to open the port (by a suspension of the *Boston* Port Act) when that engagement shall be complied with.

2d. The Tea-Duty Act to be repealed, as well for the advantage of *Great Britain* as the Colonies.

3d. *Castle William* to be restored to the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, as formerly, before it was delivered up by Governour *Hutchinson*.



4th. As it is believed that the *commencement* of conciliatory measures will in a considerable degree quiet the minds of the subjects in *America*, it is proposed that the inhabitants of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* should petition the King, and state their objections to the said Act.\* And it is to be *understood* that the said Act shall be repealed. *Interim*, the Commissioner to have power to suspend the Act, in order to enable the inhabitants to petition.

5th. The several Provinces who may think themselves aggrieved by the *Quebeck* Bill, to petition in their legislative capacities; and it is to be *understood* that so far of the Act as extends the limits of *Quebeck* beyond its ancient bounds, is to be repealed.

6th. The Act of *Henry VIII.* to be formally disclaimed by Parliament.

7th. In time of *peace* the *Americans* to raise within their respective Provinces, by Acts of their own Legislatures, a certain sum or sums, such as may be thought necessary for a Peace Establishment, to pay Governours, Judges, &c.

*Vide*—Laws of *Jamaica*.

8th. In time of *war*, on requisition made by the King, with consent of Parliament, every Colony shall raise such sums of money, as their Legislatures may think suitable to their abilities and the publick exigency, to be laid out in raising and paying men, for land or sea service, furnishing provisions, transports, or such other purposes as the King shall require and direct.

9th. The Acts of Navigation to be re-examined, in order to see whether some alterations might not be made therein, as much for the advantage of *Great Britain*, as the ease of the Colonies.

10th. A Naval Officer to be appointed by the Crown to reside in each Colony, to see those Acts observed.

N. B. In some Colonies they are *not* appointed by the Crown.

11th. All Duties arising on the Acts for regulating Trade with the Colonies, to be for the publick use of the respective Colonies, and paid into their Treasuries, and an Officer of the Crown to see it done.

12th. The Admiralty Courts to be reduced to the same powers as they have in *England*.

13th. All Judges in the King's Colony Governments to be appointed during good behaviour, and to be paid by the Province, agreeable to article seventh.

N. B. If the King chooses to add to their salaries, the same to be sent from *England*.

14th. The Governours to be supported in the same manner.

Our conversation turned chiefly upon the first article. It was said that the Ministry only wanted some opening to be given them, some ground on which to found the commencement of conciliating measures, that a petition, containing such an engagement, as mentioned in this article, would answer that purpose; that preparations were making to send over more Troops and Ships, that such a petition might prevent their going, especially if a Commissioner were proposed; I was therefore urged to engage the Colony Agents to join with me in such a petition. My answer was, that no Agent had any thing to do with the Tea business but those for *Massachusetts-Bay*, who were, Mr. *Bollan* for the Council, myself for the Assembly, and Mr. *Lee*, appointed to succeed me when I should leave *England*; that the latter, therefore, could hardly yet be considered as an Agent; and that the former was a cautious exact man, and not easily persuaded to take steps of such importance without instructions or authority; that therefore if such a step were to be taken, it would lie chiefly on me to take it; that indeed, if there were, as they supposed, a clear probability of good to be done by it, I should make no scruple of hazarding myself in it; but I thought the empowering a Commissioner to suspend the *Boston* Port Act, was a method too dilatory, and a mere suspension would not be satisfactory; that if such an engagement were entered into, all the *Massachusetts* Acts should be immediately repealed.

They laid hold of the readiness I had expressed to petition on a probability of doing good, applauded it, and urged me to draw up a petition immediately. I said it was a matter of importance, and, with their leave, I would take home the paper, consider the propositions as they now

\* Supposed to mean the *Boston* Port Act. B. F.

stood, and give them my opinion to-morrow evening. This was agreed to, and for that time we parted.

Weighing now the present dangerous situation of affairs in *America*, and the daily hazard of widening the breach there irreparable, I embraced the idea proposed in the paper, of sending over a Commissioner, as it might be a means of suspending military operations, and bring on a treaty, whereby mischief would be prevented, and an agreement by degrees be formed and established; I also concluded to do what had been desired of me as to the engagement, and essayed a draught of a memorial to Lord *Dartmouth*, for that purpose, simply; to be signed only by myself. As to the sending of a Commissioner, a measure which I was desired likewise to propose, and express my sentiments of its utility, I apprehended my colleagues in the agency might be justly displeased if I took a step of such importance without consulting them, and therefore I sketched a joint petition to that purpose for them to sign with me if they pleased; but apprehending that would meet with difficulty, I drew up a letter to Lord *Dartmouth*, containing the same proposition, with the reasons for it, to be sent from me only. I made also upon paper some remarks on the propositions; with some hints on a separate paper of further remarks to be made in conversation, when we should meet in the evening of the 17th. Copies of these papers (except the first, which I do not find with me on shipboard) are here placed as follows, viz:

*To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.*

*The Petition and Memorial of W. BOLLAN, B. FRANKLIN, and ARTHUR LEE,*

Most humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioners, being Agents for several Colonies, and deeply affected with the apprehension of impending calamities that now threaten your Majesty's subjects in *America*, beg leave to approach your throne, and to suggest with all humility, their opinion, formed on much attentive consideration, that if it should please your Majesty to permit and authorize a meeting of Delegates from the different Provinces, and appoint some person or persons of dignity and wisdom from this Country, to preside in that meeting, or to confer with the said Delegates, acquaint themselves fully with the true grievances of the Colonies, and settle the means of composing all dissensions, such means to be afterwards ratified by your Majesty, if found just and suitable; your Petitioners are persuaded, from their thorough knowledge of that Country and People, that such a measure might be attended with the most salutary effects, prevent much mischief, and restore the harmony which so long subsisted, and is so necessary to the prosperity and happiness of all your Majesty's subjects in every part of your extensive Dominions; which that Heaven may preserve entire to your Majesty and your descendants, is the sincere prayer of your Majesty's most dutiful subjects and servants.

*To the Right Honourable Lord DARTMOUTH, &c. :*

MY LORD: Being deeply apprehensive of the impending calamities that threaten the Nation and its Colonies, through the present unhappy dissensions, I have attentively considered by what possible means those calamities may be prevented. The great importance of a business which concerns us all, will, I hope, in some degree excuse me to your Lordship, if I presume unasked to offer my humble opinion, that should His Majesty think fit to authorize Delegates from the several Provinces to meet, at such convenient time and place as in his wisdom shall seem meet, then and there to confer with a Commissioner or Commissioners to be appointed and empowered by His Majesty, on the means of establishing a firm and lasting union between *Britain* and the *American* Provinces, such a measure might be effectual for that purpose. I cannot, therefore, but wish it may be adopted, as no one can more ardently and sincerely desire the general prosperity of the *British* Dominions, than, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, &c.,

B. FRANKLIN.

*Remarks on the Propositions.*

Article 1. In consequence of that engagement all the *Boston* and *Massachusetts* Acts to be suspended, and in compliance with that engagement to be totally repealed.



By this amendment Article 4th will become unnecessary.

Articles 4 and 5. The numerous Petitions heretofore sent home by the Colony Assemblies, and either refused to be received, or received and neglected, or answered harshly, and the petitioners rebuked for making them, have, I conceive, totally discouraged that method of application, and if even their friends were now to propose to them the recurring again to petitioning, such friends would be thought to trifle with them. Besides, *all* they desire is now before Government, in the Petition of the Congress, and the whole or parts may be granted or refused at pleasure. The sense of the Colonies cannot be better obtained by petition from different Colonies, than it is by that general petition.

Article 7, Read, *such as they may think necessary*.

Article 11, As it stands, of little importance. The first proposition was, that they should be repealed as unjust. But they may remain, for they will probably not be executed.

Even with the amendment proposed above to Article 1, I cannot think it stands as it should do. If the object be merely the preventing present bloodshed, and the other mischiefs to fall on that Country in war, it may possibly answer that end; but if a thorough hearty reconciliation is wished for, all cause of heart-burning should be removed, and strict justice be done on both sides. Thus the Tea should not only be paid for on the side of *Boston*, but the damage done to *Boston* by the Port Act should be repaired, because it was done contrary to the custom of all Nations, savage as well as civilized, of first demanding satisfaction.

Article 14, The Judges should receive nothing from the King.

As to the other two Acts, the *Massachusetts* must suffer all the hazards and mischiefs of war, rather than admit the alteration of their Charters and Laws by Parliament. "They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety."

B. FRANKLIN.

#### *Hints.*

I doubt the regulating Duties will not be accepted, without enacting them, and having the power of appointing the Collectors in the Colonies.

If we mean a hearty reconciliation, we must deal candidly, and use no tricks.

The Assemblies are many of them in a state of dissolution. It will require time to make new elections; then to meet and choose Delegates, supposing all could meet. But the Assembly of the *Massachusetts-Bay* cannot act under the new Constitution, nor meet the new Council for that purpose, without acknowledging the power of Parliament to alter their Charter, which they never will do. The language of the proposal is, *Try on your fetters first, and then if you don't like them, petition and we will consider*.

Establishing salaries for Judges may be a general law. For Governours not so, the Constitution of Colonies differing. It is possible Troops may be sent to *particular* Provinces, to burden them when they are out of favour.

*Canada*.—We cannot endure despotism over any of our fellow-subjects. We must all be free, or none.

That afternoon I received the following note from Mrs. *Howe*, enclosing another from Lord *Howe*, viz:

Mrs. *Howe's* compliments to Dr. *Franklin*; she has just received the enclosed note from Lord *Howe*, and hopes it will be convenient to him to come to her either to-morrow or *Sunday*, at any hour most convenient to him which she begs he will be so good to name.

Grafton-Street, Friday, February 17, 1775.

[Enclosed in the foregoing.]

To the Honourable Mrs. *Howe*:

I wish you to procure me an opportunity to see Dr. *Franklin*, at your house, to-morrow, or on *Sunday* morning, for an essential purpose.

Grafton-Street, Friday, 4 o'clock.

Received Friday, 5 o'clock, February 17, 1775.

I had not heard from his Lordship for some time, and readily answered, that I would do myself the honour of waiting upon him at her house to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

Mr. *Barclay*, Dr. *Fothergill*, and myself, met according to appointment at the Doctor's house. I delivered to them

the *Remarks* I had made on the paper, and we talked them over. I read, also, the sketches I had made of the Petitions and Memorials; but they being of opinion, that the repeal of none of the *Massachusetts* Acts could be obtained by my engaging to pay for the Tea, the *Boston* Port Act excepted, and I insisting on a repeal of *all*, otherwise declining to make the offer, that measure was deferred for the present, and I pocketed my draughts. They concluded, however, to report my sentiments, and see if any further concession could be obtained. They observed, that I had signed my remarks, on which I said, that understanding by other means as well as from them, that the Ministers had been acquainted with my being consulted in this business, I saw no occasion for further mystery; and since in conveying and receiving through second hands their sentiments and mine, occasioned delay, and might be attended with misapprehension, something being lost or changed by mistake in the conveyance, I did not see why we should not meet, and discuss the points together at once; that if this was thought proper, I should be willing and ready to attend them to the ministerial persons they conferred with. They seemed to approve the proposal, and said they would mention it.

The next morning I met Lord *Howe* according to appointment. He seemed very cheerful, having, as I imagine, heard from Lord *Hyde* what that Lord might have heard from Mr. *Barclay* the evening of the 16th, viz: that I had consented to petition and engage payment for the Tea; whence it was hoped, the ministerial terms of accommodation might take place. He let me know that he was thought of to be sent Commissioner for settling the differences in *America*, adding, with an excess of politeness, that sensible of his own unacquaintedness with the business, and of my knowledge and abilities, he could not think of undertaking it without me; but with me, he should do it most readily; for he should found his expectation of success on my assistance; he therefore had desired this meeting to know my mind upon a proposition of my going with him in some shape or other, as a friend, an assistant, a secretary; that he was very sensible, if he should be so happy as to effect any thing valuable, it must be wholly owing to the advice and assistance I should afford him; that he should therefore make no scruple of giving me upon all occasions the full honour of it; that he had declared to the Ministers his opinion of my good dispositions towards peace, and what he now wished was to be authorized by me to say, that I consented to accompany him, and would co-operate with him in the great work of reconciliation; that the influence I had over the minds of people in *America*, was known to be very extensive; and that I could, if any man could, prevail with them to comply with reasonable propositions. I replied, that I was obliged to his Lordship for the favourable opinion he had of me, and for the honour he did me in proposing to make use of my assistance; that I wished to know what propositions were intended for *America*; that if they were reasonable ones in themselves, possibly I might be able to make them appear such to my countrymen; but if they were otherwise, I doubted whether that could be done by any man, and certainly I should not undertake it. His Lordship then said, that he should not expect my *assistance* without a *proper consideration*. That the business was of great importance, and if he undertook it, he should insist on being enabled to make *generous* and *ample* appointments for those he took with him, particularly for me; as well as a firm promise of *subsequent rewards*; and, said he, that the Ministry may have an opportunity of showing their good disposition towards yourself, will you give me leave, Mr. *Franklin*, to procure for you previously some mark of it; suppose the payment here of the arrears of your salary as agent for *New-England*, which I understand they have stopped for some time past? My Lord, said I, I shall deem it a great honour to be in any shape joined with your Lordship in so good a work; but if you hope service from any influence I may be supposed to have, drop all thoughts of procuring me any previous favours from Ministers; my accepting them would destroy the very influence you propose to make use of; they would be considered as so many bribes to betray the interest of my Country; but only let me see the *propositions*, and if I approve of them, I shall not hesitate a moment, but will hold myself ready to accompany your Lordship at an hour's



warning. He then said, he wished I would discourse with Lord *Hyde* upon the business, and asked if I had any objection to meet his Lordship? I answered none, not the least; that I had a great respect for Lord *Hyde*, and would wait upon him whenever he should please to permit it. He said he would speak to Lord *Hyde*, and send me word.

On the *Monday* following I received a letter from Lord *Howe*. To understand it better, it is necessary to reflect, that in the mean time there was opportunity for Mr. *Barclay* to communicate to that Nobleman the remarks I had made on the plan, the sight of which had probably changed the purpose of making any use of me on the occasion. The letter follows:

Grafton-Street, February 20, 1775.

Not having had a convenient opportunity to talk with Lord *Hyde* until this morning, on the subject I mentioned when I had, my worthy friend, the pleasure to see you last, I now give you the earliest information of his Lordship's sentiments upon my proposition.

He declares he has no personal objection, and that he is always desirous of the conversation of men of knowledge, consequently, in that respect, would have a pleasure in yours. But he apprehends, that on the present *American* contest, your principles and his, or rather those of Parliament, are as yet so wide from each other, that a meeting merely to discuss them, might give you unnecessary trouble. Should you think otherwise, or should any propitious circumstances approximate such distant sentiments, he would be happy to be used as a channel to convey what might tend to harmony, from a person of credit to those in power: and I will venture to advance, from my knowledge of his Lordship's opinion of men and things, that nothing of that nature would suffer in the passage. I am, with a sincere regard, your most obedient servant,

HOWE.

To Dr. Franklin.

As I had no desire of obtruding myself upon Lord *Hyde*, though a little piqued at his declining to see me, I thought it best to show a decent indifference, which I endeavoured in the following answer:

Craven-Street, February 20, 1775.

Having nothing to offer on the *American* business, in addition to what Lord *Hyde* is already acquainted with from the papers that have passed, it seems most respectful not to give his Lordship the trouble of a visit; since a mere discussion of the sentiments contained in those papers is not, in his opinion, likely to produce any good effect. I am thankful, however, to his Lordship, for the permission of waiting on him, which I shall use if any thing occurs that may give a chance of utility in such an interview.

With sincere esteem and respect, I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

B. FRANKLIN.

Lord Howe.

On the morning of the same day, *February 20*, it was currently and industriously reported all over the Town, that Lord *North* would that day make a pacifick motion in the House of Commons, for healing all differences between *Britain* and *America*. The House was accordingly very full, and the members full of expectation. The *Bedford* party, inimical to *America*, and who had urged severe measures, were alarmed, and began to exclaim against the Minister for his timidity, and the fluctuation of his politics; they even began to count voices, to see if they could not, by negating his motion, at once unhorse him, and throw him out of Administration. His friends were therefore alarmed for him, and there was much caballing and whispering. At length a motion, as one had been promised, was made, but whether that originally intended, is with me very doubtful: I suspect, from its imperfect composition, from its inadequateness to answer the purpose previously professed, and from some other circumstances, that when first drawn it contained more of Mr. *Barclay's* plan, but was curtailed by advice, just before it was delivered. My old proposition of giving up the regulating duties to the Colonies, was in part to be found in it, and many who knew nothing of that transaction, said it was the best part of the motion: it was as follows:

Lord North's Motion, February 20, 1775.

"That it is the opinion of this Committee, that when the Governour, Council, and Assembly, or General Court of His Majesty's Provinces or Colonies, shall propose to make provision according to their respective conditions, circumstances, and situations, for contributing their proportion to the common defence; such proportion to be raised under the authority of the General Court, or General Assembly of such Province or Colony, and disposable by Parliament; and shall engage to make provision also for the support of the Civil Government, and the administration of justice in such Province or Colony, it will be proper if such proposal shall be approved by His Majesty in Parliament, and for so long as such provision shall be made accordingly, to forbear in respect of such Province or Colony, to levy any duties, tax, or assessment, or to impose any further duty, tax, or assessment, except only such duties as it may be expedient to impose for the regulation of Commerce; the net produce of the duties last mentioned, to be carried to the account of such Province, Colony, or Plantation exclusively."

After a good deal of wild debate, in which this motion was supported upon various and inconsistent principles by the ministerial people, and even met with an opposition from some of them, which showed a want of concert, probably from the suddenness of the alterations above supposed, they all agreed at length, as usual, in voting it by a large majority. Hearing nothing all the following week from Messrs. *Barclay* and *Fothergill*, (except that Lord *Hyde*, when acquainted with my willingness to engage for payment of the Tea, had said it gave him new life,) nor any thing from Lord *Howe*, I mentioned his silence occasionally to his sister, adding, that I supposed it owing to his finding what he had proposed to me was not likely to take place; and I wished her to desire him, if that was the case, to let me know it by a line, that I might be at liberty to take other measures. She did so as soon as he returned from the country, where he had been for a day or two; and I received from her the following note, viz:

Mrs. Howe's compliments to Doctor Franklin: Lord *Howe* not quite understanding the message received from her, will be glad to have the pleasure of seeing him, either between twelve and one this morning, (the only hour he is at liberty this day,) at her house, or at any hour to-morrow most convenient to him.

Grafton-Street, Tuesday.

I met his Lordship at the hour appointed. He said that he had not seen me lately, as he expected daily to have something more material to say to me than had yet occurred; and hoped that I would have called on Lord *Hyde*, as I had intimated I should do when I apprehended it might be useful, which he was sorry to find I had not done. That there was something in my verbal message by Mrs. *Howe*, which perhaps she had apprehended imperfectly; it was the hint of my purpose to take other measures. I answered, that having since I had last seen his Lordship heard of the death of my wife at *Philadelphia*, in whose hands I had left the care of my affairs there, it was become necessary for me to return thither as soon as conveniently might be; that what his Lordship had proposed, of my accompanying him to *America*, might, if likely to take place, postpone my voyage to suit his convenience; otherwise, I should proceed by the first ship. That I did suppose, by not hearing from him, and by Lord *North's* motion, all thoughts of that kind were laid aside, which was what I only desired to know from him. He said my last paper of remarks by Mr. *Barclay*, wherein I had made the indemnification of *Boston* for the injury of stopping its Port, a condition of my engaging to pay for the Tea, (a condition impossible to be complied with,) had discouraged further proceeding on that idea. Having a copy of that paper in my pocket, I showed his Lordship that I had proposed no such condition of my engagement, nor any other than the repeal of all the *Massachusetts* Acts: that what followed relating to the indemnification was only expressing my private opinion that it would be just, but by no means insisting upon it. He said the arrangements were not yet determined on; that as I now explained myself, it appeared I had been much misapprehended; and he wished of all



things I would see Lord *Hyde*, and asked if I would choose to meet him there, at Mrs. *Howe's*, or that he should call upon me: I said that I would by no means give Lord *Hyde* that trouble. That since he (Lord *Howe*) seemed to think it might be of use, and wished it done soon, I would wait upon Lord *Hyde*: I knew him to be an early riser, and would be with him at eight o'clock the next morning; which Lord *Howe* undertook to acquaint him with: but I added, that from what circumstances I could collect of the disposition of Ministry, I apprehended my visit would answer no material purpose. He was of a different opinion, to which I submitted.

The next morning, *March 1st*, I accordingly was early with Lord *Hyde*, who received me with his usual politeness. We talked over a great part of the dispute between the Countries. I found him ready with all the newspaper and pamphlet topicks, of the expense of settling our Colonies, the protection afforded them, the heavy debt under which *Britain* laboured, the equity of our contributing to its alleviation; that many people in *England* were no more represented than we were, yet all were taxed and governed by Parliament, &c., &c. I answered all, but with little effect; for though his Lordship seemed civilly to hear what I said, I had reason to believe he attended very little to the purport of it, his mind being employed the while in thinking on what he himself purposed to say next. He had hoped, he said, that Lord *North's* motion would have been satisfactory; and asked what could be objected to it. I replied, the terms of it were, that we should grant money till Parliament had agreed we had given enough, without having the least share in judging of the propriety of the measure for which it was to be granted, or of our own abilities to grant; that these grants were also to be made under a threat of exercising a claimed right of taxing us at pleasure, and compelling such taxes by an armed force, if we did not give till it should be thought we had given enough; that the proposition was similar to no mode of obtaining aids that ever existed, except that of a highwayman, who presents his pistol at a coach window, demanding no specific sum, but if you will give all your money, or what he is pleased to think sufficient, he will civilly omit putting his own hand into your pockets: if not, there is his pistol: that the mode of raising contributions in an enemy's country was fairer than this, since there an explicit sum was demanded, and the people who were raising it knew what they were about, and when they should have done: and that, in short, no free people could ever think of beginning to grant upon such terms: that, besides, a new dispute had now been raised, by the Parliament's pretending to a power of altering our Charters and established Laws, which was of still more importance to us than their claim of taxation, as it set us all adrift, and left us without a privilege we could depend upon, but at their pleasure; this was a situation we could not possibly be in, and as Lord *North's* proposition had no relation to this matter, if the other had been such as we could have agreed to, we should still be far from a reconciliation. His Lordship thought I misunderstood the proposition; on which I took it out and read it: he then waived that point, and said he should be glad to know from me what would produce a reconciliation. I said that his Lordship, I imagined, had seen several proposals of mine for that purpose. He said he had; but some of my articles were such as would never be agreed to: that it was apprehended I had several instructions and powers to offer more acceptable terms, but was extremely reserved, and perhaps from a desire he did not blame, of doing better for my constituents; but my expectations might deceive me, and he did think, I might be assured, I should never obtain better terms than what were now offered by Lord *North*; that Administration had a sincere desire of restoring harmony with *America*, and it was thought if I would co-operate with them the business would be easy: that he hoped I was above retaining resentment against them, for what nobody now approved, and for which satisfaction might be made me: that I was, as he understood, in high esteem among the *Americans*; that if I would bring about a reconciliation on terms suitable to the dignity of Government, I might be as highly and generally esteemed here, and be honoured and rewarded perhaps beyond my expectation.

I replied, that I thought I had given a convincing proof

of my sincere desire of promoting peace, when, on being informed that all wanted for the honour of Government was to obtain payment for the Tea, I offered, without any instruction to warrant my so doing, or assurance that I should be reimbursed, or my conduct approved, to engage for that payment, if the *Massachusetts* Acts were to be repealed; an engagement, in which I must have risked my whole fortune, which I thought few besides me would have done. That, in truth, private resentments had no weight with me in publick business; that I was not the reserved man imagined, having really no secret instructions to act upon. That I was certainly willing to do every thing that could reasonably be expected of me. But if any supposed I could prevail with my countrymen to take black for white, and wrong for right, it was not knowing either them or me; they were not capable of being so imposed on, nor was I capable of attempting it. He then asked my opinion of sending over a Commissioner, for the purpose mentioned in a preceding part of this account, and my answer was to the same effect. By the way, I apprehend that to give me an opportunity of discoursing with Lord *Hyde* on that point, was a principal motive with Lord *Howe* for urging me to make this visit. His Lordship did not express his own sentiments upon it. And thus ended this conversation.

Three or four days after, I received the following note from Mrs. *Howe*:

"Mrs. *Howe's* compliments to Dr. *Franklin*; Lord *Howe* begs to have the pleasure of meeting him once more before he goes, at her house; he is at present out of Town, but returns on *Monday*, and any day or hour after that, that the Doctor will name, he will be very glad to attend him.

"Grafton-Street, Saturday, March 4 & 5."

I answered that I would do myself the honour of waiting on Lord *Howe* at her house the *Tuesday* following, at eleven o'clock. We met accordingly. He began, by saying, that I had been a better prophet than himself, in foreseeing that my interview with Lord *Hyde* would be of no great use; and then said that he hoped I would excuse the trouble he had given me, as his intentions had been good both towards me and the publick. He was sorry that at present there was no appearance of things going into the train he had wished, but that possibly they might yet take a more favourable turn; and as he understood I was going soon to *America*, if he should chance to be sent thither on that important business, he hoped he might still expect my assistance. I assured him of my readiness at all times of co-operating with him in so good a work; and so taking my leave, and receiving his good wishes, ended the negotiation with Lord *Howe*. And I heard no more of that with Messrs. *Fothergill* and *Barclay*. I could only gather from some hints in their conversation, that neither of them were well pleased with the conduct of the Ministers respecting these transactions; and a few days before I left *London*, I met them, by their desire, at the Doctor's house, when they desired me to assure their friends from them, that it was now their fixed opinion, that nothing could secure the privileges of *America*, but a firm, sober adherence to the terms of the Association made at the Congress, and that the salvation of *English* liberty depended now on the perseverance and virtue of *America*.

During the whole, my time was otherwise much taken up, by friends calling continually to inquire news from *America*; members of both Houses of Parliament, to inform me what passed in the Houses, and discourse with me on the debates, and on motions made or to be made; merchants of *London*, and of the manufacturing and port towns, on their petitions; the *Quakers* upon theirs, &c., &c.; so that I had no time to take notes of almost any thing. This account is therefore chiefly from recollection, in which doubtless much must have been omitted, from deficiency of memory; but what there is I believe to be pretty exact, except that discoursing with so many different persons about the same time, on the same subject, I may possibly have put down some things as said by or to one person, which passed in conversation with another. A little before I left *London*, being at the House of Lords, when a debate in which Lord *Camden* was to speak, and who indeed spoke admirably on *American* affairs, I was much disgusted, from the ministerial side, by many base



reflections on *American* courage, religion, understanding, &c., in which we were treated with the utmost contempt, as the lowest of mankind, and almost of a different species from the *English of Britain*; but particularly the *American* honesty was abused by some of the Lords, who asserted that we were all knaves, and wanted only, by this dispute, to avoid paying our debts. That if we had any sense of equity or justice, we should offer payment of the Tea, &c. I went home somewhat irritated and heated; and partly to retort upon this Nation, on the article of equity, drew up a memorial to present to Lord Dartmouth before my departure; but consulting my friend, Mr. Thomas Walpole, upon it, who is a member of the House of Commons, he looked at it and at me several times alternately, as if he apprehended me a little out of my senses. As I was in the hurry of packing up, I requested him to take the trouble of showing it to his neighbour, Lord Camden, and ask his advice upon it, which he kindly undertook to do; and returned it me with a note, which here follows the proposed memorial:

To the Right Honourable the Earl of DARTMOUTH, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

A Memorial of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Agent of the Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

Whereas an injury done, can only give the party injured a right to full reparation, or, in case that be refused, a right to return an equal injury; and whereas the blockade of Boston, now continued nine months, hath, every week of its continuance, done damage to that Town equal to what was suffered there by the *India* Company, it follows that such exceeding damage is an injury done by this Government, for which reparation ought to be made. And whereas reparation of injuries ought always (agreeably to the custom of all Nations, savage as well as civilized) to be first required before satisfaction is taken by a return of damage to the aggressors, which was not done by *Great Britain* in the instance above-mentioned, I, the underwritten, do therefore, as their agent, in the behalf of my Country and the Town of Boston, protest against the continuance of the said blockade; and I do hereby solemnly demand satisfaction for the accumulated injury done them, beyond the value of the *India* Company's Tea destroyed. And whereas the conquest of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the coasts of Labrador and Nova-Scotia, and the Fisheries possessed by the French there and on the Banks of Newfoundland, so far as they were more extended than at present, was made by the joint forces of Britain and the Colonies, (the latter having nearly an equal number of men in that service with the former,) it follows that the Colonies have an equitable and just right to participate in the advantage of those Fisheries: I do therefore, in the behalf of the Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, protest against the Act now under consideration in Parliament for depriving that Province, with others, of that Fishery, (on pretence of their refusing to purchase British commodities,) as an Act highly unjust and injurious. And I give notice, that satisfaction will probably one day be demanded for all the injury that may be done and suffered in the execution of such Act; and that the injustice of the proceeding is likely to give such umbrage to all the Colonies, that in no future war, wherein other conquests may be meditated, either a man or a shilling will be obtained from any of them to aid such conquests, till full satisfaction be made as aforesaid.

B. FRANKLIN.

Given in London, this 16th day of March, 1775.

To Dr. FRANKLIN:

DEAR SIR: I return you the memorial, which it is thought might be attended with dangerous consequences to your person, and contribute to exasperate the Nation.

I heartily wish you a prosperous voyage, a long health, and am, with the sincerest regard, your most faithful and obedient servant,

THOMAS WALPOLE.

Lincoln's Inn Fields, 16th March, 1775.

Mr. Walpole called at my house the next day, and hearing I was gone to the House of Lords, came there to me, and repeated more fully what was in his note; adding, that it was thought my having no instructions directing me to deliver such a protest, would make it appear still more unjustifiable, and be deemed a national affront. I had no

desire to make matters worse, and, being grown cooler, took the advice so kindly given me.

The evening before I left London I received a note from Dr. Fothergill, with some letters to his friends in Philadelphia. In that note he desires me to get those friends, "and two or three more together, and inform them, that whatever specious pretences are offered, they are all hollow; and that to get a larger field on which to fatten a herd of worthless parasites, is all that is regarded. Perhaps it may be proper to acquaint them with David Barclay's and our united endeavours, and the effects. They will stun at least, if not convince, the most worthy that nothing very favourable is intended, if more unfavourable articles cannot be obtained." The Doctor, in the course of his daily visits among the great, in the practice of his profession, had full opportunity of being acquainted with their sentiments, the conversation every where turning upon the subject of America.

DR. WHEELOCK TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Dartmouth College, March 22, 1775.

MUCH HONOURED SIR: I wrote you a few days ago by a stranger belonging to Simsbury, but fearing it may have miscarried, and not knowing but the contents may be of importance to the Colonies, as they appear to be to us in these frontiers, I don't seem to be excusable unless I have assurance that you are availed of the matter, and therefore trouble you with this line by my bookkeeper, Mr. Storrs.

Your honour well understands what a feeble, defenceless state this Seminary and all these frontier Towns are in; how near to the Canadians, and what an easy prey we may be to such a Northern army of Savages, &c., as we are threatened with.

We hear of preparations making for an invasion, and that some of the Warriors among the Indians were in high spirits to engage on the one side or the other in the present controversy; and if they shall not be secured in our interests they will likely join on the other side.

I have hitherto been secure and easy, as I have some of their children, from the most respectable tribes in Canada, whom I consider as hostages, and trust they will send for them before they will proceed to hostilities towards us.

I have also (notwithstanding my means of supporting the expense from abroad are wholly stopped) thought the importance of the case to be so great, that I have sent Mr. James Dean, a young gentleman of the most excellent and thorough accomplishments for the purpose, to itinerate as Missionary among those tribes this spring, for a few months, to strengthen that friendship and cultivate that acquaintance which has lately commenced between those tribes and this school; and to bring more of those boys hither with him if he can—among whom I expect the young Sachem, who was lately elected and crowned at Caghna-waga, (and who is a descendant from captivated parents,) as his father, who was here twelve months ago to visit his little son, who is with me, promised to send him as soon as certain rites, customary to ratify and publish such election and investiture, should be performed. I look upon this connection and friendship lately commenced between us and them to be at present our surest bulwark against an invasion, if it should be attempted.

Mr. Dean is thorough master of the languages of the Six Nations, and can also speak the Huron language. He is a young gentleman of learning, virtue, and great prudence; was early naturalized among the Indians; well understands their customs; is much esteemed by them as an orator, and has great interest in their affections, and is, in my opinion, the fittest man I know on earth to be employed, if there should be occasion for one among the Western and Northern Tribes. He was of opinion (though he had no thought of its being mentioned) that it would likely be in his power, if he should be properly encouraged and authorized thereto, to attach all the Six Nations firmly to the interest of these Colonies; and I don't think he misjudged his ability or influence for that purpose. What I have wrote you will naturally understand to have been only from a principle of self-preservation, and it will be injurious to me and the cause which is my object if it should be represented as militating against the Crown.



With confidence in your prudence and friendship, and with much respect and esteem, your honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

ELEAZAR WHELOCK.

I expect Mr. *Dean* here in *May*.

LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK, DATED BOSTON, MARCH 22, 1775.

We are still without any of your favours, we suppose for the same reason as was mentioned in our last. Since the Army have found that the season is past for nature's forming a bridge from hence, they become abusive and insulting. They are now finishing their fortifications on the *Neck*, by picketing on each side. We propose to give you an account of the manœuvres of our adversaries as they may occur.

The 16th instant, (being recommended by the Provincial Congress to be observed as a day of fasting and prayer;) on the morning of this day the society at the west end of *Boston* were greatly disturbed by a party of Officers and Soldiers of the Fourth, or King's own Regiment. When the people were assembling, they brought two marquee tents, and pitched them within about ten yards of the meeting-house; then sent for three drums and three fifes, and kept them beating and playing till service was over; Colonel *Maddison* was present part of the time.

17th. In the evening Colonel *Hancock's* elegant seat, situate near the Common, was attacked by a number of Officers, who, with their swords, cut and hacked the fence before his house in a most scandalous manner, and behaved very abusively, by breaking people's windows, and insulting almost every person they met.

18th. The *Neck* Guard seized 13,425 musket cartridges with ball, (we suppose through the information of some dirty scoundrel, of which we now have many among us,) and about three hundred pounds of ball, which they were carrying into the country; this was private property. The owner applied to the General first, but he absolutely refused to deliver it. They abused the teamster very much, and run a bayonet into his neck. The same evening a number of Officers, heated with liquor, (as is said,) with drawn swords, ran through the streets, like what they really were, *madmen*, cutting every one they met; the stage coach just arrived from *Providence* passing by, they attacked it, broke the glass, and abused the passengers; the driver, being a smart fellow, jumped off his seat, caught one of them, (Captain *Gore*, of the Fifth,) and some blows passed; when the Officer retired, not much to his credit.

19th. Colonel *Hancock* was again much insulted by a number of inferior Officers and Privates, who entered his enclosures, and refused to retire after his requesting them so to do, telling him that his house, stables, &c., would soon be theirs, and then they would do as they pleased. However, on his application to the General, he immediately sent one of his Aids-de-Camp to the Officer of the Guard, at the bottom of the Common, to seize any Officer or Private who should molest Colonel *Hancock* or any inhabitant in their lawful calling. Yours, &c.

TO JOHN DICKINSON, ESQUIRE,

One of the reputed Authors of the PENNSYLVANIA FARMER'S LETTERS, published on occasion of the AMERICAN Revenue Acts, in Mr. GRENVILLE's Administration.

New-York, March 23, 1775.

SIR: I live at least two hundred and twenty miles from *Philadelphia*, and am frequently a fortnight without receiving a Newspaper. That happens to be the case at present, as I have only just now read the Resolves of your Convention.\* This letter, Sir, shall be publick, only because the people of *Pennsylvania* are taught to believe the author of the *Farmer's Letters* is infallible. *Nasce te ipsum*, is the advice of a wise man, and as difficult to be attained by some, as to be translated by others. I am a plain, honest man, Sir, who never received a favour from the hand of power. My composition is simple, and easily defined. I have been at a great deal of pains to learn the true character of Mr. *Dickinson*; have asked it repeatedly

\* January 23 to 28, 1775.

from Whig and Tory; and as I know myself to be void of prejudice on account of difference in opinion, will take the liberty to mention what I have been able to discover. You are a gentleman of good natural understanding, great reading, and engaging address. You early found yourself possessed of knowledge, and the means by which you first obtained popularity were in many instances laudable. But the praises of the multitude are dangerous, even to a virtuous man; they gain his confidence by their applause, and feed the innocent vanity of the human mind, until he at last surrenders up his judgment, joins in the popular error, and finds, when too late, he was wedded to his woe. If I am rightly informed, Sir, (and my authority is not bad,) you are worth at least Forty Thousand Pounds Sterling; entertain elegantly, as often as your constitution will admit of; and are blest with as sweet a tongue as ever delivered the language of profusion; a lawyer, too. I wish I had forgot that circumstance; ignorance of the laws might plead in mitigation of the breach of them; but how are we to account for the late conduct of the highly lettered, the accomplished Mr. *Dickinson*? In your *Farmer's Letters*, you breathe the gentle accents of order and decorum; you positively pronounce that the King is the ruling power, in whom is justly vested the regulations of Trade, &c. You wrote then, Sir, as if you thought your Country injured; I am sorry to say you now act as if you repented of propriety. I have not those Letters by me at present, but I read them as they came out, with great attention. I was told the author was a young man, who loved, like other men of abilities, to be known and admired; and notwithstanding I perceived many sentiments calculated to feed the popular appetite, yet almost every line told the admiring reader they were the production of a gentleman. Now, Sir, let me request of you to turn over once more those leaves of genius; compare your words at that time with your present actions; though much you are altered, you cannot read those papers without recollecting what you were; and I think that modesty which marks your character, must make you blush for what you are. I perfectly remember your asserting the dependance of the Colonies on *Great Britain* in the most positive terms, and you have now set your seal to a resolution of taking up arms against your Sovereign, unless King, Lords, and Commons relinquish their claim to the very privileges which, seven years ago, you spent whole pages in defending their right to. It is true that mad resolve contains a proviso; but permit me to assure you, it would have done your understanding more honour to have omitted it. What! deliver a petition to the greatest monarch on earth with one hand, and hold a sword in the other, with a paper on the point of it, containing the following words: "If you do not give up your legal authority over the Colonies, we will break off all connexion with you, and, by withholding certain articles, we will drive *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *West-Indies* into such convulsions, as will shake your Throne, and enable us to command our own terms." I appeal to your heart, is not this a fair representation? The best and most sensible men are often easy and unsuspecting, and (pardon the expression) too often the dupes of aspiring villany. It is difficult to write on this subject, without transgressing the bounds of delicacy. Your private character, Sir, is amiable, and incapable of deliberate error; so that the censure which your political one justly merits, ought to be tenderly and politely administered. This I have endeavoured to observe, notwithstanding truth frequently loses its weight when destitute of severity. Is it possible, Sir, that a man of your penetration should expect or wish that *Great Britain* should be bullied into abject submission? My hand trembles at the next sentence. If you love or honour her, your prayers now are, that every resolve of the Congress (except to keep sheep to a proper age) may be treated with the utmost contempt; if you do not love her, I am sorry for it. You have too much sense to join in the idle opinion which some have adopted, that to obtain enough, you must demand too much. You are a man of spirit, I dare say, and I beg leave to ask, if you had been so unfortunate as to offend a gentleman, and offered to make an apology, would you submit to acknowledge yourself a fool or a coward? Inexpediency and right are two different things; but if Parliament thought proper to relax, it would be very immaterial to the Colonies through which



channel they enjoyed the blessings of peace. But, alas! Peace, with all her loveliness, has few admirers. Sedition, that battered hag, steps forth with all the frippery of delusive tinsel—the admiring crowd pursue with eager eyes—to all she promises the wished event. “Fear not, my faithful sons, my bold Republicans, the time draws nigh when honours shall be dealt out with a liberal hand; my spiritual agents in *New-England* shall roll in chariots; my favourite *Adams* shall be head of their mightinesses; the name of King shall not be known among us; our Troops shall be commanded by the famous wanderer, *Lee*; and you, Mr. *Dickinson*, shall be Prime Council to the States General.” Whether you believe this or not, I will be answerable it is the creed of your *morning star* in *Market-Street*, and of your new puritanick relation, *Charles Thomson*, who grins horribly on all a ghastly smile.

Now, Sir, permit a man who has been an eye witness to the unhappy consequences of one rebellion, to warn you of impending misery. You are too well acquainted with the human heart not to know that an *English* Senator is as capable of resenting an injury, as any member of the Grand Continental Congress. Consider, Sir, when the people of *England* speak, it comes from the mouths of cannon, backed by men whose approved courage and ardour have rendered them the terror of those enemies, a few of whom (were it not for the protection of Old *England* last war) would have laid your estates, as well as those of your neighbours, under heavy contributions.

I am at a loss what name to give your boasted intentions of wounding the commercial interest of *Great Britain*. If you really mean what you say, it is the grossest infatuation. The *Island of Teneriffe* might, with as great a prospect of success, threaten to ruin *Willing* and *Morris*, by not trading with them, when every other corner of the habitable globe pants for their correspondence.

Let an old man entreat you, Sir, to consider the people who look to you; the lower order of men in *Pennsylvania* are as bigoted to you, as the deluded papists to their Priests in *Ireland*.

Our gracious Sovereign, ever watchful over the lives and happiness of his subjects, has made choice of a man, whose persevering humanity and unshaken steadiness in the discharge of his present complicated and important command, reflect the highest honour on the judgment of his master, and will stand unparalleled in the records of merit. And would you, Sir, wish to counteract the godlike work of preventing bloodshed in the Colonies, and a disgraceful submission on the part of the Mother Country? Figure to yourself the sword unsheathed; a soldiery (who knows no stop) let loose at men, women, and children, with the word *rebellion* ringing in their ears; and to complete the dreadful picture, the Lords of the Ocean thundering the resentment of the *British* Nation through your houses and the cradles of your guiltless offspring. This, Sir, is not chimerical; I believe the probability of it as much as I do proofs of Holy Writ. From your private character, I suppose there is no man who would more readily dry up the tears of the widow, and pour balm into the wounds of the infant; but remember, Sir, if you are a principal in promoting them, your good offices will be considered as a death-bed repentance.

SENEX.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, March 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: While the late Committee of fifty-one acted as a Committee of Correspondence for the City, the generality of its inhabitants, particularly the most sensible and judicious part of them, were happy in reposing the trust with so respectable a body, composed as it was of the principal citizens; but when the present Committee was formed out of the ruins, as I may say, of the old Committee, was there a cool, considerate man among us who did not forebode evil?

It has been remarked, that we have but one Press in this Colony which has been at all times strictly impartial. Now an impartial Press is observed, for reasons best known to themselves, to be extremely obnoxious to a certain party; they have not failed to persecute their supporters in all parts of *America*. And that we have had our share of the

same persecuting spirit, may be seen in the Republican Resolves at and near *Elizabethtown*—Resolves that are subversive of the very idea of freedom. You, gentlemen, who compose our City Committee, to show that you are as highly seasoned with the *old leaven*, seem only to have waited for an opportunity of playing the same game; and before the occasion could well be said to have arrived,\* you greedily descend, like a hawk upon his prey, and seize the poor Printer in your talons; meanly condescending to be the echo of little, piddling, Country Committees. But let me caution you to beware how you tread upon this hallowed ground, lest, instead of the Printer's, you work your own downfall.

The liberty of the Press is a sacred privilege; it is the only means in the hands of the people, that can be safely used to check the growth of arbitrary power. Should those who have fixed themselves as sentinels upon the watch-tower of liberty, to give notice of all invaders, be the first to curtail this darling immunity, will it not give the people cause to suspect that they themselves are about to establish a power more arbitrary and tyrannical than any thing we have hitherto complained of? Will not a severe reprehension for what can be scarcely called a crime in a Printer, coming from a quarter that could have been the least suspected, raise alarming apprehensions in the minds of their fellow-citizens? The tenour of your publication speaks for itself, and needs no comment; it does not appear as barely intended to rectify the errors of the Press, but it breathes a spirit of intimidation towards the Printer. Were I to put the same sentiment into plainer language, I should translate it thus: “Beware, Mr. Printer, we, the Grand Committee of *New-York*, are not to be trifled with! Ours is a sacred body! and must not be made the sport of *Printers* or their *devils*. Abuse the Parliament as much as you list, glut your spleen upon the House of Assembly, but come not within the verge of our jurisdiction, at your utmost peril.”

In your eagerness to censure the Printer, you forgot to inform us what you had done; we are only told what you have not done, but are left in the dark as to the foundation for the report in question, though it is still believed that something passed in your Committee respecting the nomination or election of Delegates, but what this was is artfully concealed from us.

If you are afraid of your conduct being misrepresented, why are not your proceedings published? Your office is of so extraordinary a nature, that your conduct will be canvassed by thousands who never converse with any of your members. It is the peculiar excellency of the *British* Constitution, that the proceedings of all publick bodies should be freely discussed; and amidst so many inquirers, it is scarcely possible to avoid some misrepresentations; to guard against which, nothing is more necessary than to lay the particulars before the publick, and if any censure is due at all, it is to a neglect of this precaution.

ANTI-TYRANNICUS.

New-York, Thursday, March 23, 1775.

On *Monday* afternoon, expresses arrived in Town from the County of *Cumberland*, in this Province, who bring accounts from thence of a very extraordinary and alarming nature, on the *Monday* afternoon preceding, *March* 13th, the day for holding the Inferiour Courts, several rioters and disorderly persons, to the number of between eighty and ninety, assembled at the Court-House, of which they took possession, with an avowed intent of preventing the Court from being held the next day; many of them had arms, and those who were unprovided for were collecting both arms and ammunition with all possible despatch. Many of the Magistrates having come to Town, it was thought advisable that the Sheriff should make the usual proclamation against riotous assemblies, and demand possession of the

\* The reader is requested to compare the Resolves of the Committee with those of Parliament, on the subject of common report, and then he will see clearly the dangerous tendency of all assumed powers.

Resolved, That common report is not a sufficient authority for any Printer in this City to publish any matters as facts relative to this Committee, &c.

1 Car. 1, 1625.—Resolved, That common fame is a good ground of proceedings for this House, either by inquiry, or presenting the complaint (if the House find cause) to the King and Lords.

Vide *Lex Parliamentaria*, where it is recited by the authority of *Rushworth*, one of the Republican party, and Secretary to Lord *Fairfax*.



Court-House and Jail, which being refused several times, about nine o'clock at night a party assembled in order to disperse the rioters; these proceeded with the Sheriff and some Magistrates to the Court-House where proclamation was again made by the Sheriff for the rioters to disperse, and sundry attempts were made to get in, without using fire-arms, but this proving ineffectual, three guns were fired over the door in hopes the rioters would be intimidated and retire; but so determined were they in their undertaking, that the fire was immediately returned from the Court-House, by which one of the Magistrates was slightly wounded, and another person shot through his clothes. The Magistrates seeing the imminent danger they were in, so well exerted themselves, that they forced the front door, and after a very smart engagement, wherein one of the rioters was killed, and many persons on both sides wounded, the Court-House was cleared, and proper measures taken to preserve the peace for that night. The next morning all was tumult and disorder; the Judges, however, opened the Court at the usual hour, and adjourned till three o'clock in the afternoon; but by this time, the body of rioters beginning to assemble in large parties from *New-Hampshire*, and places adjacent, and particularly from *Bennington*, in the neighbouring County of *Albany*, with a hostile appearance, and the Court foreseeing no probability of being able to proceed to business, adjourned till next *June* term. The body of rioters, which soon amounted to upwards of five hundred, surrounded the Court-House, took the Judges, the Justices, the Sheriff, the Clerk, and as many more of their friends as they could find, into close custody, and sent parties out, who were daily returning with more prisoners; the roads and passages were guarded with armed men, who indiscriminately laid hold of all passengers against whom any of the party intimated the least suspicion; and the mob, stimulated by their leaders to the utmost fury and revenge, breathed nothing but blood and slaughter against the unfortunate persons in their power. The only thing which suspended their fate was a difference of opinion as to the manner of destroying them. And from the violence and inhumanity of the disposition apparent in the rioters, it is greatly to be feared that some of the worthy men in confinement will fall a sacrifice to the brutal fury of a band of ruffians, before timely aid can be brought to their assistance.

TO THE WORTHY INHABITANTS OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, March 23, 1775.

Permit a stranger expelled from his habitation, and inhumanly abused by an insolent and persecuting rabble, who have long dealt destruction around them with impunity, to submit his unmerited sufferings to your compassionate attention. Seized, like the vilest malefactor, without the shadow of offence; condemned by a mock tribunal; severely and ignominiously beaten; stripped of his whole substance; compelled to abandon his wife and children in a distant County to the care of Providence; and plunged into want and distress, he has no place of refuge but in this hospitable City. It is his only consolation, amidst the most painful reflections, to flatter himself, that when this unhappy case is made publick, he will not only receive from Government the protection due to an innocent and much injured subject, but will partake of that benevolence from individuals for which the citizens of *New-York* are justly celebrated. He wishes to make no comment on the circumstances related in the following deposition; they admit of no aggravation.

BENJAMIN HOUGH.

City of New-York, ss.

*Benjamin Hough*, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Charlotte*, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, deposeth and saith: That on or about the 26th day of *January* last past, about eight o'clock in the morning, this deponent being at some distance from his dwelling-house, but in view thereof, observed three persons stop at his door, and enter his said house, this deponent's whole family (except a child of about six years of age) being absent; that immediately thereafter this deponent was attacked by about thirty persons, a number of whom were armed with firelocks, swords, and hatchets; that upon their approach this deponent at-

tempted to get into his house to secure his arms and stand upon his defence; but that this deponent observing that *Winthorp Hoyt*, of *Bennington*, one of the three persons this deponent had observed going into his house, stood at the threshold of this deponent's door, with this deponent's sword and pistol in his hands, he, this deponent, found it would be to no purpose either to attempt to escape or to make resistance; that thereupon *Peleg Sunderland*, of the said County of *Charlotte*, came up to this deponent with a hatchet in his hand, and slapping this deponent on the shoulder, told him he was his prisoner; that he, the said *Peleg Sunderland*, and the other persons who were with him, forced this deponent into a sleigh, and carried him about fifty miles to the southward of this deponent's place of residence, to a place by them called *Sunderland*, where they kept this deponent until the 30th day of the said month of *January* in close confinement, part of the time bound, and always under a strong guard, with drawn swords. That *Sylvanus Brown*, *James Meed*, *Samuel Campbell*, one *Dwinels*, one *Powers*, *Stephen Meed*, one *Booley*, and one *Lymen*, were among the persons who so seized and detained this deponent; and with respect to the rest of them, they were either strangers to this deponent, or he cannot recollect their names at present; that while they had this deponent so in custody at *Sunderland*, some of the said rioters informed this deponent that he could not have his trial till the *Monday* following, because they intended to send for *Ethan Allen* and *Seth Warner*, who were then at *Bennington*, and who are two of the principal ringleaders of the *Bennington* mob. That on the said 30th day of *January*, the said rioters appointed a Court for the trial of this deponent, which consisted of the following persons, to wit: The said *Ethan Allen*, *Seth Warner*, *Robert Cochran*, *Peleg Sunderland*, *James Meed*, *Gideon Warren*, and *Jesse Sawyer*, and they being seated, ordered this deponent to be brought before them; that he was accordingly brought before them as a prisoner, guarded by persons with drawn swords; that thereupon the said *Ethan Allen* laid the three following accusations to the charge of this deponent, to wit:

1st. That this deponent had complained to the Government of *New-York* of their (the said rioters) mobbing and injuring *Benjamin Spencer*, Esq., and other persons.

2d. That the deponent had dissuaded and discouraged the people from joining the mob in their proceedings; and,

3d. That the deponent had taken a commission of the peace under the Government of *New-York*, and exercised his office as a Magistrate for the County of *Charlotte*; alleging that this deponent well knew that they (the mob) did not allow of any Magistrate there.

And that after the said accusations were so made, the said *Ethan Allen* told the deponent that he was at liberty to plead for himself, if he had any thing to say; that this deponent then demanded of him, the said *Ethan Allen*, and the rest of his pretended Judges, whether he, this deponent, had ever done injustice to any man in the execution of his office as a Magistrate? To which they answered, that they could not charge him with any injustice in the execution of his office, nor had they any complaint of that kind to make against him; *Warner*, in particular, declaring that he would as willingly have him for a Magistrate as any man whatever; but that they would not, under their present circumstances, suffer any Magistrate at all. That the deponent then asked the said pretended Judges, whether they could accuse this deponent of busying himself or intermeddling with respect to titles of lands? To which the said *Ethan Allen* answered in the negative; and that they had not heard, nor did they pretend to charge him with any thing of that kind; that the deponent then added, that with respect to their three charges against him, he admitted them to be true; that he had made such complaint to the Government of *New-York* of the proceedings of the said rioters against the said *Benjamin Spencer* and others; that he had used his endeavours to dissuade people from joining the said rioters in their proceedings; and that he has accepted a commission from the said Government for, and exercised the office of, a Magistrate for the said County of *Charlotte*; and that all this he had a good right to do, and looked upon as his duty. That after some further argumentation, the said pretended Judges withdrew to another house to consider of their judgment, and in



about two or three hours returned to the door of the house where the deponent remained, and ordered him to be brought out near a tree, where the said pretended Judges had placed themselves, encircled by a number of armed men, into the midst of which circle this deponent was conducted as a prisoner, by four men with drawn swords; and that thereupon the said *Ethan Allen*, who all along acted as the chief or principal Judge, pronounced the following sentence against this deponent, which he read from a paper which he held in his hand, to wit: That they had erected a *combination of judicious men* for his trial, and had accused him in the manner before mentioned, [repeating the accusations,] that the deponent had pleaded *self-justification*, which they, the said pretended Judges, had found insufficient to excuse him from punishment; and that therefore their judgment was, that the deponent should be tied up to a tree, and receive two hundred lashes on the naked back, and then, as soon as he should be able, should depart the *New-Hampshire* Grants, and not return again upon pain of receiving five hundred lashes; that upon some persons observing that he, this deponent, ought not to be suffered to return while matters remained in their present condition, the said *Allen* added, no—not till His Majesty's pleasure shall be known in the premises. That thereupon this deponent immediately had his clothes taken off, and he was stripped to the skin, and four persons being, by the said pretended Court, appointed to carry the said sentence into execution, this deponent accordingly received the two hundred lashes upon his naked back, with whips of cords, which lashes were inflicted by each of the said executioners, giving the deponent alternately a number of lashes, though at the close he thinks he received from each of them ten; that the said *Robert Cochran*, who declared himself to be Adjutant of the rioters, stood, during the whole scene, near this deponent, and frequently urged the said executioners to lay on the blows well and strike harder, and particularly repeated such directions with respect to the last ten inflicted by each of the said executioners; that it was often mentioned by some of the rioters, that if any of this deponent's friends should intercede, or in any manner favour him, they should share the same fate. That the aforesaid *Winthorp Hoyt*, of *Bennington*, who professed himself to be Drum-Major, *Abel Benedict*, of *Arlington*, and one *John Sawyer*, and a person whose name this deponent could not learn, were the four persons who so whipped this deponent; that this deponent was very much wounded, and bled considerably by the said abuse; and the deponent being very faint, was put into the care of *Dr. Washburn*, who conducted him into a house; that the deponent declared to the said rioters, that it was a great hardship that he was not suffered to go home to take care of his interest and child, who was left without father or mother, the deponent's wife being absent on a distant visit to her parents. That the rioters notwithstanding insisted that the sentence should be put in execution, and the deponent leave the country accordingly. And the deponent further saith, that after he had been so abused, the said *Ethan Allen* delivered him a paper in writing, signed by him and *Seth Warner*, in the words and figures following, to wit:

“Sunderland, 30th of January, 1775.

“This may certify the inhabitants of the *New-Hampshire* Grants, that *Benjamin Hough* hath this day received a full punishment for his crimes committed heretofore against this Country, and our inhabitants are ordered to give him, the said *Hough*, a free and unmolested passport toward the City of *New-York*, or to the westward of our Grants, he behaving as becometh. Given under our hands the day and date aforesaid.

ETHAN ALLEN,  
SETH WARNER.”

And he, this deponent, having received his strength, the next day proceeded on foot on his journey toward the City of *New-York*; that while this deponent was in custody of the said rioters, he heard the said *Ethan Allen* say, that he expected that they should be obliged to drive off all the *damned Durhamites*, [meaning the inhabitants of the Town of *Durham*, in the County of *Charlotte*,] that this deponent frequently heard the said rioters declare that they would have little *Walker* [meaning *Daniel Walker*,] and *Thomas Braten*, (the Constable who served under this de-

ponent) if they could be found above ground; and that they further threatened that they would, for the future, be more severe with the *damned Yorkers*, [meaning persons who would not join with them in their riotous proceedings,] and would whip them within an inch of their lives; that for the future, they would not be at the trouble and expense of giving them a trial, but that the persons who met with them should punish them immediately; that this deponent, while he was so confined, heard the said rioters further declare, that they were sorry they had not inflicted upon Doctor *Adams* [who lived in *Arlington*, and against whom they had taken offence] five hundred lashes, instead of hoisting him up and exposing him upon landlord *Fay's* sign-post, where was fixed a dead catamount; and that this deponent also heard the said *Ethan Allen* declare in the said mob, that he expected shortly to have a fight with the *damned Yorkers*, for that they would hear how the mob had abused their Magistrates; but that he believed them to be damned cowards, or that they would have come out against them long before; that this deponent, on his way to *New-York*, called at the house of *Bliss Willoughby* and *Ebenezer Cole*, Esquires, two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Albany*, residing near *Bennington*; that he found them armed, in great distress and danger, and having people in their houses ready to take arms for their defence in case they should be attacked by the rioters, which, as they assured this deponent, they hourly expected; that this deponent, on his way to *New-York*, also called at *Pownall Town*, part of which lies within the Manor of *Rensselaerwyck*, (as this deponent has been informed by the inhabitants of the said Town,) that he found the said inhabitants in great commotion and uneasiness on account of the said rioters; that he understood from some of the said inhabitants, that they had agreed to take leases for their possessions under the proprietors of the said Manor, but that they dared not for fear of the said rioters, who had threatened them severely; and one of the said inhabitants in particular, told this deponent that he had taken a lease for his farm of the said proprietor, but should, on that account, be obliged to give it up; that when this deponent left the said *Pownall Town*, he met *George Gardiner*, Esquire, of *Pownall Town* aforesaid, also one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Albany*, who told the deponent that the state of the said Town was very dangerous and difficult; that he expected every day to be prevented by the rioters from exercising his office; that he was apprehensive that unless Government should give them some protection, many of the inhabitants of the said Town would join the said rioters, and earnestly entreated this deponent to exert his utmost endeavours to procure such protection; that this deponent, on his way to *New-York*, conversed with *James Clark*, [who was in his employ,] and who informed this deponent (and which this deponent verily believes to be true) that since this deponent was so seized by the said mob, *John Lord*, *Joseph Randel*, and *Clark*, three of this deponent's neighbours, had been very much abused and insulted by the said mob, and that the said *John Law* was turned out of his possession and obliged to fly the Country. And the deponent further says, that the said mob robbed him of his arms, to wit: a hanger and pistol, which he has not been able since to procure; and the deponent further saith that he hath frequently been informed, and believes it to be true, that the said rioters have a design to put an end to law and justice in the County of *Cumberland*, and that they went so far as to appoint a day upon which to make the attempt, but it did not then take place; and further this deponent saith not.

B. HOUGH.

Sworn before me, the 7th day of *March*, 1775.

DAN. HORSMANDEN.

A RELATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, AND PROVINCE OF NEW-YORK.

Cumberland County, March 23, 1775.

In *June*, 1774, there were some Letters came to the Supervisors of said County from the Committee of Correspondence at *New-York*, signed by their Chairman, Mr. *Low*; which Letters said Supervisors, through ignorance or intention, kept until *September*, when they had an-



other meeting; and it is supposed that they intended always to have kept them; and the good people would have remained in ignorance about them until this time had it not been by accident that it was whispered abroad, so that Doctor *Reuben Jones*, of *Rockingham*, and Captain *Azariah Wright*, of *Westminster*, heard of it, and took proper care to notify those Towns.

A meeting was called in the two Towns aforesaid, and a Committee was chosen by each Town to wait on the Supervisors at their meeting in *September*, to see if there were any papers that should be laid before the several Towns in the County, and they found that there were papers come from the Committee of Correspondence that should have been laid before the Towns in *June*. The Supervisors made many excuses for their conduct; some plead ignorance, and some one thing and some another: but the most of them did seem to think that they could send a return to the Committee at *New-York*, without ever laying them before their constituents, which principle, at this day, so much prevails, that it is the undoing of the people. Men at this day are so tainted with the principles of tyranny, that they would fain believe that as they are chosen by the people to any kind of office, for any particular thing, that they have the sole power of that people by whom they are chosen, and can act in the name of that people in any matter or thing, though it is not in any connection with what they were chosen for. But the Committees would not consent to have a return made, until every Town in the County had Mr. *Low's* letters laid before them, which was done, and a County Congress was called, return was made, a Committee was chosen to see that it was put in print, but, through interest or otherwise, it never was published in any of the papers.

Immediately after the people of the County aforesaid received the Resolves of the Continental Congress, they called a County Congress, and did adopt all the Resolves of the Continental Congress as their Resolves, promising religiously to adhere to that Agreement or Association. There was a Committee of Inspection moved for, to be chosen by the County according to the second Resolve of the Association aforesaid; but being much spoken against by a Justice and an Attorney, and looked upon by them as a childish, impertinent thing, the Delegates dared not choose one. At this time there were Tory parties forming, although they were under disguise, and had laid a plan to bring the lower sort of the people into a state of bondage and slavery. They saw that there was no cash stirring, and they took that opportunity to collect debts, knowing that men had no other way to pay them than by having their estates taken by execution and sold at vendue. There were but very few men among us that were able to buy, and those men were so disposed that they would take all the world into their own hands without paying any thing for it, if they could by law, which would soon bring the whole Country into slavery. Most or all of our men in authority, and all that wanted Court favours, seemed much enraged, and stirred up many vexatious lawsuits, and imprisoned many contrary to the laws of this Province and the statutes of the Crown. One man they put into close prison for high treason, and all that they proved against him was, that he said if the King had signed the *Quebeck Bill*, it was his opinion that he had broke his coronation oath. But the good people went and opened the prison door and let him go, and did no violence to any man's person or property.

Our men in office would say that they did like the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, and they ought to be strictly adhered to until our General Assembly voted against them. Then they said that this would do for the *Bay-Province*, but it was childish for us to pay any regard to them. Some of our Court would boldly say that the King had a just right to make the Revenue Acts, for he had a supreme power, and he that said otherwise was guilty of high treason, and they did hope that they would be executed accordingly. The people were of opinion that such men were not suitable to rule over them, and as the General Assembly of this Province would not accede to the Association of the Continental Congress, the good people were of opinion that if they did accede to any power from or under them, they should be guilty of the breach of the 14th Article of that Association, and may justly be dealt with accordingly by all *America*. When the good people

considered that the General Assembly were for bringing them into a state of slavery, (which did appear plain by their not acceding to the best method to procure their liberties, and the Executive power so strongly acquiescing in all that they did, whether it was right or wrong,) the good people of said County thought it time to look to themselves; and they thought that it was dangerous to trust their lives and fortunes in the hands of such enemies to *American* liberty, but more particularly unreasonable that there should be any Court held, since thereby we must accede to what our General Assembly had done, in not acceding to what the whole Continent had recommended, and that all *America* would break off all dealings and commerce with us, and bring us into a state of slavery at once. Therefore, in duty to *God*, ourselves, and posterity, we thought ourselves under the strongest obligations to resist and to oppose all authority that would not accede to the Resolves of the Continental Congress. But knowing that many of our Court were men that neither feared or regarded men, we thought that it was most prudent to go and persuade the Judges to stay at home. Accordingly there were about forty good true men went from *Rockingham* to *Chester*, to dissuade Colonel *Chandler*, the Chief Judge, from attending Court. He said he believed it would be for the good of the County not to have any Court as things were, but there was one case of murder that they must see to, and if it was not agreeable to the people they would not have any other case. One of the Committee told him that the Sheriff would raise a number with arms, and that there would be bloodshed. The Colonel said that he would give his word and honour that there should not be any arms brought against us, and he would go down to Court on *Monday* the 13th of *March* instant, which was the day that the Court was to be opened. We told him that we would wait on him if it was his will. He said that our company would be very agreeable; likewise he returned us his hearty thanks for our civility, and so we parted with him.

We heard from the Southern part of the State that Judge *Sabin* was very earnest to have the Law go on, as well as many petty officers. There were but two Judges in the County at that time, Colonel *Wells* being gone to *New-York*. There was a great deal of talk in what manner to stop the Court, and at length it was agreed on to let the Court come together, and lay the reasons we had against their proceeding before them, thinking they were men of such sense that they would hear them. But on *Friday* we heard that the Court was going to take the possession of the house on the 13th instant, and to keep a strong guard at the doors of said house, that we could not come in. We being justly alarmed by the deceit of our Court, though it was not strange, therefore we thought proper to get to Court before the armed guards were placed, for we were determined that our grievances should be laid before the Court before it was opened. On *Monday* the 13th of *March* instant, there were about one hundred of us entered the Court-House about four o'clock in the afternoon. But we had but just entered before we were alarmed by a large number of men, armed with guns, swords and pistols. But we in the house had not any weapons of war among us, and were determined that they should not come in with their weapons of war except by the force of them.

Esquire *Patterson* came up at the head of his armed company, within about five yards of the door, and commanded us to disperse; to which he got no answer. He then caused the King's Proclamation to be read, and told us that if we did not disperse in fifteen minutes, by *God* he would blow a lane through us. We told him that we would not disperse. We told them that they might come in if they would unarm themselves, but not without. One of our men went out at the door and asked them if they were come for war; told them that we were come for peace, and that we should be glad to hold a parley with them. At that, Mr. *Gale*, the Clerk of the Court, drew a pistol, held it up, and said, d—n the parley with such d—d rascals as you are; I will hold no parley with such d—d rascals but by this—holding up his pistol. They gave us very harsh language; told us we should be in hell before morning, but after a while they drew a little off from the house and seemed to be in consultation. Three of us



went out to treat with them; but the most, or all that we could get from them was, that they would not talk with such d—d rascals as we were, and we soon returned to the house and they soon went off.

Colonel *Chandler* came in and we laid the case before him, and told him that we had his word that there should not be any arms brought against us. He said that the arms were brought without his consent, but he would go and take them away from them, and we should enjoy the house undisturbed until morning, and that the Court should come in the morning without arms, and should hear what we had to lay before them, and then he went away. We then went out of the house and chose a Committee, which drew up Articles to stand for, and read them to the company, and they were voted *nem. con. dis.*, and some of our men went to the neighbours, and as many as the Court and their party saw they bound.

About midnight, or a little before, the sentry at the door espied some men with guns, and he gave the word to man the doors and the walk was crowded. Immediately the Sheriff and his company marched up fast, within about ten rods of the door, and then the word was given, take care, and then, fire! Three fired immediately. The word fire was repeated; G—d d—n you, fire; send them to hell, was most or all the words that were to be heard for some time; on which there were several men wounded; one was shot with four bullets, one of which went through his brain, of which wound he died next day. Then they rushed in with their guns, swords, and clubs, and did most cruelly mammock several more, and took some that were not wounded, and those that were, and crowded them all into close prison together, and told them that they should all be in hell before the next night, and that they did wish that there were forty more in the same case with that dying man. When they put him into prison they took and dragged him as one would a dog, and would mock him as he lay gasping, and make sport for themselves at his dying motions. The people that escaped took prudent care to notify the people in the County, and also in the Government of *New-Hampshire* and the *Bay*, which being justly alarmed at such an unheard-of and aggravated piece of murder, did kindly interpose in our favour.

On *Tuesday*, the 14th instant, about twelve o'clock, nearly two hundred men, well armed, came from *New-Hampshire* Government, and before night there were several of the people of *Cumberland* County returned and took up all they knew of, that were in the horrid massacre, and confined them under a strong guard; and afterwards they confined as many as they could get evidence against, except several that did escape for their lives. On the 15th instant, the body formed chose a Moderator and Clerk, and chose a Committee to see that the Coroner's Jury of inquest were just, impartial men; which Jury, on their oath, did bring in, that *W. Patterson*, &c., &c., did, on the 13th of *March* instant, by force and arms, make an assault on the body of *William French*, then and there lying dead, and shot him through the head with a bullet, of which wound he died, and not otherwise. Then the criminals were confined in close prison, and, on the evening of the same day, and early the next morning, a large number came from the Southern part of the County of *Cumberland* and the *Bay* Province. It is computed that in the whole there were five hundred good martial soldiers, well equipped for war, that had gathered. On the 16th instant the body assembled, but being so numerous that they could not do business, there was a vote passed to choose a large Committee to represent the whole, and that this Committee should consist of men who did not belong to the County of *Cumberland*, as well as of those that did belong thereto: which was done. After the most critical and impartial examination of evidence, voted, that the heads of them should be confined in *Northampton* Jail, till they could have a fair trial, and those that did not appear so guilty, should be under bonds, holden to answer at the next Court of Oyer and Terminer, in the County aforesaid; which was agreed to. On the 17th instant, bonds were taken for those that were to be bound, and the rest set out under a strong guard for *Northampton*.

We, the Committee aforesaid, embrace this opportunity to return our most grateful acknowledgments and sincere thanks to our truly wise and patriotick friends in the Govern-

ment of *New-Hampshire* and the *Massachusetts-Bay*, for their kind and benevolent interposition in our favour, at such a time of distress and confusion aforesaid; strongly assuring them that we shall be always ready for their aid and assistance, if by the dispensation of Divine Providence we are called thereto.

Signed by order of the Committee:

REUBEN JONES, *Clerk*.

TO THE HONOURABLE JAMES WALLACE, ESQ., COMMANDER OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP ROSE, NEWPORT.

Freetown, March 23, 1775.

HONOURABLE SIR: Since my writing the lines on the 21st, by Mr. *Phillips*, many insults and threats are, and have been made against those soldiers which have taken our arms and train, and exercise in the King's name; and on *Monday* next the Captains muster at the south part of the Town, when we have great reason to fear thousands of the rebels will attack them, and take our lives, or the King's arms, or perhaps both. I, Sir, ask the favour of one of His Majesty's Tenders, or some other vessel of force might be at or near *Bouers*, in order if any of our people should be obliged to retreat, they may be taken on board. Nothing but the last extremity will oblige them to quit the ground. I am your obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS GILBERT.

#### GUILFORD (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

Whereas there is inserted in the *Connecticut Journal*, of *February* 22d, 1775, an extract of a letter from *Martinico*, dated *December* 21st, 1774, mentioning Captain *Griffin's* arrival there, in a vessel of Mr. *Morgan's*, belonging to *Killingsworth*, with fourteen Sheep; by which it is represented said *Griffin* has violated the *American Association*; notwithstanding he has endeavoured to satisfy the publick, by stating the several matters of fact in said *Journal* of *March* the 8th, 1775, (to which no answer has appeared,) yet he is concerned to clear his character in said affair; and therefore has this day called on the Committee of Inspection for this place, from whence he last sailed, to consider the matter, as to the time and circumstances attending his carrying said Sheep, and on hearing the whole, we are of opinion, that said *Griffin* has not violated said Association; and therefore do acquit and recommend him to the favourable acceptance of the publick.

Dated in *Guilford*, this 23d day of *March*, 1775.

DAVID LANDON, *Clerk*.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

NO. VI.

Boston, March 23, 1775.

#### My Friends and Countrymen:

It is common for the solicitous, and honest inquirer after truth, to suspend his judgment until he becomes acquainted with the arguments on both sides of the question. But to demonstrative certainty there can be but one side only. And this, I think, we have already seen, to be plain, smooth, and as conspicuous as the beaming of the sun at noon-day. In matters of probability there are often counter arguments, mutually destroying each other, where the less being deducted from the greater, the assent of the mind is strong in proportion to the excess of evidence. If there are, in the nature of things, any real objections to our claim of Parliamentary independence, as defined in a past number, we may reasonably expect to find them in the publications of the torystical champion, *Massachusettensis*. Like a veteran in the service, he has erected a fortress, and played briskly from his batteries, upon this subject, in three successive papers. From the great roar, and little execution, there is reason to expect his design was to raise a smoke, which might conceal a forlorn party from the enemy's eye, and so secure a difficult retreat. Persuaded I am, if we can once reach his strong holds, by removing the rubbish and lumber which is artfully strewed to embarrass access, with a small force we can soon force his intrenchments.

To avoid prolixity, I shall not dwell upon such matters as fall within the reasoning and principles which we have already established, leaving you to your own recollection, and natural penetration upon a bare reference.



It may be of use to premise, that the question we have been examining, and which is still under consideration, is, whether we are in truth a part of the *British Empire*, in such a sense, as to be subject to her supreme authority in all cases whatever? Whether this subjection is fit and necessary on principles of rectitude and policy, is a distinct matter. Admitting this to be true, it is a good reason why we should immediately unite, but no evidence that we are already united. Nor is the question, whether a submission to ministerial measures be dangerous and ruinous, or forcible opposition to the regulating laws eligible and effectual. These matters are worthy your serious consideration. Our first attention ought to be to the justice of our cause; then, if prudence leads us to contend, we may reasonably expect, He who is higher than the highest, will look down with gracious approbation upon our righteous struggle, and by breaking the jaws of proud oppressors, take the prey even from between their teeth. It is necessary that the above distinctions be kept constantly in view, as they will secure us from a confusion of ideas on the one hand, and enable us to distinguish between reasoning and fallacy on the other, in publications where they are artfully confounded.

After a long parade upon miscellaneous subjects our designing reasoner fairly opens to the point. Says he, "the Colonies are a part of the *British Empire*." In support of which, he produces the opinion of the best writers upon the Law of Nations: that when a Nation takes possession of a distant country and settles there, that country, though separated from the principal establishment, or mother country, naturally becomes a part of the state, equal with its ancient possessions." The truth of this principle may be allowed with safety to our argument. For the conclusion, that a country, though separated from the principal establishment, becomes a part of the mother state, is general, depending upon an antecedent reason resulting from a particular state of facts in a number of similar instances, and therefore cannot be applied to cases not only dissimilar in general, but also in those particular circumstances upon which alone its whole force depends. The antecedent state of facts, which is assigned as a reason, by the civilians themselves, in support of their conclusion, is "a Nation's taking possession of a country, and settling there." It is an invariable rule in logic, which our sophister is well acquainted with, that if the antecedent position of the argument is untrue or contradicted, the conclusion of course depending thereon falls to the ground. We have already shown that this Country was taken possession of by individuals, and by them settled at their own risk and private expense, and not by the Nation as a Nation. So that this principle carries meat in its mouth, as is sometimes said; and in the application of our logical genius, to use his own language, is *feclo de se*, destroys itself; for being without the reason, we cannot be within his conclusion.

The above-cited opinion not only fails of proving our connection in any degree whatever; but no argument can be adduced pertinent to our present subject from any precedents in ancient history, as the settlement of the *American Colonies* was undertaken from views, and accompanied with circumstances, singular, and perfectly dissimilar to those which influenced colonization in the more early ages of the world. We have not yet done with the above-cited opinion. Something worse is still behind. It not only fails of serving the purpose of him who adduced it, but so far as it applies to the subject, it descends with its whole force directly against him. For the implication is violent, by a fair construction, that the opinion of the best writers on the Law of Nations is in favour of our being separate from the Mother Country, if this Colony was not taken possession of and settled by the *English Nation* as such. This is apparent, not only from the force of words, and thread of reasoning as explained above; but also from their express positions, that individuals have a right to abandon the jurisdiction of a State, and settle in some vacant part of the world, and thereby recover their natural freedom. The argument holds still stronger where the country moved to was in the prior occupancy of a foreign Nation, and honestly purchased of the occupants by the persons emigrating, as in the present instance. Therefore the authority of those writers, if they are consistent with themselves, is clearly in support of the doctrine of inde-

pendence. For I appeal to every man's private knowledge of the rise and progress of this Country. You have heard, my dear countrymen, you well know, your fathers have told you, nor will it be hid from your children, or the generations to come, the wonderful transactions of our virtuous predecessors, who, under the blessing of Providence, after they had been from one nation to another, from one kingdom to another people, came and took possession of this land, wandering in it hungry and thirsty, naked and cold, finding no city to receive them, no house to repose in, no aid from their forsaken parent, a few in number surviving the accumulated hardships, they and their posterity settled and defended it, in their own right, at their own risk and expense against the horrid attacks of nations, savage, heathen, delighting in havock and in blood. Nay, I will venture to appeal to *Massachusettensis* himself, to his oracle of infallibility, the author of the history of this Province; these are his words, speaking of the war with *Philip*, in which many valuable lives were lost. Says he, "Fighting made soldiers. As soon as the inhabitants had a little experience of the *Indian* way of fighting, they became a match for them. An addition to their numbers they did not want. Be that as it may, *this is certain, that as the Colony was at first settled, so it was now preserved from ruin without any charge to the Mother Country.*" What are your feelings? Does not strong conviction arrest your minds? Does not reason and passion join their voice? Look to the graves of our slaughtered ancestors; they will open their mouths, and teach us freedom's price in serious lessons wrote with blood.

Thus our silver-tongued disputant, (I had almost said doubled-tongued,) imagining that he had, or that a particular class of courtfidians would believe he had, proved, that the Colonies were a part of the *British Empire*, by an argument that concludes directly in his teeth, so far as it applies; he justly observes that two supreme independent authorities cannot exist in the same state, as it would be *imperium in imperio*, the height of political absurdities; and thence infers, as well he might, our entire subjection to the uncontrollable power of the parent State. We may, in our turn, retort this argument with additional force, and, in his own way, prove we are not a part of the *British Empire*, by the following plain demonstrated position, viz: The Colonies are not subject to the supreme authority of *Great Britain*. The greatest statesmen and sages in the law of the past and present age, tell us that representation is commensurate with legislation—that they are inseparably joined by *God* himself in an eternal league. Two supreme independent authorities cannot exist in the same State. The Colonies are not represented in the supreme legislative court of the Parent Country. If then we are not subject to the superlative power of the *British State*, we are not part of the *British Realm* or Empire. What, my friends, becomes of this famous argument urged by *Massachusettensis*, which is introduced with so much pomposity, with such artful encomiums on the *British Constitution*, as would, he seems to hope, reconcile one to slavery for the sake of being governed by King, Lords, and Commons; which is managed with such a career of words, and backed with such argumentative similes, taken from the economy of the human body, as would, he may think, induce the Colonists cheerfully to become the slaves of *British* subjects, if not the servants of *British* slaves.

To remove all scruples respecting the matter, our writer in his next paragraph, without attempting to prove it, boldly asserts: It is beyond a doubt that it was both the sense of the Parent Country and our ancestors, that they were to remain subject to Parliament. It is evident, says he, from the Charter itself, and this authority has been exercised by Parliament from time to time, almost ever since the first settlement of the Country, and has been expressly acknowledged by our Provincial Legislatures. I presume he never has, nor ever will he, or his posterity find a single instance where the authority of Parliament to bind us in all cases whatsoever has been acknowledged by our Provincial Assemblies. They have, and do now, admit the right of regulating trade, from the necessity of the case, and the fitness and rectitude of the measure. And if his *ipse dixit* is to be the rule of political faith, he might as well have told us, that it was the sense of our ancestors, and the Parent State, that we should be subject



to the Grand Signior of *Turkey*, where the people, as well as the country, are the property of the Emperour, every man's fortune and life being solely at his disposal, without the least check or restraint. "But it is evident from the Charter itself," says he. Where is the evidence? Is it not as evident from the Alcoran or Church Liturgy? These matters we have already considered in other papers, to which I refer you.

He then admits there is one specious argument in our favour; but, says he, it leads to such absurdities as demonstrate its fallacy. It is this: "The *Americans* are entitled to all the privileges of an *Englishman*; it is the privilege of an *Englishman* to be exempt from all laws that he does not consent to, in person, or by representative; the *Americans* are not represented in Parliament, and therefore are not subject to its authority." I suspect, my countrymen, we have not been conversant enough in the school of absurdities to be able to detect the fallacy of this obstinate, this unwieldy argument. However, *nil desperandum Massachusetts duce*. "If (says our arch reasoner) the Colonies are not subject to the authority of Parliament, *Great Britain* and the Colonies must be distinct States, as completely so as *England* and *Scotland* were before the union, or as *Great Britain* and *Hanover* are now." Where, in the name of common sense, is the absurdity of *Great Britain* and the Colonies being distinct States, united under one common Sovereign, seeing *Scotland* was so once, and *Hanover* is so now? The very instances that he adduces to illustrate his absurdities with, prove to demonstration that there is no absurdity in the supposition. An absurdity consists in a supposition or declaration inconsistent with the truth of fact, or the possible relation of things. But, says he, "in this case the Colonies will owe no allegiance to the imperial Crown, and perhaps not to the person of the King." Our subtle manager has not told us, and I dare say never will, where the inconsistency is in not owing allegiance to the King, or point out the absurdities deducible from thence. Finding he could not get along with his *reductio ad absurdum*, he, like a person thoroughly acquainted with the futility of his argument, prudently chose to waive the subject. There is not only no absurdities deducible from the supposition of our owing no allegiance to the imperial Crown, but it is not true that this consequence follows from his premises, there being no connexion between our being independent of Parliament, and the inference drawn from thence. Let us examine it. A King of *England*, as such, is a political entity. He has two distinct capacities, or bodies; the one natural, in common with other men, and subject to like passions; the other a body politick, consisting of those constitutional powers, prerogatives, and capacities which he derives from his subjects as their Sovereign. This latter body never dies. Upon the dissolution of the natural, which is called the demise of the King, the body political is transferred or conveyed over from the deceased to another natural body; the name of King being a term of continuance. He forms one of the three distinct powers, or bodies, which are entirely independent of each other, composing the supreme power or legislative authority of the Empire. The Lords spiritual and temporal is another, and aristocratical branch, distinct and independent. The House of Commons is a third democratical power, freely chosen by the people from among themselves. These three constitute that aggregate body called the *British* Parliament, whose sovereignty is constitutionally over all its constituents. By what principle in logick, then, by what hair-breadth argument, can be inferred a subjection to the two last of those powers, or to all three in concert, from an allegiance to the first? Where is the middle term that enforces the conclusion? Where the intermediate idea that shows the connexion? If there are none, (and I defy him to show any,) where, upon his own principles, is the mighty absurdity of *Great Britain* and the Colonies being distinct States, having one common Sovereign? To strengthen the supposition, I would ask, whether the Peers of the Realm, who sit in the House of Lords, are Peers of *America*? This noble independent order are the Representatives of all the Commons in the Kingdom; and, like the House of Commons, can give their assent to no law which does not bind themselves equally with all the other members of the community. This is one of the principal securities to the

people against oppression. But where is the *American's* security? On their supposition, avarice and ambition unchecked, is the guardian of his property; arbitrary will, and perhaps sportive caprice, the tenure by which he draws his breath.

The next inference that our indefatigable writer makes against us is, that by possibility we may owe no allegiance to the person of the King, that is, to the King of *England*, in no capacity whatever. Where he gets this conclusion, or how he draws it, I dare not hazard a conjecture, unless it be that he conjured it up with that huge group of verbose absurdities through which we have just now forced our way. Admitting it to be deducible from a state of facts, there is no inconsistency in the whole affair. And I will venture to say, that he who possesses such a facility at drawing of consequences, *fas vel nefas*, well knows that premises established are not to be invalidated by deductions therefrom. It is therefore unnecessary at this time to inquire, whether allegiance be in fact due to the person of the King, or to the *British* Crown. This is the less necessary, as *Massachusettensis* himself seemed to think there was no difficulty in getting over his own objection, after he had made it. It was the opinion of Lord *Coke* and others, the first in fame, that allegiance is due to the former. Either supposition is perfectly consistent with the *American* plan of independence. The latter we have above shown to be so. Allegiance to the person of the King is admitted to be so. *Charles* the First, who titled himself at the head of our former Charter, King of *England*, *Scotland*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c., stipulated for himself and his Royal successors, by which the inhabitants of this Colony became his liege subjects, and he their acknowledged Sovereign. Now, although personal allegiance may be due, yet it is evident, both from the words of the Charter, its design and subject-matter, which is the best key for construction, that *British* royalty was a necessary qualification, and an *English* Crown an essential appendage of the person who is constitutionally the Sovereign of this Province. The person upon the Throne of *England*, by virtue of the *British* Constitution, is our rightful Sovereign, by virtue of our Provincial Charters, not because he is King of *England*, but because our Constitution vests the sovereignty of this Province in the person who is designated by a *British* Crown and an *English* Sceptre.

It is obvious to observe here, that when our Charter was granted, and after, until the reign of Queen *Anne*, *England* and *Scotland* were two perfectly distinct and totally independent States, the supreme power of each being lodged in a Parliament of its own. *Charles* the First being a Prince common to both States, formed one branch of the supreme legislative authority in both Kingdoms. If, therefore, our becoming subject to this Prince brought us within the jurisdiction of the *English* Parliament, upon the principles of the Tories, for the same reason it subjected us to the sovereign power of the *Scottish* legislators, and of consequence exposed us to the service of two masters, to the distraction and misery of double legislation and complicated taxation—as great a political curse as can be in reserve in the store of Heaven for any people under its broad canopy. I have something further to say on this curious paper.

FROM THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.

NANSEMOND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

March 24, 1775.

However disagreeable and unhappy it is to hold up for publick censure the conduct of any man, yet when we consider the present unfortunate disputes between the Mother Country and her Colonies would probably, in the result, be the ruin of both, if some timely, judicious, and wise methods were not contrived to effect a reconciliation, and adjust the lamentable differences; we cannot but think that all those who endeavour to frustrate, and labour to counteract such laudable ends, are enemies to *America*, no friends to the excellent Constitution of *England*, and strictly merit the censure and disesteem of all lovers of their Country, freedom, and just rights. We, therefore, the Committee for the County of *Nansemond* aforesaid, in obedience to the eleventh Article of the Association, as well as for the above-mentioned reasons, think it our duty to publish the beha-



viour (respecting the Association, &c.) of the Reverend *John Agnew*, Rector of *Suffolk* Parish, in this County, as it appeared from the testimony of *William Cowper* and *Solomon Shepherd*, Esquires, Messrs. *James Murdaugh*, *Willis Hardgraves*, *Thomas Minton*, *Jonathan Smith*, and Major *Thomas Godwin*, taken before us this 6th day of *March*, at *Suffolk*.

Mr. *Agnew* being first summoned to attend, but refused, Mr. *Shepherd* declared, that upon his remonstrating to the said *Agnew* how disagreeable it was to his audience in general, and to himself in particular, to hear the Association, and those who had come into it, abused from the pulpit in the sermons he there preached, desired that he would in future desist therefrom. His answer was, "If you do not like such sermons, you can only leave your seat;" and to the same gentleman said, that the Delegates of the Provincial Congress had rebelled in all their Resolves. In presence of Major *Thomas Godwin* and Captain *William Cowper*, he asserted, as his opinion, that it was no hardship to be carried beyond sea for trial of crimes committed here. Mr. *Hardgraves* has frequently heard him (when speaking of the Congress) declare that all such combinations and associations were detestable. Mr. *Minton* says, that after condemning the present Association, he produced one of his own, and in his presence offered it for signing. In a conversation his Reverence had with Mr. *Smith*, he affirmed our gentlemen (meaning, as *Smith* took it, the gentlemen of the General Congress) knew not what they were about; that to resist the King and Parliament was rebellion, and that the proceedings of the General Congress were resisting the King and Parliament; that the designs of the great men were to ruin the poor people; and that, after a while, they would forsake them, and lay the whole blame on their shoulders, and by this means make them slaves. Upon *Smith's* doubting how all this extraordinary villany could be brought about, "Why (says the parson) they have already begun; for the Committee of *Suffolk* has invaded private property; they have taken goods from a man of *Carolina*, and sold them against his will." He likewise informed Mr. *Smith* there was an Association of the other party up the Country, and the people signing it very fast; that they had discovered their error in signing the present one, and that he would see this fact published in the *Norfolk* paper shortly.

We have now related the substance of what the above named gentlemen declared upon their oaths, and here we could wish to end this narrative; but we have too much regard for our own characters to suffer them to be injured by so barefaced a slander as appears in *Smith's* testimony, respecting the *Carolina* gentleman and his goods. The truth of that transaction is precisely this: Mr. *Samuel Donaldson*, merchant, and one of the Committee of this County, informed some of the members that his friend, Mr. *John Thompson*, merchant of *North-Carolina*, had imported some goods into this Colony, which come under the tenth Article of the Association, and desired that a Committee might be held to determine what should be done with them; and Mr. *Donaldson* (that Mr. *Thompson* might suffer as little inconvenience as possible from the detention of the goods) advertised them to be sold on the same day that the Committee was to sit. At the time appointed we met, when Mr. *Thompson* was present, and, on examining him and some letters he produced, we found that by the importation of these goods he had not violated any of the articles of the Association. And although we were not entirely pleased with Mr. *Donaldson's* advertising the sale of the goods before he had orders from us so to do, yet we ordered them to be sold under the care and direction of three gentlemen of the Committee. Mr. *Thompson* bought the goods, expressed himself highly satisfied, and insisted on our partaking of a cheerful bowl with him.

Upon the whole the publick will plainly discover the principles this reverend gentleman entertains, and in what light he views the general Resolutions adopted and entered into for our relief from the oppressive hand of power. Had this zealous advocate for despotick rule been as assiduous in the discharge of the several duties of his function as he has been industrious in propagating false and erroneous principles, not only in private discourse, but in blending detestable tenets in his angry orations from the pulpit, in order to gain a party in opposition to the common cause,

and thereby lending his little aid to seduce the very people that gave him bread to a state of wretchedness, this Committee had not been at the trouble to examine the eleventh Article of the Association, and opening his conduct to the censure of the world.

JOHN GREGORIE, Clerk of the Committee.

VOTE PASSED BY THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE  
OF WORCESTER COUNTY, (MASS.) MARCH 24, 1775.

As a number of Towns in this County have not been publicly represented in this Convention, it is therefore recommended that the attendance of one or more members of the several Towns therein be given at their future meetings; and that they do not depart without leave when assembled, until an adjournment or dissolution thereof.

The Convention of the Committees of Correspondence of this County stands adjourned to the second Tuesday of June instant, at ten o'clock, A. M., at the Court-House, Worcester. By order of the County Committee:

WILLIAM YOUNG, Chairman.

TO THE PRINTERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GAZETTE.

Worcester, March 24, 1775.

Having seen a publication\* in the *Massachusetts Gazette* of the 9th instant, relative to my conduct in resigning my command as Colonel of a Regiment, &c., I think it not improper to give the publick the following true state of the matter, viz: I was some time ago chosen Lieutenant-Colonel of a Regiment, whereof Mr. *Thomas Dennie*, of *Leicester*, was chosen Colonel. It was not without some persuasion that I accepted of the office, being very diffident of my abilities to discharge the duties of it with that propriety and martial dignity that the importance of the occasion required. But putting great dependance upon the abilities of the Colonel, I was prevailed upon to accept of the office; but very unfortunately for me, (as well as for the publick,) that very worthy gentleman was soon after suddenly taken away by death. I was then chosen Colonel of the Regiment, and was at that time determined absolutely to have refused, but was over-persuaded to accept of the office. From that time I was much burdened with the thoughts of our publick affairs, and the part I had to act in them. At this time some persons, whom I now think enemies to *American* liberty, and not friends to me, discovered my uneasiness, and set themselves to work to increase it, by painting the horrors of civil war and rebellion in the most frightful colours, which they pretended I was plunging myself into; and unless I immediately renounced the cause I was engaged in, I was ruined and undone; and I being (as I now think) thoroughly infatuated by their delusions and insidious conduct, was led to say, that I thought the people were wrong in the opposition they were making against the Acts of Parliament, &c. And at the same time declared I would have nothing further to do in the matter as Colonel of the Regiment, &c. I have accordingly resigned my command, and made such satisfaction to Officers of the Regiment for my behaviour as they kindly accepted of. At which time they proceeded to the choice of a much better man than myself to take my place; and the Regiment now is well-officered, as far as I know, which gives me greater pleasure than I ever felt by being at the head of it. But before I conclude, I would just remark, that the publication of the 9th instant, first mentioned, in some respects, is not consistent with truth. First, the representation of my having been concerned in mobs and riots, or violent measures, is invidious, and a false calumny, for which I appeal to all that know my general conduct, both Whigs and Tories. And secondly, to represent me as converted, when in truth and reality

\* A correspondent informs us, "That Mr. *Thomas Wheeler*, Colonel of a new-fangled Regiment in the County of Worcester, is so sensible of his error in being any ways concerned in the violent measures now pursuing by our Sons of Liberty, that he has declared he will never be concerned any further, and has resigned his command. Two of his neighbours, namely, Captain *Palmer Goulding*, and Lieutenant *Cornelius Spawell*, both of said Town, on the evening of the 2d instant, returning home from a visit they had made said *Wheeler*, were suddenly attacked and knocked down by two men, and most grievously beat and wounded, and for no other reason but their being true friends to Government, and supposed by the Sons of Liberty to be instrumental in converting their neighbour *Wheeler*."



I was *perverted*, was a misrepresentation I would have mended by your inserting an *erratum*, to read in the said publication perverting, instead of converting, which will make the passage much more agreeable to truth; this, with an amendment of the spelling of one of the names,\* make the latter part of the said publication tolerable enough. However wrong I have been in any part of my conduct or words, it is now my real opinion, that the people's cause is good, and that the measures that they are taking and carrying into execution, are the best and most likely means for obtaining the redress of our grievances. And if a redress cannot be had without our making the last appeal, I stand ready and heartily willing to be one of the appellants, to prosecute the appeal to final judgment, while I have estate or life left. The foregoing I am induced to publish, that the cause of liberty may not suffer by my means; and I have done it of my own free will and accord, and do assure the publick I have not been constrained to do it by force, or the threats of any man, or body of men, but have been extremely well and kindly treated by all men that I have had any concern with since resigning my office; and now enjoy the esteem and friendship of my neighbours, and the true Whigs, which I esteem as one of the greatest blessings in this life, and to deserve the same shall ever be the endeavour of

T. WHEELER.

TO THE PRINTER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GAZETTE.

Worcester County, Massachusetts, March 24, 1775.

I was always sorry that our County Convention undertook to say any thing against the reading of the productions which appear on the contrary side of the question, for many reasons that I could offer, if there were any need of it. But one special reason why I think it was a pity they did it, is, it so much intimated to the people as though they thought there was something of force in what was said by our opposers; when, for my part, there appears to me so little force in what they say, that I heartily wish every one who gives any attention to publick affairs to make any judgment upon them, would read all they can upon that side, that it might more fully confirm them in their opposition to the present measures of Administration; when they see that all the advocates for it can produce in favour of it is pregnant with reproaching of us, as being both fools and knaves, and at the same time asserting things to be matters of fact which we know to the contrary. When they, in their abundant affection and professed kindness, tell us, that all we complain of is owing to our *ignorance, distempered brains, heated imaginations, infatuated blindness and delusion, &c.*, it does not work in us any gratitude to them, for complimenting of us as such distracted fools.

When they tell us, that the grievances enumerated by the Continental Congress are *barefaced falsehoods*, and that we neither see nor feel any grievances; at the same time our senses tell us, that what the Congress have said are manifest truths, the Tories, thus giving our senses the lie, do not induce us to give credit to those writers who forbid us believing our own senses. When those writers assert facts which we know to the contrary, it gives us good reason to believe every thing they say is false. This, in the enumeration of grievances of the friends of Government, (as they fondly call themselves,) in your paper of the 23d of *February* last, what is said about so many appearing in arms at *Worcester*; what was said about Colonel *Putnam* and Colonel *Chandler* being obliged to flee to *Boston*, we absolutely know was not as there represented. So also many things said by *Phileirene*, in your paper of the 2d of *March* instant, we don't at all believe. But especially his saying, "that all parties join in esteeming General *Gage* as the most amiable of men, and the best of Governours," we absolutely know to be very far from the truth, both by the publick prints and by private observation. Whatever General *Gage* may in fact be, I don't pretend to say; but that he is not so esteemed by all parties, as *Phileirene* pretends, is a most manifest fact. And I cannot comprehend how he should have a face to say it, unless upon the same principle before-mentioned of forbidding our believing our own senses! If the publick will not take it as an affront upon their understandings, to

illustrate that which is so plain, I will offer a few words, showing the perverseness of *Phileirene's* remarks on the Petition of the Congress. I will only observe on what he says about the Mandamus Counsellors in your paper of the 9th instant. There he pretends to make out that it is best they should be so appointed, because, he says, if the Council chosen by the Representatives should adopt any unpopular measures, they were in danger the next year of losing their places; as if this were a reason to convince the people that it is best they should have no hand in choosing them. The same reason (if I may be allowed to scandalize the word so much as to call it reason) will show, that our Representatives ought to be appointed by Mandamus; or, more properly, that we should have no Representatives at all to assist in legislating for us. And this is evidently what they are after; none can avoid the imputation, so long as they urge that the *British* Parliament have a right to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever, or indeed in any case whatsoever, and plead for the justice and right of the Parliament in their making laws to set aside and make void our laws. So that nothing can be more manifest, than that this *Phileirene* is for having us have no voice whatsoever in choosing a legislative body for ourselves. And it is beyond all comprehension to understand why he is not ashamed to treat us as such asses, telling us that we are not fit to have any voice in electing any of our Officers or Legislators; and in earnest propose to us, to give it all up, because we are not fit to have any thing to do with choosing them; unless he is so mad upon his own vanity as to persuade himself, that we will hearken to him, rather than our own feelings and senses.

But yet it is inconceivable why he should drive so hard to make us believe that we are such fools, that it is best for us to give up all pretensions to any part in governing ourselves, so much as choosing our own guardians; for the very moment we should do this, it would be such an evidence that we were grossly *non compos mentis*, that the very act of this giving up would not be binding; and I hope that all such as do give up to these principles of *Phileirene*, will every where be so far considered *non compos* as not to be admitted to any office or trustment whatsoever; and why it is not the duty of the Selectmen, in their respective Towns, according to the Laws of this Province, to render all such *non compos*, so as to prevent their doing any mischief, and people from trading with them, I presume no good reason can be given. Those that are so *insane* as to run about, and are proper only for *Bedlam*, let them run there themselves, as many have already. But suppose we are such dunces that we must have guardians without our choosing of them, I defy this *Phileirene* or any one else to shew who made the people of *Great Britain* our guardians, or how they *ex-officio* are such, any more than the people of *France*, or even of *Africa*, or any other place. As for this *Phileirene*, I am well satisfied who he is by his language; and if I rightly guess, he has left off hunting *silver* by his *hazle-rods* of late years, and found a more successful way of obtaining of it, and is now roused against the Congress and Liberty, by the same spirit that the old silversmith, *Demetrius*, was against the Apostles and Christianity—*Acts* xix. The craft by which this modern *Demetrius* gets his wealth is called in question, and in danger of being set at naught. Old *Demetrius's* complaint was, that not only at *Ephesus*, but almost throughout all *Asia*, people were persuaded to believe that they were no gods that were made with hands. And so now not only at *Boston*, but almost throughout all *America*, it is urged, that of right there are no laws, where there are no representation of the people for whom they are pretended to be made. And it seems this modern *Demetrius* has got those of his own occupation together, and is endeavouring to set the City in an uproar; but I hope he will avail no farther than to have those of his own craft cry, great is *Diana* of the *Ephesians*, or rather, according to the modern craftsmen, great is the Parliament of *Great Britain*; but I hope those disturbers of the peace will in due time be called in question for their uproar.

As for the *Converted Whig*, in your paper of the 9th instant, we none of us believe that it is any other than a fiction of some Tory; he don't speak as one that ever understood Whiggism, and I defy any one to show any such person who was ever reputed as a true Whig, that indited

\* One of the names in the publication above referred to, should have been *Stowell*, instead of *Spawell*, a noted weaver in *Worcester*.



that piece. If he has made a change so much for the better, as there pretended, and to give his experiences to the world, why don't he, as the repenting Tories so many have done, give his name with his repentance or recantation. However, if it be really as there pretended, I don't expect he will ever return, but it will be with him as the wise man says it is with those that go after the strange woman, *Prov. ii. 19*: "None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life."

I had many things more that I thought to have wrote, but I will defer them for the present, and subscribe as before,

A FREEHOLDER IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CANADA, DATED MONTREAL,  
MARCH 24, 1775.

The Address from the Continental Congress attracted the notice of some of the principal *Canadians*; it was soon translated into very tolerable *French*. The decent manner in which the religious matters were touched; the encomiums on the *French* Nation, flattered a people fond of compliments. They begged the translator, as he had succeeded so well, to try his hand on that Address to the People of *Great Britain*. He had equal success in this, and read his performance to a numerous audience. But when he came to that part which treats of the new modelling of the Province; draws a picture of the Catholick Religion, and the *Canadian* manners, they could not contain their resentment, nor express it but in broken curses. "Oh! the perfidious, double-faced Congress; let us bless and obey our benevolent Prince, whose humanity is consistent, and extends to all Religions; let us abhor all who would reduce us from our loyalty, by acts that would dishonour a Jesuit, and whose Addresses, like their Resolves, are destructive of their own objects."

TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.

London, March 24, 1775.

The man who set fire to a stately temple was a singular instance of those villains who wish to be distinguished only by their crimes, though he was by no means a rare instance of those whom posterity can distinguish by no other traces.

By what means the late Governour of *Boston* may hereafter be remembered, we shall not venture to predict; but we may safely affirm, that if his publick vices and publick virtues should be weighed in a balance, the latter would kick the beam! From early symptoms of ambition and dissimulation, it was predicted of him that, like *Paris*, he was born to be the pest of his Country. He subsisted by merchandise, but did not thrive by it, for the business was not suited to his temper. By the appearance of extraordinary zeal for the religion and liberties of his Country, he wrought himself into publick favour. Thus he was chosen a Member of the Assembly, of the Council, an Assistant Judge, and Chief Justice. After some time he was appointed Lieutenant-Governour. He now coveted the Chair. With this object in view, he made himself necessary to Governour *Bernard*; he was his counsellor and inseparable friend. He knew very well what the people would bear and what they would not; he cajoled and instigated poor *Bernard*, till a flame was kindled about his ears. The Seat of Government became too warm for him; he was obliged to flee. Governour *Hutchinson* succeeded to the Chair, but *Bernard* had kept it too long; it was now too hot even for a man who seems to have been made for the flames. I should have observed, that the character of a Merchant, especially that of a Tea Dealer, not comporting with that of a Governour, he had resigned trade into the hands of his sons. In this manner he and his family were situated when the ill-fated Tea arrived at *Boston*. The people had lately obtained full proof of what they had for some time suspected, that he was their greatest enemy, and they had petitioned to have him removed. What was now to be done? Unhappily his duty as Governour and the friend of his Country was opposed to his ambition and the interest of his family. He had made interest to have the Tea consigned to his sons; by suffering it therefore to come back to *England*, as other Governours did, he would have saved the Tea, and might have prevented all the calamities that have since happened to that Country, and are soon like

to fall on the whole Nation. But then his son would have lost a valuable commission, and what is worse, he would have missed a fine opportunity of proving, what he had lately asserted in one of his letters, that the people could not be governed but by an infringement of their liberties. By refusing to suffer the Tea to be sent back, as the people requested, one of these events was certain—either that it would be landed, and his sons reap the commission, or that it would be destroyed, and himself promoted. The latter has taken place. The City in which Governour *Hutchinson* was born is become a garrison; the inhabitants are ruined; but he himself is pensioned. Is there a human breast that would not feel for the wretched inhabitants of *Boston*? Poor labourers and tradesmen, with their wives and children, suffering under the general calamity, and perishing by thousands, or else protracting a miserable life by licking the cold hand of charity. But one should imagine Governour *Hutchinson* thought that misery was dealt out with too sparing a hand. Does he wish to see the whole Country involved in the fate of *Boston*? Would he do more? Would he filch the beggar's scrip, and give him the *coup de grace*?

I am not so little acquainted with the present Administration, as to imagine that any thing is either too cruel, or too iniquitous for them to attempt; but the present Fish Bill, or rather the Starving Bill, is one that they certainly would never have attempted, unless Governour *Hutchinson* had recommended it as a measure that would produce certain obedience. His former predictions have not been verified; the change of Government, and an Army into the bargain, have not mended matters, but made them worse. What shall be the next expedient? His friendly advice was still ready: "Send over a few more Regiments, and let them exert themselves properly. Take off a few of the inhabitants by the sword, and a few by famine; the rest will sign a *charte blanche*."

I am aware that the creature I have been describing is so different from the common form of humanity, that it may be questioned whether I have fairly copied the original: but I write history, not fables. I have given only the outlines; was it necessary, I could finish the piece, with many other striking lines and shades; I could tell how early and how often he has visited Mr. *Jenkinson*, and every one of the junto, within the last three months; but I despise such indirect proof. Not three weeks ago I heard him say, in a large company, "that the *New-England* people do not yet believe that Government is in earnest; that they have only been blustering; and that General *Gage's* inactivity has flattered their pride; but, as soon as the other Troops shall arrive, when His Majesty's standard shall be erected, and the Province declared to be in rebellion, and a few of the leaders taken up, he would stake his life that the people would surrender, and submit to any kind of discipline."

When we know what part this man has acted, as if to hasten the present catastrophe; when we consider what advice he continues to give, and hear him talking in such strains, as if to promote sanguinary measures against the Country that gave him birth; we are tempted to hope that some one of his ancestors was an *Indian*, and that *Indians* are a different race of men.

NESTOR.

TO D \* \* \* C \* \* \* \* \*, ESQ.

New-Jersey, March 25, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Since the writing of my former letter, we have been agreeably entertained with intelligence from *London*, favourable to the good cause, in which not only these Colonies, but *Great Britain* and all her other dependencies are so deeply interested. I congratulate you, and the rest of the friends to the Constitution on the receipt of these, and every other appearance in our favour. Permit me to enumerate a few of these; for a proper and general attention to them would do much toward strengthening our union, and defeating the base designs of those who oppose the general good. And the first thing to be remarked is, the greatness of the union subsisting among ourselves, on which, under Providence, depends our greatest hope of success. This union appeared remarkably in the sentiments of all the Colonies respecting the propriety and necessity of appointing Delegates to meet in General Con-



gress; and since, in their appointing so many men, who, when met, were so exactly suited to one another in sentiments, as they in fact were. For when Representatives are properly chosen, without bribery or any other undue influence, they naturally carry with them the sentiments of their electors, from whom they also receive the outlines of their conduct in general directions. When these Delegates met, they began their solemn and important business by bowing themselves before the great Sovereign of the Universe, to whom they could, with a pure conscience, appeal as to the justice of their cause, and on whom they, in the use of proper means, depended for all that assistance which was necessary to ensure success; and for this they humbly implored the Divine clemency and goodness. At the same time, or as near it as the Provinces could judge, there were many hundreds of congregations of their constituents beseeching Almighty Goodness for the same divine aid. They believed their cause was His, and could therefore go boldly to the Throne of Grace.

Here, Sir, is union. A Continent on their knees, imploring the alliance of *God!* This is an appearance favourable to us. And in this view the enemies of *America* might do well to remember the advice of *Gamaliel*. Let us revolve in our minds the proceedings of this Congress, and see what appearances here are favourable to us. Caution, justice, loyalty, knowledge, moderation, wisdom, benevolence, deliberation, humanity, resolution, fortitude, self-denial, self-defence, piety; and to crown the whole, a remarkable union in all these. Ancient *Rome*, in her highest pitch of power and glory, never produced an assembly of worthies better qualified to govern an Empire than these. The desire of this Congress appears evidently to be, that all the disturbances, divisions, confusions, ill-will, and oppression in the whole of His Majesty's Dominions should cease; and that peace, union, and harmony, with constitutional liberty, and a just dependance of one part on the other, should exist throughout the whole of this great Empire, which they desire should be governed in all its parts by his present Majesty *George the Third*, and a Protestant succession in his family, together with such legislative powers, as are, by the *British Constitution* and *Provincial Charters*, established.

No wise and good man, I conceive, when once truly and sufficiently acquainted with their designs, as stated above, can wish that they should be defeated. If we pursue this union in the resolutions of the Congress, to their being put into execution in the several united Provinces, we shall find that it prevails against all opposition, and that the opposers of congressional measures are comparatively but very few. I do not at present recollect more than three Towns in the opposition in all the four Provinces of *New-England*, and those none of the most considerable. The names, in tenderness to the virtuous part of their inhabitants, are here omitted. However, considering the measures taken with them by their wiser neighbours, it is very probable they will soon be brought to a sense of their error, and will return to their duty.

In this and the Southern Provinces, I believe the Opposition is full as small. Some few places in the Province of *New-York* are delinquent; but they appear to be returning to their duty. The City and County of *New-York* have been esteemed by far the most so: but by a late fair trial, it appears that there are more than five to one in favour of the Congress. And this probably will break the heart of all the Opposition in *America*. The news from *Great Britain* and the *West-India* Islands, so favourable to us, will contribute much to the same valuable purpose. Some indeed have lately attempted to land goods in *America* contrary to the Association of the Congress; but such is the vigilance of those excellent inspectors, the Committees of *New-York* and *Elizabethtown*, and such the awful guilt of the delinquents, that they could not be hid. They have confessed their fault, and laid a heavy fine upon themselves for their base conduct. Another person concerned in the same dark affair is also detected, and will, it is thought, be sufficiently punished. In fine, if we continue to pursue the whole measures of the Congress, the merchants and manufacturers in *England*, and the *West-India* islanders will do all in their power to procure a redress of all our grievances. And we have great, great reason to hope that, by the favourable interposition

of Divine Providence, their united endeavours will soon produce the desired effect.

I remain, dear Sir, yours and the Constitution's friend,  
ESSEX.

Marblehead, March 25, 1775.

Whereas, I the subscriber, in open violation of the Continental Association, did, on the 25th current, purchase of *Simon Tufts*, of *Boston*, a small quantity of Tea, and thereby justly brought on myself the resentment of the publick: I do now in this publick manner ask their pardon, and do solemnly promise I will not in future be guilty of a like offence. The Tea I have voluntarily committed to the flames in presence of a respectable number of my townsmen.

THOMAS LILLY.

The Committee of Inspection of this Town, from the penitent behaviour of the above *Thomas Lilly*, and the above confession, which he himself publishes, determine that he may be justly entitled to the esteem and employ of all persons as heretofore.

By order of the Committee of Inspection:

JOHN SPARHAWK, Clerk.

Committee Chamber, Boston, March 31, 1775.

Information having been given to the Committee of Inspection of this Town, that Mr. *Simon Tufts*, of this Town, merchant, had broke the Continental Association, by selling Tea to *Thomas Lilly*, of *Marblehead*, on the 25th of *March* current, the Committee made inquiry into the truth of said report, and after a strict examination of said *Tufts* of three credible persons, could obtain no other account but the following, which we have caused to be published under oath, for the satisfaction of the publick, agreeable to the design of our appointment.

"Whereas an advertisement appeared in the *Essex Gazette* of the 28th instant, signed *Thomas Lilly*, informing that he purchased a small quantity of Tea of me, the subscriber: For the justification of my character, and satisfaction of the publick, I think proper to give the following state of the affair, and do solemnly declare that the said *Lilly* had the same, without my knowledge or privity, of the person who attended at my store, and which he has since confessed was no more than a pound and a quarter. I have purchased no Tea since the first of *March*. What I bought was so immediately connected with an article absolutely necessary for the Country to be possessed of, and which they are in actual possession of, thought it justifiable to purchase it with the incumbrance, and let my friends, whose advice I had taken, partake with me therein, esteeming the friendship of my countrymen of more consequence than any benefit that could accrue to me thereby. I had no intention, from the beginning, of militating with the Association of the Continental Congress, and I declare I will not buy or sell any more of said article till a general permission therefore takes place. If, by the above imprudent step with *Lilly*, any offence is given to my countrymen, I am sorry therefor, and hope for a restoration to their favour and confidence.

SIMON TUFTS.

"Boston, 30th March, 1775."

SUFFOLK, ss.—BOSTON, April 1, 1775.

Then the above named Mr. *Simon Tufts* made oath to the truth of the above-written declaration subscribed by him. Before me,

BELCHER NOYES, Justice of the Peace.

ORANGE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

March 27, 1775.

The Committee of *Orange County* being informed that the Reverend Mr. *John Wingate* had in his possession several pamphlets containing very obnoxious reflections on the Continental Congress and their proceedings, and calculated to impose on the unwary; and being desirous to manifest their contempt and resentment of such writings and their authors, assembled on *Saturday*, the 25th of *March*, 1775, at the Court-House of the said County. The Committee were the rather induced to meet for this purpose, as it had also been reported that there were a considerable number of these performances in the Country,



introduced amongst us in all probability to promote the infamous ends for which they were written; that they were to be sold indiscriminately at *Purdie's* office in *Williamsburgh*, and that unfavourable impressions had been made on some people's minds by the confident assertions of falsehoods and insidious misrepresentations of facts contained in them. The intentions of the Committee were made known to Mr. *Wingate*, and a delivery of the pamphlets requested in the most respectful manner, without the least suspicion that Mr. *Wingate* had procured them with a design to make an ill use of them, or that he would hesitate a moment as to a compliance; but, to their great surprise, he absolutely refused, urging that they belonged to Mr. *Henry Mitchell*, of *Fredericksburgh*, and he could do nothing without his express permission. The Committee then proceeded to expostulate with him on the subject, and to insist upon him that, as he regarded his association-engagements, the favour of the Committee, or the good of the publick, he would not deny so reasonable a request. They told him they would engage to make ample satisfaction to Mr. *Mitchell* for any damage he might sustain, and that there could not be the least reason to fear that Mr. *Mitchell* would be displeased, who was well known to be an associator, and acknowledged by himself to be a hearty friend to the cause which these pamphlets were intended to disparage and counteract; and that if Mr. *Mitchell* was not this hearty friend we hoped him to be, it must be an additional argument for the Committee to press their request, and for him to comply with it. Mr. *Wingate* still persisted in his refusal to deliver them up, but added that he would let the Committee have a sight of them, if they would promise to return them unhurt. This could by no means be agreed to, as they were justly apprehensive that it would be their duty to dispose of the pamphlets in a manner inconsistent with such a promise. At length the Committee, finding there was no prospect of working on Mr. *Wingate* by arguments or entreaties, peremptorily demanded the pamphlets, with a determination not to be defeated in their intentions. In consequence of which they were produced to the Committee, who deferred the full examination and final disposal of them till the *Monday* following.

On *Monday*, the 27th instant, they again met at the same place, according to adjournment, and after a sufficient inquiry into the contents of five pamphlets under the following titles, viz: 1st, "*The Congress Canvassed, &c.*," by *A. W. Farmer*; 2d, "*A View of the Controversy between Great Britain and her Colonies*," by the same; 3d, "*Free Thoughts on the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, &c.*" by *A Farmer*; 4th, "*Short Advice to the Counties of New-York*," by *A Country Gentleman*; 5th, "*An Alarm to the Legislature of the Province of New-York, &c.*," most of them printed by *Rivington*, of *New-York*:

*Resolved*, That as a collection of the most audacious insults on that august body (the grand Continental Congress) and their proceedings, and also on the several Colonies from which they were deputed, particularly *New-England* and *Virginia*, of the most slavish doctrines of Provincial Government, the most impudent falsehoods and malicious artifices to excite divisions among the friends of *America*, they deserved to be publicly burnt, as a testimony of the Committee's detestation and abhorrence of the writers and their principles.

Which sentence was speedily executed in the presence of the Independent Company and other respectable inhabitants of the said County, all of whom joined in expressing a noble indignation against such execrable publications, and their ardent wishes for an opportunity of inflicting on the authors, publishers, and their abettors, the punishment due to their insufferable arrogance and atrocious crimes.

Published by order of the Committee:

FRANCIS TAYLOR, Clerk.

PLYMOUTH (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Plymouth, March 27, 1775.

The Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Plymouth* beg leave to represent the peculiar circumstances of this Town, and to desire such aid and

protection as you in your wisdom shall think proper to direct.

We have an open harbour, on which lay the Towns of *Plymouth*, *Kingston*, and *Duxbury*, extending twelve or fifteen miles, in almost every part of which it is extremely easy for Troops to land, commit ravages, and retreat, unless a sufficient force is continually on duty to watch and report them. Ever since the late alarm, the inhabitants of this Town (apprehensive of danger) have been on almost constant duty, without being able to attend to their private affairs, the consequence of which must produce great distress, if not ruin, unless they can be relieved. Another very peculiar circumstance attending us is, that in case we should be attacked, no immediate aid can come to our assistance from the back country, we being surrounded by a wilderness, extending several miles, without any inhabitants at all, and several more miles with very few and scattering ones.

We therefore pray your consideration of these matters, and that you would order the Minute Regiment under the command of Colonel *Cotton*, be posted here, and that proper provision be made for them.

We are, gentlemen, with great respect, your very humble servants. By order of the Committee and Selectmen of the Town of *Plymouth*.

JOHN TORREY, Chairman.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

By His Excellency the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governour General of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

#### A PROCLAMATION.

VIRGINIA, to wit:

Whereas certain persons, styling themselves Delegates of several of His Majesty's Colonies in *America*, having presumed, without His Majesty's authority or consent, to assemble together at *Philadelphia* in the months of *September* and *October* last, have thought fit, among other unwarrantable proceedings, to resolve that it will be necessary that another Congress should be held at the same place on the 10th of *May* next, unless redress of certain pretended grievances be obtained before that time, and to recommend that all the Colonies in *North America* should choose Deputies to attend such Congress, I am commanded by the King, and I do accordingly issue this my Proclamation, to require all Magistrates and other Officers to use their utmost endeavours to prevent any such appointments of Deputies, and to exhort all persons whatever within this Government to desist from such an unjustifiable proceeding, so highly displeasing to His Majesty.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Colony, this 28th day of *March*, in the fifteenth year of His Majesty's reign.

DUNMORE.

God save the King.

#### REMARKS ON LORD DARTMOUTH'S CIRCULAR LETTER DATED JANUARY 4, 1775.

London, March, 1775.

The publication of Lord *Dartmouth's* Circular Letter to the several Governours on the Continent of *America*, excites an alarm amongst the friends of liberty; for in that letter the battery is unmasked, the design openly avowed. Permit me, Sir, to consider the words, the meaning, the design, and the consequence of Lord *Dartmouth's* letter.

His Lordship begins thus: "Certain persons styling themselves Delegates of His Majesty's Colonies, having presumed."—Observe, gentle reader, the official term formerly used in general warrants: "certain," is a word of great uncertainty when not applied to individuals, and, as it is not descriptive of individuals, Lord *Dartmouth* will find that these "certain persons, styling themselves Delegates," are not to be intimidated by his uncertain nonsense.

But what mighty crime have these uncertain persons presumed to commit? Why, they have not asked His Majesty's permission to assemble at *Philadelphia* in order



to consult about their own affairs! This is the crime of omission laid to their charge; that of commission consists in their having thought fit, amongst other unwarrantable things, (no other unwarrantable acts are mentioned,) to resolve "to meet again on the 10th of May." What power is there lodged in any branch of our Legislature which can control and hinder a body of men from assembling in order to consider of the most effectual methods for alleviating their own distresses? If neither of the branches of the Legislature are vested with such a power, the Congress in *September* was not assembled unlawfully; and if it was not unlawfully assembled, by what authority, besides that of impudence, shall any of the King's Ministers prevent a meeting not forbidden by the laws of the land? Lord *Dartmouth* may be an excellent divine, but he is a miserable politician; Mr. *Whitfield* may have qualified him for a field preacher, but as for his politicks they are of the *Butean* cast, and therefore detestable.

The Secretary goes on, and says: "Unless redress for certain pretended grievances be obtained, the Delegates are to meet on the 10th of May." This would be the style of every Secretary to every arbitrary tyrant in *Europe*. Pretended grievances! What, are we fallen so low as to be told we cannot feel, or if we can, that we are not competent judges of the oppression? This is what all tyrants aim at; this hath been accomplished in the several Monarchies of the world; and this doctrine is intended to be inculcated in *England* and *America*. The meaning of the words in Lord *Dartmouth's* letter is, that though the *Americans* feel, yet shall they not dare to complain, or endeavour by legal measures to obtain alleviation or redress; this is adding cruelties and insult to injuries intolerable. When a man is by oppression wilfully tormented, to increase his pain because his sensations are exquisite and his complaints loud, would characterize a being worse even than what our imaginations can form in idea; yet this character the pious, the preaching, the saint-like Lord *Dartmouth* assumes throughout his whole letter! Is it necessary in becoming a Minister to cease to feel as a man? And must every tender sensation be obliterated because a man holds an office, the exercise of the functions of which are supposed to be directed to publick utility?

Let us next observe the style of Lord *Dartmouth's* letter: "I am commanded by the King to signify to you his pleasure, that you do your utmost to prevent any such appointment of Deputies within the Colony under your Government."

We have had too much reason to perceive, that publick utility has given little pleasure, and therefore all meetings to promote that must occasion great displeasure. The Governours, however, though willing to execute the orders, will find themselves incapable to effect what is commanded so imperatively by this Minister of Christian meekness. In a meeting held for the preservation of civil liberty, nothing can be unwarrantable, unless the defeat of despotism, in which all good men, who understand the dispute, and are well-wishers to their species, must wish the *Americans* success. Those who can dream of an *English* Parliament having a right to take the money out of the pockets of the *Americans*, are but ill-instructed in the principles of our Constitution, which forbid that any man should be taxed by an assembly wherein he is not represented. A ministerial champion has inculcated the reverse of the doctrine; but when it is known that he is retained for the purpose, little regard will be paid to any argument such a writer advances. Sir *William Meredith* and his wand, Doctor *Johnson* and his pension, are alike beneath the notice of independent men.

We are next to consider the design of Lord *Dartmouth's* letter, which is to destroy the Constitution in *America*, and to institute a mode of arbitrary Government like that in *Canada*, of a Governour and Council. When that is accomplished, the people will be under the immediate subjection of the Crown, and thus the vast extension of kingly power must obliterate every remaining vestige or trace of liberty. An establishment of this kind once effected, will produce more evils than can be at present foreseen, though the consequences of those evils may be deduced from comparison and analogy. Such of the *Americans* as are at present strenuous asserters of liberty, may, from a corruption of manners, or out of resentment of our ill treatment in

suffering them to be enslaved, join the conspirators against the Constitution, and thus destroy what has been the envy and the admiration of the *European* world.

The Secretary for *America* we have been taught to look on as a zealous, pious, and devout disciple of *Christ*; yet we see this man of holiness, not having the fear of *God* before his eyes, joining with his coadjutors in an attempt to enslave our fellow-subjects in *America*! Who that regarded the welfare of human kind would aid in an attempt to set up the power of any part of the Legislature over the Constitution? But to talk of good Government, civil justice, or liberty, whilst Tories are at the helm, would be like talking of righteousness in the dominions of *Satan*.

IGNOTUS.

New-York, March 28, 1775.

MR. RIVINGTON: As your paper has hitherto supported the character of an impartial one, I send the enclosed for publication; if you cannot insert it, return it by the bearer. But while a *Junius* can attack a Prime Minister, and a *Tribunus* the King, I hope it will not be deemed treason for an *Englishman* or an *American* to attack the petty tyrants to whom this is with deference and respect most humbly dedicated by the author.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE OF PHILADELPHIA.

GENTLEMEN: You appear in a publick character, and if the reins of Government are not devolved on you by common consent, you have at least usurped the legislative authority. I shall not, then, deem it any violation of the liberty of the Press, in this publick manner personally to address you, and to animadvert on the contents of your letter (dated *February* 16) to the Committee of this City, lately published—an epistle which I could not peruse without a mixture of indignation and astonishment.

The body from whence you derive your authority emboldens and warrants me freely to canvass all matters on the administration of Government; and if the liberty of the Press be not denied me, as an *Englishman* I will claim the privilege, and undaunted by your frowns, your threats, or your inquisition, will boldly pass such strictures on your conduct as I conceive it merits. Your names, gentlemen, are well known; they are, I believe, respectable, and would give weight to your assertions, were they not contradicted by the most notorious and the most obstinate facts. Pardon me if in this address I should take the liberty to relate a few truths, truths which I well know will sound ungrateful in your ears.

Your ridiculous argument of holding up an union, cannot justify your allegations, for such an union does not exist. It would have afforded me signal pleasure to observe men of characters, dignified as yours are, enrolled as Committee men, and delegated by the rest, for the special purpose of communicating intelligence to your neighbours, disposed to exhibit a state of things founded on the strictest truth. But your letter to our Committee is replete with misrepresentation and deception, calculated rather to hoodwink the people of this Province, than to give them a just state of publick affairs; you present us with a prison to peep through, to give a glare to every object we behold.

You tell us you have seen frequent publications from this City, containing false representations, and holding up ideas of dissensions among you, which you have the assurance to say *do not exist*.

How can you, in the face of the world, make this bold assertion? You must know that it is totally destitute of foundation; and I will venture to tell you that you must all have had better information!

No dissensions among you! Have not the loyal Friends in your and the adjacent Province published their dissent [*January* 24, 1775] from the mad independent Resolves of your Republican Congress, and all your illegal and unwarrantable combinations?

Is not this Society very numerous throughout your Province, and at least as respectable as any other?

Some of your Committee have idly pretended that this was the act of a very few, and disapproved of by the Society in general. This is a shameful reflection on the character of the gentleman who subscribed their protest on behalf of the whole Society.



This gentleman has too much honour to be guilty of so ungenerous an act, and fortunately for him his reputation is too well established to be impaired by your feeble darts. I challenge you to find a man of more integrity throughout all your democracy. Are you not then ashamed to declare these dissensions are only encouraged by a few interested persons, who take a malignant pleasure in exciting discords?

Let me address myself to one of you who is a member of that honourable community, which he has most daringly and impudently insulted by subscribing his name to that calumniating letter. Let me call upon him to erase his name from amongst you as a small atonement for the unpardonable insinuations he has thrown out against his brethren. He has publicly attacked them, and publicly charged them with taking a malignant pleasure in exciting discords and dissensions, and has dared to assert that this state is founded on the strictest truth; what a strange perversion!

You, gentlemen, have the confidence to declare, that your Committee have not found the least difficulty in carrying into execution any one Resolution of the Continental Congress. If this be true, I have, I confess, been strangely deceived. Let us inquire into this matter. Do not the Congress bind themselves by the sacred ties of virtue, honour, and love of liberty, that no advantage shall be taken of the non-importation, but that goods shall be sold as they have been for the last twelve months? Have not the dry-goods Merchants, without the least opposition, generally broke through this agreement, and is not your Committee apprized of it? Have they not made inquiry into the prices of various articles, and did they not find the Merchants had advanced the prices on some goods twenty-five, on others fifty, seventy-five, nay! one hundred per cent., and did not the Committee acquiesce in this? These facts are too stubborn for you to controvert; the reasons were obvious; the Resolve was too tyrannical to be borne; it better suited the slaves of *Russia* than the freemen of *America*. As a Committee you knew this, and you knew you dare not attempt to enforce it; and as some on your Committee were in the dry-goods trade, it was your interest, and you thought it too your duty, to pass it over. How then can you declare, and palm your declaration on the publick as the *strictest truth*, that the Committee have met with no difficulty in carrying into execution any one Resolution of the Congress? Do not the Congress bind themselves by the same sacred ties to encourage frugality and economy, and to discourage every species of dissipation and extravagance?

Are not the Assemblies continued in your City as usual, under your own immediate notice, and is not your *interdum* Secretary *officious* therein? Did your Committee find no difficulty in carrying into execution what you had foolishly resolved was the sense of the Congress respecting Sheep? Yes. You disgraced yourselves by your scandalous conduct; you invaded private property, and some of your body committed daring robberies in the face of the day, and in the sight of the whole world. You forced people to carry their own goods on their backs to the Jail of your City; you intimidated a helpless old woman for no other offence than innocently offering her goods for sale, and would have obliged her to take the same measures you had forced others to before, *without law, without justice, reason, or mercy*, had not a Magistrate, whose presence and commands struck terror into your dastardly souls, rescued her and her property from your domineering threats. Here, too, I might touch on the article of Tea, and tell of the clemency and mercy of some of your monsters relative to importations of this baneful weed, but it is an affair of too nice delicacy, we will not take up its ashes.

Yet you have declared your Committee have met with no difficulty in carrying into execution any one Resolution of the Continental Congress. I tell you this assertion is an imposition on the people of this Province. Perhaps you call this novel species of procedure rather a pleasure than a difficulty. I believe it; so fond are you of power, and so impatient of bearing rule, that at some rate or other you are determined on the possession of it; and while you rest secure in the idea of enforcing your mandates by a lawless mob, you no doubt glory in the acquisition of your usurpation.

Some of you, though active in the most atrocious vio-

lences, by artifice, would persuade the world that these proceedings have not been done by the Committee as a body; but if individuals of you will repeatedly commit such extraordinary depredations on the property of your countrymen, in defiance of all laws, why do ye not discharge them? Why do ye not publish your disapprobation of their proceedings? Why not demand an acknowledgment of their errors? Instead of this, you tacitly applaud them; appoint them to new offices; and while you thus tamely acquiesce, you are parties in the guilt, and deserve the severest reprehension.

You tell us the number of dissentients with you are very small. You are strangely deluded. If you had made the necessary inquiry, you would have found their numbers were great, and by far the most respectable of the community. They do not consist of the noisy, blustering and bellowing *patriots*, but the cool, deliberate, and thinking men, renowned for probity, integrity, and honour, unlike your *Adams, Hancock*, and your *Lee*.

The inhabitants of your Province have too much good sense to consider the *least infraction* of the proceedings of the Continental Congress as productive of their political ruin. The more sensible part are shocked at many of their Resolves. They consider a compliance with them as likely to overwhelm all *America* with destruction; they look upon them as setting up a total independence of the parent state, and consider the leaders of the present measures as leaders of a rebellion and faction, which portend the most miserable calamities.

The disputes between the State and its Members, at the meeting of the Congress, were easily adjusted. They had not arrived to such an alarming length as to throw us into a state of despair. Many able and prudent writers among us, as well as you, recommend the adoption of moderation and temper. Your Farmer, your *versatile* Farmer, was one of this number. He did not know on which side the balance would preponderate; he played the *Vicar's* part; he was *Jack* on both sides; he waited the event of the farce; violence rose victorious; he embraced her cause, and in derision of the reputation he had acquired by his former Letters, he parted with it to gain fresh laurels. But the doctrines he had advanced formerly, very much cramped his *soaring genius*. He could not form his new edifice with grandeur, without demolishing his *old fabrick*, and in his attempt to form a fresh wreath, his old one decayed, and his new was blasted. The fast friends to our constitutional liberties pointed out, and laboured hard for a firm and dutiful Petition, and a spirited, but decent Remonstrance, as the most probable means of establishing peace and harmony. They warmly recommended the drawing a rational line of Parliamentary jurisdiction and *American* allegiance, on the principles of the *British* Constitution. How a conduct like this would in all human probability have terminated, I leave to your own candour, though you seem to be divested of the smallest share. We find, from every account, his most gracious Majesty (warmly attached to the interest of all his subjects, however remote) is ready to hear our prayers. Every friend to *America* in *England* urged us to moderation; and had their advice been regarded, the unnatural dispute ere this day, might have been brought to the most happy issue. The advocates for these wise and moderate measures daily meet with the grossest insults and abuse from every paltry Republican pen, to whose inconsistent jargon your *partial Presses* were ever free and easy of admission; and while the *independent Incendiary*, now known throughout *America* by the name of the "*lean and grinning Cassius*," found the most inviting access for his lucubrations, wisdom, prudence, and reason were excluded an audience. Your papers were kept under an undue influence, and filled with fabricated letters and paragraphs, culled from every fiery publication, to alarm and inflame. These are truths which can be solidly supported, and if you will revert to the papers of that period you will not deny. One of your Printers, of your true Republican cast, published the most vile and treasonable performance that was ever exhibited to the world, and this same Printer rejected a moderate and pertinent reply. Another of your weak and blustering Printers stands impeached for a *forgery*, and there is great reason to believe he continues in the same practice. This same Printer, as a reward for his exhibition of scandal, was by your society of pedagogues, made a



Committee-man, the more effectually to secure his press, the engine of *rebellion and abuse*; and there is nothing so dirty, nothing so base, but he will give it a conveyance. This was a grand stroke of policy, worthy of the *jesuitical Cassius*. Your Committee have since made a most flagrant attack upon the liberty of the press, to the eternal disgrace of your cause and your City, and but for their noble stand, and the virtuous intrepidity of one of your citizens, nothing in future could have appeared amongst you without a license from traitors and insurgents. But, fortunately for *America*, and to the lasting honour of a single man, you are stopped in your career, and stand as objects for the world to gaze and laugh at.

But though things have been carried to this elevated pitch, the sons of sedition have, with unabated ardour and unceasing zeal, circulated the most palpable falsehoods to mislead the unwary and unsuspecting; witness that *bastard Act of Parliament*, framed *pro tempore* by one of your Secretaries, so full of falsehoods that one would scarce have believed a fool could have been found that would credit it; yet sorry I am to say, it was greedily swallowed by the ignorant, for the factious, who are scattered, like the *Jews*, over every part of the earth, did not hesitate to declare it was authentick; and on a late excursion into the interior parts of your Province, I found a difficulty to persuade many deluded *Germans* that it was totally false; they told me of a gentleman in an exalted station (whose name for the present I shall conceal, though one of your Committee) who had repeatedly assured them, that if they did not unite with the Congress, that very act would take place the ensuing summer. But notwithstanding these artful devices; notwithstanding the almost infinite pains taken by your party to stop the circulation of moderate publications, (appointing two *patriotick* shoemakers to wait on Mr. *Airey* to deter him from selling pamphlets of a free complexion;) notwithstanding the pains taken by one of your Committee to prevent the circulation of *Rivington's Gazetteer*; I can with great truth declare, that the eyes of the *Pennsylvanians* are opening very fast; they begin to see the independent designs of their demagogues; they see a Republick growing fast into form, and they begin to abhor your destructive manœuvres. I can speak with great confidence, because I do not speak from the partial information of a few individuals, nor from the improbable accounts of interested Committees. My accounts are the result of various and mature information, confirmed by what I myself have seen in your City and Province. I have, with the most pleasing satisfaction, beheld an astonishing alteration in the opinions and in the conduct of the good people with you.

I know that the number of loyal subjects are increasing with a rapid progress; the Friends have nobly took the lead; they will, I hope, be followed by almost every class of people. Yet your gentlemen assert that a cheerful acquiescence has been manifested by all orders and ranks of people. It would have been more manly to have joined *Edes and Gill of Boston*, in declaring their protest was published ten years ago; and as you have the presses under your own influence, it would be easy to forbid them to publish a contradiction; there would be no difficulty in this, though there will in making people believe a dissention does not exist with you.

Let the same patriot who threatened to pull down the doors of one of your Churches if the wardens would not suffer the bells to be rung on Colonel *Putnam's* alarm; let this gentleman tell the printer, if he *dare* to contradict what you put in, his house shall be demolished; this would be showing the weight of an argument he deduced in his laboured harangue at a certain patriotick meeting, that it was "absolutely necessary a very large Committee should be appointed; for who knows but we may have property to destroy." He omitted pointing out another advantage of having a large Committee, viz: extending the number of our worthy fellow-citizen *John Holt's* subscriptions; for, I hear, with *expanded* hearts you have exerted your influence in his favour, (in consequence of his decline here,) and have procured him not less than fifty subscribers; so that we shall now have him like a new phoenix, arising on this fresh pile, with new life, strength, and vigour.

Suffer me now, gentlemen, to take my leave of you for the present. It was with reluctance I took up the pen;

and I shall lay it down with pleasure, after hoping that you will not take what I have said amiss. I only want these facts to wound in the sore places. I had the good of this Province too much at heart to let them be deluded by your publication. If I have inserted one thing which will not bear the strictest scrutiny, I will cheerfully recant it, and ask pardon for my offence; but I have, to the best of my knowledge, without aggravation, laid down the above for your perusal, and intend, when leisure permits, to inform you of as true a state of affairs in this Province as the above is of yours.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

#### WORCESTER COUNTY (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

March 28, 1775.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the Reverend Mr. *Chaplain* be requested to open this Convention with prayer.

*Voted*, That the Convention do now proceed to the Meeting-House, to attend the Sermon by the Rev. *Elisha Fish*, and the other exercises.

The Convention being again met in the afternoon:

*Voted*, That the thanks of the Convention be presented to the Reverend Mr. *Fish*, for the Discourse preached before them, and that the Standing Committee wait upon him and request a copy thereof for the Press.

*Voted*, That the Standing Committee print as many copies of said Discourse as they judge fit for circulation.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, TO HIS FRIEND IN NORTH-CAROLINA, DATED MARCH 29, 1775.

The gloomy aspect of your Country, and *America* in general, mentioned in your last, is truly alarming. I feel for Mr. \* \* \*, and wish he would make this his retreat. Let me advise you to leave your uncertain situation, and bring your family over. If you object to this, pray sell your slave-estate at any rate. This early hint will give you an opportunity of doing this to advantage. Last week a friend wished me joy on having the good fortune to sell my slaves and *American* estate; for, says he, "I was lately whispered by the Minister, that all slaves on the Continent would be seized as forfeited by the Provinces, and sold in the *French and Spanish* Islands, the profits arising to reimburse the great expense of Ships, Troops, &c., sent to *America*." This will tend to the great disappointment of our *West-India* Planters, who will expect to stock the sugar-works from the Continent. Your lands must be cultivated by the poor, as in these Kingdoms.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, for the City of *New-York*, in the Committee Chamber, on the 29th of *March*, 1775, present—

|                              |                  |                     |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Low, <i>Chairman</i> , | Francis Lewis,   | Jeremiah Platt,     |
| John Jay,                    | John Lasher,     | Comfort Sands,      |
| Isaac Sears,                 | Joseph Totten,   | William W. Gilbert, |
| David Johnston,              | Thomas Ivers,    | Nicholas Roosevelt, |
| Alexander McDougall,         | John Anthony,    | Edward Fleming,     |
| Abraham Walton,              | Francis Basset,  | Frederick Jay,      |
| Peter T. Curtenius,          | Victor Bicker,   | George Janeway,     |
| Abraham Brasher,             | William Goforth, | Lindley Murray,     |
| Abraham P. Lott,             | Isaac Roosevelt, | Lancaster Burling:  |
| Abraham Duryee,              |                  |                     |

The following advertisement, which was drawn in consequence of an application to this Committee at their last meeting, was read, viz:

*To the respectable Inhabitants of the City and County of NEW-YORK:*

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: In times so critical as the present, it becomes the duty of every citizen to pay particular attention to the welfare of the community, and to counteract every measure that may tend to injure its interest.

Influenced by these considerations, we view with concern the uneasiness occasioned in this City, by the late unusual exportation of Nails; and perceive with anxiety the distress to which a monopoly of this or any other article may expose many among us.



For what purpose, or with what design, such a quantity has, in so short a time, been purchased and exported, we neither know nor can we conceive. The clamour raised among the Mechanicks, by the scarcity of Nails during the continuance of the last Non-Importation Agreement, is recent in our memories; and though the manufactories which have since been established will supply more than sufficient for our own consumption, we apprehend it would be imprudent thus rashly to part with what we have in store, especially as this sudden exportation has given just grounds for suspicion and alarm.

It is not within the limits of our appointment to provide against the evil tendency of this circumstance, by any regulation; but considering ourselves as fellow-citizens with you, and deeply interested in every thing that respects the publick weal, and the support of the great cause in which our all is at stake, we take the liberty of declaring our sentiments upon the occasion; and recommend to you to avoid drawing the people of this City into any difficulties or discontents, by exporting or encouraging the monopoly of such great quantities of Nails as may leave a provision for our own consumption precarious, especially as it is not certain whether these Nails, so hastily bought up and exported, are designed to be used, or to be stored.

Permit us also to submit to your consideration the propriety of supplying the Troops at *Boston* with implements of war, and articles essential to hostilities. We cannot forbear observing, that the duty we owe to our interest and reputation should lead us to withhold such supplies from the Troops, at least till we have assurances that nothing hostile is intended against us.

And debates arising on the propriety of publishing the same as a Committee; and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, viz:

*For the Question.*

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Mr. J. Jay,       | Mr. A. P. Lott, |
| Mr. F. Jay,       | Mr. Gilbert,    |
| Mr. Platt,        | Mr. Ivers,      |
| Mr. J. Anthony,   | Mr. Lasher,     |
| Mr. N. Roosevelt, | Mr. McDougall,  |
| Mr. Basset,       | Mr. Fleming,    |
| Mr. Brasher,      | Mr. Lewis,      |
| Mr. I. Roosevelt, | Mr. Janeway,    |
| Mr. Sands,        | Mr. Sears.      |

*Against the Question.*

|                |
|----------------|
| Mr. Duryee,    |
| Mr. Johnston,  |
| Mr. Goforth,   |
| Mr. Totton,    |
| Mr. A. Walton, |
| Mr. Curtinius, |
| Mr. Bicker.    |

The Chairman entered his dissent against the above act.

By order of the Committee:

ISAAC LOW, *Chairman.*

LETTER FROM J. BROWN TO THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE IN BOSTON.

Montreal, March 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Immediately after the reception of your letters and pamphlets, I went to *Albany* to find the state of the Lakes, and established a correspondence with Dr. *Joseph Young*. I found the Lakes impassable at that time. About a fortnight after I set out for *Canada*, and arrived at *St. John's* in fourteen days, having undergone almost inconceivable hardships, the Lake *Champlain* being very high, the small streams and rivers, and great part of the Country for twenty miles each side the Lake, especially towards *Canada*, under water. The Lake *Champlain* was partly open and partly covered with dangerous ice, which breaking loose for miles in length, our crafts drove us against an island, and froze us in for two days, after which we were glad to foot it on land.

I delivered your letters to Messrs. *Thomas Walker* and *Blake*, and was very kindly received by the Committee of Correspondence at *Montreal*, from whom I received the following state of affairs in the Province of *Quebeck*. Governour *Carleton* is no great politician, a man of sour, morose temper, a strong friend to Administration and the late Acts of the *British* Parliament which respect *America*, particularly the *Quebeck* Bill; has restrained the liberty of the Press, that nothing can be printed without examination and license. Application has been made to him for printing the Address from the Continental Congress, and a refusal obtained. All the Troops in this Province are ordered to hold themselves in readiness for *Boston*, on the shortest notice. Four or five hundred snow-shoes are prepared, for what use they know not. Mr. *Walker* has wrote you about three weeks since, and has

been very explicit. He informs you that two regular Officers (Lieutenants) have gone off in disguise, supposed to be gone to *Boston*, and to make what discovery they can through the Country.

I have the pleasure and satisfaction to inform you that, through the industry and exertions of our friends in *Canada*, our enemies are not at present able to raise ten men for Administration. The weapons that have been used by our friends to thwart the constant endeavours of the friends of Government (so called) have been chiefly in *terrorem*. The *French* people are (as a body) extremely ignorant and bigoted, the Curates or Priests having almost the entire government of their temporal as well as spiritual affairs. In *La Prairie*, a small village about nine miles from *Montreal*, I gave my landlord a letter of address, and there being four *Curés* in the village praying over the dead body of an old Friar, the pamphlet was soon handed them, who sent a messenger to purchase several of them. I made them a present of each of them one, and was desired to wait on them in the Nunnery with the holy sisters. They appeared to have no disposition unfriendly toward the Colonies, but chose rather to stand neuter.

Two men from the *New-Hampshire Grants* accompanied me over the Lakes. The one was an old *Indian* hunter, acquainted with the *St. François Indians* and their language; the other was a captive many years among the *Caghnawaga Indians*, which is the principal of all the *Canadian Six Nations* and Western tribes of *Indians*, whom I sent to inquire and search out any intrigues carrying on among them. These men have this minute returned, and report that they were very kindly received by the *Caghnawaga Indians*, with whom they tarried several days. The *Indians* say they have been repeatedly applied to, and requested to join with the King's Troops to fight *Boston*, but have peremptorily refused, and still intend to refuse. They are a very simple, politick people, and say that if they are obliged, for their own safety, to take up arms on either side, that they shall take part on the side of their brethren, the *English* in *New-England*; all the chiefs of the *Caghnawaga* tribe being of *English* extraction, captivated in their infancy. They have wrote a friendly letter to Colonel *Israel Putnam*, of *Pomfret*, in *Connecticut*, in consequence of a letter which Colonel *Putnam* sent them, in which letter they give their brother *Putnam* assurance of their peaceable disposition. Several *French* gentlemen of *Montreal* have paid the Governour a visit, and offered him their services, as Officers, to raise a *Canadian Army*, and join the King's Troops. The Governour told them he could get Officers in plenty, but the difficulty consisted in raising Soldiers.

There is no prospect of *Canada* sending Delegates to the Continental Congress. The difficulty consists in this: should the *English* join in the Non-Importation Agreement, the *French* would immediately monopolize the *Indian* trade. The *French* in *Canada* are a set of people who know no other way of procuring wealth and honour but by becoming Court sycophants; and as the introduction of the *French* laws will make room for the *French* gentry, they are very thick about the Governour. You may depend that, should any movement be made among the *French* to join against the Colonies, your friends here will give the shortest notice possible, and the *Indians*, on their part, have engaged to do the same; so that you have no occasion to expect to be surprised without notice, should the worst event take place.

I have established a channel of correspondence through the *New-Hampshire Grants*, which may be depended on. Mr. *Walker's* letter comes by the hand of Mr. *Jeffiers*, once of *Boston*, now on his way thither, which, together with this, is a full account of affairs here. I shall tarry here some time, but shall not go to *Quebeck*, as there are a number of their Committee here.

One thing I must mention, to be kept as a profound secret. The Fort at *Ticonderoga* must be seized as soon as possible, should hostilities be committed by the King's Troops. The people on *New-Hampshire Grants* have engaged to do this business, and in my opinion they are the most proper persons for this job. This will effectually curb this Province, and all the Troops that may be sent here.



As the messenger to carry this letter has been waiting some time with impatience, I must conclude, by subscribing myself, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
J. BROWN.

To Mr. Samuel Adams, } Com'tee of Correspondence in Boston.  
Dr. J. Warren,

I am this minute informed that Mr. Carleton has ordered that no Wheat go out of the River until further order; the design is obvious.

#### LANCASTER COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Meeting of the Committee of Observation for Lancaster County, at Lancaster, on the 30th of March, 1775:

The Committee took into consideration, amongst other things, the conduct of *George Ross*, Esquire, one of the Representatives of this County, in the late interesting debate in the House of Assembly of this Province, respecting an answer to his Honour the Governour's Message, recommending a separate Petition from the Assembly to His Majesty for redress of grievances, and do unanimously approve of the active part taken by the said Mr. *Ross* in opposition to the measures proposed, as the same would tend to introduce a disunion amongst the different Colonies, and defeat the salutary regulations of the Continental Congress. And it being put to vote, it is

*Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That the thanks of this Committee be rendered to Mr. *Ross* and the other worthy Members of the honourable House, who have evinced their steady attention and virtuous adherence to the true welfare of their Country, by pursuing the only probable means of redress; in supporting and preserving entire the union of the Colonies, so absolutely necessary for the common safety of America. EBERHART MICHAEL, Clerk pro tem.

New-York, March 30, 1775.

The chiefs of the *Six Nations*, who, during the course of the winter, held several Congresses with Colonel *Guy Johnson*, the Superintendent, are, we hear, at present with him in consultation respecting the conduct of the several tribes to the Southward, and the steps to be further taken for preventing future quarrels in that quarter; to which end it is said they propose to use every means in their power for collecting their scattered people from amongst the several Nations, and fixing them in a place where they will be more immediately under the direction of their proper confederacy. And we are likewise informed that Colonel *Johnson*, who was greatly indisposed through cold he caught attending on one of the conferences, is now much better.

#### TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

NO. VII.

Boston, March 30, 1775.

*My Friends and Countrymen:*

Without any introduction, preface, or apology, I shall reassume the paper which was the subject of our examination in my last, beginning where we then ended. This last column of our writer is curious enough. I can hardly determine whether profound silence, smiling neglect, or a serious refutation would be its best answer.

When he tells us, with the air of an argument, "if allegiance be due to the person of the King, (he might have added, or to the *British* Crown,) he then appears in a new capacity, as King of *America*, or rather, in several new capacities, as King of *Massachusetts*, of *Rhode-Island*, of *Connecticut*, &c., &c." He might have still added, and if these Colonies are three thousand miles from the King's palace, from *Kew*, or his place of residence, wherever it be, he must govern them by Deputies or Viceroy. And what does all this amount to? Where is the difficulty? What is his inference? Is it to the point?

But if our connection with *Great Britain*, by the Parliament, be dissolved, the Colonies will have none among themselves, their having one and the same person for their Sovereign being no union at all; as he must govern each State by its own Parliament, which would pursue its own particular interest, notwithstanding any possible efforts of the King for the general good. Admitting all this, and as much more of the kind as our wanderer pleases, to be true, it is no evidence of our connection with the Parent

State. They may be good reasons why we should, by some means or other, especially at the present day, consolidate into a closer union among the Colonies, that a common interest might govern the whole. We might therefore pass it by as nothing to the purpose. But let us attend a moment to the state of facts. The only way to govern States, and direct their movements, is by the edict of a Monarch, or the laws of a Legislative Assembly. Such is the Constitution of Government in most of the *British* Colonies, that no law can be passed but by the consent of the King's representative, who, as he is appointed by His Majesty, and holds his office during his pleasure, observes such a line of conduct as is pointed out by his Royal master, or the mandate of his Minister. In all the Colonies, unless *Connecticut* is an exception, their laws are sent home and laid before His Majesty for his approbation, who has it in his power, within a limited time, entirely to disannul them. Considering this, and that the appointment of all executive officers is either mediately or immediately in the Crown, excepting in one or two of the Colonies; it is scarcely supposable that any one could pursue its own interest to the detriment of another; or that a course of conduct could be adopted inconsistent with the best welfare of the Parent State, so long as the powers of the Crown, and the checks of prerogatives are directed by constitutional motives.

The next argument of our substantial reasoner is, I believe, entirely new, and would have been so a thousand years hence, had not he, in the labours of invention, stumbled upon it; it is all his own; no one will envy him the honour of this mighty discovery: "If the King of *Great Britain* has really these new capacities, they ought to be added to his titles; and another difficulty will arise—the prerogatives of these new Crowns have never been defined or limited. Is the monarchical part of the several Provincial Constitutions to be nearer, or more remote from absolute monarchy, in an inverted *ratio* to each one's approaching to or receding from a Republick?" The Royal title is, King of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, &c." Where, then, will this *titular* argument carry us? What mighty revolutions, junctions, and disjunctions will it accomplish? If it proves any thing in the application of its inventor, it proves that all the Kings of *England*, from *Henry* the Sixth to the reigning Prince, were Kings of *France*. That *Ireland* and *Great Britain* are distinct States, in a different sense from what the Colonies are; and that *Henry* the Eighth and King *George* the Third (*God* bless him) were both Defenders of the Faith, though the one a Papist, and the other a Protestant. The prerogatives of the Crown are defined and limited with convenient certainty by our several Charters, the ends of Government being confined within the circle of doing good. Prerogatives are not, nor ever will be defined with mathematical nicety, "or inverted ratios;" humanity itself forbids it. The dividing line between day and night, light and darkness, has never been drawn, nor can it be. You may therefore as well argue from the want of such a line, the non-existence of light and darkness, as from indefinite prerogatives, the coalition of States.

But, says our pleasant amuser, if we are not subject to the supreme authority of the Mother Country, "where shall we find the *British* Constitution, that, we all agree, we are entitled to? We shall seek for it in vain in our Provincial Assemblies. Charter Governments have no more power than what is expressly granted by their several Charters. The first Charter granted to this Province did not empower the Assembly to tax the people at all. Our Council Boards are destitute of the authority of the House of Lords, and its members of the splendid appendages of peerage. Thus the supposition of our being independent States, or exempt from the authority of Parliament, destroys the very idea of our having a *British* Constitution." And further, "the argument drawn from the first principle of our being entitled to *English* liberties, destroys the principle itself; it deprives us of the Bill of Rights, and all the benefits resulting from the Revolution, of "*English* Laws and the *British* Constitution." Our patriots, says he, have been so intent upon building up *American* rights, that they have overlooked the rights of *Great Britain* and our own interest, and instead of proving that we are entitled to the same privileges that a subject in *Great Britain*



enjoys, they have been arguing away our most essential rights. Upon reading this paragraph I could not but wonder who it was "that suffered his pen to run so freely." Can it be an honest native of this Province, with such a stand in the community as to be able to see distinctly all its political manœuvres?

If our position be true, which I think we have abundantly confirmed, that previous to the Colonies receiving their several Charters they were in a natural state compared with *Great Britain*; it undeniably follows, that they possess every power or right that is not expressly given into the hands of the King by those Charters, they being the original source of power, it passing from them to the King, and *vice versa*.

Our first Charter enabled this Colony expressly "from time to time to make, ordain, and establish all manner of wholesome and reasonable orders, laws, statutes, ordinances, directions, and instructions necessary for the well ordering and governing the same." This most certainly included in it the right of making laws for taxation, as well as those for any other purpose.

In order to determine whether the argument drawn from the principle of our being entitled to *English* liberties, destroys itself, deprives us of the Bill of Rights, and all the benefits resulting from the Revolution, the *English* laws, and the *British* Constitution, it may be necessary to call to mind their chief excellencies, and their essential and principal characteristics.

The freedom of the *English* Constitution, says the great *Montesquieu*, which has directly for its end political liberty, consists in a certain distribution of the legislative, executive, and judiciary powers of the State, or the fundamental laws. The freedom of the subject consists in his standing in such a relation to this Constitution, and the laws originating from it, as to be secure in his person and property. In general, then, for the *Americans* to have *British* Constitutions they must have *free ones*: and they must stand in the same relation to them, as to their valuable and essential purposes, that the *Britons* form with theirs.

The King, who is the third branch in the Legislative Assembly, and the first magistrate in the Kingdom, is dependant on the people for his supplies. The Royal authority is a kind of invisible entity, a spring that ought to move easily, without noise and attrition, giving motion to the political machine, and having the publick good for its standing regulator. It can do no wrong. And if it should happen to get impaired, or deviate from foreign attractions, the effectual and constitutional remedy is *tight purse-strings*. To have then a *British* Constitution, is to have the third branch of our Legislative Assembly, and first officer in the Province, dependant on the people for his salary. The officers of the Crown in *England* must see to the legality of their conduct; if they violate the laws, even by Royal direction, they cannot take shelter behind the Throne, or plead in justification an illegal command. A Provincial Governour ought then to make the law of the land, and the fundamental principles of society, the rule of conduct, and not the mandate from a Minister of State. The House of Lords have a negative voice on all Acts of the Commons; so have our Council Board on all Bills of our Representatives. In fact they have, in substance, constitutionally, all the authority of the House of Peers.

A *British* Constitution knows of no laws binding upon its subjects but what were made, or consented to by themselves, or their substitutes, and what the legislators themselves are subject to, in common with every individual in the community: this is a grand security, a constitutional bulwark of liberty. "Liberty of man, in society, (says the immortal *Locke*,) is to be under no other legislative power but that established by consent in the commonwealth; nor under the dominion of any will, or restraint of any law, but what this legislative shall enact according to the trust reposed in it." "Freedom of men in Government, (says the same author,) is to have a standing rule to live by, common to all and every one in that society, and made by the legislative power erected in it; and not to be subject to the arbitrary will of another. This freedom from absolute arbitrary power is so necessary to, and closely joined with a man's preservation, that he cannot part with it but by what forfeits his preservation and life together."

Indulge me in adding a few more lines, from this con-

summate reasoner; lines which ought to be wrote in letters of gold, and sunk to the centre of every man's heart. "The supreme power cannot take from any man part of his property without his own consent; for the preservation of property being the end of Government, and that for which men enter into society, it necessarily supposes and requires that the people should have property, without which they must be supposed to lose that by entering into society, which was the end for which they entered into it: too gross an absurdity for any man to own. Men therefore in society, having property, they must have such a right to the goods which by the laws of the community are theirs, that no body hath a right to take their substance, or any part of it from them without their consent. Without this they have no property at all; for I have no property in that which another can by right take from me when he pleases, against my consent. Hence it is a mistake to think that supreme or legislative power of a community can do what it will, or dispose of the estates of the subject arbitrarily, or take any part of them at pleasure. For Government is constituted with this condition, and for this end, that men might have and secure their properties."

A *British* Constitution, then, which *Massachusettsensis* says is agreed on all hands we are entitled to, knows of no authority to make laws for more than three millions of subjects, but such as is erected among themselves, in which they are represented, to which the law makers themselves are subjected, and which is consistent with the enjoyment of private property. Compare, on the one hand, the assumed principles of Parliament and ministerial measures, with the above criterions, and on the other the natural and constitutional authority of our Assemblies, and draw your conclusions.

The fundamental laws of *England*, which are laws of *mercy*, and the precepts of reason, of improved artificial reason, are severally declarations of the rights of *Englishmen*. They are emanations from the Constitution, are blended with it, are a part of it. They principally and with vigilant jealousy regard and secure *life, liberty*, and property. Next to a man's life, (if not before it,) the nearest and dearest enjoyment is freedom; a deprivation of this being a sort of civil death, or *living misery*. *Anglicæ jura in omni casu libertati dant favorem*. Magna Charta, or the great Charter of the liberties of the Kingdom, which was made in the ninth year of *Henry* the Third, was declaratory of the fundamental laws and ancient liberties of the subject. By the twenty-ninth chapter of this revered piece of antiquity, no man can be *taken*, or imprisoned, dispossessed of his freehold, of his lands, of his liberties, (not even by Parliament,) but by the verdict of his *equals*, or by the law of the land,\* or condemned without lawful trial by a jury. A Statute of the 25 *Edw. I.* was a confirmation of this great Charter, by the sixth chapter of which no aid or tax can be taken on any occasion whatever, but by the common consent of the Realm, and for the common benefit thereof. By another foundation-statute in the 34 *Edw. I.* no tallage or aid can be taken or levied, but by *grant* and common consent of Parliament; tallage, according to Lord *Coke*, being a general word including all taxes, subsidies, &c., whatever; and Parliament, meaning an assembly, composed of the Representatives of the people. Within this Act are all new offices erected with new fees, or old offices with additional fees; for this is a tax upon the subject. By the famous *Habeas Corpus* Act, which is founded in common right, and on common law, which is the *birth-right* of every *Englishman*, no person can be sent prisoner out of *England* or *Wales* into *Scotland*, *Ireland*, *Jersey*, *Guernsey*, or to any other place beyond seas. The Bill of Rights, which passed the *British* Parliament upon the accession of *William* the Third to the throne, after reciting the declaration of the Lords and Commons, and the endeavours of *James* the Second to subvert and extirpate the Protestant religion, and the laws and liberties of the Kingdom, declares, among a number of other articles for vindicating and asserting the ancient rights and liberties of the people:

"4thly: That levying money without consent and grant of Parliament is illegal.

\* How much property is taken from the subject and given to the Crown by the operation of the unparalleled Port Bill, and that without any trial, pretensions of forfeiture, law, or justice.



"5thly: That it is the right of the subject to petition the King.

"6thly: That the raising or keeping a Standing Army within the Kingdom in time of peace, unless it be with consent of Parliament, is against law.

"7thly: That the subjects which are Protestants, may have arms for their defence, suitable to their conditions, and as allowed by law.

"13th: That for the redress of all grievances, and for the amending, strengthening, and preserving the laws, Parliament ought to be held frequently."

These articles, with others, are declared, claimed, and asserted to be the true, ancient, and indubitable rights and liberties of the people of the Kingdom; and so ought to be esteemed, adjudged, allowed, and taken. Accordingly it was enacted by the King, Lords, and Commons, that this Bill should stand, remain, and be the law of the Realm forever. None of those Acts gave any new rights to the subject; they are only declarative of what were their *un-resigned, inherent, ancient* rights as *Englishmen*, as *Britons*. If, then, we are entitled to *British* liberties, we are entitled to all those rights, privileges, and securities which we have been surveying. These are the essential qualities, the first principles, and capital characteristic of the *British* Government, the props and checks which have enabled it to stand so many ages the rude shocks of foreign invasions, domestick feuds, civil commotions, and of time itself; and would secure it from falling, but with the pillars of nature, were it not for the sappings of bribery and corruption at its roots, and the gnawings of ambition and avarice on its branches.

Therefore to enjoy the benefits resulting from the Revolution, the Bill of Rights, the *English* Laws, and the *British* Constitution, we can be taxed by no Assembly but our Provincial ones, in which we are represented; cannot be sent home for trial, according to a late law; can be dispossessed of our property only by the judgment of our Peers; can have Soldiers quartered upon us only by the consent of our General Courts, &c., &c., &c. This is the essence of the *British* Constitution. The appellations, Kings, Peers of the Realm, Knights of the Shire, &c., as well as Governours, Counsellors, and Representatives, are but secondary qualities, or mere formalities. The same Constitution in substance may appear under a thousand different forms, and the same valuable purposes be answered by them all. It is for the above substantial rights that our patriots (whom *America* we trust will hail, as *Rome* did *Cicero*, the fathers and saviours of their country) have been arguing. It is in defence of these social blessings that they have sacrificed their ease, their health, and their wealth, and now stand, when the bolts are just ready to burst upon our heads.

We are next told: "If there be any grievance, it does not consist in being subject to the authority of Parliament, but in our not having an actual representation in it; and this is withheld by the first principles of Government, and the immutable laws of nature." That is, to speak plain *English*, if one community is oppressed by another, the grievance does not consist in the oppressive act, but in the want of a right to act in the manner which is oppressive; and if this right is withheld by the immutable laws of nature, or by *God* himself, who is the Author of immutabilities in nature, these laws must be trampled upon and faulted, and the immaculate oppressor go free. Thus you see that grievances must be imputed to the *God* of Nature, and the rectitude of Heaven questioned, rather than the propriety and equity of ministerial measures disputed. The truth is, the grievance consists in being subject to the authority of a Parliament in which we are not and cannot be represented.

We are next presented with a passage from Governour *Hutchinson's* letters, which were sent to solicit the vengeance of a Kingdom upon this unhappy Colony, and to drag down the resentments of an incensed Court upon individuals. I shall not at present dispute upon the merits or demerits of the characters and measures which were the subject matter of these letters. "There must be an abridgment of what is called *English* liberties," is the famous sentence which we are told has rung through the Continent. We have already seen what *Locke*, *Montesquieu*, *Magna Charta*, *uncorrupted Parliaments*, the fun-

damental laws, the *Bill of Rights*, the *English Constitution*, the *Britons* and the *Americans* call *English liberties*. These, these are the liberties that must be abridged. I have no fondness for aspersions and calumnies of any kind. This gentleman possesses, and has exercised, undoubtedly, in various departments, some amiable private virtues and useful accomplishments. But such have been his notorious principles and exertions in many instances of publick conduct, that it must give pain to a good mind to be acquainted with his political character. I forbear; for I would not bring a railing accusation against the Devil himself, were I, like *Michael*, brought to contend with him.

After saying it is for the interest of the Colonists to continue part of the *British* Empire, and their duty to remain subject to the authority of Parliament, both of which are favourite objects of their wishes, upon the good old plan, which the experience of a century has proved to be mutually beneficial; our declaimer, in the full career of rhetorical flourish, suffers, I believe, the real principles of his practice to escape him, perhaps unguardedly, which gives a key to his refined system of politicks: "After many more centuries," says he, "have rolled away, long after they who are now building upon the stage of life shall have been received to the bosom of mother earth, the Colonies may have the balance of wealth, numbers, and power in their favour, and some future *George* may cross the *Atlantick* and rule *Great Britain* by an *American* Parliament." A most sublime scheme of Parliament! Unexceptionable principles of policy! The wealthy are to oppress and grind the faces of the comparatively indigent; the many to enslave the few; the powerful to tyrannize over the impotent; the great to devour the small; the strong the weak; and *Great Britain*, in her turn, to become the slaves of *America*, the longest sword being the great charter of liberties, and the invaluable standard of right and wrong. Is justice, is equity, are the rights of mankind such transportable wares, such floating machines? Are there no fixed, eternal, and immutable principles of political truth and social justice, notwithstanding the acute efforts of some moderns to explain them away, which cannot be violated, but by the imputation of guilt? guilt of the blackest dye, which will sooner or later fall with crushing weight on the culprit's head. Can the splendour of wealth always dazzle the eye of reason, or the intoxicating fumes of undelegated power steel the heart against the stings and lashes of natural conscience? Can superiority of numbers alter the laws of nature, and annihilate the never-failing principles of strict justice? Can the longest sword sooth the clamours and twings of a wounded spirit, or be plead in justification at the bar of an offended *God*? We are told by the poets, that the guilty are driven about and haunted by the burning torches of the furies. Presumptuous guilt is the fury, says *Cicero*, that torments; an evil conscience the phrensy that rages; and stinging reflection the terror that distracts. These, these are the incessant bosom fiends that haunt the guilty, that harrow up their souls, and will day and night avenge the injuries and oppressions of *innocent sufferers*.

Let me ask our courtly-tongue pad if he really thinks *Great Britain*, for centuries yet to come, will be such proficient in his sublime philosophy as to set supinely at ease and see herself stripped of her most valuable rights; rights, in defence of which she has been often arrayed in armour and in blood. Would she petition an *American* Parliament for redress of grievances? Would she acknowledge the right of deprivation so long as there was one man existing on the Island? Would not every drop of *English* blood boil into a fury? Would not every spark of *British* spirit kindle into a flame? Would it not burst forth like a conflagration, and sweep with the besom of destruction the laws enacted in an *American* Parliament, and their executors, off the stage of entities?

My abused, wretchedly abused countrymen, whilst we are complaining of injuries and oppressions from others, let us see to it that we keep good consciences void of offence ourselves. Let us injure no man's person or property; cautiously guard against all outrages, riots, mobs, or irregular and unnecessary risings, which the adversaries to the common cause may artfully attempt to lead or provoke us into. The cause we are engaged in is of too much dignity to be sullied by rashness, too important, too seriously important,



to be weakened by tumult and partial strife. Liberty receives strength and vigour from prudence and consideration. Justice, equity, and regularity, are her closest friends: she courts virtue as her bosom companion, and shuns vice as her dangerous enemy. Let us equally avoid the feverish fits of political heat and cold. Banish from our breasts all personal prejudices, private piques, narrow opinions, illiberal distinctions, and little unbecoming jealousies. Let us display a magnanimity proportionate to the importance and dangers of the struggle, cultivating harmony of sentiments and unanimity of counsels. Act discreetly, firmly, and unitedly. So long as men have hearts to feel, and blood and spirits to act, some irregularities and indiscretions will unavoidably take place under galling oppressions. These must be expected until vice is deep trodden to its centre, and frailties and human imperfections banished from the earth. I trust those among us will be few and exceeding small, such as, being viewed by an eye of candour, may be easily covered with the mantle of charity.

All *America* has recognised our cause, has become surety for our safety, and pointed out the process for redress. All the Colonies unitedly oppose. Opposition so respectable, so ample, never was known. Their unanimity and firmness was never exceeded. Let us then adopt, and religiously observe the recommendations of the grand *American* Congress, as the best rules of political conduct; hold their Association sacred; treat the enemies of our Country in the manner they prescribe; avoid, studiously avoid, every thing that may occasion a rupture and hasten on the last appeal; being completely equipped, and thoroughly prepared for every event, let us conduct peaceably and inoffensively. If we are attacked, and hostilities commenced against us, self-preservation, the first law of nature, must and ought to assume the reins, take the command, direct our conduct and govern the man. It does not oblige us to stand still until we are hewn dead at our enemies' feet.

FROM THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.

New-York, Friday, March 31, 1775.

This being the day appointed for taking the sense of the freeholders of the Town of *Jamaica*, on *Long-Island*, whether they would nominate a Deputy to meet Deputies from the other Counties, in the City of *New-York*, the 20th of *April*, for the purpose of electing Delegates to attend the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, the 10th of *May* next; a poll was opened, when the votes taken stood as follows:

|                  |   |   |   |   |    |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----|
| Against a Deputy | - | - | - | - | 94 |
| For a Deputy     | - | - | - | - | 82 |

#### PORTSMOUTH (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) ASSOCIATION.

We, the subscribers, considering the disorderly state of the times, and being deeply impressed with a sense of the inestimable value of constitutional liberty, think ourselves under an absolute necessity of associating together for the support of the wholesome laws of the land, and also for the preservation and protection of our persons and properties, which we find, at least as to many, have been threatened of late, and we do therefore solemnly engage to and with each other:—

1st. That we will maintain the laws of the land to the utmost of our power.

2d. That we will also defend and protect each other from mobs, riots, or any other unlawful attack whatsoever, and upon the first notice of any attempt upon either of the subscribers, each and every one of us will immediately repair to the person attacked, and him defend to the last extremity.

January 17, 1775.

TO THE SUBSCRIBERS OF THE ABOVE ASSOCIATION.

Portsmouth, March 31, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Take this Association under your mature consideration, as I hope some of you to be gentlemen of penetration and knowledge; and after a serious examination of the above Association, you will find, instead of supporting and maintaining the laws of the land, you are acting in direct violation thereof. As you say you will support and maintain the laws of the land, and as you have not

made any distinction between the Province Law and the late unconstitutional Acts, established by the King and Parliament, we must suppose you mean to support and maintain both. Permit me, gentlemen, to tell you, that your zeal overbalances your knowledge. Pray examine the Province law throughout, and all other law authorities that ever were held in repute by the *English* Nation, and you will not find one instance wherein they justify a number of men in combining together in any league whatsoever to support the law, but quite the reverse; for the law is supported in another manner; it is maintained by Magistrates and Officers, that are legally appointed as the laws direct, and not by a number of men combining together. You say you "will also defend and protect each other from mobs, riots, or any unlawful attack whatsoever; and that on the first notice of any attempt upon either of the subscribers, each and every one of you will immediately repair to the person attacked, and him defend to the last extremity."

Is this law, gentlemen? In what book and page will you find it? or what legislative body ever established such measures to support laws? Was it ever known in the King's Dominions for a number of men to assemble together in order to suppress any mob without authority; for so doing they are themselves a mob in the eyes of the law, to all intents and purposes; though I am convinced, if you had been prudent enough to have examined into the law of the Province, by which our lives and properties are protected, before you undertook to support it by mobs, as you have solemnly agreed to do, you would have been ashamed ever to have subscribed your names to such an unlawful combination.

Gentlemen, I beg leave to ask you what it is you are afraid of? Is it because you have honest hearts and act upon well-grounded principles? Is it because you stand strong for the Colonies and her liberties? Or is it because you strike against *American* freedom, and because you are trying to enforce the late unconstitutional Acts, and to plunge *America* into a state of slavery? Surely it must be guilt and remorse of conscience, and from thence springs fear; ah! fear, indeed, and reason enough for fear, for any person to sell his Country and the liberties thereof, for the sake of false honour and the poor pittance of sordid gain; he will live in fear and die in fear, and will run the greatest risk of being tormented hereafter. SPECTATOR.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED APRIL 1, 1775.

The behaviour of the *New-Yorkers* has raised the drooping spirits of the Ministry, and has been the cause of their pursuing their tyrannous measures towards *America* with tenfold vigour. A Bill is brought into the House by Lord *North*, to stop the trade of *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, and *South-Carolina*; it is determined, if you will not trade with *Great Britain*, that you shall not trade any where else. The friends of the Ministry declare publicly, every where, their intention of starving the four *New-England* Colonies. Ought not the Merchants of *Pennsylvania*, &c., &c., as they have but little time before the Act takes place that will prevent their sending them any provisions, to fill their Towns with bread, flour, and every thing else they may stand in need of? If it is true what the Ministry give out, that they have divided you, I yet hope, when *America* comes to see the insidious part Administration is taking to subdue her, that you will all unite as one man, and suffer every hardship rather than become the dupes of the present set of men who govern this Country. If you persevere in your Non-Importation and Non-Exportation Agreement, in less than twelve months you will become complete conquerors; if you break, then you become slaves, not to one tyrant, but to five hundred.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-HAVEN, TO MR. RIVINGTON, NEW-YORK, DATED APRIL 1, 1775.

Our Committee of Inspection have proceeded to very unwarrantable lengths; they ordered summonses to be served on several persons who had not been altogether complaisant enough to the mandates of the Congress. One of the Committee-men demanded of a loyal Constitutionalist: "What, do you drink Tea? Take care what you do, Mr.



C., for you are to know the Committee command the mob, and can in an instant let them loose upon any man who opposes their decrees, and complete his destruction." But upon his damning the King, the spirit of the gallant Royalist grew impatient, and he opened a battery of execrations upon Committees and Congresses of all denominations. This, of course, occasioned his being ordered before the whole *Sanhedrim*, where he is to be interrogated after the manner of the *Spanish* and *Portugal* inquisitions. To this complexion is *American* liberty, through the influence of the King-killing Republicans, already arrived. But the culprit is true game, and will prove as tough a sapling as ever these big wigs have tried their strength upon. If these choose to carry matters to extremity, now is the time to repel force by force, in defence of the constitutional liberty of the Colony; and be the strength of the disaffected what it may, the lives and fortunes of many in this Country will be freely hazarded in defence of King *George* the Third, and the laws of his Realm.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BOSTON, TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1775.

On *Thursday* last at daylight, the Troops beat to arms; five Regiments marched out with Earl *Percy* at their head; it was supposed they were going to *Concord*, where our Provincial Congress is now sitting. A quantity of provisions and warlike stores, I understand, is lodged there. Several expresses were immediately sent away to give notice of their marching. Important consequences were apprehended; but happily they only went a few miles out of *Boston* and returned again. The Town and Country were alarmed; many of the neighbouring country Towns immediately mustered, and got equipped for a march. It has given such uneasiness, that Committees from twelve of the near Towns have met upon it, and intend sending a Petition to the Provincial Congress representing this affair to them, desiring they would take up the matter, and remonstrate to the General upon it. The Troops went out of the common road; marched over the people's land—some where their grain was sown—and gardens; broke down their fences, walls, &c., and doing other injuries. It is thought such proceedings will bring on bad consequences, unless prevented. The late conduct of the Regulars, in tarring and feathering a countryman, headed by one of their Colonels and other Officers, and the spirited remonstrance it occasioned from the Selectmen of the Town of *Billerica* to General *Gage*, has made much talk.

The military spirit and resolution prevailing in this Province, in support of their liberties and Constitution, is astonishing. I hope we shall soon have some good news from home, to prevent any breaking out, which I begin to fear, especially if the troops continue their marchings out. I have heard that forty or fifty of the troops were so fatigued by their march on *Thursday*, that they could not keep up with their fellow soldiers on their return. It is said they are intending to go out again soon. The Provincial grand magazine of provisions and warlike stores is kept at *Worcester*, about forty-four miles from *Boston*.

COUNCIL OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

At a Council held at *Newbern*, the 2d of *April*, 1775,

Present: His Excellency the *Governour*, the Hon. *Jas. Hasell*, Hon. *John Rutherford*, Hon. *Lewis H. De Rossett*, Hon. *Alexander McCulloh*, *Samuel Strudwicke*, *Martin Howard*, and *Samuel Cornell*, Esquires.

His Excellency acquainted the Board that he had received His Majesty's commands to use his utmost endeavours to prevent the appointment of Deputies from this Colony, to attend another Congress intended to be held at *Philadelphia*, in the month of *May* next. And as a Convention is appointed by advertisement to meet to-morrow in *Newbern*, for the choice of such Delegates, His Excellency desired the advise of the Council what measures were proper to be taken to prevent the meeting of such unlawful assembly. The Board were unanimously of opinion that His Excellency had no other means than to issue a Proclamation to forbid the holding of the proposed Convention, and to declare that such proceedings would be highly of-

fensive to His Majesty; upon which His Excellency issued the following

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, I have received information that, in consequence of an advertisement signed *John Harvey*, Moderator, some time since published and dispersed through this Province, sundry persons have been elected by a small number of Freeholders in the several Counties, to meet in Convention in the Town of *Newbern*, on this day for the choice of Deputies to represent this Colony in a Congress intended to be held at the City of *Philadelphia*, in the month of *May* next: And whereas, the meeting of such Convention, and the declared purpose thereof will be highly offensive to the King, and dishonourable to the General Assembly of this Province, which is appointed to sit at this time for the despatch of publick business: I have, therefore, thought fit, with the advice of His Majesty's Council, to issue this Proclamation, hereby in the King's name to forbid the holding of the said Convention. And I do exhort all His Majesty's subjects, on their allegiance and on pain of incurring His Majesty's high displeasure, to withdraw themselves from the same, and to desist from all such illegal, unwarrantable, and dangerous proceedings.

Given, &c., the 3d of *April*, 1775.

JO. MARTIN.

God save the King.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Meeting of the Committee of *Gloucester* County, at the Court-House of the said County, on *Monday*, the 3d of *April*, 1775,

WARNER LEWIS, Esq., Chairman.

The Resolves of the Convention held at the Town of *Richmond* the 20th of *March*, 1775, were read and unanimously approved of.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Committee be presented to *Thomas Whiting* and *Lewis Burwell*, Esquires, our worthy Delegates, for their faithful discharge of the important trust reposed in them.

It being late before a sufficient number of members assembled to proceed upon business, the Committee adjourned to *Tuesday*, the 25th instant.

Committee Chamber, Philadelphia, April 3, 1775.

Whereas there is the greatest reason to believe that quantities of *East India* Goods have been purchased in *England* by *Holland* merchants and others, with a view to transport them to the *Dutch* Islands in the *West-Indies*, and from thence introduce them into the Ports of *North America*; and as such a traffick would not only be injurious to the trade and interest of this Country, but effectually counteract the Non-Importation Agreement which has been adopted, among other measures, for the common safety, this Committee therefore think it expedient thus publicly to caution their fellow-citizens against engaging in so pernicious a trade, and to declare that the utmost vigilance will be used to detect any persons who shall endeavour to import such *India* Goods from the *Dutch* Islands or elsewhere, and when detected their names will be published to the world, as delinquents and enemies to the liberties of *America*. By order of the Committee:

JOHN BENEZET, Assistant Secretary.

FREEHOLD (MONMOUTH COUNTY, N. J.) COMMITTEE.

April 3, 1775.

*Thomas Leonard*, Esquire, having been duly notified to appear this day before the Committee of Inspection for the Township of *Freehold*, in the County of *Monmouth*, *New-Jersey*, and answer to a number of complaints made against him, did not think proper to attend.

The Committee therefore proceeded, with care and impartiality, to consider the evidence laid before them, and were unanimously of opinion, that the said *Thomas Leonard*, Esquire, has, in a number of instances, been guilty of a breach of the Continental Association, and that, pursuant to the tenour of said Association, every friend to true freedom ought immediately to break off all connexion and dealings with him, the said *Leonard*, and treat him as a foe to the rights of *British America*.



*Ordered, That their Clerk transmit a copy of this judgment to the Press. Signed accordingly by*

NATH. SCUDDER, *Clerk.*

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN BOSTON, DATED APRIL 3, 1775.

I am really under the greatest anxiety for the fate of you and your distressed citizens, as such great quantities of military stores have been carried from hence to your Town, as well as boards, hay, straw, bran, harness, &c., &c., which, added to the three hundred horses that we are told are sent for to *Canada*, portends the worst of designs. It is suspected that the Troops really mean to take the field, and attempt to open the Courts under the new regulation, or make a forced march to *Worcester*. Others imagine that they will march out five or ten miles at a time, in order to compel you to commence hostilities first; whilst some think that nothing will be attempted till the Parliament has decided on the grand controversy. However, I am not clear but that orders to prosecute the Ministry's intentions, till the Parliament decides otherwise, may have been sent; and should your noble spirits be subdued, there is no doubt but the Parliament itself would justify such a conduct, though at the expense of much blood and treasure. For Heaven's sake be watchful, as all, under *God*, depends on your conduct at this time. A vessel with nails, boards, &c., for the Army, is ashore at *Hell-Gate*.

DR. JOSEPH WARREN TO ARTHUR LEE.

Boston, April 3, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 21st of *December* came opportunely to hand, as it enabled me to give the Provincial Congress, now sitting at *Concord*, a just view of the measures pursued by the tools of the Administration; and effectually to guard them against that state of security into which many have endeavoured to lull them. If we ever obtain a redress of grievances from *Great Britain*, it must be by the influence of those illustrious personages, whose virtue now keeps them out of power. The King never

will bring them into power, until the ignorance and phrensy of the present Administration make the Throne on which he sits shake under him. If *America* is an humble instrument of the salvation of *Britain*, it will give us the sincerest joy; but if *Britain* must lose her liberty, she must lose it alone. *America* must and will be free. The contest may be severe—the end will be glorious. We would not boast, but we think, united and prepared as we are, we have no reason to doubt of success, if we should be compelled to the last appeal; but we mean not to make that appeal until we can be justified in doing it in the sight of *God* and man. Happy shall we be if the Mother Country will allow us the free enjoyment of our rights, and indulge us in the pleasing employment of aggrandizing her.

The members for the Continental Congress are almost all chosen by the several Colonies. Indeed, if any Colony should neglect to choose members, it would be ruinous to it; as all intercourse would immediately cease between that Colony and the whole Continent.

The First Brigade of the Army marched about four miles out of Town three days ago, under the command of a Brigadier General, (Earl *Percy*,) but as they marched without baggage or artillery, they did not occasion so great an alarm as they otherwise would. Nevertheless great numbers, completely armed, collected in the neighbouring Towns; and it is the opinion of many, that had they marched eight or ten miles, and attempted to destroy any magazines, or abuse the people, not a man of them would have returned to *Boston*. The Congress immediately took proper measures for restraining any unnecessary effusion of blood; and also passed proper resolves respecting the Army, if they should attempt to come out of the Town with baggage and artillery.

I beg leave to recommend to your notice Mr. *Dana*, the bearer hereof, (a gentleman of the law,) a man of sense and probity, a true friend to his Country, of a respectable family and fortune.

May Heaven bless you, and reward your labours with success. I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient humble servant,

JOS. WARREN.

To *Arthur Lee*, Esq., *London*.

NORTH-CAROLINA ASSEMBLY.

*North-Carolina, ss.*

At an Assembly begun and held at *Newbern* the fourth day of *April*, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* the Third, by the grace of *God* of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, etc., and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, being the first session of this present Assembly:

The Clerk of the Crown having certified that the following persons were duly elected, and returned Representatives for the respective Counties and Towns, viz:

ANSON County.—(None.)

BEAUFORT.—*Roger Ormond, Thomas Respass*, Jun.

BERTIE.—*John Johnston, David Stanley*.

BLADEN.—*William Salter, James White*.

BRUNSWICK.—*Robert Howe, John Rowan*.

BUTE.—*William Person, Green Hill*.

CAVEN.—*James Coor, Lemuel Hatch*.

CARTERET.—*William Thompson, Solomon Shephard*.

CHOWAN.—*Samuel Johnston, Thomas Oldham, Thomas Benbury, Thomas Jones, Thomas Hunter*.

CURRITUCK.—*Thomas Macknight, Francis Williamson, Solomon Perkins, Samuel Jarvis, Nathan Poyner*.

CUMBERLAND.—*Farquard Campbell, Thomas Rutherford*.

CHATHAM.—(None.)

DOBBS.—*Richard Caswell, William McKinnie*.

DUPLIN.—*Thomas Gray, Thomas Hicks*.

EDGEcombe.—(None.)

GRANVILLE.—*Thomas Person, Memucan Hunt*.

GUILFORD.—(None.)

HALIFAX.—*Nicholas Long, Benjamin McCulloch*.

HERTFORD.—*William Murfree, George Wynns*.

JOHNSTON.—*Needham Bryan, Benjamin Williams*.

MARTIN.—(None.)

MECKLENBURGH.—(None.)

NEW-HANOVER.—*John Ashe, William Hooper*.

NORTHAMPTON.—*Allen Jones, Jephtha Atherton*.

ORANGE.—*Ralph McNair, Thomas Hart*.

ONslow.—*William Cray, Henry Rhodes*.

PASQUOTANK.—*Jonathan Herring, Isaac Gregory, Edward Everigin, Joseph Reding, Joseph Jones*.

PERQUIMANS.—*John Harvey, Benjamin Harvey, Andrew Knox, Thomas Harvey, John Whedbee*.

PITT.—*John Simpson, Edward Salter*.

ROWAN.—*Griffith Rutherford, Matthew Lock*.

SURRY.—(None.)

TRYON.—*William Moore, William Alston*.

TYRRELL.—*Benj. Spruill, Jos. Spruill, Jeremiah Fraser*.

WAKE.—(None.)

For the Town of BATH.—*William Brown*.

BRUNSWICK.—*Parker Quince*.

CAMPBELTON.—*Robert Rowan*.

EDENTON.—*Joseph Hewes*.

HALIFAX.—(None.)

HILLSBOROUGH.—*Francis Nash*.

NEWBERN.—(None.)

SALISBURY.—(None.)

WILMINGTON.—*Cornelius Harnett*.

Pursuant to which the following persons appeared, viz:

|                  |                     |                      |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| John Harvey,     | Farquard Campbell,  | Richard Caswell,     |
| Andrew Knox,     | Thomas Rutherford,  | Thomas Macknight,    |
| Joseph Hewes,    | Jeremiah Fraser,    | Solomon Perkins,     |
| Samuel Johnston, | James Coor,         | Samuel Jarvis,       |
| Thomas Oldham,   | Lemuel Hatch,       | Nathan Poyner,       |
| Thomas Benbury,  | Thomas Person,      | Griffith Rutherford, |
| Thomas Jones,    | Memucan Hunt,       | Cornelius Harnett,   |
| Thomas Hunter,   | Francis Nash,       | Robert Howe,         |
| Isaac Gregory,   | John Simpson,       | John Ashe,           |
| Joseph Jones,    | Edward Salter,      | William Hooper,      |
| John Campbell,   | William Thompson,   | Ralph Macnair,       |
| John Johnston,   | Solomon Shephard,   | William Person,      |
| David Stanley,   | Nicholas Long,      | Green Hill,          |
| Thomas Hicks,    | Benjamin McCulloch, | Allen Jones,         |
| William Salter,  | William Cray,       | Jephtha Atherton,    |
| James White,     | Henry Rhodes,       | George Wynns.        |



The Clerk of this House waited on his Excellency the Governour, and acquainted him that a sufficient number of Members to constitute a House were met, and to desire his Excellency to issue a Commission, and appoint some of the members of Council to see them qualified.

Being returned, brought for answer that his Excellency would appoint two of the Members accordingly.

The Honourable *Lewis H. De Rosset*, and *Alexander McCulloch*, Esquires, two of the members of Council came to the House; and the above forty-eight Members were qualified, by taking the oaths by law appointed for the qualification of publick officers, and repeating and subscribing the test.

Mr. *Caswell* and Mr. *Macknight* waited on his Excellency the Governour to inform him that the Members had qualified, and that they waited to receive his commands.

Being returned, reported to the House that his Excellency would send a Message to the Members to wait on him.

Received from his Excellency the Governour a verbal message by his Secretary, desiring the attendance of the Members in the Palace at 12 o'clock.

The Members waited on his Excellency the Governour in the Palace, when he was pleased to direct that they return to the House and make choice of a Speaker.

The Members being returned to the House, Mr. *Samuel Johnston* proposed and set up *John Harvey*, Esquire, who was unanimously chosen Speaker, and placed in the chair accordingly.

On motion, *Ordered*, Mr. *Knox* and Mr. *McCulloch* wait on his Excellency the Governour, and acquaint him the House had made choice of a Speaker, and desire to know when they shall wait on his Excellency to present him.

Being returned, informed the House his Excellency would send a message when he would receive them.

Received from his Excellency the Governour a verbal message by his Secretary, requiring the immediate attendance of the House in the Palace.

The House waited on his Excellency the Governour in the Palace, and presented their Speaker, whom his Excellency was pleased to approve of.

Then Mr. Speaker requested his Excellency to confirm the rights and privileges of the House, and that no mistake or error of his might be imputed to the House; to which his Excellency was pleased to answer, he would support the House in all their just rights and privileges, and then made a Speech to His Majesty's Council and this House.

Mr. Speaker with the House being returned, Mr. Speaker reported that his Excellency the Governour had made a Speech to the Council and this House, a copy of which, to prevent mistake, he had obtained, and laid the same before the House.

Then, on motion, *Ordered*, the said Speech be read.

Read the same, and is as follows, to wit:

*Gentlemen of His Majesty's Honourable Council,  
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

I have now met you in General Assembly, in hopes that, dismissing every cause of private dissention from your minds you will calmly, unitedly, and faithfully apply yourselves to the discharge of the high and important office of legislation, in which you bear so great a share, according to the Constitution of this Country, that calls upon you for relief at this time in a most peculiar and pressing manner.

I look, gentlemen, with the extremest horror and concern to the consequences of the violent and unjustifiable proceedings in some of His Majesty's Colonies of this Continent, where in many places the innocent, unwary, and ignorant part of the people have been cruelly betrayed into measures highly inconsistent with their duty and allegiance to our most gracious Sovereign and the State, that tend immediately to involve them in the most embarrassing difficulties and distresses, and which, if pursued, must inevitably precipitate these Colonies from their present unparalleled state of prosperity into a train of miseries most dreadful to contemplate, whence ages of time will not redeem them to their now envied felicity. You, gentlemen, are bound by your duty to the King, to the State, and to this People, as well as I, by mine, to obviate the contagion

of these evil examples in this Country, and to defend it, if possible, from the ruin and distraction to which they plainly lead.

I see with infinite concern the unhappy influence they have already had among us. The meetings to which the people have been excited, the appointment of Committees, the violences these little unrestrained and arbitrary tribunals have done to the rights of His Majesty's subjects, the flagrant and unpardonable insults they have offered to the highest authorities of the State, by some of their acts, which have been made publick; and the stop that has been put in some of the Counties to the regular course of justice, in imitation of the unwarrantable measures taken in other Colonies, but too plainly evince their baneful progress here, and loudly demand the most effectual exertion of your restraining and correcting powers.

You are now, gentlemen of the Assembly, by your duty to yourselves and to your constituents, most peculiarly called upon to oppose a meeting of Delegates, which the people have been invited to choose, and who are appointed to assemble at this very time and place in the face of the Legislature. This illegal meeting, pursuant to my duty to the King and to the Constitution of this Country, and from regard to your dignity and the just rights of the people, I have counteracted, and I shall continue to resist it by every means in my power. What can this mean, gentlemen? Are you not the only lawful Representatives of the people in this Country, and competent to every legal purpose? Will you, then, submit to see your constituents misled, to violate their dearest privileges by wounding your dignity, and setting up Representatives derogatory to your just power and authority? This, gentlemen, is an insult to you of so violent a nature that it appears to me to demand your every possible discouragement, for its evident tendency is to excite a belief in the people that they are capable of electing Representatives of superior powers to the Members of your House; which, if it can possibly obtain, must lead to obvious consequences, to the destruction of the essence, if not the very being of an Assembly in this Province, and finally to the utter dissolution and overthrow of its established happy Constitution.

This, gentlemen, among others I have before mentioned, is one of the fatal expedients employed in some of the other Colonies, under the influence of factious and wicked men, intent upon promoting their own horrid purposes at the hazard of their Country's ruin. I hope they have been adopted here more from a spirit of imitation than ill principles, and that you, clearly discerning the mischiefs with which they are pregnant, will heartily concur with me in opposing dawnings of so dangerous a system.

As an object of the greatest consequence to all the Colonies, I would recommend it to your first attention to employ your utmost care and assiduity to remove those false impressions, by which the engines of sedition have laboured to effect (but too successfully) a most unnatural division between the Parent State and these Colonies, which, under her protecting, indulgent, fostering care, have attained to a degree of prosperity beyond all example. The basest arts have been practised upon the innocent people, and they have been blindly led to partake in guilt, to which their hearts are confessedly averse; and thus, step by step, they will be seduced from their duty, and all the bonds of civil society will be destroyed, unless timely remedies are applied. This, gentlemen, is a melancholy prospect, that must seriously alarm every good subject, every humane, every honest man; and it will be your duty, as guardians of the constitutional rights of the people, vigorously to oppose proceedings so manifestly subversive of their freedom and happiness.

Be it your care, then, gentlemen, to undeceive the people; to lead them back from the dangerous precipice to which an ill spirit of faction is urging them, to the paths of their duty; set before them the sacred tie of allegiance, by which, as subjects, they are bound to the State; inform them of the reciprocal benefits which their strict observance thereof entitles them to; and warn them of the danger to which they must expose their lives and properties, and all that they hold dear, by revolting from it.

The frequent occasions you have had, in your several capacities as Members of the Legislature and Magistrates, most solemnly to swear this allegiance, which is an implied



duty upon every subject of every State, where it is not professed and declared, must have brought it home to your own consideration, and you are therefore certainly well qualified to explain the obligatory nature and importance of it to the people. They will naturally look up to you for a rule of conduct in these wild and distempered times; and I have no doubt that, taught by your example, they will immediately return to their duty and obedience to the laws, and gladly free themselves from that tyranny which ill-directed zeal and lawless ambition, by all the arts of misrepresentation and delusion, are courting them to submit to. I have the high satisfaction to tell you, gentlemen, that I have already received signal proofs of the steady loyalty and duty of a great number of the good people of this Province, and I have the fullest assurance that many more will follow their laudable example. These, gentlemen, are favourable presages, upon which I congratulate you, and which I persuade myself your prudent conduct will improve to the honour and advantage of your Country.

The state of the Colonies is at this time the subject of the deliberations of the grand Council of the Nation, from whose wisdom and justice they have every thing to expect consistent with the principles of the *British* Constitution and the general welfare of the Empire, while they continue in the duty they owe to it. The confessed generous character of *Britain*, and the magnanimity of our most gracious Sovereign, who, through the whole course of his reign, has uniformly made the happiness of his people the object of all his views, and the rule of all his actions, insures it to them. On this great Arbitrer of *British* rights it therefore becomes you to rely with the fullest confidence, and to deserve, by a dutiful behaviour, its favourable regard. If a precedent could be wanting, as I cannot suppose it is, to induce to such right conduct, one of the most respectable of the Colonies affords it to you; and you will see, without question, how highly improper it will be, at such a conjuncture, to countenance any measures of a contrary nature. If the people of this Colony have any representations to make to the supreme powers of the State, you are the only legal and proper channel of their applications, and through you they may be assured of every attention to their dutiful petitions. You, gentlemen, I dare say, esteem too highly the rights of the people committed to your guardianship, and know too well the limits of your own power, to consign them to any other hands that must only be disqualified to serve the people, but will infallibly divest you of that dignity and consequence which belong to you as their lawful Representatives.

Let me hope, gentlemen, that, laying aside all passion and prejudice, you will calmly, and with one accord, pursue such a line of conduct in these points of general concern to *America*, as may be most likely to heal the unhappy differences now subsisting between *Great Britain* and her Colonies. Consider how great an opportunity you now have to serve, to save your Country, to manifest your loyalty to the best of Kings, and to demonstrate your attachment to the *British* Constitution—the most free, the most glorious and happiest political system in the whole world. If you consult but for a moment your own interest and welfare, and the happiness of this people, I cannot be disappointed in my hopes that you will avail yourselves of the occasion. Be it your glory, gentlemen, to record to latest posterity, that at a time when the monster Sedition dared to rear his impious head in *America*, the people of *North-Carolina*, inspired with a just sense of their duty to their King and Country, and animated by the example of its Legislature, stood among the foremost of his Majesty's subjects, to resist his baneful snares and to repel the fell invader of their happiness. Thus, gentlemen, you may redeem your sinking Country to prosperity; thus you will acquire to yourselves immortal honour and renown: while a contrary conduct must inevitably plunge this once happy land in horrors beyond all imagination; whence nothing can recover it but the generous hand of *Britain*, interposed to save you from your own destruction. Thus, gentlemen, I have set before you, upon principles of your duty to the Constitution and the welfare of your Country, the necessity of discouraging, to the utmost of your power, the illegal meetings into which the innocent people have been betrayed, and the unlawful establishments and appointments they have been led to give their sanction to. I have also stated

to you the more especial obligations you lie under to prevent that meeting to which the people have been invited to send Deputies here at this time, and I have fully admonished you of the ruinous consequences of a different conduct. In addition to these powerful motives, gentlemen, I am authorized to say, that the unwarrantable measure of appointing Delegates to attend a Congress at *Philadelphia*, now in agitation, will be highly offensive to the King, and this, I cannot doubt, will be reason with you of the greatest force to oppose so dangerous a step.

Your next attention, gentlemen, is due to the particular state of this Country, that calls for your strictest regard.

The exhausted state of the publick Treasury, the large demands upon it that remain unsatisfied, the dues of publick officers that are unpaid, call loudly for your attention to the ill condition of publick credit and the finances of this Country, and I trust you will not fail to pay that regard which is due to points of so great importance. I heartily wish, with regard to matters of finance and modes of taxation, as well as to the regulation of the Treasury, to draw your attention to the admirable systems of *New-York* and *Maryland*, in which last Colony publick credit is established upon the firmest basis; but the example of every other Colony, with regard to the latter article, I am sorry to say it, is better than has been yet adopted here.

You have now, gentlemen, a fair opportunity to restore to this Province, by a law for the permanent establishment of Courts, that great store of political blessings, arising from a due and regular administration of justice, of which I have long lamented to see it deprived. I have received His Majesty's determination upon the proposed regulations with regard to proceedings by attachment, which have been the apparent cause of this misfortune. This I shall communicate to you in the course of your session, and I hope it will obviate all the difficulties that have occurred on this subject. When the establishment of Courts shall come under your consideration, you cannot fail to see the necessity of making provision for the Judges, and the propriety of that provision being adequate and honourable, and suitable to offices of so high dignity and importance.

*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

I cannot doubt that you will see the same necessity for supporting the usual establishment of *Fort Johnston*, founded upon the same principles of public utility that have induced you to maintain it during so long a series of years.

*Gentlemen of His Majesty's Honourable Council,*

*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

I am sensible that the advanced season of the year requires your attendance on your domestick affairs, and I shall therefore be glad to find that your unanimity in the conduct of the very important business you are now met upon, affords me opportunity to conclude your session speedily and happily; on my part, I do assure you, nothing shall be wanting to promote these good ends. JO. MARTIN.

Newbern, 4th April, 1775.

Then, on motion, *Ordered*, His Excellency the Governour's Speech lie for consideration till to-morrow morning.

On motion, *James Green, Jr.*, is appointed Clerk to this House; *James Glasgow*, Assistant; *Benjamin Fordham*, Mace Bearer; *Francis Lynaugh* and *Evan Swann*, Door-keepers.

*Mr. Jonathan Herring*, one of the Members for *Pasquotank* County, appeared.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

—  
Wednesday, 5th April, 1775.

The House met according to adjournment.

This House being informed that *Mr. Isaac Edwards*, who was elected Member for the Town of *Newbern*, is dead:

On motion, *Ordered*, The following Message be sent to his Excellency the Governour, to wit:

*To His Excellency JOSIAH MARTIN, Esquire, Captain-General, Governour, &c., &c.*

SIR: This House having been informed that *Mr. Isaac Edwards*, who was elected Member for the Town of *Newbern*, is dead, therefore desire your Excellency will be



pleased to direct the Clerk of the Crown to issue a writ for electing a Member for the said Town, to sit and vote in this present Assembly.

JOHN HARVEY, *Speaker*.

Sent by Mr. Hatch and Mr. Coor.

The House being informed that the Returning Officer of Guilford County had neglected to make due return of the Writ of Election for the said County, whereby one of the Members is deprived of a seat in this House,

On motion, *Ordered*, That the said Officer be sent for and brought in custody to the Bar of this House, to answer for such his conduct.

The Order of the Day being read, *Resolved*, The House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow morning, to take under consideration His Excellency the Governour's Speech.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

Thursday, 6th April, 1775.

The House met according to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Ashe, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Thos. Rutherford, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Sheppard, Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Caswell, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Hill, Mr. Thomas Jones, and Mr. Gregory, be a Committee of Privileges and Elections, and that they have power to send for persons, papers, and records, as the case may require.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Harnett, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Knox, Mr. Cray, Mr. Samuel Johnston, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Howe, Mr. John Campbell, Mr. MacKnight, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Macnair, and Mr. Long, be a Committee of Public Accounts; and that Mr. Ashe, Mr. Oldham, Mr. John Johnston, Mr. Allen Jones, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Thomas Jones, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Farquard Campbell, Mr. Benbury, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Edward Salter, Mr. Fraser, Mr. William Person, and Mr. Jarvis, be a Committee of Public Claims, in conjunction with such of the Members of His Majesty's honourable Council as they shall think fit to appoint, and that the following Message be sent to the Council, to wit:

*Gentlemen of His Majesty's Honourable Council:*

This House have appointed Mr. Harnett, Mr. Hewes, Mr. Knox, Mr. Gray, Mr. Samuel Johnston, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. John Campbell, Mr. MacKnight, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Macnair, and Mr. Long, on the Public Accounts; and Mr. Ashe, Mr. Oldham, Mr. John Johnston, Mr. Allen Jones, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Thomas Jones, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Farquard Campbell, Mr. Benbury, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Edward Salter, Mr. Fraser, Mr. William Person, and Mr. Jarvis, be a Committee of this House to settle and allow Public Claims, in conjunction with such of your Honours as you shall think fit to appoint.

JOHN HARVEY, *Speaker*.

Sent by Mr. McCulloch and Mr. Gregory.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. William Salter, Mr. William Person, Mr. Howe, Mr. Stanley, Mr. Coor, Mr. Sheppard, Mr. Poyner, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Farquard Campbell, Mr. Caswell, Mr. Thomas Person, Mr. Wynns, Mr. Long, Mr. Ashe, Mr. Atherton, Mr. Francis Nash, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Knox, Mr. Joseph Jones, Mr. Edward Salter, Mr. Griffith Rutherford, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Hewes, and Mr. Harnett, be a Committee of Propositions and Grievances.

The Order of the Day being read, for taking into consideration his Excellency's Speech,

On motion, *Resolved*, The House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House accordingly, and chose Mr. Andrew Knox Chairman, and after some time spent therein, came to several Resolutions.

Then Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. Chairman reported that the Committee had taken under consideration his Excellency the Governour's Speech, and came to several Resolutions thereon, to wit:

*Resolved*, That the Committee to be appointed to prepare an Address, in answer to the Governour's Speech, be instructed to express that the Assembly of North-Carolina have the highest sense of the allegiance due to the King;

the oath so repeatedly taken by them to that purpose, made it unnecessary for them to be reminded of it. That it has always been their pleasure to express, and will ever be so to testify by their actions, that allegiance which, however, they profess to owe to His Majesty as their Sovereign, who was by the same Constitution which established that allegiance and enjoined that oath (happily for his subjects) solemnly bound to protect them in all their just rights and privileges, by which a reciprocal duty became incumbent upon both.

That it is the undoubted right of His Majesty's subjects to petition for a redress of grievances, and to remonstrate against them either in separate or collective capacity, and that in order to agree upon such petition or remonstrance, they have a right to collect themselves together; and while they conduct themselves in a peaceable and orderly manner, they deserve not to be called an illegal meeting, or to have the imputation of sedition cast upon them. The Assembly, therefore, can never deem the meeting of the present Convention at Newbern, in order to appoint Delegates to petition for a redress of grievances, an illegal meeting, nor conceive it derogatory to the power and authority of the Assembly, or wounding to its dignity; and that though the Assembly are the legal Representatives, and perhaps adequate to every purpose of the people, yet the frequent unexpected prorogations, some of them proclaimed so late that many of the Members did not receive information thereof till their arrival in Town, gave the people no reason to expect that the Assembly would be permitted to meet till it was too late to send Delegates to the Continental Congress at Philadelphia; a measure which America in general, and this Province in particular, thought absolutely necessary, and which, as it is the full sense of our constituents, we, as their Representatives, highly approve.

That the Assembly are entirely ignorant of, and do not believe that any base arts have been practised upon the people of this Colony, in order to lead them from their duty; but that the steps they have taken have resulted from a full conviction that the Parliament of Great Britain had, by a variety of oppressive and unconstitutional proceedings, made the measures they pursued absolutely necessary. That therefore his Excellency's asserting that such measures have been owing to base arts practised upon them by wicked and designing men, is not only an injustice done to the people, but manifestly tends to weaken the influence which the united petitions of His Majesty's American subjects might otherwise have upon their Sovereign for a redress of those grievances of which they have such a right to complain, and that therefore the Committee be directed, in the strongest terms, to refute such assertion.

That the House would feel inexpressible concern at the information given them by his Excellency of his being authorized to say that the appointing Delegates to attend the Congress now in agitation would be highly offensive to the King, had they not recently received undoubted information that His Majesty has been pleased to receive, very graciously, the united Petitions of his American subjects, addressed to him by the Continental Delegates lately convened at Philadelphia; and that, therefore, they can never suppose that a similar application to the Throne will give offence to His Majesty, or prevent his receiving any petition for redress of grievances which his subjects have a right to prefer, either separately or unitedly.

That the Committee appointed by the people in the several Counties and Towns in this Colony, in consequence of the Resolutions of the Continental Congress held at Philadelphia, were the result of necessity, not choice, as the only means left them to prevent, as far as in them lay, the operation of those oppressive and unconstitutional Acts of Parliament, endeavoured to be imposed upon America by Great Britain; and that the Assembly have not been informed of any steps taken by those Committees but such as they were compelled to take from that necessity, and for the salutary purpose aforesaid.

That the Assembly would be glad to receive information of any marks of loyalty to the King, given his Excellency by the inhabitants of this Colony, had not the manner in which that information was conveyed seemed to be intended to establish a belief that a great number of the people of this Province were disaffected to their Sovereign. That, therefore, the House instruct their Committee to do justice



to the good people of this Colony, whose Representatives they are, by bearing testimony to the world in their answer to the Governour's Speech, that His Majesty has no subjects more loyal than the inhabitants of *North-Carolina*, nor more ready, at the expense of their lives and fortunes, to protect and support his person, crown, and dignity. That if, however, by the signal proofs his Excellency speaks of, he means those Addresses lately published in the *North-Carolina Gazette*, said to be presented to his Excellency, his congratulations thereupon can in no way be acceptable to the Assembly, but from the consideration that in so numerous a Colony so few could be found weak enough to be seduced from their duty, and prevailed upon by the base arts of wicked and designing men, to adopt measures so contrary to the sense of all *America*, and so destructive of those just rights and privileges it was their duty to support.

That the Committee be instructed, also, to express the warmest attachment to our sister Colonies in general, the highest compassion for the sufferings of the Town of *Boston* in particular, and the fixed and determined resolution of this Colony to unite with the other Colonies in every effort to maintain those rights and liberties, which, as subjects of a *British King*, they possess, and which it is a duty they owe to posterity, to hand down to them unimpaired.

*Resolved*, That the Committee be instructed to account for the deficiency of the Public Funds.

That the Committee express their sense of the necessity of the establishment of Courts of Justice, and their willingness to adopt any plan which they may judge adapted to the circumstances of the Country.

That the Committee be instructed to express that the exhausted state of the Finances, and the particular circumstances of the Country render it inconvenient and unnecessary any longer to support the establishment of *Fort Johnston*.

On motion, *Ordered*, The foregoing Resolutions be instructions to the Committee to be appointed to draw up the Address in answer to his Excellency the Governour's Speech.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Howe*, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Johnston*, Mr. *Hewes*, and Mr. *Macknight*, be appointed a Committee to prepare an Address in answer to his Excellency the Governour's Speech, and report the same to the House for approbation.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

— Friday, 7th April, 1775.

The House met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Howe*, from the Committee appointed to prepare an Answer to his Excellency's Speech; informed the House they had prepared the same, which was read.

On motion, *Ordered*, The same stand as the Address of this House: and is as follows, to wit:

*To His Excellency JOSIAH MARTIN, Esquire, Captain-General, Governour, &c., &c.*

SIR: We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Members of the Assembly of *North-Carolina*, have taken into consideration your Excellency's Speech at the opening of this Session.

We met in General Assembly with minds superiour to private dissension, determined calmly, unitedly, and faithfully to discharge the sacred trust reposed in us by our Constituents. Actuated by sentiments like these, it behooves us to declare that the Assembly of this Colony have the highest sense of their allegiance to the King of *Great Britain*, to whom alone, as our constitutional Sovereign, we acknowledge allegiance to be due, and to whom we so cheerfully and repeatedly have sworn it, that to remind us of the oath was unnecessary; this allegiance all past Assemblies have, upon every occasion, amply expressed, and we, the present Representatives of the people, shall be always ready by our actions with pleasure to testify; sensible, however, that the same Constitution which establishes that allegiance and enjoins the oath in consequence of it, hath bound Majesty under as solemn obligations to protect subjects inviolate in all their just rights and privileges, wisely intending, by reciprocal dependance, to secure the happiness of both.

We contemplate with a degree of horror the unhappy state of *America*, involved in the most embarrassing difficulties and distresses, by a number of unconstitutional invasions of their just rights and privileges, by which the inhabitants of the Continent in general, and this Province in particular, have been precipitated into measures extraordinary, perhaps, in their nature, but warranted by necessity, from whence, among many other measures, the appointment of Committees in the several Towns and Counties took its birth, to prevent, as much as in them lay, the operation of such unconstitutional encroachments; and the Assembly remain unconvinced of any steps taken by these Committees but such as they were compelled to take for that salutary purpose.

It is not to be controverted, that His Majesty's subjects have a right to petition for a redress of grievances, or to remonstrate against them; and as it is only a meeting of the people, that their sense respecting such petition and remonstrance can be obtained, that the right of assembling is as undoubted. To attempt, therefore, under the mask of authority to prevent or forbid a meeting of the people for such purposes, or to interrupt their proceedings when met, would be a vain effort unduly to exercise power in direct opposition to the Constitution.

Far be it from us, then, Sir, even to wish to prevent the operations of the Convention now held at *Newbern*, or to agree with your Excellency in bestowing upon them the injurious epithet of an illegal meeting. They are, Sir, the respectable Representatives of the people, appointed for a special and important purpose, to which, though our constituents might have thought us adequate, yet, as our meeting depended upon the pleasure of the Crown, they would have been unwise to have trusted to so precarious a contingency, especially as the frequent and unexpected prorogations of the Assembly (one of them in particular, as if all respect and attention to the convenience of their Representatives had been lost, was proclaimed but two or three days before the time which had been appointed for their meeting) gave the people not the least reason to expect that their Assembly would have been permitted to sit till it was too late to appoint Delegates to attend the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, a measure which they joined the rest of *America* in thinking essential to its interest.

The House, Sir, neither know nor believe that any base arts have been practised upon the people, in order to lead them from their duty; but we know with certainty that the steps they have taken proceeded from a full conviction that the Parliament of *Great Britain* had, by a variety of oppressive and unconstitutional proceedings, made those steps absolutely necessary.

We think it, therefore, a duty we owe the people, to assert that their conduct has not been owing to base arts, practised upon them by wicked and designing men; and have it much to lament that your Excellency should add your sanction to such groundless imputations, as it has a manifest tendency to weaken the influence which the united petition of His Majesty's *American* subjects might otherwise have upon their Sovereign, for a redress of those grievances of which they so justly complain.

We should feel inexpressible concern at the information given us by your Excellency, of your being authorized to say, that the appointment of Delegates to attend the Congress at *Philadelphia*, now in agitation, will be highly offensive to the King, had we not recently been informed, from the best authority, that His Majesty has been pleased to receive very graciously the united Petition of his *American* subjects, addressed to him by the Continental Delegates lately convened at *Philadelphia*. We have not, therefore, the least reason to suppose that a similar application to the Throne will give offence to His Majesty, or prevent his receiving a petition for the redress of grievances, which his *American* subjects have a right to present, either separately or unitedly.

We shall always receive with pleasure the information of any marks of loyalty to the King, given to your Excellency by the inhabitants of this Colony, but are greatly concerned, lest the manner in which you have thought proper to convey that information should excite a belief that a great number of the people of this Province are disaffected to their Sovereign; to prevent which it is incumbent



upon us in this manner solemnly to testify to the world, that His Majesty has no subjects more faithful than the inhabitants of *North-Carolina*, or more ready, at the expense of their lives and fortunes, to protect and support his person, crown, and dignity. If, however, by the signal proofs your Excellency speaks of, you mean those Addresses lately published in the *North-Carolina Gazette*, and said to be presented to you, the Assembly can receive no pleasure from your congratulations thereupon, but what results from the consideration, that so few have been found in so populous a Province weak enough to be seduced from their duty, and prevailed upon by the base arts of wicked and designing men to adopt principles so contrary to the sense of all *America*, and so destructive of those just rights and privileges it was their duty to maintain.

We take this opportunity, Sir, the first that has been given us, to express the warm attachment we have to our sister Colonies in general, and the heartfelt compassion we entertain for the deplorable state of the Town of *Boston* in particular, and also to declare the fixed and determined resolution of this Colony to unite with the other Colonies in every effort to retain those just rights and liberties which, as subjects to a *British King*, we possess, and which it is our absolute and indispensable duty to hand down to posterity unimpaired.

The exhausted state of the publick funds, of which your Excellency complains, we contemplate with great concern, alleviated, however, by the reflection that it has not been owing to any misconduct in the Assembly. We were withheld from passing any inferior Court Law, but upon such terms as our duty rendered it impossible to accept; by which means no list of taxables could be taken for the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-three, and consequently no money collected to defray the charges of Government for that year; and as your Excellency did not think proper to meet the Assembly at their usual time of meeting in the fall, no Act could be passed to defray the contingent charges of Government for the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four. The Treasury, by these means, deprived of two years' collection of taxes, must consequently be unable to answer the great demands upon it till an Act of Assembly can be passed to enable it to discharge them.

The House, convinced of the necessity of Courts of Justice, would willingly adopt any plan for the establishment of them, which, in their opinion, is consistent with the circumstances of this Colony; and for independent Judges, of capacity and integrity, they would, with the greatest pleasure, very liberally provide.

We are sorry, Sir, the impoverished state of the publick finances will not permit us to provide for the usual establishment of Fort *Johnston*.

The advanced season of the year, which, of all other times, made it most inconvenient for us to attend publick business, will, your Excellency may assure yourself, induce us to forward it with all possible expedition.

JOHN HARVEY, *Speaker*.

*Resolved*, That the House do highly approve of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress lately held at *Philadelphia*, and that they are determined, as members of the community in general, that they will strictly adhere to the said Resolutions, and will use what influence they have to induce the same observance in every individual of this Colony.

This House having received information that *William Hooper*, *Joseph Hewes*, and *Richard Caswell*, Esquires, were appointed, by the Convention held at *Newbern*, as Delegates to attend the meeting of the Continental Congress soon to be held at *Philadelphia*:

*Resolved*, That the House approve of the choice made by the said Convention.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the House be given to *William Hooper*, *Joseph Hewes*, and *Richard Caswell*, Esquires, for the faithful and judicious discharge of the important trust reposed in them as Delegates for this Colony at the late Continental Congress.

Mr. *William Brown*, the Member for *Bath Town*, Mr. *Thomas Respass*, one of the Members for *Beaufort County*, Mr. *Jonathan Herring*, one of the Members for *Pasquotank County*, and Mr. *William Haywood* and Mr.

*Elisha Battle*, the Members for *Edgecombe County*, appeared.

The Honourable *John Rutherford* and *Lewis H. De Rosset*, Esquires, two of the Members of Council, came to the House, and Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Respass*, Mr. *Herring*, Mr. *Haywood*, and Mr. *Battle* were qualified, by taking the several oaths by law appointed for qualification of Public Officers, and repeating and subscribing the Test.

Then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Saturday, April 8, 1775.

His Excellency the Governour, by Proclamation, was pleased to dissolve the Assembly.

At a Council held at the Council Chamber, the 7th of April, 1775, in the evening, Present: His Excellency the Governour, the Honourable *James Hasell*, *John Rutherford*, *Lewis H. De Rossett*, *Alexander McCulloch*, *Samuel Strudwick*, *Martin Howard*, *Samuel Cornell*, and *Thomas McGuire*, Esquires:

His Excellency laid before the Board the Journals of the House of Assembly, in which was contained, amongst other unwarrantable proceedings, the following Resolve:

"*Resolved*, That the House do highly approve of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress lately held at *Philadelphia*, and that they are determined, as members of the community in general, that they will strictly adhere to the said Resolutions, and will use what influence they have to induce the same observance in every individual of this Colony."

Upon consideration hereof, this Board gave it as their opinion, that the longer existence of such a House of Assembly is incompatible with the honour of the Crown and the safety of the people, and therefore unanimously advised His Excellency to dissolve them, which was done by the following Proclamation:

*North-Carolina, ss.*

By His Excellency JOSIAH MARTIN, Esquire, &c.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas several Resolves appear on the Journals of the House of Assembly, now sitting, tending to alienate the affections of His Majesty's subjects, and subvert the Constitution; and whereas the longer existence of such an Assembly is incompatible with the honour of the Crown and the safety of the people: I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Council, to dissolve the said Assembly, and it is accordingly dissolved.

Given under my hand, &c., at *Newbern*, &c., this 8th day of April, 1775, &c.

JO. MARTIN.

GOD save the King.

#### NORTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

*The Journal of the Proceedings of the Provincial Convention of NORTH-CAROLINA, held at NEWBERN, on the third day of APRIL, A. D. 1775.*

*North-Carolina, ss.*

At a General Meeting of the Delegates of the Inhabitants of this Province, in Convention, at *Newbern*, the third day of April, in the year 1775, Present—

ANSON County.—(None.)

BEAUFORT.—*Roger Ormond*, *Thomas Respass*, Junior.

BLADEN.—*William Salter*, *James White*.

BUTE.—*William Person*, *Green Hill*, *James Ransom*, *Thomas Eaton*.

BRUNSWICK.—*John Rowan*, *Robert Howe*.

BERTIE.—*John Campbell*, *David Stanley*, *John Johnston*.

CRAVEN.—*James Corr*, *Lemuel Hatch*, *Jacob Blount*, *William Bryan*, *Richard Cogdell*, *Joseph Leech*.

CARTERET.—*William Thompson*, *Solomon Sheppard*.

CURRITUCK.—*Thomas Macknight*, *Francis Williamson*, *Samuel Jarvis*, *Solomon Perkins*, *Nathan Poyner*.

CHOWAN.—*Samuel Johnston*, *Thomas Oldham*, *Thomas Jones*, *Thomas Benbury*, *Thomas Hunter*.



CUMBERLAND.—*Thomas Rutherford, Farquard Campbell.*  
 CHATHAM.—(None.)  
 DOBBS.—*Richard Caswell, William McKinnie, George Miller, Simon Bright, Junior.*  
 DUPLIN.—*Thomas Gray, Thomas Hicks.*  
 EDGEcombe.—(None.)  
 GRANVILLE.—*Thomas Person, John Penn, Robert Munfort, Robert Williams, Memucan Hunt.*  
 GUILFORD.—*Alexander Martin.*  
 HYDE.—(None.)  
 HERTFORD.—*George Wynns, Joseph Worth.*  
 HALIFAX.—*Willie Jones, Benjamin McCulloch, Nicholas Long.*  
 JOHNSTON.—(None.)  
 MECKLENBURGH.—(None.)  
 MARTIN.—(None.)  
 NEW-HANOVER.—*William Hooper, John Ashe.*  
 NORTHAMPTON.—*Allen Jones, Jephtha Atherton.*  
 ORANGE.—*Thomas Hart, Thomas Burke, John Kinchen, Francis Nash.*  
 ONSLOW.—*Edward Starkey, Henry Rhodes, William Cray.*  
 PERQUIMANS.—*John Harvey, Benjamin Harvey, Andrew Knox, Thomas Harvey, John Whedbee, Junior.*  
 PASQUOTANK.—*Jonathan Herring, Edward Everigin, Isaac Gregory, Joseph Jones, Joseph Reading.*  
 PITT.—*John Simpson, Edward Salter, James Gorham, James Lanier, William Robson.*  
 ROWAN.—*Griffith Rutherford, William Sharp, William Kennon.*  
 SURRY.—(None.)  
 TRYON.—(None.)  
 TYRRELL.—*Joseph Spruill, Benjamin Spruill, Jeremiah Fraser.*  
 WAKE.—*John Hinton, Michael Rogers, Signal Jones.*  
 For the Town of NEWBERN.—*Abner Nash, James Davis.*  
 EDENTON.—*Joseph Hewes.*  
 WILMINGTON.—*Cornelius Harnett.*  
 BATH.—*William Brown.*  
 HALIFAX.—*John Webb, Jos. Montfort.*  
 HILLSBOROUGH.—(None.)  
 SALISBURY.—(None.)  
 BRUNSWICK.—*Parker Quince.*  
 CAMPBLETON.—*Robert Rowan.*

The respective Counties and Towns having certified that the preceding persons were duly elected Delegates to represent the said Counties and Towns in the General Convention, to be held at *Newbern*, the third day of *April* instant:

Pursuant to which, the following persons appeared, to wit:

|                   |                     |                      |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Roger Ormond,     | Thomas Oldham,      | Thomas Burke,        |
| Thomas Respass,   | Thomas Jones,       | Francis Nash,        |
| William Salter,   | Thomas Benbury,     | Edward Starkey,      |
| James White,      | Thomas Hunter,      | Henry Rhodes,        |
| William Person,   | Joseph Hewes,       | William Cray,        |
| Green Hill,       | Thomas Rutherford,  | John Harvey,         |
| Thomas Eaton,     | Farquard Campbell,  | Andrew Knox,         |
| John Campbell,    | Richard Caswell,    | Isaac Gregory,       |
| John Johnston,    | Thomas Person,      | Joseph Jones,        |
| James Corr,       | James Lanier,       | Griffith Rutherford, |
| Lemuel Hatch,     | John Penn,          | William Sharp,       |
| Jacob Blount,     | Thomas Hicks,       | Jeremiah Fraser,     |
| Richard Cogdell,  | Memucan Hunt,       | John Hinton,         |
| Joseph Leech,     | Willie Jones,       | Abner Nash,          |
| William Thompson, | Benjamin McCulloch, | James Davis,         |
| Solomon Sheppard, | Nicholas Long,      | Cornelius Harnett,   |
| Thomas Macknight, | William Hooper,     | William Brown,       |
| Samuel Jarvis,    | John Ashe,          | John Simpson,        |
| Solomon Perkins,  | Allen Jones,        | Edward Salter,       |
| Nathan Poyner,    | Jephtha Atherton,   | James Gorham.        |
| Samuel Johnston,  |                     |                      |

The Delegates then proceeded to make choice of a Moderator, when Colonel JOHN HARVEY was unanimously chosen, and Mr. ANDREW KNOX appointed Clerk.

*Resolved*, That the Moderator adjourn the Convention, *de die in diem*, until the business is finished.

The Convention is adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, April 4, 1775.

The Convention met, according to adjournment.

Mr. John Webb, Delegate for the Town of *Halifax*, Mr. William Bryan, one of the Delegates for *Craven* County, Mr. George Wynns, one of the Delegates for

*Hertford* County, and Mr. Alexander Martin, a Delegate for *Guilford* County, appeared, and took their seats in Convention.

The Convention adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, April 5, 1775.

The Convention met, according to adjournment.

Mr. Jonathan Herring, one of the Delegates for *Pasquotank* County, and Mr. David Stanley, one of the Delegates for *Bertie* County, appeared, and took their seats in Convention.

The Association entered into by the General Congress at *Philadelphia*, on the 20th day of *October*, in the year of our *Lord* 1774, and signed by the Members thereof, was presented to this Convention by Colonel Richard Caswell, and, on motion, was ordered to be read, and was accordingly read.

*Resolved*, That this Convention do highly approve of the said Association, and do, for themselves, firmly agree to adhere to the said Association, and recommend it to their constituents that they likewise adhere firmly to the same. In full approbation and testimony whereof, the Members of this Convention subscribe their names.

JOHN HARVEY,

|                       |                     |                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Roger Ormond,         | Thomas Benbury,     | Joseph Jones,        |
| Thomas Respass, Jun., | Thomas Hunter,      | Jonathan Herring,    |
| William Salter,       | Farquard Campbell,  | Griffith Rutherford, |
| James White,          | Richard Caswell,    | William Sharp,       |
| William Person,       | Thomas Person,      | Jeremiah Fraser,     |
| Thomas Eaton,         | Thomas Hicks,       | John Hinton,         |
| John Campbell,        | John Penn,          | Abner Nash,          |
| John Johnston,        | Memucan Hunt,       | James Davis,         |
| James Corr,           | Willie Jones,       | Joseph Hewes,        |
| Lemuel Hatch,         | Benjamin McCulloch, | Cornelius Harnett,   |
| Jacob Blount,         | Nicholas Long,      | William Brown,       |
| Richard Cogdell,      | William Hooper,     | John Simpson,        |
| Joseph Leech,         | John Ashe,          | Edward Salter,       |
| William Bryan,        | Allen Jones,        | James Gorham,        |
| William Thompson,     | Jephtha Atherton,   | James Lanier,        |
| Solomon Sheppard,     | Thomas Burke,       | John Webb,           |
| Samuel Jarvis,        | Francis Nash,       | George Wynns,        |
| Solomon Perkins,      | Edward Starkey,     | Alexander Martin,    |
| Nathan Poyner,        | Henry Rhodes,       | David Stanley,       |
| Samuel Johnston,      | William Cray,       | Green Hill,          |
| Thomas Oldham,        | Andrew Knox,        | Robert Howe,         |
| Thomas Jones,         | Isaac Gregory,      | Thomas Rutherford.   |

In consequence of the preceding Resolve, all the Members of the Convention subscribed their names at the table, except Mr. Thomas Macknight, who refused.

*Resolved*, That the conduct of William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and Richard Caswell, Esquires, in the meeting of Delegates lately held at *Philadelphia*, was, in every particular, worthy of the sacred trust reposed in them; and that the Moderator do, in behalf of this Colony in general, and of this Convention in particular, return them those thanks which their faithful discharge of such an important trust so justly merits.

In consequence whereof, the Moderator returned them thanks in the manner following:

GENTLEMEN: The sacred trust reposed in you by your Country so faithfully discharged by you, does honour to yourselves, justifies the choice made of you by the last Convention, and places you in a situation to receive the best reward a patriotick breast can fill, the applause of your Country; who, in order to bear testimony of your merit, have directed me to convey to you their sincere thanks for the services you have rendered them in the important office to which they appointed you. And it is with great pleasure I now, gentlemen, in behalf of this Colony in general, and of this Convention in particular, return you those thanks which have been so unanimously resolved by the Convention to be your due.

To which the Delegates returned the following Answer:

We, the Delegates appointed to represent this Province in the Continental Congress lately held at *Philadelphia*, beg leave to express a heartfelt gratitude for this publick testimonial which we have received from you of the approbation of our constituents of our conduct, in the most important transaction in which any member of society can have been engaged. With diffidence we undertook the sacred trust of being joined to a body of men appointed to be the guardians of the constitutional rights and privileges of *British America*. If we have executed that charge to



give satisfaction to the inhabitants of this Province, our actions meet the most ample reward that any member of it can experience. One motive in this important measure, viz: a sacred regard for the rights and privileges of *British America*, and an earnest wish to bring about a reconciliation with our Parent State, upon terms constitutional and honourable to both, have hitherto actuated us. Our earnest wishes are, that this Province may virtuously adhere to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, as the means which will most probably bring about the end which all the friends to *America* most earnestly desire.

At the same time accept, Sir, our warmest acknowledgment for the polite manner in which you have thought fit to convey the sentiments of this truly respectable body.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Instructions of the inhabitants of *Perquimans* County to their Delegates appointed to meet at this Convention, entered into on the 11th day of *March* last, be read; which were read accordingly. One of which said Instructions being, "That the thanks of the inhabitants of that County be given to *William Hooper*, *Joseph Hewes*, and *Richard Caswell*, Esquires, for their faithful and judicious discharge of the trust reposed in them at the late Continental Congress."

Pursuant to which, Colonel *John Harvey*, one of the Delegates for the said County, in the name of the Inhabitants thereof, gave their thanks to the gentlemen aforesaid.

To which the Delegates returned the following Answer:

Permit us, Sir, to express our sincere gratitude for this testimony of the approbation given, through you, by the inhabitants of the County of *Perquimans*, of the conduct of us the Delegates of this Province in the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*. Actuated with a zeal for the preservation of the constitutional liberties of *America*, and an earnest desire to bring about a reconciliation with the Mother Country, upon terms that may restore us to the fullest enjoyment of our just rights and privileges, and secure them to us in future from the encroachments of weak or wicked men, we signed our assent to the proceedings of Congress; and we could meet nothing more convincing of the propriety of our conduct in the measure, than that it obtains the approbation of the County of *Perquimans*.

To you, Sir, we beg leave to offer our tribute of thanks for the polite manner in which you have thought fit to convey the sense of that respectable body.

On motion, *Resolved*, That *William Hooper*, *Joseph Hewes*, and *Richard Caswell*, Esquires, be and they are hereby appointed Delegates to attend the General Congress to be held at *Philadelphia*, on the 10th day of *May* next, or at any other time and place that shall be appointed for that purpose. And they are hereby invested with such powers as may make any acts done by them, or any of them, or consent given, in behalf of this Province, obligatory in honour upon every inhabitant thereof.

The Convention adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, April 6, 1775.

The Convention met, according to adjournment.

Mr. *William Robson*, one of the Delegates for *Pitt* County, appeared, and took his seat in Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That each and every County in this Province raise, as speedily as possible, the sum of Twenty Pounds, Proclamation Money, to be collected by the respective Delegates of each County, in manner as shall appear to them most convenient, and pay the same into the hands of *Richard Caswell*, Esquire; to be by him equally divided among the Delegates appointed to attend the General Congress at *Philadelphia*, as a recompense for their trouble and expense in attending the said Congress.

Mr. *Thomas Macknight*, a Delegate for the County of *Currituck*, having been called upon to sign (with the other Members of this Convention) the Association approved of by the Continental Congress held at *Philadelphia*, thereupon refused, and withdrew himself:

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that from the disingenuous and equivocal behaviour of the said *Thomas Macknight*, it is manifest his intentions are inimical to the cause of *American Liberty*; and we do hold him

up as a proper object of contempt to this Continent, and recommend that every person break off all connection, and have no future commercial intercourse or dealing with him.

*Resolved*, That the above Resolve be published in the Gazettes of this and the neighbouring Colonies.

The Convention adjourned till to-morrow morning nine o'clock.

Friday, April 7th, 1775.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Moderator of this Convention, and in case of his death, Mr. *Samuel Johnston*, be empowered on any future occasion, that may in his opinion require it, to direct Delegates to be chosen for the respective Counties and Towns in this Province, to meet in Convention in the Town of *Hillsborough*, at such time as he shall think proper to appoint; and in case that the Members of a majority of the Counties and Towns do not appear at the day appointed, that he be empowered to adjourn the Convention *de die in diem*, until a sufficient number shall appear.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk furnish Mr. *James Davis* with a copy of the Proceedings of this Convention, and that Mr. *Davis* print the same.

*Resolved*, That this Convention do most heartily approve of the conduct and Proceedings of the late Continental Congress, and will endeavour to carry into execution the measures by them recommended; and that the most earnest wishes and desires of this Convention are, to see harmony restored between *Great Britain* and her Colonies on honourable and constitutional principles, which alone can give the same a lasting foundation. That we will exert our utmost endeavours towards completing this important purpose, and are of opinion that the late commercial regulations are the most eligible means for attaining this desirable end.

And whereas the freedom, happiness, and prosperity of every State greatly depends on providing within itself articles necessary for subsistence, clothing, and defence of its inhabitants:

*Resolved*, That from common prudence and regard for this Colony, we will encourage Arts, Manufactures, Agriculture, and every kind of economy, and use our influence for the same purpose with our constituents and all connected with us; and we recommend to the Committees of the several Counties to propose Premiums to the inhabitants whose industry may be a proper subject for their bounty, in such manner as to them shall seem meet.

*Resolved*, That His Majesty's subjects have an undoubted right at any time to meet and petition the Throne for a redress of grievances, and that such right includes a further right of appointing Delegates for such purpose, and therefore that the Governour's Proclamation issued to forbid this meeting, and his Proclamation afterwards commanding this meeting to disperse, are illegal, and an infringement of our just rights, and therefore ought to be disregarded as wanton and arbitrary exertions of power.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the Honourable *John Harvey*, Esquire, Moderator, for his judicious and faithful exercise of that office, and the services he has thereby rendered to his Country.

*Resolved*, That the Honourable *John Harvey*, Esquire, Moderator of this Convention, sign the Minutes for and in behalf of the same. Attested by

JOHN HARVEY, Moderator.

ANDREW KNOX, Clerk.

#### VINDICATION OF THOMAS MACKNIGHT AND OTHERS.

At a Convention of Delegates for the respective Counties and Towns within this Province, held at *Newbern* the 6th day of *April*, 1775:

Mr. *Thomas Macknight*, a Delegate for the County of *Currituck*, having been called upon to sign (with the other Members of this Convention) the Association approved of by the Continental Congress, thereupon refused, and withdrew himself:

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that from the disingenuous and equivocal behaviour of the said *Thomas Macknight*, it is manifest his intentions are inimical to the cause of *American Liberty*; and we do



hold him up as a proper object of contempt to this Continent, and recommend that every person break off all connection, and have no future commercial intercourse or dealing with him.

*Resolved*, That the above Resolve be published in the Gazettes of this and the neighbouring Colonies.

A true copy from the minutes.

Attested by

ANDREW KNOX, Clerk.

We, the subscribers, *Samuel Jarvis, Solomon Perkins*, and *Nathan Poyner*, late Representatives for the County of *Currituck*, in a Convention of Deputies for the Province of *North-Carolina*, held at *Newbern*, on the 3d day of *April*, 1775, and *Jonathan Herring* and *Isaac Gregory*, Representatives in the said Convention for the County of *Pasquotank*, having found ourselves under the disagreeable necessity of withdrawing from the said meeting, and being denied the justice of having our reasons entered on the Journals of their Proceedings, (that is, by an express refusal to the Representatives for *Currituck*, which was the only cause that those for *Pasquotank* did not apply,) have only this resource left for vindicating our conduct to the world, and rescuing the character of a gentleman we greatly esteem from undeserved obloquy and reproach.

The facts, upon which the necessity we were unhappily reduced to was founded, are simply these: Upon its being moved and seconded, in the course of the business of the said Convention, that a vote should pass expressing a high approbation of the Continental Association, *Mr. Thomas Macknight*, a Representative for the County of *Currituck* aforesaid, got up and declared, that he was greatly concerned he could not heartily concur in the vote proposed to be passed, on account of particular circumstances in his situation, which obliged him to dislike some part of the Association; that he owed a debt in *Britain*, which the operation of the Non-Exportation Agreement would disable him to pay, and that he could not approve of a conduct in a collective capacity, which, as an individual, he should blush to acknowledge; that he thought it a duty he owed to his own sincerity to mention this sentiment, but did not mean to obstruct the good purposes proposed by an union of measures; that he would cheerfully comply with the Non-Consumption and Non-Importation Agreements, and should give a passive obedience to the non-exportation article; that an individual, as a member of society, ought to conform his actions to the general will of it, but that opinions could not be altered without conviction, or insincerely expressed without dishonesty.

In consequence, however, of this declaration, notwithstanding *Mr. Macknight* expressly said, that he desired not any disapprobation of the measure to be expressed by that body, and was only willing to acquit himself of his duty, by declaring in Convention his own sentiments of it, it was proposed and carried, that a declaration to the purport above-mentioned should be signed by all the members. All of them accordingly subscribed their names to the Resolve, highly approving, &c., as entered on the Journal, except *Mr. Macknight*, who desired he might have leave to reduce his reasons to writing, that they might be entered on the Journals, together with his refusal, which was agreed to; but on his presenting them the next day, when called upon again to subscribe, they would not suffer them even to be read; but the question being proposed, whether his signing that "he would conform" to the Continental Association would be satisfactory, they divided, fourteen Counties to fourteen, and the Moderator declined giving the casting vote.

While the Convention was waiting till the Representative of a Town, who was sent for on purpose to decide the question, should come in, *Mr. Macknight* was informed that it would give general satisfaction if he would insert in the declaration the word "accede;" which on his agreeing to do, two members immediately voted in his favour, who had before given their votes against him, and this now carried the question for him; but the minority being greatly discontented, several of them declared, that if any subscription, different from theirs, was accepted from him, they would withdraw from the Convention; upon which he declared immediately, (being, as we conceive, heated by the violence and arbitrariness of his opponents' conduct,) that to cut the matter short, and prevent further

dissensions in the Convention on his account, he would withdraw himself from them, thinking, as he has since assured us, (and we have never had any reason to doubt his veracity,) that such a step in one individual, who still left his constituents represented in Convention, would not be so prejudicial to the purpose of the meeting, as if it was taken by the many who threatened it. Upon which, the vote of censure and civil excommunication was proposed and passed by a majority, declaredly on account of his intentions, which we, however, believe always to have been friendly to the cause of *American* liberty; his actions evidently showing to us, who are his neighbours, the uprightness of his intentions. Nor did we observe any disingenuous or equivocal behaviour in *Mr. Macknight*, to warrant the censure of the Convention in the smallest degree; but some of those who were with him before being now offended by his withdrawing from amongst them, joined the other party.

The members for *Currituck*, on the last day of the Convention, offered the reasons of their dissent and withdrawing; but no kind of attention being paid to them by the Convention, two of the three *Pasquotank* members being also ready to present theirs, thought it useless, more especially as the Moderator was hastening to sign the Journals; the majority ordering him to do so, as we believe, lest the dissentients should appear on the Journals; and we know that many were determined to dissent from so unjust a censure. We, however, withdrew; and declare that we do not consider ourselves or our constituents bound by the Proceedings of this Convention; because, in other respects relative to the publick, this Convention have acted contrary to the sentiments of our constituents, expressly declared to us, and have gone beyond the powers with which we are invested to act in their behalf.

The above being a true statement, in substance, of the proceedings we complain of, we appeal to the world, whether the violence of insisting on a consistency of opinion in every individual instance, of all the Representatives of a Province present, or an insincere declaration to be subscribed contrary to a man's own conviction, at a time when he would most expressly have agreed to regulate his conduct by the general voice, (the greatest submission ever exacted, as the subscribers believe, except in despotick and tyrannical Governments,) the unjustifiable precipitation of a great number of the minority, when defeated in their purposes, which made *Mr. Macknight*, upon principles of affection to the cause they were nominated to support, offer to withdraw rather than occasion a total schism in their proceedings; their refusing to receive reasons themselves had called for, and agreed to enter on their Journals, and others which members had ready, and as we conceive had a right to present, and were entitled to notice, as they were calculated to show the world their motives for withdrawing from this Convention.

Whether these extraordinary, rash, and unwarrantable proceedings, together with the other reasons we have assigned, do not leave us justified for withdrawing from this Convention, inasmuch as they have done more than our constituents warranted us to engage for, and a great number of the members would not confine themselves to the rules laid down by the Congress, but required and insisted upon other terms of union than that respectable body, whose directions they have all promised to obey, deemed necessary, or could themselves individually assent to.

SAMUEL JARVIS, ISAAC GREGORY,  
SOLOMON PERKINS, JONATHAN HERRING,  
NATHAN POYNER,

N. B. The Convention having omitted to publish the vote which *Mr. Macknight* refused to subscribe, for the information of such as have not an opportunity of seeing the Journals, it is inserted here:

"*Resolved*, That this Convention do highly approve of the said Association, and do, for themselves, firmly agree to adhere by the said Association, and recommend it to their constituents that they likewise adhere firmly to the same; in full approbation and testimony whereof the members of this Convention subscribed their names."

The Continental Association was not signed by the members in this Convention, as might be presumed from the publication of their Clerk.



## COUNCIL OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

At a Council held at *Newbern*, the 12th of *April*, 1775, Present: His Excellency the Governour, the Honourable *James Hasell*, *Alexander McCulloch*, *William Dry*, *Samuel Strudwick*, *Martin Howard*, and *Samuel Cornell*, Esquires:

The Governour laid before the Board the Proceedings of a body of people calling themselves Delegates of the Inhabitants of this Province in Convention, signed *John Harvey*, Moderator, wherein are certain Resolves highly derogatory to the honour and dignity of His Majesty's Government, tending to destroy the peace and welfare of this Province, in the highest degree oppressive of the people, and utterly subversive of the established Constitution:

He, therefore, submitted to the consideration of this Board the propriety of marking its indignation of such unlawful and dangerous proceedings, by striking Mr. *John Harvey* out of His Majesty's Commission of the Peace for the County of *Perquimans*, where he resides.

The Board fully concurring with His Excellency's sentiments of the foregoing proceedings, unanimously advised that the said *John Harvey* should be struck out of the Commission of the Peace for *Perquimans* County.

The Honourable *William Dry*, Esquire, took again the oath appointed to be taken by Privy Counsellors.

## HEMPSTEAD (NEW-YORK) RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. RIVINGTON: You are requested to publish the following Resolutions, unanimously entered into at the most numerous Town Meeting that has been held here for many years past:—

Hempstead, April 4, 1775.

At this critical time of publick danger and distraction, when it is the duty of every honest man and friend to his Country to declare his sentiments openly, and use every endeavour to ward off the impending calamities which threaten this once happy and peaceful land, we, the Freeholders and Inhabitants of *Hempstead*, in *Queen's* County, in the Province of *New-York*, being legally assembled on the first *Tuesday* in *April*, 1775, have voluntarily entered into the following Resolutions:

1st. That as we have already borne true and faithful allegiance to His Majesty King *George* the Third, our gracious and lawful Sovereign, so we are firmly resolved to persist in the same line of duty to him and his lawful successors.

2d. That we esteem our civil and religious liberties above any other blessings, and those only can be secured to us by our happy Constitution; we shall inviolably adhere to it, since deviating from it and introducing innovations, would have a direct tendency to subvert it, from which the most ruinous consequences might be justly apprehended.

3d. That it is our ardent desire to have the present unnatural contest between the Parent State and her Colonies amicably and speedily accommodated on principles of constitutional liberty, and that the union of the Colonies with the Parent State may subsist till time shall be no more.

4th. That as the worthy Members of our General Assembly, who are our only legal and constitutional Representatives, have lately taken the most rational and effectual measures to bring about this much wished-for accommodation, by petitioning his most gracious Majesty, a Memorial to the House of Lords, and a Remonstrance to the House of Commons; we are determined, therefore, patiently to wait for the issue of these measures, and carefully avoid every thing that might frustrate those laudable endeavours of our Representatives.

5th. That as choosing Deputies to form a Provincial Congress, or Convention, must have this tendency, be highly disrespectful to our legal Representatives, and also be attended, in all probability, with the most pernicious effects in other instances, as is now actually the case in some Provinces—such as shutting up the Courts of Justice, levying money on the subjects to enlist men for the purpose of fighting against our Sovereign, diffusing a spirit of sedition among the people, destroying the authority of constitutional assemblies, and otherwise introducing many heavy and oppressive grievances—we therefore are determined not

to choose any Deputies for such Provincial Congress or Convention, nor consent to it, but do solemnly bear our testimony against it.

6th. That we are utterly averse to all mobs, riots, and illegal proceedings, by which the lives, peace, and property of our fellow-subjects are endangered; and that we will, to the utmost of our power, support our legal Magistrates in suppressing all riots, and preserving the peace of our liege Sovereign.

HULET PETERS, Town Clerk.

## TO THE PUBLICK.

Hempstead, April, 1775.

At a time when every possible artifice is made use of, not only to create real divisions and dissensions among us on points of the last importance to the general weal, but, at the same time, to hold up an idea of much greater difference than, in fact, exists, it is the duty of every friend to truth and the welfare of his Country, to represent transactions of a publick nature in a fair and genuine light.

Influenced by this consideration, I am induced to make a few remarks on the proceedings of the Town of *Hempstead*, which have been published in Mr. *Rivington's Gazetteer* of the 6th instant.

By that publication, it might seem that the Town-Meeting at which the Resolves were passed, had been assembled for the purpose of signifying their sense relative to the appointment of Deputies to join in the proposed Provincial Congress, and that the inhabitants of *Hempstead* were unanimous in their disapprobation of the measure; but this is far from being a just representation of the matter.

The meeting was nothing more than an annual one, in order to choose Town Officers. No previous notice had been given, by advertisement or otherwise, that any thing beside the ordinary business of the day was to be transacted. Not only so, but the Resolutions entered into were introduced late, after many people had retired from the meeting. A considerable number of respectable Freeholders, who are well affected to the appointment of Deputies, would have attended had they been apprized of what was designed, and the apparent unanimity with which the publick has been deceived, could have had no colour of pretence.

I am one of those who think the union of the Colonies, in a general and spirited plan of opposition, absolutely necessary to the preservation of our rights; and I know there is a number of principal Freeholders in this Town of the same sentiments. Our reasons for being willing to concur in the choice of Deputies, are as follow:

1st. Though we feel ourselves impressed with sentiments of unshaken loyalty towards our rightful Sovereign, *George* the Third, and should view with indignation and abhorrence every attempt to diminish his just and constitutional authority over us; yet we can by no means conceive that loyalty implies in it an abject submission to the unjust and arbitrary mandates of the *British* Parliament, or precludes the use of those expedients which are requisite to preserve our lives and properties from the rapacious hand of tyranny and oppression.

2d. The claim of Parliament to bind us by statutes in all cases whatsoever, and the several acts passed in consequence of it, appear to us an open and flagrant violation of our rights, both as men and *Englishmen*, and ought to be opposed by every necessary means.

3d. It is our opinion that no rational mode of opposition could, in our present circumstances, be concerted, but by the united concurrence of all the Colonies. Without this, our measures must be partial and divided, and consequently weak and ineffectual. One Colony could not oblige another to accede to any thing itself might deem prudent and efficacious. Difference in opinion might prevent the adoption of those measures which were most likely to succeed, and our opposition, instead of tending to any desirable end, would only serve to render us contemptible, and the scoff of our enemies.

4th. Provincial Assemblies have frequently been dissolved for asserting their rights; and it would be in the power of the several Governours to keep them from sitting whenever they found they were likely to take any step that would serve to frustrate the designs of the Ministry; so that not much reliance could be had upon their exer-



tions in support of their liberties, which clearly points out the necessity of having recourse to some other method.

5th. Petitions have been tried more than once to no good purpose; and as we have never been admitted into the secrets of the Cabinet, we can only judge from the declarations and actions of the Ministry and Parliament, from which we are compelled to believe that they would now, if unseconded, be equally fruitless and insignificant. Nor can we think it prudent or safe to wait the issue of one more trial, before we proceed to other measures, as is recommended by some; because we are sensible that the delay would be attended with many dangerous consequences, and might, at least, protract our sufferings to a very disagreeable length. We would not presume to impeach the conduct of our Assembly; but judging from past experience and a long train of facts, we are unable to imagine what could lead them to expect such happy effects from this source alone, especially as the Assemblies of the other Provinces have manifested by their conduct a quite different opinion.

6th. As we think a Continental Congress necessary, for the reasons already assigned, so we think a Provincial Congress the only equal and just method of regulating a representation of the whole Province. Nor do we apprehend any mischiefs from the appointment of such a body, because no other authority has been delegated to them than barely that of choosing proper persons to represent the Colony in that Convention, which is to be held at *Philadelphia* in May ensuing.

7th. As to the shutting up the Courts, which is said to have taken place in some of the Colonies, we consider it as a regulation by them thought necessary, to prevent any advantage being taken of the present critical situation of affairs, and as being done with the general consent and approbation of the people; and we are informed they have used proper methods to prevent any abuses which might arise therefrom. We know not of any Provincial Congresses which have levied money on the subject to enlist men for the purpose of fighting against our Sovereign. We have, indeed, heard of some which have recommended it to their constituents to raise a fund for the support of those who might be employed in acquiring a knowledge of military discipline, in order to defend themselves, should they be reduced to the dreadful alternative of either maintaining their liberties, at the risk of their lives, or of submitting to become the slaves of their fellow-subjects in *Great Britain*.

8th. We cannot consider the power delegated in the present instance, either as interfering with the authority of our Assembly, or as being a mark of disrespect towards it; because we are confident, that had they considered it in that light, they would not have been so wanting to themselves, or so inattentive to their just rights, as to have looked on passively while such measures were in agitation, but would have taken proper steps to secure their own dignity and authority from all infractions and violations whatsoever; and because the general state of *American* affairs requires measures that are beyond the power of any one particular Assembly, should it think proper, from peculiar motives, to observe a line of conduct altogether singular and different from that of the other Assemblies, which are embarked in the same common cause.

A FREEHOLDER OF HEMPSTEAD.

#### TOWN-MEETING, ORANGE COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

At an annual Town-Meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the Precinct of *Goshen*, in the County aforesaid, on *Tuesday* the 4th of *April*, 1775, the following question, Whether any Deputies should be sent from this Precinct to meet Deputies from the other Counties at *New-York*, the 20th instant, to join with them in choosing proper persons as Delegates on the part of this Province, to meet in General Congress at *Philadelphia*, on the 10th of *May* next, was put, and carried unanimously in the affirmative.

A motion was then made by several persons, that *Henry Wisner* and *Peter Clowse*, Esquires, be appointed Deputies for the above purpose; and the question being accordingly put, it was carried in the affirmative, without one dissenting voice.

And at an annual Town-Meeting held the day aforesaid

at *Cornwall* Precinct, in the County aforesaid, a motion was made, that *Mr. Israel Seely*, of said Precinct, be appointed one of the Deputies for the aforesaid County, to meet Deputies from the other Counties, at *New-York*, on the 20th instant, to join in choosing some proper persons to be sent as Delegates to represent this Province in General Congress at *Philadelphia*, the 10th of next month; and the question being accordingly put, it was carried by a great majority in the affirmative.

Committee Chamber, Baltimore, April 5, 1775.

Information being made to the Committee that a few individuals, inhabitants of this Town, have of late worn pistols or private arms, alleging, in justification of their conduct, "that a motion had been made in the Committee to sacrifice some of the persons in this Town who differed from them, or were averse to the publick measures now carrying on in this Province, and that they wore arms against any such attempts."

The Committee, to remove any prejudice that may be taken by the publick against them, and to prevent the ill effects of such false and injurious reports, if circulated without contradiction, do solemnly declare that no such motion was ever made, or any entry relative to the same minuted in their proceedings. A few members of the Committee were of opinion that the names of such persons, who, upon application, had refused to contribute for the purchase of arms and ammunition, should be published; but even this measure was overruled in the Committee, as improper at that time.

Our meetings have been held in publick, nor has any person who thought fit to attend ever been excluded; our records are free and open for inspection. From the publick we received our authority, not by personal solicitation, but a free and voluntary choice; to that tribunal we submit our actions.

Although we have uniformly persevered, and are determined to persevere in carrying into execution the Association and measures of the Congress, yet, in no instance have we exceeded the line pointed out by that Assembly and our Provincial Assembly; and abhorring every idea of proscription, the Committee call upon the persons who have circulated the aforesaid report to disclose the author.

A true extract from the Minutes:

R. ALEXANDER, *Secretary*.

JOHN POWNALL, SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF TRADE,  
TO THE GOVERNOURS OF THE SEVERAL COLONIES IN  
NORTH AMERICA.

Whitehall, April 5, 1775.

SIR: I have the honour to send you herewith, by Lord *Dartmouth's* directions, an Act of Parliament, to which His Majesty gave the royal assent on *Friday* last, entitled "An Act to restrain the Trade and Commerce of the Provinces of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, and Colonies of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantation*, in *North America*, to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British Islands* in the *West-Indies*, and to prohibit such Provinces and Colonies from carrying on any Fishery on the Banks of *Newfoundland*, or other places therein mentioned, under certain conditions and limitations;" and I am to desire that you will be pleased to cause the said Act to be made publick in such manner as has been usual on like occasions. I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN POWNALL.

JOHN POWNALL TO THE GOVERNOURS OF THE SEVERAL  
COLONIES.

Whitehall, April 5, 1775.

SIR: As it may be of use that His Majesty's subjects in *America* should be informed of the Proclamation issued by the order of the States General, prohibiting the exportation of Arms and Ammunition from their Dominions, in *British Ships*, or in their own Ships, without leave of their College of Admiralty, I am directed by Lord *Dartmouth* to transmit to you the enclosed Gazette, containing the said Proclamation, which you will cause to be printed and published in such manner as you shall think fit.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN POWNALL.



Hague, March 20, 1775.

Their High Mightinesses the States General have this day issued a Proclamation, of which the following is a translation :

## PROCLAMATION.

The States General of the United Provinces, to all who shall see or hear these presents read, greeting :

Be it known, that we, for particular reasons thereunto moving, have thought fit absolutely to prohibit, and we hereby absolutely do prohibit all exportation of Ammunition, Gunpowder, Guns, and Shot, by Ships belonging to the Dominions of *Great Britain*, provisionally, for the term of six months, upon pain not only of confiscation of the Arms and Ammunition which shall be found there on board, but also of a fine of a Thousand Guilders over and above, at the charge of the Commander, whose Ship shall be answerable and liable to execution for the same.

That we have further thought fit to enact, and we do hereby enact, that during the above-said term of six months, no Gunpowder, Guns, Shot, or other Instruments of War, shall be embarked on board any other Ships, whether foreign or belonging to this Country, to be transported abroad, without consent or permission of the College of Admiralty, under whose jurisdiction the embarkation shall be made, upon pain of confiscation of the Arms, Gunpowder, Guns, Shot, or other Ammunition, which shall have been embarked without permission, and of the Commander incurring a fine of a Thousand Guilders, on board of whose Ship the said Arms and Ammunition shall have been embarked, and his Ship be answerable and liable to execution for the said fine.

And that no one may pretend ignorance hereof, we call upon and require the States, the Hereditary Stadtholder, the Committee of Council, and the deputations of the States of the respective Provinces, and all other Officers and Justices of these Countries, to cause this our Proclamation to be forthwith promulgated, published, and affixed, in all places where such publication is wont to be made. And we do further charge and command the Counsellors of the Admiralty, the Advocates General, together with all Admirals, Vice-Admirals, Captains, Officers, and Commanders, to pay obedience to this our Proclamation, proceeding and causing to be proceeded against the transgressors thereof, without favour, connivance, dissimulation, or composition. For such have we found meet.

Given at the *Hague*, under the seal of the States, signature of the President of our Assembly, and the counter signature of our Greffier, the 20th day of *March*, 1775.

G. VAN HARDENBROEK.

By order of the States General :

H. FAGEL.

## ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Court of *St. James's*, the 5th day of *April*, 1775: Present the King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas, the time limited by His Majesty's Order in Council of the 19th of *October* last, for the prohibiting the exporting out of this Kingdom, or carrying coastwise, Gunpowder or any sorts of Arms or Ammunition, will expire upon the 19th of *April*: And whereas, it is judged expedient that the said prohibition should be continued for some time longer, His Majesty doth therefore, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, hereby command, that no person or persons whatsoever, (except the Master-General, Lieutenant-General, or principal officers of the Ordnance for His Majesty's service) do, at any time during six months, to commence from the said 19th instant, presume to transport into any parts out of this Kingdom, or carry coastwise, any Gunpowder, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition, or ship or lade any Gunpowder, or any sort of Arms or Ammunition on board any Ship or Vessel, in order to transport the same into any parts beyond the Seas, or carrying the same coastwise, without leave or permission first obtained from His Majesty, or his Privy Council, upon pain of incurring and suffering the respective forfeitures and penalties inflicted by an Act passed in the 29th year of His late Majesty's reign, entitled "An Act to empower His Majesty to prohibit the exportation of Saltpetre, &c., &c."

THOMAS LIFE, AGENT FOR CONNECTICUT, TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Basinghall Street, London, April 5, 1775.

SIR : I received the favour of your last packet, in which was enclosed a general state of the transactions relative to the Rev. *Samuel Peters*, of his applications to you, and what passed between you on that occasion, and another letter, dated the 4th *January* last, in which you mention the receipt of my letter of the 5th day of *October* last, enclosing a copy of Messrs. *Penn's* Petition. On the 20th of last month, I attended Lord *Dartmouth* at his levee, and stated to him the facts from that general state, without delivering the state itself to his Lordship, who informed me that he had seen Mr. *Peters* but once, and did not seem to lay any part of the blame upon you ; and whatever views Mr. *Peters* may have, I hope he will be disappointed. There was a flying report sometime ago, that the acts of some people in your Colony, in going down to *Boston* to oppose the King's Troops, had subjected your Charter to be forfeited, but have not heard any thing lately about it. The Colony of *Rhode-Island*, it is said, is likewise in the same predicament for seizing the King's powder. I received notice from the Board of Trade to attend them on the 20th of *March* last on Messrs. *Penn's* Petition, which I accordingly did, and prayed two months' time to be heard on behalf of your Colony by counsel. Mr. *Baker*, who married one of Mr. *Penn's* daughters, appeared on behalf of the petitioners, and opposed me very strongly, and it was with the utmost difficulty I obtained time till the first of *May* next, and I must be prepared in all events by that time. Indeed Mr. *Baker* at first objected to my having any more time than a fortnight, or a month at most ; but on my representing that that would fall out in or near Easter week, their Lordships gave me a fortnight further time. Since I wrote by the last packet, Mr. *Nuthall* is dead and is succeeded by Mr. *Hoole*, whom I mentioned in my former letters to be his partner. On application to this gentleman he attended with me at the Board of Trade in behalf of Colonel *Dyer* and the other *Susquehannah* proprietors, but their Lordships would not then hear him, as they were of opinion that it was not then the proper time.

I am, sir, with the greatest esteem and regard, your most obedient humble servant,

THOS. LIFE.

The Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, at *Lebanon* in *Connecticut*.

## MEETING OF THE LIVERY OF LONDON.

London, April 6, 1775.

Yesterday, at *Guildhall*, a few minutes after one o'clock, the Lord Mayor, and Aldermen *Bull*, *Lewes* and *Newnham*, with the two Sheriffs, proceeded to the *Hustings* ; and the common Crier having made proclamation that the business on which the Livery were convened, was to consider of a "Remonstrance and Petition to the Throne, respecting the measures adopted with regard to *America* ;" the Lord Mayor came forward and addressed the Citizens in the following speech :

*Gentlemen of the Livery :*

It would ill become me, on this important day, to take up much of your time. I very readily complied with the request of several respectable fellow-citizens to call this Common Hall, from every feeling of justice and humanity to our persecuted brethren in *America*, and the fatal consequences I foresee of the violent proceedings now carrying on, which must so deeply affect the prosperity, not only of this, the first commercial City in the world, but likewise the whole Kingdom. I will only, gentlemen, beg leave to read to you, from your own records on this subject, the words of a Petition from this Metropolis to both Houses of Parliament, long before the present unhappy contest between the Mother Country and her *American* Colonies began ; so long ago as the year 1739.

"The citizens of *London* are too deeply interested in whatever affects the trade of this Nation, not to express the utmost anxiety for the welfare of that only source of our riches. The Petitioners apprehend that the trade from these (His Majesty's Kingdoms) to his *American* Colonies, is of the utmost importance, and almost the only profitable trade this Nation now enjoys unrivalled by others."



If, gentlemen, the trade to our *American Colonies* near forty years ago was, according to the declared opinion of this Metropolis, of such importance, the amazing entries for several late years made in the books of the Custom-House, which are almost daily before your eyes, will best demonstrate to what an immense magnitude it is since grown. Such an object surely calls for our most earnest, unwearied attention and regard. Whatever your determinations may be, you may be assured of the hearty concurrence of your Chief Magistrate.

Mr. B. Allen, Esq., now moved that such Remonstrance should be presented, and all hands were held up in favour of the motion except seven or eight, among whom was Sir James Esdaile. Mr. Allen made a long and spirited speech, in which he was very severe on the arbitrary strides taken by Government, which rendered it necessary for every man of spirit to stand up in his own defence. He said that if he had sat in the House of Commons he should have opposed all the late measures, being convinced they were but the acts of the Minister, who was himself controlled by an invisible agent. That it was amazing a confidence should be reposed in a *Stuart*, by those who ought to fear every man of the name. Of the *Scots* in general, Mr. Allen spoke very handsomely, and wished the *English* would copy them in their nationality. He said that the Lord Mayor had been unjustly accused by a prejudice against the *Scots* as a people, and that the *Thane* had artfully made this circumstance the ground of national quarrel. This orator recommended unanimity in the common cause, but lamented that whenever emoluments were to arise, there never were wanting bad men, even of rank, who would do any thing. He said the question now was, whether the *Americans* were to be enslaved or not. If Government was in want of supplies, why did it not take the regular method of raising them? He concluded by saying, "the *Americans* are sons of *Britons*, and have a right to be free," and that he hoped the Hall would be unanimous for the proposed Remonstrance. Mr. Allen's speech was well received, and he concluded it with reading the Petition.

It was afterwards moved that the Petition be again read, which being agreed to, it was accordingly read and approved of, there not being more than three or four dissenting voices, among whom was Sir James Esdaile.

Mr. Saxby then made a motion, that the said Petition be fairly transcribed and signed by the Town Clerk; also, that it be presented to His Majesty by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen and Livery of the City of *London*, in their gowns; that the Sheriffs do wait upon His Majesty, to know when he will be pleased to receive it; and that the Lord Mayor be requested to give the most early and publick intelligence of His Majesty's answer: all which were carried in the affirmative.

Mr. Saxby afterwards moved, that the thanks of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery, be given to those Lords who protested against the Acts lately passed respecting *America*; to such Members of the House of Commons who opposed the said Acts and all other anti-commercial measures; to Lord *Chatham*, for offering a conciliatory plan; to those Members of the House of Commons who voted for expunging the Resolutions relative to the *Middlesex* Election; and to *Edmund Burke*, Esq., for offering a conciliatory plan. All these motions were unanimously agreed to.

#### LETTER FROM THE GEORGIA DELEGATES TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Savannah, Georgia, April 6, 1775.

SIR: The unworthy part which the Province of *Georgia* has acted in the great and general contest, leaves room to expect little less than the censure, or even indignation of every virtuous man in *America*. Although, on the one hand, we feel the justice of such a consequence with respect to the Province in general; yet, on the other, we claim an exemption from it in favour of some individuals who wished a better conduct. Permit us, therefore, in behalf of ourselves and many others our fellow-citizens, warmly attached to the cause, to lay before the respectable body over which you preside a few facts, which we trust will not only acquit us of supineness, but also render our conduct to be approved by all candid and dispassionate men.

At the time the late Congress did this Province the honour to transmit to it an Extract from their Proceedings, enclosed in a friendly letter from the Honourable Mr. *Middleton*, the sense and disposition of the people in general seemed to fluctuate between liberty and convenience. In order to bring on a determination respecting the measures recommended, a few well-affected persons in *Savannah*, by publick advertisement in the *Gazette*, requested a meeting of all the Parishes and Districts, by Delegates or Representatives in Provincial Congress. On the day appointed for this meeting, with concern they found that only five out of twelve Parishes to which they had particularly wrote, had nominated and sent down Delegates; and even some of these five had laid their Representatives under injunctions as to the form of an Association.

Under these circumstances those who met saw themselves a good deal embarrassed; however, one expedient seemed still to present itself. The House of Assembly was then sitting, and it was hoped there would be no doubt of a majority in favour of *American* freedom. The plan, therefore, was to go through with what business they could in Provincial Congress, and then, with a short address, present the same to the House of Assembly, who, it was hoped, would, by vote, in a few minutes, and before prerogative should interfere, make it the act of the whole Province.

Accordingly the Congress framed and agreed to such an Association, and did such other business as appeared practicable with the people, and had the whole just ready to be presented, when the Governour, either treacherously informed, or shrewdly suspecting the step, put an end to the session.

What, then, could the Congress do? On the one hand truth forbid them to call their proceedings the voice of the Province, there being but five out of twelve Parishes concerned; and on the other, they wanted strength sufficient to enforce them on the principle of necessity, to which all ought for a time to submit. They found the inhabitants of *Savannah* not likely soon to give matters a favourable turn. The importers were mostly against any interruption, and the consumers very much divided. There were some of the latter virtuously for the measures; others strenuously against them; but more who called themselves neutrals than either.

Thus situated, there appeared nothing before us but the alternative of either immediately commencing a civil war among ourselves, or else of patiently waiting the measures to be recommended by the General Congress. Among a powerful people, provided with men, money, and conveniences, and by whose conduct others were to be regulated, the former would certainly be the resolution that would suggest itself to every man removed from the condition of a coward; but in a small community like that of *Savannah*, (whose members are mostly in their first advance towards wealth and independence, destitute of even the necessities of life within themselves, and from whose junction or silence, so little would be added or lost to the general cause,) the latter presented itself as the most eligible plan, and was adopted by the people. Party disputes and animosities have occasionally prevailed, which show that the spirit of freedom is not extinguished, but only restrained for a time till an opportunity shall offer for calling it forth.

The Congress convened at *Savannah* did us the honour of choosing us Delegates to meet your respectable body at *Philadelphia*, on the tenth of next month. We were sensible of the honour and weight of the appointment, and would gladly have rendered our Country any services our poor abilities would have admitted of; but, alas! with what face could we have appeared for a Province whose inhabitants had refused to sacrifice the most trifling advantages to the publick cause, and in whose behalf we did not think we could safely pledge ourselves for the execution of any one measure whatsoever.

We do not mean to insinuate that those who appointed us would prove *apostates*, or desert their opinion; but that the tide of opposition was great; that all the strength and virtue of these our friends might be insufficient for the purpose. We very early saw the difficulties that would here occur, and therefore repeatedly and constantly requested the people to proceed to the choice of other Delegates in our stead; but this they refused to do.

We beg, sir, you will view our reasons for not attending



in a liberal point of light. Be pleased to make the most favourable representation of them to the honourable the Members of the Congress. We believe we may take upon us to say, notwithstanding all that has past, there are still men in *Georgia* who, when an occasion shall require, will be ready to evince a steady, religious, and manly attachment to the liberties of *America*. To the consolation of these, they find themselves in the neighbourhood of a Province whose virtue and magnanimity must and will do lasting honour to the cause, and in whose fate they seemed disposed freely to involve their own.

We have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servants,

NOBLE WIMBERLY JONES,  
ARCHIBALD BULLOCK,  
JOHN HOUSTOUN.

To the President of the Continental Congress.

#### CALVERT COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

April 5, 1775.

In consequence of an information received, that Mr. *Alexander Ogg*, merchant at *Huntingtown*, had sold and was selling his goods at a greater advance upon the prime cost than was recommended by the Provincial Convention, held at *Annapolis* in *December*, 1774, the Committee met at *Huntingtown* on *Saturday* the 25th *March*, and continued by adjournment till this day.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk give notice to said *Ogg*, and desire his attendance immediately before the Committee. Accordingly he attended, and produced his shop-notes and books, from which it appeared he had sold at a much higher advance than one hundred and fifty per cent. on the prime cost.

On motion, *Resolved*, That said *Ogg* has violated the Association, and therefore ought to be deemed an enemy to the cause of *America*. Signed per order,

PAT. SIM SMITH, Clerk pro tem.

#### TO THE PUBLICK.

I hereby publickly acknowledge that I have, but with no sinister intention, violated the *American* Association in selling several articles of my last cargo at more than one hundred and fifty per cent. advance upon the prime cost. My goods were imported via *Philadelphia*, and consequently were much more chargeable than if imported directly into this Province. This extraordinary expense I thought I had a right to reimburse myself; but I find I was mistaken. I am sorry I have offended. I am willing to make satisfaction as far as is in my power. I shall give credit in every article where I have charged a farthing more than one hundred and fifty per cent. upon the prime cost. And as my character as a vender of goods has hitherto been very irreproachable, and I have been as zealous an assessor of *American* freedom as any man upon the Continent, my sphere of life considered, I hope the publick will forgive this offence, more especially as it has been owing to a misapprehension of the matter, and not to any design of taking advantage of the scarcity of goods that now prevails.

ALEXANDER OGG.

April 13, 1775.

#### SUSSEX COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for the County of *Sussex*, in *Virginia*, at the Court-House, on *Thursday* the 6th of *April*, 1775, present: *Thomas Peete*, Esq., Chairman, and twenty-seven other Members of the said Committee:

The Proceedings of the Provincial Congress, lately held in the Town of *Richmond* and County of *Henrico*, were laid before the Committee by the late Delegates for this County; and the same being read, and maturely considered, the Committee came to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Committee, in behalf of themselves and their constituents, the good people of this County, are justly due, and are most unfeignedly given to the Congress in general, and to our late worthy Delegates in particular, for the great pains and trouble they have been at, and wisdom shewn in their consultations and resolves, and to assure them that this Committee will adhere strictly to the spirit of the Resolves of the said Congress.

Signed by order. THOMAS PEETE, Chairman.  
JOHN MASSENBURG, Clerk.

New-York, April 6, 1775.

A correspondent acquaints us that, on *Monday*, the 3d of *April*, the inhabitants of the Borough of *Westchester* met, in consequence of a summons, to give their sentiments upon a question, whether or not they would choose Deputies to represent them at a Provincial Convention in this City; when they declared themselves already very ably and effectually represented in the General Assembly of this Province by *Isaac Wilkins*, Esquire; peremptorily disowned all Congressional Conventions and Committees, most loyally repeating the old chorus, *God save the King*, which was seconded by three cheers.

On *Tuesday*, the 11th instant, a General Meeting of the inhabitants of the County of *Westchester* is to be held at the *White Plains*, to determine whether or not Delegates shall be sent by them to a Provincial Convention at *New-York*.

#### TO THE FREEHOLDERS AND INHABITANTS OF THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER.

New-York, April 6, 1775.

You are earnestly desired to attend a General Meeting of the County, to be held at the *White Plains*, on *Tuesday* next, the 11th instant, to give your votes upon the questions:—

Whether you are inclined to choose Deputies to meet at the City of *New-York*, in a Provincial Convention? Or,

Whether you are determined to abide by the loyal and judicious measures already taken by your own worthy Representatives in the General Assembly of this Province, for a redress of *American* grievances?

The consequences that may arise from your neglecting to attend at the *White Plains*, on *Tuesday* next, to declare your sentiments relative to the appointment of Deputies to meet in Provincial Congress, may be very fatal to this County. The friends of Government and our happy Constitution are, therefore, earnestly invited in person, to oppose a measure so replete with ruin and misery. Remember the extravagant price we are now obliged to pay for goods purchased of the merchants, in consequence of the Non-Importation Agreement; and when the Non-Exportation Agreement takes place, we shall be in the situation of those who were obliged to make bricks without straw.

#### MEETING OF THE INHABITANTS OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, Thursday, April 6, 1775.

A number of the inhabitants of this City and County assembled at the Liberty Pole this day, in consequence of a notification published yesterday for that purpose, when they immediately proceeded to the choice of a Chairman. And after the Chairman had fully explained the business and design of the meeting, a motion was made, that the following recommendation and advice of the Committee should be read:—

To the respectable Inhabitants of the City and County of NEW-YORK.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: In times so critical as the present, it becomes the duty of every citizen to pay particular attention to the welfare of the community, and to counteract every measure that may tend to injure its interest.

Influenced by these considerations, we view with concern the uneasiness occasioned in this City by the late unusual exportation of Nails; and perceive with anxiety the distress to which a monopoly of this or any other article may expose many among us.

For what purpose, or with what design, such a quantity has, in so short a time, been purchased and exported, we neither know nor can conceive. The clamour raised among the Mechanics, by the scarcity of Nails during the continuance of the last Non-Importation Agreement, is recent in our memories; and though the manufactories which have since been established will supply more than sufficient for our own consumption, we apprehend it would be imprudent thus rashly to part with what we have in store, especially as this sudden exportation has given just grounds for suspicion and alarm.

It is not within the limits of our appointment to provide



against the evil tendency of this circumstance, by any regulation; but considering ourselves as fellow-citizens with you, and deeply interested in every thing that respects the public weal, and the support of the great cause in which our all is at stake, we take the liberty of declaring our sentiments upon the occasion; and recommend to you to avoid drawing the people of this City into any difficulties or discontents, by exporting or encouraging the monopoly of such great quantities of Nails as may leave a provision for our own consumption precarious, especially as it is not certain whether these Nails, so hastily bought up and exported, are designed to be used, or to be stored.

Permit us also to submit to your consideration the propriety of supplying the Troops at *Boston* with implements of war, and articles essential to hostilities. We cannot forbear observing, that the duty we owe to our interest and reputation should lead us to withhold such supplies from the Troops, at least till we have assurances that nothing hostile is intended against us. By order of the Committee:  
ISAAC LOW, *Chairman*.

And the same being read accordingly, and the question put, whether they approved of the said recommendation and advice, it was carried in the affirmative unanimously.

Then the question was put, whether we ought to supply the Troops at *Boston* with implements of war, and other necessities for carrying on their operations against the people of *Massachusetts-Bay*; which was carried in the negative, unanimously.

After which, the following motions (in writing) were delivered to the Chairman:

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whereas *William* and *Henry Ustick*, of this City, Traders, have, for some time past, been engaged in purchasing Spades, Shovels, and other intrenching tools for the use of the Army now at *Boston*; and have likewise employed a number of hands in manufacturing Bill-hooks, Pickaxes, &c., for the purpose aforesaid; whereby they have acted derogatory to the character of good citizens and friends to their Country, as it enables General *Gage* to take the field, and carry into execution any hostile plan which he may have conceived against the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* in particular, and the *American* Colonies in general, and may be the means of involving our Country in bloodshed, and the dreadful calamities attendant on civil war. In order, therefore, to testify to the world our abhorrence and detestation of such vile and infamous conduct, and prevent in some measure the infamy and reproach which our silence would bring upon the inhabitants of this City and County in general:

I move that the sense of this body be now taken, whether the said *William* and *Henry Ustick* have not acted in this matter as inveterate foes to *American* freedom, and whether we ought not to break off all connexion and dealing with them for the future?

And the questions being respectively put on the said motions, they were carried in the affirmative, with only one dissenting voice.

It was likewise moved, that a Committee should be appointed to wait on the Importers of Nails, and request them not to dispose of those which they have on hand to any person who may purchase them with a design to export them out of the Province; and a Committee of seven persons was accordingly appointed for that purpose.

ALEXANDER M'DOUGALL TO JOSIAH QUINCY, JUN.

New-York, April 6, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your favours of the 17th and 19th of *December* last, enclosing letters for the friends of the common cause in *Boston* and *Philadelphia*, arrived here the 10th ultimo; but they were not handed to me before the 25th, owing to their being in a package belonging to a gentleman who was absent when they arrived. Your directions respecting them were strictly observed, and they were forwarded the 27th by safe conveyances. I shall take great pleasure in transmitting your future communications to your friends.

I wrote you by the *March* Packet under cover to Mr. *Thomas Bromfield*, in which I informed you of the progress then made by our House of Assembly on *American* grievances. The assurances I gave you, that what re-

mained of the "Report of the Committee of Grievances" not then considered by the "Committee of the House," would rather be more in favour of liberty than the "Report," has since been confirmed; the particulars of which you have in the enclosed printed proceedings of the House. After the "Statement of Grievances" was agreed to, and approved of by the House, several of the members who were warm friends to the cause of liberty, having attended the Assembly two months, and their families being very remote from the Capital, and urgent business demanding their return, and considering the most important transactions of the sessions finished, went home. This gave an opportunity to the wicked and designing members of the House, contrary to all order, to depart from the spirit of the "List of Grievances," in a "Petition to the King," "Memorial to the Lords," and "Remonstrance to the Commons." But the "Statement of Grievances" agreed to by the fullest House during the sessions, must be considered as the basis of all their proceedings on the *American* controversy. If any regard is to be paid to the sense of the legal Representatives, that sense is the "Statement of Grievances" agreed to in a full House; and therefore, whatever difference appears in the "Petition," &c., from that "Statement of Grievances" is a mere nullity. If the Ministry make any dependance on the "Petition," &c., as declarative of the sense of this Colony, they will find themselves most egregiously mistaken. This City will publicly disavow the vile, slavish sentiments contained in the "Petition," &c., the moment they make their appearance. So far as they are now known, they are condemned, and the patrons of them despised. And if the Provincial Convention, who are to meet here on the 20th instant, to elect Delegates for the Continental Congress, do not disavow the "Petition," &c., which I have reason to conclude they will, they will certainly join with the Continental Congress in doing it.

During the Ship *Beulah's* stay in our Bay she was continually watched by a Sub-Committee, and did not enter. But while she lay at the *Hook* waiting for a fair wind, the night before she departed threatened a storm; and as the Boat, on board of which the Sub-Committee attended, was not so well provided with ground-tackling as the Ship, the Boat was obliged to go into a cove of safety, at some distance from the Ship. The owners, who had some goods on board, having previously meditated a plan to land them, availed themselves of this opportunity, and effected it in the night. Of this they were suspected, and our Sub-Committee of Observation, and the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, having got a clue to a discovery, the owners confessed the matter upon oath. Our citizens were so enraged at them for the horrid deed, that it was with great difficulty they were prevailed upon not to banish them. The fearful apprehensions of these persons, and the terms on which they are suffered to abide here, are fully expressed in the printed papers which you have herewith. This is the only violation of the Association we have had since it took place. The punishment they now, and will endure, is sufficient to deter any man, however base, from another breach.

The friends of the Association, and the great cause, are daily increasing; so that you have no reason to fear a defection of this Colony. Time will not permit me to be more particular. I shall continue to enclose you all the printed papers which I may judge of importance to you, regardless of the postage, until you direct me to the contrary.

I am, dear sir, in great haste, but with great respect,  
your humble servant, ALEXANDER M'DOUGALL.

*Josiah Quincy, Jun., London.*

P. S. As my political character may tempt the tools of Government to open letters to me, please to cover your favours to me to *Samuel Broome & Co.*, Merchants, in *New-York*.

FOR MR. RIVINGTON'S NEW-YORK GAZETTEER.

Boston, April 6, 1775.

Whereas it is the prevailing rage of the present times for people of all ranks, orders, and professions, to form Associations, and erect themselves into what they call Congresses and Committees of various denominations;



who, under pretext of redressing grievances and reforming Church and State, have made most audacious and iniquitous resolves, tending to the subversion of all order and good Government, and the total abolition of law and justice :

And whereas, in compliance with the aforesaid resolves, many peaceable and well disposed persons, who have declined joining in such illegal Associations, have been insulted, persecuted, proscribed, and oppressed, and have suffered all the cruelty and torture that brutal, cowardly rage could devise ; and as, in obedience to the orders of such Congresses and Committees, much private property has been destroyed, the most daring piracies and robberies have been perpetrated in the face of open day, and death and destruction denounced against all who dare oppose their lawless banditti :

And whereas the Pulpit and Press are become subservient to the infernal schemes of these diabolical assemblies, and are used as the great engines to destroy the peace and tranquillity of this devoted Nation, and to plunge it into all the horrors of rebellion and civil war ; to accomplish which they daily teem with productions of the most inflammatory, seditious, treasonable nature ; reflecting on, and highly injurious to the characters and interests of individuals, and particular societies of men ; which individuals and particular societies labour under great disadvantages, through the want of mutual concert and intercourse with each other :

And as the Navy and Army sent hither by His Majesty for the support of the laws and preservation of the peace, have been marked out as the peculiar objects of the rancour and malignity of these reforming fanatics ; and as in their resolves they have publicly declared the officers and men to be their enemies, and with that charity and humanity which are peculiar to the *holy men of Massachusetts*, have endeavoured to deprive them of those necessities and conveniences of life, which, among savages, are not denied to the brute creation, namely, straw to lie down on, and sheds to shelter them from the rigour of a most inclement season ; and with their usual zeal for the propagation of irreligion and immorality, have spared neither pains nor expense to debauch the soldiers from their duty and allegiance, to persuade them to be guilty of perjury, treason, and rebellion ; and as a few, by artifice and deceit, have been prevailed on to desert the service of their King and Country, some of whom have suffered the punishment due to so heinous a crime, and others have been condemned by their seducers to slavery, and sentenced to pass the remainder of their miserable days at hard labour in the mines :

As these illegal Congresses and Committees still continue to meet, vote, and resolve ; and as His Majesty's land and sea forces here assembled, are particularly affected by these meetings, it is therefore, with all deference, submitted to the Officers, whether, from the foregoing considerations, they should not immediately form a Congress, that, by uniting their counsels and arms, they may both act with greater force, and with more effect ; and the appearance of a confederacy may render them no less respectable among the people than formidable to the rebels :

It is therefore humbly proposed by the Moderator and Selectmen, that a Military Congress be immediately formed, under the name of A Grand Congress of Control ; that this Congress have a President, who shall be styled Comptroller General ; a Secretary ; three Delegates from each Regiment ; three from the Navy, and one from the Engineers.

That as many as can conveniently meet, do assemble on every *Monday* and *Thursday*, immediately after the publication of the *Boston Gazette* and the *Spy*, to take cognizance of whatever may relate to them in these Papers ; and also of the proceedings of the Provincial Congress now sitting at *Concord*.

That on these days they hear all complaints against Congresses, Committees, Town Meetings, Selectmen, Printers, Watchmen, and mob of the Town of *Boston*.

That they take cognizance of any injury, insult, or indignity, that may be offered by any man or body of men, to their Country, their King, their profession, their General, their men, or themselves ; and where legal process cannot be obtained, that a summary mode of redress be adopted and put into execution.

That they appoint such inferior Committees as shall to them appear expedient.

That they keep a faithful register of the occurrences of the times, and pursue every other measure which, in their united wisdom, they shall judge effectual, to obviate the insidious schemes of a most artful, indefatigable, unprincipled, and ungenerous enemy.

FOR THE MASSACHUSETTS GAZETTE.

Boston, April 6, 1775.

*My worthy Friends and Fellow-Countrymen :*

Experience has ever been found to be the best guide of human conduct ; to profit from our past errors, is at once to discharge our duty and consult our truest interest. When we review our past behaviour, in any stage or station of life, how many instances may we find, wherein we should have acted a very different part if we had been aware of the consequences which have ensued ; and which, should we again be placed in the same situation, we should very materially correct ? Hence have originated the wise maxims and prudent and salutary observations of the sages of antiquity, which, if more carefully attended to, would make succeeding generations much more cautious and circumspect in their conduct than we, in fact, find to be the case. But such is the unhappy frailty of the human mind, that we are in general less attentive to the calls of reason and prudence than the suggestions of passion, prejudice, and vicious habits. We are apt suddenly to gratify our present inclinations at the expense of our future happiness, and incur the same misfortunes which we have seen a thousand others do by a similar behaviour before.

If we look back upon the conduct of the Colonies for some years past, we may find many critical junctures where a prudent silence, or dutiful and rational remonstrance, would have been attended with the most salutary consequences, and put an end to that dispute which has since been so unhappily protracted. With what extreme caution, then, should we now proceed in our opposition, when our all depends upon adopting a proper mode of behaviour. We ought to be thoroughly convinced that we have truth, justice, reason, and equity for our foundation. How far these are the ground of the complaints of the Congress, I am endeavouring to discover to you, and beg your attention to that article of grievance which was omitted in my last, from motives of convenience, and is as follows : "Assemblies have been frequently and injuriously dissolved, and Commerce burdened with many useless and oppressive restrictions."

In this article we have a striking instance of the consolidated modesty, as well as wisdom of the Congress. As to the first part, relative to the dissolution of Assemblies, they might have recollected, that in some instances His Majesty, whose undoubted prerogative it is, by express instructions, had directed his Governors to dissolve the Assemblies, (unless they would recede from some rash, imprudent, and unjustifiable measures which they had adopted,) before they had so modestly told him, by styling them injurious, that he was not a judge of the propriety or justice of the steps which he himself had directed. In other instances, the Governors, of themselves, have dissolved Assemblies, when their proceedings have been such as required it. Here it is curious to observe the inimitable consistency and uniformity of the conduct of some members of the Congress, who, for some years past, as members of the General Assembly, have been endeavouring to prove that the Governor has the "sole power to prorogue, adjourn, and dissolve the General Assembly," when and where he thinks fit ; and now, at the Congress, complain of it as injurious that he has exercised this right, in instances where he himself thought His Majesty's service required it. Such conduct can be accounted for on no other principle than a disposition in the Congress to raise fears and create jealousies in the people of a design to make them slaves, when, at the same time, they themselves are convinced that they are the mere suggestions of their own wicked arts and false insinuations. "And Commerce burdened with many useless and oppressive restrictions." This is still more extraordinary. In all the disputes that have hitherto subsisted, the right of *Great Britain* to regulate the Trade of the Colonies was never till now contested ; and the neces-



sity and justice of this is apparent, when we consider the vast expense *Great Britain* is at in protecting the trade; and that the Colonies might otherwise carry on a commerce destructive to her interest, which she has an undoubted right to prevent, upon every principle of justice and policy: by her strength, by her assistance, it is that we now enjoy this extensive Country, and have arrived to so great a pitch of opulence and importance. How reasonable is it, then, that we should be restrained from attempting any thing detrimental to her Trade and Commerce? These, however, have been regulated with the strictest regard and attention to the interests of the Colonies.

The inhabitants of *Great Britain* are not suffered to raise any tobacco, and are obliged to pay large duties upon what is imported, merely to benefit some of the Colonies, whose sole subsistence depends upon it. They are restrained from buying indigo, which they might get much cheaper at other markets, merely to encourage the *American* manufacture of that article. And though we have been restrained from vending a number of the articles of our produce to any but *Great Britain*, yet this has been amply compensated by the bounties that have been paid us upon their importation into that Kingdom. Large bounties have been paid upon our timber, pitch, tar, rosin, turpentine, hemp, indigo, pot and pearl ashes, &c.; the Acts granting some of which have a preamble which breathes the most benevolent regard to the interest and happiness of the Colonies; it is thus expressed: "Whereas, Her Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in *America* were at first settled, and are still maintained and protected at a great expense of the treasure of this Kingdom, with a design to render them as useful as may be to *England*, and the labour and industry of the people there, profitable to themselves; and to enable them to make due and sufficient returns in the course of their trade," &c. Certainly nothing appears useless and oppressive in these instances; and the more we examine it, the more groundless this complaint appears. It is couched in general terms, to prevent the knowledge of the truth. It was supposed the veracity of the Congress would be implicitly relied on, and that few would take the trouble of inquiring for themselves. But I beseech you, my dear friends, exercise that reason, those powers of judging which *God* has given you. The Congress has been guilty of gross prevarication and false assertions, which I am endeavouring to convince you of; and however severe these charges may seem, I shall think the truth of my assertions a sufficient apology for every thing I advance.

The next complaint which has not yet been considered, is this: "Both Houses of Parliament have resolved that the Colonists may be tried in *England* for offences alleged to have been committed in *America*, by virtue of a Statute passed in the thirty-fifth year of *Henry* the Eighth, and in consequence thereof attempts have been made to enforce the Statute." The statute here referred to, either extended to *America*, or it did not; if it did extend here, how comes it to pass that we have never complained of it before? How could our forefathers, from the first settlement of the Country, tamely submit to such a galling yoke, and insensibly remain in such a state of slavery? Unhappy mortals! thus to continue for a hundred and fifty years in actual submission to tyranny and arbitrary power, and never once be aware of their danger; never perceive that their liberties were infringed; never feel so enormous a grievance. Surely our veneration for their characters, as the sons of freedom, must be greatly lessened, when we reflect upon this dastardly instance of their supine negligence and unmanly silence. Is it possible they could enjoy the conveniences, comforts, and luxuries of life, with which in later times they have been surrounded, and not be tormented with the goading reflection of their submission to this infamous statute of *Henry* the Eighth, that tyrant of tyrants, and scourge to his subjects? Unfeeling wretches! But, thank Heaven, we, their wiser offspring, have found it out, and are determined no longer to acquiesce in our submission; but through fear of misfortunes yet unfelt, will sacrifice our peace, our happiness, and every social blessing, and involve ourselves in the most distressing calamities, rather than by our silence countenance the bare existence of such an authority, though we never have, and never expect to experience its exertion. Who would not, for the

uncertainty of future oppression, relinquish the certain enjoyment of present happiness and peace? Who would not, for the pleasure of opposing lawful authority, submit to the usurpation of lawless Congresses and Committee-men? One drop of *American* blood, if it flows in the veins of any one to whom these questions are proposed, must at once dictate the answer.

But to be serious.—If this Act did extend to *America*, could the resolutions of the two Houses of Parliament add to its baneful influence? Could that which has ever been a law, be rendered more so, by repeated declaration of but two branches of the Legislature? Certainly not. But if it did not extend here, is not the declaration of the Lords and Commons that it did, equivalent to making a new statute; and can they alone do this, without the assent of the third branch of the Legislature? Can, therefore, such resolves be considered in any other light, than a declaration of the general sense of the Nation? Can they be supposed to add any authority to the statute referred to, which it had not before? Is not the exposition of Acts of Parliament, the proper department of the Executive Courts of Justice? Can, therefore, any thing short of a new act of Parliament, which has the sanction of the three branches of the Legislature, extend a former Act beyond the meaning and construction it may lawfully bear? Will not the Judges of the Courts of Law expound it, as it stands by itself, abstracted from any resolves of separate branches of the Legislature? Have they not done this? Was it not first proposed to the Judges of *England* for their opinion, which was afterwards confirmed *in terrorem* merely, by the resolves of the two Houses of Parliament? And if this is the grievance, I admit it to be true that the Judges of *England* have determined that it does extend here; and it is equally true that they are the proper judges of this matter, and should, doubtless, have decided it upon the principles of Law and the Constitution; and however disagreeable the decision may be to the Congress, it certainly is not a matter of grievance, as hereby they have not made any new law, but explained one of a date more ancient than the settlement of this Country, and under the authority of which we have hitherto lived quiet and peaceable lives, without suffering any inconvenience or oppression. And here I cannot but take notice of the vague, indeterminate expression made use of, "that the Colonists may be tried in *England* for offences alleged to have been committed in *America*." As I have before observed, this Petition, so called, could be intended only for the publick newspapers here, and therefore the design was chiefly to alarm the fears of the populace. Accordingly they are left in this instance to conjecture whatever their heated imaginations may suggest, and to suppose that the most trivial of offences are here guarded against; whereas, if they were informed that it was high treason, the highest crime known in the law, and indeed the most flagitious in its nature and consequences, that can be committed in any State, the importance and necessity of the case would apologize for the extraordinary remedy provided, and silence every objection. But the Congress go on confidently to assert, that "in consequence thereof, attempts have been made to enforce that statute." What is intended by this, I am utterly at a loss to conceive. I neither know nor have ever heard of any instance of this kind, though I have been pretty industrious in my inquiries; and I believe I may justly and truly aver, that no such attempt has ever been made—sure I am, that there has been none in this Province; and I will candidly confess my error, and acknowledge my obligations to any one, who can inform me of an instance in any other. Why, then, we should be alarmed with an idea of danger, where there is none; why we should be told of attempts which have never been made, of grievances never felt, and of designs to injure us never conceived, is not easily accounted for upon the principles of justice, truth, equity, or a regard for the interest and happiness of the Colonies, or the just and legal authority of the Parent State.

I will now consider the next complaint, which is, "A Statute was passed in the twelfth year of your Majesty's reign, directing that persons charged with committing any offence therein described, in any place out of the Realm, may be indicted and tried for the same in any Shire or County within the Realm, whereby inhabitants of these Colonies may, in sundry cases, by that Statute made capi-



tal, be deprived of a trial by their peers of the vicinage." After premising that this statute is intended principally to prevent setting fire to His Majesty's Dock-Yards, Ships, and Naval Stores, I would beg leave to observe, that by Commerce and Trade alone *Great Britain* has arrived to such a pitch of opulence and splendour, as has scarce been equalled, never surpassed, by any Nation on the globe. By the undisputed sovereignty of the Sea, which she has ever maintained, she has been able to hold the first rank, and preserve the balance of power among all the Kingdoms, States, and Empires in the world. Should her naval power be considerably lessened or destroyed, it would be productive of the most ruinous consequences, and must finally terminate in the destruction of the *British Nation*. The principal States in *Europe* envy, and are striving to out-rival her in this boasted superiority; and should they ever be able to effect this point, *Britain* would soon become a tributary State to some potent victor. It is by her powerful fleet, that this renowned Island, comparatively small, has arisen to be the first Kingdom on earth for wealth and power; inexhaustible sources of opulence and riches have been discovered and improved by her commercial intercourse with the different Nations and Countries in the world; and this Trade is continued, secured, and protected merely by her much-envied but hitherto unrivalled Navy. Of how much importance it is, then, that the most effectual precautions should be used to support this valuable, useful, and necessary pillar of her greatness! To injure or impair this, is to strike at the very foundation of the Kingdom and vitals of the State. To attempt to destroy this bulwark of her power, would indicate an inclination to reduce *Great Britain* to a state of poverty and slavery. Who, then, can complain that the laws made to punish so heinous an offence should be severe, and attended with penalties proportionate to the greatness of the crime? Who would not be willing to submit to a provision in this instance, which in most others might be reasonably complained of? Sensible of the necessity and justice of it, the inhabitants of the other parts of the Dominions, who are equally affected by it with us, willingly and cheerfully acquiesce in their submission to this statute; and why we alone should complain, when every part of the Dominion is in the same predicament, is a little unaccountable. By this statute it is enacted, that whoever shall offend against it out of the Realm, may be indicted and tried in any County within the Realm that His Majesty shall appoint. Thus our fellow-subjects in *Ireland*, the *West-Indies*, and wherever else dispersed, are equally comprehended in this Act; so that we have no reason to suppose, as is suggested by the Congress, that it was passed in consequence of a plan adopted by the Ministry to enslave the Colonies. But the intention is best collected from the Act itself, which informs us that it was made because the safety of the Dock-Yards, Ships, &c., is of great importance to the welfare and security of the Kingdom; and he who can basely attempt to infringe these, amply deserves to be tried under the disadvantages, if they can be called such, prescribed by this Act.

PHILEIRENE.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

NO. VIII.

Boston, April 6, 1775.

*My Friends and Fellow-Countrymen:*

We are now verging towards a close of our lucubrations upon the right of Parliament. I blush upon asking your further attention to this matter, having already trespassed long on your patience. The importance of the subject, and a show of argument in the two papers succeeding the one considered in our last, must be my apology. Having examined this question to its foundation, in a course of papers that have been laid before the publick; having compared it with every principle of law, of justice, and of social connexions, which would not disgrace the understanding of a *Hottentot*; having traced its decision in our favour, up to a connexion with our most important duty, and the precepts of Heaven; it remains only that we obviate the residue of our writer's half-made arguments upon this subject, by showing their inconclusiveness or remoteness from the point. Such matters as fall within the principles and rea-

sonings established and applied on former occasions, we may pass by, as having been fairly and fully answered. It is unnecessary in this stage of the controversy to offer any thing in affirmance of our claim, however the observations and assertions of our antagonist may provoke us to it; for this, I must refer you to our past Numbers. Many other things might be added, so fertile and clear is the subject, the which, if they should all be written, I suppose the world itself would not contain the books that would be written.

The Paper of *January* 16th, begins with the most flagrant misrepresentation of facts, from which we may form some shrewd conjectures of its progress and end. "Had a person, some fifteen years ago, undertaken to prove that the Colonies were annexed to the Realm, were a part of the *British Empire* or Dominion, and as such subject to the authority of the *British Parliament*, he would have acted as ridiculous a part as to have undertaken to prove a self-evident proposition. Had any person denied it, he would have been called a fool or a madman." If this be true, *James* the First, *Charles* the First, and *Charles* the Second were mad Kings, as we have shown from good authority; our famed progenitors madmen; our Charters the offspring of madness; the *English Laws* and the *British Constitution* the essence of madness; and this ridiculous madness has been handed down, by some mysterious fatality, from generation to generation to the present day, excepting, in a few instances, where persons basking in the sunshine of Court favours, have had their brains so heated and volatilized by the piercing rays of honour and profit, as to enable them to evaporate the general contagion. Our sane disputant may stand high in this catalogue. By what specifics such cures are effected is no longer matter of curious speculation. This brings to my mind the story of a prodigal froward child, who, madly attempting to hang himself in his father's presence, was cured of his lunacy by a sum of money, which disease would never return but with an empty purse.

At this wise period individuals and bodies of men deny it, notwithstanding in doing it they subvert the fundamentals of Government, deprive us of *British* liberties, and build up absolute monarchy in the Colonies. We proved in our last that the admission of this authority is, in every point of view, absolutely inconsistent with the fundamentals of Government, *British* rights, *English* liberties, or the security of life, liberty, and property, which we are entitled to as men. And thus it erects an absolute Government in the Colonies as repugnant to every idea of freedom as life and death, blessing and cursing, are opposite to each other.

"Our Charters," says our hypothetical reasoner, "suppose regal authority in the grantor; if that authority be derived from the *British Crown*, it presupposes this Territory to have been a part of the *British Dominions*, and as such subject to the imperial Sovereign." If he means any thing to the purpose by these (perhaps designedly) inaccurate expressions and obscure reasoning, it must be this, viz: Our Charters suppose the right and property of the Colonies, or the *American Territory*, to be in the King, as grantor; and if this right and property be derived to him from the *English Crown*, or *British*, if he pleases, it presupposes the Colonies to have been a part of the *British Dominions*. To take him upon his own argument: Our Charters suppose nothing in the grantor, but what he has absolutely granted away, (excepting the reservations to himself,) which the Charters suppose he had good right to do. And his deriving this right or property from the *English Crown*, presupposes nothing to have belonged to the *English Dominions*, and subject to the imperial Sovereign, but what, being taken away and vested in the King, was conveyed over to the grantees, which proves, even upon his own principles, that we are not now a part of the *British State*, nor subject to its supreme authority. This is *argumentum ad hominem*.

Let us examine it upon its true principles. The Charters, as we have elsewhere observed, from their subject matter and the reality of things, can only operate as the evidence of a compact between an *English King* and the *American subjects*; their running in the style of a grant is mere matter of form, and not of substance. Nor do they suppose the Territory granted to be the right and property of the King as grantor, any more than where *Magna*



*Charta* gives and grants to the people of *England* their rights, *sua jura*, and their liberties, *libertatis suas*, all which the people had a right to, and possessed previous to and independent of this Charter, proves that these rights and liberties were mere emanations from the royal grantor, or new blessings given to the subject as matters of bounty and grace, and not, rather, the royal assurance that those rights which adhered to them as men, and their Constitution confirmed to them as *Englishmen*, should not be invaded. Admitting that our Charters did suppose the right and property of the Colonies in the grantor, suppositions are only admissible where facts cannot be ascertained; they are always controlled and superseded by evidence. *Massachusettsensis* knows, *Great Britain* knows, common sense teaches, history confirms, and we have already proved, that the grantor had no right, title, or possession here in *America*, excepting what was derived from a visit made to these shores by some *British* mariners, when they were the possessed and rightful property of twenty other Nations; or what is still more ridiculous, if possible, from a Popish pretended right in Christians to take away the property, the dwellings, the liberties, and the lives of heathens. So that all this famous train of reasoning, going upon a false, mistaken, and refuted supposition of an antecedent right in the King, dwindles into sound and shadow; for the foundation being removed, the superstructure, however artificial and superb, must tumble to the ground. It is peculiarly characteristic of our embarrassed writer, to beg the question. I wish for once he would come to the point. Has he proved, excepting by arguments that evince directly the contrary, that before the reception of our Charters the Colonies were a part of the *British* Empire, or that these Charters united them to the *British* Realm? Does not his confused *Babel* fabrick, which he has been so long building, stand entirely on this basis? I call upon him to prop it up, if he has it in his power, or frankly confess the imposition. Let him name the time when, point out the manner how, or the means by which the Colonies were united to the Realm of *England*; or let him be for ever silent concerning a right in Parliament to give law in all cases to more than three millions of unrepresented and misrepresented *Americans*. I dare say this is a task that he, nor any other man in his senses, will never seriously attempt. Every history, every record, every scrap of paper to be found upon the subject, evinces the contrary. It may not be amiss to recite a few passages from a historian of great fame and undoubted credit. "When the *Europeans* first visited this Country, they found it inhabited by twenty different Nations, or Tribes, independent of each other, and commanded by their respective chiefs. Of these Nations the most powerful was the *Massachusetts*, situate on or near the harbour of *Boston*. King *James* the First, by letters patent, dated April 10, 1606, erected two Companies, granting to them all the Northeast Coast of *America*, which was then called *Virginia*. One of the Companies was called *Plymouth* Company, who, for some time, traded only with the natives of *North Virginia*, or now *New-England*, for furs, and fished upon their Coast." Did this grant to the Company suppose this Territory to be in the grantor, and presuppose it a part of the *British* Empire? Just as much as if a Provincial Governour should erect Companies, and grant them large tracts of the new discovered world in the *South Seas* belonging to the *Otaheitis*, would suppose a right in the Governour to the land of the Natives, and presuppose it a part of the Province he governed: a species of reasoning that the veriest tyro which ever passed the hands of a common pedagogue might have confuted.

About the year 1619 the Dissenters in *England*, to avoid religious persecution, having purchased the *Plymouth* Patent of the Company, (to prevent pretensions for molestation,) and obtaining another from King *James* of all *New-England*, a hundred and fifty men embarked on board of a Ship which arrived at Cape Cod in *New-England*, from *Plymouth*, the 6th of September, 1620, where they built a Town and called it by the name of *New-Plymouth*, and elected John Carver their first Governour. The *Indians*, continues the same historian, were at this time too much engaged in wars among themselves to give these strangers any disturbance; and *Massasoit*, Prince of the *Massa-*

*chusett* Nation, learning what a powerful people the *English* were, made Governour Carver a visit the following spring, and entered into an alliance offensive and defensive with the *English*. This Prince also consented to acknowledge the King of *England* his Sovereign, and made cession of part of his Country to the new Planters. Several other Sachems did the same, following his example, and desired the protection of the *English* against their enemies, professing themselves subjects to King *James*. Did the cession of this land to the *English* unite it to the *British* Empire? Did the Mother State enlarge and contract herself in proportion as our ancestors increased or diminished their possessions in *America*? Did the natives subject themselves and their lands to the operation of any law that might pass the *British* Parliament, by acknowledging themselves the subjects of King *James*? Or would a Charter from His *Britannick* Majesty, granting them what was their own before, have settled the matter? What nonsensical conclusions, what complicated absurdities, will toryistical reasonings run us into.

In 1664 King *Charles* II. granted *New-York*, the *Jerseys*, and *Pennsylvania* to his brother, the Duke of York; the Duke granted over *Pennsylvania* to Sir William Penn, who received an additional grant from the same King in 1680. Penn, says the historian, notwithstanding the grants made him by the Crown and the Duke of York, did not esteem himself the real proprietor of the lands until he had given the *Indians* a valuable consideration for their Country. He assembled, therefore, their Sachems or Princes, and purchased countries of a very large extent of them at a moderate price, which he paid to the entire satisfaction of the natives. This flourishing Colony, whenever it wants to extend its settlements, it purchases new lands of the Sachems, and not from the Crown of *England*. What suppositions and presuppositions would our surreptitious land grantors raise from the above history? Does it prove the right in the Crown? Does it establish the desiderata of the Tories?

"If that authority was vested in the person of the King in a different capacity, then the *British* Constitution and Laws are out of the question, and the King must be absolute as to us, as his prerogatives have never been limited." To which we answer, that our Charter, and that alone, brings the *English* Constitution and Laws into view, and makes them necessary questions, let the King's authority and capacity be as they may. It refers us to those as to a standard (as it might as well have done to any other Constitution and code of laws) to reduce to a certainty the rights and privileges we were entitled to by our Charter; as also to point out and circumscribe the prerogatives of the Crown. So that these prerogatives are as much limited and confined in the Colonies as they are in *England*.

"Charter Governments must severally revert to absolute monarchy, as their Charters may happen to be forfeited by the grantees not fulfilling the conditions of them." This goes entirely upon the supposition that the King was the original owner and proprietor of the premises. This is begging the question; for we have shown, over and over, that it is a baseless hypothesis, framed by court-undertakers to support their darling plan; thus obscuring truth, they attempt to clothe the minds of their readers with darkness, and feed them with error. It is not only void of proof, but, what is worse, in direct opposition to irrefragable arguments, and the stubborn evidence of facts. If the conditions on which the Charter was made are broken by the one party or the other, (the grantees or the grantor,) the only possible conclusion from thence is, that the compact is dissolved, and both set at large.

Our heroick writer, imagining that he had not quite frightened away our senses, or reasoned us out of our rights and liberties, attempts to smile away both. "It is curious, indeed," says he, with an air of ridicule, "to trace the denial and oppugnation to the supreme authority of the State. When the Stamp Act was made, the authority of Parliament to impose internal taxes was denied, but their right to impose external ones, or, in other words, to lay duties upon Goods and Merchandise was admitted. When the Act was made imposing duties on Tea, &c., a new distinction was set up, that the Parliament had a right to lay duties upon Merchandise for the purpose of regulating



Trade, but not for the purpose of raising a Revenue. That is, the Parliament had good right and lawful authority to lay the former duty of a shilling on the pound, but had none to lay the present duty of three pence." If our writer seriously believes this to be a fair representation of the matter, he is certainly to be pitied, instead of being reasoned with. The distinction set up is important, it is substantial, it is this, that the *British* Parliament may have good right and lawful authority to make a law to operate in *England* within the jurisdiction of Parliament, where the people are represented, for to lay a duty of one shilling, or nineteen shillings, if you please, on the pound, for the purpose of raising a revenue; and yet have no authority or right to make a law to operate within the Colonies beyond the jurisdiction of Parliament, where the people are not represented, for to lay a duty of three pence, or even the infinitissimum of a farthing, for the same purpose. Admitting that some of the Whigs set up different though consistent distinctions at different times, or rather, expressed the same distinction by different words, does it affect the merits of the controversy? Does it not rather prove that the Stamp Act, which ushered in the present ruinous system of politicks, was such a novelty in Colony administration, and the principle it dragged after it such a monster in an *English* Constitution, as to render a description of it difficult by terms and distinctions?

Had we time for amusement, and to trace the Tories in the route they have taken, we could give such a curious history of their distinctions, contradictions, explanations, and declarations, in nurturing of this despicable brat of ministerial influence, if not in the unnatural part they acted as midwives, to give it birth, as would grace the *Memoirs of Don Quixotte*, or the most fantastick Knight-errant that ever lived. When the Tea Act, with others, passed, no *American* was found hardy enough openly to assert a right in Parliament to tax the unrepresented inhabitants of the Colonies; this was reserved as an exploit for our undaunted writer. At that time the Tories, or rather the friends to Government, as they call themselves, to save appearance, conjured up from their own noddles the ideas of a virtual representation; we heard much about the *Americans* being virtually represented in the *British* Parliament. This for awhile was trumpeted forth by every creature, or spawn of a creature, in the torystical choir. They hugged the unmeaning invention until, by its becoming familiar, it grew contemptible; at last with shame they gave it up. However, it was succeeded by another distinction from the same fountain (a Tory's fertile brain) equally ridiculous. The duty upon Tea was no tax. It was for the purpose of regulating trade. Nothing was a tax that could possibly be eluded, as this might by not consuming the dutied article. This was not long matter of dispute. The Ministry had christened their own bantling, they called it a tax; its sponsors, or God-fathers in *America*, rather than quarrel with their best friends, consented, at length, to call it by its proper name. The curtain is still kept drawn; and the farce continues. It is next admitted to be a tax, and that Parliament had no right to impose it. But yet it was our duty to submit to it cheerfully, acknowledge the right of laying it, and in that way get it removed. Having worried through all this series of contradictions, with much more equally curious, to no purpose; being chagrined with disappointment, and provoked at their own folly and stupidity, their last resort is to speak out, and declare us slaves. This *Massachusettensis* was most heroically resolved upon. He accordingly asserts that Parliament has a right to tax us; a right to make laws binding upon us in all cases whatsoever; and that opposition to such laws would be treason and rebellion. Such has been the vile employment, the sordid drudgery of those engaged in support of Court measures, though no person has reason to grudge them their places and pensions, either in enjoyment or expectancy, as compensations for their service. Certainly those inferiour animals that are scattered up and down through the Country, those jackals, which, like so many satellites, have been revolving round some military Officer or new made Justice, in expectation of titles, of feathers, are much to be pitied. Poor things! could their leaders once get seated securely in the chair of greatness and absolute power, this insignificant tribe of fawners, seekers, and expectants, would be forever dismissed from their ser-

vice; and their greatest misfortune, perhaps, would be, that they were once acquainted. To such, it is the advice of a friend immediately to throw off the infatuation, put on the man, and show the world they are not to be duped.

"It is of the last importance," says *Massachusettensis*, "to settle this point, that is, the right of Parliament; it will (continues he) serve as a true test, certain criterion, and invariable standard, to distinguish the friends from the enemies of our Country, patriotism from sedition, loyalty from rebellion." I heartily subscribe to the justice of this observation, but commiserate the unhappy situation of its author, if the friends and enemies of our Country should be distinguished by this standard of his own erecting, which, to do him justice, is the standard of truth. Weighed in such an equitable and discriminating balance, we should find all those fair pages of calumny which our author has published to the world respecting the conduct of the Whigs, converted into the sweetest encomiums; and *Massachusettensis* would be but another name for treason; the friends to Government, order, and the laws, in the modern prostituted application of the words, and the advocates for injustice, oppression, tyranny, and rebellion, would become synonymous terms.

After making some observations, which are nothing to the purpose, unless the Colonies are annexed to the Realm, which is not the case, nor ever will be; and if they were, it would not follow, if *Guernsey* and *Jersey* are enslaved, that the *Americans* must be so too; a clause from our first Charter, too long to be repeated, respecting incorporation, is recited by our author, upon which he gravely asks this simple question, "Whether it looks like a distinct or independent State?" We may fully answer him by another question equally simple, viz: Is there a single word in it that looks like uniting us to the *British* Empire, or subjecting us to the authority of Parliament? If it has not this look, it does not look to the point; for it is demonstration, as there was a time when the Colonies were disunited from the Realm and the supreme authority of the Parent State, that they are so now, unless there is evidence of a subsequent connexion. It is to be wished that those who keep eternally harping upon our being annexed to the *British* Realm, would point out the process that united us. There is none in nature. I challenge them to produce any.

The two next adduced paragraphs from our first Charter, we have examined in our third and fourth numbers, and have shown the first exactly to correspond with the rights we contend for, and the latter to be absolutely inconsistent with, and repugnant to, every principle and idea of our being a part of the *British* Empire, and subject to its Sovereign power. It is therefore unnecessary to take them up in this place.

The last-recited clause from this Charter we have also considered; the substance of which is, that all and every of the subjects of the King of *England*, his heirs and successors, who should go to and inhabit in the *Massachusetts* Colony, and all their children born in the said Colony, or on the Seas, should have and enjoy all the liberties and immunities of free and natural born subjects within any of the Dominions of the King, his heirs and successors, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, as if they were, and every of them, born within the Realm.

"It is upon this clause, or a similar one in the Charter of *William and Mary*, that our patriots have built up the stupendous fabrick of *American* independence." Be it so: the foundation, were there no other, would sustain the building; it is impossible to undermine it or explain it away.

"I have already," says our writer, "shewn that the supposition of our being exempted from the authority of Parliament, is pregnant with the grossest absurdities." No mortal, excepting himself, has ever been able to see those absurdities. We have seen what such empty pretensions amounted to in a past paper, and to whom the absurdities were imputable. "Let us now," says he, "consider this clause in connexion with other parts of the Charter." Here we are led to expect some important reasoning; however, a recital of his argument is its best confutation. "If," says he, "we suppose this clause to exempt us from the authority of Parliament, we must throw away all the rest of the Charter, for every other part indicates the con-



trary, as plain as words can do." This is considering the clause in connexion with other parts. There is no end in contradicting the mere assertions of one who lets his pen run so freely. Read the Charter, and see if any part indicates the contrary, unless profound silence upon the subject is taken for such an indication.

"What is still worse, this clause becomes *felo de se*, and destroys itself; for if we are not annexed to the Realm we are aliens, and no Charter, grant, or other act of the Crown can naturalize us, or entitle us to the liberties and immunities of *Englishmen*." This is begging the question; it goes upon the old Jacobinish supposition deteriorated. It supposes that within the Realm the subject holds all his rights and liberties of the King, as the original possessor; and that persons out of the Realm, in a state of nature, possess no rights and liberties as men. In short, it supposes *Great Britain* to be the grand and only store-house of freedom, the dispenser of civil blessings, and that no part of the wide world can be entitled to any liberties or immunities, but what she, of her special grace and mere bounty, is pleased to grant them; whereas the truth is, we were entitled to all the rights of *Englishmen*, independent of any Charters or Realms under Heaven; and surely we are not the less so for having them confirmed by compact.

We shall waive what might be offered respecting aliens' allegiance to the King, and the relation that *Wales*, *Jersey*, *Guernsey*, and *Ireland*, stand in to the Realm of *England*, as they do not affect the solution of our present question.

More distortions, windings, and twistings, were never crowded into so small a compass as in the paragraph we are now considering. The following is diverting enough: "If a person born in *England* removes to *Ireland*, *Jersey*, or *Guernsey*, and settles there, he is then no longer represented in the *British* Parliament, but he and his posterity are, and will ever be, subject to its authority. So that the inhabitants of the *American* Colonies do, in fact, enjoy all the liberties and immunities of natural born subjects. We are entitled to no greater privileges than those who are born within the Realm; and they can enjoy no other than we do when they reside out of it. Thus it is evident that this clause amounts to no more than the Royal assurance that we are a part of the *British* Empire, and natural born subjects, and as such bound to obey the supreme power of the State." Such a concatenation of ideas were never jumbled up together before. The clause grants to all persons who were born within the Realm, and should come and inhabit in this Province from time to time, as well as to all their children born on the seas, or in this Colony, all the liberties and immunities of free natural born subjects within any of the King's Dominions, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, as if they were born within the Realm of *England*. The language of this clause, then, according to our mysterious interpreter, to all those who come from *England* here, would be this, viz: You who are born within the Realm of *England*, and shall go and inhabit in the *Massachusetts* Colony, shall have and enjoy all the liberties and immunities that those have and enjoy who are born within the Realm of *England*, and shall go and inhabit in *America*. As great a solecism as ever entered the head of man. If the accidental liberties that those persons enjoy who are only born within the Realm, and remove to foreign parts, are to measure and point out ours, how shall we ever know them? Is *Ireland*, *Guernsey*, the *East* and *West-Indies*, or *Turkey*, to decide the question and define the rights of all *America*? for those born in *England* have gone to, and enjoy different liberties in all these places; and, according to our logician, if the *Americans* enjoy as much liberty as those who were born in *England* enjoy in any of those Dominions, even if it be in *Turkey*, we are entitled to no more.

This clause is so far from being the Royal assurance that we are a part of the *British* Empire, and as such subject to its supreme authority, that it is directly the contrary. Its meaning undeniably is, notwithstanding the violence offered it by the Tories, who are pierced to their very vitals by its force, that we should enjoy all the privileges and immunities that the inhabitants of *Great Britain* are entitled to. What some of these were, we saw in our last number. It can have no other meaning but this, which will support that stupendous fabrick of *American* indepen-

dence which we have possessed and practised upon for a century and a half, and which our patriots are struggling to preserve against the storms, the sackings and sappings of the Tories.

Whoever reads the Charter, continues he, will meet with irresistible evidence that our being within the jurisdiction of Parliament were the very tenures by which they held their estates. It is astonishing that any man will give himself such liberties. Whoever reads the Charter with an expectation of finding evidence of this, or any thing of the kind, will most certainly find himself egregiously disappointed. There is nothing from beginning to end that looks any more like it than what may be found in the Assembly's Catechism, or the Pilgrim's Progress.

FROM THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.

ALEXANDER ELMSLY, AGENT OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF NORTH-CAROLINA, TO SAMUEL JOHNSTON.

London, April 7, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Yours by Captain *Scott* came to hand in due season, as did the money for Mr. *Barker*, which is at his credit. Your bill £100, order Mr. *Ferrear*, was this day paid.

Your politics are past my expectations, and out of my reach. I thought incorporating you would not only have remedied the disorder, but have given additional vigour to the Constitution; but, excepting our friend Mr. *Barker*, nobody either here or there is of the same opinion; therefore, I shall suppose, for the present, that he and I are mistaken, and wait with resignation the event of the measures adopted on both sides of the water.

On our side they are as follows:—

1<sup>mo</sup>. The House of Commons have voted by resolve, that if you will tax yourselves for the purpose of supporting your own establishments, and also contribute a certain sum for the general safety, the amount of which to be satisfactory to the King and Parliament, and to be at their disposal, then the Parliament will desist from laying any further taxes for the present. This, they say, is holding out to you the olive branch; I say it is a dirty, disgracing, degrading expedient, compared to mine; but it is so much akin to a similar one proposed in the House of Lords by Lord *Chatham*, and approved of by *Franklin* and the other *Americans* here, that I must suppose myself again mistaken.

2<sup>do</sup>. A bill has received the Royal assent for preventing the four *New-England* Colonies from fishing, after the 25th of *June* next; and another has been read three times in the House of Commons, for restraining the trade of all the associated Colonies to *Great Britain* and the *British West-Indies*; out of this restraint, however, *New-York* and *North-Carolina* are excepted; the former because their Assembly did not recognise the new laws, the latter for reasons not generally known; they are, however, one or all of the following: 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. *Barker* and myself, instead of the Petition you sent us, (which contained, besides strange inaccuracies, indirect reflections on the Parliament, or the Ministry at least,) drew up a Memorial in more decent terms, which we left a rough draught of with Mr. *Pownall*, the Secretary, for his inspection, previous to its being presented to the Board. This was about the 10th of *February*; in two or three days we called to know his sentiments on it; he told us he had perused it, approved of it, and pressed us much and repeatedly to have it lodged as soon as possible, which was done the next day. Two or three days after, Lord *North* moved for the Restraining Bill in the House of Commons, and *North-Carolina* was and still is left out. The next reason is, we have as yet received no account of your Assembly, or rather the Members of it, having ratified the new laws, nor have you been charged with any excesses in the execution of them. The last, and perhaps the best reason is, Governour *Tryon* (who returns to *New-York* immediately) is much your friend, and I doubt not has exerted himself in your behalf accordingly. Whether you will thank us for this distinction, or not; whether it will not be considered as opprobrious instead of honourable; whether Mr. *Barker* and myself will be censured or not, as having been, in all probability, instrumental in bringing it about, I do not pretend to say. But in our defence, or rather in mine, for it was with much reluctance he consented to suppress the Petition, you will take notice,



that when your Memorial was presented, we had no idea that such restraining bill was intended; on the other hand, should this exemption be received favourably, give us no credit for it; for, had it not been for a tenderness we had for the reputation of your Assembly, as having been long members of it, your Petition, exceptionable as it is, should have been presented. I do not know whether you ever perused it, but my objections to it were, first, that a memorial from us was as good as it; and next, that you generally address the King as the people of *New-England* do each other, in the third person; for instance, you say, in more places than one, "Your Majesty, in his great goodness, in his great wisdom," &c., instead of "your goodness," &c.; this might have passed from a poor ignorant criminal, begging his life, but surely better things would have been expected from your Assembly. Besides this objection, there was another: You say you have been taught to expect redress from the Throne alone, *i. e.* you expect none from the Ministry or the Parliament. How far you are well grounded, I do not know; but as I well know that none of these petitions ever reach the Throne but through the hands of the Ministry, to whom they are left as an ordinary piece of business, I thought, and I still think, it would have been preposterous to have presented a petition, which, amongst other things, sets forth that the petitioner, from past experience, did not doubt of having his petition rejected. This objection, however, alone, would not have had much weight, at least not enough to have prevented our presenting the Petition; but on account of both together, it was agreed to suppress it, and to substitute a Memorial in its room, and keep the whole a secret; and I am not sure whether Mr. *Barker* would not be dissatisfied if he knew that this matter had been communicated even to you; therefore pray say nothing about it. With respect to the success of your Memorial, we can at present form no judgment of it, but are told that by next packet the matter will be settled; and if no bad news arrives from *Carolina* in the mean time, we hope it will be in part settled to your satisfaction.

You ask Mr. *Barker* to let you know who it was that first moved, here, against your Court laws. Neither he nor I know certainly; but when old Mr. *McCulloh*, as your agent, first received an account of your Court Bill miscarrying, on account of an instruction to your Governour against attachments, he hinted that Lord *Hillsborough*, then Secretary of State for *America*, and Lord *Hertford*, then and now Lord Chamberlain, and both Members of the Privy Council, and *North-of-Ireland* men, and friends and neighbours of your *Dobbi's*, might probably, at their solicitation, have been the means of sending out the instruction. You know *Nash* had an attachment depending against their estate; this is only conjecture, but I think it probable; because, had the measure originated amongst the merchants, we certainly should have heard of it long ago; as you say, however, it is not of much consequence now, as the new laws have taken place, whether the old ones are restored or not.

Old *Franklin* is gone to *Philadelphia*, some people say to second Lord *North's* plan of your taxing yourselves; but I know nothing of the matter.

There is an account received that the Transports are sailed from *Cork*, and next week, the Generals *Howe*, *Burgoyne*, and *Clinton*, follow them from hence in a Man-of-War; some of these troops are destined for *New-York*, and two companies, with a sloop, are to be sent to *Georgia*.

Should your Assemblies refuse to adopt Lord *North's* plan, and our Parliament persevere, you will have another new set of laws soon established. They say your seaports are to be turned into garrison Towns, and the people of the Country left at liberty to form any establishment they think proper. Should this regulation take place, I hope you will have no occasion to turn soldier. Your Governour, I suppose, will take up his residence amongst the musketoes at *Breacok*, and you will be a Congress or Committee-man, instead of a military man. I like neither character, but hope you will never have occasion to take upon you the latter especially.

Mrs. *Elmsly* joins me in compliments and best wishes to you and yours.

I am, dear sir, your affectionate friend and humble servant,

ALEXANDER ELMSLY,

#### CHESTERFIELD COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for *Chesterfield* County, held on the 7th of *April*, 1775, the proceedings of the Convention were read and unanimously approved of.

*Resolved*, That we will, as soon as possible, promote and further the establishment of Manufactories for the making of Linen, Cotton, and Woollen Cloth; and that we will give encouragement to such persons as shall excel in the preparation of materials necessary for carrying on such manufactories; and also that subscriptions be opened in this County by the several members of this Committee, for raising a fund to support such Manufactories as may be determined on in consequence of the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. *John Brown*, of *Norfolk*, having, by his behaviour, incurred the censure of the people of this Colony;

*Resolved*, That we will not hereafter transact any business, or have any connexion with the said *John Brown*.

Captain *Sampson*, of the Ship *Elizabeth*, from *Bristol*, having, by his conduct, incurred the general contempt and resentment of the good people of this Colony;

*Resolved*, That we will not hereafter have any intercourse with the said *Sampson*, nor contribute to, or, as far as in us lies, permit the loading of any Ship which he may now or hereafter be concerned with; and it is recommended to the inhabitants of this County to adopt these Resolutions.

*Ordered*, That these, and the Resolutions relative to the Manufactories, be printed. JERMAN BAKER, Clerk.

#### ULSTER COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

Kingston, Ulster County, April 7, 1775.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of *Kings-ton*, in *Ulster* County, a Committee of Observation was chosen agreeable to, and for the purpose mentioned in the Eleventh Article of the Association of the Continental Congress, held at *Philadelphia* in *September* last.

The persons nominated and appointed for said Committee were, *Oke Sudam*, *John Beekman*, *Johannes Perse*, *Johannes Sleght*, *Hendrick Schoonmaker*, *Christian Fiero*, and *Egbert Schoonmaker*, who at their meeting the 6th instant, chose *Johannes Sleght* for Chairman.

Information being then made to said Committee, that the merchants and venders of *East-India* Tea had entered into an association not to sell any *East-India* Tea, and that if any person or persons should be guilty of selling or vending any of that commodity, that they should be published in the publick newspapers as enemies to the liberties and privileges of *American* subjects; which Articles were signed by all the merchants and skippers who were possessed of any *East-India* Tea, (Mr. *Jacobus Low* excepted,) who, notwithstanding all the friendly admonitions and entreaties to the contrary, declared he had, and would sell Tea. Upon which information, this Committee resolved to send for Mr. *Low*, thinking that time and mature deliberation, together with their friendly advice, might be able to alter Mr. *Low's* determination; but all in vain: for he declared he was determined to sell Tea as formerly he had done, and absolutely refused to comply with the Articles agreed to by the other merchants and skippers in said Town.

We, therefore, in faithfulness to the trust reposed in us, and agreeable to the recommendation of the Congress, do publish, and he, the said *Jacobus Low*, is hereby published as an enemy to the rights and liberties of *America*; and we do hereby declare, that we will henceforth abstain from (and recommend it to others to abstain from) all kind of connections and commerce with him, until such time as a change in his conduct shall induce us to alter our determination.

Signed by order of the Committee:

JOHANNES SLEGHT, Chairman.

#### PORTSMOUTH (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) VOLUNTEERS.

We, the subscribers, being desirous of attaining the Military Art, do agree on the following Rules and Regulations, viz:

1st. That we will meet at some place that shall be agreed on by the Company, every *Monday* and *Thursday* evening, for the purpose aforesaid.

2d. That on the first *Monday* evening of every month,



(after the exercise is over,) we will choose a proper person to instruct and preside over the Company; also a Clerk, and any other Officers that may be judged necessary.

3d. That we will pay obedience and strict attention to such as we shall appoint from time to time to instruct and command the Company.

Portsmouth, December 20, 1774.

*April 6th, 1775.*—The Company, taking into consideration the shortness of the evenings, and their numbers being so much increased that it is inconvenient to exercise any longer within doors; therefore,

*Voted*, That after the 10th day of *April* instant, we will meet on the parade, or some other convenient place, on *Monday* and *Thursday* mornings, precisely at sunrise.

*Voted*, That *Dr. Hall Jackson*, Messrs. *James Sheafe*, *George Hart*, *George Gains*, and *Jeremiah Libby*, be a Committee to wait on the Honourable *Theodore Atkinson*, Esquire, Colonel of the Regiment to which we belong, and request the favour of him to grant us liberty to beat a drum to call the Company together; and also to present to him a copy of our Rules and Regulations, that he may be convinced that we are not a Company detached from his regiment and command.

Attest:

J. LIBBY, Clerk.

Portsmouth, April 7, 1775.

#### SOUTHAMPTON (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held at the Court-House for the County of *Southampton*, the eighth day of *April*, 1775, agreeable to the Eleventh Article of the Continental Congress, Present: *Edwin Gray*, Chairman, *Thomas Williamson*, *Richard Kello*, *James Ridley*, *George Gurley*, Clerk, *Benjamin Ruffin*, *Peter Butts*, *Benjamin Clements*, Jun., *Joshua Nicholson*, *Thomas Edmunds*, *Benjamin Ruffin*, Junior, and *Thomas Blunt*:

The Proceedings of the late Convention held at the Town of *Richmond*, on the 20th of *March*, were laid before the Committee, and being read and maturely considered,

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Committee doth entirely approve the Proceedings of the said Convention, and that they will use every opportunity to recommend, in the strongest manner, the several measures then adopted to the people of this County.

*Resolved*, That the several members of this Committee in their respective Districts (as laid off by a former Committee) endeavour to collect by subscription the sum of Ten Pounds, for encouraging *Mr. Tait's* useful scheme for making Salt; and also Fifteen Pounds for the use of the Deputies to represent this Colony in Continental Congress; and that such Money as may be collected be immediately paid by the several collectors into the hands of *Mr. Edwin Gray* and *Mr. Henry Taylor*, to be by them transmitted to *Robert Carter Nicholas*, Esquire, for the purposes aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That *Monday*, the 17th of this instant, be appointed for the election of Delegates at the Court-House, to represent this County in Provincial Congress; and that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Clergymen of the different Parishes of this County, requesting them to publish the same in their respective Churches; and also that the Clerk of this Committee advertise the same at the Court-House door on the next court day.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Benjamin Clements*, Junior, *Mr. Benjamin Ruffin*, Junior, and *Mr. Joshua Nicholson*, or any two of them, be appointed to conduct the election of the said Delegates.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Committee be given to *Mr. Edwin Gray* and *Mr. Henry Taylor*, our worthy and patriotick Delegates; at the same time assuring them that they have conducted themselves entirely to their satisfaction in the discharge of that important trust.

*Resolved*, That this Committee be adjourned to *Thursday*, the 13th day of this instant.

Thursday, April 13, 1775.

Present: *Edwin Gray*, Chairman, *Henry Taylor*, *Richard Kello*, *Thomas Williamson*, *James Ridley*, *Benjamin Ruffin*, *Benjamin Clements*, Junior, *Benjamin Ruffin*, Junior, *Thomas Blunt*, *Thomas Edmunds*, *Joshua Nicholson*, and *John Thomas Blow*.

This Committee taking under their consideration the

necessity of providing the Militia of this County with Ammunition, and finding an improbability of collecting a sum sufficient for that purpose in so short a time as they deem necessary from the people of this County, do therefore *Resolve*, That each member will most cheerfully deposit the sum of Ten Pounds in the hands of *Mr. Edwin Gray* and *Mr. Henry Taylor*, or either of them, for the purpose aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Edwin Gray* and *Mr. Henry Taylor* inform the absent members of this Committee of the preceding Resolution, requesting them to contribute the sum of Ten Pounds each for the purpose therein mentioned.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Edwin Gray* and *Mr. Henry Taylor*, or either of them, do, as soon as they have received the Money so subscribed, or any other sums that may be voluntarily advanced, make application to the Committee appointed by the late Convention for procuring Ammunition, &c., for as much Powder and Lead as the money they have received will amount to, in the proportion of one pound of powder to four pounds of lead.

*Resolved*, That the Powder and Lead, when procured, shall be stored in such convenient place or places as shall be agreed on by this Committee, and be liable to any directions of the same.

*Silas Kirby*, *James Ingram*, *Josiah Kirby*, and *John Simmons*, voluntarily appeared before this Committee, and acknowledged they had been guilty of violating the Eighth Article of the Association, by Gaming at the said *Silas Kirby's*, and winning a small sum of money of a certain *Benjamin O'Donnello*, a few days before; that it was an error they were unthinkingly led into, and are convinced of its evil tendency; that they are willing to refund every thing won by them; and they now assure this Committee of a more strict compliance for the future with the several Articles of the General Association.

This Committee therefore *Resolve*, That the said *Silas Kirby*, *James Ingram*, *Josiah Kirby*, and *John Simmons*, have been guilty of violating the Association; yet, in consideration of their candid behaviour before this Committee, and their ever conforming to the Association before this, their breach of it, hope the publick will join with them in considering the aforesaid persons as not inimical to *American* liberty.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk of this Committee transmit a copy of the proceedings thereof to Messrs. *Dixon* and *Hunter*, requesting them to publish the same.

EDWIN GRAY, Chairman.

SAMUEL KELLO, Clerk of the Committee.

#### TO THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA.

Prince William, April 8, 1775.

It is so true as to have become proverbial, that a drowning man will catch at a straw. On this principle it is that a despotick but almost despairing Ministry, having been compelled by the wisdom, virtue, and firmness of *North America*, to show a disposition to retract from their tyrannical system, are yet suspended in their determinations, and find their hopes kept alive by the corruption of some, by the folly and perverseness of others, on this side of the *Atlantick*. The most contemptible tales are magnified into importance when the mind wishes them to be true, and thus the lies of a *Rivington*, or the vanity of some heavy-headed *Virginian*, will swell trifles into proofs of disunion, and serve to persuade perseverance in measures hurtful indeed to *America*, but certainly ruinous to *Great Britain*. Among this tribe of mischief-working things may be classed a senseless paper lately published in the *Norfolk Intelligencer*, said to be "Instructions drawn up for the Delegates to the Convention at *Richmond*, the 20th of *March*, from a certain County in *Virginia*." Was this curious production rejected by the sensible Printers in *Williamsburgh*, which occasioned it to pass through that common sewer of political falsehood, the *Norfolk Intelligencer*? Though the framer of these Instructions certainly wants sense, he may be allowed to possess some cunning, because he has so contrived that willingness of mind, or ignorance of fact, may both conclude a whole County in *Virginia* to have perfidiously opposed the general union—a union formed, both as to time and matter, on the unani-



mous concurrence of this Country in *August* last, and finally confirmed by the same unanimous approbation on the 20th of *March* succeeding. But let us consider what are the motives and principles that probably govern this drawer up of Instructions, (for we do not learn they were ever signed,) thus to induce a belief so injurious to the fame of any County. It could not be the little vanity of showing how smoothly nonsense may be written, because the writer's name being concealed, his share of this merit must be small indeed. It could not conduce to procure an adoption of his crude ideas at the Convention, because the publication appears posterior to the rising of the Convention. It would seem, therefore, that this fiction was designed for the bad purpose before-mentioned, of keeping up the delusion in *Great Britain*, and comforting with hopes an almost expiring, venal, despotick Administration. It is not proper to insult the publick with a minute refutation of these Instructions; suffice it to observe, that the writer confesses "the grand principal (we will suppose him here to mean principles) for which we contend, are the rights of legislation and taxation; of legislation respecting our internal police, and of taxation independent of every power on earth;" which inestimable privileges, he farther declares, "we will maintain at the risk of our lives and fortunes." Bravo! Our man grows bold here; but presently, alas! he sinks again! For if his Instructions mean any thing, they mean to condemn the proceedings of the Congress, because the *Quebeck* Bill is beyond his "ideas;" because suspending Commerce will be fatal to those who are endeavouring to rob us of what himself calls "inestimable privileges;" and for a few other reasons equally cogent and sensible. Such is the inconsistency and folly of the enemies of *America*; for they are still enemies, whether influenced by vanity or wickedness, or misled by want of understanding.

AMERICANUS.

ADDRESS OF FREEHOLDERS OF FINECASTLE COUNTY  
(VIRGINIA) TO LORD DUNMORE.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governour-General of the Colony of VIRGINIA:

The Address of the Freeholders and a number of the Inhabitants of FINECASTLE County.

MY LORD: Notwithstanding the unhappy disputes that at present subsist between the Mother Country and the Colonies, in which we have given the publick our sentiments, yet justice and gratitude, as well as a sense of our duty, induce us collectively to return your Lordship our unfeigned thanks for the great services you have rendered the frontiers in general, and this County in particular, in the late expedition against our enemy *Indians*.

In our former wars with the savages, we long suffered every species of barbarity; many of our friends and fellow-subjects were inhumanly butchered and carried into captivity, more to be dreaded than death itself; our houses plundered and burned, and our Country laid waste by an enemy, against whom, from our dispersed situation, and their manner of carrying on war, it was impossible to make a proper defence on our frontiers. Your Lordship being convinced of this, proposed to attack the enemy in their own Country, well judging that it would be the most effectual means to reduce them to reason, and be attended with little more expense to the community than a partial defence of such an extensive frontier. The proposal was cheerfully embraced, and the ardour of the Militia to engage in that very necessary service, could only be equalled by that of your Lordship in carrying it on. That the plan of an expedition should be laid when the season was far advanced, and near three thousand choice Troops raised in a few Counties, and put under the command of many brave and experienced Officers; that those forces should be equipped and fully supplied with provisions, and march several hundred miles through mountains to meet the enemy; that so many Nations of warlike *Indians* should be reduced to sue for peace; that those Troops should return victorious to their homes by the last of *November*; and all this without any publick money in hand to defray any part of the expense, shows at first view the immediate utility of the undertaking, and must be a convincing proof that the *Almighty*, in a peculiar manner, blessed your Lord-

ship's attempts to establish peace, and stop the further effusion of human blood; but that your Lordship should forego your ease, and every domestick felicity, and march at the head of a body of those Troops many hundred miles from the Seat of Government, cheerfully undergoing all the fatigues of the campaign, by exposing your person, and marching on foot with the officers and soldiers, commands our warmest returns of gratitude; and the rather, as we have no instance of such condescension in your Lordship's predecessors on any similar occasion.

We should be wanting in point of gratitude, were we to omit returning our thanks on this occasion to the Officers and Soldiers who entered into the service with so much alacrity. The memory of such as fell nobly fighting for their Country ought to be very dear to it.

That your Lordship may enjoy every domestick blessing; that you may long govern the brave and free people of *Virginia*, and that the present disturbances may be amicably settled, is the ardent wish of the inhabitants of *Finecastle*.

His Lordship's Answer.

I am very much obliged to the freeholders and inhabitants of the County of *Finecastle* for their Address, and am happy to find they think the service I undertook upon the occasion of the *Indian* disturbances merits their publick thanks. I assure them that they will ever find me equally ready to exert my best endeavours for every purpose which may tend to the security or promote the happiness of the people of *Virginia*.

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL.

At a Council held at *Philadelphia*, on *Saturday*, 8th *April*, 1775,

Present: The Honourable JOHN Penn, Esquire, Governour, Benjamin Chew, James Tilghman, Edward Shippen, Esquires.

Pursuant to an Order in Council, on the 13th day of *March* last, a draught of a Proclamation for recalling that issued on the 2d of *November*, and confirming the Proclamation of the 15th of *September* last, agreeably to His Majesty's permission signified to the Governour by the Earl of *Dartmouth*, was laid before the Board, and being duly considered was agreed to; and the Governour, by the advice of the Board, issued the same this day in the following words, viz:

By the Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Governour and Commander-in-chief of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, and Counties of NEW-CASTLE, KENT, and SUSSEX, on DELAWARE:

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, by my Proclamation bearing date the fifteenth day of *September* last, I did enjoin and require all persons residing to the Northward and Eastward of the lines and boundaries theretofore run, and marked as boundaries and division lines between the Province of *Maryland* and the Province of *Pennsylvania*, and Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent*, and *Sussex*, on *Delaware*, by Commissioners for that purpose appointed and authorized, in pursuance of two Articles of Agreement made between the proprietors of the Province of *Maryland* and the proprietors of the Province of *Pennsylvania* and the Counties of *New-Castle*, *Kent*, and *Sussex*, on *Delaware*; and also in pursuance of two several Decrees of the Lord High Chancellor of *England*, for the specifick performance of the said Articles, to yield obedience to the respective laws of the Province of *Pennsylvania* and Counties aforesaid on *Delaware*: And I did further by my said Proclamation require all Magistrates, Sheriffs, and other Officers of justice appointed or to be appointed in the said Province and Counties, to put in execution the respective laws thereof against all offenders within the lines and limits aforesaid as by my said Proclamation may more at large appear: And whereas by my other Proclamation, bearing date the second day of *November* last past, I did, in obedience to his Majesty's commands signified to me by a letter from the Right Honourable the Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, enjoin all Magistrates, Sheriffs, and other



Officers of justice, to desist from exercising the jurisdiction of *Pennsylvania* or the Counties of *New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex*, on *Delaware*, beyond those places where it had been theretofore usually exercised, until His Majesty's further pleasure should be known in the premises, any thing in my former Proclamation to the contrary notwithstanding: And whereas I am now informed by a letter from the Right Honourable the Earl of *Dartmouth*, dated the seventh day of *January* last, "that His Majesty, on further consideration, hath been graciously pleased to approve of the arrangement made by my said Proclamation of the fifteenth of *September* last, and permit me to recall that of the second of *November* last:" I have, therefore, thought proper, by the advice of the Council, to issue this Proclamation, to make known the premises to all whom it may concern hereby, in pursuance of His Majesty's pleasure and permission, revoking my said Proclamation of the second of *November* last, and requiring all Officers and others within the Province of *Pennsylvania* and Counties of *New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex*, on *Delaware*, to yield obedience to, and in all things observe, the orders and injunctions in my said Proclamation of the fifteenth of *September* last contained, as they will answer the contrary at their peril.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the Province of *Pennsylvania* at *Philadelphia*, the eighth day of *April*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* the Third, by the grace of *God* of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland* King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth. JOHN PENN.

By his Honour's command:

JOSEPH SHIPPEN, Jun., *Secretary*.  
God save the King.

The Governour at the same time communicated to the Board a Letter he had just received from Governour *Eden*, which follows in these words, viz:

Annapolis, March 25, 1775.

SIR: I have taken the earliest opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your Honour's favour of the 16th instant, and to acquaint you, that as I have not received any notification of His Majesty's having on further consideration been pleased to approve the arrangement made by your Proclamation of the 15th *September*, and to permit you to recall that of the 2d *November* last, I cannot think myself justifiable in joining with your Honour to issue such a Proclamation; and am now, with the advice of my Council, to request that you will suspend the issuing of the same until such time as I can have an opportunity of hearing from *England*, in hopes of preventing any disturbances that may probably happen between the inhabitants of the two Provinces, in consequence of the issuing a partial Proclamation. I am, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant, ROBERT EDEN.

His Honour *John Penn*, Esquire.

To which Letter the Governour, by the advice of the Council, wrote the following answer at the table, viz:

Philadelphia, April 8, 1775.

SIR: I have the favour of your Excellency's letter of the 25th *March*. Considering what passed between us the last summer on the subject, I rather wished than expected your concurrence in a Proclamation, and my last letter was only meant to give you notice of my intention, because I would choose to act in the most open manner.

If any dependance is to be had on my information, there is no probability of a disturbance between the people of the two Provinces. They are in general satisfied that the jurisdiction of this Government must take place, and therefore wish to have it hastened; nor can I imagine they will give an opposition to a measure which I have His Majesty's permission to take; and I am persuaded such an opposition will not be countenanced by the Government of *Maryland*. I therefore flatter myself that your Excellency will not think me unreasonable in persisting to issue a Proclamation agreeable to the King's permission and the advice of my Council. I am, with great regard, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant, JOHN PENN.

To his Excellency *Robert Eden*, Esquire, Governour of *Maryland*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW-YORK, DATED APRIL 8, 1775.

A number of the Inhabitants of *Charlotte* Precinct, in this County, met yesterday, having notice for that purpose, to signify their sentiments about choosing Deputies to meet other Deputies from the several Counties, to appoint Delegates for the ensuing Congress. It was agreed that the matter should be determined by vote; and that the business might be conducted with fairness and justice, Mr. *Enos Northrup* was chosen by the friends of constitutional liberty, and *Cornelius Humphrey*, Esquire, by the advocates for a Congress, to preside and inspect the voting. Two Clerks were also appointed. When the Poll was closed, the number of those who were against Deputies and Delegates, and on the side of the Constitution, was - - 140 For Deputies, - - - - - 35

Just as the poll was closing, a number of Constitution-  
alists, about one hundred and ten, made their appearance; but they did not vote, as the opposite party gave up the contest.

*Dutchess* County consists of eleven Districts, and only four of them have voted for Deputies, and *Richmond, Tryon, Cumberland, Charlotte, and Gloucester*, will be unrepresented in our Provincial Convention.

#### PROTEST OF THE FREEHOLDERS OF SEVEN PRECINCTS IN DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

MR. GAINE: A *Dutchess* County Freeholder desires you will publish the following Protest, as the inhabitants of the seven Precincts first mentioned therein have been informed that *Robert R. Livingston*, Jun., *Egbert Benson*, and *Morris Graham*, Esquires, have been deputed to represent the County of *Dutchess*; but by what kind of law-casuistry a representation of the County is made by three Deputies, we are at a loss to guess, unless a small and dis-appointed minority can be supposed to represent a large and respectable majority. If any of the minority entertain the least doubt that the Protest does not express the sense of the Precincts therein mentioned, formal and ample testimonies of its authenticity shall be sent you:

The Inhabitants of the seven Precincts of *Beekman's, Pawling's, Southeast, Fredericksburgh, Philipse, Charlotte, and Poughkeepsie*, in the County of *Dutchess*, composing at least three-fourths of the inhabitants of the said County, take this publick method of protesting against the appointment of any person or persons that may be deputed from the Precincts of *America, Northeast, Rhynbeck, and Rhumbout*, to represent the said County as Deputies in a Provincial Congress, intended, as they are informed, to be assembled at *New-York*, on the 20th instant, as five of the Precincts first mentioned are almost unanimously opposed to all unconstitutional representations not warranted by the laws of the land, a very great majority of the Precinct of *Charlotte*, and a majority of one hundred and ten to seventy-seven, in the Precinct of *Poughkeepsie*. The seven Precincts above mentioned, confide solely in the mode of application for redress of grievances adopted by their loyal and patriotick Assembly, whose proceedings on this head they most heartily approve of, convinced that they ought not, they will not adopt any other mode of application, but stand ready, at all times, to evince their loyalty to their gracious Sovereign, their firm attachment to the Constitution, and their steady opposition to every seditious and treasonable act derogatory to either.

New-York, May 1, 1775.

MR. GAINE: In your last Paper appeared an uncommon advertisement, with a Protest annexed, as was said from the Freeholders of seven Precincts, which were said to contain three-fourths of the inhabitants of *Dutchess* County. I choose to make no reflections on the author, since I would not wish to heighten the resentment or contempt of the County in which he lives; but, in justice to the County of which I am a freeholder, I hereby challenge him to show that that Protest was ever publicly read, or approved by any one of the Precincts he mentions, before it was published. I likewise deny, and call upon him to prove that the seven Precincts, in whose name, (but without whose authority) the above Protest was published, contains above



half of the freeholders of *Dutchess County*, after deducting those that voted for Delegates in *Poughkeepsie* and *Charlotte Precincts*, although he so confidently asserts that they contain three-fourths. But that the publick may no longer be deceived by more presentations of the state of that County, I am willing to put it upon this issue: the County of *Dutchess* contains eighteen hundred freeholders; if the author of the Protest will publish a list of six hundred freeholders that are opposed to the election of Delegates, or will sign his Protest, I undertake to show double the number who approve of their appointment.

A FREEHOLDER OF DUTCHESS COUNTY.

N. B. No person will be considered as a freeholder, whose Precinct is not annexed to his name, as that is the only way to guard against misrepresentations.

New-York, May 15, 1775.

MR. GAINÉ: As in this season of publick distress, every altercation that may tend to promote divisions and animosities, ought carefully to be avoided; and as a coalition of parties in the County of *Dutchess* will probably very soon take place, and a proper union between its inhabitants established, no reply, for the above reasons, will be sent you in answer to the observations in one of your last Papers, on the Protest from that County; instead of which, as it may be somewhat satisfactory, you may assure the publick that the numerous body of freeholders and inhabitants who have heretofore been averse to the nomination of Committees, opposed solely from a virtuous principle of promoting thereby the real interests of their Country. They conceived, and had good reasons to believe, that as the mode of application for redress of grievances adopted by their Assembly was the only constitutional one, it would most probably be attended with the desired effect; and that no motives unfriendly to the liberties of their Country ever influenced any part of their conduct, when opposed to Committees.

COMMITTEE OF MONTREAL TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Montreal, April 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your letter of the 21st of *February*, by Mr. *Brown*, and see clearly the great injustice that has been done you. We deeply feel the sorrow and afflictions of our suffering brethren, and sincerely wish it was in our power to afford you effectual relief; but alas, we are more the objects of pity and compassion than yourselves, who are now suffering under the heavy hand of power, deprived as we are of the common rights of the miserable, to complain. You have numbers, strength, and a common cause to support you in your opposition. We are still more divided here by our interests than by our religion, language, and manners; and the apprehensions of evils to come upon us in a short time, from the unlimited power of the Governour, strikes all opposition dead. Indeed few in this Colony dare vent their griefs, but groan in silence, and dream of lettres de cachet, confiscations, and imprisonment, offering up their fervent prayers to the throne of grace to prosper your righteous cause, which alone will free us from those jealous fears and apprehensions that rob us of our peace. In a word, we are the *British* inhabitants of this widely extended Province, united in their sentiments. We have neither numbers nor wealth sufficient to do you any essential service. We must, therefore, cast ourselves into the arms of our sister Colonies, relying upon the wisdom, vigour, and firmness of the General Continental Congress for our protection, and hoping they will entertain no animosity or resentment against us because we cannot join them in the ensuing General Congress, which, were we to attempt, the *Canadians* would join the Government to frustrate. You will please to bear in mind, that not only those who hold the helm of Government, but also all those who make wealth or ambition the chief object of their pursuit, are professedly your enemies, and would be glad to reduce you to the same abject state with themselves. Nevertheless, the bulk of the people, both *English* and *Canadians*, are of quite contrary sentiments, and wish well to your cause, but dare not stir a finger to help you, being of no more estimation in the political machine than the sailors are in shaping the course, or work-

ing the ship in which they sail. They may mutter and swear, but must obey. However, should Government handle them too roughly, and arbitrarily attempt to force them upon dangerous and disagreeable service, to which they have already shown an irreconcilable aversion, they may, perhaps, dearly repent it.

The case is quite different with their noblesse, or gentry. The pre-eminence given to their religion, together with a participation of honours and offices, in common with the *English*, not only flatters their natural pride and vanity, but is regarded by them as a mark of distinction and merit, that lays open their way to fortune; of liberty or law, they have not the least notion.

As to the savages that dwell round about us, doubtless there are some to be found among them, who, for the sake of plunder, would murder, burn, and destroy; but we conceive that their Chiefs know their own interests better than to interfere as a Nation in this family quarrel; for let which side will prevail, they are sure, in that case, to be the victims.

We desire to know whether *English* Delegates would be accepted under the above-named limitations, namely: without entering into the General Association for the non-importation of goods from *Great Britain*, or the non-exportation of the produce of this Colony, and the *India* Countries above; and beg to be informed in what manner we can be serviceable to your cause, without bringing down ruin upon our own heads. It may not be amiss just to hint that the idea the *Canadians* seem to have of this Colony at present, is, that it is to be a *French* Government, holding under the Crown of *Great Britain*, from which they mean to exclude every *Englishman*, save the Governour and Lieutenant Governour.

We heartily wish our abilities to serve you were equal to our wills, and pray Heaven to prosper your generous purpose; and are, with the utmost consideration and feeling for your distresses, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servants and fellow-sufferers,

THOS. WALKER, JAMES PRICE,  
JOHN WELLS, WM. HAYWOOD.

P. S. It is our earnest request that this letter may not be published, for fear of bad consequences to the subscribers.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK, DATED

London, April 10, 1775.

The quality at the court-end despise the poor and industrious, and are obliged now to inform the mob that their brethren in *America* are to be slaughtered by the large Fleet and Army now ready to sail against them. The people are kept in total ignorance of publick affairs, and the wisdom of our Senators is to deceive those they are chose to protect. There are to be two thousand pounds added to the King's salary, with a present, to pay his household debts of some thousands. When the budget opens, fine work how this money will be raised, and each common shop pay ten pounds, or fifteen pounds sterling tax. Every thing is taxed but the publick places of diversion; and they are so filled with people, so numerous, and cause so large a circulation of cash, that they are the only blessing the people think are left them; for they make the rich spend their money, and the sharpers get it. All this is the wise people who are to have the collecting of your taxes, and to support this mode are the mighty preparations of war. Oh, *God!* who beholds the inhabitants of the earth, and hears the cries of the poor; who understands judgment, and rules in righteousness, look on *America*, and keep the land from being polluted with the sins of the Mother Country. Oh, if I dare write what I wish you all to do—what you can do, and what Providence seems to intend you shall do!

If you submit, all will be forever lost; a curse on your names, and your estates confiscated by those bills of attainder that are ready to pass against you. 'Tis impossible to describe the ruin that is studied; the load of taxes; the number of placemen to be saddled on you. The land is to be confiscated, and the King an arbitrary Monarch. He is determined to be arbitrary, and consults no one who will not encourage his universal sway. He lives retired; only three times a week goes to the publick diversions, pantheon,



plays, operas, and has given fifteen hundred pounds to an *Italian* singer. The young Prince is to go to housekeeping this spring, and the men appointed to attend his levee are of such a complexion as forebodes evil.

Four thousand of the new Army, with Colonel *Howe*, are to hoist the flag at *New-York*, and stop all communication with *New-England*. If the Fleet sails, you must fight or be destroyed; for the Ministry are determined to destroy your trade, to ruin the growth of the Colonies, and to stop all the blessings Heaven has given you. Get ready to fight, for nothing can save you but the power of the Colonies and their own strength, and to *America* will *England* owe their liberty or be ruined. Several gentlemen called on me, and desired me to write to you to arm immediately. Get ready to receive ten thousand men and four hundred sail, and you are to find provisions and pay them yourselves. New charters are ready now; for your money, the soldiers have orders to fight; new cannon, guns, powder, and ball, for war and blood! The cry of blood is gone out against you.

Your fate now depends on the brave and spirited conduct of yourselves. You see the diabolical plot is deep laid against you; and by bribes and undue influence, has obtained the late and the present Acts for blocking up your Trade, and taking those unwarrantable measures against the Colonies and the sense of the people.

This day will be remembered in history; for *John Wilkes* and the King to meet on such a solemn occasion, no less than the lives and property of all *America* and the whole *English* Nation. Great will be the event of this day. The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Liverymen, Recorder, Remembrancer, and City Officers, all went in procession. A copy of the King's answer is to be sent to you. This answer will rouse up the blood of the *English*, and all *America* will see that they must fight, and that they have no hopes left. The glory of old *England* is no more! All is lost! *God* is about to move the Kingdom; and soon, very soon, the King will see his counsellors have deceived him, and the people of *England* will not bear their insults. The Bank and the Stocks will fail, as no trade is carried on with spirit until the spring; and now all begins to stop; all things are in an uproar; the City is affronted; the people insulted; the Island of *Great Britain* exposed to the *French* and the *Spaniards*; no remittances from the merchants as usual; the great expense to keep up the war, together with fighting against their own people, (and in the most unjust cause that ever disgraced a Kingdom.) All men of sense are astonished and tremble. *England* has taken her last legal steps, and done all they lawfully can do, and now depend on the *Americans* to help themselves, and on their own feelings; that the *Americans* will act like men of virtue and wisdom, and that all will oppose the greatest tyrant that ever yet was seen, who now is hardened *Pharaoh* like.

The *Quakers* in *England* have petitioned the King themselves, as a people, and now attended the City Petition, all in one voice against the Ministry, and are all faithful to the people in *America*. The *Quakers* are the most hearty in the cause, and see the dreadful consequences of a civil war. Our forefathers did not think that ever a King of *England* would break his oath, and murder his subjects in cold blood, and take their money, or rob his people, without giving them any opportunity to defend themselves but by the sword. This is dreadful, and dreadfully true. May the *God* of our forefathers direct you so to defend your rights and property, as will teach us to depend on the justice of our cause, and the hearty love of our country, in full confidence of a complete victory. This is the hearty prayer of thousands.

The continual inquiries are, how will the Colonies behave? Will they act like men? Or are they such poltrons as Lord *Sandwich* said they were? In his speech in the House of Lords, he said that the *Americans* are cowards; will not fight; are men of a mean spirit; dastardly poltrons; all noise and bully; that a few soldiers would soon make them submit. But *God* forbid that my worthy friends in *America* should add disgrace to ruin, and make the cause of *God* and man of no effect. The Fleet is sailed or sailing. General *Gage* has drawn bills on the Treasury, £2400, for secret services, to pay the tools of Government in all the different Colonies. Such bad policy must bring on ruin. Many of the hungry dependants on the King

have asked for places; and you will not only have taxes to pay, and a Standing Army set over you, but you will have all those vile cattle to maintain. You will have all your blessings taken away if you submit. But if you stand firmly out, and demand your rights, and are determined to fight, the Ministry will be obliged to send you offers of peace, and make satisfaction for all the damage you have already sustained, and be glad of a reconciliation, for *England* cannot possibly live without you. The silence of the people was occasioned by fear of the Bank, as the National debt is so great; but now, the Tobacco and Oil, and other revenues from *America*, bring to *England* two millions. This is proved from the Custom-House books, which the Chamberlain of London has been at the expense and trouble to collect and lay before the King. Yet his heart is hardened like iron, and, as *Pharaoh*, he will drive his chariot into the *German* Sea, not without a host of his Nobles to attend him.

#### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's* County, at the house of *Richard Carnes*, in *Piscataway*, on *Monday*, the 10th day of *April*, 1775, were present thirteen Members.

By a letter from the Committee at *Baltimore*, of the 15th ult., it appears that a Brig, called the *Sally*, *William Moat* master, from *Bristol*, having four thousand bushels of Salt on board, imported since the first of *February* last, arrived there lately, consigned to Doctor *John Stephenson*. That part of the said Salt was put on board three or four crafts, supposed to be intended for sale in the different Rivers in this Province, and that one *Bailey*, in a Sloop, took part of said Salt. And it appearing to this Committee, from the information of Messrs. *William Lyles, Jr., George Fraser Hawkins*, and *Hezekiah Wheeler*, that they had, on or about the 15th of *March*, purchased of one *Thomas Bailey* a parcel of fine Salt, since suspected to be part of the above, the aforesaid *Thomas Bailey* appears, and being informed of the above, declares his concern that he should have been unguardedly led into a step that he now finds to have been wrong; and that, to shew the sincerity of such declaration, voluntarily consents and requests that the Salt sold as above be destroyed; on which he fully gives up all claim against the persons to whom he had sold the same, and requests the determination of the Committee be postponed, as he can furnish evidence from *Baltimore* to prove his innocence: on which it is referred to this day fortnight. Mr. *Carnes*, Mr. *Thomas Dent*, Mr. *Richard Dent*, Mr. *Edward Edelen*, and Mr. *George Diggs*, or any two of them, are appointed to see the Salt destroyed.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, for *Prince George's* County, at the house of Mr. *Richard Carnes*, in *Piscataway*, on *Saturday*, the 27th day of *May*, 1775, were present nineteen Members.

The said *Thomas Bailey* failing to appear, according to the former reference, with the evidence proposed from *Baltimore*, the Committee proceeded to consider the charge against him; and as it appeared from the said *Bailey's* own declaration, that he was informed at *Alexandria*, before he landed the aforesaid Salt, that the ship load of Salt which arrived at *Baltimore*, consigned to Doctor *John Stephenson*, was declared to be illegally imported, and ordered to be destroyed,

They do *Resolve*, That the said *Thomas Bailey* has committed a wilful violation of the Continental Association, by selling and landing Salt imported in the *Sally*, Captain *Moat*.

The Committee being informed that Mr. *John Baynes*, of *Piscataway*, had killed a Lamb, contrary to the *Resolve* of the Provincial Convention, held at *Annapolis* in *December* last, Messrs. *Luke Marbury* and *George Diggs* were sent to inform him that the Committee desired his immediate attendance. Mr. *Baynes* appeared, and being informed as above, acknowledged that he had killed a Lamb, and conceived that he had not thereby violated the Continental Association, which he purposed to adhere to, and thought it superiour to the Provincial Convention, which, he conceived, was only intended to carry the *Resolves* of the Continental Congress into execution.

*Resolved*, That the said Mr. *Baynes*, in killing the said



Lamb, has violated the Resolve of the Provincial Convention; that such measures may be of mischievous consequence, as tending to create a disregard to publick regulation, formed for preserving the liberties of *America*.

Ordered, That a copy of these proceedings be signed by the Chairman, and sent to be published in the *Maryland Gazette*. Signed by order of the Committee:

JOSIAS BEALL, *Chairman*.

#### ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Anne Arundel County*, held at Mr. *Isaac McHard's*, the 10th of *April*, were present forty-three Members.

It being moved that a Paper printed in the *Publick Ledger* of the 4th of last *January*, entitled, "Facts relative to the Riot at *Annapolis* in *Maryland*," be read, and the motion being seconded, the Paper aforesaid was read accordingly by the Clerk:

On motion, *Resolved*, That the said Paper be reprinted in the *Maryland Gazette*.

2. *Resolved unanimously*, That the said Paper contains a false, scandalous, and malicious narrative of facts invented by the author, or so disguised and misrepresented, that when they border upon truth, and even seem to assume its semblance, they are devoid of its reality.

3. *Resolved unanimously*, That the Author of the said Paper has designedly injured, against the conviction of his own conscience, the characters of the gentlemen mentioned and alluded to in his publication, gentlemen of approved worth; that he has cast unjust and invidious aspersions on a great number of very respectable inhabitants of this and two adjoining Counties, by representing them as a lawless mob, ignorant of their interests, or too lazy to be at the trouble of investigating them.

4. *Resolved unanimously*, That the Author has manifested an inveterate enmity to the liberties of this Province in particular, and of *British America* in general, by insinuating the necessity of introducing a military and mercenary force to support the Civil Government, and to secure obedience to the Laws of this Colony: that, by a suggestion so false and so malicious, he has inadvertently discovered his political opinion, that these Colonies ought, and his secret wish that they may be forced to submit to the arbitrary decrees of a despotick Ministry and a servile Parliament. ISAAC MCHARD, *Clerk Committee*.

#### Facts relative to the Riot at ANNAPOLIS, in MARYLAND.

Nothing but a civil war at home can be so pernicious and detrimental to this Nation, as a contest with the Colonies driven to too great a length, as they are connected with the Mother Country by every social tie subsisting between subjects of the same Empire divided by so great a distance; the commerce of the one, and the defence of the other, depending in a great measure on a mutual harmony and good understanding with each other; in a word, they may be said to be linked together by the strongest interests, those of protection and profit.

This being the case, it is not surprising that every piece of intelligence on a subject so important and consequential to the community at large, should be received by every individual with the utmost avidity; for it is next to impossible for any *British* subject to be so neutral or disinterested in a matter so momentous as the present unhappy situation of our affairs on the Continent of *America*, as not to wish to be acquainted with the proceedings there, however limited and confined they may be in their nature, and private in their consequences. I hope, on this account, the following narration, taken from the best and most authentic authorities, will be agreeable to the publick, as from it may be deduced the real source and primary causes of the riot at *Annapolis* in *Maryland*, in which the Brigantine, called the *Peggy*, laden with Teas, was burnt; but I imagine some will scarcely believe that "an Officer in his Majesty's Revenue" was the principal abettor and promoter of the riot, though this was actually the case.

At the first publick meeting at *Annapolis* on *American* affairs, after the passing the *Boston Port Bill*, a resolution was proposed and zealously supported by many members at the meeting—"That the gentlemen of the Law should

decline bringing any action for debts due to persons in *Great Britain*." The passing so dishonest a resolution, however necessary and convenient it might appear to some people in trade, was too pregnant with injustice to meet with general approbation; for the honest and thinking traders plainly foresaw that this measure, calculated only to serve the private purposes and views of a few individuals, would, in the end, greatly prejudice and injure the general credit of the Province, and prove extremely prejudicial to its commerce; therefore a strong opposition was formed, and a spirited protest was entered against the resolution, in both of which Mr. *Stewart*, one of the owners of the Brigantine, distinguished himself, and bore a very active share therein.

But notwithstanding that the opposition of the protesters against this dishonest and illegal resolution seemed to give general satisfaction, and met with almost universal approbation, as appeared by that measure never having again been proposed to be adopted at any of the future meetings; nevertheless Mr. *Stewart's* conduct therein procured him many enemies amongst those whose interest was injured; and it afforded matter for calumny and complaint to many of the neighbouring Merchants, who did not fail to embrace the first opportunity which happened by the arrival of the Brigantine with Teas on board, of gratifying their spleen and malice, and satiating their diabolical resentment and revenge, by endeavouring the ruin, perhaps the death of the man who had honestly dared actively to oppose these dishonest designs.

By the Brigantine, Messrs. *Williams*, the gentlemen to whom the Tea was consigned, had also fortunately received a plentiful supply of other goods from *London*; this gave umbrage to some of their neighbours who had been disappointed of the goods they intended to lay in before the Association or Non-Importation Agreement, which was then generally expected, and which has actually taken place, should operate; amongst these there was one house, a branch of a mercantile one in *London*, and of which Mr. *Davison*, Deputy Collector and Deputy Comptroller is a partner, to which the Messrs. *Williams* were likely to become formidable rivals in trade, who had the misfortune to have a vessel, on board of which the goods were shipped, stranded in the *English Channel*. Chagrined at their own disappointment, and determined that Messrs. *Williams* should not reap the benefit of this seasonable supply by the *Peggy Stewart*, resolved also to wreak their vengeance on Mr. *Stewart*. They used every means to inflame the populace, not only to prevent the landing of the Tea, but also to procure its destruction.

In this dilemma, Messrs. *Williams* adopted the only prudent method they had left to extricate themselves from the impending danger. Aware of the machinations of their enemies, they wisely refused to enter the Teas, or pay the duties, imagining that thereby the people would be satisfied, and that the Teas being seized for non-payment of the duties, the Officers of the Customs would in that case be obliged to land them, even at the risk of tarring and feathering.

But Mr. *Stewart*, as an owner of the vessel, anxious for despatch, in order that she might proceed to another port, too precipitately, as appeared by the issue, settled the matter otherwise. He agreed to deposit a bill of exchange at the Custom-House, as security for the duty of the Teas, which was the very point his enemies wished; for by this measure he laid himself open to the most virulent attacks malice could invent to excite the populace against him, which would end in his destruction.

To forward their malicious and infernal designs, the officer of the revenue before mentioned, although the house of which he was a partner had, unmolested, three months before, landed Teas, used every means in his power, personally, and by the interest of his partner, who is undertaker of the publick buildings, and by the means and assistance of every friend and dependant they had in the neighbourhood, endeavoured to stir up the populace against Mr. *Stewart*, in which they proved but too successful; for having depicted his proceedings as a crime of the most atrocious nature, giving out "that it was done intentionally to entail slavery and heavy taxes on the *Americans*, and to strike at the root of, and tear up every privilege *British* subjects possessed on the Continent of *America*," the minds of the people were so inflamed, that they threatened death to



Mr. *Stewart*, and desolation to his store and dwelling-house.

The mob of *Maryland*, like the common people of all Countries, are ever ready to receive the first impressions; and being too lazy or too ignorant to inquire or examine into causes or complaints, they are ever violent in their proceedings; and when a notion is once impressed on them, it is scarcely to be effaced by reason. Can it then be surprising that the Committee who met to inquire into the merits of the affair (inflamed as they were by the incendiaries who set them on) could not put a stop to their rage, though a great majority of the Committee were of opinion that the destruction of the Tea, and a publick acknowledgment of the fault from the parties, was a sufficient atonement for the trespass? Is it surprising that this should not appease, when the death or destruction of Mr. *Stewart* only could have satiated their vengeance?

To avert so great a calamity, some of Mr. *Stewart's* friends proposed "that the Vessel with the Tea on board, should immediately be burnt," which was executed almost as soon as proposed, and the happy expedient had the desired effect. The mischief they had perpetrated, and the blaze of the vessel pleased and appeased the populace, and in some measure, though it may be presumed not to the extent of their wishes, gratified the malicious and interested, and saved Mr. *Stewart*, if not from death and destruction, at least from ruin, tar, and feathers.

This disturbance happened in the absence of the Governour, who was then on his passage from *England*; but had he been on the spot it could not have been prevented, for the civil power in *Annapolis*, though the capital of *Maryland* and residence of the Governour, is unable to cope with, or curb the fury of an exasperated people. There are no military in the Province. AMERICANUS.

#### TO THE PUBLICK.

Committee of Inspection Chamber, }  
Falmouth, Mass., April 10, 1775. }

To hold a man up as an object of general detestation, to deprive him of the benefits that result from society, is disagreeable, is painful; but, on the other hand, to neglect the interest of our Country, to disappoint the just expectations of our constituents, is dishonourable and base. The Committee of Inspection for the Town of *Falmouth*, therefore, come forward, to discharge the duty they owe the publick, and the trust reposed in them by their fellow-citizens.

On *Thursday*, the 2d ult., the Sloop *John* and *Mary*, *Henry Hughes*, master, arrived here from *Bristol*, supposed to have goods on board for Captain *Thomas Coulson*, of this place; and as the late Continental Congress had, by their Association, prohibited the importation of any goods from *Great Britain* after the first day of *February* last, this Committee, chosen by the said Town of *Falmouth* to observe the conduct of all persons in said Town touching said Association, immediately convened, and after employing some persons to see that nothing was taken out of said Sloop during their debates, they proceeded to consider the circumstances of the case; and being informed by Captain *Coulson* that said vessel had on board sundry Rigging, Sails, and Stores, sent him by Mr. *Garnet*, Merchant in *Bristol*, for a new Ship lately built here by said *Coulson* for said *Garnet*, the said Committee, after a full and serious consideration of the matter, gave it as their opinion, that his taking said Rigging and Sails out of the vessel in which they arrived, and appropriating them to rig his new Ship, in order to send her to *England*, would be a violation of the Continental Association, and therefore that the said Rigging, Sails, and Stores, ought forthwith to be sent back again, without breaking any of the packages thereof.

Of this opinion the said *Coulson* had due notice, but not making any preparations to comply therewith, the said Committee again convened on *Tuesday* following, viz: the 7th ult. Captain *Coulson* then attended, agreeable to the desire of this Committee, and being asked why he had not sent away the goods, agreeable to the opinion of this Committee, founded on the aforesaid Association, he said, because it was not for his interest; and further said that the vessel wanted repairs, and therefore was unfit to go to sea, and that he did not choose to procure another, or to send back the said Rigging and Sails, otherwise than by rigging

his said new Ship with them, and thus to send them back in the said new Ship; but that he would consent to have them stored at the Committee's risk until the vessel was repaired, and that then he would re-ship them, and send them out of the harbour. But being asked whether he would send them back to *Bristol*, he declined giving the Committee any assurance that he would, though he was willing to send back the two hogsheads of Lines, which came in said vessel.

This Committee then sent for a Committee of Carpenters, Riggers, and Caulkers, who had been on board to view her, at the request of a number of the inhabitants of this Town, and they informed us that the vessel wanted some repairs, but that, in their opinion, she might be repaired, fit to return, in about two days, without taking out the goods. Upon which the Committee passed the following Resolve, and sent a copy of it to Captain *Coulson*, viz:

"That seven days be allowed said *Coulson*, from this time, to repair said vessel, and to make the necessary preparations for sending her back; and if he does not, at the end of that term, (wind and weather permitting,) send said vessel out of this harbour to proceed to *Bristol*, this Committee will forthwith cause the truth of the case to be published, agreeable to the Continental Association."

At the expiration of said term, viz: on the evening of the 14th ult., the Committee met again, and although a deposition, signed by several persons, some of whom were merchants, masters of vessels, and ship-carpenters, was then handed in to this Committee, purporting that said vessel was unfit to go to sea until the goods were taken out, and she thoroughly repaired, yet it appeared that Captain *Coulson* had not taken due care to get said Sloop repaired, nor had endeavoured to procure another, in which to re-ship the goods to *Bristol*, and would give the Committee no assurance that he would send them back, in any other manner than he at first proposed. The Committee then adjourned to the 15th ult., and then passed the following Vote, viz:

"That if Captain *Coulson* will re-ship the aforesaid goods in some other vessel, and send them back immediately, without breaking any of the packages, it will be satisfactory to this Committee."

To this Captain *Coulson* (who was again desired to attend, to hear the Committee's determination) would not consent, though one of this Committee offered him a vessel gratis, to carry them to *Halifax* or *Newfoundland*.

We, the said Committee of Inspection, do therefore, agreeable to the directions of the said Continental Congress, as expressed in the said Eleventh Article of their Association, hereby publish the name of the said *Thomas Coulson*, as a violator of the Continental Association.

By order of the Committee:

ENOCH FREEMAN, *Chairman*.

Committee of Inspection Chamber, }  
Falmouth, March 2, 1775. }

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection, at the Library Chamber, to determine what ought to be done with respect to a vessel that arrived here this day from *Bristol*, supposed to have goods and merchandise for Captain *Thomas Coulson* on board:

*Voted*, That Mr. *Benjamin Mussey*, Captain *Joseph McLellan*, and Mr. *Benjamin Titcomb*, be a Committee to employ some persons to see that no goods are landed from said vessel during the debates of the Committee of Inspection, and to desire that Captain *Coulson* and the Master of said vessel would attend this Committee.

Captain *Coulson* and the Master accordingly attended; and being asked if said vessel came from *Bristol*, and what she had on board, answered that she did come from *Bristol*, and had on board Rigging, Sails, and Stores for a new Ship lately built here by Captain *Coulson*.

*Voted*, That Captain *Joseph McLellan*, Mr. *Jedidiah Cobb*, Mr. *Benjamin Mussey*, and Mr. *Samuel Freeman* be a Committee to go on board said vessel, or employ some other persons to go on board her, to see whether she has on board any goods other than the Rigging, Sails, and Stores for said new Ship.

The meeting was then adjourned to eight o'clock tomorrow morning, to meet at the Library Chamber, and



that in the mean time the absent members be desired to attend.

Falmouth, March 3, 1775.

The Committee of Inspection met, pursuant to adjournment. Present: *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, Messrs. *Daniel Ilsley*, *Benjamin Titcomb*, *Enoch Ilsley*, *John Waite*, *Stephen Waite*, *Benjamin Mussey*, *William Owen*, *Samuel Knights*, *Jedidiah Cobb*, *John Butler*, *Jabez Jones*, *Smith Cobb*, *Peletiah March*, *Pearson Jones*, *Joseph Noyes*, *Samuel Freeman*, *Joseph McLellan*, *Theophilus Parsons*.

The question being put, whether Captain *Coulson's* taking said Rigging and Sails out of the vessel in which they arrived, and his appropriating them to rig his new Ship, in order to send her to *England*, will be a violation of the *American Association*:

After a long and serious debate, it was

Resolved in the affirmative, by a majority of fourteen to five.

*Voted*, therefore, That said Rigging, Sails, and Stores for said new Ship, ought forthwith to be sent back again, without breaking any of the packages thereof, by a majority of fourteen to five.

*Voted*, *nemine contradicente*, That all other goods and merchandise that were imported in said vessel ought also forthwith to be sent back again without breaking any of the packages thereof.

*Voted*, That Messrs. *Enoch Ilsley*, *John Waite*, and *Daniel Ilsley* be a Committee, immediately to inform Captain *Coulson* of the result of this Committee, and that they are now sitting, if he is desirous to attend them.

Captain *Coulson* attended, and informed the Committee the vessel in which his Rigging and Sails arrived was so out of repair, that she was unfit to return back again until she was repaired, and that in order to repair her the freight must be taken out.

The meeting was then adjourned to three o'clock, P. M., to meet at the same place.

Three o'clock, P. M.

The Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the Sub-Committees chosen by the first and second votes of yesterday, be discharged from any further service as Sub-Committees.

*Voted*, That this Committee will exert their utmost endeavours to prevent all the inhabitants of this Town from engaging in any riots, tumults, and insurrections, or attacks on the private property of any person, as pernicious to the real interest thereof, as well as injurious to the liberty of *America* in general, and that they will, as far as lies in their power, promote peace and good order, as absolutely necessary to the existence of society.

*Ordered*, That the result of this Committee, together with the foregoing vote last passed, be posted up in some publick place in the Town, signed by the Chairman.

Attest: THEOPHILUS PARSONS, Clerk.

London, April 11, 1775.

Assistance to the *Americans* is rising from a new quarter. The following information may be depended upon: a Ship sailed from *Stettin* last month, loaded with Small Fire-Arms, Gunpowder, Ball, and Accoutrements, thirty Field-pieces of a light construction, and eight General Officers, who have served long in *Germany*; three of them are Messrs. *Robeveils*, *Larafont*, and *Gurgenstein*. The arms and ammunition are actually paid for by an *American* agent at *Berlin*, who went thither from *Paris*; but what the footing is upon which the Officers go, is only conjectured. They are *Lutherans*, and certainly do not go upon mere hope of preferment. This must be a scheme of the *Prussian* Monarch's for disconcerting the Court of *London*, with whom he is upon the worst terms.

New-York, April 14, 1775.

By accounts from *Staten Island*, we learn that the inhabitants of that place assembled on the 11th instant, in order to take the sense of the County upon the question, Whether they would nominate Deputies to concert with other Deputies in *New-York*, about the choice of Delegates for the ensuing Congress? When it was almost unanimously agreed against sending Deputies.

# MEETING OF FREEHOLDERS OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

White-Plains, in the County of Westchester, April 11, 1775.

On the 28th of *March* last, the following gentlemen having received letters from the Chairman of the Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, relative to the appointment of Deputies for this County, met at this place for the purpose of devising means for taking the sense of the County upon the subject, viz: *Theodosius Bartow*, Esq., *William Sutton*, Esq., Captain *Joseph Drake*, *James Willis*, *Benjamin Drake*, *Moses Drake*, Colonel *Lewis Morris*, *Thomas Hunt*, *Abraham Legget*, *James Horton*, Jun., Esq., *Stephen Ward*, and *Abraham Guion*, Esq., who, having taken the same into consideration, agreed to send the following notification to the principal freeholders in the different Towns and Districts in the County, viz:

March 28, 1775.

SIR: A number of gentlemen from different Districts in the County of *Westchester*, having this day met at the *White-Plains*, to consider of the most proper method of taking the sense of the freeholders of the said County upon the expediency of choosing Deputies to meet the Deputies of the other Counties, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent this Colony in the General Congress to be held at *Philadelphia*, on the 10th day of *May* next, are of opinion that the best way of proceeding for that purpose will be to have a general meeting of the freeholders of said County. As this County is very extensive, we take the liberty of recommending the meeting to be held at the *White-Plains*, on *Tuesday* the 11th day of *April* next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Court-House, and therefore do desire you to give notice of the same to all the freeholders in your District, without exception, as those who do not appear and vote on that day, will be presumed to acquiesce in the sentiments of the majority of those who vote.

We are, &c., &c.

The above notice having been generally given and distributed, a very numerous body of freeholders of the County assembled at the Court House at the *White-Plains*, on the day appointed, and chose Colonel *Lewis Morris* for their Chairman. An inconsiderable number of persons, (among whom were many tenants not entitled to vote) with *Isaac Wilkins*, Esq. and Colonel *Phillips* at their head, then appeared; and Mr. *Wilkins*, in their behalf, (as he said,) declared that they would not join in the business of the day, or have any thing to do with Deputies or Congresses; but that they came there for the sole purpose of protesting against such illegal and unconstitutional proceedings; after which they departed.

The following question was then put to the people by the Chairman, viz: Whether they would appoint Deputies for this County, to meet the Deputies of the other Counties at the City of *New-York*, on the 20th of *April* instant, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent this Colony in the General Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* on the 10th day of *May* next?

To which question they unanimously answered that they would.

They then appointed the following eight persons, or a majority of them, to be the Deputies of this County, for the purpose aforesaid, viz: Colonel *Lewis Morris*, *Stephen Ward*, *Daniel Drake*, Esq., Colonel *James Holmes*, *John Thomas*, Jun. Esq., *Jonathan Platt*, Esq., *Robert Graham*, Major *Philip Van Cortlandt*.

The two following Resolves were then unanimously entered into, viz:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this body be given to the virtuous minority of the General Assembly of this Province, and particularly to *John Thomas* and *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquires, two of our Representatives, for their firm attachment to, and zeal on a late occasion, for the preservation of the union of the Colonies, and rights and liberties of *America*; and that this Resolve be communicated by the Chairman to every gentleman of whom that minority consisted.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this County are due to the Delegates who composed the late Congress, for the essential services they have rendered to *America* in general; and that this Resolve be forthwith published.



After the business of the day was thus concluded, the people gave three huzzas for our gracious Sovereign, and dispersed quietly without the least disorder.

LEWIS MORRIS, *Chairman*.

MEETING OF COMMITTEES FOR THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS.

At a meeting of Committees appointed by a large body of Inhabitants on the east side of the range of *Green Mountains*, held at *Westminster*, on the 11th day of *April*, 1775:

1. *Voted*, That Major *Abijah Lovejoy* be the Moderator of this meeting.

2. *Voted*, That Doctor *Reuben Jones* be the Clerk.

3. *Voted, as our opinion*, That our inhabitants are in great danger of having their property unjustly, cruelly, and unconstitutionally taken from them by the arbitrary and designing administration of the Government of *New-York*, sundry instances having already taken place.

4. *Voted, as our opinion*, That the lives of those inhabitants are in the utmost hazzard and imminent danger, under the present administration—witness the malicious and horrid massacre of the night of the 13th ultimo.

5. *Voted, as our opinion*, That it is the duty of said inhabitants, as predicated on the eternal and immutable law of self-preservation, to wholly renounce and resist the administration of the Government of *New-York*, till such time as the lives and property of those inhabitants may be secured by it; or till such time as they can have opportunity to lay their grievances before his most gracious Majesty in Council, together with a proper remonstrance against the unjustifiable conduct of that Government, with an humble petition to be taken out of so oppressive a jurisdiction, and either annexed to some other Government, or erected and incorporated into a new one, as may appear best to the said inhabitants, to the royal wisdom and clemency, and till such time as His Majesty shall settle this controversy.

6. *Voted*, That Colonel *John Hazeltine*, *Charles Phelps*, Esq., and Colonel *Ethan Allen*, be a Committee to prepare such remonstrance and petition for the purpose aforesaid.

*Speech delivered by Captain SOLOMON UHHAUNAUWAMUT, the Chief Sachem of the MOHEAKUMNUK Tribe of INDIANS residing in STOCKBRIDGE, on the 11th day of APRIL, 1775, after sitting near two days in Council, it being an Answer to a Message sent to them by the CONGRESS.*

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress, now sitting at *Concord*—To be communicated.

BROTHERS: We have heard you speak by your Letter; we thank you for it; we now make answer.

*Brothers*: You remember when you first came over the great waters, I was great and you was little—very small. I then took you in for a friend, and kept you under my arms, so that no one might injure you; since that time we have ever been true friends; there never has been any quarrel between us. But now our conditions are changed; you are become great and tall; you reach up to the clouds; you are seen all round the world; and I am become small, very little; I am not so high as your heel. Now you take care of me, and I look to you for protection.

*Brothers*: I am sorry to hear of this great quarrel between you and Old *England*. It appears that blood must soon be shed to end this quarrel. We never till this day understood the foundation of this quarrel between you and the Country you came from.

*Brothers*: Whenever I see your blood running, you will soon find me about you to revenge my brothers' blood. Although I am low and very small, I will gripe hold of your enemy's heel, that he cannot run so fast and so light, as if he had nothing at his heels.

*Brothers*: You know I am not so wise as you are, therefore I ask your advice in what I am now going to say. I am thinking before you come to action, to take a run to the Westward, and feel the minds of my *Indian* brothers, the

*Six Nations*, and know how they stand, whether they are on your side, or for your enemies. If I find they are against you, I will try to turn their minds. I think they will listen to me; for they have always looked this way for advice concerning all important news that comes from the rising of the sun. If they hearken to me you will not be afraid of any danger from behind you. However their minds are affected, you shall soon know by me. Now I think I can do you more service in this way, than by marching off immediately to *Boston*, and stay there (it may be) a great while before blood runs. Now, as I said you are wiser than I, I leave this for your consideration, whether I come down immediately, or wait till I hear some blood is spilled.

*Brothers*: I would not have you think by this that we are falling back from our engagements; we are ready to do any thing for your relief, and shall be guided by your counsel.

*Brothers*: One thing I ask of you if you send for me to fight, that you will let me fight in my own *Indian* way. I am not used to fight *English* fashion, therefore you must not expect I can train like your men. Only to point out to me where your enemies keep, and that is all I shall want to know.

TO THE KING.

London, April 12, 1775.

SIRE: When the complaints and petitions of injured subjects are treated with insolence by a profligate Parliament, and with mockery by an imperious Minister, it is high time for them to assume a different tone. Your Majesty must be a great proficient in Courtly accomplishments to profess astonishment at what you could not but know full well, from the protesting majority of the independent Peers, from a hundred loud and honest voices (marvellous as that may seem) among your own faithful Commons, besides the many other Petitions from the commercial and manufacturing parts of the Kingdom, who had long before avowed their approbation of *American* resistance, and their utter abhorrence of the arbitrary and violent measures of Administration, against what your Majesty calls a rebellious disposition only, which barely exists in a part of your Colonies. Had an actual rebellion not only existed, but raged all over *America*, your Ministers could hardly have spared more forces from the National defence than are now embarked to correct a *bad disposition*. If your Majesty is thus severe on ill humours and dispositions, which so much pains have been taken to excite and inflame, what thunderbolts of your royal vengeance will be hurled upon actual traitors, when you shall discover them—nearer home?

Your Majesty's "entire confidence in the wisdom of your Parliament" cannot but be well founded, considering from whom they have learned and adopted their principles and resolutions, and thus qualified themselves for the "great Council of the Nation."

Surely your Majesty does not suppose your good subjects so dull of apprehension, as to believe that your *American* measures were originally planned and recommended to your Ministers by Parliament. They are convinced that the majority of Parliament are too modest, and know themselves too well, to give advice to Government. They know that these measures were dictated to Parliament by the Minister, (who is also dictated to by some body else,) and for no other purpose but to gain a Parliamentary sanction to indemnify the Crown and its servants from the consequences of such violent and unconstitutional proceedings. Therefore, the compliment paid to Parliament on this occasion is but little better founded, or more sincere, than that made to *Great Britain* in the next sentence, when your Majesty declares, that "you will steadily pursue these measures for the support of her constitutional rights and commercial interests." Your Majesty, in your great wisdom, or rather in the wisdom of your Parliament, is pleased to take measures a little extraordinary on this great occasion; which, although very expressive of the violence of your attachment to our rights and interests, it is feared, like the fostering of too fond a parent, may overlay them both. The mode graciously adopted to protect our Commerce, by starving or cutting the throats of our Colonists,



it is feared will neither increase their population, nor the Trade or Revenue of *Britain*.

Your Majesty cannot be supposed to dissemble with or mock your people in a matter which so nearly concerns them. We must, therefore, necessarily believe, on the faith of royalty, that these measures have originated from Parliament, acting as the great Council of the Nation, and that they have been planned with no other view than to "support the constitutional rights, and protect the commercial interests of *Great Britain*." This is a solemn declaration, made before *God* and the publick; and it would ill become your subjects to entertain a doubt of that sincerity in which your Majesty has been early trained, and of which your auspicious reign has afforded so many great and singular instances.

I could wish, however, (that no opening might be left for invidious censure,) the Ministerial authors of your Majesty's speeches would endeavour, for the future, not only to think in character themselves, on the small scale of knavish craft, but that they would enable their Royal master, when he addresses the publick, to speak in character also.

Conscious of their own evil principles and designs, they put words into the Royal mouth which would only have become their own. Thus your Majesty is made to address your Capital in a low and familiar style, utterly beneath your dignity as a great King, and your nice feelings as an honest man. My Lord *North* might be "astonished (speaking in character, as a hollow, hypocritical, sneering Minister) that any of your subjects could be capable of countenancing a rebellious disposition, unfortunately existing in some of the Colonies," as such tyrannical and vindictive persons are not ashamed to make actual war upon a *disposition*; but a King of *Great Britain*, conscious of his own dignity, and speaking with the majesty of truth, as well as royalty, in answer to so heavy a charge, would have expressed his astonishment at the daring presumption of the Petitioners in countenancing rebellion, not at their being "capable of countenancing a rebellious disposition only." Which is little better than if your Majesty had said, "my good friends, I am very sorry you should be so unkind as to encourage a set of people whom I am obliged to treat as rebels, although I cannot call them such at present; but in all probability, by the blessing of *God* on my Fleets and Armies, they will deserve that appellation very soon."

In the mean time, as your Majesty's confidence in your Parliament is almost as great as the people's distrust and detestation of them, there can be no doubt but by pursuing the salutary measures they recommend, your Government will become as respectable, though not so gentle and condescending, as your speeches.

Your Majesty will pardon the well meant simplicity of a true subject, although a plain dealer. REGULUS.

GENERAL GAGE TO GOVERNOUR MARTIN, OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

Boston, April 12, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the 16th of *March*, I have had the pleasure to receive, and am glad to hear that many of the people in your Province are beginning to find they have been misled, and that they seem inclined to disengage themselves from the arbitrary power of the Continental Congress, and of their Committees. I wish I could say as much for the people of this Province, who are more cool than they were, but their leaders, by their arts and artifices, still keep up that seditious and licentious spirit, that has led them on all occasions to oppose Government, and even to acts of rebellion. The late accounts from *England* have embarrassed their councils much. They have applied to the *New-England* Governments, and doubtless will to those at the Southward, to assist them, but I hope the madness of the latter is wearing off, and that they will get no encouragement from thence.

This Province has some time been, and now is, in the new-fangled Legislature, termed a Provincial Congress, who seem to have taken the Government into their hands. What they intend to do I cannot pretend to say, but they are much puzzled how to act. Fear in some, and a want of inclination in others, will be a great bar to their coming

to extremities, though their leaders use every measure to bring them into the field. I have the honour to be, &c.

THOMAS GAGE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE AT FALMOUTH TO SAMUEL FREEMAN, DATED APRIL 12, 1775.

Last night we had a letter from the Committee at *Boston*, wherein they say they should be extremely uneasy to find any omission of duty "in behalf of this Province and the other Colonies, as the eyes of the whole Continent are upon us. The tools of power wish for an opportunity to charge us with negligence, and are watching for it, to make a division between this Province and the other Colonies. We, therefore, again recommend to you, as our firm opinion, that you conform strictly and religiously to the Association of the Continental Congress in every respect, without favour or affection to any person whatever. We are of opinion, to suspend the publication of your Resolves respecting Captain *Coulson*, till we hear from you whether he has complied with the request of the Committee, conformable to the Resolution of the Continental Congress."

*Coulson* no sooner arrived, but the next day had the *Canso* Man-of-War up to Town, and his old *Bristol* Sloop alongside of his new Ship, taking out the goods. But it seems he cannot get any of our people to help him; and I do not think he will be able to get his Ship loaded and rigged, unless he gets the Man-of-War's men to do it. And I hear that Captain *Mowat* has been pressing men; some he releases, and some retains; and it is suggested by some, that his design is to supply Captain *Coulson* with men from his own Ship. We shall do all we can to prevent any other person from breaking the Association. I do not think it will be amiss for you to acquaint some of the Committee of Inspection in *Boston* of Captain *Coulson's* conduct, with which the People in general, in Town and Country, are very much dissatisfied.

We rejoice in your zeal and firmness in so trying a time as this, and we pray *God* to support you in so good a cause as the preservation of our liberties, civil and religious.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN ENGLAND TO HIS CORRESPONDENT IN VIRGINIA.

The sword is drawn here, and the scabbard thrown away. What are you to do? Submission and slavery are the same. The question then can only be, how shall we best resist the chains prepared for us?

Let *Virginia*, *Maryland*, and *South-Carolina* declare their resolution to stand by the *Massachusetts*; let the non-import be commenced as soon as possible. Were it not for the import of *American* Grain, this Country would this moment be in famine and insurrection. Be vigilant in keeping the Non-Import and Export Resolutions unviolated in the smallest degree. Select the best of the Militia, train and arm them well, and familiarize them to the right of resistance and the necessity of exerting it; cultivate the frontier Militia and their leaders. Much will depend on them. It is determined to put you to the trial; and every thing that is dear to us depends on your firmness. Remember that night is the time when the discipline of the Regulars is least availing, and their artillery useless. One year's firm observation of your Resolutions must reduce the Ministry to the necessity of capitulating. This Country cannot bear one year's interruption of her Commerce. It is impossible. A protractive war on your part must enfeeble her Army, which cannot be recruited but at a vast expense of time and money. The interruption of commerce brings, in a year's time, half our Merchants and Manufacturers to beggary, loads her landed interest with additional publick taxes and poor's rates, so as to shake every part of the community to its foundation. Nothing but a miracle can support them under such an accumulation of calamities. Let it be your study, therefore, to promote a frugality and industry in providing against the consequences of the interruption to you, so as to prevent popular disorders, and keep the people firm. You have the game in your own hands; a little patience, a little endurance, and your victory is sure. If you conquer in this contest, you will be the freest, the



most prosperous and respected people in the world; if you submit, the most inexorable yoke that ever galled the neck of any Nation will be your lot. The threats thrown out here against you are fit only for savages. It is impossible to conceive with what approbation the House of Commons heard a Colonel *Grant*, the same who commanded the expedition with Colonel *Lewis* to Fort *Du Quesne*, declare, that he had always treated the *Americans* as beasts of burden, and that they deserved no better usage, being fit for nothing else. *American* fraud, *American* rapine, *American* cowardice, and *American* insolence, are the perpetual topicks of ministerial declamation. When *America* is the question, every idea of justice or mercy seems to be extinguished. Your own experience of seven years' ineffectual supplication will show that their professions of readiness to hear and redress grievances is a mere mockery.

The very existence of liberty on the face of this earth; the precious possession of it to you and your posterity from generation to generation; the avoiding the most cruel bondage and thralldom that ever ground the faces of a miserable people, all depend upon a year or two's exertion of virtue, fortitude, and forbearance in *America*. How infinite the purchase, and how cheap! Orders are certainly sent to seize particular persons. Reprisals will surely be made; but remember it is a state of war, and therefore be guarded. It is not the way to conquer the lion to run into his mouth.

I have the greatest inclination to come over. And yet I think I can be more serviceable here; nor do I imagine myself in less danger. On the contrary, I am certain of the intention of destroying certain *American* advocates here, when the temper of the times render it safe. Adieu.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, April 13, 1775.

By the last prints from *England*, we find that the proceedings of the General Congress have had a strange effect upon the minds of the people in that quarter. Some esteem and applaud them as a production of a most masterly nature; whilst others, swayed by the influence of the ministerial party, and their votaries, declare them not even worthy of notice; that the sentiments contained therein spring merely from a distempered imagination, and that they are naught but the effusions of wild, intolerable enthusiasm. But our wonder, on this account, must immediately cease when we consider that *America* is not yet without her enemies, who now reside within her territories; enemies who, notwithstanding they are wholly and entirely dependant upon her for subsistence, that would pleasingly aid, if we may judge from their conduct, in showering every misery upon this unhappy Country.

In the last *English* paper that we have received are the following paragraphs from some of those pious and deserving advocates (who unfortunately reside in *Boston*) for the meek and gentle measures of Administration; they are termed authentick, and are addressed to persons of great consequence in *England*:

"The residence of the General Congress at *Philadelphia* has entirely debauched the minds of the people of that place, who were heretofore the last to make objection to any measure of Government, but are now as violent as any other of the Colonies. I am informed by a gentleman in whom I can confide, that every resolution of the Congress will be strictly adhered to. No place on the Continent has shown so great an inclination to disobey the dictates of the General Congress as *New-York*.

"The Provincial Congress thought it prudent to decamp soon after the arrival of the *Scarborough* and *Asia*, and are removed to *Worcester* from *Cambridge*. The proceedings have been kept so close that nothing has transpired but what they have put in the papers themselves.

"Associations are forming in several Towns in the country by the well-thinking and better sort of people for their defence, who have been till now obliged to do just as the rabble dictated, very contrary to their own sentiments.

"Our good General has his hands full; you are not unacquainted with the people he has to deal with. If they are suffered to go on, adieu to all happiness in this Country; but surely the lion will be roused at last. Notwithstanding their boasted numbers, a determined frown even will make them tremble."

COMMITTEE OF YORK-TOWN, YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,  
TO JOHN HANCOCK AND THOMAS CUSHING.

York-Town, April 13, 1775.

HONOURED FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN: Sorry are we to hear that the hand of oppression still bears hard on your City, and that the distresses of your poor are not yet alleviated. If your misfortunes and sufferings could be divided, the inhabitants of this County would cheerfully bear a part. This, it seems, cannot be done; your destined Town must stand the shock alone. We want words to express the high sense we have of your conduct and virtue; few men in the world would have opposed despotism, and stood the torrent of ministerial vengeance with so much steadiness, intrepidity, and resolution, as the inhabitants of your Town and Country have done. You have true notions of liberty. You have purchased it. You ought to enjoy it. The noble stand made by the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, if faithfully adhered to, has laid the foundation for establishing *American* liberty on the most firm basis. The other Colonies will be equally gainers by a favourable determination of the contest, and will not desert you in the time of danger; they will doubtless grant you the most effectual assistance.

This County, upon the earliest intelligence of your distress, forwarded subscriptions for the poor of *Boston*. Grain was generally subscribed; we expected to have sent it last fall, but could not collect it at any seaport before the winter season came on, so that the shipping of it was postponed till the spring. Upon the meeting of the Committee of this County in *February* last, shortly after the receipt of the King's Speech to the Parliament, it was thought that it would not be safe to send Grain. The Committee, therefore, determined to convert the Grain into cash, and remit the same in Specie or Bills of Exchange to you. Your poor have suffered much by this Resolution, as the price of Wheat is greatly fallen. The subscriptions of but a part of the County are yet come in. We send you the sum of £246 8s. 10d., to be remitted to you in Bills of Exchange or Specie, by Messrs. *Jonathan B. Smith* and *John Mitchell*, Merchants of *Philadelphia*, which be pleased to distribute among our poor and unhappy countrymen in your Town, or in its neighbourhood, in such manner as you shall think proper. As there are a few disaffected people in this Province, we must trouble you to publish the receipt of the donations as is mentioned in the enclosed paper.\* Your friends here are numerous, and most heartily interested themselves in your favour. As soon as the rest of the subscriptions in this County are paid, we shall cheerfully remit the same to you.

We wish you a speedy relief from all your sufferings, and are, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your real friends and most obedient humble servants,

JAS. SMITH, Pres't Com.

GEO. EICHELBERGER, GEO. FUVIN,  
DAVID GRIER, JOS. DONALDSON,  
MICHAEL DOWDLE, MICHAEL SCHMYSER,  
MICHAEL SWOPE, BALZORD SPANGLER,  
PETER REEL, JOHN HAY.  
THOMAS HARTLEY,

Committee of Correspondence of YORK County.

To John Hancock and Thomas Cushing, Esq's, Committee for receiving and distributing the Donations for the Poor of *Boston*.

\* The Committee of *Boston* received the sum of £246 8s. 10d., valued at the rate of *Pennsylvania* money, being donations from a part of the County of *York*, in the Province of *Pennsylvania*, to the Poor of *Boston* and its neighbourhood; subscribed as follows:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |      |      |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|-----|
| York-Town.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | £124 | 10s. | 9d. |
| Heidelberg Township.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 36   | 17   | 5   |
| Germany Township.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 16   | 2    | 0   |
| Mantreim, by the hands of Adam Eichelberger.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 5    | 15   | 6   |
| by do. of Michael Karl.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 5    | 9    | 9   |
| by do. of David Newman.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 3    | 16   | 3   |
| Manchester Township, by the hands of Michael Schmyser.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 6    | 12   | 1   |
| by do. of Simon Coppenheffer.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2    | 17   | 7   |
| by do. of Jacob Hark.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 6    | 18   | 6   |
| Shrewsbury Township.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 12   | 0    | 0   |
| Dover Township.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 6    | 9    | 0   |
| Fawn.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 6    | 0    | 0   |
| Codorus Township.....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2    | 16   | 6   |
| Dover Township 62½ Bushels of Wheat, ½ Bushel of Rye;<br>Manchester Township 39½ Bushels of Wheat; Paradise<br>Township 20 Bushels of Wheat; Codorus Township 5<br>Bushels of Wheat and ½ Bushel of Rye; York Township<br>4 Bushels of Wheat. Part of which grain has been made<br>into Flour and sold here..... | 16   | 13   | 3   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | £246 | 8    | 10  |



PROTEST OF INHABITANTS AND FREEHOLDERS OF WEST-CHESTER COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

County of Westchester, April 13, 1775.

Mr. RIVINGTON: Be pleased to insert the following, and you will oblige a number of your friends and subscribers.

On *Thursday*, the 11th instant, a very respectable number of freeholders and inhabitants of the County of *Westchester*, assembled at the *White Plains*, in the said County, agreeable to the notice given, that their sentiments might be known concerning the choice of a Committee to meet their Committee in the City of *New-York*, for the purpose of choosing Delegates to represent this Colony in the next Continental Congress.

The friends of order and Government met at the house of Captain *Hatfield*; those who were for a Committee, put up at another publick house in the Town. About twelve o'clock, word was brought to the gentlemen at Captain *Hatfield's*, that the opposite party had already entered upon the business of the day; upon which they immediately walked down to the Court-House, although not half of their friends, who were expected, had yet appeared, where they found the other company collected in a body. The numbers on each side seemed to be nearly equal, and both together might amount to two hundred, or, at most, two hundred and fifty. The friends to Government then declared, that as they had been unlawfully called together, and for an unlawful purpose, they did not intend to contest the matter with them by a poll, which would be tacitly acknowledging the authority that had summoned them thither; but that they came only with a design to protest against all such disorderly proceedings, and to shew their detestation of all unlawful Committees and Congresses. They then declared their determined resolution to continue steadfast in their allegiance to their gracious and merciful Sovereign, King *George* the Third; to submit to lawful authority; and to abide by and support the only true representatives of the people of this Colony—the General Assembly. Then giving three huzzas, they returned to Captain *Hatfield's*, singing, as they went, with a loyal enthusiasm, the grand and animating song of "God save great *George* our King." "Long live our noble King," &c., &c.

At their return, finding that many of their friends had arrived during their absence, and that many still kept coming in, they proceeded to draw up and sign the following Declaration, which they seemed to do with as much patriotick zeal as ever warmed the hearts of true and faithful subjects, and afterwards dispersed to their different habitations.

"We, the subscribers, freeholders and inhabitants of the County of *Westchester*, having assembled at the *White Plains*, in consequence of certain advertisements, do now declare, that we met here to declare our honest abhorrence of all unlawful Congresses and Committees, and that we are determined, at the hazard of our lives and properties, to support the King and Constitution; and that we acknowledge no Representatives but the General Assembly, to whose wisdom and integrity we submit the guardianship of our rights, liberties, and privileges."

Frederick Philips, Isaac Wilkins, Samuel Seabury, Luke Babcock, Jona. Fowler, Judge, Caleb Fowler, Judge, Jona. P. Horton, Esq., William Suttan, Esq., David Oakly, Esq., Benja'n Fowler, Esq., William Davids, Esq., Wm. Anderson, Esq., Wm. Barker, Esq., Capt. Abram Hatfield, N. Underhill, Mayor, George Cornwell, Esq., Philip Pell, Esq., Joshua Pell, James Pell, Edward Pell, John Hunt, Gilbert Horton, Adrian Leforge, Joshua Gidney, Jonathan Gidney, Lieut. Jona. Purdy, Solomon Gidney, Joseph Bude, James Whitmore, Moses Williams, Roger Purdy, Jun., Gilbert Pugsley, Abraham Leadu, Benjamin Brown, Isaac Keed, Aaron Buis, Moses Weymen, Israel Underhill, John Baizley, David Oakly, Jun., Isaac Smith, John Hyatt, Hezekiah Cudney, Abraham Odell, Thomas Lawrence, John Seyseon, Jeremiah Traves, Griffen Curey, Isaac Forsheu, Gabriel Requeaw, Samuel Webb, Benjamin Downing, Gabriel Archer, Elias Secord, Thomas Veal, James Poirce, Edward Bugbe, David Haight, Sylvanius Lyon, Daniel Haight,

Jonathan Budd, John Whetmore, Wm. Underhill, Thomas Brown, Lieut. Isaac Gidney, Nehemiah Tompkins, Henry Leforge, Everet Brown, Benjamin Beyea, Barthol'w Gidney, Josiah Brown, Seth Purdy, Peter Huggesford, Jacob Gidney, John Loce, Elnathan Appleby, John Baker, Jonathan Underhill, James McChain, Benjamin Secord, Joshua Hunt, Betts Chatterdon, William Landrine, Enoch Hunt, Peter Corne, Dennis Kennedy, James Hains, Andrew Bainton, Hezekiah Simmons, Nathaniel Tompkins,

John Haight, Isaac Brown, Phillip Kelly, James Hains, Joseph Hains, Jun., James Hains, Jun., Matthew Hains, Bartholomew Hains, Gilbert Hains, John Hains, Elijah Hains, Lieut. Solo'n Fowler, Isaac Williams, John McCollum, Joseph Clark, Joseph Oakly, Caleb Ferris, Capt. Benja'n Griffen, Capt. Joshua Purdy, James Mott, Lieut. W. Laensberry, Lieut. Samuel Purdy, John Rustin, Nathan Osburn, Philemon Halstead, Daniel Purdy, John Crab, Izrahiah Whetmore, Capt. Abso'm Gidney, David Haight, John Brown, Jasper Stivers, Peter McFarthing, Joshua Purdy, Jun., Haccaliah Purdy, Jun., James Tompkins, Michael Chatterton, Elnathan Taylor, Gilbert Theal, William Sexon, Thomas Champeniers, John Champeniers, William Griffin, Isaac Gidney, John Bates, Joseph Haviland, Eleazer Hart, Timothy Whetmore, James Hunt, Joseph Parker, Joshua Barnes, Joseph Purdy, John Park, Samuel Purdy, Gilbert Purdy, James Chatterton, John Dewsenburgh, Thomas Cromwell, Solomon Horton, Peter Bussing,† Peter Bussing, Jun., James Kneffen, Nath'l Underhill, Jun., Philip Fowler, John McFarthing, John Tompkins, Joseph Hart, Jacob Post, Joseph Gidney, James Baxter, John Hart, Cornelius Loossee, Jesse Park, John Williams, Joseph Purdy, Ezekial Halstead, John Hunt, Jun., Isaac Purdy, Elijah Purdy, Abraham Loossee, Isaac Tompkins, William Gray, Nathaniel Merit, Joseph Paulding, Hendricus Storm, Francis Secord, John Parker, Gilbert Hatfield, Gabriel Purdy, Alexander Hains, Benjamin Ogden, Thomas Meritt, Gilbert Bates, John Gidney, Stephen Arnode, Israel Secord, John Arnode, David Purdy, Daniel Blecher, Jordon Downing, Levi Devoe, Abraham Acker, Corn. Van Tassell, Elisha Meritt, Jacob Schureman, Joseph Appleby, John Tompkins, Jun., Job Hadden, Jun., Patrick Cary, James Hart, Gilbert Ward, Joseph Hart, Monmouth Hart, William Dunlap, Joshua Ferris, Timothy Purdy, James Macquire, James Regnaw, Daniel Shadin, Samuel Purdy, Sylvanus Purdy, William Dalton, David Davids, Elijah Purdy, Jun., Elijah Tomkins, Daniel Jerow, Charles Lawrence, Joseph Purdy, Jun., James Sniffin, Jun., Thomas Valentine, Gilbert Valentine, Abraham Rich, Andrew Gerow, Gilbert Hunter, Lieut. Peter Bonnett, Samuel Sneed, Peter Fashee, Jesse Lawrence, William Sneed, Lieut. Daniel Knap, Solomon Dean, Charles Vincent, Sr., Lieut. Thomas Hyatt, James Gidney, Wm. Woodward,

Caleb Archer, Benjamin Bugbe, Francis Purdy, William Odell, Israel Hunt, Thomas Tompkins, Frederick Underhill, Peter Post, Benjamin McCord, John Williams, John Ackerman, Peter Rusting, Thomas Barker, Jeremiah Hunter,\* Abraham Storm, Peter Jenning, Isaac Merritt, Edward Merritt, John Gale, John Smith, Roger Purdy, James Hart, Jun., Jona. Purdy, Jun., Monmouth Hart, Jr., Christopher Purdy, Gilbert Purdy, Edw'd Merritt, Jun., Elijah Miller, Henry Disborough, Benjamin Hunt, Elnathan Hunt, William Van Wart, Abraham Storm, Thomas Berry, Lancaster Underhill, Charles Merritt, Benjamin Underhill, Benj. Griffin, Jun., Jeremiah Coone, John Hall, James Angevine, Jacob Coone, Jer. Anderson, Jr., Gilbert Williams, Wm. Barker, Jun., Gideon Arden, William Field, Joseph Purdy, George Storm, Jacob Vermiller, Samuel Heusted, Barthol'w Underhill, Lieut. John Warner, Nathaniel Purdy, Isaac Bennett, Samuel Baker,† John Cornwell, John Storm, Andrew Fowler, Joshua Secord, George French, John Underhill, Caleb Gidney, Wm. Underhill, Jun., James Hill, William Watkins, John Rustin, Richard Baker, William Ascough, Bishop Heustice, James Miller, Phineas Hunt,

The following persons, not being able to attend at the *Plains*, requested, by their friends, that their names might be added to the list of protesters, viz:

John Hunt, Esq., Philip Palmer, Esq., John Hitchcock, Jeremiah Hitchcock, William Bond, Joseph Bond.

The foregoing account is strictly true, as can be proven by the testimony (or, if necessary, by the affidavits) of a number of persons of the most unquestionable character in this County. What, then, must we think of such persons as have propagated a report, that the friends of Government were, upon this occasion, out-numbered five to one, and that many of the persons whose names were subscribed to the foregoing Declaration, were not on that day present at the

\* NORTH-CASTLE, May 8, 1775.—Mr. Rivington: In your paper lately I saw my name to a Protest. I never signed it, but went into Captain *Hatfield's* house, and was asked whether I was a Whig or a Tory? I made answer, that I did not understand the meaning of those words, but was for liberty and peace. Upon which some body put down my name. Now, sir, I desire you will print this, to show the world that I have not deserved to be held up in the light of a protester.

JEREMIAH HUNTER.

† That our names were not subscribed to the Protest of *Westchester*, either by ourselves, or our orders, or permission, directly or indirectly, is certified by us, each for himself.

May 4, 1775.

‡ Mr. Rivington: I did sign a Protest which was printed in your paper; but I did so because I was told that the intent of signing it was to show that I was for the liberties of the Country.

SAMUEL BAKER.



*White Plains?* They must be conscious to themselves that they have spread abroad a falsehood, and they are hereby called upon, if they dare, to set their names to those assertions.

In what manner those gentlemen, who chose the Committee at the *Plains*, proceeded, we cannot positively say; but this we can declare with truth, that we do not believe they can produce to the publick the names of a hundred and fifty persons who voted for a Committee that day, and we are verily persuaded that they did their utmost to make their party as numerous as possible. How then can they justify their choice of a Committee? Or how can they presume to impose upon the world, and to insult the loyal County of *Westchester* in so barefaced a manner?

It is well known here, that two-thirds at least of the inhabitants of this County are friends to order and Government, and opposed to Committees and all unlawful combinations; and it will be made apparent to the world that they are so, as soon as certain Resolves, now signing freely by the people, shall be ready for publication. And one principal reason why the friends to Government did not assemble in greater numbers than they did, on *Tuesday* last, was, that many of them had already, by signing those Resolves, testified their loyalty to the King, their attachment to the Constitution, their enmity to Committees, and their acquiescence in the prudent measures taken by the Assembly in the late session, for accommodating the unhappy difference between the Mother Country and the Colonies, and consequently thought they had done their duty.

The Committee that was chosen may, with some kind of propriety, be said to represent those particular persons who chose them; but how they can be denominated the Representatives of the County of *Westchester*, who, in general, abhor Committees and Committee-men, and are determined to take no steps that may lead them into rebellion, we cannot conceive. Certainly the friends to Government, who were collected at Captain *Hatfield's*, had a better right, from their number, to determine that there should be no Committee, than the opposite party had to appoint one; and might, with much greater propriety, be said to shew the sense of the County than the few who acted without authority, and in direct opposition to Government and to the determinations of our worthy Assembly; and we doubt not but the impartial publick will consider the matter in this light, and not esteem the act of a few individuals, unlawfully assembled, as the act (which it most assuredly is not) of the very respectable, populous, and loyal County of *Westchester*.

#### TO THE PUBLICK.

Morrisiana, May 7, 1775.

A very extraordinary paper, called a Protest against the proceedings of the Freeholders of the County of *Westchester*, relative to the election of Deputies for the late Convention, and said to have been subscribed by the several persons whose names are printed with it, was published in Mr. *Rivington* and *Gaine's* Gazette a few weeks ago.

By whom this performance was given to the publick is uncertain; and being as little distinguished by decency as by truth, there is reason to suspect the author's name will remain a secret.

The falsities contained in this representation are too flagrant to impose upon any person in this Colony; and nothing but the apprehension of its gaining credit in other parts of the world would have induced me to have made it the subject of animadversion.

I shall pass over the many little embellishments with which the author's fancy has endeavoured to decorate his narrative; nor is it necessary to call in question the reality of that loyal enthusiasm by which it is said those good people were influenced; and I really wish that had been the fact, because when inconsistencies and fooleries result from inebriety or enthusiasm, they merit our pity, and escape indignation and resentment.

Much pains, I confess, were on that day taken to make temporary enthusiasts, and with other more *exhilarating spirit* than the spirit of loyalty.

To give the appearance of dignity to these curious and very orderly protesters, the author has been very mindful to annex every man's addition to his name, upon a pre-

sumption, perhaps, that it would derive weight from the title of Mayor, Esquire, Captain, Lieutenant, Judge, &c.

But it is not easy to conceive why the publisher should be less civil to the clergy, than to the gentry and commonalty. *Samuel Seabury* and *Luke Babcock*, certainly ought not to have been sent into the world floating on a newspaper in that plain way; the one is the "*Reverend Mr. Samuel Seabury*, Rector of the united parishes of *East* and *Westchester*, and one of the missionaries for propagating the Gospel (and not politicks) in foreign parts," &c., &c. The other is the "*Reverend Mr. Luke Babcock*, who preaches and prays for Mr. *Philipse* and his tenants, at *Philipseburgh*."

In this formidable catalogue of three hundred and twelve sober and loyal protesters, there are not less than one hundred and seventy, who, after the most diligent inquiry, I cannot find have the least pretensions to a vote; and indeed many of them are lads under age.

Their names are as follows:—

|                        |                      |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Samuel Seabury,        | Isaac Smith,         | Joshua Hunt,         |
| Luke Babcock,          | John Hyatt,          | Betts Chatterdon,    |
| Benj. Fowler, Esq.,    | Abraham Odell,       | William Landrim,     |
| Joshua Pell,           | Thomas Lawrence,     | Dennis Kennedy,      |
| Edward Pell,           | John Seyson,         | James Hains,         |
| John Hunt,             | Isaac Forsheu,       | Andrew Bainton,      |
| Gilbert Horton,        | Gabriel Requeaw,     | Nathaniel Tomkins,   |
| Adrian Liforge,        | Elias Secord,        | Caleb Archer,        |
| Moses Williams,        | James Peirce,        | Benjamin Bugbe,      |
| Philip Kelly,          | Edward Bugbe,        | Francis Purdy,       |
| James Hains, Jun.,     | Daniel Haight,       | William Odell,       |
| Matthew Hains,         | John Hunt, Jun.,     | Israel Hunt,         |
| Bartholomew Hains,     | Abraham Losee,       | Thomas Tomkins,      |
| John Hains,            | Isaac Tomkins,       | Frederick Underhill, |
| Elijah Hains,          | Joseph Paulding,     | Peter Post,          |
| Joseph Clark,          | Henricus Storm,      | Benjamin McCord,     |
| Joseph Oakly,          | Francis Secord,      | John Williams,       |
| James Mott,            | John Parker,         | John Ackeman,        |
| Daniel Purdy,          | Gilbert Bates,       | Peter Rusting,       |
| John Crab,             | David Purdy,         | Jeremiah Hunter,     |
| Izrahiah Whetmore,     | David Bleeker,       | Abraham Storm,       |
| Absalom Gidney,        | Jordan Downing,      | Peter Jennings,      |
| John Brown,            | Corn. Van Tassell,   | John Gale,           |
| Jasper Stivers,        | Joseph Appleby,      | John Smith,          |
| Peter McFarthing,      | Patrick Cary,        | James Hart, Jun.,    |
| Joshua Purdy, Jun.,    | Gilbert Ward,        | Jonathan Purdy, Jr., |
| Hacaliah Purdy, Jun.,  | William Dunlap,      | Monmouth Hart, Jr.,  |
| James Tomkins,         | Joshua Ferris,       | Christopher Purdy,   |
| Gilbert Theal,         | Timothy Purdy,       | Gabriel Purdy,       |
| William Sexen,         | James McQuire,       | Edward Merritt, Jr., |
| Thomas Champeniers,    | James Regnaw,        | Henry Disborough,    |
| John Champeniers,      | Samuel Purdy,        | William Van Wart,    |
| Eleazer Hart,          | Sylvanus Purdy,      | Abraham Storm,       |
| James Hunt,            | William Dalton,      | Thomas Berry,        |
| Joseph Parker,         | Elijah Tomkins,      | Charles Merritt,     |
| Joshua Barns,          | Charles Lawrence,    | Benjamin Griffin,    |
| John Park,             | Joseph Purdy, Jun.,  | James Angerine,      |
| Samuel Purdy,          | James Sniffin, Jun., | Jere Anderson, Jr.,  |
| Gilbert Purdy,         | Peter Bonet,         | William Barker, Jr., |
| James Chatterton,      | Peter Fashee,        | Gideon Arden, Jr.,   |
| Thomas Cromwell,       | Jesse Lawrence,      | Joseph Purdy,        |
| Solomon Horton,        | William Sniden,      | George Storm,        |
| Nath. Underhill, Jun., | Solomon Dean,        | Jacob Vermiller,     |
| Philip Fowler,         | Thomas Hyatt,        | Samuel Huested,      |
| John McFarthing,       | William Woodward,    | John Warner,         |
| Jacob Post,            | John Whitmore,       | John Storm,          |
| James Baxter,          | William Underhill,   | Joshua Secord,       |
| John Hart,             | Nehemiah Tomkins,    | John Underhill,      |
| Cornelius Losee,       | Henry Leforge,       | Wm. Underhill, Jr.,  |
| Jesse Park,            | Evert Brown,         | James Hill,          |
| Roger Purdy, Jun.,     | Benjamin Beyea,      | William Watkins,     |
| Gilbert Pugsley,       | John Loce,           | Richard Baker,       |
| Abraham Ledeau,        | Elnathan Appleby,    | Bishop Hustice,      |
| Benjamin Brown,        | John Baker,          | Jeremiah Hitchcock,  |
| Aaron Buis,            | Jonathan Underhill,  | William Bond,        |
| John Baizley,          | James McChain,       | Samuel Sniden.       |
| David Oakley, Jun.,    |                      |                      |

Of the others who are Freeholders, many also hold lands at will of Colonel *Philipse*; so that the truth really is, that very few *independent* Freeholders objected to the appointment of Deputies.

LEWIS MORRIS.

#### FOR THE MASSACHUSETTS GAZETTE.

Boston, April 13, 1775.

#### *My worthy Friends and Fellow-Countrymen:*

The charms of power are very intoxicating and bewitching. Mankind are naturally inclined to usurp authority over their fellow-men, whenever an opportunity presents; and it may be generally observed, that when their right to it is most questionable, their exercise of it is most wanton and unreasonable. This may be easily accounted for, as they fear its duration will be but short, and therefore are disposed to leave a testimonial of their having enjoyed it. In no instance do we see this truth more strongly verified,



than in the conduct of the late *American* Continental Congress, who, in most of their proceedings, have exceeded the powers delegated to them, and in still more have counteracted the design of their appointment. That there are some grievances, or rather, that the time is come explicitly to define and settle the rights of the *Americans*, and the bounds of Parliamentary authority, will be denied by none who wish well to *Great Britain* and her Colonies. But to demand too much of a Nation that is wealthy, powerful, and brave, that we may obtain enough, discovers a childish petulance and frowardness, tending much more to irritate and inflame, than to soften and appease. She will, like a kind parent, correct our insolence, and reduce us to due subjection, and then allow us every indulgence that we ought reasonably to desire. As it is not her interest, so we can never suppose it her inclination, to injure or oppress us; but we may be equally satisfied that she will never see her just and constitutional authority abused and trampled on.

We cannot wonder, then, that the conduct of the Congress is so displeasing and provoking to *Great Britain*, when, among the articles of complaint, they have inserted matters which concerned them no more than the mandates of the Great Mogul, or the edicts of the King of *France*; matters which, if true, even in their very extensive construction, afford no real ground of uneasiness; matters which discover more a wanton exercise of their usurped authority, than a wish or inclination to restore harmony and peace between *Great Britain* and her Colonies. Indeed, when we review their proceedings, the manifest intention, tendency, and complexion of them force us to make a construction over which charity and candour would wish to throw a veil, if it was not too plain to mistake it, being written in the most legible characters. They have precluded every hope of accommodation, by the exorbitancy of their demands, and the illegality of the measures they have adopted. They have sacrificed their honour, honesty, and reputation, to a lawless, ambitious thirst of independence, and have purchased the worthless, transitory shouts and eclat of the restless and seditious multitude, at the expense of that lasting and satisfactory esteem and applause of the virtuous and the good, which alone ought to have been the object of their wishes, and the end of all their pursuits. The propriety of these observations will be apparent, in the consideration of the fifteenth and last general article of grievance, which, like the famed *Cerberus* of old, abounds with various sources of complaint.

"In the last session of Parliament an Act was passed for blocking up the Harbour of *Boston*; another empowering the Governour of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to send persons indicted for murder in that Province, to another Colony, or even to *Great Britain*, for trial, whereby such offenders may escape legal punishment; a third for altering the chartered Constitution of Government in that Province; and a fourth for extending the limits of *Quebeck*, abolishing the *English*, and restoring the *French* Laws, whereby great numbers of *British* freemen are subject to the latter, and establishing an absolute Government, and the *Roman* Catholick Religion throughout those vast regions that border on the westerly and northerly boundaries of the free Protestant *English* settlements; and a fifth for the better providing suitable quarters for Officers and Soldiers in His Majesty's service in *North America*." The *Boston* Port Act, when it first arrived, filled all parties with astonishment and surprise; the peculiarity of the mode of punishment; the severity with which it was attended; the sufferings inflicted thereby on many innocent individuals, at first raised a suspicion of the justice, equity, and policy of the *British* Nation; but on a nearer view, and more mature consideration of the spirit and design of the Act, we plainly discovered that, in the midst of judgment they had remembered mercy. The authority of Parliament had been most iniquitously and flagrantly abused, insulted, and opposed, by the destruction of a large quantity of Tea, the private property of the *East-India* Company, by a number of the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* and the adjacent Towns, in the most riotous and daring manner. This Tea was sent here in consequence of a particular Act of Parliament, empowering the *East-India* Company to do it, merely for the regulation of Trade; as the *Dutch* Tea was smuggled in by the way of the Northern Colonies, in such quantities, and

so cheap, as totally destroyed the sale of the *English* Tea, which, by being sold at publick auction in *London* to the merchant there, and by him with his advance upon it, to the retailer, and by him with his profits upon it, to the consumer, was raised to such a price as gave the *Dutch* Company the sole advantage of that article of commerce, as it came from them without any of these impositions, or the payment of any duty upon it.

We all profess to be subject to the Acts for the regulation of Trade; for this purpose solely was this Act made; by it no new duty was imposed, but some heavy restrictions taken off, so that the destruction of the Tea could be considered as arising only from the most wanton and unreasonable desire of throwing off all subjection to the Parent State, and setting up for independence. Proportionate, therefore, to the criminality and atrocious nature of the offence, might we reasonably suppose the punishment would be. Not only the private property of the *East-India* Company had been destroyed, but the honour and authority of the Nation had been injured and violated. The former was to be compensated, and the latter to be satisfied and repaired. The inhabitants of *Boston* and the other towns concerned, could not be more generally and immediately affected by any other way whatever. It will here be said it is hard for the innocent to suffer with the guilty; but the answer is obvious: the offenders were disguised and unknown; no one appeared at the time to oppose it; all might, therefore, be considered as involved in the guilt in some measure. The friends of Government, by their silence and inactivity in the first of these troubles, when they might have prevented the mischiefs that have since ensued, and the daring outrage which was now the cause of their punishment, had they properly exerted themselves, have therefore little reason to complain of the disadvantages they suffer, or the loss they sustain on this account. However, admitting they were quite innocent, and had done their duty on this occasion, it should be remembered, that as in general calamities of lightning, earthquakes, famine, war, and pestilence, inflicted by Heaven on mankind, there is no respect to persons, the wicked and the good are equally exposed and actually affected; so in States and Kingdoms in this world, when general punishments of a people are found necessary, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to discriminate and screen the innocent from the misfortunes which the guilty suffer. But in this instance, as was hinted above, with such wisdom, with so much lenity was the Port Act constructed, that the severity of its operation depended entirely upon the reasonable compliance or obstinacy of those who were to suffer by it. It was an indispensable act of common justice to pay for the Tea that had been destroyed, or it was equally just to punish those who were concerned in doing it. It has been said, that had the Act been conditional, to take place only if the terms were not complied with, there would have been some reason in it; no one would have complained; but not to be able to prevent the execution of it, had they been disposed to submit to the requisitions, was a degree of rigour without an example. Let us attend to the circumstances. It was made to take place the first of *June*; fourteen days after that were allowed for any vessels to fit out and sail; upon payment for the Tea being made, and some other trifling matters complied with, and a certificate procured from the Governour of the fulfilment of the terms of the Act, power was given to His Majesty in privy Council to suspend its execution. The Act arrived near the beginning of *May*, if I recollect right. Now, as the Spring ships are generally all arrived before the time that the Act was to take place, it would have little effect for some time after that upon foreign importation. If the Tea had been immediately paid for, and the requisite certificate procured, which might easily have been done, and transmitted home, the operation of the Act might have ceased at once; as it seems to have been particularly provided for this purpose, that the King in Council might suspend it, that so no delay might be occasioned by calling the Parliament together to repeal it. Orders for Fall goods might have been sent at the same time, and the Fall ships might have returned at their usual time, into an open and free Port; so that by a prudent conduct, the trade with *Great Britain* might not have been interrupted at all; other



branches might have suffered a temporary damage, but it would have been trifling, as by the last of *August* we might have had the news of the Port's being open again. So that by the folly, injustice, and madness alone of the popular leaders, has this Act been attended with the distresses and inconveniences which are now so sensibly felt. Now let me ask, with what reason, with what justice, could an *Englishman*, could an *American*, could any one, who wished the prosperity of *Britain*, complain of an Act which was made solely to benefit the *English* merchant in preference to the *Dutch*? especially in the sale of an article of so much importance, in such constant and extensive use and consumption; and after the people here, being deluded and hurried on by a seditious tribe of demagogues had, in open violation of the common rights of society, of every principle of justice, of their allegiance to their Sovereign, of their constitutional dependance upon *Great Britain*, so wantonly and maliciously destroyed so large and valuable a quantity of merchandise, let me ask, where is the man so destitute of every principle of honesty, of every sentiment of honour, so deaf to the call of equity and justice, and the demands of law, as to hesitate one moment to make the most ample and satisfactory restitution in his power? To this question, to which it must pain every loyal *American* to return an answer, I, with equal grief and astonishment, reply; the Town of *Boston*, in Town-Meeting assembled, were the men. These men, who, by their conduct, had drawn down the resentment of the Nation; by their subsequent unaccountable proceedings, have been the wilful cause of the continuation of those distresses, of which they now so highly complain and so sensibly feel the effects; and such has been their fatal influence, that they prevailed upon the House of Representatives to appoint a solemn fast, to beseech of the Almighty a sanction to their violence and robbery. What unpardonable hypocrisy! What unheard-of mockery of Heaven! What unparalleled effrontery! Can it be supposed that the Divine Being, who, by the principles of natural religion implanted in the human mind, and by the repeated precepts in his written word, has so plainly commanded us to abstain from fraud, rapine, and injustice, and has denounced the most heavy woes upon those who are guilty of these heinous crimes, will ever hearken to the supplications of those who refuse to make restitution to their fellow-creatures, whom they have grossly, wantonly, and unreasonably injured? Nevertheless, the good people of the Province were so far deluded and misled, as to adopt so unpardonable a measure. It was, however, hoped, that the Members of the Continental Congress, free from the infatuation which was so prevalent here, unbiased by our prejudices, uninfluenced by passions, and attentive to the true interests of the Province and Continent, would have recommended the payment for the Tea, as a necessary step to a reconciliation. But alas! we find them influenced by the same factious leaders, by their conduct virtually approving of this daring injustice. Upon no other principle can we account for their inserting the *Boston Port Act* in the list of grievances, when a compliance with the most obvious, indispensable demands of justice, would at once have suspended the execution of it.

The next particular in this very comprehensive article, is another Act, "empowering the Governour of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to send persons indicted for murder in that Province to another Colony, or even to *Great Britain*, for trial, whereby such offenders may escape legal punishment." It is really astonishing to see the low artifice and glaring falsehood made use of in this description of the Act. It is not true that the Governour is thus empowered, as the Act expressly requires the advice and consent of the Council, before any person can be removed to any other place prescribed by the Act for trial; so that, however arbitrarily the Governour may be disposed to act in this instance, if the Council refuse their consent, he can do nothing. What could induce the Congress thus to sacrifice their characters as honest men, (as I presume some of them were,) is totally unaccountable. If the Act is really grievous, is it not much better to represent it in a true light, than by falsehood and high colouring, to mislead and deceive every reader who does not examine the statute for himself? To make the people believe that the Governour has it in his power to tyrannize at pleasure over them,

when in reality he can do nothing himself? If it is not grievous, will such misrepresentations make it so? Can they be justified upon any good and virtuous principle? Ought not those men, who, by such pitiful, base methods, can attempt to stir up a people to acts of treason and rebellion, and destroy the peace and happiness of millions, to be held in everlasting infamy and contempt? Reason dictates, justice demands, that they should.

Let us attend to the other expressions used in the description of this Act: "Send persons indicted for murder in that Province to another Colony, or even to *Great Britain*, for trial." Is not this expression plainly calculated to induce a belief that all persons indicted for any murder may be thus removed? Is it not general and indefinite, without any exception, without any restriction, to the particular offences specified in the Act? I grant, that were the Act such as is here represented, it would be a most alarming grievance, a matter requiring every effort in our power to get it redressed; and the more distressing and oppressive it would be if true, so much greater is the guilt and wickedness of those men who would make us believe it to be so. But if we examine the statute itself, we shall find it really calculated to promote the more impartial administration of justice in those instances to which it relates. If we advert to the design of its being made, and the cause which gave rise to it, we shall be convinced of its propriety and expediency. The destruction of the Tea above mentioned had been effected in open and direct opposition to, and violation of, an Act of Parliament; no Magistrate had interposed to prevent it; it was the prevailing opinion of the common people, who formed their political creed upon the principles, practices, and information of their seditious leaders, that Acts of Parliament were not binding in *America*. They, therefore, did not consider themselves as committing an act of treason in destroying it, but at most a trespass at common law; nay! some, in their phrensy, thought it a meritorious action, and that they were doing *God* service by their zeal in such a cause. If, therefore, any civil Magistrate, or others by his command, had, in resisting these rioters and traitors, put any of them to death, and had been brought to a trial for it here, such was the ferment of the times, so infectious and extensive the infatuation, that the chance was ten thousand to one that the jury to pass upon their lives would consist of men who had adopted these erroneous opinions, who would therefore think the conduct of the accused unlawful and criminal, and consequently bring them in guilty of murder; and I have no doubt but this would have been the case, had such resistance been made at that time. The Parliament might justly suppose that this notorious violence passing "uncontrolled and unpunished," was owing to this cause; at least this is the most favourable and charitable construction that they could put upon it. But be that as it may, their attention to future instances of the same kind, to prevent such daring outrages, to induce submission to Acts of Parliament, and to encourage the civil Magistrate and others in the execution of their duty, was evidently the design of the Act; and it is equally evident, to use the words in the preamble of the Act, that Magistrates and others might "be discouraged from the proper discharge of their duty, by an apprehension that, in case of their being questioned for any acts done in execution of the Laws and Statutes of the Realm, they might be liable to be brought to trial for the same before persons who do not acknowledge the validity of the laws, in the execution whereof, or the authority of the Magistrate, in support of whom such acts had been done." Especially when, for a bare disavowal of the violence and opposition to *British* laws, and the illegal, dangerous spirit that then did and still does prevail, whole Towns have been stigmatised, and individuals insulted and abused. Nay, if those who would venture to resist and quell any riots or mobs fortunately were acquitted by their peers, upon a fair, open, and impartial trial, they have still been pursued with unrelenting vengeance, and their names and characters held up to publick view in the most infamous and odious light: witness the institution on the fifth of *March*; that disgrace to humanity, dishonour to the laws, and paragon of infernal malice! Thus, while every discouragement has been given to the due execution of the laws, when we were absolutely reduced to a state of lawless anarchy, can we with reason complain of an Act calculated



to restore us to peace, quietness, and order; an Act which provides an impartial trial for men who shall laudably venture to enforce a due obedience to the laws and constitutional authority of the Parent State.

But the fatal mischief which the quick-sighted Congress have discovered in this Act, that "hereby such offenders may escape legal punishment," at once excites our pity for their weakness, and resentment for their dishonesty. Surely their complaisance to this Province arose to an unbounded height, thus to compliment us, not only at the expense of all the other Colonies upon the Continent, but even of *Great Britain*. I am apt to suspect they undertook the description of this Act immediately after the adoption of the *Suffolk Resolves*; in these two instances their conduct seems to be uniform and consistent. And is there not, then, to be found in the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, nor in all the Colonies, an uncorrupted Court and twelve impartial Jurors, who will act agreeable to law and justice, save in the renowned Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*? Cannot a fair and legal trial be had in any other part of the Dominions? Or, what I was not aware of before, did the Congress think there could not be found elsewhere a Court and Jury so intoxicated with popular rage and delusion, as to condemn men, as guilty of murder, who had only discharged their duty in the due execution of the laws? And, therefore, in their great humanity complain that they should have any chance for an acquittal! I am at a loss on which of these principles to account for the conduct of the Congress. But it is so ridiculous to pretend that a fair trial cannot be had out of this Province, when every circumstance favours a contrary supposition, that it hardly deserves a serious answer. Thus, my dear friends and fellow-countrymen, have the Congress left that path which their duty and our interest pointed out, and followed the lead of a few men, who, had they been influenced by any laudable or virtuous considerations, we should have been saved from the calamities that now awaits us.

As this publication is so lengthy, I must defer the remaining part of the article for a future paper.

PHILEIRENE.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.  
NO. IX.

Boston, April 13, 1775.

*My Friends and Fellow-Countrymen:*

It is not to be wondered at that disappointed men, grown wanton by peculation, whose ambition suggested to them the hope of overturning a Constitution which themselves, their ancestors, and the community had enjoyed, and the *British Nation* acceded to for near a century and a half, should endeavour to convince their fellow-countrymen of the rectitude and fitness of their exertions; when suspected, if not convicted, at the bar of the impartial publick of a series of treasonable acts and perfidious plots, by which their Country and millions of their fellow-mortals are plunged into a choice of the greatest calamities, that they should call opposition to their measures by lying names, treason, and rebellion; that they should attempt to fix the imputation of their own crimes upon those who have, in some degree, detected and baffled their oppressive schemes; that they should struggle to carry their points, by imposing upon the understandings of some, and practising on the hopes and fears of others, is no way astonishing. Such men blush at nothing; ever restless and craving, over-heated in the pursuits of honour and profit, they yield themselves up to the dominion of principles as unworthy the man as ever the wretched animals of unbounded ambition were under the influence of, or the willing tools of despotick power advocates for.\*

*Massachusettensis*, in his publication of *January 23d*, after giving us some historical facts, and his observations upon them, which go to the right of Parliament, bursts forth into the most virulent invectives against those gentlemen who have been deputed, by the free and unsolicited suffrages of the people, to watch the encroachments of

power, and to concert means to withstand the efforts of tyranny, which, like an inundation, was breaking in upon us, sweeping away all our social blessings. The application of his facts, and the pertinency of his observations, goes wholly upon the presumption that the Colonies were parts of the *British Empire*, even from their first discovery, or, for aught appears, from the creation of the world, and as such subject to the *British Parliament* in all cases. Therefore, as there is nothing new in this part of his paper, the answers which we have repeatedly made to such presumptions, void of proof, will, upon recollection, apply, and be a sufficient confutation. For this reason I will not take up your time with unnecessary observations upon his first paragraphs on this subject.

Our writer tells us the novelty of our being exempted from the authority of Parliament will appear, by an extract from a pamphlet published in 1764, by a gentleman who was then an oracle of the Whigs, and whose profound knowledge in the Law and Constitution is equalled but by few. This extract asserts that all the Colonies are subject to, and dependant on *Great Britain*, and that the Parliament has authority to make laws binding upon them for their general good, &c. This gentleman, who has been one of the greatest ornaments of his profession as a lawyer, has made all *America* his debtors for his agonizing struggles in opposition to usurpation and tyranny by *British* powers. He has more than once nobly stood forth to stem the torrent. His publick life has been a political conflict with principalities and powers, with men whom, from a lust of power, have been plotting the ruin of this ill-fated Province, together with this great patriot.

The Whigs call no man master under Heaven, however great; their appeal is to the law and to the testimony, to the Constitution of their Country, and the eternal principles of nature. The position laid down by the gentleman alluded to, as it stands unsupported by argument or reason, whatever might induce to it in his mind, is but the opinion of one individual of the community. Admitting that it was his opinion that the right of Parliament was as extensive as her present claims, which was not the case, it would only prove a diversity of opinion in different men, which is sometimes the case in the same man at different times. This is incident to humanity, especially before a thorough examination of the subject. We might apply to it an observation of his own upon a similar occasion, "that when great men miss it, they miss it most egregiously." They, as has been remarked on this very pamphlet, sometimes see men as trees walking. However, *Massachusettensis*, ever consistent with himself, fully answers this, his own argument, in his paper of *March 16th*. "*Messieurs Otis, Cushing, Hancock, and Adams*," says he, "were confidential friends, and made common cause. May we thence infer, that the three latter held that the Parliament had a just and equitable right to impose taxes on the Colonies, &c., because the first did." He adds, "such principles and inferences are unlucky," that is, nothing can be inferred from them. If so, can we infer the sentiments of the publick from the opinion of one gentleman? How, then, does the above extract, which has been published and republished, cited and recited by our writer, prove, upon his own principles, that the denial of the authority of Parliament over the Colonies is a novelty?

We are next presented with an extract from the *Farmer's Letters*, who, we are told, took the lead in explaining away the right of Parliament to raise a revenue in *America*, where, speaking of the regulation of Trade, tells us, "he who considers these Provinces as States distinct from the *British Empire*, has very slender notions of justice, or of their interest. We are but parts of a whole, and therefore there must exist a power somewhere to preside and preserve the connection in due order. This power is lodged in Parliament, and we are as much dependant on *Great Britain* as a perfectly free people can be on another." This elegant writer and firm assertor of his Country's rights, who took the lead, still holds a conspicuous place among the *American* worthies, the guardians of our liberties. His sentiment respecting the rights of Parliament is sufficiently evident from the result of the Congress, of which he was a member, as well as from the whole tenour of those Letters, which have been translated and admired by different Nations in *Europe*. It is admit-

\* It gives me no pleasure to write; it must give pain to a good mind to read a character which wounds his species (his countrymen) with disgrace and infamy. I am sorry to say there are some on both sides the *Atlantic*, to whom it but too well applies. Charity hopes all things, and may plead for tenderness and indulgence. But the first obligations upon a writer are to truth and justice, offend whom it may.



ted that the Colonies and *Great Britain* are one, are parts of a whole, in their commercial interest. They see the necessity of a power somewhere, to preside, and preserve this commercial connection in due order. They consent that Parliament should exercise this power; we contend only for the rights and privileges of a perfectly free people, submitting to Acts for the regulating of Trade.

*Massachusettsensis* having, as he says, settled the right of Parliament, dips his pen in gall; lost to all sense of candour or generosity, to all the noble sallies of the charitable soul, arms it with invectives, and with a facility peculiar to himself, hurls the envenomed shafts of obliquy and reproach against some of the fairest characters on the Continent. He lashes all around him indiscriminately, with the dire scourges of calumny and slander.

To show what engines some of the Tories, even the mildest of them, employ in their political war; what indecencies a party spirit betrays them into; to what expedients, and pitiful shifts they sometimes stoop, I will transcribe the substance of a part of this acrimonious . . .

We are told, that the Resolves of our Congresses either argue profound ignorance, or hypocritical cunning; that many unsuspecting persons have been prevailed upon to oppose the execution of Acts of Parliament by those who could have turned to the page where such insurrections were pronounced rebellion by the laws of the land; and had not their hearts been dead to a sense of justice, and steeled against every feeling of humanity, they would timely have warned us of our danger; that our patriots have sent us in pursuit of a fascinating glare, devoid of substance; that when we find ourselves bewildered, with scarce one ray of hope to raise our sinking spirits, or stay our fainting souls, they conjure up phantoms more delusive and fleeting, if possible, than that which first led us astray; they tell us that we are a match for *Great Britain*; that no pains have been spared by our wretched politicians to prevent a defection of the Army to the service; that the officers have a bad opinion of the cause of the Whigs, from the treatment of their General, and the infamous attempts to seduce the soldiers from His Majesty's service; that the policy of our patriots has been as weak and contemptible as their motives are sordid and malevolent; that failing of success in corrupting, they took pains to attach them firmer to the service, by preventing the erecting of barracks, by which means many contracted diseases, and some lost their lives; that our patriots had deprived them of a gratification never denied to the brute creation—straw to lay on; that we have been amused with intimations and prospects which were only the suggestions of despair; that the Grand Congress had prevented the people in *England* from espousing our cause; that they had bid *Great Britain* defiance. He then concludes his paper by telling us what warlike preparations are made against us, and advising us to provide for the safety of ourselves, our wives, our children, our friends, and our Country, by immediately protesting against all the traitorous Resolves and Associations of our Congresses, that the innocent may not be confounded with the guilty.

There is scarce one crime that human nature is capable of, but what is here imputed to our leaders, whose publick conduct is applauded by an admiring world. Not contented with vilifying their characters, he urges it upon us with an importunate pathos as a duty, to commit an act of the basest ingratitude, an instance of the blackest treachery. Perfidiously to protest against the proceedings of those gentlemen who, by our appointment and for our safety, have undertaken an arduous task, and, unawed by a sense of danger, confiding in the virtue and firmness of their Country, have discharged it with honour, wisdom, firmness, and courage themselves, would be blasting our species with disgrace, and consigning our names to everlasting infamy.

Paintings and colourings on indifferent matters may tickle the sense and please the imagination; even fictitious representations may be innocent. In affairs of serious and general concernment, to misrepresent and asperse, is to play with firebrands, arrows, and death. You well know, my countrymen, the real state of facts upon which our writer founds his ill-natured charges. You are acquainted with their concomitant circumstances, the principles and

policy upon which they stand. The necessity of our situation, in which the Tories had plunged us, pointed them out; self-preservation gave them being. I shall not particularly advert to his charges against our publick characters, excepting to those of treason and rebellion. Power naturally exists where *God Almighty* placed it. Great oppressions, unless the people are sunk into ignorance and stupidity, will ever kindle the spirit of opposition. It is in vain to attempt to reason or frighten those who have minds to conceive, hearts to feel, and spirit to act, into servile submissions. They feel truths, feel injuries: and present sufferings render them strangers to future dangers. Exigencies call for exertions; efforts may prove fortunate, glorious, and triumphant; and when a subjection, or vanquishment, can take nothing away that a submission would leave, reason warrants the procedure. It is an observation of the celebrated Doctor *Blackstone*, "that whenever the unconstitutional oppressions, even of the sovereign power, advance with gigantick strides, and threaten desolation to a State, mankind will not be reasoned out of the feelings of humanity, nor will sacrifice their liberty, by a scrupulous adherence to those political maxims which were established to preserve it."

This will be the case, whether there be Congresses or Committees, patriots and politicians, or not, until men's spirits are subdued. Had *Massachusettsensis* been as much indebted to some of our patriots, as many of his good brethren in the western parts of this Province are for their kind interposition to appease a justly incensed multitude, he would have dealt out his invectives with a more sparing hand.\* What would have been the situation of the Tories in the Country, had it not been for Committees of Correspondence, which they so much despise, and other gentlemen of influence, who possessed the confidence and affections of an abused people?

That all publick and civil powers, Royal prerogatives, and Kingly authority, may remain where the wisdom of our Constitution have placed them, is the wish of every true *American*. Every pulse beats loyalty to our gracious Sovereign. He pierces with indignant looks the wretch who dares to lisp disloyalty, who would not spill his blood in defence of his King's constitutional Government, his crown and dignity. By opposing innovations, Government is preserved. For subjects to hold their liberties dearer than life, must be the joyful boast of an *English* Prince: it is the most sparkling gem in the Crown of *George the Third*, whose life *America* prays may be long and happy. She considers the Crown and Royal dignity as an office instituted for the people for their good, as a trust for millions, and extending its influences to generations yet unborn, and not as a descendable property, as an estate vested in the possessor for the emolument and grandeur of himself and heirs.

To assert and defend those rights which have their foundation in the reason of things, in the nature of Government, the principles of the *English* Constitution, our own Charters, the laws of our being, the maxims of wisdom and sound policy that have been sanctified by long usage, a uniformity of principle and practice for ages past, cannot be disloyalty to that King who never dies, who is constitutionally present and active in all parts of his Government, and neither knows nor regards the pleasure or mandates of the man who wears the Crown, when they are not dictated by the laws of the land. The coronation oath, and the oath of allegiance, says a great writer, are in effect but swearing to the Constitution—in one to govern, and in the other to be governed, according to it.

Treason and rebellion consists in rising in opposition to lawful authority. If we are not a part of the Empire of *Great Britain* in such a sense as to be subject to her legislative authority in all cases, then she has no right to give us law in all cases, or to coerce obedience to them. If she has not this right, opposition to such laws as she has no right to make is neither treason nor rebellion, nor any other misdemeanor, but incumbent duty. Every society has a right to preserve its liberties and privileges against those who have no authority to invade them: and certainly they are justified in the use of those means by which alone they

\* I could tell some merry stories of the Tories making application to some of the Whigs in the western part of this Province, for their assistance when in trouble, were it proper at this time.



can attain this valuable end. Sighs and tears, prayers and broken hearts are of no effect against the frightful blaze of warlike apparatus. The points of swords, mouths of thundering cannon, arms, and other instruments of death; these must be answered by a different argument.

The good of the whole is the same with the good of all its parts. If self-defence is justifiable, nay, a duty in individuals, it must be lawful in a community composed of individuals. "The right of self-defence, in cases of great and urgent necessity, and where no other remedy is at hand, (says a great Crown lawyer,) is perfectly understood and universally assented to: a right which the law of nature giveth, and no law of society hath taken away."

If this be true in case of individuals, it will be equally so in cases of communities under the like circumstances of necessity. For all the rights and powers for defence and preservation belonging to society, are nothing more than the natural rights and powers of individuals transferred to, and centering in the body, for the preservation of the whole. And from the law of self-preservation, considered as extending to civil society, resulteth the well known maxim, *salus populi suprema lex*.

I think the principles here laid down must be admitted, unless any one will choose to say that individuals in a community are, in certain cases, under the protection of the primitive law of self-preservation; but communities, composed of the same individuals, are in like cases excluded. Or that when the enemy is at the gate, every single soldier may and ought to stand to his arms, but the garrison must surrender at discretion.

Is there not but too much reason to contemplate upon these principles, to expect an attack, to prepare for the conflict? Has not our capital street been bathed in blood? some of our countrymen cut and mangled with pointed steel? Others abused and injured in triumphant rage? Is not much of our property wrested from the hands of its lawful owners? Are not many valuable lives in constant jeopardy? Is not our Metropolis in captivity, and our Harbours filled with Ships-of-War? Are not our adversaries preparing for havoc and desolation? In this situation is it loyalty to lay still unarmed, until destruction comes upon us as a whirlwind? Is it treason to prepare to act on the defensive? The great *Somers* tells us, that "he who lets any person whatever destroy him contrary to law, when it is in his power to preserve his life by defending himself, does tacitly consent to his own death, which he is obliged to defend by the law of nature; and therefore is guilty of his own blood." Is it not the same with communities?

*Massachusettsensis* tells us, in his publication of *February* 20th, "that he agrees with the Whigs, if the Colonies are separate or distinct States, (that is, not within the jurisdiction of Parliament,) every Act of Parliament extending to the Colonies, and every movement of the Crown to carry them into execution, would be really grievances, however wise and salutary they might be in themselves, as they would be exertions of a power that we were not constitutionally subject to, and would deserve the names of usurpation and tyranny." He might have added, and every person who has been deliberately attempting to enforce and carry them into execution is guilty of . . . and deserves the . . . together with the abhorrence of all *America*.

If the Parliament has not the right she contends for, of taxation and legislation over the Colonies, a few extracts from the illustrious *Locke* and Lord *Somers* will, perhaps, come home to the point. "Whenever (says *Locke*) Legislators endeavour to take away and destroy the property of the people, or to reduce them to slavery under arbitrary power, they put themselves in a state of war with the people, who are thereupon absolved from any farther obedience, and are left to the common refuge which *God* hath provided for all men against force and violence. Whenever, therefore, the Legislative shall transgress this fundamental rule of society, and either by ambition, fear, folly, or corruption, endeavour to grasp to themselves, or put into the hands of any other, an absolute power over the lives, liberties, and estate of the people, they forfeit their trust, and the people have a right to reassume their original liberty. The same holds true concerning the supreme Executor, who acts against his trust, when he goes about

to set up his own arbitrary will as the law of the society, when he employs the force, treasure and offices of the society to corrupt the Representatives, and gain them to his purposes. What is this but to cut up Government by the roots, and poison the very fountain of publick security?" These are the words of that great man, and if they apply in any degree to present times it is not my fault.

Seeing all power must be derived from some grant of the people, it is incumbent upon every body politick to prove and justify the several degrees of authority which it pretends to claim; and what it cannot derive from some concession of the people, must remain vested in them as their reserved right. If it assumes any authority which it cannot prove the people surrendered, it is guilty of an invasion of their rights. To extend the rights of governing and commanding, and the duties of submission and obedience, beyond the laws of one's Country, is treason against the Constitution, treachery to the society, and an injury to mankind. It is cutting up the hedges and fences of the subject's liberty, an attempt to make one part of mankind tyrants and monsters, the other food for their malice, revenge, and brutal lust—to make them wretched slaves, miserable reptiles.

Is there any proof or evidence of any surrender, compact, or consent of the people, that the Colonies should be, in all cases, within the legislative authority of Parliament? Would not this be subversive of our Constitutions, and repugnant to every principle of freedom? What, then, are the crimes of those who have been, and are still struggling to establish this subjection?

"They are not, nor can be rebels," says the famous Lord *Somers*, "who endeavour to preserve and maintain the Constitution; but they are traitors who design and pursue the subversion of it. They are rebels who go about to overthrow the Government of their Country; whereas such as seek to defend and support it, are the truly loyal persons, and do act according to the ties and obligations of fealty. Nor is it merely the first and highest treason in itself, that a member of a political society is capable of committing, to go about to subvert the Constitution; but it is also the greatest treason he can perpetrate against the person, crown, and dignity of the King."

"Whosoever, either ruler or the subject, by force goes about to invade the rights of either Prince or People, and lay the foundation for overturning the Constitution and frame of any just Government, he is guilty of the greatest crime, I think, a man is capable of, being to answer for all those mischiefs of blood, rapine, and desolation, which the breaking to pieces of Government brings upon a Country; and he who does it is justly to be accounted one who resists the ordinance of *God*, and the common enemy and pest of mankind."

The above is the judgment of whole Kingdoms and Nations. Let those, *whoever they be*, that have been sporting with the rights of mankind, and rioting on their spoils; who, contracted in the little point of self, and equally steeled against the rebukes of conscience and the sentiments of humanity, that have been thundering to the world the terrors of prostituted law, and proclaiming the manly and loyal struggles of an oppressed people in defence of their just rights, sedition and rebellion—thus, instigated by the sweets of revenge, the hopes of conquest, the prospect of rich plunder in a plenty of confiscations, the pleasing expectation of unbounded power, with a misgiving heart still dreading the final issue of things, have been eager to travel the crimson fields of blood, and to send the terrors of fire and sword into the innocent places of domestick retirement; let such consider what has been the judgment of *past ages*, and will be the opinion of *future generations* respecting their conduct.

FROM THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, April 14, 1775.

The alarming crisis to which the Parliamentary controversy with the Colonies is now brought, demands the united wisdom and attention of every serious, well-disposed person among us; and the grand question which obtrudes itself at first view is, can we withstand the power of *Great Britain*, when determined to enforce obedience to the laws of her Parliament? To this question, many heated



imaginations may reply, we can; for *Britain* is not able to send Troops enough to conquer us, though she may distress and ruin our commercial connections. I must confess that I am not of that opinion; for if the *British* Nation, collectively as one body, should espouse the Parliamentary claim of supremacy, however unjust or unconstitutional, I am convinced they could reduce us to such extremities as would make us the most miserable of dependant beings. But this cannot be expected; we see the greatest men in the Nation appear in behalf of *America*, condemning the policy of Administration, applauding the Colonists for their noble and generous exertions in support of their just rights and privileges; we see the Merchants kindly and friendly petitioning the Parliament in our behalf; but all in vain—our controversy is confined to the two branches of the Legislature only, and they are judges in their own cause; and although His Majesty has been pleased to give countenance to their Resolutions, and seems determined to support them, yet, with all these appearances, we cannot think the present manœuvres justified by the Nation; and a short time will convince us that greater disturbances will appear in *England* than in *America*. The obstruction to the *Newfoundland* Fishery from *New-England*, will be another alarm to the Nation, as they must see their rivals in trade, the *French*, will seize every advantage thereby; and the Southern Governments will look upon the stoppage to the trade of the *New-England* Provinces only as the execution of a plan in part, in expectation that they would avail themselves of the opportunity of growing rich, and increasing in trades, while the other are sinking beneath their burdens, and reduced to such misery as to be obliged to submit; which when they have accomplished, Administration will not be content till they have subjugated the whole Continent to their sovereign control. But the question still remains to be answered, can we, or shall we withstand an Army who spread the *British* standard, and is commanded by a General acting by and under His Majesty's commission? To answer this question is puzzling to the ablest politicians amongst us; those who answer in the affirmative, do not enough consider that the sword once drawn can never be sheathed but in the bowels of *Britons* and *Americans*—till desolation and war becomes one general scene. For although ten thousand Troops may fall an easy prey to the numbers brought against them, yet what will be the event of such a conquest? *Britain* will feel the loss of her sons, and the blood of the slain will call aloud for revenge, and this may rouse the Nation to drop every idea of friendship, and losing sight of the merits of the controversy, will naturally support the tarnished honour of the *British* arms, and enraged with disdain of an inglorious defeat, may send such numbers of mercenary and veteran Troops, which, together with a powerful Fleet, will scatter destruction on our devoted heads. On the other hand, those who are on the negative side of the question, and who say we ought not to oppose the *British* Troops, should mark out the line of conduct necessary to be pursued in this critical and alarming period, and should prove the inexpediency of appearing in arms till forced thereto by the loss of every idea or hope of a reconciliation with *Britain*; and that it plainly appears the Nation has left us to be the victims of Parliamentary resentment. For my own part, I must own the idea of taxation without representation appears to me incompatible with the *British* Constitution, and is a political solecism; and any Government founded upon such principles must soon fall into despotism. And as *America* is not represented in the Parliament of *Britain*, she can't justly be taxed; but if it is insisted upon, that supremacy must be lodged somewhere, and the Parliament being the highest Court in the Nation, that supremacy ought to rest there; in that case, subordinate legislation by *American* Assemblies must be first annihilated; for the subject ought not to be governed by two codes of laws, some of which are diametrically opposite in their operation.

These arguments have been so often and so fully treated upon, that every individual knows the force of them. I shall therefore only add here, that there is a vacancy, or rather weakness, in the Constitution of the Parliamentary Government of *America*, which requires the consideration of both Countries, and without a settlement thereof the present controversy will never be ended; for unless the

wound is probed to the bottom, it cannot be healed; it may be skinned over for a short time, but will break out again with more virulence. A denial of any legislative right over *America*, is equally unreasonable in us, as it is in the Parliament to claim it in all cases whatsoever. To suppose that we are to be controlled only by our own Legislatures, will appear at first view to be incompatible with the regulating laws of Commerce. The *East-India*, the *Asiento*, and *Hudson's Bay* Companies, all pay large sums to the Nation for an exclusive trade; and every merchant in *Britain* is subject to large penalties for even attempting to trade there, besides a seizure and condemnation of both vessel and cargo. So that if the Colonies are not subject to these regulating laws, they may easily interfere in all these exclusive trades, and evade the penalties. Inasmuch as we have not attempted those trades, we have considered ourselves as excluded with the rest of the Nation. The line of conduct necessary for us to pursue at this time, to avoid the dreadful consequences of a desolating civil war, requires the advice and wisdom of the coolest and most considerate men amongst us. And may the overruling hand of a good Providence so direct all consultations for the safety, welfare, and advancement of the *British* Nation in general, and *America* in particular; and that unanimity in our adopted plans may crown our expectations with success, to a happy re-establishment of that harmony between the two Countries, which is confessedly allowed to be the only means of supporting their political existences.

CANDIDUS.

In Provincial Congress, Concord, April 14, 1775.

Whereas numbers of persons, from their unhappy situation in the Town of *Boston*, are removing with their effects:

It is recommended to the good people of this Province, that they would rent their Houses, and assist such persons with Teams for their removal, Provisions for their support, and all other necessities, upon as easy and cheap terms as they can possibly afford; and that all Goods and Merchandise be sold in like manner, agreeable to the spirit of the Continental Association. By order of the Provincial Congress:  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LORD DARTMOUTH TO GENERAL GAGE, DATED LONDON, APRIL 15, 1775.

It would appear necessary and expedient, that all Fortifications should be garrisoned by the King's Troops, or dismantled and destroyed; that all cannon, small arms, and other military stores of every kind, that may be either in any magazine, or secreted for the purpose of aiding the rebellion, should also be seized and secreted; and that the persons of such as, according to the opinion of His Majesty's Attorney and Solicitor General, have committed themselves in acts of treason and rebellion, should be arrested and imprisoned.

I observed that in your letter of *January* 18th, you said that if a respectable force is seen in the field, the most obnoxious of the leaders seized, and a pardon proclaimed for all others, Government will come off victorious. The two first of these objects are already provided for, and it only remains for me to signify to you the King's pleasure, that, if you shall continue to be of opinion, that an offer of pardon will be advisable, you do, by virtue of the power already given to you by His Majesty's special commission, under the great seal for pardon for treason and other offences, issue a Proclamation within your Government, at such time as you shall judge proper, offering a reasonable reward for apprehending the President, Secretary, and any other of the Members of the Provincial Congress, whom you shall find to have been the most forward and active in that seditious meeting, requiring all persons who may, in consequence of their Resolves and exhortations, have appeared in arms to oppose the law, to render themselves to the Governour and Council within a reasonable time, and declare, that upon such surrender, and upon taking the oaths of allegiance, and making such declaration of their obedience as you shall think proper, they shall receive His Majesty's gracious pardon for all treasons they have committed.



## LORD DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOURS OF COLONIES.

[Circular.]

Whitehall, April 15th, 1775.

SIR: I am commanded by the King to acquaint you that it is His Majesty's pleasure that the orders of the Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in *North America*, and under him of the Major Generals and Brigadier Generals, shall be supreme in all cases relative to the operations of the said Troops, and be obeyed accordingly. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

## BALTIMORE (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, Baltimore, April 15, 1775.

The Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, reflecting on the many mischiefs and disorders usually attending the Fairs held at *Baltimore* Town, and willing in all things strictly to observe the Regulations of the Continental Congress, who, in their eighth Resolution, have advised to discountenance and discourage every species of extravagance and dissipation, especially horse-racing, cock-fighting, &c., have unanimously resolved to recommend it to the good people of this County, and do hereby earnestly request, that they will not themselves, nor will suffer any of their families to attend, or in anywise encourage the approaching Fair at *Baltimore* Town; and all persons are desired not to erect booths, or in any manner prepare for holding the said Fair.

We are persuaded the inhabitants of the Town in particular will see the propriety of this measure, and the necessity of enforcing it, as the Fairs have been a nuisance long before complained of by them, as serving no other purpose than debauching the morals of their children and servants, affording an opportunity for perpetrating thefts, encouraging riots, drunkenness, gaming, and the vilest immoralities.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, Jr., Chairman.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JAMES HABERSHAM TO MESSRS. CLARK AND MILLIGAN, LONDON.

Savannah, Georgia, April 17, 1775.

The fiery patriots in *Charleston* have stopped all dealings with us, and will not suffer any Goods to be landed there from *Great Britain*; and I suppose the Northern Provinces will follow their example.

The people on this Continent are generally almost in a state of madness and desperation; and should not conciliatory measures take place on your side, I know not what may be the consequence. I fear an open rebellion against the Parent State, and consequently amongst ourselves. Some of the inflammatory resolutions and measures taken and published in the Northern Colonies, I think too plainly portend this. However, I must and do, upon every occasion, declare that I would not choose to live here longer than we are in a state of proper subordination to, and under the protection of, *Great Britain*; although I cannot altogether approve of the steps she has lately taken, and do most cordially wish that a permanent line of Government was drawn and pursued by the mother and her children; and may God give your Senators wisdom to do it, and heal the breach; otherwise, I cannot think of the event but with horror and grief. Father against son, and son against father, and the nearest relations and friends combating with each other! I may perhaps say with truth, cutting each other's throats. Dreadful to think of, much more to experience. But I will have done with this disagreeable subject, and am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JAMES HABERSHAM.

P. S. I find the *American* Merchants in *London* have begun to stir in this matter; and I hope their application will meet with success, as no good can ensue to *Great Britain* and her Colonies from this contest, but much hurt to both. I am for peace on constitutional grounds.

## KING GEORGE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

The Committee being informed that Mr. *Austin Brockenbrough* was counteracting the measures of the Continental Congress, ordered him to be summoned to answer the complaint, which was done in the following terms:

King George, March 8, 1775.

SIR: You are accused before the Committee of disre-

garding your duty as an Associator, [Associator!] and attempting to prejudice the people of your neighbourhood, and others with whom you have communication, against the Association, [Yes, but I never went out of my way to do it,] and to draw into contempt the authority and conduct of the Committee. [That I have, and always shall.] The truth of this charge the Committee cannot avoid inquiring into, and have ordered us to give you notice to attend the monthly meeting at the Court-House, on the next Court day, [that I shall not,] that you may have an opportunity of making your defence; and if the charge is groundless, of evincing your innocence. [Innocence!] We are your humble servants,

THOMAS TURNER,  
THOMAS JETT,WILLIAM ROBINSON,  
JOHN WASHINGTON.

On the day appointed, Mr. *Brockenbrough* failing to attend, Mr. *Daniel Briscoe*, the person who delivered him the notice, was called, and being sworn, declared that he read the above notice to Mr. *Brockenbrough*, at least ten days before the meeting of the Committee, and left him a copy, who made the replies inserted in the body of the notice. These answers confess the truth of the charge, and sufficiently indicate the disposition of the man, whose obnoxious behaviour is also well known, and for some time past has been observed with concern by several members of the Committee. To reclaim from error, rather than punish, would be the choice of the Committee. Opportunity was designedly afforded Mr. *Brockenbrough*, by a short delay in the publication, to make atonement, and avoid publick censure. The well-meant indulgence has been slighted. Duty now requires that the truth of the case be published, to the end that Mr. *Brockenbrough* may be publickly known, and universally condemned as an enemy to *American* liberty. By order of the Committee:

ANDREW WODROW, Clerk.

King George, April 17, 1775.

Committee Chamber, Philadelphia, April 17, 1775.

Whereas, it is now under the consideration of the Committee to suspend all trade and intercourse with such Colonies as have not acceded to the Association of the Continental Congress; the Committee have therefore thought it proper to apprise their fellow-citizens of this matter, that they govern themselves accordingly, and avoid entering into any engagement with respect to such Colonies, from which they may be subjected to great inconveniences hereafter.

By order of the Committee:

JONATHAN B. SMITH, Secretary.

## TO THE PUBLICK.

New-York, April 17, 1775.

Whereas, the enemies to the *English* Constitution, and the rights and liberties of *America*, have endeavoured, to the utmost of their power, to revile and defame the character of every man who has honestly endeavoured to assert and maintain those rights and privileges, which these traitors are striving to subvert and take away; hoping, by such vile practices, to destroy or lessen the influence of those who obstruct the execution of their wicked designs. On this account, Captain *Sears*, who has long distinguished himself among the most zealous, steady, and disinterested friends and supporters of the rights and freedom of his Country, became exceedingly obnoxious to these enemies, who sought to aggrandize themselves upon its ruins. They have, therefore, been extremely watchful to catch every opportunity, when by misrepresentation or direct falsehoods, they might bring an odium on his character, or expose him to contempt and ridicule. But these devices, instead of answering the end designed, have hitherto recoiled upon their authors, and only served to exalt the character they were intended to depress.

Among other false reports propagated against Captain *Sears*, one was, that since shutting up the Port of *Boston*, he, and his son-in-law, Mr. *Paschal N. Smith*, had loaded a vessel with Wheat, Flour, or other provisions, for the supply of the King's Troops at *Boston*. The falsehood of this malicious report will sufficiently appear by the following Affidavit:



City of New-York, ss.

Personally appeared before me, *Benjamin Blagge*, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, for the City and County of New-York, *Isaac Sears* and *Paschal N. Smith*, of the said City, merchants, who, being severally sworn, depose and say, that since the shutting up of the Port of *Boston*, neither of them have directly or indirectly, nor any other person for or under them, supplied, or caused to be supplied, the Army at *Boston* with any manner or kind of provisions whatsoever; and that neither of them have received, nor in future expect to receive, any kind of emolument or advantage, in any respect, from the Flour, Peas, and other provisions shipped for the use of the Army at *Boston*, since the shutting up of the said Port of *Boston*.

ISAAC SEARS,  
PASCHAL N. SMITH.

Sworn this 17th of April, 1775, before me,

B. BLAGGE.

ARTHUR LEE TO JAMES KINSEY, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, NEW-JERSEY.

Garden Court, Middle Temple, April 17, 1775.

SIR: Your letter, containing the Petition from the House of Representatives to the King, arrived here after Doctor *Franklin* had sailed for *Philadelphia*. The Petition was therefore put into my hands to deliver to Lord *Dartmouth*. I accordingly gave it to his Lordship, informing him of these circumstances, and of the wish of the House that it might be presented to His Majesty. But his Lordship returned it to me this morning, with a declaration, that as I was not authorized by the House, he, as Secretary of State, could not receive it from me for the purpose I desired. To deliver it to the King, in the common way, if I were authorized so to do, would be ineffectual, because there is no certainty of his reading it; and he never gives an answer but from the Throne, or through one of his Secretaries of State. The Petition will therefore remain here, to wait the further pleasure of the House. They who know and lament that Petitions for redress of grievances from the different Assemblies have been repeatedly rejected, cannot but be persuaded, that the promise of their being now attended to is only a Ministerial manœuvre to divide the Colonies, and draw off their attention to, and confidence in, that which is their great shield and defence—union in General Congress. Your Constitution was so framed as to mortify that hope. To divide and to destroy, or to fix this merciless tyranny upon us, is their only endeavour. But I trust in *God*, that the wisdom and virtue of our countrymen will continue to render it ineffectual, and give us, at length, a happy issue out of all our troubles, by obtaining a full redress of grievances.

I have the honour of being, &c.

ARTHUR LEE.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO REV. ELEAZER WHEELOCK.

Lebanon, April 17, 1775.

REVEREND SIR: On the 7th instant, I received your letters of the 16th and 22d of *March* last, and return my thanks for your intelligence. The ability and influence of Mr. *Dean*, to attach all the *Six Nations* to the interest of these Colonies, is justly to be considered as an instance of Divine favour for us, and proper authority and encouragement to him will undoubtedly be easily obtained for that purpose. When he returns, it will be very acceptable to me to hear the intelligence he brings.

If the *Indian* scholars are called from you in a manner that shews a design of hostilities, please to give the earliest intelligence of it. You may depend on my care to do nothing that may tend to injure you or your cause. Our safety consists in the blessing of Heaven, a firm adherence to our constitutional rights, and an union in religion and virtue; in the pursuit and practice of these, we may hope for the relief of our distresses and redress of grievances. It is the prayer of good men, that the Spirit of grace, as to its converting influences, may be poured out upon the people of this land. The late awful restraints of the Spirit are a terrible token of *God's* righteous judgments.

I am, with much esteem and respect, reverend Sir, your obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Reverend Eleazer Wheelock.

Boston, Monday, April 17, 1775.

A letter from *Taunton*, dated last *Friday*, mentions, "that on *Monday*, the 10th instant, parties of Minute-Men, &c., from every Town in that County, with arms and ammunition, met at *Freetown* early that morning, in order to take Colonel *Gilbert*; but he had fled on board the *Man-of-War* at *Newport*. They then divided into parties, and took twenty-nine Tories who had signed enlistments and received arms in the Colonel's Company, to join the King's Troops; they also took thirty-five muskets, two case-bottles of powder, and a basket of bullets, all which they brought to *Taunton* the same afternoon, where the prisoners were separately examined, eighteen of whom made such humble acknowledgments of their past bad conduct, and solemn promises to behave better for the future, they were dismissed; but the other eleven, being obstinate and insulting, a party was ordered to carry them to *Simsbury* Mines; but they were sufficiently humble before they had got fourteen miles on their way thither; upon which they were brought back the next day, and after signing proper articles to behave better for the future, were escorted to *Freetown*. There were upwards of two thousand men embodied there last *Monday*."

TO THE INHABITANTS OF NEW-ENGLAND, GREETING.

Men, Brethren, and Fathers:

Is the time come, the fatal era commenced, for you to be deemed rebels by the Parliament of *Great Britain*? Rebels! wherein? Why, for asserting that the rights of men, the rights of *Englishmen* belong to us; that the King of *Great Britain* has pledged his Royal faith to protect us in the enjoyment of all these rights of solemn compact as our King; for meeting in Congresses, and resolving that no man, nor body of men under Heaven, has any just right to dispose of our properties without our consent! Then surely the time is come when we are loudly called upon to consider whether we will defend these our rights and properties, or surrender them to Lord *North* and the rest of the reigning tyrannical *British* Ministry, and content ourselves for the future, not only to pay just such taxes as Lord *North* and his bribed tools in Parliament shall please to order to be laid upon us, but to be sold—we, our wives and children—as other slaves are; and all our houses, lands, and fruits of our industry to be at the disposal of our lordly masters! But this you will not, you cannot submit to. Heaven forbid that we should be so tame, so base, so unlike the sons of *God*, so much like the vassals of the Prince of Darkness! Awake, therefore, and let us show ourselves men, and not asses! Let us all repent and turn every one from his sins, his provocations against Heaven, and *God Almighty* will awake to our help as in ancient time; he will ride on the clouds in his excellency, and smite our enemies on their cheek-bone; divide their counsels, and turn their enterprises headlong, for he is mightier than the noise of many waters; he brought our forefathers into this land, and made it to them an asylum from oppression, tyranny, and persecution, and was for walls and bulwarks round about them; and had not the *Lord* been on their side, they would have been many a time swallowed up quick. And he will be for walls and bulwarks unto us, if we don't forsake him; for it is our *God* who says, "Fear not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy *God*; I will help thee, I will strengthen thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." But as to our being in a state of open rebellion, "the *Lord God of Gods*, the *Lord God of Gods*, he knoweth," and *Great Britain* shall know; if it be in open rebellion against our rightful Sovereign, against the constitutional authority of the *British* Parliament, or the good and wholesome laws of our land, we have acted, and for which we are now declared to be in a state of open rebellion, "and in transgression against the *Lord*, let the *Lord* himself require it, and save us not this day!"

I am much mistaken if Lord *North* has not acted against his own life, and will not soon lose his own head, if not bring destruction on the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, and King *George* the Third and his family, by his late measures in the *British* Parliament relative to our being declared to be in a state of open rebellion! Time was, (an opportunity given him,) by the Petition of the grand Con-



tinental Congress, to have saved all; but I fear the time is now passed, especially if nothing turns up soon to prevent their sending over more forces, for the purpose of subduing us as rebels. But subdue us to a subjection unto the supreme legislation and taxation authority of the *British* Parliament over the Colonies without their consent, they will not, they shall not! Will it not be the proper dictate of wisdom, as the way, and only way left us of our preservation and safety, as soon as we see the sword of *Great Britain* drawn against us, to sacrifice every *New-England* Tory among us; to publish a manifesto with promises of protection and rewards to all of the *British* Troops that shall join in the cause of *American* liberty, and immediately cut off all such as intend to act as our enemies; and to send ambassadors to the Courts of *Europe*, with a declaration of all our Ports being opened to them for a free trade?

JOHANNES IN EREMO.

Salem, Massachusetts, April 18, 1775.

London, April 19, 1775.

Though the whole body of the people might, with great facility, get into their power any Standing Army which Ministers may employ in destruction of our liberties, yet, by my advice, not a single *Briton* should be put to the sword, except in the field of battle, or by the divine law of retaliation. Besides, were we not powerful enough within ourselves to effect this purpose, we may be assured that our own Militia, who are the only constitutional Soldiers of this Realm, will not longer remain idle, or that they will, like hired ruffians or mercenary troops, imbrue their hands in the blood, or sheathe their bayonets in the bosoms of their countrymen; for our Militia ought to be enrolled, and composed only of the Knights or landed gentry of the Country, and as such their respective Lord-Lieutenants would not dare to send them upon any unconstitutional service, because, by the *Norman* Treaty, our Militia-men are enjoined to obey their Colonels, so far forth as "*eorum justa præcepta*" shall extend, but not a single hair's breadth farther; for they are guilty of treason against the Constitution the moment they pass the *Rubicon*. And here lies the great distinction between Militia-men and Regulars; the former, at the hazard of their lives, are to execute no unjust, unnatural, unconstitutional orders; the latter, even at the peril of their lives, must implicitly and unhesitatingly obey every order they receive from their commanding officer, was it even to lay the whole City of *London* in ashes this very moment, or to rip open the bowels of every pregnant woman in the Kingdom, their own mothers not excepted. Happy, indeed, though our Mutiny Acts authorize the execution of every species of *Herodian* barbarity and *Neronian* cruelty, yet, as several clauses in those very Acts are most flagrant violations of the *Norman* Treaty, and shocking to human nature, they are, as I have frequently observed, not law; consequently the King's Troops, as they are faithfully called, (for they are not the Troops of the King, but on the contrary the Troops of the Kingdom, and in the pay of the Kingdom, and of the Kingdom only,) would be highly justified were they, like true *Englishmen*, unanimously to lay down their arms, and absolutely refuse to fight against their countrymen, constitutionally assembled, either in the plains of *Runnymede*, or in the Town of *Boston*. Conscious of the rectitude and truism of this position, our honest, brave *English* Soldierly, one and all, grounded their firelocks on *Hounslow-Heath*, nobly and most spiritedly refusing to obey the butcherly commands of that pigmy of a tyrant, *James* the Second—a pigmy, I mean, compared to the colossal tyrants of the present day. Nor does this immortal precedent stand single in the historick page, for the Troops of *Cinna*, in his fourth Consulship, when ordered by the Senate to embark for *Dalmatia*, and give battle to *Sylla*, most gloriously refused to go aboard, peremptorily insisting they would not be employed as barbarian ruffians or inhuman monsters, to slaughter their countrymen in cold blood; and this, too, even though the Senate had previously declared both *Sylla* and his forces enemies to *Rome*. To compel your Army to obedience merely by the terrors of punishment and Mutiny Acts of Parliament; this is not to govern, but to domineer. This true and most excellent observation doubtless will have its proper weight with our whole Military, since it is the dictum of as great a General, and of as great an Em-

pire as ever existed—I mean *Caius Marius*, who, though born a plebian, and therefore regularly precluded from the Consulship of *Rome*, yet, in consideration of his signal courage, contempt of money, love of his Country, and unparalleled knowledge of the whole theory and practice of war, was seven times successively elected Consul, an honour never conferred upon any *Roman*, either before or after his advancement to that superlatively imperial dignity.

I have thus laid before you a true state of the weakness and insignificance of the Standing Army at present in *Great Britain*, not, indeed, out of any disrespect or disparagement to them, for I have a presentiment that the marching Regiments and Lighthorse will maturely consider they do not receive the King's pay, but that of the Kingdom, and therefore, properly and strictly speaking, are in the actual service, not of the King, but of the Kingdom; and that, consequently, whenever the popular State shall constitutionally and simultaneously rise up in arms, as our glorious ancestors did against the Kings *John* and *James* the Second, the Regulars have only this optional alternative in law, namely, either to lay down their arms, as I have mentioned they did on *Hounslow-Heath*, or take an active part under the banners of the people.

This being the case, and seeing there is no real danger in the present Standing Army, were they even to act hostilely against the people constitutionally assembled, which cannot reasonably be expected; and seeing that Lieutenant Colonel *James Abercrombie*, who is embarked with a powerful reinforcement for that Army, which is to destroy the liberties of *America*, hath actually carried over with him peremptory orders to disarm the people of *Boston*, which is another most insolent, impudent violation of the Bill of Rights, (for by that treaty it is expressly and sacro-sanctionally stipulated, that every Protestant subject shall always carry arms for his defence.) What remains, then, for us, but instantly to put a stop to this rapid and all-deluging torrent of tyranny? What better advice can there be, than immediately to convene a National Congress here in *England*, and take the field, as our ancestors did on the plains of *Runnymede*, and thus constitutionally and effectually assist our *American* brethren, whom to desert in their present distresses, or even not to assist to the utmost of our abilities, would, in us, be unpardonably unjust, superlatively iniquitous, and infamously ungrateful; for in fact they are now fighting our battles. It is the glorious cause of liberty they are engaged in; the common cause and common birthright of every *Englishman*. I say the common birthright of every *Englishman*, for the liberty of an *Englishman* is an inheritance issuing out of his freehold land; and whether my freehold lies at *Boston*, in *New-England*, or at *Boston*, in *Old England*, it makes no difference, because by the same tyranny that I am forcibly disseized of my ancestral grant of land, which entailed with it a grant of liberty in one part of the *British* Empire, I may be equally robbed of it by the same lawless power of the sword in any other part of the *British* Dominions. Let us, then, here at home, my countrymen, never suffer so inestimable a grant to be tamely wrested from us; let us join our brother *Americans* in so just and glorious a cause, and, like our immortal exemplary ancestors, make that King tremble on his throne who shall sacrilegiously dare to invade the majesty of the Democratick State in the most essential of their rights, the free gift and grant of their money.

BRECKNOCK.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

New-York, April 17, 1775.

The Sub-Committee appointed 27th *March* last, to State and Report an account of the Sales, and of the Profits which have arisen from the Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, disposed of under the direction of the General Committee, agreeable to the Tenth Article of the Association of the late Continental Congress, do make the following Report, viz:

Arrived, In the Ship *Isabella*, from *Dublin*, two boxes Linens, sold 9th *December* last, for the first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the Schooner *Dolphin*, Captain *Waterman*, from *Jamaica*, 3d *December* last, thirty-five bags Pimento, sold for first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the Sloop *Polly*, Captain *Thompson*, from *Falmouth*,



3d December last, sundry Merchandise, sold for first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the Ship *Sally*, Captain *Bruce*, from *Greenock*, 15th December last, sundry Merchandise, which were sold and yielded a profit of - - - - - £26 17s. 0d.;

In Brig *Rebecca*, Captain *Saunders*, from *Madeira*, sundry pipes of Wine, sold 23d December last, for first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the *Monimia*, from *Greenock*, sundry Merchandise, sold 29th December last, yielded a profit of - - - - - £1 0s. 0d.;

In the Brig *Freemason*, Captain *Sample*, from *Newry*, 2d January last, sundry Merchandise, sold 9th January, and yielded a profit of - - - - - £9 0s. 3d.;

In the Ship *Sally*, Captain *Bagley*, from *Liverpool*, 17th December last, sundry Merchandise, sold 22d December, and yielded a profit of - - - - - £23 14s. 4d.;

In Ship *Lady Gage*, Captain *Mesnard*, from *London*, sundry Merchandise, sold 16th and 20th December last, yielded a profit of - - - - - £182 18s. 0d.;

In the Brig *Fair Lady*, from *Bristol*, 19th December, sundry Merchandise, sold 23d December, and yielded a profit of - - - - - £29 12s. 4d.;

In the *Charming Peggy*, from *Cork*, one hundred and seventy-five barrels of Beef and Pork, and thirty firkins of Butter, sold the 31st day of December, for first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the Ship *Glasgow*, Captain *Craig*, from *Greenock*, four bales Carpeting, and eighty tons of Coal, sold 10th January last, for first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the Brig *Friendship*, Captain *Bryson*, from *Jamaica*, a quantity of Pimento, sold for the first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

A trunk of Calicoes imported from *London*, via *Philadelphia*, sold for first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the Brig *George*, Captain *Calder*, from *Newcastle*, a quantity of Coal and Cordage, sold, and yielded a profit of - - - - - £4 2s. 0d.;

In the Ship *Jamaica*, Capt. *Jermyn*, from *London*, sundry Merchandises, sold and yielded a profit of - - - - - £1 1s. 2d.;

In the Ship *Lilly*, Captain *Cochran*, from *Greenock*, 1st January last, sundry Merchandises, sold 6th January, and yielded a profit of - - - - - £22 16s. 7d.;

In the Brig *Elliot*, Capt. *Pym*, from *Liverpool*, sundry Merchandise, sold, and yielded a profit of - - - - - \$10 9s. 3d.;

In the Ship *Rockingham*, from *Newcastle*, a quantity of Coal, Grindstones, and Bottles, sold 24th January last, for the first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the Ship *Hester*, from *Jamaica*, a quantity of Pimento, sold the 12th day of December, for cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the Brig *Patty*, Captain *Ashfield*, from *Madeira*, in December last, sundry pipes and quarter casks of Wine, sold for the first cost and charges, - - - - - £0 0s. 0d.;

In the Ship *Daniel*, Captain *Casey*, from *Liverpool*, sundry Merchandise, sold January 7th, 1775, and yielded a profit of - - - - - £35 6s. 2d.

Profits, - - - - - £347 4s. 1d.

From the above state it appears, that the sum of £347 4s. 1d. hath arisen upon the Goods, Wares, and Merchandise disposed of under the direction of the General Committee, agreeable to the Tenth Article of the Association, "to be applied towards relieving and employing such poor inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* as are immediately sufferers by the *Boston* Port Bill.

ABRAHAM BRASHER,  
JEREMIAH PLATT,  
PETER T. CURTENIUS.

Committee-Chamber, New-York, April 19, 1775.

Ordered, That the above state be published in the Newspapers of Mr. *Holt* and Mr. *Gaine*, and that Mr. *Curtenius* be directed to remit the amount in produce to *Boston*. By order of the Committee:

FRA. LEWIS, *Chairman pro tem.*

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED APRIL 19, 1775

Last night arrived Captain *Dean*, who left *London* the 5th and *Start Point* the 18th of *March*, and tells us that eleven Regiments are to be embarked on board ninety-five

Transports for *Boston*; the vessels had sailed to the several Ports in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; twelve sail of Frigates are ordered to accompany them; the Transports and Royal Ships have twelve months provisions and stores on board. Be assured this Colony will be blessed with every possible mark of Royal favour that can be shown it. The armament coming out is to enforce the intentions of Government, in case the four *New-England* Provinces should refuse the Conciliatory Bill, as intimated by Lord *North's* motion.

#### EXTRACT OF ANOTHER LETTER OF THE SAME DATE.

This morning the Snow Sir *William Johnson*, Captain *Dean*, arrived here from *London*, but last from the *Downs*, in thirty-one days: the intelligence he brings is not so agreeable as could be wished; the papers are as late as the 5th of *March*. Captain *Dean* says, that sixteen Men-of-War and ninety-five Transports were certainly coming out to *America*; he lay among them at *Spithead*; that terms would be first offered, that is, that each Government should annually raise a certain sum for the support of the Fleet and Army of *Great Britain*; that complied with in our own way, an amicable accommodation would soon follow.

A nobleman is ordered out for this place, in order to bring about a pacification I hope.

#### COMMITTEE OF NEW-YORK TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

New-York, April 19, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The following very interesting accounts were this day received by the Snow General *Johnson*, Captain *Dean*, in thirty-one days from *England*. The writer is a person of undoubted veracity and has the best means of intelligence, who may be depended on, having for these twelve months always furnished the most certain advice of the Ministers' designs, &c. In consideration of which, and the present posture of affairs in *America* in general, but more particularly on account of the situation of your Province, and the consequences to which it is more immediately liable, it is thought an indispensable duty to give you this late advice. It is unfeignedly wished that you may improve it to your own safety, as well as to the advantages of the whole Continent. We have the honour to be, with great respect, your obedient servants,

HENRY REMSEN, *Deputy Chairman.*

#### EXTRACTS OF LETTERS, &c.

"London, February 24, 1775.

"Providence seems to have placed me here in order to give you the earliest intelligence of the most interesting affairs relative to the Colonies.

"To my great astonishment, I have now before me an Act for blocking up the other Colonies, and another called the Black Act, to prevent the Fisheries. The whole Nation seems to be deeply affected at such an enormous crime; which is supposed to be done at the request of the King and his creatures. God forbid that you should be intimidated at this iniquitous law, which is calculated to ruin what was a mutual benefit to you and us. This must convince you what you are to expect, if you submit to the most shocking set of men that *England* can produce. You now see their humanity. Rouse up, then, with a just indignation, and exercise your Militia. Watch your Governor and Council. The new Assembly is to be composed of such creatures as will give up the people's rights, and join in the most horrid plot against them. What a melancholy reflection, that the riches and trade of a great Nation should be abused, and turned to the destruction of themselves and the Colonies! In short, the King is determined to be as absolute as the *French* King; and with the most obstinate head and bad heart, has set himself against the people, whom he will not see, keeping himself retired from his subjects in pride and ignorance. He has discarded men of veracity from all places of profit, and filled their offices with a set of the most abandoned villains on earth. These are they who advised him to break his oath with the people, for which they are despised by the Nation. If you hold out a few months, *England* will rise and do you justice, as well as relieve themselves from those



accused tyrants who want to corrupt you and deprive you of both liberty and property. There are two hundred and eighty-five Members of Parliament, who are all paid with the people's money to vote whatever Lord *North* proposes, and he has his lesson from eight more who compose a club, that meets in the most private manner in the night at Mrs. *Keen's*, near the Palace, where they have a box, which contains the papers that pass between His Majesty and them. The King overlooks the schemes, and corrects them; as well as gives orders how to proceed for the future. *Hutchinson* is consulted, and to the shame of Governors *Colden*, *Penn*, and *Martin*, who have written such letters to Lord *Dartmouth*, that the King has appointed them to meet at *New-York*, in order to join with your other lying spirits in betraying the Colonies: to complete which villany Lord *North* has made a motion in Parliament, as if he intended to promote peace with the Colonies; but it is to deceive them, and the people of *England* too. It is intended to defeat the salutary advice of the Congress, which does credit to *British America*. Set the Press immediately to work, and publish to the world the wicked designs of the King and his Counsellors, that you despise their slavish schemes, and are determined to preserve your laws and religion. Encourage the brave people of *Massachusetts-Bay* to act worthy of their noble ancestors! I have the pleasure to assure you, that the noble Lords with whom I have conversed, all join you in contempt of the junto here. You are desired to let the Colonies know that there is a deep plot formed to divide them and deceive the people into a compliance. But tell them that you want not their trade nor protection at the expense of your liberty. You'll see by the papers the treatment Lord *Chatham's* plan met with. Those Lords who advised the King to declare you rebels, and apprehend Messrs. *Hancock*, *Adams*, &c., &c., have gone so far as to say that *Chatham* shall fall a sacrifice to their designs, &c. I know there is publick virtue among you; I know your fondness for *England* will not let you believe the wicked designs that are meditating against you; but I do now, in the presence of *God*, warn you that the King has no good intentions toward you, but what you oblige him by your own wisdom and virtue to have. Take care of yourselves, and act as the wise and brave have done in all ages when oppressed by tyrants. Resist unto blood all who attempt to betray you. The Parliament have registered *Colden's* and *Penn's* letters; look to them, and see for yourselves. Believe the Court your worst enemies. Be much on your guard. Yesterday Doctor *Fothergill* and Mr. *Barclay* were so pressed in spirit that they went to see Lord *North*, and told him that the Bill for prohibiting the Fisheries was so horrid and inhuman that the whole Nation would rise and oppose it; and that if it did pass into a law, it would be a scandal to humanity, and, perhaps, occasion a revolt. They plead two hours with him, but to no purpose. The Bill is to be read a third time on *Tuesday*; so that in five days this horrid Bill passes into a law without any further consideration. Oh, *America*! Oh, *England*! The Ministry, in order to quiet the mob, ordered an inflammatory pamphlet to be burnt at *Guildhall*, which drew off the people while the Bill passed in Parliament, &c. A report is sent into the City that the Transports are stopped. This is to quiet the Merchants; but the Officers are gone down in private coaches of other people, and *America* is to be divided and driven into compliance before *England* is apprized of it. Lord *North* has just given out that he will resign, and at the same time says, that he fears nothing from the people, unless it be the breaking of his coach doors, or some such trifle; no resistance of importance from the City, only a clamour, which he has often experienced. He expects that this manœuvre will quiet the people on both sides of the water.

"Goods are shipped in the Transports with the Officers' Baggage, marked *Rex*, and under the protection of the King's Troops, who are to land them and protect the trade, &c. *North-Carolina* is to be a store-house, it is said. Support the Committee, and watch the Officers of the Customs, &c. Your friends are afraid that you will be surprised into a compliance. The offers of peace were only to raise the Stocks, which had fallen; they are four per cent. higher on account of the report. The Council sat up all night, in order to find out ways and means to

conquer *Virginia* and procure Tobacco; great offers will be made to those who will raise it, &c. Men of large fortunes are afraid to oppose Government, lest the Bank should fail, which is said to be in danger. The interest on the year '74 is not paid. Many of the people are your most hearty friends, but the King is your greatest enemy. Be not deceived by his low cunning; act wisely, and the wicked and cursed plot will break on the heads of those who want to destroy you. The King is his own Secretary; he gets up at six o'clock every morning, sends off his box with remarks on a bit of paper tied round each order; four of the ablest lawyers are constantly with him, whose business it is to advise and search for precedents, to screen his head and throw the blame on the Parliament. Two millions have been squandered in bribery and corruption. The Crown has nothing to fear but the hunger of the poor. A steady adherence to the proceedings of the Congress will save *England* and *America*. Beware of Governor *Penn*, who has had offers made him to comply with the designs of the Court. Send this to *Boston* immediately. Mr. *Hancock's* lands are already divided among the Officers, &c. Lord *Dartmouth* is your bitter enemy, and determined to destroy the liberties of *America*. Lord *Chatham*, Lord *Camden*, the Duke of *Richmond*, and all the wise wish that you may attend to the advice of the Congress."

*Extract from a different person, dated MARCH 2d:—*

"Part of the Troops now ordered for embarkation here and *Ireland*, are to rendezvous at *New-York*, to make it a place of Arms, securing the defection of that Province from the general alliance in the cause of freedom and every thing that is dear to man; and to prevent the communication between *Virginia*, *Maryland*, and the other Southern Colonies, with *New-England*, when General *Gage*, with such assistance as he may get from *New-York*, is to subdue these Colonies by a Garrison-Town and place of Arms, with the assistance of *Quebeck*, to rule with a rod of iron all the slaves of *America*. Without the concurrence of *New-York* this scheme can never be carried into execution, of which every gentleman and man of knowledge in this Kingdom is fully convinced; therefore, on your virtue, in a great measure, it depends whether *America* shall be free, or be reduced to the most abject and oppressive servitude, worse than that of *Egyptian* bondage; in which you must inevitably be involved, if you lend your aid to enslave your brethren in the other Colonies. I have to inform you that the Bill for preventing the four Colonies of *New-England* from Fishing, getting Provisions from the other Colonies, or carrying on any Commerce whatever to any part of the world except *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or the *British West-Indies*, will finally pass the House of Commons to-morrow, and is to take place the first of next *July*. You may also depend that in a few days another Bill will be brought in to prohibit any of the other Colonies from carrying on any Trade whatever with each other, or to any other part of the world, except to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or the *British West-Indies*, which will probably take place in *July* also; therefore you will act accordingly, and let this be publickly known."

*Extract of another Letter, dated LONDON, MARCH 1:*

"The measures of the Ministry will, I hope, do more towards uniting the Colonies, than any efforts of *America* itself. You will easily perceive their wicked intentions to divide, as well as their designs after that hoped-for division. They have high hopes of success from the last accounts from *New-York*. I trust the people of that Province will soon displace those rascally and treacherous Tories in your Assembly, who dare thus negatively encourage the system of despotism now adopted for your Government. The wisdom of the Congress and the firmness of the people give the strongest assurances of future conduct. Several names are made use of here as authorities to warrant the defection of *America*. (I can give you such as I have heard; their conduct will best determine whether the idea is well founded: The *De...ys*, *J.....*, *W....*, *Smith*, *J.... G.....y*, *J.... R.....*, &c., &c. They most assuredly correspond with some ministerial people here, and though great care is taken to conceal, yet the men are too evidently marked to be totally unknown.) Pray print



this short hint for the observation of the honest men among you. I need not attempt to expose the baseness or folly of the present men in office, for they take care to do it themselves."

The foregoing were at first intended only to be communicated to the inhabitants of *Massachusetts-Bay*, &c. But on more consideration it was judged best to inform those of *Connecticut* also, leaving them to forward the accounts to *Concord* with the utmost despatch.

HENRY REMSEN, *Deputy Chairman*.

TO THE RESPECTABLE PUBLICK.

New-York, April 19, 1775.

When the character of a fellow-citizen is basely traduced, his injuries become a common cause, in defence of which, every virtuous member of society will be an advocate. The insignificance of some enemies, indeed, secures them from resentment; and while they confine their calumny within the sphere wherein they are known, contempt is the only proper return for their malice. But when they make a publick newspaper the vehicle of their scandal, a more formal defence becomes necessary.

In Mr. *Holt's* paper of the 13th instant, are published the proceedings of a set of people, assembled at the Liberty Pole, on *Thursday*, the 6th instant, in which is contained a declaration, that "Messrs. *William* and *Henry Ustick* are inveterate foes to *American* freedom." This, it seems, passed almost unanimously, upon the motion of a certain person, who is not named, to a Chairman, likewise not named. This concealment would entitle these little patriots to some credit for their modesty, if they had not known that the publication of their names would have defeated their malice; the gratification of which, it seems, they have preferred, to the pride of seeing themselves in print. They have, however, artfully engrafted in their proceedings, an advertisement, subscribed by the Chairman of the Committee, from which the inattentive reader would be led to conclude, that they were the proceedings of that body; which, however, was not the fact.

The peace and orderly state of the Town having given great offence to this little set of heroes, they made various efforts to rouse the citizens into action; and the Messrs. *Usticks* were to be the victims of their little rage. Several attempts to collect the Town together, failed; though on every such occasion, they resolved that their meetings had been very useful, and the glorious means of defeating the Tories.

It was reserved, however, for the meeting at the Liberty Pole to strike the important blow, and the actors were worthy of the farce, whose names shall be held up to the publick in some future paper.

Although the *Usticks* are confident that this City will never suffer the rule and government of it to be committed into such hands, and that they never will submit to the inquisition they would establish here, yet they are actuated by a very sincere desire of retaining the good opinion of every friend to liberty. They are bold to say, that the charge against them of their being foes to freedom, is false; and as they have not transgressed any of the laws of their Country, so neither have they violated any part of the Association of the Congress. Upon what principles then are they to be held up to the respectable publick, by these paltry sons of mischief, as enemies to their Country? Must they be deprived of the exercise of the trade, by which they earn their bread? Must they be precluded from the benefits of a manufactory which they have carried on under so many difficulties and discouragements, and which will be so extremely useful to the Country? Why was not a clamour raised when a certain person shipped such quantities of Flour to the Army? For if they must be considered as enemies, surely the best way would be to starve them at once, and thereby prevent them most effectually from doing mischief. No, my fellow-citizens, this is but the pretended reason. The true motive is to make every trader, but the chosen few, odious to the people in the Country, and thereby to engross the whole custom to themselves. Upon this principle it is, that by stigmatizing a number of worthy friends of liberty with the name of Tories, these restless people have so far deluded many Country

traders, as to withdraw their custom from them, and even prevented boatmen from carrying up goods which have not got a clearance from them.

New-York, April 19, 1775.

Mr. RIVINGTON: Be pleased to insert the following in your Paper, and if any person conceives himself injured by any thing contained in it, the facts shall be publicly proved by the most unexceptionable evidence.

That the tranquillity of this City and Province has long given great umbrage to a set of folks among us, must have been evident from the frequent buzzings of these little harmless insects, who have at length made a feeble essay to sting as well as make a noise. Sensible that in a calm they must grovel in the dirt, they have tried to raise a storm, by which they hope to be elevated into notice.

On *Wednesday*, the 5th instant, the Committee of Inspection published an advertisement, in which they declare, with respect to Nails, "That though the manufactures which have been since (the last non-importation) established, will supply more than sufficient for our own consumption, we apprehend it would be imprudent thus rashly to part with what we have in store; especially as this sudden exportation has given just grounds for sufficient alarm."

No sooner did this notice appear in publick, than a certain set, in consequence of it, (the direction being to the respectable inhabitants,) assembled first at *Philips's* Beer-house, next at *Bardin's*, then at the Liberty Pole, and lastly, at *Van Der Water's*; at which several meetings (tremble, Lord *North*, and be dismayed, ye Tories!) Mr. *Marinus Willet*, and Mr. *John Lamb*, were Chairmen.

Having despatched the poor *Usticks*, by a vote that they were foes to their Country, entered into upon the motion of Mr. *James Alner*, a new and important subject arose for debate. It was suggested that Mr. *Ralph Thurman* had been employed in packing Straw, and Mr. *Robert Harding*, in purchasing Boards, to be sent to *Boston*. This was a heinous crime; and a Committee was ordered, from the body assembled on the — instant, to wait on those two traitors to their Country. Mr. *Harding* was out, so that he was spared for that night; but, unfortunately, his daughter was at home, and, terrified at the formidable appearance, fell into fits. This, however, was a trifling consideration to men engaged in the cause of liberty. Mr. *Thurman*, it seems, was so obstinate, and such an inveterate foe to his Country, that he presumed to call in question the power of this body to interfere with his private affairs. Unpardonable impudence!

At this meeting, which was duly notified, very few attended; but although Captain *Sears* complained that he was deserted while he was engaged in the grand cause, yet 'tis evident that fortune conspired to make his glory the more conspicuous, as if determined that none should deprive him of the honour of a motion he made, which was, that "every man should provide himself with four-and-twenty rounds."

Another meeting, however, was, by adjournment, fixed upon for *Saturday*, the 15th instant, at the Liberty Pole. Meanwhile, complaint being made of these proceedings, as disorderly and a breach of law, the Magistrates issued a warrant against Captain *Sears*; he was apprehended and carried before the Mayor. Bail was demanded, but this being a violation of liberty, was refused. A mittimus was therefore issued, and the illustrious prisoner carried towards the Jail. But this was the height of arbitrary power; the very quintessence of toryism; and as it would doubtless have given Lord *North* great pleasure, it was not to be endured; the Captain was therefore set at liberty from the officers of justice, and led in triumph through the Town.

Accompanied by a number of his friends, with colours flying, the Captain proceeded through the *Fly*, *Wall-street*, and *Broadway*, to the Liberty Pole. Among those who were near him, were Mr. *Ivers*, Mr. *Alner*, Mr. *Richard Livingston*, and Mr. *Roorbach*.

At six o'clock, the Captain, attended with a large crowd, mounted a rostrum prepared for him in the Fields, from whence, like the *Devil* in *Milton*, "By merit raised to that bad eminence," he opened the business by a circumstantial recapitulation of facts, of which his own merit, the good he had done, and the evils he had averted, made a considerable part. At length, the following question was put:



"Whether a Son of Liberty ought to give bail or not?" which was carried in the negative. This occasioned three huzzas, in which Captain *Alexander McDougall*, who was near Captain *Sears*, bore no small part. It should not be omitted, that when Captain *Sears* had done, Mr. *Pardon Burlingham* mounted the stage, and harangued the people, and recommended going to the delinquents for satisfaction.

From the Fields they repaired to *Thurman's* and *Hardings*, and endeavoured to extort confessions from them that they had done wrong, and to prevail on them to ask pardon. These gentlemen refused both; insisting, that as they had been guilty of no violation of any law, agreement, or association, they would sooner die than ask pardon.

For fear of being too prolix, I shall omit the exploit to *Turtle-Bay*, the march to the *Transport*, in the *North-River*, in consequence of which she was cut off from the wharf, and the huzzaing through the town, and cry of no boards! at the *Albany Pier*, which being on the evening of Captain *Lawrence's* arrival, doubtless proceeded from their joy on the good tidings he brought, and is a mark of their gratitude, and a proof that they are actuated by nothing but the pure dictates of liberty.\*

The above contains a narrative of the transactions which have disturbed the Town for a fortnight past, and which I desire, Mr. *Rivington*, you will not omit inserting in your paper; for while the most seditious and inflammatory papers are daily published, tending to alienate the minds of the people from our gracious King, (one of which is now circulating about the City, and read with avidity by those who have proscribed your paper, because some of your correspondents presume to think and write for themselves,) a customer claims it as a right to hold up these matters to the publick. While we are determined to contend against the tyranny of the *British Parliament* and Ministry, let us not establish the sway of a mob, which includes despotism, the most cruel and severe of all others. Many fellow-citizens have been deluded by the cry of liberty, which has been held up to them as the reason for these violences. They are now undeceived; but so daring a violation of the good order and police of the City, so flagitious an insult on Magistracy, and contempt of the laws, ought not to be passed over with impunity; for let us remember, that the restraints of the law are the security of liberty.

#### ANTI-LICENTIOUSNESS.

REVEREND SAMUEL AUCHMUTY TO CAPTAIN MONTRESOR,  
CHIEF-ENGINEER IN GEN. GAGE'S ARMY AT BOSTON.

New-York, April 19, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: Yesterday Captain *Coupar* arrived from *London*; *Rivington*, I conclude, will have all the news in his paper, but for fear you should not get his paper in time, I send you some extracts from a letter I received from undoubted authority, which may be depended upon. It is dated *London, March 4th, 1775*.

"I congratulate you heartily on the spirited and prudent conduct of your Assembly. Their proceedings are universally applauded by the people of this Country. Envy dares not lisp against them, and Faction hides its face with shameful disappointment. Pursue the same path, and your Provinces will be honoured with every mark of distinction from this Country. His Majesty is already disposed to grant you every honourable favour that can be proposed. I am happy that the Clergy under your direction have conducted themselves so prudently and successfully, and hope that the Church, for the labour of her sons, will not be forgotten.

"The Resolution suggested by Lord *North* will, I flatter myself, have a happy effect at *New-York*. It proposes to the Colonies all they can reasonably ask. They desired to be taxed by their own Representatives; it will be granted them. Leave it to our Assemblies (they said) and we will sufficiently tax ourselves, and contribute to the common expenses. The Parliament accepts the promises, and invites them by this Resolution to propose what they will give and grant for the necessary contingencies of the

State, and their own Civil Establishment. While they fulfil their engagements, Parliament will not interfere to tax them; when they refuse to bear a part in supporting the common burthen, the supreme Legislature will compel the delinquent Colony to its duty. Thus every reasonable indulgence is offered to you, and every necessary power reserved to Parliament. If you reject this proposition of peace and reconciliation, the Nation will be convinced that you are determined to agree on no terms of accommodation.

"The Armament which will speedily embark for *Boston* will convince the refractory among you, that this Nation will not be trifled with. It is uncertain who will be your Governour, the King being resolved to appoint one himself; Governour *Martin* of *North-Carolina* is talked of."

Thus I have given you all the news that I at present know, which may be depended upon. *Coupar* says, that thirty-odd sail of Transports sailed for *Ireland* the same day with him, and that many more Transports were taken up daily. This is terrible news for my poor distressed, oppressed, injured countrymen. I must own I was born among the saints and rebels, but it was my misfortune. Where are your Congresses now? What say *Hancock*, *Adams*, and all their rebellious followers? Are they still bold? I trow not.

We have lately been plagued with a rascally Whig mob here, but they have effected nothing, only *Sears*, the King, was rescued at the Jail door. He was ordered there by the Magistrates upon his refusing to give bail for being guilty of misdemeanors, &c. Our Magistrates have not the spirit of a louse; however, I prognosticate it will not be long before he is handled by authority.

I am, &c.

SAMUEL AUCHMUTY.\*

\*SALEM, MASS., May 18, 1775.—From such servile wretches as the author of the above letter, do the *British Administration* receive informations relative to the state of *America*; and by such informations do they govern their conduct with respect to it; no wonder then that they discover so much folly, imbecility, and irresolution in all their measures.

His zeal for the Church had, it seems, influenced the past conduct of this would-be right reverend author and some of his Tory brethren of the Clergy in the Province of *New-York*. In order to engage their further labours in this good cause, his correspondent in *England* encourages him and them to hope for the recompense of reward; that they should soon receive an ample retribution for all their toil and labour in the service of the Ministry. These are the baits held out to the tools of power, and these are sufficient to induce some among us to sacrifice the liberty of this Country, and to rejoice with infernal satisfaction at seeing the land which gave them birth stained with the blood of its slaughtered inhabitants.

The correspondent of this Reverend gentleman talks much of the conciliating proposal made by Lord *North*, and asserts that the Colonists will be universally condemned if they do not comply with it; but the least observation must convince us that this proposal was no other than a flimsy State trick of this wise Minister, and did not, in reality, remove any grievance of which the *Americans* complained. According to this proposal the Parliament of *Great Britain* is to demand a certain sum in bulk of the Continent of *America*, but each Assembly is to have the power of adjusting the particular method in which its proportion shall be raised; but if it refuses to pay as much as the Parliament demands or shall demand, it is to be dragged into obedience; all the liberty allowed to the Colonies is to determine how they will raise the sum taxed, without allowing them the liberty of judging whether they ought to be taxed or no; so that the power of taxation remains virtually and truly in the *British Parliament* still, and the Colonies are only flattered with an appearance of freedom. The proposal was designed as a bait to draw off our friends in *Great Britain*, and to dissolve the union of *America*; but it is seen through by both, and will most assuredly be treated by them with the contempt it deserves.

What must be the heart of the man who can jest, as doth this execrable Clergyman, with the miseries of his Country, and can exult at the thought of its being drenched in blood: the prospect of the arrival of Troops to answer this purpose affords him matter of triumph. This is a Tory Clergyman; to such men as these, our countrymen, (if we prevent them not by our own valorous exertions,) must we pay tithes of all that we possess; to such men as these must we become hewers of wood and drawers of water! Who can endure even the distant idea of such a state? what then must it be to feel and to groan under it!

It hath been the misfortune of this Province to produce many such vermin as the author of this letter, many who have acted the part of parricides to their Country, and who would sacrifice that, together with their consciences, to their ambition and avarice; but we may comfort ourselves with the reflection, that it hath produced a long list of patriots, who are now straining every nerve to secure her freedom, and who will sacrifice their lives rather than that the schemes of such traitors as the author of this letter should succeed.

The ever-memorable nineteenth of April gave an answer to the questions so often asked by the enemies of *American* freedom, and among the rest by this little tool of power: what think ye of the Congress now? That day showed the efficacy of the Resolutions of that illustrious body, and evidenced that *Americans* would rather die than live slaves! A *Hancock* and an *Adams*, with the other patriots, whose names will be handed down, with everlasting honour, to posterity, still retain their invincible firmness; and in despite of *British* Fleets and Armies, under the assured protection of their God, will secure the freedom and happiness of *America*.

\*The Packet *Earl of Dunmore*, Captain *Lawrence*, arrived at *New-York* on Tuesday, April 11, 1775. By this Vessel was received the *London Gazette* of February 11, containing the Address of the two Houses of Parliament to the King, adopted on the 7th, and presented to the King on the 9th of February.



## NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

*Minutes of the Provincial Convention of New-York.*

City of New-York, April, 20, 1775.

The Deputies hereinafter named, from the following Counties, assembled at the *Exchange* in this City, for the purpose of forming a Provincial Convention, viz:

**CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK.**—*Philip Livingston*, Esquire, *John Alsop*, Esquire, *James Duane*, Esquire, *John Jay*, Esquire, Colonel *Leonard Lispenard*, Mr. *Francis Lewis*, Mr. *Abraham Walton*, Mr. *Isaac Roosevelt*, Mr. *Alexander McDougall*, and Mr. *Abraham Brasher*.

**CITY AND COUNTY OF ALBANY.**—Colonel *Philip Schuyler*, Colonel *Abraham Ten Broeck*, and *Abraham Yates*, Junior, Esquire.

**ULSTER COUNTY.**—*Charles De Witt*, *George Clinton*, and *Levy Pawling*, Esquires.

**ORANGE COUNTY.**—Colonel *A. Hawkes Hay*, *Henry Wisner*, Esquire, *John Herring*, Esquire, Mr. *Peter Clowes*, and Mr. *Israel Seely*.

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY.**—Colonel *Lewis Morris*, *John Thomas*, Junior, Esquire, *Robert Graham*, Esquire, Major *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *Samuel Drake*, Esquire, and Mr. *Stephen Ward*.

**DUTCHESS COUNTY.**—Colonel *Morris Graham*, Major *Robert R. Livingston*, Junior, and *Egbert Benson*, Esquire.

**KING'S COUNTY.**—*Simon Boerum*, Esquire, Captain *Richard Stillwell*, Mr. *Theodorus Polhemus*, Mr. *Denice Denice*, and Mr. *John Vanderbilt*.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY.**—Colonel *William Floyd*, Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Colonel *Phineas Fanning*, *Thomas Tredwell*, Esquire, and *John Sloss Hobart*, Esquire.

**NEW-TOWN AND FLUSHING, IN QUEEN'S COUNTY.**—Colonel *Jacob Blackwell* and Mr. *John Talman*.

The Convention unanimously chose *Philip Livingston*, Esquire, to be their President.

*Ordered*, That the sense of this Convention, upon every question, be taken and determined by the majority of the votes of the Counties here represented.

That the votes of the City and County of *New-York* be considered as *four*; the City and County of *Albany* as *three*; and that of each of the other Counties, respectively, as *two*; and that this arrangement shall not, upon any future occasion, be drawn into precedent.

The Convention then unanimously elected *John McKesson*, Esquire, to be their Secretary.

The Deputies of the City and County of *New-York* produced the poll-lists taken the fifteenth day of *March* last, in each Ward of the said City, certified under the hands of the Vestrymen of the respective Wards, and others before whom they were taken, by which it appears that *Philip Livingston*, *John Alsop*, *James Duane*, *John Jay*, *Leonard Lispenard*, Esquires, Messrs. *Francis Lewis*, *Abraham Walton*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Alexander McDougall*, and *Abraham Brasher*, all now present, together with Mr. *Isaac Low*, who is not present, were elected by a very great majority of voices to be the Deputies of the said City and County of *New-York*, for the sole purpose of appointing Delegates to attend the next Continental Congress, to meet at *Philadelphia*, on the 10th day of *May* next.

Colonel *Philip Schuyler*, Colonel *Abraham Ten Broeck*, and *Abraham Yates*, Junior, Esquire, produced a Certificate subscribed by *John N. Blecker*, Clerk of the Committee of Correspondence for the City and County of *Albany*, certifying that they, together with Colonel *Peter R. Livingston* and *Walter Livingston*, Esquire, were unanimously elected by the said Committee, (which Committee was expressly empowered for that purpose,) as Deputies for the City and County of *Albany*, to attend the Provincial Convention to be held in the City of *New-York* on this day, for the purpose of choosing Delegates to represent this Colony in the next Continental Congress, to meet at *Philadelphia*, on the 10th day of *May* next, which Certificate bears date at *Albany* on the twenty-first day of *March* last past; and being read and accepted, is filed with the Secretary.

*Charles De Witt*, *George Clinton*, and *Levy Pawling*, Esquires, produced a Certificate bearing date the seventh

day of *April* instant, subscribed by Colonel *Johannes Hardenbergh*, Chairman or President of all the Committees of the respective Towns and Precincts in *Ulster* County, (except the Towns of *Rochester* and *Mamacoting*) which several Committees were therein named, and declared to have been elected and appointed to meet, nominate, and appoint Deputies for the said County, to serve in Provincial Convention at the City of *New-York*, on this day, or at such other time and place as might be agreed on; and were then assembled at the *New-Paltz*, in the said County, for that purpose. And the said Credentials certify that they the said *Charles De Witt*, *George Clinton*, and *Levy Pawling*, Esquires, were unanimously elected by all the said Committees, as Deputies for the said County of *Ulster*, to attend the Provincial Convention to be held at the City of *New-York*, on this day, or at such other time and place as may be agreed on, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress, to meet at *Philadelphia*, on the tenth day of *May* next, or at such other time and place as may be agreed on for that purpose. The same gentlemen from *Ulster* County also produced a Letter signed by *Jacob Hoornbeck* and *Jochum Schoonmaker*, (the Committee elected by the said Town of *Rochester*,) bearing date at *Rochester* the eleventh day of *April* instant, consenting to and approving of the appointment of the said gentlemen, and reposing the same trust in them as the other Towns and Precincts in the said County of *Ulster* had done. And the said Credentials being read and approved of by this Convention, are filed with the Secretary.

The Convention then adjourned to 5 o'clock, P. M.

Five o'clock, P. M., April 20, 1775.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

**CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK.**—*Philip Livingston*, Esquire, President, Messrs. *Francis Lewis*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Abraham Brasher*, *John Jay*, Esquire, *Leonard Lispenard*, Esquire, Messrs. *Isaac Roosevelt*, and *Abraham Walton*.

**CITY AND COUNTY OF ALBANY.**—*Abraham Yates*, Junior, Esquire, Colonel *Philip Schuyler*, and Colonel *Abraham Ten Broeck*.

**ULSTER COUNTY.**—*Charles De Witt*, *George Clinton*, and *Levy Pawling*, Esquires.

**ORANGE COUNTY.**—Colonel *A. Hawkes Hay*, *Henry Wisner*, Esquire, *John Herring*, Esquire, Mr. *Peter Clowes*, and Mr. *Israel Seely*.

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY.**—Colonel *Lewis Morris*, *John Thomas*, Junior, Esquire, *Robert Graham*, Esquire, Major *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *Samuel Drake*, Esquire, and Mr. *Stephen Ward*.

**DUTCHESS COUNTY.**—Colonel *Morris Graham*, Major *Robert R. Livingston*, Junior, and *Egbert Benson*, Esquire.

**KING'S COUNTY.**—*Simon Boerum*, *Theodorus Polhemus*, Esquires, and Mr. *John Vanderbilt*.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY.**—Colonel *William Floyd*, Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, Esquire, *Thomas Tredwell*, Esquire, and Colonel *Phineas Fanning*.

**FLUSHING AND JAMAICA, IN QUEEN'S COUNTY.**—Mr. *John Talman* and Mr. *Joseph Robinson*.

The Deputies for *Orange* County produced here several Credentials from the respective Towns and Precincts in that County, in substance as follows, to wit: A Certificate signed by *Gilbert Cooper*, Clerk, setting forth that at a Town-Meeting of the Precinct of *Haverstraw*, in the said County of *Orange*, held at the *New-City*, on *Tuesday*, the fourth day of *April* instant, it was—

*Resolved*, 1st. That that meeting did highly approve of a Convention of Deputies from the different Counties, to meet at the City of *New-York* on this day, for the purpose of choosing Delegates for the next Continental Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* in the month of *May* next, as the most effectual means to promote the honour and happiness of the Colony, and to unite the Colony in the common cause, for the preservation of our rights and liberties; and,

2dly. That it was then and there resolved that Colonel *A. Hawkes Hay* should be, and was thereby appointed a Deputy to represent that Precinct at such Provincial Con-



vention, to meet at the City of *New-York* on this day ; and was thereby authorized and appointed to join with the Deputies who should meet in such Convention, in the appointment of Delegates to represent this Colony in the next Continental Congress ; and also to concur with the said Deputies in such other measures as might be thought necessary to promote the honour, happiness, and interest of this Colony.

Secondly. The same gentlemen, Deputies for *Orange* County, produced a Certificate signed by *Daniel Everett*, Precinct Clerk of the Precinct of *Goshen*, in the said County, certifying, that at an annual Town-Meeting held at *Goshen*, in and for the Precinct of *Goshen*, on *Tuesday*, the fourth day of *April* instant, it was moved, and unanimously voted in the affirmative, that *Henry Wisner* and *Peter Clowes*, Esquires, be appointed Deputies for the said Precinct of *Goshen*, to meet such other Deputies as should be appointed by other parts of the Colony, in a Provincial Convention, to be held in the City of *New-York* on this day, for the purpose of electing Delegates for the next Continental Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* on the tenth day of *May* next.

Thirdly. The said Deputies for *Orange* County produced a Certificate subscribed by *Thomas Outwater*, Town Clerk, setting forth that a meeting of the Freeholders of the Town of *Orange*, in *Orange* County, was held at the house of *Jost Mabee*, in the said Town, on the 17th day of *April* instant, agreeable to notice given, and request made by publick advertisements for that purpose. That the freeholders then and there assembled, took into consideration the necessity of their being duly and properly represented in the Provincial Convention, to be held at the City of *New-York* on this twentieth day of *April*, for the purpose of electing and appointing Delegates to represent this Colony of *New-York* in the next Continental Congress, to be held in the City of *Philadelphia* on the tenth day of *May* next. That the question was put, Whether the Freeholders there assembled should send a Deputy to represent the said Town of *Orange* at this Convention ? And that the same was carried in the affirmative. And therein also setting forth and certifying, that it was thereupon voted and ordered, that *John Herring*, Esquire, should be a Deputy for the said Town of *Orange*, to represent the said Town in this Convention ; and that he act and vote on behalf of the inhabitants thereof, in all such matters and things as should, by the said Convention, be taken into consideration.

Lastly. The said Deputies from *Orange* County produced a Certificate signed by *Jesse Woodhull*, Esquire, setting forth, that at an annual meeting of the Freeholders and inhabitants of the Precinct of *Cornwall*, in the said County, held at the house of *John Brewster*, in *Bloomington*, on the fourth day of *April* instant, the said *Jesse Woodhull*, Esquire, was chosen Moderator. That the said Freeholders then proceeded to take into consideration a Letter from the Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, signed by *Isaac Low*, their Chairman, recommending the choosing of Deputies for the several Counties in this Colony, to meet in Provincial Convention at the City of *New-York*, on this twentieth day of *April*, for the sole purpose of choosing Delegates to represent this Colony in the next Continental Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* on the tenth day of *May* next ensuing. That it was then proposed to the said Freeholders, whether the subject-matter of the said Letter should be taken into consideration immediately, or postponed to another day ; and that debates arising thereon, and the question being put, it was voted by a large majority, that the subject-matter of the said Letter should be considered immediately. That it was then proposed to the said Freeholders, whether a Deputy should be sent from that Precinct to this Convention, or not ? And that debates arising thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative by a large majority.

And the said Certificate sets forth and certifies, that Mr. *Israel Seely* was then and there chosen as one of the Deputies of that County for the purposes aforesaid.

And all the said Credentials and Certificates produced by the said Deputies for *Orange* County being read and approved of, and accepted by this Convention, are filed with the Secretary.

Colonel *Lewis Morris*, Mr. *Stephen Ward*, *Samuel Drake*, Esquire, *John Thomas*, Junior, Esquire, *Robert Graham*, Esquire, and Major *Philip Van Cortlandt*, the Deputies from *Westchester* County, produced Credentials bearing date at the *White-Plains*, in *Westchester* County, on the eleventh day of *April* instant, signed by *Lewis Morris*, Chairman, therein reciting and setting forth, that on the twenty-eighth day of *March* last past, a number of gentlemen therein particularly named, from different Districts in the County of *Westchester*, having received Letters from the Chairman of the Committee of the City and County of *New-York* relative to the appointment of Deputies for the County of *Westchester*, to this Convention, met at the *White-Plains* aforesaid, for the purpose of devising means to take the sense of the people of the County upon the subject. That they had sent Letters of Notification to the principal Freeholders in the different Towns and Districts in the County, acquainting them that they had then met to consider of the most proper method to obtain the sense of the Freeholders of the County upon the expediency of choosing Deputies to meet the Deputies of the other Counties, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* on the tenth day of *May* next ; and therein recommending a general meeting of the Freeholders of the said County, to be held at the *White-Plains*, on *Tuesday*, the eleventh day of *April* instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, at the Court-House ; and therein and thereby requesting each such principal Freeholder to give notice of the said meeting to all the Freeholders in his District, without exception, as those who did not appear and vote on that day, would be presumed to acquiesce in the sentiments of the majority of those who should vote. And therein also further setting forth and certifying, that such notices as aforesaid had been generally given and distributed ; and that a very numerous body of the Freeholders of the County had assembled at the Court-House at the *White-Plains*, on the said eleventh day of *April* instant, in pursuance thereof, and chose Colonel *Lewis Morris* for their Chairman. That an inconsiderable number of persons, (among whom were many tenants not entitled to a vote,) with *Isaac Wilkins*, Esquire, and Colonel *Philipse* at their head, then appeared ; and Mr. *Wilkins*, in their behalf, as he said, declared that they would not join in the business of the day, or have any thing to do with Deputies or Congresses ; but that they came there for the sole purpose of protesting against such illegal and unconstitutional proceedings ; after which they departed.

That the following question was then put to the Freeholders by the Chairman, viz : Whether they would appoint Deputies for the County of *Westchester*, to meet the Deputies of the other Counties at the City of *New-York*, on the twentieth day of *April* then instant, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent this Colony in the General Congress to be held at *Philadelphia*, on the tenth day of *May* next ? That the Freeholders then there met unanimously answered in the affirmative ; and thereupon appointed the said Colonel *Lewis Morris*, Mr. *Stephen Ward*, *Samuel Drake*, Esquire, *John Thomas*, Junior, Esquire, *Robert Graham*, Esquire, and Major *Philip Van Cortlandt*, together with Colonel *James Holmes* and *Jonathan Platt*, Esquire, or the majority of them, to be the Deputies of the said County of *Westchester*, for the purposes aforesaid.

The same Credentials being read and heard, and accepted by this Convention, are now filed with the Secretary.

The Deputies for *King's* County produced here proceedings of a meeting of the several Committees chosen by the Freeholders of the Townships of *Flatbush*, *Brookland*, *Bushwick*, *New-Utrecht*, and *Gravesend*, held at the County Hall, in *Flatbush*, in *King's* County, on the fifteenth day of *April* instant, for the purpose of choosing Deputies to meet with the Deputies from the other Counties, at *New-York*, on the twentieth day of *April* instant, to choose Delegates to attend the Continental Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* on the tenth day of *May* next. The said proceedings, certified by *Abraham Van Ranst*, Clerk to the said several large and respectable Committees



there met, do certify, that *Simon Boerum*, Esquire, having been elected their Chairman, they unanimously resolved that the said *Simon Boerum*, *Richard Stilwell*, *Theodorus Polhemus*, *Denice Denice*, and *John Vanderbilt*, or the major part of them, be appointed, and they were thereby appointed Deputies for *King's County*, to meet the Deputies of the other Counties within this Colony, at *New-York*, on the twentieth day of *April* instant, to choose Delegates to attend the Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*, on the tenth day of *May* next.

And the same certified proceedings being now read and heard and accepted, and approved of by this Convention, are filed with the Secretary.

The Deputies for *Suffolk County* produced a Certificate, signed by *Robert Hempsted*, Chairman, at a meeting of the Committees from the different Towns in the County of *Suffolk*, held at the County Hall, on the sixth day of *April* instant, certifying that it was then and there unanimously voted and agreed, that Colonel *William Floyd*, Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Colonel *Phineas Fanning*, *Thomas Tredwell*, and *John Sloss Hobart*, Esquires, all now present, together with *Thomas Wickham*, Esquire, were then and there appointed Deputies, on the part and behalf of that County, to meet the Deputies of *New-York* and the other Counties within this Colony in a Provincial Convention at the City of *New-York*, on the 20th day of *April* instant, (as recommended in a Letter from the Chairman of the Committee in the said City,) there to unite with the other Deputies in appointing Delegates to attend the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia* or elsewhere, in *May* next. And thereby also farther certifying that the said Deputies were thereby empowered to unite with the other Deputies in Provincial Convention in entering into such Resolves, and giving such Instructions to the Delegates that shall be there chosen, as in their judgment shall tend to the preservation of the rights and liberties of *America*, and to restore harmony between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

And the said certified proceedings and appointments being read and heard, and accepted by this Convention, are now filed with the Secretary.

The Convention then proceeded to make an Order, in the words following, to wit:

It having been reported that *Mr. Isaac Low*, who appears to have been elected one of the Deputies for the City and County of *New-York*, and has not attended, does not intend to act in that capacity; and as the Convention are restrained in the appointment of Delegates to the persons of whom it is composed,

*Ordered*, That the Secretary wait upon *Mr. Low*, and request the favour of him to inform the Convention whether they are to consider him as one of their Members.

The Convention then adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning,

Die Veneris, 10 hora, A. M., April 21, 1775.

The Convention assembled at the *Exchange*, in *New-York*, pursuant to adjournment, Present:

**CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK.**—*Philip Livingston*, Esq., President, *John Alsop*, *James Duane*, and *John Jay*, Esquires, and Colonel *Leonard Lispenard*, Messrs. *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Francis Lewis*, and *Abraham Walton*.

**CITY AND COUNTY OF ALBANY.**—Col. *Philip Schuyler*, Colonel *Abraham Ten Broeck*, and *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esquire.

**ULSTER COUNTY.**—*Charles De Witt*, *George Clinton*, and *Levy Pawling*, Esquires.

**ORANGE COUNTY.**—Col. *A. Hawkes Hay*, *Henry Wisner*, Esquire, *John Herring*, Esquire, Messrs. *Peter Clowes*, and *Israel Seely*.

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY.**—Col. *Lewis Morris*, Mr. *Stephen Ward*, *Samuel Drake*, Esquire, *John Thomas*, Jun., Esquire, *Robert Graham*, Esquire, and Major *Philip Van Cortlandt*.

**DUTCHESS COUNTY.**—Col. *Morris Graham*, Major *Robert R. Livingston*, Junior, and *Egbert Benson*, Esq.

**KING'S COUNTY.**—*Simon Boerum*, Esq., Captain *Richard Stilwell*, Messrs. *Theodorus Polhemus*, and *John Vanderbilt*.

**SUFFOLK COUNTY.**—Colonel *William Floyd*, Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Colonel *Phineas Fanning*, *Thomas Tredwell*, Esquire, and *John Sloss Hobart*, Esquire.

**NEWTOWN, OYSTER BAY, FLUSHING, AND JAMAICA, IN QUEEN'S COUNTY.**—Colonel *Jacob Blackwell*, Captain *Zebulon Williams*, Messrs. *John Talman*, and *Joseph Robinson*.

*Mr. John Talman*, of *Flushing*, in *Queen's County*, produced to this Convention a Certificate, signed by *John Rodman*, Town Clerk, and by *Mr. Stephen Van Wyck*, certifying that, on the 4th day of *April* instant, after due notice had been given to the Freeholders of *Flushing*, at an annual Town Meeting, it was proposed that a Deputy should be chosen to represent the said Town at a Provincial Convention, to be held at the City of *New-York* on the 20th day of *April* instant. That after some debates the matter was put to vote, and that *Mr. John Talman* was, by a great majority, chosen their Deputy, to represent the said Town of *Flushing* in the said Provincial Convention.

*Mr. Joseph Robinson* produced to the Convention a Poll List of one hundred and seventy-six of the Freeholders of the Town of *Jamaica*, in *Queen's County*; eighty-two whereof, who, though a minority of the Freeholders of the said Town who polled on that occasion, have requested him to attend this Convention, and signify their willingness to acquiesce in the choice of the Deputies who attend this Convention for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent this Colony at the next Continental Congress.

Captain *Zebulon Williams* produced two Certificates, signed by forty-three of the Freeholders of the Town of *Oyster Bay*, in *Queen's County*, dated the 12th day of *April* instant, who, though a minority of the Freeholders who polled on that occasion, have thereby appointed him their Deputy, to attend this Convention and act on their behalf.

Colonel *Jacob Blackwell* produced to this Convention a Poll List of Freeholders of the Township of *Newtown*, whereby it appears that one hundred Freeholders in the said Town (who were all that did poll on that occasion) have elected him their Deputy to attend this Convention.

The said Certificates and Poll List being read, heard, and considered,

*Resolved*, That the Convention allows Colonel *Jacob Blackwell*, Captain *Zebulon Williams*, and Messrs. *John Talman* and *Joseph Robinson* to be present at its deliberations, and will take into consideration any advice they may offer.

Colonel *Morris Graham*, Major *Robert R. Livingston*, Junior, and *Egbert Benson*, Esquire, laid before the Convention a Certificate, signed by the respective Committees of the Precincts of *Rumbout*, *Northeast Amenia*, and *Rynbeck*, in the said County of *Dutchess*, at a meeting held by them at *Charlotte Precinct*, in the said County, on the 14th day of *April* instant, certifying that they, the said *Morris Graham*, *Robert R. Livingston*, Junior, and *Egbert Benson*, were elected Deputies to represent the said County in the Provincial Convention at the City of *New-York*, on the 20th day of *April* instant; or to represent the respective Precincts who had sent Committees to that meeting, as this Convention, from a state of facts to be laid before them, should determine.

The same gentlemen from *Dutchess County* then laid before the Convention the said state of facts, which are in the words following, to wit:

1st. That at a meeting in *August* last, held for the purpose of nominating Delegates to represent the County of *Dutchess* in the last Continental Congress, Committees attended from seven Precincts.

2d. That shortly after, a Committee was chosen in another Precinct, who approved of the proceedings of this meeting, and wrote to the Committee of Correspondence, informing them of the same.

3d. That at this meeting Messrs. *Anthony Hoffman*, *John Van Ness*, and *Egbert Benson* were constituted a Standing Committee of Correspondence for the whole County, with directions to communicate to the other Committees whatever intelligence should, from time to time, be received, with a power to call a meeting of the other Committees when they should think it expedient; and for that



purpose a place was appointed where the next meeting should be held.

4th. That immediately upon the receipt of the Letter from the Committee of the City of *New-York*, of the 16th of *March* last, Circular Letters were despatched to the several Precincts in the County, mentioning the time when another meeting would be held at the place appointed, as above.

5th. That Town Meetings, for the purpose of taking the sense of the Inhabitants with respect to sending Deputies to attend this Convention, have been held in only six Precincts.

6th. That taking the six Precincts throughout, of the persons who actually appeared and gave their voices, either for or against the measure, a majority were in favour of it.

And the said Certificate and state of facts having been read and heard, and duly considered, they were accepted of by this Convention, and filed with the Secretary.

The Secretary being then called on for that purpose, reported to the Convention that, in pursuance of their order, he yesterday evening waited on Mr. *Low*, who, in substance, informed him that, as he could not attend the Committee when the measure of having eleven Deputies for the City and County of *New-York* was in agitation, he got a friend to signify to the Committee his disapprobation of the measure, and that if he was nominated he should think himself obliged to refuse to serve; that he had afterwards published a declaration that he would not serve as a Deputy, that the City might have an opportunity to supply his place, if it was thought necessary to have eleven Deputies, and that, therefore, the Convention are not to consider him as a Member.

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Convention, sensible of the services of the Delegates from this Colony who attended the Continental Congress, in order to express their approbation of their conduct, and as a mark of the confidence reposed in them, have unanimously re-elected all of them Delegates to attend the next Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, except Mr. *Isaac Low*, who had previously declared that the Convention was not to consider him as a Member of this Convention, and is therefore ineligible.

*John Herring*, Esquire, declined attending at the next Continental Congress as a Delegate, and assigned his reasons to the Convention, which are approved of, and he is therefore excused.

*Resolved unanimously*, That five gentlemen be added, as Delegates, to those who attended the last Continental Congress, and re-elected by this Convention, and that they be chosen by ballot.

And the following gentlemen were then elected by ballot, *nemine contradicente*, viz: Colonel *Philip Schuyler*, *George Clinton*, Esquire, Colonel *Lewis Morris*, *Robert R. Livingston*, Junior, Esquire, and *Francis Lewis*, Esquire.

*Resolved, therefore, unanimously*, That *Philip Livingston*, *James Duane*, *John Alsop*, *John Jay*, *Simon Boerum*, *William Floyd*, *Henry Wisner*, *Philip Schuyler*, *George Clinton*, *Lewis Morris*, *Francis Lewis*, and *Robert R. Livingston*, Junior, Esquires, be Delegates to represent this Colony at the next Continental Congress to be held at the City of *Philadelphia* on the 10th day of *May* next, with full power to them, or any five of them, to meet the Delegates from the other Colonies, and to concert and determine upon such measures as shall be judged most effectual for the preservation and re-establishment of *American* rights and privileges, and for the restoration of harmony between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

The Convention then adjourned till to-morrow morning, eleven o'clock.

Die Sabbati, 11 hora, A. M., April 22, 1775.

The Convention assembled at the *Exchange*, in *New-York*, pursuant to adjournment, Present:

CITY AND COUNTY OF *NEW-YORK*.—*Philip Livingston*, Esquire, President, *John Alsop*, Esquire, *Leonard Lispenard*, Esquire, *Francis Lewis*, Esquire, Messrs. *Abraham Walton*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Abraham Brasher*, and *James Duane*, Esquire.

CITY AND COUNTY OF *ALBANY*.—Colonel *Philip Schuyler*, Colonel *Abraham Ten Broeck*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esquire, and *Walter Livingston*, Esquire.

ULSTER COUNTY.—*Charles De Witt*, *George Clinton*, and *Levy Pawling*, Esquires.

ORANGE COUNTY.—Colonel *A. Hawkes Hay*, *Henry Wisner*, Esquire, *John Herring*, Esquire, Messrs. *Peter Clowes*, and *Israel Seely*.

DUTCHESS COUNTY.—*Robert R. Livingston*, Jun., Esquire, Colonel *Morris Graham*, and *Egbert Benson*, Esquire.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.—Colonel *Lewis Morris*, *John Thomas*, Jun., Esquire, *Robert Graham*, Esquire, Major *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *Samuel Drake*, Esquire, and Mr. *Stephen Ward*.

KING'S COUNTY.—*Simon Boerum*, Esquire, and *John Vanderbilt*.

SUFFOLK COUNTY.—Colonel *William Floyd*, Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Colonel *Phineas Fanning*, *John Sloss Hobart*, Esquire, and *Thomas Tredwell*, Esquire.

NEWTOWN, OYSTER BAY, FLUSHING, AND JAMAICA, IN QUEEN'S COUNTY.—Colonel *Joseph Blackwell*, *Zebulon Williams*, Esquire, Messrs. *John Talman*, and *Joseph Robinson*.

A Draft of Credentials for the Delegates of this Colony, elected and appointed to attend at the next Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, being read and approved, was agreed to, and is in the words following, to wit:

At a Provincial Convention, formed of Deputies from the City and County of *New-York*, the City and County of *Albany*, and the Counties of *Dutchess*, *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Westchester*, *King's*, and *Suffolk*, held at the City of *New-York* the twenty-second day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, for the purpose of appointing Delegates to represent the Colony of *New-York* in the next Continental Congress, to be held at the City of *Philadelphia* on the tenth day of *May* next, *Philip Livingston*, Esquire, *James Duane*, *John Alsop*, *John Jay*, *Simon Boerum*, *William Floyd*, *Henry Wisner*, *Philip Schuyler*, *George Clinton*, *Lewis Morris*, *Francis Lewis*, and *Robert R. Livingston*, Jun., Esquires, were unanimously elected Delegates to represent this Colony at such Congress, with full power to them, or any five of them, to meet the Delegates from the other Colonies, and to concert and determine upon such measures as shall be judged most effectual for the preservation and re-establishment of *American* rights and privileges, and for the restoration of harmony between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

*Ordered*, That the same be subscribed by the Members of this Convention, and that fair copies be made of the Resolutions of this Convention appointing the Delegates, as also a list of the Deputies who attended thereat, and that the same be signed by the President, and published in the *New-York* Newspapers.

*Ordered*, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the Secretary for his services on this occasion; which was accordingly done.

|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| PHILIP LIVINGSTON, | LEWIS MORRIS,          |
| JOHN ALSOP,        | JOHN THOMAS, JUN.,     |
| JAMES DUANE,       | ROBERT GRAHAM,         |
| FRANCIS LEWIS,     | P. VAN CORTLANDT,      |
| ABRAHAM WALTON,    | SAMUEL DRAKE,          |
| ISAAC ROOSEVELT,   | STEPHEN WARD,          |
| ALEX. MCDUGALL,    | MORRIS GRAHAM,         |
| ABRAHAM BRASHER,   | R. R. LIVINGSTON, JR., |
| LEONARD LISPENARD, | EGBERT BENSON,         |
| PHILIP SCHUYLER,   | SIMON BOERUM,          |
| ABM. TEN BROECK,   | JOHN VANDERBILT,       |
| ABM. YATES, JUN.,  | WILLIAM FLOYD,         |
| WALTER LIVINGSTON, | NATHANIEL WOODHULL,    |
| CHARLES DE WITT,   | PHINEAS FANNING,       |
| GEORGE CLINTON,    | JOHN SLOSS HOBART,     |
| LEVY PAWLING,      | THOMAS TREDWELL,       |
| A. HAWKES HAY,     | ZEBULON WILLIAMS,      |
| HENRY WISNER,      | JACOB BLACKWELL,       |
| PETER CLOWES,      | JOHN TALMAN,           |
| ISRAEL SEELY,      | JOSEPH ROBINSON.       |
| JOHN HERRING,      |                        |



ATTACK ON THE INHABITANTS OF MASSACHUSETTS BY  
THE BRITISH TROOPS.

Portsmouth New-Hampshire, April 20, 1775.

Early this morning we were alarmed with an Express from *Newburyport*, with the following Letter to the Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence in this Town:

Newburyport, April 19, 1775.

SIR: This Town has been in a continual alarm since mid-day, with reports of the Troops having marched out of *Boston* to make some attack in the country. The reports in general concur, in part, in having been at *Lexington*. And it is very generally said they have been at *Concord*. We sent off an express this afternoon, who went as far as *Simons's* at *Danvers*, before he could get information that he thought might be depended upon. He there met two or three gentlemen who affirmed, the regular Troops and our men had been engaged chief of the morning, and that it is supposed we had twenty-five thousand men engaged against four thousand Regulars; that the Regulars had begun a retreat. Our men here are setting off immediately. And as the sword is now drawn, and first drawn on the side of the Troops, we scruple not you will give the readiest and fullest assistance in your power. And send this information further on.

In behalf of the Committee for this Town.

Your humble servant, JAMES HUDSON, *Chairman*.

LETTER FROM BOSTON TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK,  
DATED APRIL 19, 1775.

I have taken up my pen to inform you, that last night about eleven o'clock, one thousand of the best Troops, in a very secret manner, embarked on board a number of Boats at the bottom of the Common, and went up *Cambridge River*, and landed.

In the mean time they stopped every person from going over the *Neck*, or any Ferry; but we soon found a way to get some men to alarm the country. From thence they marched to *Lexington*, where they saw a number of men exercising. They ordered them to disperse, and immediately fired on them, killed eight men on the spot, and marched to *Concord*. This alarmed the country so, that it seemed as if men came down from the clouds. This news coming to Town, the General sent out another thousand men, with a large train of artillery. In the mean time, those Troops at *Concord* had set fire to the Court-House there. We then had our men collected, so that an engagement immediately ensued, and the King's Troops retreated very fast, until they were reinforced with the last one thousand that the General sent; but they did not stand long before the whole body gave way, and retreated very fast. Our men kept up at their heels, loading and firing till they got to *Charlestown*, when our men thought it not prudent to proceed any farther, fearing the Ships-of-War would be ordered to fire on *Boston* and *Charlestown*. They have gained a complete victory; and, by the best information I can get, most of the officers and soldiers are cut off. There were two wagons, one loaded with powder and ball, and the other with provisions, guarded by seventeen men and an officer going to the Army, when six of our men waylaid them, killed two, wounded two, and took the officer prisoner; the others took to the woods, and we brought off the wagons. The engagement began about twelve o'clock, and continued until seven; in the mean time they retreated twenty miles.

I have endeavoured to give you a few of the particulars, as near as I am able, considering the situation we are in, not knowing but the Troops may have liberty to turn their revenge on us. We have now at least ten thousand men round this Town. It has been a most distressing day with us; but I pray *God* we may never have reason to be called to such another.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN NEAR PHILADELPHIA, DATED BOSTON, APRIL 20, 1775.

Yesterday produced a scene the most shocking that *New-England* ever beheld. Last *Saturday* P. M., orders were sent to the several Regiments quartered here, not to let their Grenadiers or Light-Infantry do any duty till farther orders; upon which the inhabitants conjectured that

some secret expedition was on foot, and, being upon the look-out, they observed those bodies on the move between ten and eleven o'clock on *Tuesday* night, observing a perfect silence in their march, towards the point opposite to *Phipps's* farm, where boats were in waiting, that conveyed them over. The men appointed to alarm the country on such occasions got over by stealth as early as the Troops, and took their different routes.

The first advice we had was about eight o'clock in the morning, when it was reported that the Troops had fired upon and killed five men in *Lexington*; previous to which an officer came express to his Excellency General *Gage*, when, between eight and nine o'clock, a Brigade marched out under the command of Earl *Percy*, consisting of the Marines, the *Welsh* Fusileers, the Fourth, and Forty-seventh, and Thirty-eighth Regiments, and two fieldpieces. About twelve o'clock it was given out by the General's Aid-de-Camp that no person was killed, and that a single gun had not been fired, which report was variously believed; but, between one and two o'clock, certain accounts came that eight were killed outright, and fourteen wounded of the inhabitants of *Lexington*. Those people, it seems, to the number of about forty, were drawn out early in the morning near the Meeting-House to exercise; upon which the party of Light-Infantry and Grenadiers, to the number of about eight hundred, came up to them, and ordered them to disperse. The commander replied that they were innocently amusing themselves with exercise, that they had not any ammunition with them, and therefore should not molest or disturb them. This answer not satisfying, the Troops fired upon them, and killed three or four; the others took to their heels, and the Troops continued to fire. A few took refuge in the Meeting-House, when the soldiers shoved up the windows, pointed their guns in, and killed three there. This is the best account I can learn of the beginning of the fatal day, and you must naturally suppose that such a piece of cruelty would rouse the Country.

The Troops continued their march to *Concord*, entered the Town, and refreshed themselves in the Meeting-House and Town-House. In the latter place they found some ammunition and stores belonging to the country, which finding they could not bring away by reason of the country people having occupied all the posts round them, they set fire to the house, but the people extinguished it. They set it on fire a second time, which brought on a general engagement at about eleven o'clock. The Troops took two pieces of cannon from the countrymen; but their numbers increasing, they soon regained them, and the Troops were obliged to retreat towards Town.

At noon they were joined by the other Brigades, under Earl *Percy*, when another very warm engagement came on at *Lexington*. The Troops not being able to stand it, where obliged to continue their retreat, which they did with the bravery becoming *British* soldiers; but the country was in a manner desperate, not regarding their cannon in the least, and followed on till seven in the evening, by which time they got into *Charlestown*, when they left off the pursuit, lest they might injure the inhabitants. I stood upon the hills in Town and saw the engagement very plain, which was very bloody for seven hours; and it is conjectured that one half of the soldiers at least are killed. The last Brigade was sent over the Ferry in the evening to secure their retreat; and they are this morning intrenching themselves upon *Bunker's Hill*, till they can get a safe retreat to this Town.

It is impossible to learn any particulars, as the communication between town and country is at present broke off; they were till ten last night bringing over their wounded, several of whom are since dead, two officers in particular. When I reflect, and consider that the fight between those whose parents but a few years ago were brothers, I shudder at the thought, and there is no knowing where our calamities will end.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BOSTON TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN NEW-YORK, DATED APRIL 20, 1775.

I have yet an opportunity of writing to you from my own house, but how long that privilege is to continue *God* only knows. Yesterday morning, or rather late in the night of the 18th, a Brigade, or four Regiments, were car-



ried from the west part of the Town, in boats of the *Man-of-War*, to *Cambridge*, from whence they marched on towards *Concord*, which is about twenty miles from hence. On their way, in passing through *Lexington*, the Troops came unexpectedly on a Company of our country people, (who are called *Minute-Men*) that were early in the morning exercising with arms, without ammunition. The Officer of the Troops is said to have ordered them to lay down their arms. The Captain replied, he was on his own ground; that his Company were without ammunition, and had no intent but that of improving in the military art. After some altercation, report says the Captain and his men turned to go off, and that the *Light-Infantry* fired on them, killed six, and wounded mortally two others. The Troops continuing their route to *Concord*, the country, by the time of their getting there, was alarmed; and our people, taking to a hill, began firing upon the Troops with about two hundred men, which number, receiving continual additions, the Troops were all the remainder of the day on their retreat to *Charlestown*, and many of the officers who have returned say they never were in a hotter engagement. Many are killed on both sides, and were left on the roads, neither side having time to collect their dead. Our people came to no regular battle, but annoyed their whole passage back. We could see the flashes, and hear the reports of the guns for hours; the warmest fire being about two miles from the Town, where only water parted us.

The marching of the Troops to the water side was so sudden and silent, that few of the inhabitants knew of it till next morning.

—  
EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BOSTON TO A MERCHANT IN NEW-YORK, DATED THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1775.

What I was apprehensive of in my last, is now confirmed. Yesterday morning the Grenadiers and *Light-Infantry* of all the Regiments in Town marched out very unexpectedly, and proceeded to *Concord*, twenty-one miles from hence; at which place the Provincial Congress sat, and where large Magazines, belonging to the Country, were collected, which were totally destroyed. This party consisted of about eight hundred men, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel *Smith*, of the Tenth Regiment. About six hours after those left *Boston*, a Brigade was ordered out, consisting of one thousand men, commanded by Lord *Percy*. These marched about sixteen miles, to a place called *Lexington*, where they met the first party returning, and who, in their first march up, had killed eight or ten men that opposed their march. Upon the Army's return, near *Lexington*, they were fired on from the woods, which was returned. Thus the engagement became general, and continued for seven hours, during which several lives were lost, and a great many wounded. It is surprising how soon the country people mustered, and in vast numbers; so much, that the Troops were obliged to retreat near twelve miles, and all this way a constant firing was kept up on both sides. The country people fired all from cover, and by this means had much the advantage of the Troops. The engagement lasted until night put an end to it. I saw a great part of it from *Beacon Hill*. They kept a constant firing until they got into *Charlestown*. The loss on the part of the Troops, from the best information, is about two hundred killed; among which there are no Officers, though many very much wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel *Barnard*, of the Royal *Welch*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Smith*, of the Tenth, are slightly wounded. Lieutenant *Gould*, of the Fourth Regiment, is also wounded. Major *Moncrieffe*, Captain *Parsons*, and Mr. *Haines*, are safe returned. The loss on the side of the Country must be considerable; at present, there is no coming to any certainty. From the preparations that are making, I think it will be soon renewed.

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EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN NEWPORT (RHODE-ISLAND) TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE, DATED APRIL 21, 1775.

Yesterday the Town was alarmed by intelligence contained in a letter, which came express from *Providence*, to the Governour, subscribed by the Lieutenant-Governour, *S. Hopkins*, *J. Jenks*, *S. Nightingale*, *J. Brown*, and about

twenty others, inhabitants of the Town of *Providence*, which says: "Our brethren of the *Massachusetts-Bay* are attacked by a body of the Regular Troops, and many friends are slain." They then request the Governour to call the Assembly, to make the necessary preparations for the common defence; to which a postscript is added, signed *Thomas Green*, that Colonel *Warren* and Doctor *Pyncham*, two Deputies from *Massachusetts* Congress, were at *Providence*, waiting to consult the Assembly on what was proper to be done. There is also another letter from *S. Hopkins* to Major-General *Potter*, a copy of which was forwarded to the Governour, and calls upon the Major-General to repair to *Providence*, to consult with Lieutenant-General *Sessions*; this says: "The King's Troops are actually engaged butchering and destroying our brethren in the most inhuman manner. The inhabitants oppose them with great zeal and courage."

Both the above letters are dated, *Providence*, April 19, 1775, at night.

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EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WEATHERSFIELD, IN CONNECTICUT, TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK, DATED APRIL 23, 1775.

The late frequent marchings and counter-marchings into the country, were calculated to conceal the most cruel and inhuman design; and imagining they had laid suspicion asleep, they pitched upon *Tuesday* night for the execution. A hint being got, two expresses were sent to alarm the Congress. One of them had the good fortune to arrive; the other (*Mr. Revere*) is missing, supposed to be waylaid and slain. In the night of *Tuesday*, the Company of Grenadiers and *Light-Infantry*, from every Regiment, were transported to *Charlestown* in long-boats, and at daybreak began their march for *Lexington*, where a number of the inhabitants were assembled peaceably, without arms, to consult their safety. The Commander called them rebels, and bade them disperse. On their refusal, he fired; killed and wounded nine. They then proceeded towards *Concord*, marking their way with cruelties and barbarity, never equalled by the Savages of *America*. In one house a woman and seven children were slaughtered, (perhaps on their return.) At *Concord*, they seized two pieces of cannon, and destroyed two others, with all the flour, &c., in store, but the people secured their magazine of powder, &c.

By this time, about four hundred (no accounts make them more than five hundred) of our men assembled, and placed themselves so advantageously, without being perceived, that when the enemy were on the return, they received the full fire of our men. A heavy engagement ensued; the enemy retreating, and our men pressing on them with constant reinforcements. At *Lexington*, they retook their two pieces of cannon, seized the enemy's wagons and baggage, and made about twenty prisoners; continuing to press the Regulars close to *Charlestown*, where they were on the point of giving up, (one account says this Brigade was almost all cut off,) but a reinforcement, under the command of Lord *Percy*, having been detached that morning from *Boston*, they joined the first detachment in the retreat, and retired with it to *Bunker's Hill*, where they intrenched, and night parted them. Our number increased, and next morning would have surrounded the hill, had it not been for the situation near the water, where, on one side, they were exposed to the fire from a *Man-of-War*.

We lost thirty men in the action. The lowest account of the enemy's loss is one hundred and fifty. Lord *Percy*, General *Haldimand*, and many other officers, are said to be among the slain. A gentleman of veracity assured me that he numbered, within half a mile from the place where the fight began, one hundred and fifty. The post confirms the same account.

We are all in motion here, and equipt from the Town, yesterday, one hundred young men, who cheerfully offered their service; twenty days provision, and sixty-four rounds, per man. They are all well armed, and in high spirits. My brother is gone with them, and others of the first property. Our neighbouring Towns are all arming and moving. Men of the first character and property shoulder their arms and march off for the field of action. We shall, by night, have several thousands from this Colony on their march.



The eyes of *America* are on *New-York*; the Ministry have certainly been promised by some of your leading men, that your Province would desert us; but you will be able to form a better judgment when you see how this intelligence is relished. Take care of yourselves; we have more than men enough to block up the enemy at *Boston*, and if we are like to fall by treachery, by Heaven we will not fall unrevengeed on the traitors; but if balls or swords will reach them, they shall fall with us. It is no time now to dally, or be merely neutral; he that is not for us is against us, and ought to feel the first of our resentment. You must now declare, most explicitly, one way or the other, that we may know whether we are to go to *Boston* or *New-York*. If you desert, our men will as cheerfully attack *New-York* as *Boston*; for we can but perish, and that we are determined upon, or be free. I have nothing to add, but am, your friend and countryman, &c.

P. S. Colonel *Murray's* son, one of the Tories, undertook to guide the Regulars in their march to *Concord*, and on their retreat was taken prisoner; but attempting to escape from our people, they shot him—a death too honourable for such a villain! They have made another of them prisoner, but I do not recollect his name; none of ours were taken.

Will Colonel *Grant* believe now that *New-England* men dare look Regulars in the face? Eighteen hundred of their best men retreating with loss, before one-third of their number, seems almost incredible, and I think must be called an omen for good. In every struggle Heaven has, as yet, given us strength equal to the day; its hand is not shortened, nor its arm weakened. We are now called upon to show the world “that whom we call fathers did beget us,” and that we desire to enjoy the blessings they purchased for us with their lives and fortunes. We fix on our Standards and Drums, the Colony Arms, with the motto, “*qui transtulit sustinet*,” round it in letters of gold, which we construe thus: “*God*, who transplanted us hither, will support us.”

New-York, Sunday, April 23, 1775.

This morning we had reports in this City from *Rhode-Island* and *New-London*, that an action had happened between the King's Troops and the inhabitants of *Boston*, which was not credited; but about twelve o'clock an express arrived with the following account, viz:

Watertown, Wednesday morning, }  
Near ten o'clock, April 19, 1775. }

To all Friends of AMERICAN Liberty let it be known:

That this morning before break of day, a Brigade, consisting of about one thousand or twelve hundred men, landed at *Phipps's* farm at *Cambridge*, and marched to *Lexington*, where they found a Company of our Colony Militia in arms, upon whom they fired without any provocation, and killed six men and wounded four others. By an express from *Boston* we find another Brigade are upon their march from *Boston*, supposed to be about one thousand. The bearer, *Israel Bessel*, is charged to alarm the Country quite to *Connecticut*, and all persons are desired to furnish him with fresh horses as they may be needed. I have spoken with several who have seen the dead and wounded. Pray let the Delegates from this Colony to *Connecticut* see this; they know Colonel *Foster*, of *Brookfield*, one of our Delegates.

T. PALMER,  
One of the Committee for Safety.

A true copy taken from the original, per order of the Committee of Correspondence for *Worcester*, April 19, 1775.

Attest,  
NATHAN BALDWIN, Town-Clerk.

Fairfield, Connecticut, Saturday, 22d April, 8 o'clock.

Since the above was written we have received the following by the second express:

Thursday, 20th April, 3 o'clock, A. M.

I am this moment informed by express from *Woodstock*, taken from his own mouth, that arrived there at 2 o'clock this afternoon, that the contest between the first Brigade that marched to *Concord* was still continuing this morning at the Town of *Lexington*, to which place said Brigade had re-

treated; that another Brigade, said to be the second mentioned in the letter of this morning, had landed with a quantity of artillery at the place where the first did. The Provincials were determined to prevent the two Brigades from joining their strength, if possible, and remain in great need of succour. The Regulars, when in *Concord*, burnt the Court-House, took two pieces of cannon, which they rendered useless, and began to take up *Concord Bridge*, on which Captain . . . , who, with many on both sides, were soon killed, then made an attack on the King's Troops, on which they retreated to *Lexington*. I am your humble servant,

EBENEZER WILLIAMS.

To Colonel *Obadiah Johnson*, *Canterbury*.

P. S. Mr. *McFarland*, of *Camfield*, Merchant, has just returned from *Boston*, by way of *Providence*, who conversed with an express from *Lexington*, who further informs, that about four thousand of our Troops had surrounded the first Brigade above-mentioned, who were on a hill in *Lexington*; that the action continued, and there were about fifty of our men killed, and one hundred and fifty of the Regulars, as near as they could determine when the express came away. It will be expedient for every man to go who is fit and willing.

The above is a true copy as received by express from *New-Haven*, and attested to by the Committee of Correspondence from Town to Town.

Test, JONATHAN STURGES, ANDREW ROWLAND,  
G. SILLECK SILLIMAN, THADDEUS BURR.  
JOB BARTRAM, Committee.

The above was received on Sunday, April 23, about twelve o'clock, by the Committee of *New-York*, and forwarded to *Philadelphia* by *Isaac Low*, Chairman of the Committee, at 4 o'clock, P. M.

LETTER FROM NEW-YORK TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED APRIL 24, 1775.

This City was alarmed yesterday by a report from the Eastward, that the King's Troops had attacked the *Massachusetts-Bay* people; the report was confirmed in a few hours after by the arrival of *St. Croix*, from *Rhode-Island*, and an express from near *Boston*. The Committee was soon called, and an express sent off to your City; as you will have particulars by him before this reaches you, I need say no more.

There were two Sloops here loaded with Flour for the Soldiers at *Boston*, by Mr. *Watts*. The people went, Sunday as it was, and unloaded them in a hurry. Towards evening they went and secured about half the City Arms; a guard of about one hundred men, I am told, was then placed at the City-Hall, to secure the rest of the Arms, and another hundred at the Powder-House; this was not done by the Magistrates, but by the people.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED APRIL 24, 1775.

I do not doubt but the interesting news from *Boston* must give every good and virtuous man much concern, that, from present appearances, a reconciliation between us and *Great Britain* is at a farther distance than we, of late, had rational grounds to hope. Surely this proceeding on the part of General *Gage* is not the olive branch held up by Government. Yesterday this whole City was in a state of alarm; every face appeared animated with resentment. Soon after the news arrived by express, many citizens went to two Transports loaded with Bread, Flour, &c., for the Troops, and they were speedily unloaded. The Committee met, and after despatching the express, considered of other matters, and will no doubt be attentive to every thing within their power to preserve the peace of the Town, and property, and all other matters tending towards maintaining the character of a sister Colony that feels for another in distress. Many persons of influence, who have been thought inimical to the cause, now come out boldly and declare their sentiments worthy of themselves. Indeed the difference of sentiment has not been much; party views kept men of weight asunder; it is hoped that will subside more and more.



New-York, April 25, 1775.

This day, about noon, arrived a second express from *New-England*, with the following important advices:

Wallingford, Monday, April 24, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Wadsworth* was over in this place most of yesterday, and has ordered twenty men out of each Company in his Regiment, some of which had already set off, and others go this morning. He brings accounts, which came to him authenticated, from *Thursday* in the afternoon. The King's Troops being reinforced a second time, and joined, as I suppose, from what I can learn, by the party who were intercepted by Colonel *Gardner*, were then encamped on *Winter Hill*, and were surrounded by twenty thousand of our men, who were intrenching. Col. *Gardner's* ambush proved fatal to Lord *Percy* and another General Officer, who were killed on the spot the first fire. To counterbalance this good news, the story is, that our first man in command (who he is I know not) is also killed. It seems they have lost many men on both sides; Colonel *Wadsworth* had the account in a letter from *Hartford*. The Country beyond here are all gone, and we expect it will be impossible to procure horses for our wagons, as they have, and will, in every place employ themselves all their horses. In this place they send a horse for every sixth man, and are pressing them for that purpose. I know of no way, but you must immediately send a couple of stout, able horses, who may overtake us at *Hartford* possibly, where we must return Mrs. *Noyes's*, and *Meloy's*, if he holds out so far. Remember, the horses must be had at any rate.

I am, in the greatest haste, your entire friend and humble servant,

JAMES LOCKWOOD.

N. B. Colonel *Gardner* took nine prisoners, and twelve clubbed their firelocks, and came over to our party. Col. *Gardner's* party consisted of seven hundred men, and the Regulars one thousand eight hundred, instead of one thousand two hundred, as we heard before. They have sent a vessel up *Mystick River* as far as *Temple's* farm, which is about half a mile from *Winter Hill*. These accounts being true, all the King's forces, except four or five hundred, must be encamped on *Winter Hill*.

At the instance of the gentlemen of *Fairfield*, just departed from hence, this is copied *verbatim* from the original, to be forwarded to that Town. ISAAC BEERS.

*New-Haven*, April 24, 1775, half past nine o'clock, forenoon. PIERPONT EDWARDS.

*Fairfield*, April 24, three o'clock, afternoon. A true copy, as received per express. THADDEUS BURR,

ANDREW ROWLAND,  
ELIJAH ABEL.

*Norwalk*, April 24, seven o'clock, afternoon. A true copy, as received per express.

JOHN CANNON, }  
THADDEUS BETTS, } Committee.  
SAMUEL GERMAN, }

*Stamford*, April 24th, ten o'clock, evening. A true copy.

JOHN HAIT, JUN.,  
SAMUEL HUTTON,  
DAVID WEBB,  
DANIEL GRAY,  
JONATHAN WARRING, JUN.

*Greenwich*, April 25, three o'clock, morning. The above is forwarded to the Committee of Correspondence at *New-York*. AMOS MEAD.

A true copy, received in *New-York*, two o'clock, P. M., Tuesday, April 25, 1775.

ISAAC LOW, Chairman *New-York* Committee.

A true copy, received at *Elizabethtown*, seven o'clock in the evening, Tuesday, April 25, 1775.

JONA. HAMPTON,  
Chairman of the Committee.  
GEO. ROSS,  
JOHN BLANCHARD.

A true copy, received at *Woodbridge*, ten of the clock in the evening, Tuesday, April 25, 1775.

NATHANIEL HEARD, }  
SAMUEL PARKER, } Three of the  
JONATHAN CLAWSON, } Committee.

The above received at *New-Brunswick*, the 25th April, 1775, twelve o'clock at night.

WM. OAKE, }  
JAS. NEILSON, } Committee.  
AZ. DUNHAM, }

A true copy, received at *Princetown*, April 26, 1775, half past three o'clock in the morning:

THOMAS WIGGIN, }  
JONA. BALDWIN, } Members of  
Committee.

The above received at *Trenton* on Wednesday morning, about half after six o'clock, and forwarded at seven o'clock.

SAMUEL TUCKER, }  
ISAAC SMITH, } Three of the  
ABRAHAM HUNT, } Committee.

*Philadelphia*, twelve o'clock, Wednesday, received, and forwarded at the same time, by

LAMB. CADWALADER, }  
WM. BRADFORD, } Committee  
THO. PRYOR, } for the City  
ISAAC MALCHER, } of Philadel-  
phia.

*Chester*, four o'clock, Wednesday, P. M., received, and forwarded by

FRANCIS JOHNSTON,  
ISAAC EYRE,  
SAMUEL FAIRLAMB.

*New-Castle*, nine o'clock, Wednesday evening, received, and forwarded.

Z. V. LEUVENIGH,  
STEPHEN SPENCER.

Wednesday night, *Christeen Bridge*, twelve o'clock, forwarded to Col. *Thomas Couch*, Esquire, who received it this moment, and he to forward it to *Tobias Rudolph*, Esquire, head of *Elk*, in *Maryland*. Night and day to be forwarded.

S. PATTERSON.

27th April, 1775, half past four o'clock, A. M., received, and forwarded to *Patrick Hamilton*, Esquire, in *Charlestown*, by

TOBIAS RUDOLPH,  
JOS. GILPIN.

*Baltimore*, April 27, 1775, received, ten o'clock, P. M. JOHN BOYD, Clerk of the Committee.

A true copy, received in *Annapolis*, Friday, April 28, 1775, half after nine o'clock, A. M., and forwarded at ten, per express.

MAT. TILGHMAN, }  
CH. CARROLL, of Carrollton, } Committee of  
CHARLES CARROLL, } Correspondence  
J. HALL, } for Maryland.  
THOS. JOHNSON, JUN., }  
SAMUEL CHASE, }

Friday, Alexandria, Eight o'clock, P. M.

We received the enclosed from *Annapolis* at six o'clock; please forward it to *Fredericksburgh*. I am, for self and the Committee of Correspondence in this place, gentlemen, your humble servant,

WM. RAMSAY.

To the Committee of Correspondence in *Dumfries*.

Dumfries, April 30, Sunday.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed came to hand this morning, about ten o'clock. In one hour I hired the bearer to convey it to your place to the different Committees. For self and the Committee of Correspondence in this place, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM CARR.

To the Committee of Correspondence at *Fredericksburgh*. By express.

Fredericksburgh, Sunday evening, half past Four.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed arrived here about an hour ago, and is forwarded to your Committee by your very humble servants,

JAS. MERCER, }  
GEO. THORNTON, } Committee.  
MANN PAGE, JUN., }  
HUGH MERCER. }

King William, May 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed arrived here to-day, and is forwarded to your Committee by your most obedient servant,

CARTER BRAXTON.

Surry County, May 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed arrived here this evening, and is forwarded by your most obedient humble servant,

ALLEN COCKE.



Williamsburgh, May 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is this moment come to hand, and I forward it to you by express, with the request of the Committee of *Williamsburgh* that you will be pleased to forward the papers to the Southward, and disperse the material passages through all your parts.

I am, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
Ro. C. NICHOLAS, *Chairman*.

Smithfield, May 3, 1775, Five o'clock in the morning.

The enclosed arrived here this morning, and is forwarded to your Committee of Correspondence by your humble servants,

ARTHUR SMITH,  
NATHANIEL BURUNE.

To the Committee of the County of *Nansemond*, or any of them. An express from *Boston*.

Nansemond, May 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is this moment come to hand, and we forward it to you by express, with the request of the Committee of *Nansemond*, and you will be pleased to forward them to the Southward.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,  
WILLIS RIDDUH,  
WILLIS CEOWPER.

To the Committee of *Chowan, North-Carolina*.

May 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed papers we have just received, and forward them by express to you, to be sent to the Southward. We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,

THE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNTY OF CHOWAN.

To the Committee of Correspondence, for the Town of *Edenton*. By express.

Edenton, May 4, Nine o'clock, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is this moment come to hand, and we forward to you by express, with the request that you will be pleased to forward the papers to the Committee of *Craven* County immediately, and disperse the material passages through all your parts. We are, gentlemen, your obedient humble servants,

JOS. BLOUNT, *Chairman*.

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| THO. JONES,      | JNO. HAMILTON, |
| CHAS. BONDFIELD, | ROBT. HARDY,   |
| JNO. GREEN,      | ROBT. SMITH,   |
| WILLIAM BENNETT, | S. DICKINSON.  |

To the Committee of *Beaufort* County.

Beaufort County, May 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is this moment come to hand, and we forward to you by express, with the request that you will forward the different papers to the Southward immediately. We are, gentlemen, your obedient humble servants,

ROGER OSMOND,  
WILLIAM BROWN.

To the Committee of *Craven* County.

Bath, May 6, 1775.

DEAR SIR: In haste have sent to request you will peruse the enclosed papers; and that you will do, by opening the packet herewith sent the moment it comes to your house. Get three or four of your Committee to write a line, and send the whole, enclosed, to the next Southward Committee, with the utmost despatch.

We are, dear sir, with regard, your most humble servants,  
WILLIAM BROWN,  
ROGER OSMOND.

To *Abner Nash*, Esquire, or either of the Committee for the County of *Craven*. Per express.

Newbern, May 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed arrived here about an hour past, and is forwarded immediately to you; and desire you will keep a copy of *James Lockwood's* letter, and send them on as soon as possible to the *Wilmington* Committee.

We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,  
SAMUEL SMITH, A. NASH,  
B. COGDELL, JOSEPH LEECH,  
JOHN GREEN, JOHN FONVIELLE,  
WILLIAM TISDALE, WILLIAM STANLY,  
THOMAS MCLIN, JAMES COOR.

N. B. We have enclosed our last paper, which gives an account of the first beginning of the battle, which please

to send to *Wilmington*, &c., and send all the bundle of papers forward as soon as possible you can.

To the Committee of *Onslow* County.

Onslow, Sunday morning, 10 o'clock, May 7.

GENTLEMEN: About an hour past I received the enclosed papers. Disperse them to your adjoining County. Keep a copy of *James Lockwood's* letter; and pray write us what to do. We are for *Onslow*.

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| WM. CRAY,    | EDWD. WARD,   |
| SETH WARD,   | ROBERT SNEAD. |
| JOS. FRENCH, |               |

Enclosed is the last *Gazette* for *Brunswick*.

To the *Wilmington* and *Brunswick* Committees.  
For *Cornelius Harnett*, Esquire, Colonel *John Ash*, or any one of the Committee for *Wilmington*. (Express.)

New River, May 7, 1775.

Received and forwarded by *William Cray*.

Wilmington, May 8, 1775, 4 o'clock, afternoon.

DEAR SIR: I take the liberty to forward by express the enclosed papers, which were received at 3 o'clock this afternoon. If you should be at a loss for a man and horse, the bearer will proceed as far as the *Boundary* House. You will please direct to Mr. *Marion*, or any other gentleman, to forward the packet immediately to the Southward, with the greatest possible despatch.

I am, with esteem, dear sir, your most obedient servant,  
CORNS. HARNETT.

P. S. For *God's* sake send the man on without the least delay; and write to Mr. *Marion* to forward it by night and by day.

To *Richard Quince*, Esquire, *Brunswick*.

Brunswick, May 8, 1775, 9 o'clock in the evening.

SIR: I take the liberty to forward by express the enclosed Papers, which I just received from *Wilmington*; and I must entreat you to forward them to your community at *Georgetown*, to be conveyed to *Charlestown* from yours, with all speed. Enclosed is the newspaper, giving an account of the beginning of the battle; and a letter of what happened after. Pray don't neglect a moment in forwarding. I am your humble servant,

RICHD. QUINCE.  
To *Isaac Marion*, Esq., at the *Boundary*.

May 8, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Though I know you stand in no need of being prompted when your Country requires your service, yet I cannot avoid writing to you, to beg you to forward the Papers containing such important news; and pray order the express you send to ride night and day.

I am, dear sir, in the greatest haste, your most obedient servant,  
R. HOWE.

*Isaac Marion*, Esq., *Boundary*.

Boundary, May 9, 1775, Little River.

GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE: I have just now received express from the Committees of the Northward Provinces, desiring I would forward the enclosed Packet to the Southern Committees. As yours is the nearest, I request, for the good of our Country, and the welfare of our lives and liberties, and fortunes, you will not lose a moment's time, but despatch the same to the Committee of *Georgetown*, to be forwarded to *Charlestown*.

In mean time, am, gentlemen, your obliged humble servant, &c.,  
ISAAC MARION.

To *Danness Hankins*, *Josias Allson*, and *Samuel Dwight*, Esquires, and Messrs. *Francis* and *John Allston*, gentlemen of the Committee for *Little River*.

Wednesday, 1 o'clock, May 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed Papers were just now delivered to me by an express from *Little River*. I make not the least doubt but you will forward them with the utmost despatch, to the General Committee at *Charlestown*.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,  
BENJA. YOUNG.

To *Paul Trapier*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee at *Georgetown*.

Half past 6, Wednesday evening.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your letter, and shall be careful to execute, with all the diligence in our power, whatever you have recommended. We send you by ex-



press a letter and newspaper, with momentous intelligence, this instant arrived. We are your humble servants,

PAUL TRAPIER, P. TRAPIER, JUNIOR,  
S. WRAGG, ANTHONY BONNEAU.

The Committee of Intelligence in *Charlestown*, to the care of the Honourable *William Henry Drayton*, Esq. Per Express.

Salem, Massachusetts, April 20, 1775.

*Great Britain*, adieu! No longer shall we honour you as our mother; you are become cruel; you have not so much bowels as the sea monsters towards their young ones. We have cried to you for justice, but behold violence and bloodshed! Your sword is drawn offensively, and the sword of *New-England* defensively; by this stroke you have broken us off from you, and effectually alienated us from you. O *Britain*! see you to your own house.

King *George* the Third, adieu! No more shall we cry to you for protection; no more shall we bleed in defence of your person. Your breach of covenant; your violation of faith; your turning a deaf ear to our cries for justice, for covenanted protection and salvation from the oppressive, tyrannical, and bloody measures of the *British* Parliament, and putting a sanction upon all their measures to enslave and butcher us, have dissolved our allegiance to your Crown and Government. Your sword, that ought in justice to protect us, is now drawn with a witness to destroy us. O *George*! see thou to thine own house.

General *Gage*, pluck up stakes and begone; you have drawn the sword; you have slain in cool blood a number of innocent *New-England* men; you have made the assault, and be it known to you, the defensive sword of *New-England* is now drawn; it now studies just revenge, and it will not be satisfied till your blood is shed, and the blood of every son of violence under your command, and the blood of every traitorous Tory under your protection: therefore depart with all your master's forces; depart from our territories; return to your master soon, or destruction will come upon you. Every moment you tarry in *New-England*, in the character of your master's General, you are viewed as an intruder, and must expect to be treated by us as our inveterate enemy.

O my dear *New-England*, hear thou the alarm of war! The call of Heaven is to arms! to arms! The sword of *Britain* is drawn against us; without provocation, how many of our sons have been fired upon and slain in cool blood, in the cool of the day! What unheard-of barbarity has been committed on the sickly and helpless grey hairs and innocent babes, by the *British* Troops! Behold the fruits of our being declared rebels by the *British* Parliament! Behold what all *New-England* must expect to feel, if we don't cut off and make a final end of those *British* sons of violence, and of every base Tory among us, or confine the latter to *Simsbury* mines. I beseech you, for *God's* sake, and for your own sake, watch against every vice, every provocation of *God Almighty* against us; against intemperance in drinking; against profane language, and all debauchery; and let us all rely on the arm of the Most High; and whether we tarry by the stuff, or jeopard our lives in the high places of the field, let us all, like good *Jehoshaphat*, address the Throne of *God*, saying, "Behold how they reward us, to come to call us out of thy possessions, which thou hast given us to inherit! O our *God*, wilt thou not judge them? For we have no might against them; neither know we what to do; but our eyes are upon thee."

We are, my brethren, in a good cause; and if *God* be for us, we need not fear what man can do. Let us be wise, be prudent, be firm, and courageous. The cause that General *Gage* has undertaken to execute, is so manifestly wrong, that he must be a terror to himself. Our blood shed by the Troops under his command, cries, and the cry will soon appear to have reached Heaven against him.

O thou righteous Judge of all the earth, awake for our help. Amen and Amen. JOHANNES IN EREMO.

Concord, Massachusetts, April 20, 1775.

SIR: The Army under General *Gage* having murdered sundry inhabitants; this, with the industrious preparations

making in *Boston* for a speedy march into the country, impresses us with the absolute necessity of convening the Provincial Congress at *Concord*, as soon as may be, agreeable to a vote of Congress at their last session. You are therefore requested immediately to repair to *Concord*, as the closest deliberations, and the collected wisdom of the people, at this alarming crisis, are indispensably necessary for the salvation of the Country.

RICHARD DEVENS, per order.

To the Members of the Provincial Congress.

THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE GOVERNOUR OF CONNECTICUT.

Cambridge, April 20, 1775.

On *Wednesday*, the 19th instant, early in the morning, a detachment of General *Gage's* Army marched into the country to *Lexington*, about thirteen miles from *Boston*, where they met with a small party of Minute-men exercising, who had no intention of doing any injury to the Regulars. But they fired upon our men without any provocation, killed eight of them the first onset, then marched forward to *Concord*, where they destroyed the Magazines and Stores for a considerable time. Our people, however, mustered as soon as possible, and repulsed the Troops, pursuing them quite down to *Charlestown*, until they reached a place called *Bunker's Hill*, although they received a very large reinforcement at *Lexington*, from General *Gage*. As the Troops have now commenced hostilities, we think it our duty to exert our utmost strength to save our Country from absolute slavery. We pray your Honours would afford us all the assistance in your power, and shall be glad that our brethren who come to our aid may be supplied with Military Stores and Provisions, as we have none of either more than is absolutely necessary for ourselves. We pray *God* to direct you to such measures as shall tend to the salvation of our common liberties. Per order of the Committee of Safety.

DOCTOR WARREN TO GENERAL GAGE.

Cambridge, April 20, 1775.

SIR: The unhappy situation into which this Colony is thrown gives the greatest uneasiness to every man who regards the welfare of the Empire, or feels for the distresses of his fellow-men; but even now much may be done to alleviate the misfortunes that cannot be entirely remedied; and I think it of the utmost importance to us, that our conduct be such as that the contending parties may entirely rely upon the honour and integrity of each other for the punctual performance of any agreement that shall be made between them. Your Excellency knows very well, I believe, the part I have taken in publick affairs; I ever scorned disguise. I think I have done my duty; some may think otherwise; but be assured, Sir, as far as my influence goes, every thing which can be reasonably required of us to do, shall be done; every thing promised, shall be religiously performed. I should now be very glad to know from you, Sir, how many days you desire may be allowed for such as desire to remove to *Boston* with their effects, and what time you will allow the people in *Boston* for their removal. When I have received that information, I will repair to Congress, and hasten, as far as I am able, the issuing a Proclamation. I beg leave to suggest that the condition of only admitting thirty Wagons at a time into the Town appears to me very inconvenient, and will prevent the good effects of a Proclamation intended to be issued for encouraging all wagoners to assist in removing the effects from *Boston* with all possible speed. If your Excellency will be pleased to take the matter into consideration, and favour me as soon as may be with an answer, it will lay me under a great obligation, as it so nearly concerns the welfare of my friends in *Boston*. I have many things which I wish to say to your Excellency, and most sincerely wish I had broken through the formalities which I thought due to your rank, and freely have told you all I knew or thought of publick affairs; and I must ever confess, whatever may be the event, that you generously gave me such an opening as I now think I ought to have embraced; but the true cause of my not doing it was the knowledge I had of the vileness and treachery of many



persons around you, who I supposed had gained your entire confidence. I am, &c.

ADAM BABCOCK TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-Haven, April 20, 1775.

SIR: I have a Brig now ready for sea, on board of which is laden twelve Oxen, bound for the foreign *West-Indies*. She was cleared out the 15th instant, and has made several attempts to sail, and once actually sailed, but by contrary winds was obliged yesterday to put back, and must unlade the Cattle she has on board, according to your Honour's Proclamation, unless the circumstances attending this matter can induce your Honour to grant a dispensation. I will use no other argument in favour of this application than this: that as the Cattle were purchased, cleared out, and shipped before the Embargo was laid, and indeed before the cause that occasioned the Embargo existed, there was consequently no intention in me to defeat the wise precaution of our Legislature, and have been so long a time on ship-board, at a great expense. Whether, under these circumstances, I may not claim, at least ask an exemption, as in my apprehension the publick will apparently sustain a greater loss through me, as an individual, from her being stopped and unloaded, (as I have neither time nor opportunity to supply the place of the Oxen with Horses before there may be danger of sending out any Vessel,) than from her proceeding to perform her voyage; especially when I assure your Honour that the nett proceeds of this Vessel and Cargo are ordered to be laid out in the *West-Indies*, and shipped home to me in certain articles which the community are in much greater want of at this unhappy period than of Cattle. I shall wait your Honour's determination by the return of the young man, Mr. *Adam Helme*, who waits on you with this; and in the mean time have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant, ADAM BABCOCK.

The Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, April 21, 1775.

This morning, between three and four o'clock, all the Gunpowder in the Magazine, to the amount, as we hear, of about twenty barrels, was carried off in his Excellency the Governour's Wagon, escorted by Captain *Collins* and a detachment of Marines from the armed Schooner *Magdalen*, now lying at *Burwell's* Ferry, and lodged on board that Vessel. As soon as the news of this manœuvre took wind, the whole City was alarmed, and much exasperated; and numbers got themselves in readiness to repair to the Palace to demand from the Governour a restoration of what they so justly supposed was deposited in this Magazine for the Country's defence. However, as some gentlemen represented the propriety of remonstrating to the Governour upon this occasion in a decent and respectful manner, the Common Hall assembled, who, after deliberating some time, waited upon his Excellency with the following Address, which was presented by the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, Recorder of this City, and is as follows:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant, Governour-General, and Commander-in-chief of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA:

The humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of WILLIAMSBURGH:

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of *Williamsburgh*, in Common Hall assembled, humbly beg leave to represent to your Excellency that the inhabitants of this City were this morning exceedingly alarmed by a report that a large quantity of Gunpowder was, in the preceding night, while they were sleeping in their beds, removed from the publick Magazine in this City, and conveyed under an escort of Marines on board one of His Majesty's armed Vessels lying at a Ferry on *James River*.

We beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that as this Magazine was erected at the publick expense of this Colony, and appropriated to the safe-keeping of such munition as should be there lodged from time to time, for the

protection and security of the Country, by arming thereof such of the Militia as might be necessary in case of invasions and insurrections, they humbly conceive it to be the only proper repository to be resorted to in times of imminent danger.

We farther beg leave to inform your Excellency, that from various reports at present prevailing in different parts of the Country, we have too much reason to believe that some wicked and designing persons have instilled the most diabolical notions into the minds of our Slaves, and that, therefore, the utmost attention to our internal security is become the more necessary.

The circumstances of this City, my Lord, we consider as peculiar and critical. The inhabitants, from the situation of the Magazine in the middle of their City, have for a long tract of time been exposed to all those dangers which have happened in many Countries from explosions and other accidents. They have, from time to time, thought it incumbent on them to guard the Magazine. For their security, they have for some time past judged it necessary to keep strong patrols on foot. In their present circumstances, then, to have the chief and necessary means of their defence removed, cannot but be extremely alarming.

Considering ourselves as guardians of the City, we therefore humbly desire to be informed by your Excellency upon what motives and for what particular purpose the Powder has been carried off in such a manner: and we earnestly entreat your Excellency to order it to be immediately returned to the Magazine.

To which Address His Excellency returned this verbal Answer:

That hearing of an insurrection in a neighbouring County, he had removed the Powder from the Magazine, where he did not think it secure, to a place where it would be in perfect security; and that, upon his word and honour, whenever it was wanted on any insurrection, it should be delivered in half an hour. That he had removed it in the night time to prevent any alarm; and that Captain *Collins* had his express commands for the part he had acted. He was surprised to hear the people were under arms on this occasion, and that he should not think it prudent to put Powder into their hands in such a situation.

#### CUMBERLAND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for *Cumberland County*, held on *Friday*, the 21st of *April*, 1775:

The Chairman recommended that the Committee should take under consideration the proceedings of the late Provincial Convention, held at *Richmond Town*, in the County of *Henrico*, from *Monday*, the 20th of *March*, to *Monday*, the 27th of the same month.

The Committee accordingly proceeded to the consideration thereof, and, after the maturest deliberation, came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That this Committee do cordially approve the Proceedings and Resolutions of the late Provincial Convention, and also recommend it, in the strongest terms, to the inhabitants of this County, to observe them in every particular, and that they use every means in their power to carry them into effect.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the most cordial thanks of this Committee, and of all the inhabitants of the County, are justly due to the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esq., and the rest of the worthy Delegates who represented this Colony in the late Provincial Convention, for the cheerful undertaking, and faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them, and for the wisdom and spirit displayed in their proceedings.

GEORGE CARRINGTON, Chairman.

#### CONNECTICUT COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE TO JOHN HANCOCK.

Lebanon, April 21, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Two of the Delegates from your Congress were with Governour *Trumbull*, and left him this morning at 7 o'clock. Writs are gone out, to call the General Assembly to meet at *Hartford* next *Wednesday*. Every preparation is making to support your Province. We have many reports of what is doing with you, the particulars we



cannot yet get with precision. The ardour of our people is such, that they can't be kept back. The Colonels are to forward part of the best men and most ready, as fast as possible, the remainder to be ready at a moment's warning. These are the present movements with us. All that we learn from you is, that a Brigade marched from *Boston* towards *Concord* last *Tuesday* evening; that they fired on a party of Provincials at that place, and that they were attacked by the Provincials, and obliged to retreat; and that General *Gage* was marching out to cover their retreat; that numbers were killed on both sides. Indeed, our accounts are so various, we know not what to rely on. We therefore have despatched Mr. *David Trumbull*, the son of Governour *Trumbull*, with orders to proceed to such place as he shall find you at, and get such intelligence as may be depended on, that we may know how to concert the measures necessary and best for us to take.

We shall anxiously expect to hear from you, and hope to have such intelligence as you may judge necessary to give us, by the return of Mr. *Trumbull*.

We are, with anxious prayers for your safety, and a happy event of this most disagreeable contest, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

WM. WILLIAMS,  
NATH. WALES, Jr.,  
JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. Per Mr. *Trumbull*.

P. S. We hope despatches will be immediately sent off from you, with most authentick accounts of the late transactions, to forestall such exaggerated accounts as may go from the Army and Navy; it may prevent harsh measures, and strengthen the hands of our friends in *Britain*. We hint this step, and dare say no hints, however free, at such a time as this, will be taken amiss.

COMMITTEE OF NEWBURYPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Newburyport, April 21, 1775.

SIR: We have sent forward the bearer, to have your orders with all possible despatch by his return, whether the forces that are coming from the Province of *New-Hampshire*, and from the eastern parts of our Province, who, by expresses, are hastening along, should be sent back, especially those who live near the sea-shore. We are well informed numbers passed our River yesterday, at the upper Ferries, besides four Companies through this Town, on their way to you. We shall follow your directions, and, if ordered, take care to find expresses as far Eastward as necessary. We have a party of men from this Town (upwards of one hundred) upon their march to you. If they are not wanted, and you think proper, you can order our express to turn them back. We sent off last evening two field-pieces to you; if not wanted, they may be of some use here. We would be glad of your directions by our next Express, or by any safe opportunity, as soon as you can attend, how we shall act in case any Cutters should come in here, more especially if they bring land forces with them. If provisions of any sort are wanted, give us an account what sort, and we will forward what we are able, with all despatch. If, in giving answers to these inquiries, it be necessary for you to give any private information, please to direct to *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquire, sealed, and enclose it in another letter, with your information that may be communicated, sealed, to the Chairman of the Committee for this Town, by whose order, and in whose behalf, I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

B. GREENLEAF.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Cambridge, April 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: On *Wednesday*, the 19th instant, early in the morning, a Brigade of General *Gage's* Army marched into the country to *Lexington*, about thirteen miles from *Boston*, where they met with a small party of our Militia exercising, who had no intention of doing injury to the Regulars; but they fired upon our men, without any provocation, killed eight of them, and wounded two others. Then they

marched to *Concord*, where they destroyed part of our Magazines and Stores. However, our people collected as soon as possible, and repulsed the Troops, pursuing them quite down to *Charlestown*, where they encamped on a place called *Bunker's Hill*. The First Division, which consisted of about one thousand men, went to *Concord*, and the Second Division, about the same number, who took the same route, supported the First Division as well as they could, but all were obliged to retire. Our loss is supposed between twenty and thirty killed, and a few wounded. Their loss is much larger. As the Troops have now begun hostilities, we think it our duty to exert our utmost strength to save our Country from absolute slavery, and we pray you to afford us all the assistance in your power; and we shall be glad that our brethren, who may come to our aid, may be supplied with all necessary provisions and military stores, as we have no more of either than what is absolutely necessary for ourselves. We pray *God* to direct you to such measures as shall tend to the salvation of our common liberties.

We are, gentlemen, with great respect, your distressed friends and brethren. By order of the Committee of Safety.

J. PALMER.

To the Honourable *John Wentworth*, Esquire, Chairman of the Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire*. Per favour of Mr. *John Griffin*.

BENJAMIN GREENLEAF TO THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE IN HAMPTON.

Newburyport, April 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have now received information from the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, who are appointed by the Province, that they have a sufficient number of men arrived, and therefore would not have any more come from the Northward for the present, but think it needful they should be ready to guard the sea-coasts in their own neighbourhood. Pray forward this intelligence as far as may be needful, and with as much despatch as possible.

We were unhappily thrown into distress yesterday, by false accounts received by two or three persons, and spread abroad, of a number of Soldiers being landed at *Ipswich* and murdering the inhabitants. We have since heard that it arose in the first place from a discovery of some small Vessels near the entrance of their River—one, at least, known to be a Cutter—and it was apprehended that they were come to relieve the captives there in Jail.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

B. GREENLEAF.

To the Committee of Correspondence in *Hampton*.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE INHABITANTS OF BOSTON.

April 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of Safety being informed that General *Gage* has proposed a Treaty with the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, wherein he stipulates that the women and children, with all their effects, shall have safe conduct without the *Garrison*, and their men also, upon condition that the male inhabitants within the Town shall, on their part, solemnly engage that they will not take up arms against the King's Troops, within the Town, should an attack be made from without. We cannot but esteem these conditions to be just and reasonable; and as the inhabitants are in danger of suffering from the want of provisions, which, in this time of general confusion, cannot be conveyed into the Town, are willing you should enter into, and faithfully keep the engagement aforementioned, said to be required of you, and to remove yourselves, women, children, and effects, as soon as may be.

Per order.

BOSTON COMMITTEE TO DR. JOSEPH WARREN.

Boston, April 23, 1775.

SIR: The following proceedings contain the Agreement made between his Excellency General *Gage* and the Town of *Boston*. You are informed it is the earnest desire of the inhabitants, that such persons as incline to remove into the Town with their effects, may be permitted so to do without molestation, and they having appointed us as a



Committee to write to you on this subject, we hope this request will be complied with, as the Town, in a very full meeting, was unanimous in this and every other vote, relating to this matter; and we beg the favour of as speedy an answer as may be. We are, most respectfully, your obedient humble servants,

JAMES BOWDOIN, JOHN PITTS,  
JOHN SCOLLAY, EZEK. GOLDTHWAIT,  
TIM. NEWELL, ALEXANDER HILL,  
THOS. MARSHALL, HENDERSON INCHES,  
SAMUEL AUSTIN, EDWARD PAYNE.

To Doctor Joseph Warren.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN GENERAL GAGE AND THE TOWN OF BOSTON.

*Boston, ss.*

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, legally warned, on *Saturday*, the 22d day of *April*, A. D. 1775,

The Hon. JAMES BOWDOIN, Esq., *Moderator*.

The Moderator informed the Town that the present meeting was in consequence of an interview between his Excellency General *Gage* and the Selectmen, at his desire, and mentioned the substance of the conversation that passed; and also that the Selectmen, with the advice and assistance of a number of gentlemen, had prepared several votes, which they thought it might be proper for the Town to pass; and which, in conjunction with the assurances that had been given to his Excellency by the Selectmen, they apprehended, from the interview aforesaid, would be satisfactory to his Excellency: Whereupon, the Honourable *James Bowdoin*, Esquire, *Ezekiel Goldthwait*, Esq., *Mr. Henderson Inches*, *Mr. Edward Payne*, *Mr. Alexander Hill*, together with the Selectmen, viz: *John Scollay*, Esquire, *Mr. Timothy Newell*, *Mr. Samuel Austin*, *Thomas Marshall*, Esquire, and *Mr. John Pitts* were appointed a Committee to consider of this important matter, and were desired to report as soon as may be.

The said Committee made report, and, after some debate, the two following Votes passed unanimously, viz:

His Excellency General *Gage*, in an interview with the Selectmen, having represented that there was a large body of men in arms assembled in the neighbourhood of this Town, with hostile intentions against His Majesty's Troops stationed here, and that in case the Troops should be attacked by them, and the attack should be aided by the inhabitants of the Town, it might issue in very unhappy consequences to the Town: For prevention whereof, his Excellency assured the Selectmen, that whatever might be the event of the attack, he would take effectual care that the Troops should do no damage, nor commit any act of violence in the Town; but that the lives and properties of the inhabitants should be protected and secured, if the inhabitants behaved peaceably: And the Selectmen, in behalf of the Town, engaged for the peaceable behaviour of the inhabitants accordingly. In confirmation of which engagement,

*Voted*, That as the Town have behaved peaceably towards the Troops hitherto, they hereby engage to continue to do so; and the Peace Officers and all other Town Officers are enjoined, and the Magistrates, and all persons of influence in the Town, are earnestly requested to exert their utmost endeavours to preserve the peace of the Town. The Town at the same time relies on the assurances of his Excellency that no insult, violence, or damage shall be done to the persons or property of the inhabitants, either by the Troops or the King's Ships, whatever may be the event of the attack his Excellency seems to apprehend; but of which attack we have no knowledge or information whatever, as all communication between the Town and Country has been interrupted by his Excellency's order ever since the collection of the body aforesaid.

Whereas the communication between this Town and the Country, both by land and by water, is at present stopped by order of his Excellency General *Gage*, and the inhabitants cannot be supplied with Provisions, Fuel, and other necessaries of life; by which means the sick and all invalids must suffer greatly and immediately, and the inhabitants in general be distressed, especially such (which is by much the greatest part) as have not had the means of laying

in a stock of provisions, but depend for supplies from the country for their daily support, and may be in danger of perishing, unless the communication be opened: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to wait on his Excellency General *Gage*, to represent to him the state of the Town in this regard, and to remind his Excellency of his declarations in answer to Addresses made to him when the works on the *Neck* were erecting, viz: "That he had no intention of stopping up the avenue to the Town, or of obstructing the inhabitants or any of the country people coming in or going out of the Town as usual; that he had no intention to prevent the free egress and regress of any person to and from the Town, or of reducing it to the state of a garrison; that he could not possibly intercept the intercourse between the Town and Country;" that "it is his duty and interest to encourage it; and it is as much inconsistent with his duty and interest to form the strange scheme of reducing the inhabitants to a state of humiliation and vassalage, by stopping their supplies." Also, to represent to him that, in consequence of these repeated assurances of his Excellency, the fears and apprehensions of the inhabitants had generally subsided, and many persons, who had determined to remove with their effects, have remained in Town, whilst others largely concerned in navigation had introduced many valuable goods, in full confidence of the promised security. That the Town think his Excellency incapable of acting on principles inconsistent with honour, justice, and humanity, and therefore that they desire his Excellency will please to give orders for opening the communication, not only for bringing Provisions into the Town, but also that the inhabitants, such of them as incline, may retire from the Town with their effects without molestation.

The same Committee were appointed to wait upon the General with the foregoing votes.

Then the meeting was adjourned to *Sabbath* morning, ten o'clock.

*Sabbath morning, Ten o'clock, April 23, 1775.*

The Town met, according to adjournment.

The said Committee made a verbal report. Whereupon it was desired that the Committee would withdraw and reduce their Report to writing, which was accordingly done, and is as follows, viz:

"The Committee appointed by the Town to wait upon his Excellency General *Gage* with a copy of the two Votes passed by the Town yesterday in the afternoon, report: That they being read to him by the Committee, and a long conference had with him upon the subject-matter contained in the said votes, his Excellency finally gave for answer, that upon the inhabitants in general lodging their arms in *Faneuil-Hall*, or any other convenient place, under the care of the Selectmen, marked with the names of the respective owners, that all such inhabitants as are inclined may depart from the Town with their families and effects, and those who remain may depend upon his protection; and that the arms aforesaid, at a suitable time, would be returned to the owners."

Whereupon, *Voted*, That the Town accept of his Excellency's proposal, and will lodge their arms with the Selectmen accordingly.

*Voted*, That the same Committee be desired to wait upon his Excellency the Governour with the vote of the Town complying with his Excellency's proposal, and the Committee are desired to request of his Excellency that the removal may be by land and water, as may be most convenient for the inhabitants.

"The Committee appointed to wait upon his Excellency report, that they accordingly waited upon him, and read the vote of the Town, which was accepted by his Excellency; and at the same time his Excellency agreed that the inhabitants might remove from the Town by land and water with their effects, within the limits prescribed by the Port Act; and also informed the Committee he would desire the Admiral to lend his boats to facilitate the removal of the effects of the inhabitants, and would allow carriages to pass and repass for that purpose; likewise would take care that the poor that may remain in Town should not suffer for want of provision after their own stock is expended, and desire that a letter might be wrote to Dr. *Warren*,



Chairman of the Committee of the Congress, that those persons in the country who may incline to remove into *Boston* with their effects, may have liberty so to do without molestation."

The Town unanimously accepted of the foregoing Report, and desired the inhabitants would deliver their arms to the Selectmen as soon as may be.

The meeting was then adjourned to *Tuesday* morning, the 25th of *April*, ten o'clock in the forenoon, and was continued by successive adjournments to *Thursday*, P. M., the 27th of *April*, 1775, when the Town met, to receive the further report of the Committee. They reported as follows, viz:

"The Committee waited on his Excellency General *Gage*, with the papers containing the account of the arms delivered to the Selectmen, and the return made to them by the Constables of the Town relative to the delivery of arms in their respective Wards. After long conversation on the subject of the inhabitants removing themselves and effects from the Town, his Excellency being obliged to attend other business, left the affair to be settled with Brigadier General *Robinson*, who, after further conference, and reporting the substance of it to General *Gage*, returned to the Committee, and declared to them that General *Gage* gives liberty to the inhabitants to remove out of Town with their effects; and desires that such inhabitants as intend to remove would give their names to the Selectmen, and signify whether they mean to convey out their effects by land or water, in order that passes may be prepared; for which passes, application may be made to General *Robinson* any time after eight o'clock to-morrow morning; such passes to be had as soon as persons wanting them shall be ready to depart."

*Voted*, That the foregoing Report be accepted, the Town relying on the honour and faith of General *Gage* that he will perform his part of the contract, as they have faithfully performed their part of it.

Then the meeting was adjourned to *Monday* next, *May* 1, ten o'clock in the forenoon.

HENRY ALLINE, Jun., *Town Clerk, pro tem.*

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
April 23, 1775. }

*Resolved, unanimously*, That *James Sullivan*, Esquire, a Member of this Congress, be immediately despatched to the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, as a Delegate from this body, to deliver to the Provincial Congress there the following Letter; and further inform them of the present situation of this Colony, and report the effect of his mission to this Congress, as soon as possible.

Watertown, April 23, 1775.

Before this letter can reach you, we doubt not you have been sufficiently notified of the late alarming Resolutions of the *British* Parliament, wherein we see ourselves declared Rebels, and all our sister Colonies in *New-England*, in common with us, marked out for the severest punishments. In consequence thereof, General *Gage* has suddenly commenced hostilities by a large body of Troops under his command, secretly detached in the night of the 18th instant, which, on the morning ensuing, had actually begun the slaughter of the innocent inhabitants, in the very heart of the Country, before any intentions of that kind were suspected. And although the roused virtue of our brethren in the neighbourhood soon compelled them to precipitate retreat, they marked their savage route with depredations, ruin, and butcheries hardly to be matched by the armies of any civilized Nation on the globe.

Justly alarmed by these manœuvres, vast multitudes of the good people of this and the neighbouring Colonies, are now assembled in the vicinity of *Boston* for the protection of the Country. The gates of that devoted Town are shut, and the miserable inhabitants are pent up there, with a licentious soldiery, as in one common prison. Large reinforcements of the Troops under General *Gage* are hourly expected; and no reason is left us to doubt that his whole force, as soon as collected, will be employed for the destruction, first of this, and then of our sister Colonies engaged in the same interesting cause; and that all *America* will be speedily reduced to the most abject slavery, unless it is immediately defended by arms.

Unavoidably reduced to this necessity, by circumstances that will justify us before *God* and the impartial world, this Congress, after solemn deliberation and application to Heaven for direction in the case, have this day *unanimously resolved*, That it is our duty immediately to establish an Army for the maintenance of the most invaluable rights of human nature, and the immediate defence of this Colony, where the first attack is made; that 30,000 men are necessary to be forthwith raised in the *New-England* Colonies for that purpose, and that of that force 13,600 shall be established by this Colony without delay.

We have not a doubt of the virtue of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, no less engaged than ourselves in the glorious cause at stake, and equally involved in the miseries that must ensue, should it be lost. In testimony of our reliance on you, we have sent this express to give you the earliest notice of these Resolutions, and the circumstances that have necessitated them; and earnestly to request your speediest concurrence and such assistance in this most important cause, as the present urgent necessity demands, and the many former evidences we have had of the spirit and firmness of the Colony of *New-Hampshire* give us the highest reason to expect. We are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,

JOSEPH WARREN, *Pres't pro tem.*

P. S. The great confusions in this Colony prevent our being able to send with this letter such depositions as might give full and particular information of the facts above referred to; but measures are taking for that purpose, and we shall not fail to transmit the result of them by the first opportunity.

JEDIDIAH FOSTER TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Brookfield, April 23, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: Mr. *Davidson* immediately proceeded from *Concord* to Governour *Trumbull* with the papers, as directed by the Congress; but from the then appearance of affairs he did not think proper to call the Assembly. Early on *Thursday* morning Mr. *Davidson*, with myself, set out for *Lebanon* to Governour *Trumbull*, who, about two hours before our arrival, had received the tragical narrative from Colonel *Palmer*, and cheerfully consented to call the Assembly of the Colony to be held at *Hartford*, on *Wednesday* next, ten o'clock in the morning, at which time the Delegates will attend as they were directed by the Congress. I purpose, as soon as I have discharged my trust there, to attend my duty at the Congress. Wishing the Congress may be under the special guidance and direction of Heaven, I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

JEDIDIAH FOSTER.

To the President of the Honourable Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

ANDREW M'CLARY TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Cambridge, April 23, 1775.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Being in great haste, but beg leave to give you some broken intelligence relating to the Army that is now assembled here. The number is unknown at present, and as there is a Council of War now sitting, their result is still kept a profound secret. The Army has already provided a number of Cannon, (there is more still coming,) and is providing a great plenty of warlike stores, implements, and utensils. There are now about two thousand brave and hearty resolute *New-Hampshire* men, full of vigour and blood, from the interior parts of the Province, which labour under a great disadvantage for not being under proper regulations, for want of Field Officers. In our present situation we have no voice in the Council of War, which makes a great difficulty. Pray, gentlemen, take these important matters under your mature consideration, and I doubt not but your wisdom will dictate and point out such measures as will be most conducive to extricate us from our present difficulties. The conduct of a certain person belonging to *New-Hampshire* will have a vast tendency to stigmatize the Province most ignominiously. Yesterday it was reported throughout the *New-Hampshire* Troops, that one Mr. *Espy*, who appeared in the character of a Captain at the head of a Company, had



been to the General, and received a verbal express from him that all *New-Hampshire* men were dismissed, and that they might return home; and by the insinuation of him and his busy emissaries, about five or six hundred of our men inconsiderately marched off for home. Captain *Cilley* and I were three miles from *Cambridge* when we received the intelligence, which was, to our unspeakable surprise, for us to return before the work was done. We immediately repaired to the General to know the certainty of the report, and on making application to him he told us that it was an absolute falsehood, for he never had any such thought; whereas he very highly valued *New-Hampshire* men, always understanding them to be the best of soldiers, and that he would not have any of them to depart for home on any consideration whatever till matters were further compromised; and strictly inquired for the man in order to have him confronted. We replied the man was departed, and therefore we could not conform to his request. But since, we understand that his conduct hath stopped a number of men from coming in, and some officers that tarried have sent for their men to return back. Pray, gentlemen, don't let it always be reported that *New-Hampshire* men were always brave Soldiers, but no Commanders. The desertion of those men causes much uneasiness among the remaining Troops, for we are obliged to use our utmost influence to persuade them to tarry. Gentlemen, I am, with all imaginable respect, yours and the Country's most obedient and humble servant, ANDREW MCCLARY.

#### MARYLAND CONVENTION.

At a Meeting of the Deputies appointed by the several Counties of the Province of *Maryland*, at the City of *Annapolis*, on Monday, the 24th of April, 1775, and continued, by adjournment from day to day, till the 3d of May, were present one hundred Members.

The Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, Esquire, in the chair; *Gabriel Duval* appointed Clerk.

*Resolved unanimously*, That His Majesty King *George* the Third is lawful and rightful King of *Great Britain*, and the Dominions thereunto belonging; and that the good people of this Province do owe, and will bear faith and true allegiance to our said lawful and rightful King, as the Sovereign, constitutional guardian, and protector of the rights of all his subjects.

On motion, that a Committee be appointed to prepare a draught of a Letter to the Committee of Correspondence for *Philadelphia*, acquainting them that this Convention had received from gentlemen of their Committee an extract of a letter from *New-York*, communicating the very interesting and important intelligence, that a number of Troops were ordered for that City, which was to be the place of Arms, and fortified; that all communication between that City and the Southern and Eastern Provinces, was to be cut off; that the people of that Colony were concerting means to prevent such scheme, were embodying themselves, and desired the immediate assistance of the Southward Colonies, before the arrival of the Troops; that this Convention were greatly alarmed, and deeply concerned for that Colony, and therefore desired to be acquainted with the authenticity of that account, and the particulars thereof; and that the Committee of *Philadelphia* would give this Convention as full and particular accounts of the state of the Colony of *New-York*, and of their own Province, as they possibly can; what conduct it is expected will be adopted by their Colony, and of all other matters which they may think of consequence to the general welfare of *America*.

The previous question was moved for and put, whether the above question be now put? And resolved in the affirmative.

The above question was then put, and resolved in the affirmative.

The following Letter was accordingly sent to the Committee for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*:

Annapolis, Saturday, April 29, 1775, 5 o'clock, afternoon.

GENTLEMEN: The extract of the letter from *New-York*, communicating the very interesting and important intelligence, "that a number of Troops were ordered for that City, which was to be the place of Arms, and fortified;

that all communication between that City and the Southern and Eastern Provinces, was to be cut off; that the people of that Colony were concerting means to prevent such schemes, were embodying themselves, and desired the immediate assistance of the Southward Colonies, before the arrival of the Troops," was this morning, about 10 o'clock, received, and immediately laid before the Provincial Convention now sitting.

The Convention are deeply concerned for *New-York*, and request to be acquainted with the authenticity of that account, and the particulars thereof; and that you will advise them what conduct it is expected will be held by *New-York*, your Province, and the *Jerseys*, on the very interesting and trying occasion.

By order of the Convention:

MAT. TILGHMAN, *Chairman of the Convention*.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That all Exportations from this Province to *Quebeck*, *Nova-Scotia*, *Georgia*, and *Newfoundland*, or any part of the Fishing Coasts, or Fishing Islands, and to the Town of *Boston*, ought immediately to be suspended, until the Continental Congress shall give further orders therein.

*Resolved*, That it is earnestly recommended to the inhabitants of this Province to continue the regulation of the Militia, as recommended by the last Provincial Convention; and that particular attention be paid to forming and exercising the Militia throughout this Province; and that the Subscriptions for the purposes by the said Convention recommended, be forthwith completed and applied.

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Convention, that the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, Esquire, *Thomas Johnson*, Junior, *Robert Goldsborough*, *Samuel Chase*, *William Paca*, *John Hall*, and *Thomas Stone*, Esquires, the Delegates of our Province, or any three or more of them, do join with the Delegates of the other Colonies and Provinces, at such time and place as shall be agreed on; and in conjunction with them, deliberate upon the present distressed and alarming state of the *British* Colonies in *North America*, and concur with them in such measures as shall be thought necessary for the defence and protection thereof, and most conducive to the publick welfare. And as this Convention has nothing so much at heart as a happy reconciliation of the differences between the Mother Country and the *British* Colonies in *North America*, upon a firm basis of constitutional freedom, so has it a confidence in the wisdom and prudence of the said Delegates, that they will not proceed to the last extremity, unless, in their judgments, they shall be convinced that such measure is indispensably necessary for the safety and preservation of our liberties and privileges. That, in the present state of publick affairs, this Convention is sensible that the measures to be adopted by the Continental Congress, must depend much upon events which may happen to arise; and relying firmly upon the wisdom and integrity of their Delegates, this Province will, as far as it is in their power, carry into execution such measures as shall be agreed on and recommended by the General Congress.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended that the sum of Six Hundred Pounds be raised in the different Counties of this Province by subscription, under the direction of the several Committees, in the following proportion:

In *St. Mary's* County, Thirty-Six Pounds; *Charles*, Forty-Eight Pounds; *Calvert*, Twenty-Two Pounds; *Prince George's*, Fifty Pounds; *Anne Arundel*, Fifty-Two Pounds; *Frederick*, Eighty Pounds; *Baltimore*, Fifty-Six Pounds; *Harford*, Twenty-Eight Pounds; *Worcester*, Thirty-Two Pounds; *Somerset*, Thirty-Two Pounds; *Dorchester*, Twenty-Nine Pounds; *Caroline*, Twenty-One Pounds; *Talbot*, Twenty-Four Pounds; *Queen-Anne's*, Thirty-Two Pounds; *Kent*, Thirty-Four Pounds; *Cecil*, Twenty-Four Pounds.

And that the several sums to be raised on the Western Shore be paid to Mr. *Charles Wallace*, of the City of *Annapolis*; and the several sums to be raised on the Eastern Shore be paid to Mr. *Thomas Ringgold*, of *Chestertown*, to defray the expenses of the Delegates at the ensuing Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That it is recommended to all ranks and denominations of people, to use their utmost endeavours to preserve peace and good order throughout this Province.



This Convention, deeply considering the distressed and perplexed situation of *British America*, the weakness of all human counsels, and that the hearts of all men are in the disposal of the Supreme Being, do recommend that the eleventh day of this instant may be observed throughout this Province as a day of fasting and humiliation; and that the inhabitants of this Province, on that day, in an especial manner, by prayer and supplication, humbly and devoutly implore the blessing, support, and protection of Almighty God, for the preservation of the rights and liberties of *America*, and the restoration of peace, union, and happiness to the *British Empire*.

This Convention, taking into consideration, that the time proposed for the meeting of the next Continental Congress is near at hand, and that it is highly expedient that the Delegates of this Province should attend the said Congress as early in their session as may be, where the state of the City and Colony of *New-York*, as well as the circumstances of the other Colonies and Provinces, may be best known, and measures for the security of the City and Colony of *New-York*, as well as the safety of all *British America*, be best concerted and provided for.

And whereas, it is now altogether uncertain when an answer may be received to the Letter sent on *Saturday* last to the Committee of Correspondence in the City of *Philadelphia*; and it being necessary that the Members of this Convention should return to their respective Counties, it is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That this Convention do now rise; and it is recommended to such of the Counties in this Province, where it may be necessary, forthwith to make choice of Deputies to represent them in a Provincial Convention, to be held in the City of *Annapolis*, on *Monday*, the 22d of *May*, unless an earlier or later day should be appointed by the Delegates of this Province, or any three of them, appointed to attend the Continental Congress.

The following were received by return of the express sent by the Provincial Convention to the Committee of Correspondence for *Philadelphia*:

Philadelphia, May 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have duly received your favour of the 29th ultimo. As the accounts from *New-York* were not handed to this Committee through a channel that gave us the satisfaction we could wish; and as they were very important, we thought proper immediately to despatch some of our members to that place, in order that they might, on the spot, learn the true situation of affairs there, and what the inhabitants of *New-York* expect from the Southern Colonies. On their return, or on the receipt of any certain intelligence, we shall immediately communicate the particulars to you.

In the mean time we have to inform you, that, upon the receipt of the late intelligence, this City and County immediately took the alarm, and are arming and forming with all possible expedition; and, by accounts from the other Counties in this Province, the same spirit prevails every where; and we hope, in a short time, we shall be in a condition to unite our efforts with the rest of the Colonies.

Enclosed we send you a letter from *Newport, Rhode-Island*, which contains a particular account of the situation of affairs to the Eastward, together with some important intelligence. By order of the Committee:

JOHN NIXON, *Chairman*.

To *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., Chairman of the Provincial Convention of the Province of *Maryland*, now sitting at *Annapolis*.

Newport, April 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: You have, without doubt, before this time, heard of the bloody, savage massacre of a number of the inhabitants of *Lexington*, a Town about twelve miles northwest from *Boston*, perpetrated by a detachment of about twelve hundred of the King's Troops, and what ensued thereon. We enclose you two accounts, which may be more particular than any you have yet received. The one was brought us by a gentleman who left *Cambridge* on *Thursday* last, in the forenoon, and is contained in the handbill; the other is in the newspaper. Since we received these accounts, we have been credibly informed that the number of the King's Troops killed and taken amounts

to about three hundred, besides, many were wounded and carried into *Boston*; the number of *Americans* to about forty killed and wounded, and it is said about four or five taken prisoners. A large body of men, not less than twenty thousand, are assembled, and form a semicircle from *Charlestown* to *Roxbury*; what their plan of operation will be, is unknown. By a gentleman of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Providence*, in this Colony, who arrived here this afternoon, we are informed that the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, now sitting, have determined that a Standing Army of thirty thousand men should be raised in the *New-England* Colonies, expecting that the Southern Colonies will assist in furnishing moneys for their support. That our people had taken possession of a hill on *Dorchester Point*, which commands General *Gage's* works on *Boston Neck*, and that they had made intrenchments within gunshot of those works at *Roxbury*. That two Men-of-War had arrived at *Boston*, and brought the three Generals that have been expected; and that six thousand Troops had embarked for that place when those Men-of-War left *England*. There were not more than three hundred *Americans* in a body at any one time during the action on *Wednesday*, and they acquitted themselves with such intrepidity, as has convinced the King's Officers that *Americans* can and will fight.

All communication between the Town of *Boston* and the other parts of the Colony, being shut up, and things being in a state of confusion, renders it almost impossible to obtain any certain particular intelligence from that quarter; however, the foregoing account, we think, may be depended upon.

We had hoped that the dispute between *Great Britain* and these Colonies would have been settled without bloodshed; but the Parliament of *Great Britain*, it seems, have determined to push their iniquitous unconstitutional measures by dint of arms. The sword of civil war has been drawn by the King's Troops, and sheathed in the bowels of our countrymen. May peace, with liberty, soon present the scabbard; and may *Americans* never be obliged again to take up arms but against a foreign foe.

We hope that the union which has so remarkably taken place throughout the *American* Colonies, may acquire, if possible, greater firmness, by this unjustifiable, inhuman, murderous attack upon our countrymen; for, upon an universal firmly cemented union of the *American* Colonies, under God, depends the salvation and establishment of *American* liberty. I am, in behalf of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Newport*, gentlemen, your and *America's* sincere friend,

WILLIAM ELLERY.

To the Committee of Correspondence for the City of *Philadelphia*.

In Committee, *Philadelphia*, May 1, 1775; received per Captain *Whitman* this day, and forwarded to *Annapolis*.

J. B. SMITH, *Secretary of Committee*.

#### NEWARK (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

At a Meeting of the Committee of Observation for the Township of *Newark*, April 24, 1775, present, eighteen Members:

Mr. CALEB CAMP, *Chairman*.

The Chairman having opened the business of the meeting, and related the purport of the expresses lately received from *Boston*, the following motions were made, and agreed to unanimously:

That the members of this Committee are willing, at this alarming crisis, to risk their lives and fortunes in support of *American* liberty; and that it be recommended to our constituents to give all necessary support in their power to our brethren in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in the present alarming exigency.

That it be also recommended to the Captains of the Militia in this Township to muster and exercise their respective Companies at least once every week, and carefully to exact that each man be provided with arms and ammunition, as the Militia Law directs.

That it be requested of all heads of families and masters of apprentices, to encourage all of proper age under their



direction to learn the military exercise, and to allow them such portions of time as may be necessary to make them perfect therein.

ROBERT JOHNSTON, Clerk.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, April 24, 1775.

DEAR SIR: As the most unjustifiable hostilities on the part of *Great Britain* have actually commenced against *America*, it is thought not only prudent, but absolutely necessary and justifiable in the sight of *God* and man, to avail ourselves of every opportunity that may offer, in order to preserve our liberties and religion, as well as to prevent the effusion of blood as much as possible. Actuated by no other motives, we take the liberty of informing you of the arrival of the Packet this afternoon, in which there are despatches for General *Gage*, containing, no doubt, matters of the utmost importance to all these Colonies. It is therefore recommended to your most serious consideration, to fall on the most probable plan for intercepting them immediately on the receipt of this, as it is expected they will be forwarded very speedily, perhaps in the morning, or at farthest by noon. If they go by land from here, we think both roads ought to be strictly guarded, on the first notice of this. But as there is no arriving at an absolute certainty whether they go by land or water, we think an express ought to be directly sent as far as *Newport* and *Providence* at farthest, and every other caution taken that your prudence can dictate, and your zeal prompt you to think of. If the intelligence gained should be much better than can be reasonably expected, it may save an infinite expense and trouble to the Continent; but if otherwise, it may save the lives of thousands, by enabling the friends of this bleeding land to defeat the designs of its implacable and remorseless enemies. So that let it be viewed in either light, it appears to us to be an affair of the greatest magnitude. Perhaps it may be asked why it was not attempted here? To which, let it be observed, there is a weighty objection, which is this: the late melancholy accounts from *Boston* have had a most excellent effect in uniting the inhabitants of this City; insomuch that we have been able to stop all supplies from the Army, and get possession of the City Arms, and are now guarding the Powder and them; but should the foregoing attempt succeed or not, it is thought it would tend to throw more power into the hands of our enemies. We most ardently wish that your and our honest endeavours to serve the cause of liberty may be attended with all the success that the righteousness of the cause can entitle it to.

It is expected that the general despatches, to prevent suspicion, may be directed to some popular person in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, &c., perhaps to *Hancock* or *Adams*, &c.

*Oliver Delancy*, Junior, who is now here from *Boston* in behalf of the Army, may be the person who will carry them, in which case you are to know that he is a lusty, fat, ruddy looking young fellow, between twenty and thirty years of age. We are yours, &c.

Agreement subscribed by Captain *ARNOLD* and his Company of fifty persons, when they set out from *CONNECTICUT* as Volunteers to assist the Provincials at *CAMBRIDGE*.

To all Christian people believing in and relying on that God, to whom our enemies have at last forced us to appeal:

Be it known that we, the subscribers, having taken up arms for the relief of our brethren, and defence of their as well as our just rights and privileges, declare to the world that we, from the heart, disavow every thought of rebellion to His Majesty as supreme head of the *British Empire*, or opposition to legal authority, and shall, on every occasion, manifest to the world, by our conduct, this to be our fixed principle. Driven to the last necessity, and obliged to have recourse to arms in defence of our lives and liberties, and, from the suddenness of the occasion, deprived of that legal authority, the dictates of which we ever with pleasure obey, find it necessary, for preventing disorders, irregularities, and misunderstandings in the course of our march and service, solemnly to agree to and with each other on the following

regulations and orders, binding ourselves by all that is dear and sacred carefully and constantly to observe and keep them.

In the first place we will conduct ourselves decently and inoffensively as we march, both to our countrymen and one another, paying that regard to the advice, admonition, and reproof of our Officers, which their station justly entitles them to expect, ever considering the dignity of our own character, and that we are not mercenaries, whose views extend no farther than pay and plunder, whose principles are such, that every path that leads to the obtaining these is agreeable, though wading through the blood of their countrymen; but men acquainted with, and feeling the most generous fondness for the liberties and unalienable rights of mankind, and who are, in the course of Divine Providence, called to the honourable service of hazarding our lives in their defence.

Secondly. Drunkenness, gaming, profaneness, and every vice of that nature shall be avoided by ourselves, and discountenanced by us in others.

Thirdly. So long as we continue in our present situation of a voluntary independent Company, we engage to submit on all occasions to such decisions as shall be made and given by the majority of the Officers we have chosen; and when any difference arises between man and man, it shall be laid before the Officers aforesaid, and their decision shall be final. We mean by Officers, the Captain, Lieutenants, Ensign, Sergeants, Clerk, and Corporals; the Captain, or in his absence the Commanding Officer, to be the Moderator, and have a turning or casting voice in all debates, from whom all orders shall from time to time issue. Scorning all ignoble motives, and superiour to the low and slavish practice of enforcing on men their duty by blows, it is agreed that when private admonition for any offence by any of our body committed will not reform, publick shall be made; and if that should not have the desired effect, after proper pains taken, and the same repeated, such incorrigible person shall be turned out of the Company, as totally unworthy of serving in so great and glorious a cause, and be delivered over to suffer the contempt of his countrymen.

As to particular orders, it shall from time to time be in the power of the Officers to make and vary them as occasion may require, as to delivering our provisions, ammunition, rules, and orders for marching, &c. The annexed order for the present we think pertinent, and agreeable to our mind. To which, with the additions or variations that may be made by our said Officers, we bind ourselves by the ties above mentioned to submit.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands, this 24th of April, 1775.

GENERAL WARD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Head Quarters, April 24, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: My situation is such, that if I have not enlisting orders immediately I shall be left all alone. It is impossible to keep the men here, excepting something be done. I therefore pray that the plan may be completed and handed to me this morning, that you, gentlemen of the Congress, issue orders for enlisting men. I am, gentlemen, yours, &c.

A. WARD.

To the Hon. the Delegates of the Provincial Congress.

JOHN HANCOCK TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Worcester, April 24, 1775. }  
Monday Evening. }

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *S. Adams* and myself, just arrived here, find no intelligence from you, and no guard. We just hear an express has just passed through this place to you, from *New-York*, informing that Administration is bent upon pushing matters, and that four Regiments are expected there.

How are we to proceed? Where are our brethren? Surely we ought to be supported. I had rather be with you, and, at present, am fully determined to be with you before I proceed. I beg, by the return of this express, to hear from you, and pray furnish us with depositions of the conduct of the Troops, the certainty of their firing first, and every circumstance relative to the conduct of the Troops,



from the 19th instant to this time, that we may be able to give some account of matters as we proceed, and especially at *Philadelphia*. And I beg you would order your Secretary to make out a copy of your proceedings since—what has taken place, and what your plan is; what prisoners we have, and what they have of ours; who of note was killed on both sides; who commands our forces. Are our men in good spirits? For *God's* sake do not suffer the spirit to subside, until they have perfected the reduction of our enemies. *Boston* must be entered. The Troops must be sent away, or . . . . . Our friends are valuable, but our Country must be saved. I have an interest in that Town. What can be the enjoyment of that to me, if I am obliged to hold it at the will of General *Gage*, or any one else. I doubt not your vigilance, your fortitude, and resolutions. Do let us know how you proceed. We must have the Castle—the Ships must be . . . . . Stop up the Harbour against large Vessels coming. You know better what to do than I can point out. Where is *Cushing*? Are Mr. *Payne* and Mr. *John Adams* to be with us. What are we to depend upon? We travel rather as deserters, which I will not submit to. I will return and join you, if I cannot travel in reputation. I wish to hear from you. Pray spend a thought upon our situation. I will not detain this man, as I want much to hear from you. How goes on the Congress? Who is your President? Are the Members hearty? Pray remember Mr. *Adams* and myself to all friends. *God* be with you.

I am, gentlemen, your faithful and hearty countryman,  
JOHN HANCOCK.

Pray give me a particular answer to my queries.

To the Gentlemen Committee, &c., &c., &c.

OLIVER PRESCOTT TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Groton, April 24, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I think if an order should pass for the establishment of a Town Guard, to be kept in a prudent manner, in every Town in this Province, it would have a great tendency to deter and detect villains and their accomplices. The passes that people bring this way are generally without date, or assignment to any person or place, so that a man may pass to *Africa* with the same order. Pardon my freedom, and allow me to subscribe, gentlemen, your most obedient, very humble servant,

OLIVER PRESCOTT.

To the Committee of Safety.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE CONGRESS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

April 24, 1775.

Our friends from *New-Hampshire* having shewn their readiness to assist us in this day of distress, we therefore thought it best to give orders for enlisting such as were present in the service of the Colony, as many desired something may be done to hold them together until the resolve of your Congress is known, when we are ready and desirous they should be discharged from us, and put under such command as you shall direct. Colonel *Sargeant* has been so kind as to afford his utmost assistance in concluding this matter.

We are, &c., &c.

H. JACKSON TO COLONEL JEREMIAH LEE.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, April 24, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Although this is no time for ceremony or compliments, yet so great is the pleasure I feel on your escape from the hands of wicked and violent men, that I cannot help congratulating you. May *God Almighty* continue to be your safety and defence.

Could it be thought advisable for us to leave the sea-ports, I should long before this have been with you, at the head of a Company as good as ever twang'd a bow, inferior in military discipline to none; they are anxious and eager to be with you.

You well know that the art military has been my hobby-horse for a long time past. I have vanity enough to think that the recommendation of an immediate perusal of the enclosed volume, to the Officers in the United Army, will

not be thought impertinent at this time, considering the nature of our Country; considering the natural genius of our men, no piece could be better adapted to our circumstances.

Our men are natural partisans. Witness the *Rogers*, *Starkey*, and *Shepherd*, &c., &c. Did they not, in the last War, take the very sentries from off the walls of our enemies' Fortresses, in the heart of their Country? I can't help thinking that some Horse might be employed to great advantage, if our adversaries should ever venture abroad again. I have published some pieces on this subject in our papers, but the *New-Hampshire Gazette* can hardly be called a proper channel to convey one's ideas to the publick. Might not some of the principal parts of the *Partisan* be given in manuscript to some of our officers? Dear sir, I hope you will not construe this, my humble opinion, into impertinent dictation. We are all embarked in one cause, and from the ideas of all (though some may be simple) some things of consequence may be collected. With humble submission to the better judgment of every one, I conclude,

Your most obedient, most obliged humble servant,

H. JACKSON.

P. S. I have been in my sulky more than once to pay you a visit, but my friends have prevented me. When opportunity offers, remember me to Mrs. *Lee* and family.

As I apprehend there is not many of the books in the Country, you will make what use of this you think proper, so that I may have it again hereafter.

Yours,

H. J.

To Colonel *Jeremiah Lee*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN IN MASSACHUSETTS, DATED APRIL 25, 1775.

A steady friend to *America* called upon me this afternoon, to acquaint me with the following intelligence, communicated to him by . . . . . this day, which you may rely upon as a fact. The . . . . . said that the Administration, on *Friday*, received advices from General *Gage* to the eighteenth of *March*, wherein he acknowledges the receipt of the King's order to apprehend Messrs. *Cushing*, *Adams*, *Hancock*, &c., and send them over to *England* to be tried; but that the second orders, which were to hang them in *Boston*, he said the General had not then received. The General expressed his fears on the occasion; and in hopes of their being reversed, he should delay the execution a while longer, because he must, if the orders were fulfilled, come to an engagement, the event of which he had every reason to apprehend would be fatal to himself and the King's Troops, as the *Massachusetts* Government had at least fifteen thousand men ready trained for the onset, and, besides, had every publick and private road occupied by the Militia, so as to prevent his marching into the country, and which were, at the same time, ready to facilitate any attempt against the Army; on which unwelcome situation he earnestly wished for a reinforcement, if that disagreeable order must be effected. The General also wrote that the Standard was hoisted by the people at *Salem*, and multitudes flocked to it, which would not be the case should the Royal Standard be erected; added, that he now believed *America* would carry their point; that many of the Administration were of the same mind, and sincerely wished they had pursued more gentle measures with the Colonies. He said Lord *North* was evidently uneasy, and that Government dreaded the news by the *April Packet*; that they suppressed this intelligence from General *Gage*, because of the instant effect it would have on the Stocks. He acknowledged the Nation was ready for a revolution, if any enterprising genius would step forth, and which would certainly be the case if blood was ever drawn in *America*. He blames *Hutchinson* much, and says Administration charges him with duplicity, in telling them they ought to have been more active, and that they would have made the *Massachusetts* submit; to others, that Administration had gone much further than he advised. Be this as it may, he added that the King consults him, places a confidence in what he says, and has actually fixed his salary at two thousand Pounds per annum for life, which had much chagrined some of the Administration, who ardently wished him given



up as a sacrifice to both Countries. My intelligencer wishes, if this letter should be published, that . . . name might be omitted, as the information was confidential. I shall only add that my Country may be free if she will; and that she may have the virtue to play the man, is the aspiration of, Sir, your most obedient servant.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON, DATED APRIL 25, 1775.

We have our suspicions and fears on account of *Philadelphia* and *New-York*. If the great chain of continental connection is once broken, the consequences may prove very unhappy. It is the union of *America* which gives it strength. Any defection, especially of such important Provinces, would contribute greatly to encourage our adversaries and check the endeavours of our friends. I am not without hopes that the next Assembly of *New-York* may be composed of different members from those of the present. The Petition from the Assembly of *New-Jersey* is arrived, but Lord *Dartmouth*, on pretence that it would be improper to forward it to the King, without its being brought to him by the Agent of the Province, refuses any attention to it. When Doctor *Franklin* is here, Ministry will receive no Petition by him. When he is not here, they refuse Petitions because they are not offered by him. However, all this is in perfect unison with the rest of their conduct.

HUGH MERCER, ETC., TO COLONEL GEORGE WASHINGTON.  
Fredericksburgh, April 25, 1775.

SIR: By intelligence from *Williamsburgh*, it appears that Captain *Collins*, of His Majesty's Navy, at the head of fifteen Marines, carried off the Powder from the Magazine in that City on the night of *Thursday* last, and conveyed it on board his vessel, by order of the Governour. The gentlemen of the Independent Company of this Town think this first publick insult is not to be tamely submitted to, and determine, with your approbation, to join any other bodies of armed men who are willing to appear in support of the honour of *Virginia*, as well as to secure the military stores yet remaining in the Magazine. It is proposed to march from hence on *Saturday* next for *Williamsburgh*, properly accoutred as Light-horsemen.

Expresses are sent off to inform the Commanding Officers of Companies in the adjacent Counties of this our resolution, and we shall wait prepared for your instructions and their assistance.

We are, Sir, your humble servants,

HUGH MERCER, ALEXANDER SPOTSWOOD,  
G. WEEDON, JOHN WILLIS.

P. S. As we are not sufficiently supplied with Powder, it may be proper to request of the gentlemen who join us from *Fairfax* or *Prince William*, to come provided with an over proportion of that article.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ONE OF THE VIRGINIA DELEGATES, ON HIS WAY TO THE CONGRESS, TO A FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH, DATED APRIL 25, 1775.

The storm thickens very fast. The *New-Yorkers* have received intelligence that their Town is to be fortified, and fourteen Regiments to be sent there to cut off the communication between the Southern and Eastern Colonies; this has united them to a man in the *American* cause. They are forming themselves, and beg assistance from the Southward. This comes from the *Philadelphia* Committee. The *Bostonians* have given a good drubbing to two thousand Regulars.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At an adjourned meeting of the Committee of *Gloucester* County, at the Court-House of the said County, on *Tuesday*, the 25th of *April*, 1775, they came to the following Resolves:

*Resolved*, That as an encouragement to the manufacturing Gunpowder in this Colony, we will give a premium of Twenty-Five Pounds to any person who shall produce to the Chairman of this Committee, on or before the 25th

of *October* next, three hundred pounds of good Gunpowder made in *Virginia*, which we will purchase at the current price of that commodity; and if it shall be proved to be made wholly of the materials of this Colony, we will give an additional premium of Ten Pounds.

*Resolved*, That we will give Fifty Pounds to any person who shall produce to the Chairman of this Committee sixty pair of good Wool, and sixty pair of good Cotton Cards, on or before the 25th of *October* next, with an authentick certificate of their having been made in this Colony, and we will purchase the same at the usual price.

The Committee having received authentick information that last *Thursday* night an Officer of one of His Majesty's armed vessels, with a party of armed men, by express command of Lord *Dunmore*, privately removed the Gunpowder belonging to this Colony out of the Magazine, it was unanimously *Resolved*, That the removal of the Powder from the Publick Magazine on board one of His Majesty's armed vessels, by order of the Governour, is exceedingly alarming at this time.

*Resolved*, That his Lordship's verbal answer to the Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of *Williamsburgh* on that occasion, is unsatisfactory, disrespectful, and evasive.

*Resolved*, That his Lordship, by this and other parts of his conduct which have lately transpired, has justly forfeited all title to the confidence of the good people of *Virginia*.

*Resolved*, That the Powder ought immediately to be restored.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk send by express copies of these Resolves to each of the Printers, and they are desired to publish them in their next Gazettes.

JASPER CLAYTON, Clerk.

BEDFORD COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of *Bedford*, at the Court-House of the said County, on *Tuesday*, the 25th of *April*, 1775,

JOHN TALBOT, Gentleman, Chairman.

The Resolves of the Convention held at the Town of *Richmond* the 20th of *March*, 1775, were read:

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Committee will strictly observe and adhere to the several Resolutions of the said Convention, and will leave no means in their power unessayed to carry the same into effect.

On motion made that this Committee be dissolved,

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Committee do consider their delegation as now at an end, and that it be recommended to the Freeholders of this County to meet at the Court-House, on *Tuesday*, the 23d of next month, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent them in Colony Convention for one year, and to elect another Committee.

At which time the Freeholders accordingly met, and unanimously made choice of *John Talbot* and *Charles Lynch*, Esquires, for their Delegates. And the following gentlemen were duly elected for a Committee, (agreeable to the Eleventh Article of the General Congress,) to wit: *John Talbot*, *Charles Lynch*, *William Meade*, *Richard Stith*, *Guy Smith*, *John F. Patrick*, *James Callaway*, *Gross Scruggs*, *David Rice*, *Edmond Winston*, *James Steptoe*, *John Ward*, *John Callaway*, *William Callaway*, Jun., *John Quarles*, *Simon Miller*, *Haynes Morgan*, *William Leftwich*, *William Trigg*, and *George Stovall*.

Then the said Committee immediately proceeded to business, and entered into the following Resolves:

*Resolved unanimously*, That *John Talbot*, gentleman, be appointed Chairman of this Committee.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Alexander* be appointed Clerk of this Committee.

*Resolved*, That as Gunpowder is much wanted in this County, and finding, from experience, that every article made use of in the manufacturing (except Sulphur, of which we have not made trial) can be easily procured here, we will give a premium of Ten Pounds, current money, to any person who shall first produce to this Committee twenty-five pounds of good Sulphur, with an authentick certificate that the same was refined from materials in this Colony.

ROBERT ALEXANDER, Clerk.



TO MESSIEURS DELANCY, WHITE, COLDEN, WATTS, AND  
COOPER, OF NEW-YORK.

Philadelphia, April 25, 1775.

It appears, from a number of authentick letters from *London*, that the present hostile preparations against the *American Colonies* were occasioned by nothing but assurances from you of the defection and submision of the Colony of *New-York*. It is impossible to unfold the extensive and complicated nature of your crimes. You have defeated the attempts of the Congress to bring about a constitutional reconciliation with *Great Britain*. You have involved your fellow-subjects in *Britain, Ireland*, and the *West-Indies*, in all the distresses which must speedily fall upon them from an interruption of their Trade with *America*. But you have done more; you have unsheathed the sword of *Britain*, and pointed it against the bosom of your Country. You have held up a signal for a civil war; and all the calamities of Towns in flames, a desolated Country, butchered fathers, and weeping widows and children now lay entirely at your doors. Go now, ye parricides, to the Press of your associate, *James Rivington*, and there satiate yourselves with your triumph. But do not presume too much upon the impunity of *Bernard, Hutchinson*, and other traitors to *America*. Repeated insults and unparalleled oppressions have reduced the *Americans* to a state of desperation. Executions of villains in effigy will now no longer gratify their resentment. The blood of your unfortunate *British* and *American* fellow-subjects, who have already fallen in *Massachusetts-Bay*, calls to Heaven for vengeance against you. The injury you have done to your Country cannot admit of a reparation. Fly for your lives, or anticipate your doom by becoming your own executioners.

THREE MILLIONS.

METCALF BOWLER TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Providence, April 25, 1775.

SIR: Your intelligence to the Governour and Company of this Colony, by *Edward Rawson*, Esquire, was received by the Assembly, who were sitting in *Providence* to consult and act upon the present distresses into which your Colony and all of *New-England* are involved. You will see by the enclosed papers what we have done. Notwithstanding an exception of a very few individuals, you may be assured that the Colony are firm and determined, and that a greater unanimity scarce ever prevailed in the Lower House than was found in the great questions before them.

We pray *God* that he would be graciously pleased to bring to nothing the counsels and designs of wicked men against our lives and liberties, and grant his blessing upon our righteous contest. I am, in behalf of the General Assembly, your and your Colony's sincere friend and humble servant,

METCALF BOWLER, *Speaker*.

President of the Provincial Congress in *Massachusetts*.

TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CON-  
NECTICUT.

Providence, April 25, 1775.

SIR: I am directed by the Lower House of Assembly to inform you, that *William Bradford*, Esquire, and Mr. *Nathaniel Greene*, two of the Members of this House, are appointed "to wait upon the General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*, to consult upon measures for a common defence of the four *New-England* Colonies, and to make report to the next session of Assembly," (which will be next week at *Providence*.) at our general election.

The Assembly this day have passed an Act to raise fifteen hundred good effective men, for the service of the Colony, and the general cause. Great firmness and resolution for the defence of the common rights of this Country, most certainly prevails in this Colony; and greater unanimity was scarce ever found than was manifested in the Lower House on the great questions which came before them.

We pray *God* that he would be graciously pleased to bring to nothing the counsels and designs of wicked men against our lives and liberties, and grant a blessing upon our righteous contest. I am, in behalf of the House, your and your Colony's sincere friend and humble servant,

METCALF BOWLER, *Speaker*.

Act of RHODE-ISLAND for raising an Army of Observation.

At this very dangerous crisis of *American* affairs; at a time when we are surrounded with Fleets and Armies, that threaten our immediate destruction; at a time when the fears and anxieties of the people throw them into the utmost distress, and totally prevent them from attending to the common occupations of life—to prevent the mischievous consequences that must necessarily attend such a disordered state, and to restore peace to the minds of the good people of this Colony, it is thought absolutely necessary that a number of men be raised and embodied, properly armed and disciplined, to continue in this Colony, as an Army of Observation; to repel any insults or violence that may be offered to the inhabitants; and also, if it be necessary for the safety and preservation of any of the Colonies, that they be ordered to march out of this Colony, and join and co-operate with the Forces of our neighbouring Colonies.

It is *Voted* and *Resolved*, That fifteen hundred Men be enlisted, raised, and embodied as aforesaid, with all the expedition and despatch that the nature of the thing will admit of.

April 25, 1775.—In the House of Magistrates,

*Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That the afore-written pass as an Act of this Assembly.

By order: SILAS DOWNER, *pro Clerk*.

In the Upper House, Read the same day and concurred.

By order: JAMES CLARKE, *D'y Sec'y*.

April 25, 1775.—In the House of Magistrates,

*Resolved*, That the Military Officers throughout this Colony, or any other gentlemen who shall be willing, do forthwith enlist fifteen hundred good and effective Men, for the service of this Colony, and that each Man who shall enlist shall receive a bounty of Four Dollars, and be entitled to the monthly wages of One Pound Sixteen Shillings.

*Voted* and passed. By order:

SILAS DOWNER, *pro Clerk*.

In the Upper House, Read the same day and concurred.

By order: JAS. CLARKE, *D'y Sec'y*.

April 25th, 1775.—In the Lower House, *Resolved*, That the Speaker of this House write unto the President of the Provincial Congress in *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the Speaker of the House of Deputies in the Colony of *Connecticut*; and that he transmit to the Congress copies of the Resolutions of this House touching the matters contained in the President's Letter. By order:

SILAS DOWNER, *pro Clerk*.

In the Upper House, Providence, April 25, 1775.

We, the subscribers, professing true allegiance to His Majesty King *George* the Third, beg leave to dissent from the Vote of the House of Magistrates for enlisting, raising, and embodying an Army of Observation of fifteen hundred men, to repel any insults or violences that may be offered to the inhabitants, and also, if it be necessary for the safety and preservation of any of the Colonies, to march them out of this Colony to join and co-operate with the Forces of our neighbouring Colonies: because we are of the opinion that such a measure will be attended with the most fatal consequences to our Charter privileges; involve this Colony in all the horrors of a civil war; and, as we conceive, an open violation of the oath of allegiance which we have severally taken upon our admission into the respective offices we hold in the Colony.

J. WANTON, DARIUS SESSIONS,  
THO. WICKES, WM. POTTER.

JOHN HANCOCK TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Worcester, April 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: From a conviction of your disposition to promote the publick good, I take the freedom to request your countenance and good offices in favour of Mr. *Edward Crafts*, of this place, that he may be appointed to the command of a Company. I know him well; he is capable. I beg your attention to this; it will give great



satisfaction to Mr. *Adams* and myself, and to the people of this County—do gratify us. I also beg leave you would recommend to the notice of General *Heath*, in my name, Mr. *Nathaniel Nazro*, of this Town, who is desirous of being noticed in the Army; he is lively, active, and capable. My respects to *Heath*, and all friends. Pray General *Heath* to take notice of this recommendation. God bless you. Adieu. I am your real friend,

JOHN HANCOCK.

COMMITTEE OF BOSTON TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Boston, April 25, 1775.

SIR: We shall communicate to the Committee of Donations the advice which your letter of yesterday gave us, respecting the application of the donation money in their hands, and are much obliged for your assurances that you shall not fail to lend the inhabitants of the Town your best assistance with regard to the furnishing them with habitations in the country. They will also want a great number of Wagons to carry off their effects, which, we hope, can be had from the country, and which you will please to permit to come in. We beg leave to repeat with earnestness our desire and the desire of the Town, that those who incline to remove from the country with their effects into *Boston*, may do it without the least injury or interruption. For this purpose you will permit us to wish that you would publish proclamations or notifications that passes may be had for all such persons at *Roxbury* and *Cambridge*, and such other places as you shall please to appoint. You will have the goodness to excuse us for again soliciting that this may be done as speedily as possible. We are, respectfully, your humble servants,

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| JAMES BOWDOIN,     | SAM'L AUSTIN,     |
| EZEK'L GOLDTHWAIT, | JOHN PITTS,       |
| JOHN SCOLLAY,      | EDWARD PAYNE,     |
| TIMOTHY NEWELL,    | HENDERSON INCHES, |
| THOMAS MARSHALL,   | Committee.        |

Permission will be given for thirty Wagons to enter the Town at once, to carry away the effects of the inhabitants. So soon as those have returned to the end of the Causeway leading to *Roxbury*, then others will be permitted to come in. None will be permitted to enter till after sunrise, nor to remain after sunset. If any Vessel or Boat, now in the Harbour, be employed to remove the inhabitants' effects, security must be given that the Vessel or Boat be returned. That leave be obtained for some persons to go to the different Parishes to give notice to such persons who incline to come with their effects into *Boston*, that they may come without molestation; and it is desired that the Wagons and Vessels employed to come and carry away the Goods of the inhabitants of *Boston*, may bring the effects of those who are desirous to leave the country, they paying half the charge.

Salem, April 25, 1775.

Last *Wednesday* the 19th of *April*, the Troops of His *Britannick* Majesty commenced hostilities upon the people of this Province, attended with circumstances of cruelty, not less brutal than what our venerable ancestors received from the vilest Savages of the wilderness. The particulars relative to this interesting event, by which we are involved in all the horrors of a civil war, we have endeavoured to collect as well as the present confused state of affairs will admit.

On *Tuesday* evening a detachment from the Army, consisting, it is said, of eight or nine hundred men, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel *Smith*, embarked at the bottom of the Common in *Boston*, on board a number of boats, and landed at *Phipps's* farm, a little way up *Charles* River, from whence they proceeded with silence and expedition on their way to *Concord*, about eighteen miles from *Boston*. The people were soon alarmed, and began to assemble in several Towns, before daylight, in order to watch the motion of the Troops. At *Lexington*, six miles below *Concord*, a company of Militia, of about one hundred men, mustered near the Meeting-House; the Troops came in sight of them just before sunrise; and running within a few rods of them, the Commanding Officer accosted the Militia in words to this effect: "Disperse, you rebels—damn you, throw down your arms and disperse;" upon

which the Troops huzzaed, and immediately one or two officers discharged their pistols, which were instantaneously followed by the firing of four or five of the soldiers, and then there seemed to be a general discharge from the whole body: eight of our men were killed, and nine wounded. In a few minutes after this action the enemy renewed their march for *Concord*; at which place they destroyed several Carriages, Carriage Wheels, and about twenty barrels of Flour, all belonging to the Province. Here about one hundred and fifty men going towards a bridge, of which the enemy were in possession, the latter fired and killed two of our men, who then returned the fire, and obliged the enemy to retreat back to *Lexington*, where they met Lord *Percy*, with a large reinforcement, with two pieces of cannon. The enemy now having a body of about eighteen hundred men, made a halt, picked up many of their dead, and took care of their wounded. At *Menotomy*, a few of our men attacked a party of twelve of the enemy, (carrying stores and provisions to the Troops,) killed one of them, wounded several, made the rest prisoners, and took possession of all their arms, stores, provisions, &c., without any loss on our side. The enemy having halted one or two hours at *Lexington*, found it necessary to make a second retreat, carrying with them many of their dead and wounded, who they put into chaises and on horses that they found standing in the road. They continued their retreat from *Lexington* to *Charlestown* with great precipitation; and notwithstanding their field-pieces, our people continued the pursuit, firing at them till they got to *Charlestown Neck*, (which they reached a little after sunset,) over which the enemy passed, proceeded up *Bunker's* Hill, and soon afterwards went into the Town, under the protection of the *Somerset* Man-of-War of sixty-four guns.

In *Lexington* the enemy set fire to Deacon *Joseph Loring's* house and barn, Mrs. *Mullikin's* house and shop, and Mr. *Joshua Bond's* house and shop, which were all consumed. They also set fire to several other houses, but our people extinguished the flames. They pillaged almost every house they passed by, breaking and destroying doors, windows, glasses, &c., and carrying off clothing and other valuable effects. It appeared to be their design to burn and destroy all before them; and nothing but our vigorous pursuit prevented their infernal purposes from being put in execution. But the savage barbarity exercised upon the bodies of our unfortunate brethren who fell, is almost incredible: not contented with shooting down the unarmed, aged, and infirm, they disregarded the cries of the wounded, killing them without mercy, and mangle their bodies in the most shocking manner.

We have the pleasure to say, that, notwithstanding the highest provocations given by the enemy, not one instance of cruelty, that we have heard of, was committed by our victorious Militia; but, listening to the merciful dictates of the Christian religion, they "breathed higher sentiments of humanity."

The consternation of the people of *Charlestown*, when our enemies were entering the Town, is inexpressible; the Troops however behaved tolerably civil, and the people have since nearly all left the Town.

The following is a List of the Provincials who were killed and wounded:

CAMBRIDGE.—Killed: *William Marcy*, *Moses Richardson*, *John Hicks*, *Jason Russell*, *Jabish Wyman*, *Jason Winship*. Wounded: *Captain Samuel Whittemore*. Missing: *Samuel Frost*, *Seth Russell*.

CHARLESTOWN.—Killed: *James Miller*, and a son of *Captain William Barber*.

WATERTOWN.—Killed: *Joseph Cooledge*.

SUDBURY.—Killed: *Deacon Josiah Haynes*, *Asahel Reed*. Wounded: *Joshua Haynes, Jun.*

ACTON.—Killed: *Captain Isaac Davis*, *Abner Hosmer*, *James Hayward*.

BEDFORD.—Killed: *Captain Jonathan Wilson*. Wounded: *Job Lane*.

NEEDHAM.—Killed: *Lieutenant John Bacon*, *Serjeant Elisha Mills*, *Amos Mills*, *Nathaniel Chamberlain*, *Jonathan Parker*. Wounded: *Captain Eleazer Kingsbury*, and a son of *Doctor Tolman*.

MEDFORD.—Killed: *Henry Putnam*, *William Polly*.

NEWTOWN.—Wounded: *Noah Wiswall*.



WOBURN.—Killed: \**Asa Parker, Daniel Thomson*. Wounded: *George Read, Jacob Bacon*.

LEXINGTON.—Killed: \**Jonas Parker, \*Robert Munroe, Jedidiah Munroe, John Raymond, \*Samuel Hadley, \*Jonathan Harrington, Jun., \*Isaac Muzzy, \*Caleb Harrington, Nathaniel Wyman, \*John Brown*. Wounded: *Francis Brown, John Robbins, Solomon Peirce, John Tidd, Joseph Comie, Ebenezer Munroe, Jun., Thomas Winship, Nathaniel Farmer, Prince, a negro*.

BILLERICA.—Wounded: *John Nichols, Timothy Blanchard*.

CHELMSFORD.—Wounded: *Deacon Aaron Chamberlain, Captain Oliver Barron*.

CONCORD.—Wounded: *Abel Prescott, Jun., Captain Charles Miles, Captain Nathan Barrett*.

FRAMINGHAM.—Wounded: *Daniel Hemenway*.

STOW.—Wounded: *Daniel Conant*.

DEDHAM.—Killed: *Elias Haven*. Wounded: *Israel Everett*.

ROXBURY.—Missing: *Elijah Seaver*.

BROOKLINE.—Killed: *Isaac Gardner, Esq.*

SALEM.—Killed: *Benjamin Peirce*.

DANVERS.—Killed: *Henry Jacobs, Samuel Cook, Ebenezer Goldthwait, George Southwick, Benjamin Deland, Jun., Jotham Webb, Perly Putnam*. Wounded: *Nathan Putnam, Dennis Wallis*. Missing: *Joseph Bell*.

BEVERLY.—Killed: *Mr. Kinnym*. Wounded: *Nathaniel Cleaves, Samuel Woodbury, William Dodge*.

LYNN.—Killed: *Abednego Ramsdell, Daniel Townsend, William Flynt, Thomas Hadley*. Wounded: *Joshua Felt, Timothy Munroe*. Missing: *Josiah Breed*.

We have seen an account of the loss of the enemy, said to have come from an Officer of one of the Men-of-War; by which it appears that sixty-three of the Regulars, and forty-nine Marines were killed, and one hundred and three of both wounded: in all, two hundred and fifteen. Lieutenant Gould of the Fourth Regiment, who is wounded, and Lieutenant Potter of the Marines, and about twelve soldiers, are prisoners.

Mr. James Howard and one of the Regulars discharged their pieces at the same instant, and each killed the other.

Our brethren of Danvers who fell fighting for their Country, were interred, with great solemnity and respect, on Friday last.

The publick most sincerely sympathize with the friends and relations of our deceased brethren, who gloriously sacrificed their lives in fighting for the liberties of their Country. By their noble and intrepid conduct, in helping to defeat the forces of an ungrateful tyrant, they have endeared their memories to the present generation, who will transmit their names to posterity with the highest honour.

JAMES SULLIVAN TO JOSEPH WARREN.

Exeter, New-Hampshire, April 25, 1775.

SIR: I have this day endeavoured to execute my embassy to this Province with the greatest faithfulness. There seems some opposition here to the assistance we have expected from this quarter, but doubtless the despatches you receive with this will inform you of the determination of this Congress respecting the matter. My being a Committee from the Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*, has procured me great respect here, which has been shown by them as a body of individuals. I doubt not but there will be the same politeness shown by you towards their missionaries to our Congress.

I am, dear Sir, &c., &c.

JAMES SULLIVAN.

To Joseph Warren, Esq., President of the *Massachusetts Congress*.

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE INHABITANTS OF WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS., TO SAMUEL KELLOGG.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of *Williamstown*, on the 25th day of April, A. D., 1775, the Selectmen being Moderators of the meeting, and Ensign Samuel Kellogg was unanimously chosen a Delegate to represent this Town in Provincial Congress; and the sense

\* Those distinguished with this mark [\*] were killed by the first fire of the enemy.

of the Town was communicated to him for his instruction, as follows, viz:

That it is the sense of this Town, that we are at all times ready, as far as our circumstances will allow, to join in the common cause of *American liberty*, and to assist with our lives and fortunes, as occasion may require, to maintain our rights and liberties against all the hostile attempts to deprive us of our rights and liberties, made by the cruel and oppressive Acts of the *British Parliament*; and are always ready to bear our proportion to defend our countrymen, and to assist in repelling force by force, in such manner as the collective wisdom of the Province, in Provincial Congress convened, shall judge most expedient.

The Town Clerk being absent, the meeting ordered the Selectmen to sign in behalf of the Town.

NEHEMIAH SMEDT, }  
NEHEMIAH WOODCOCK, } *Selectmen.*

COLONEL JOHN WENTWORTH TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Somersworth, April 25, 1775, Tuesday, 6 o'clock.

GENTLEMEN: My health is such it is impracticable for me to be at *Exeter* this day; I was very ill able to attend last week. Hope you will agree on some method to prevent the Soldiers being mustered on every false alarm; otherwise we shall soon be distressed for the want of provisions. It was surprising to see the number that collected when I came from *Exeter*, at *Newmarket, Durham, Dover, Somersworth, &c.*, some of whom came to *Dover*, twenty miles or more. You must know the consequence, if not prevented.

I heartily wish the Divine direction and blessing may attend your consultations and determinations; and after assuring you I am heartily engaged in the same cause with you, am your sincere friend and most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN WENTWORTH.

To the Gentlemen of the Congress convened at *Exeter*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A MERCHANT IN LONDON, TO HIS FRIEND IN VIRGINIA, DATED APRIL 26, 1775.

We have petitioned the King, Lords, and Commons, on behalf of the Colonies, which has produced a promise to repeal the Tea Act, *Boston Port Bill*, and those of this Session of Parliament for restraining the Fishery and Trade of some of the Colonies, to *Great Britain, Ireland*, and the *West-India Islands*, provided your Assemblies will raise a Revenue, in their own mode, towards the support of Government, and to pay part of the interest, amounting to more than three-fourths of the value of all the exports to *America*, annually, for eleven years, ending at *Christmas*, 1773, of the heavy debt contracted the last war, which was begun in and carried on for the defence and protection of *America*. This, it is hoped, will restore harmony between all His Majesty's subjects on both sides the *Atlantic*; and that the Resolve to forbear exporting the produce of the industrious Planter, will be expunged and buried in oblivion. If it should be strictly adhered to in the present form, I doubt the beneficial branch of your commerce in tobacco will, in a great measure, be lost to *Virginia* and *Maryland*, as that trade will be turned into other channels, and the markets will be plentifully supplied by the *Holland, Flanders, German, Russian, and Turkey Merchants*, as it grows plentifully in all those countries, and also in *Florida*, from whence some very good tobacco has been lately imported, so that the revenues will not be diminished, and the revenge intended against Government will terminate in distressing, if not in the ruin, of the Planters and a few Merchants, there being only twenty-two houses in *London* who regularly send ships to import tobacco from *Virginia* and *Maryland*.

Having a little leisure time on my hands, I thought it expedient to lay these facts before you, knowing you can make a proper use of them, for the mutual interest of *Great Britain* and *America*. Peace cannot be restored by threats or hostilities, but may be easily obtained by treaty, which I most ardently wish for.

The Ship *Catharine*, Captain Potter, cleared out at the Custom-House at *Norfolk*, in *Virginia*, last February,



with twenty thousand five hundred staves, for *Lisbon*, where she did not go, but arrived at *Dunkirk*, and delivered her cargo, with about ninety hogsheds of tobacco, which were covered with the staves; also, it is now discovered, that two other ships have arrived with like cargoes, and more are expected at the same port. Quere, Do these ships bring their return in tea, brandy, claret, &c., to be smuggled into the Colony? What will be the consequence of this pernicious practice, time will discover.

CAPTAINS GRAYSON AND LEE TO COLONEL WASHINGTON.

Dumfries, April 26, 1775.

SIR: We have just received a letter from the Officers of the Independent Company of *Spotsylvania*, which I have herewith enclosed. We immediately called together this Company, and had the vote put, whether they would march to *Williamsburgh* for the purposes mentioned in that Letter, which was carried unanimously.

We have nothing more to add, but that we are well assured you may depend on them, either for that or any other service, which respects the liberties of *America*. We expect your answer and determination by Mr. *Davess*.

We have the honour to be your most obedient servants.

By order of the Company:

WILLIAM GRAYSON,  
PHIL. RD. FRANS. LEE.

HUGH MERCER, ETC., TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM GRAYSON.

Fredericksburgh, Virginia, April 24, 1775.

SIR: From undoubted authority, we received here this day, morning, the very disagreeable intelligence, that in the night of *Thursday* last, Captain *Collins*, Commander of one of His Majesty's Sloops of War, by command of his Excellency the Governour, assisted by a Company of Marines, carried off all the Powder from the Magazine in the City of *Williamsburgh*, and deposited it on board his vessel, which lay at *Burwell's Ferry*, about five miles below the City.

The said authority informs us that the Corporation of the City of *Williamsburgh* addressed the Governour on that occasion. The people have received no satisfaction; nor are they likely to recover the Powder, though it is so very necessary for the security of the Country.

This being a day of meeting of the Independent Company of this Town, they considered it necessary to take the matter into serious consideration, and are come to a unanimous resolution, that a submission to so arbitrary an exertion of Government, may not only prejudice the common cause, by introducing a suspicion of a defection of this Colony from the noble pursuit, but will encourage the tools of despotism to commit further acts of violence in this Colony, and more especially subject the Arms in the Magazine to the same fate as the Powder.

In these sentiments, this Company could but determine that a number of publick spirited gentlemen should embrace this opportunity of showing their zeal in the grand cause, by marching to *Williamsburgh* to inquire into this affair, and there to take such steps as may best answer the purpose of recovering the Powder, and securing the Arms now in the Magazine. To this end, they have determined to hold themselves in readiness to march from this place as Light-Horse, on *Saturday* morning; and, in the mean time, to submit the matter to the determination of yours and the neighbouring Counties, to whom expresses are purposely forwarded. We address you in the name of our Company, as its Officers, and are, Sir, your very humble servants,

HUGH MERCER, G. WEEDON,  
ALEX. SPOTSWOOD, JNO. WILLIS.

To Captain *Wm. Grayson*.

HENRICO COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Wednesday, April 26, 1775.

It appearing from the *Virginia Gazette*, of the 21st instant, that the Powder in the publick Magazine, in the City of *Williamsburgh*, deposited there at the expense of the Country, and for the use of the people, in case of invasion or insurrection, had been secretly removed, under the clouds of the night, by Captain *Collins*, of the *Mag-*

*alden* Sloop-of-War, and by order of the Governour; and the Committee having taken into their consideration the Address of the Corporation of the City of *Williamsburgh*, as also his Excellency's Answer thereunto, came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the removing of the said Gunpowder in the manner, at the time, and for the reasons given for so doing, is an insult to every freeman in this Country, a high reflection upon the respectable Corporation of the City of *Williamsburgh*, and to the last degree cruel, under their circumstances, being then threatened with an insurrection; that we consider the act itself as a determined step, tending towards establishing that tyranny we so much dread, and which the *British* Ministry, with unrelenting fury, have so long and are still endeavouring to effect. And further, that we consider it as injurious to the fame, and tending to destroy the pleasing idea we had entertained of his Excellency's regard for the happiness and true interests of this Colony.

*Resolved*, That we think it incumbent upon us to avow our sentiments upon this occasion; and while we declare our detestation and abhorrence of the act, we will use our best endeavours to procure an immediate restitution of the said Powder to the Magazine, from whence it was taken.

*Resolved*, That as we cannot rest satisfied with his Excellency's Answer to the Address of the Corporation of the City of *Williamsburgh*, that it be an instruction to the Committee of Correspondence to write to the Committee of the City of *Williamsburgh*, or to the Committee of *York* or *James City* Counties, and procure the most authentick intelligence respecting the same, and report to this Committee at their next meeting.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN BECKLEY, Clerk.

TO THE PUBLICK.

I find in Messieurs *Bradford's* Journal, "A Plan of an union of the several Colonies, &c., proposed by *Benjamin Franklin*, Esquire, and unanimously agreed to by all the Commissioners of the several Colonies, met, by order of the Crown, at *Albany*, in *July*, 1754," with the following introduction:

"The following Plan bears so strong a resemblance to that introduced into the late Congress by a Delegate from this Province, as his own, that I cannot but think it right to take the child from its putative, and restore it to real parents. Had it been produced, as undoubtedly it ought to have been, as perfect and complete as this, it is possible it would have met with a more favourable reception; but this, perhaps, would not have so entirely corresponded with the views of this gentleman, as it would have lessened his title to it, and rendered his claim to be more doubtful or liable to detection."

Having perused this introduction, I slightly ran my eye over the plan, expecting to find after it, some strictures, proving the alleged "strong resemblance" between it and the one proposed in the late Congress, but not a remark followed; the reader is left to believe the similitude upon the futile and false asseveration of an anonymous scribbler. This is a practice, of late, grown too common with a number of men, who mean to mislead and deceive, and have not even the appearance of facts or arguments to support that deception. It certainly calls for a publick reprehension, because whenever it is done, it is an insult offered to the publick, an affront to the understandings of men of sense and integrity, and, could the authors be known, they must become the objects of publick contempt.

The plan proposed in the late Congress, though offered to their consideration with the most beneficent intentions towards *America*, has unfortunately produced very mischievous effects with some folks. It has given them infinite anxiety, disgust, and distress. Why the mere proposal of a plan of union between the subjects of the same state, in order to the establishment of a permanent harmony between them, and to prevent the dreadful effects of a civil war, should produce these effects, is difficult to determine, unless it be because the plan is so replete with *American* liberty, and consequently so opposite to their frantick scheme of independency, and yet founded on such solid principles, that they know not what to do with it. It was declared



in Congress, by more than one of the Delegates, that it was "big with destruction to the Colonies," and one of them undertook, at a future day, to prove it so; but near six months have elapsed, and it is not done. We are told that it is "idle, dangerous, whimsical, and ministerial." Such are the opprobrious epithets which these angry gentlemen have bestowed upon it, but the publick is not favoured with a single argument to prove it deserving of any of them. The merits of the plan remain uncanvassed and unsullied but by their abuse, supported by their defamatory assertions only. And such is the inconsistency of human conduct, when it becomes subservient to bad designs, that we ever find it like the winds, perpetually changing from point to point, until it blows opposite blasts, and incurs the most palpable contradictions. Thus the enemies to this plan, finding their attempts to persuade the publick by their positive assertions to believe that it was something very wicked and inconsistent with the true interest of *America*, unwillingly glide into an acknowledgment of its merit. For this same plan, which not long since was pronounced idle, dangerous, whimsical, and ministerial, is now of a sudden become, instead of an "idle and whimsical plan," the real child of a truly worthy great man, and one of the first philosophers of the present age; instead of being "dangerous to *America*," it is the child of the warmest, wisest, and most zealous of the friends of *America*; and instead of being ministerial, it is the act of a gentleman the most anti-ministerial of any one living. And we are further told, in the same Journal, that it was not inserted in the Journal of the last Congress, because it would "be disgracing their records." Yet now we find that it bears a "strong resemblance to a plan 'unanimously agreed to by all the Commissioners of the several Colonies, met at *Albany* in 1754,'" and consequently entered upon their records, as worthy of the attention of all *America*. Such are the strange, capricious, and inconsistent conduct of men who have resolved to desert the paths of truth and candour.

And, as if truth and the convictions of reason were too powerful to be longer suppressed, it is at last confessed, in the introduction, that had the plan of 1774 "been produced as perfect and complete as the one of 1754, it would have met with a more favourable reception." Here again is a full acknowledgment that the former has not deserved the abuse which has been cast upon it, and that it only required to be more "perfect and complete" to entitle it to a favourable reception. It is a just observation of a great Lawyer and a Statesman, "*nihil simul et semel inceptum et perfectum est*;" that there is scarce any thing of human invention which is at first perfect; it may be concluded, without derogating from the merit of the great man who proposed it, that the plan of 1754 was, when proposed, in this state, and that it did not assume its present form until it had been canvassed by, and received the alterations and amendments of the collected wisdom of the Governours and Delegates of the several Colonies. Had the last Congress acted the same candid and impartial part agreeable to their first resolution, the last plan might have been made equally perfect. If it contained the great outlines of a rational system of union between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, it was their indispensable duty to furnish the materials wanting to finish the work within, and to complete the superstructure. And it is yet the duty of the pretended Patriots, who are wasting pen, ink, and paper, with their calumnies, to point out its defects, and propose the proper alterations and additions. And as none of them have been capable of offering to the publick any other more perfect system of union, this would certainly be acting the part of real friends to their Country, and save them from the disgrace which must attend the continued proofs they are exhibiting, of some deep-laid, dark designs, which they do not care to unfold.

But it is further alleged, that the plan agreed in the Congress at *Albany*, "bears a strong resemblance to that introduced by a Delegate from this Province, into the late Congress, as his own, and that it is but right to take the child from its putative, and restore it to its real parents." It being a matter of no importance to the publick, whether the ingenious Doctor *Franklin*, or the *Pennsylvania* Delegate, was the author of the last plan, no notice would be taken of the introduction, did not the above charge strike at the honour and candour of the Delegate. But as this is the

sole design of it, it is hoped the publick will not think it improper to have before them what may be said in vindication of his injured honour and character. A comparison of the two plans, and a just representation of his conduct at the time he proposed the last, will prove that this "strong resemblance" exists neither in the names, the matter, or substance of the plans, and were they the same, that he had no intent to assume to himself the merit which belonged to another.

1. The plan agreed to at *Albany* is properly called, in its title, "A Plan of an union of the several Colonies," &c.; and the one proposed by the *Pennsylvania* Delegate is, "A Plan of union between *Great Britain* and the Colonies."

2. The first forms a distinct inferior Legislature for the Colonies, composed of two perfect branches only, upon the same principles and model of the Legislature of *Pennsylvania*, without any incorporation or union with the *British* Legislature. But the second proposes to establish a grand *British* and *American* Legislature, by a political union and incorporation of the Representatives of the free-men of *America* with the King, Lords, and Commons.

3. By the first, the Legislative acts of the Grand Council are made subject to the negative of the King, as Representative of the *British* State, and afterwards to his negative, as one of the branches of the *British* Legislature. By the second, this negative in the Crown is rendered altogether unnecessary, and totally excluded, by a direction in one of the Articles, that the acts of the Grand Council shall be immediately transmitted for the approbation or dissent of the Parliament of *Great Britain*, before they are valid. And thus these acts would only remain subject to the negative of the Parliament, while the Grand Council would also enjoy the like negative on all the acts of the *British* Legislature which concern their general interest and welfare, either "civil, criminal, or commercial."

4. The Legislature of the first plan, and all its constituents, were to remain subordinate to the authority of Parliament, although *America* is not there represented, there being nothing either in the expressions, matter, or implications of the plan to exclude it, but, on the contrary, an express acknowledgment of that authority. But in the second, this subordination, now so much complained of, and the great object of the dispute which is likely to involve *America* in ruin, is taken away, and a remedy proposed by an union of the *British* and *American* members of the State, upon constitutional principles, by which the latter is placed on a par of power, and will enjoy the same solid security for their rights and freedom with the former; as under this plan no money can be taken from them, no taxes laid, none of their manufactures restrained, or their commerce prohibited or burthened, without their consent.

5. Thus we find that the first plan proposes no more than an union of the Colonies by a Grand Assembly of their Representatives, subject to a negative on their acts in the Crown, and afterwards to the repeal and control of the Parliamentary authority, which leaves the rights of *America* unrestored, the authority of Parliament over us arbitrary, and the essential grievances of *America* unredressed; while the latter proposes a political union of the Colonies with *Great Britain*, in which the rights of the Colonies are restored on the most solid principles of liberty; the Parliamentary authority over them modified and rendered safe and constitutional; the cause and reason of our complaints removed; and a solid foundation laid for a permanent union and harmony between the two Countries.

I could descend to many other particulars in which these plans materially differ; but this must be unnecessary, as it cannot be thought strange that they should be substantially variant from each other, when impartial men will give themselves time to reflect on the different circumstances and motives which gave rise to them. At the time when the first was proposed, the supremacy of Parliament over the Colonies was not questioned by any *American*. The design of the Congress was to propose some mode to His Majesty, by which the Colonies might be enabled to ascertain the just proportion of aids that each ought to contribute towards their general safety, which was then immediately endangered by their disunion, and to establish some power to compel the refractory and unwilling to a performance of their general political duties among themselves. Here the



views of the first Congress rested. But when the last met, the objects of their deliberations were infinitely more extensive and important. Nothing less than the rights of the supreme authority of a great Empire over its members, and the essential rights of a very respectable part of those members, were the questions there agitated. The first plan was calculated to afford a remedy for the mischiefs then under consideration. The second, to remove the unhappy cause of the dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, by restoring *America* to her right of participating in the supreme authority, and reducing that authority to a constitutional exercise of its power over the Colonies. Such being the obvious difference in the causes from which the plans originated, it was impossible, if they were in any ways calculated to answer the different ends in view, that they should not be greatly different both in their names and substance.

I shall offer but one argument more in vindication of the Delegate who proposed the last plan, from the ungenerous calumny so undeservedly thrown upon him, which will fully demonstrate that he could entertain no design of taking from Doctor *Franklin*, or the Congress of 1754, the merit of the first. He carried with him to the Congress the plan of 1754, with the reasons under every article, which induced the then Commissioners to adopt them in the Doctor's own writing. He shewed it to several of the members as the plan proposed by the Doctor and agreed to by the Commissioners. He delivered it to one of the Delegates without the least injunction or reserve. From that Delegate it passed into the hands of several others, until the gentleman to whom it was first delivered could not, for some time, discover in whose hands to find it. This was done to enable the members to compare the two plans, to digest the better the one then proposed, and if any addition could be made to it, that it might be done when it should be taken into consideration agreeable to the rule of the Congress. Having little vanity in his composition, any applause which might arise from the merit of the plan never entered into his imagination. His mind was too earnestly engaged in endeavouring to lend his assistance towards preserving the rights of *America*, and establishing a happy union of the two Countries. These were his motives, his only motives; and he is still of opinion, had the Delegates in Congress formed a constitutional system of union upon the same, or nearly alike principles, that great and beneficial effects would have flowed from it to *America*. It would have been acting the wise and prudent part of taking the best ground of defence first. It would have been asking, what we have a right to demand, an union with our brethren and fellow-subjects in *Britain*, on principles of liberty and government. It would have attached to us innumerable friends in *England* and all the *British* Dominions, whom, by a contrary conduct, we have lost. It would have united us firmly and inseparably among ourselves, upon rational and supportable grounds, while the measures adopted have only tended to divide and weaken the Colonies. And should the Administration have refused (contrary to what we had then, and more especially now, reason to expect) so reasonable and just a proposition as that of granting to the *Americans* the common constitutional rights of *British* subjects, in all probability it would have left them supported by very few, if any, of the people, on whom they must rely for aids, to enable them to carry any scheme into execution. C. E.

Philadelphia, April 26, 1775.

Yesterday, at three o'clock in the afternoon, pursuant to publick notice, there was a meeting of near eight thousand of the inhabitants of this City, to consider of the measures to be pursued in the present critical situation of the affairs of *America*.

The business was opened with several eloquent and patriotick speeches, and the company unanimously agreed to *associate*, for the purpose of defending with ARMS, their property, liberty, and lives, against all attempts to deprive them of them.

#### PHILADELPHIA ASSOCIATION.

Whereas, it appears from authentick accounts received from *England*, that it is the design of the present Ministry to enforce the late cruel and unjust Acts of Parliament

complained of in the most legal and dutiful manner by the Congress: And whereas, an additional number of Troops, with a Fleet, have been ordered for *America*, to assist the Troops now in *Boston* in the execution of the said Acts: We, the subscribers, agree that we will associate for the purpose of learning the Military Exercise, and for defending our property and lives against all attempts to deprive us of them.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM READING, PENNSYLVANIA, DATED APRIL 26, 1775.

We have raised in this Town two Companies of Foot, under proper Officers; and such is the spirit of the people of this free County, that in three weeks time there is not a Township in it that will not have a Company raised and disciplined, ready to assert at the risk of their lives the freedom of *America*.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Wednesday, April 26, 1775.

The Committee having taken into consideration the commotions occasioned by the sanguinary measures pursued by the *British* Ministry; and that the powers with which this Committee is invested, respect only the Association, are unanimously of opinion that a new Committee be elected by the Freeholders and Freemen of this City and County, for the present unhappy exigency of affairs, as well as to observe the conduct of all persons touching the Association; that the said Committee consist of one hundred persons; that thirty-three be a quorum, and that they dissolve within a fortnight next after the end of the next sessions of the Continental Congress. And that the sense of the Freeholders and Freemen of this City and County upon this subject may be better procured and ascertained, the Committee are further unanimously of opinion, that the polls be taken on *Friday* morning next, at nine o'clock, at the usual places of election in each Ward, under the inspection of the two Vestrymen of each Ward, and two of this Committee, or any two of the four; and that at the said elections the votes of the Freemen and Freeholders be taken on the following questions, viz: Whether such new Committee shall be constituted? And if yea, of whom it shall consist? And this Committee is further unanimously of opinion, that at the present alarming juncture, it is highly advisable that a Provincial Congress be immediately summoned; and that it be recommended to the Freeholders and Freemen of this City and County, to choose at the same time that they vote for the new Committee aforesaid, twenty Deputies to represent them at the said Congress; and that a Letter be forthwith prepared and despatched to all the Counties, requesting them to unite with us in forming a Provincial Congress, and to appoint their Deputies without delay, to meet at *New-York*, on *Monday*, the 22d of *May* next. By order of the Committee:

ISAAC LOW, *Chairman*.

#### JOHN COLLINS TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE PROVINCIAL ARMY AT CAMBRIDGE.

Newport, April 26, 1775.

It is with pleasure that I communicate to you, by express, the following important intelligence, by a vessel just arrived here from *New-York*.

We are informed that the news of the engagement between the Regulars and Provincials got to *New-York* on *Sunday* last, between the fore and afternoon service; that the people of the City immediately arose, disarmed the Soldiers, and possessed themselves of the Forts and Magazines, in which they found about fifteen hundred Arms; that they unloaded two Transports bound to *Boston*, Captain *Montague* not daring to give them any assistance; that a third Transport had sailed while they were seizing the two others, and that the people had fitted out a vessel, in order to take and bring her back; that they had forbid all the Pilots from bringing up any of the King's Ships; that Captain *Montague* was not able to procure a Pilot in the whole City; and that the inhabitants were preparing to put themselves in the best posture of defence.

The gentleman who brings this intelligence left *Elizabethtown* yesterday morning, and tells us, that on *Monday*



the Committee of that Town and County met, and agreed to raise one thousand men immediately, to assist in the defence of *New-York*, against any attack that may be made upon them. I have the honour to assure you that this intelligence may be depended upon, and that I am, Sir, your most humble servant,  
**JOHN COLLINS,**  
*Chairman of the Committee of Inspection.*

TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In Provincial Convention at Exeter, April 26, 1775.

"*Resolved unanimously, That Colonel Nathaniel Folsom, Col. Josiah Bartlett, and Major Samuel Hobart, Esquires, be immediately sent as a Committee from this Convention, to the Provincial Congress of the Province of Massachusetts-Bay, to deliver to them the following Letter; and further inform them of the particular situation of this Province, and report the effect of their mission as soon as may be.*"

GENTLEMEN: Before the receipt of your letter of April 23, intelligence of the tragical scene which hath lately been acted in your Colony by the regular Troops, had pierced the ears of the inhabitants of this; upon which, many of our men, fired with zeal in the common cause, and resentment at the inhuman cruelty and savage barbarity of the action, instantly flew to your assistance, and vast numbers more on their march were stopped, on hearing they were not needed.

The Provincial Committee, upon this alarm, immediately called a special Convention of Delegates from the nearest Towns, to consult with the Committee what was then absolutely necessary to be done upon that pressing occasion; in consequence of which this Convention met.

Previous to this, our Provincial Committee, upon application to them from a Committee of your body, had notified the respective Towns in this Province to choose and empower Delegates to meet at *Exeter* on the 17th day of May next, to deliberate upon the important and momentous objects proposed by your Congress for the consideration and concurrence of ours; at which time the important matters recommended, will naturally come under the mature deliberation of our Congress, and, no doubt, they will readily concur and co-operate with their brethren in *New-England* in all such measures as shall be thought most conducive for the common safety. But this body, though heartily willing to contribute in every advisable method to your aid, in the general defence of these Colonies, judge it not expedient now to determine upon the establishment of an Army of Observation, as the Towns in this Government are not generally represented. But it is recommended in the mean time to the Towns in this Colony, to supply the men gone from it with provisions and other necessaries, if their continuance shall be thought necessary; and from the spirit of the inhabitants you may expect their aid, if any emergency should require it.

We most fervently wish you the blessing and direction of Heaven in all your deliberations; and may *God Almighty*, who protected and saved our pious ancestors amidst ten thousand dangers, preserve *New-England* from the horrors and desolations of a civil war.

By order of the Convention:

**MESHECK WEARE,** *President pro tem.*

JOHN HANCOCK TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Worcester, April 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Having had the honour to command the Cadet Company at *Boston*, and knowing the abilities of those who composed that Corps, I cannot withhold mentioning and recommending to the notice of you and the General Officers, Mr. *John Smith* and Mr. *John Avery*, two excellent good soldiers and gentlemen, who will advance the reputation of the Province in that department of command where they may be placed. I therefore most strongly recommend them, and earnestly pray they may be noticed. I will be answerable for their conduct. There are several other gentlemen of that Corps who may be useful, particularly Mr. *Brant* and Mr. *Cunningham*. Do notice Mr. *Smith* and *Avery*; they will be useful.

I set out to-morrow morning. *God* bless you. Why don't you send to Mr. *Crafts*? Pray improve him; he is a good man, and one on whom you may depend; don't miss him. I am your real friend,  
**JOHN HANCOCK.**

LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO RHODE-ISLAND AND CONNECTICUT.

April 26, 1775.

The distressed situation in which we are, and the danger to which the liberties of all *America*, and especially the *New-England* Colonies, are exposed, will be the best apology for the importunate application to you for immediate assistance. We pray, as you regard the safety of your Country, that as large a number of Troops as you can spare may immediately march forward, well stocked with provisions and ammunition; that they come under proper Officers, enlisted for such a time as may be necessary; that as large a train of Artillery as can be procured, may be sent down to our aid. We rely greatly upon you, as we know the bravery of your men.

Our men have behaved with the utmost resolution; but as many of them came from home without any preparation, it is impossible to keep them in the field, without allowing many of them time to return to their families for one or two days, during which time we may all possibly be cut off, as we have a powerful and watchful enemy to deal with. We are far from despairing. We firmly trust, that, by the blessing of Heaven on us, we shall deliver our Country. We are determined, at all events, to act our parts with firmness and intrepidity, knowing that slavery is far worse than death. We pray that our sister *Rhode-Island* would immediately put in for a share of honour, in saving the liberties of *America*, as a moment lost may never be recalled. May *God* direct you and us at this important moment, on which the fate of us and posterity depends. We are, &c.

FALMOUTH COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Falmouth April 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: At this alarming and dangerous time, we find our stock of Powder greatly deficient; therefore have sent some money by the bearers to purchase where they can find it; and if they cannot get any this side of *Cambridge*, have desired them to wait upon you for advice, presuming that you can direct them where it may be had.

We rely on your conduct, under *God*, in our righteous cause, for deliverance from our present calamities, and are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,

**ENOCH FREEMAN, JOHN BRACKETT,  
 BENJAMIN MUSSEY, WM. OWEN,**

*Selectmen of Falmouth.*

P. S. The bearers are Captain *Joseph McLellan* and Captain *Joseph Noyes*.

TO COLONEL PHILIP SKEENE, (INTERCEPTED.)

Extract of a Letter intercepted at *Ticonderoga*, directed to Lieutenant Colonel *Philip Skeene*, of the Sixty-Ninth Regiment, to the care of Messrs. *Cox* and *Mair*, Agents, *London*, signed *A. Mabane*.

Woodfield, in Canada, April 26, 1775.

DEAR COLONEL: The Fifty-Second Regiment has been detained in *America*, on account of the affairs at *Boston*; and *God* knows how long they may remain there, or what will be the event of these disputes; but it is generally thought by those who have resided any time in *America*, and who have observed the progress which the Colonists have made in their demands and attempts towards independence, that the sooner the laws are put in force, so much the better. Procrastination only encourages the seditious, and weakens Government.

Colonel *Jones* acts as Brigadier at *Boston*. General *Gage* has sent for our friend *Dunbar*; and I would fain flatter myself that something will at last be done for deserving Officers.

The *January* Packet brought Mr. *Carleton's* new commission; it does not differ much from his former one, except in the limits of the Province, and a power given to him without consent of Council to array the Militia, march them by land, or transport them by sea into any of the other Colonies, where enemies, pirates, or rebels, may be.

The *Canadians*, by the late Act of Parliament, are exempted from the Test, &c., and may be admitted into offices; seven of them are named to the Council, and two of them, *Rowville* and *Panet*, are added to the number of



Judges. The Counsellors are six, *Croix de St. Louis* and Mr. *Regauville*, who acted as Major to the Corps of the *Canadian* Militia, which General *Murray* sent to the upper country during the last *Indian* war. It is said the officers are to have half pay. This is the favourable moment for *Canada*, and I am very glad that the Ministry have seized it. Whatever narrow-minded men may say, the Act is consonant to sound policy, humanity, and that moderation which becomes an enlightened Nation. To conquer, has been often the lot of the *British* Nation; but to conciliate the affections of the conquered, has been reserved to the reign of *George* the Third; and I may venture to say, that the *Canadians* will, upon every occasion, show their fidelity and gratitude.

NEW COMMISSION TO THE GOVERNOUR OF QUEBECK.

GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of GOD, of GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, and IRELAND, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To our trusty and well-beloved GUY CARLETON, Esquire, Greeting.

Whereas we did by our Letters Patent under our great seal of *Great Britain*, bearing date at *Westminster* the twelfth day of *April*, in the eighth year of our reign, constitute and appoint you to be our Captain General and Governour-in-Chief in and over our Province of *Quebeck* in *America*, bounded on the *Labrador* Coast by the River *St. John*, and from thence by a line drawn from the head of that River through the Lake *St. John* to the south-east of Lake *Nipissin*, from whence the said line, crossing the River *St. Lawrence* and Lake *Champlain* in forty-five degrees of northern latitude, passes along the high lands, which divide the Rivers that empty themselves into the said River *St. Lawrence*, from those which fall into the Sea, and also along the north Coast of the Bay *Des Chaleurs*, and the Coast of the Gulf of *St. Lawrence* to Cape *Rozieres*, and from thence crossing the mouth of the River *St. Lawrence* by the west end of the Island of *Anticosti*, terminates at the aforesaid River *St. John*, together with all the rights, members, and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging, for and during our will and pleasure, as by the said recited Letters Patent, relation being thereunto had, may more fully and at large appear. And whereas we did also by our Letters Patent under our great seal of *Great Britain*, bearing date at *Westminster*, the . . . day of . . . in the . . . year of our reign, constitute and appoint *Molineux Shuldham*, Esq., to be our Governour and Commander-in-Chief in and over our Island of *Newfoundland*, and all the Coast of *Labrador*, from the entrance of *Hudson's* Straits to the River *St. John*, which discharges itself into the Sea nearly opposite the west end of the Island of *Anticosti*, including that Island, with any other small Islands on the said Coast of *Labrador*, and also the Islands of *Madelaine* in the Gulf of *St. Lawrence*, as also of all our Forts and Garrisons erected and established in our said Islands of *Newfoundland*, *Anticosti*, and *Madelaine*, or on the Coast of *Labrador* within the limits aforesaid, for and during our will and pleasure, as by the said Letters Patent, relation being thereunto had, may more fully and at large appear. Now know you, that we have revoked and determined, and by these presents revoke and determine, the said recited Letters Patent granted to you, the said *Guy Carleton*, as aforesaid, and every clause, article, and thing therein contained; and that we have also revoked and determined, and do by these presents revoke and determine so much and such part of the said recited Letters Patent granted to *Molineux Shuldham*, Esq., as aforesaid, as relates to the Coast of *Labrador*, including the Island of *Anticosti*, with any other small Islands on the said Coast of *Labrador*, and every clause, article, and thing therein contained, so far as the same relates to the said Coast of *Labrador*, and the Islands herein before recited. And further know you, that we, reposing especial trust and confidence in the prudence, courage, and loyalty of you, the said *Guy Carleton*, of our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have thought fit to constitute and appoint you, the said *Guy Carleton*, to be our Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief in and over our Province of *Quebeck* in *America*, comprehending all our Territories, Islands, and Countries in *North-America*, bounded on the south by a line from

the Bay of *Chaleurs* along the high lands, which divide the Rivers that empty themselves into the River *St. Lawrence* from those which fall into the Sea, to a point in forty-five degrees of northern latitude, on the eastern bank of the River *Connecticut*; keeping the same latitude directly west through the Lake *Champlain*, until in the same latitude it meets with the River *St. Lawrence*, from thence up the eastern bank of the said River to the Lake *Ontario*, thence through the Lake *Ontario*, and the River, commonly called *Niagara*, and thence along by the eastern and southeastern bank of Lake *Erie*, following the said bank, until the same shall be intersected by the northern boundary granted by the Charter of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, in case the same shall be so intersected, and from thence along the said northern and western boundaries of the said Province, until the said western boundary strikes the *Ohio*; but, in case the said bank of the said Lake shall not be found to be so intersected, then following the said bank, until it shall arrive at the point of the said bank which shall be nearest to the northwestern angle of the said Province of *Pennsylvania*, and thence by a right line to the said northwestern angle of the said Province, and thence along the western boundary of the said Province, until it strikes the River *Ohio*, and along the bank of the said River westward to the banks of *Mississippi*, and northward along the eastern bank of the said River to the southern boundary of the Territory granted to the Merchants Adventurers of *England* trading to *Hudson's Bay*; and also all such Territories, Islands, and Countries, which have, since the tenth of *February*, 1763, been made part of the Government of *Newfoundland*, as aforesaid, together with all the rights, members, and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging.

And we do hereby require and command you to do and execute all things in due manner, that shall belong to your said command, and the trust we have reposed in you, according to the several powers and directions granted or appointed you by this present Commission, and the instructions and authorities herewith given unto you, or by such further powers, instructions, and authorities as shall at any time hereafter be granted or appointed you under our signet or sign manual, or by our order in our Privy Council, and according to such Ordinances as shall hereafter be made and agreed upon by you, with the advice and consent of the Council of our said Province under your Government, in such manner and form as is herein after expressed.

And our will and pleasure is, that you, the said *Guy Carleton*, do, after the publication of these our Letters Patent, in such manner and form as has been accustomed to be used on like occasions, in the first place take the oaths appointed to be taken by an Act passed in the first year of the reign of King *George* the First, intituled, "An Act for the further security of His Majesty's person and Government, and the succession of the Crown in the heirs of the late Princess *Sophia*, being Protestants, and for extinguishing the hopes of the pretended Prince of *Wales*, and his open and secret abettors;" and by an Act passed in the sixth year of our reign, intituled, "An Act for altering the Oath of Abjuration, and the Assurance; and for amending so much of an Act of the seventh year of her late Majesty Queen *Anne*, intituled, An Act for the Improvement of the Union of the two Kingdoms, as, after the time therein limited, requires the delivery of certain lists and copies therein mentioned, to persons indicted of High Treason, or Misprision of Treason;" as also that you make and subscribe the declaration mentioned in an Act of Parliament, made in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of King *Charles* the Second, intituled, "An Act for preventing dangers which may happen from *Popish* recusants;" and likewise that you take the oath usually taken by the Governours in the Plantations, for the due execution of the office and trust of our Captain-General and Governour in and over our said Province, and for the due and impartial administration of justice; and further that you take the oath required to be taken by Governours of the Plantations, to do their utmost, that the several laws relating to Trade and the Plantations be duly observed; which said oaths and declaration our Council of our said Province, or any three of the Members thereof, have hereby full power and authority, and are required to tender and administer to you; all which being duly performed, you shall yourself



administer to each of the Members of our said Council, (except as herein after excepted) the said oaths mentioned in the said Acts, intituled, "An Act for the further security of His Majesty's person and Government, and the succession of the Crown in the heirs of the late Princess *Sophia*, being Protestants, and for extinguishing the hopes of the pretended Prince of *Wales*, and his open and secret abettors;" and "An Act for altering the Oath of Abjuration, and the Assurance, and for amending so much of an Act of the seventh year of her late Majesty Queen *Anne*, intituled, An Act for the Improvement of the Union of the two Kingdoms, as after the time therein limited requires the delivery of certain lists and copies, therein mentioned, to persons indicted of High Treason, or Misprision of Treason;" as also cause them to make and subscribe the aforementioned declaration, and to administer unto them the usual oath for the due execution of their places and trusts.

And whereas we may find it expedient for our service, that our Council of our said Province should be in part composed of such of our *Canadian* subjects, or their descendants, as remain within the same under the faith of the Treaty of *Paris*, and who may profess the religion of the Church of *Rome*; it is therefore our will and pleasure, that in all cases where such persons shall or may be admitted, either into our said Council or into any other offices, they shall be exempted from all tests, and from taking any other oath than that prescribed in and by an Act of Parliament, passed in the fourteenth year of our reign, intituled, "An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of *Quebeck* in *North America*;" and also the usual oath for the due execution of their places and trusts respectively.

And we do further give and grant unto you, the said *Guy Carleton*, full power and authority from time to time, and at any time hereafter, by yourself, or by any other to be authorized by you in that behalf, to administer and give the oaths mentioned in the said Acts, intituled, "An Act for the further security of His Majesty's person and Government, and the succession of the Crown in the heirs of the late Princess *Sophia*, being Protestants, and for extinguishing the hopes of the pretended Prince of *Wales*, and his open and secret abettors;" and "An Act for altering the Oath of Abjuration, and the Assurance; and for amending so much of an Act of the seventh year of her late Majesty Queen *Anne*, intituled, An Act for the Improvement of the Union of the two Kingdoms, as, after the time therein limited, requires the delivery of certain lists and copies therein mentioned, to persons indicted of High Treason, or Misprision of Treason," to all and every such person or persons, as you shall think fit, who shall at any time or times pass into our said Province, or shall be resident or abiding there.

And we do hereby authorize and empower you to keep and use the publick seal of our Province of *Quebeck* for sealing all things whatsoever, that shall pass the great seal of our said Province.

And we do hereby give and grant unto you, the said *Guy Carleton*, full power and authority, with the advice and consent of our said Council, to make Ordinances for the peace, welfare and good Government of the said Province, and of the people and inhabitants thereof, and such others, as shall resort thereunto, and for the benefit of us, our heirs, and successors; provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend to the authorizing and empowering the passing any Ordinance or Ordinances for laying any Taxes or Duties within the said Province, such rates and taxes only excepted, as the inhabitants of any Town or District within our said Province may be authorized by any Ordinance passed by you, with the advice and consent of the said Council, to assess, levy, and apply within the said Town or District for the purpose of making roads, erecting and repairing publick buildings, or for any other purpose respecting the local convenience and economy of such Town or District; provided also, that every Ordinance, so to be made by you, by and with the advice and consent of the said Council, shall be, within six months from the passing thereof, transmitted to us under our seal of our said Province for our approbation or disallowance of the same; as also duplicates thereof by the next conveyance; and in case any, or all of the said Ordinances shall at any time be disallowed and not

approved; and so signified by us, our heirs and successors by order in their, or our Privy Council unto you, the said *Guy Carleton*, or to the Commander-in-Chief of our said Province for the time being, then such and so many of the said Ordinances, as shall be so disallowed and not approved, shall from the promulgation of the said order in Council within the said Province cease, determine and become utterly void and of no effect; provided also, that no Ordinance touching religion, or by which any punishment may be inflicted greater than fine or imprisonment for three months, shall be of any force or effect, until the same shall have been allowed and confirmed by us, our heirs and successors, and such allowance or confirmation signified to you, or to the Commander-in-Chief of our said Province for the time being, by their or our order in their or our Privy Council.

Provided also, that no Ordinance shall be passed at any meeting of the Council, where less than a majority of the whole Council is present, or at any time, except between the first day of *January* and the first day of *May*, unless upon some urgent occasion; in which case every member thereof resident at the Town of *Quebeck*, or within fifty miles thereof, shall be personally summoned to attend the same: and to the end that nothing may be passed or done by our said Council to the prejudice of us, our heirs, and successors, we will and ordain, that you, the said *Guy Carleton*, shall have and enjoy a negative voice in the making and passing of all Ordinances, as aforesaid.

And we do by these presents give and grant unto you, the said *Guy Carleton*, full power and authority, with the advice and consent of our said Council, to erect, constitute, and establish such and so many courts of judicature and publick justice within our said Province under your government, as you and they shall think fit and necessary for the hearing and determining all causes, as well criminal as civil, and for awarding execution thereupon, with all reasonable and necessary powers, authorities, fees, and privileges belonging thereunto; as also to appoint and commissionate fit persons in the several parts of your Government to administer the oaths mentioned in the aforesaid Acts, intituled, "An Act for the further security of His Majesty's person and Government, and the succession of the Crown in the heirs of the late Princess *Sophia*, being Protestants, and for extinguishing the hopes of the pretended Prince of *Wales*, and his open and secret abettors;" and, "An Act for altering the Oath of Abjuration and the Assurance; and for amending so much of an Act of the seventh year of her late Majesty Queen *Anne*, intituled, An Act for the Improvement of the Union of the two Kingdoms, as, after the time therein limited, requires the delivery of certain lists and copies, therein mentioned, to persons indicted of High Treason, or Misprision of Treason;" as also to tender and administer the aforesaid declaration to such persons belonging to the said Courts, as shall be obliged to take the same.

And we do hereby grant unto you full power and authority to constitute and appoint Judges, and in cases requisite Commissioners of *Oyer and Terminer*, Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, and other necessary Officers and Ministers in our said Province for the better administration of justice, and putting the laws in execution; and to administer or cause to be administered unto them such oath or oaths, as are usually given for the due execution and performance of offices and places, and for the clearing of truth in judicial causes.

And we do hereby give and grant unto you full power and authority, where you shall see cause or shall judge any offender or offenders in criminal matters, or for any fines or forfeitures due unto us, fit objects of our mercy, to pardon all such offenders, and remit all such offences, fines, and forfeitures; treason and wilful murder only excepted; in which cases you shall likewise have power upon extraordinary occasions to grant reprieves to the offenders, until, and to the intent our Royal pleasure may be known therein.

And we do by these presents give and grant unto you full power and authority to collate any person or persons to any Churches, Chapels, or other ecclesiastical benefices within our said Province, as often as any of them shall happen to be void.

And we do hereby give and grant unto you, the said *Guy Carleton*, by yourself, or by your Captains and Commanders by you to be authorized, full power and authority



to levy, arm, muster, command, and employ all persons whatsoever residing within our said Province; and, as occasion shall serve, them to march, embark, or transport from one place to another, for the resisting and withstanding of all enemies, pirates, and rebels, both at land and sea; and to transport such Forces to any of our Plantations in *America*, if necessity shall require, for defence of the same against the invasion or attempts of any of our enemies; and such enemies, pirates and rebels, if there shall be occasion, to pursue and prosecute in, or out of, the limits of our said Province; and, if it shall so please *God*, them to vanquish, apprehend, and take, and, being taken, according to law to put to death, or keep or preserve alive at your discretion, and to execute martial law in time of invasion, war, or other times, when by law it may be executed; and to do and execute all and every other thing and things, which to our Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief doth or of right ought to belong.

And we do hereby give and grant unto you full power and authority, by and with the advice and consent of our said Council, to erect, raise, and build in our said Province such and so many Forts, Platforms, Castles, Cities, Boroughs, Towns, and Fortifications, as you by the advice aforesaid shall judge necessary; and the same or any of them to fortify and furnish with Ordnance, Ammunition, and all sorts of Arms fit and necessary for the security and defence of our said Province; and, by the advice aforesaid, the same again, or any of them to demolish or dismantle, as may be most convenient.

And forasmuch as divers Mutinies and Disorders may happen by persons shipped and employed at Sea, during the time of War; and to the end, that such, as shall be shipped and employed at Sea during the time of War, may be better governed and ordered, we do hereby give and grant unto you, the said *Guy Carleton*, full power and authority to constitute and appoint Captains, Lieutenants, Masters of Ships, and other Commanders and Officers; and to grant to such Captains, Lieutenants, Masters of Ships, and other Commanders and Officers, Commissions to execute the Law Martial during the time of War, according to the directions of an Act, passed in the twenty-second year of the reign of our late Royal Grandfather, intituled, "An Act for amending, explaining, and reducing into one Act of Parliament, the Laws relating to the Government of His Majesty's Ships, Vessels, and Forces by Sea;" and to use such proceedings, authorities, punishments, corrections, and executions upon any offender or offenders, who shall be mutinous, seditious, disorderly, or any way unruly either at Sea, or during the time of their abode or residence in any of the Ports, Harbours, or Bays in our said Province, as the case shall be found to require, according to Martial Law; and the said directions, during the time of War, as aforesaid.

Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to the enabling you, or any by your authority to hold plea, or have any jurisdiction of any offence, cause, matter, or thing committed or done upon the High Sea, or within any of the Havens, Rivers, or Creeks of our said Province under your Government, by any Captain, Commander, Lieutenant, Master, Officer, Seaman, Soldier, or Person whatsoever, who shall be in actual service and pay, in or on board any of our Ships-of-War, or other Vessels acting by immediate Commission or Warrant from our Commissioners for executing the office of our High-Admiral of *Great Britain*, or from our High-Admiral of *Great Britain* for the time being, under the Seal of our Admiralty; but that such Captain, Commander, Lieutenant, Master, Officer, Seaman, Soldier, or other Person so offending, shall be left to be proceeded against, and tried, as their offences shall require, either by Commission under our Great Seal of this Kingdom, as the Statute of the twenty-eighth of *Henry VIII.* directs; or by Commission from our said Commissioners for executing the office of High-Admiral of *Great Britain*, or from our High-Admiral of *Great Britain* for the time being, according to the aforementioned Act, intituled, "An Act for amending, explaining, and reducing into one Act of Parliament, the Laws relating to the Government of His Majesty's Ships, Vessels, and Forces by Sea;" and not otherwise.

Provided, nevertheless, that all disorders and misdemeanors committed on shore by any Captain, Commander, Lieutenant, Master, Officer, Seaman, Soldier, or other

Person whatsoever belonging to any of our Ships-of-War, or other Vessels acting by immediate Commission or Warrant from our Commissioners for executing the office of High-Admiral of *Great Britain*, or from our High-Admiral of *Great Britain* for the time being, under the seal of our Admiralty, may be tried and punished according to the Laws of the place, where any such disorders, offences, and misdemeanors shall be committed on shore; notwithstanding such offender be in our actual service, and borne in our pay on board any such our Ships-of-War, or other Vessels acting by immediate Commission, or Warrant from our Commissioners for executing the office of High-Admiral of *Great Britain*, or from our High-Admiral of *Great Britain* for the time being, as aforesaid, so as he shall not receive any protection for the avoiding of justice for such offences committed on shore from any pretence of his being employed in our service at Sea.

And our further will and pleasure is, that all Publick Moneys granted and raised for the publick uses of our said Province, be issued out by Warrant from you, by and with the advice and consent of our Council, as aforesaid, for the support of the Government, and not otherwise.

And we likewise give and grant unto you full power and authority, by and with the advice and consent of our said Council, to settle and agree with the inhabitants of our said Province for such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, as now are, or hereafter shall be in our power to dispose of, and them to grant to any person or persons upon such terms and under such moderate quit-rents, services, and acknowledgments to be thereupon reserved unto us, as you, with the advice aforesaid, shall think fit; which said Grants are to pass, and be sealed by our publick seal of our said Province, and being entered upon record by such Officer or Officers as shall be appointed thereunto, shall be good and effectual in Law against us, our heirs and successors.

And we do hereby give you, the said *Guy Carleton*, full power and authority to order and appoint Fairs, Marts, and Markets; as also such and so many Ports, Harbours, Bays, Havens, and other places for the conveniency and security of shipping, and for the better loading and unloading of Goods and Merchandises, in such and so many places, as by you, with the advice and consent of our said Council, shall be thought fit and necessary.

And we do hereby require and command all Officers and Ministers, Civil and Military, and all other inhabitants of our said Province to be obedient, aiding, and assisting unto you, the said *Guy Carleton*, in the execution of this our Commission, and of the powers and authorities therein contained; and in case of your death or absence from our said Province and Government, to be obedient, aiding, and assisting as aforesaid, to the Lieutenant Governour or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, to whom we do therefore by these presents give and grant all and singular the powers and authorities herein granted to be by him executed and enjoyed, during our pleasure, or until your arrival within our said Province.

And if upon your death or absence out of our said Province, there be no person upon the place commissioned or appointed by us to be Lieutenant Governour or Commander-in-Chief of our said Province; our will and pleasure is, that the eldest Councillor, being a natural born subject of *Great Britain, Ireland*, or the Plantations, and professing the Protestant Religion, who shall be at the time of your death or absence residing within our said Province, shall take upon him the administration of the Government, and execute our said Commission and Instructions, and the several powers and authorities therein contained, in the same manner and to all intents and purposes, as other our Governour or Commander-in-Chief should or ought to do, in case of your absence, until your return, and in all cases until our further pleasure be known therein.

And we do hereby declare, ordain, and appoint, that you, the said *Guy Carleton*, shall and may hold, execute, and enjoy the Office and place of our Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief, in and over our said Province of *Quebeck*, and all the Territories dependant thereon; with all and singular the powers and authorities hereby granted unto you, for and during our will and pleasure.

In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent. Witness ourself at *Westminster*, the . . . day of . . . in the . . . year of our reign.



## CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

At a General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Connecticut in New-England*, in *America*, holden at *Hartford* by Special Order of the Governour of said Colony, on *Wednesday* the twenty-sixth day of *April*, *Annoque Domini 1775*: Present:

The Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour; the Honourable *Matthew Griswold*, Esq., Deputy Governour; *Jabez Hamlin*, *Elisha Sheldon*, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Pitkin*, *Roger Sherman*, *Abraham Davenport*, *William Samuel Johnson*, *Oliver Wolcott*, *James Abraham Hilhouse*, Esquires, Assistants.

Representatives or Deputies of the Freemen of the several Towns are as follows, viz:

**HARTFORD.**—Colonel *John Pitkin*, Colonel *Thomas Seymour*.

**WINDSOR.**—Captain *Josiah Bissell*, Mr. *Oliver Ellsworth*.

**SYMBSURY.**—Colonel *Jonathan Pettibone*, Colonel *Jonathan Humphrey*.

**EAST WINDSOR.**—Mr. *William Wolcott*, Mr. *Erastus Wolcott*.

**GLASTENBURY.**—Captain *Jonathan Wells*, Mr. *Ebenezer Plumer*.

**SUFFIELD.**—Mr. *Alex. King*, Captain *Abraham Granger*.

**WEATHERSFIELD.**—Major *Thomas Belding*, Mr. *Silas Dean*.

**MIDDLETOWN.**—Mr. *Matthew Talcott*, Mr. *Titus Hosmer*.

**WILLINGTON.**—Mr. *Moses Holmes*, Mr. *Elijah Fenton*.

**TOLLAND.**—Mr. *Samuel Cobb*, Mr. *Eleazer Steel*.

**HADDAM.**—Captain *Joseph Brooks*.

**BOLTON.**—Captain *Joel White*, Captain *Benj. Talcott*.

**SOMERS.**—Mr. *Zera Kibbee*, Mr. *Reuben Sikes*.

**CHATHAM.**—Mr. *David Sage*, Captain *Silas Dunham*.

**EAST HADDAM.**—Mr. *Daniel Brainard*, Mr. *Jabez Chapman*.

**COLCHESTER.**—Mr. *Henry Champion*, Mr. *John Watrous*.

**STAFFORD.**—Mr. *Josiah Converse*, Mr. *Joseph Fuller*.

**ENFIELD.**—Mr. *Edward Collins*, Major *Nath. Terry*.

**HEBRON.**—Captain *Daniel Ingham*, Captain *Obadiah Hosford*.

**FARMINGTON.**—Colonel *John Strong*, Colonel *Fisher Gay*.

**NEW-HAVEN.**—Mr. *Sam. Bishop*, Mr. *Joshua Chandler*.

**DURHAM.**—Col. *Elihu Chauncey*, Colonel *James Wadsworth*.

**DERBY.**—Captain *John Wooster*, Mr. *James Beard*.

**BRANFORD.**—Mr. *Edward Russell*, Mr. *Daniel Page*.

**GUILFORD.**—Mr. *John Burgess*, Col. *Andrew Ward*.

**WALLINGFORD.**—Mr. *Oliver Stanley*, Major *Reuben Atwater*.

**WATERBURY.**—Mr. *Joseph Hopkins*, Colonel *Jonathan Baldwin*.

**MILFORD.**—Major *David Baldwin*.

**NEW-LONDON.**—Mr. *Richard Law*, Mr. *William Hilhouse*.

**NORWICH.**—Mr. *Benjamin Huntington*.

**STONINGTON.**—Major *Charles Phelps*, Major *Samuel Prentice*.

**SAYBROOK.**—Doctor *Samuel Field*, Colonel *William Worthington*.

**PRESTON.**—Mr. *Robert Crary*, Captain *James Morgan*.

**LYME.**—Mr. *John Lay*, Mr. *Ebenezer Selden*.

**KILLINGWORTH.**—Mr. *Hezekiah Lane*.

**GROTON.**—Mr. *Thomas Mumford*, Mr. *Stephen Billings*.

**FAIRFIELD.**—Mr. *Jonathan Sturgess*, Captain *Samuel Squier*.

**STRATFORD.**—Captain *Robert Fairchild*, Captain *Daniel Judson*.

**READING.**—Mr. *William Hawley*.

**GREENWICH.**—Major *John Mead*, Mr. *Peter Mead*.

**STAMFORD.**—Colonel *David Waterbury*, Colonel *Charles Webb*.

**RIDGEFIELD.**—Colonel *Philip B. Bradley*.

**NORWALK.**—Mr. *Tho. Belding*, Doctor *Thaddeus Betts*.

**NEWTOWN.**—Captain *Henry Glover*, Captain *Peter Nichols*.

**NEW-FAIRFIELD.**—Mr. *Zaccheus Towner*, Mr. *Alexander Fairchild*.

**DANBURY.**—Col. *Joseph P. Cook*, Captain *Daniel Taylor*.

**WINDHAM.**—Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin*, Mr. *Nathaniel Wales*.

**LEBANON.**—Colonel *William Williams*, Mr. *Jonathan Trumbull*.

**CANTERBURY.**—Mr. *Solomon Pain*, Mr. *Eliashib Adams*.

**POMFRET.**—Mr. *Thomas Williams*, Mr. *Elisha Lord*.

**WOODSTOCK.**—Mr. *Caleb May*, Captain *Timothy Perrin*.

**COVENTRY.**—Captain *Ebenezer Kingsbury*, Mr. *Jere-miah Ripley*.

**MANFIELD.**—Mr. *Constant Southworth*, Colonel *Ebenezer Storrs*.

**PLAINFIELD.**—Capt. *Isaac Coit*, Capt. *John Douglass*.

**VOLUNTOWN.**—Major *James Gordon*, Mr. *Robert Hunter*.

**KILLINGLY.**—Mr. *Benjamin Leavings*.

**ASHFORD.**—Captain *Benj. Sumner*, Mr. *Elijah Whitton*.

**LITCHFIELD.**—Mr. *Jedediah Strong*, Captain *David Welch*.

**NEW-HARTFORD.**—Capt. *Matthew Gillett*, Captain *Seth Smith*.

**SHARON.**—Major *Ebenezer Gay*, Mr. *James Pardee*.

**SALISBURY.**—Col. *Joseph Porter*, Mr. *Hezekiah Fitch*.

**KENT.**—Mr. *Ephraim Hubbell*, Mr. *Justus Sackett*.

**WOODBURY.**—Mr. *Daniel Sherman*, Captain *Increase Moseley*.

**GOSHEN.**—Colonel *Ebenezer Norton*, Captain *Edmund Beach*.

**HARWINGTON.**—Capt. *John Willson*, Mr. *Josiah Phelps*.

**NEW-MILFORD.**—Major *Samuel Canfield*, Mr. *Sherman Boardman*.

**TORRINGTON.**—Major *Epaphras Sheldon*, Mr. *Noah Marshall*.

**CORNWALL.**—Mr. *Heman Swift*, Captain *Thomas Porter*.

**CANAAN.**—Mr. *John Watson*, Colonel *Charles Burrall*.

**WESTMORELAND.**—Mr. *Joseph Shuman*.

*William Williams*, Esq., Speaker of the House of Representatives; *Richard Law*, Clerk.

Whereas it was enacted by the General Assembly held at *New-Haven*, on the second *Thursday* of *October* last, that every Regiment in this Colony, as well the Horse as Foot belonging thereto, shall meet either together or in parts, at the discretion of the Colonel or Commanding Officer, at such time and place as such Colonel or Field Officer shall appoint for Regimental Exercise, one day before the tenth day of *May* next; and whereas the meeting of such Regiments agreeably to said Act will be inconvenient in the present situation of affairs,

*Resolved by this Assembly*, The Colonels or Commanding Officers of the several Regiments in this Colony shall be, and they are hereby released from the obligation to call out their said Regiments for Regimental Exercises before the tenth day of *May* next, any thing in said Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That an Embargo be forthwith laid upon the Exportation out of this Colony by water of the following articles of Provision, viz: Wheat, Rye, Indian-Corn, Pork, Beef, live Cattle and Beans, Bread, Flour, and every kind of Meal, except necessary Stores for Vessels bound to Sea; and that his Honour the Governour be, and he is hereby desired to issue a Proclamation, laying such Embargo and Prohibition of such Provisions accordingly; such Embargo to continue till the 20th day of *May* next.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That *William Samuel Johnson* and *Erastus Walcott*, Esquires, wait upon his Excellency Governour *Gage*, with the Letters written to him by his Honour our Governour by the desire of this Assembly, and confer with him on the subject contained in said Letters, and request his answer.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That *Thaddeus Burr*, Esq., of *Fairfield*, and *Charles Church Chandler*, Esq., of *Woodstock*, at the publick expense of this Colony, be a Committee to engage and employ News-Carriers to perform regular stages from *Fairfield* to *Woodstock*, and from *Woodstock* to *Fairfield*, in such manner that they severally arrive in *Hartford* every *Saturday*, and that they forward all proper intelligence to *Fairfield* and *Woodstock* with all convenient speed; also that *Gurdon Saltonstall*, Esq., of *New-London*, be a Committee to engage and employ two News-Carriers, at the Colony's expense, to perform regular



stages from *Woodstock* to *New-Haven* on the *Fairfield* stage, and from *New-Haven* to *Woodstock* in such manner that they severally arrive in *New-London* every *Saturday*, and that they forward all proper intelligence each way every *Monday* morning with all convenient despatch; also that *Thaddeus Burr, Esq., of Fairfield*, and *Charles Church Chandler, Esq., of Woodstock*, and *Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq., of New-London*, be a Committee to forward at the publick expense of this Colony, all such extraordinary and important intelligence which shall be received at either place from time to time as they shall judge proper and necessary, the aforesaid regulations to continue in force until the rising of the Assembly in *May* next, and no longer.

Whereas it is represented to this Assembly, that sundry acts of hostility and violence have lately been committed in the Province of the *Massachusetts Bay*, by which many lives have been lost, and that some of the inhabitants of this Colony are gone to the relief of the people distressed, it is thereupon,

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That Captain *Joseph Trumbull* and Mr. *Amasa Keys* be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to procure all necessary Provisions for the inhabitants of this Colony who have gone to the relief of the people aforesaid, and that they superintend the delivery out, and apportioning the same among them till this Assembly shall consider what measures are proper to be taken relative thereto, and give orders accordingly.

*An Act for Assembling, Equipping, &c., a number of the Inhabitants of this Colony for the special defence and safety thereof.*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That one-fourth part of the Militia of this Colony be, and it is hereby ordered and directed that they be forthwith enlisted, equipped, accoutred, and assembled for the special defence and safety of this Colony, to be led and conducted as the General Assembly shall order. That the inhabitants enlisted and assembled shall be distributed into Companies, consisting of one hundred men each. That said Companies shall be formed into six Regiments, to be commanded by one Major General, assisted by two Brigadier Generals, each of which General Officers shall take the command of a Regiment as Colonel. That each of said Regiments shall be commanded by one Colonel, a Lieutenant Colonel, and a Major, each of which Field Officers shall likewise command a Company as Captain, and each General Officer shall be assisted by two Majors to his Regiment. That each of said Companies shall be commanded by one Captain, two Lieutenants, and an Ensign, who shall all be duly commissioned by his Honour the Governour to execute the office to which they are respectively appointed. That there shall be appointed one Adjutant, one Quartermaster, one Chaplain, one Surgeon, and two Surgeon's Mates to each Regiment. That said inhabitants shall be enlisted, to continue in the said service during the pleasure of the General Assembly, not exceeding seven months.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That a premium of Fifty-Two Shillings per man shall be advanced and paid to each non-commissioned Officer and inhabitant upon their enlistment, they supplying themselves with a blanket, knapsack, clothing, &c., to the acceptance of their respective Captains, and that one month's pay shall be advanced and paid to each of said Officers and enlisted inhabitants. And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the establishment of pay and wages shall be as follows, viz: the pay for their whole services:

*Per Calendar Month.*

|                             |   |   |   |          |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|----------|
| To the Major General,       | - | - | - | £20 00s. |
| To each Brigadier General,  | - | - | - | 17 00    |
| To each Colonel,            | - | - | - | 15 00    |
| To each Lieutenant Colonel, | - | - | - | 12 00    |
| To each Major,              | - | - | - | 10 00    |
| To each Captain,            | - | - | - | 6 00     |
| To each Lieutenant,         | - | - | - | 4 00     |
| To each Ensign,             | - | - | - | 3 00     |
| To each Adjutant,           | - | - | - | 5 10     |

|                                      |   |   |   |         |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---------|
| To each Quartermaster,               | - | - | - | £3 00s. |
| To each Chaplain,                    | - | - | - | 6 00    |
| To each Surgeon,                     | - | - | - | 7 10    |
| To each Surgeon's Mate,              | - | - | - | 4 00    |
| The wages of each Sergeant,          | - | - | - | 2 08    |
| The wages of each Corporal,          | - | - | - | 2 04    |
| The wages of each Fifer and Drummer, | - | - | - | 2 04    |
| The wages of each Private,           | - | - | - | 2 00    |

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That each inhabitant so enlisted shall be furnished with good fire-arms; and that the fire-arms belonging to this Colony, wherever they are, shall be collected and put into the hands of such enlisted inhabitants as have not arms of their own; and that each enlisted inhabitant that shall provide arms for himself, well fixed with a good bayonet and cartouch box, shall be paid a premium of Ten Shillings; and in case such arms are lost by inevitable casualty, such inhabitant, providing himself as aforesaid, shall be allowed and paid the just value of such arms and implements so lost, deducting only said sum of Ten Shillings allowed as aforesaid, said premium of Ten Shillings to be paid as soon as such inhabitant shall provide such arms as aforesaid. That when the aforesaid provision fails, sufficient arms shall be impressed completely to arm and equip said inhabitants, the said impress to be limited only to the arms belonging to householders, and other persons not on the Militia Roll; and in case any householder or other person shall voluntarily furnish any enlisted inhabitant, not able to procure arms for himself, with a good gun, well fixed with a good bayonet and cartouch box, shall have and receive a premium of Ten Shillings, and in case of loss shall receive the value thereof, deducting the Ten Shillings as aforesaid. And also that every person from whom any gun shall be impressed as aforesaid, shall be paid for the use of such gun the sum of Four Shillings, and in case of loss shall be paid the just value of such gun, deducting the sum of Four Shillings aforesaid; and that a particular account be taken of the arms that may be used, and the same be all appraised by indifferent judges; and that if any enlisted inhabitant, through negligence, shall lose or damage the arms found for him as aforesaid, such loss or damage shall be deducted out of his wages. And it is also further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that three thousand stand of arms be procured as soon as may be, and held in readiness to be used for the special defence and safety of this Colony. And also that the number of five hundred Spades, five hundred Pickaxes, three hundred narrow Axes, and five hundred Tents be procured for the use of this Colony.

Whereas the General Assembly of this Colony have ordered and enacted that one-fourth part of the Militia of said Colony shall be forthwith enlisted, equipped, and assembled for the special defence and safety of said Colony, &c.: For the encouragement of such able bodied and effectual men of said Militia or others as shall voluntarily offer and enlist themselves for said service to the acceptance of the proper Officers, it is resolved by this Assembly, that each enlisted inhabitant or person as aforesaid, shall be entitled to a premium of Fifty-Two Shillings upon their enlistment, they supplying themselves with a blanket, knapsack, clothing, &c., to the acceptance of their respective Captains, and also to one month's advanced pay; Sergeants shall receive Forty-Eight Shillings each; Corporals Forty-Four Shillings each; Drummers and Fifers Forty-Four Shillings each; and each Private Forty Shillings per calendar month during their continuance in said service. That each enlisted inhabitant or person as aforesaid, who shall provide arms for himself, well fixed with a good bayonet and cartouch box, shall be paid a premium of Ten Shillings; and in case such arms are lost by any inevitable providence, such inhabitant so providing himself shall be allowed and paid the just value of such arms and implements so lost, deducting only the sum of Ten Shillings allowed as aforesaid, said premium of Ten Shillings to be paid as soon as such inhabitant shall be so provided as aforesaid. That a particular account shall be taken of all the arms that may be used, and the same shall be all appraised by indifferent judges. That each inhabitant as aforesaid, upon his enlistment, shall be entitled to Six Pence per diem billeting money, until they are otherwise provided for by the Colony.



*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the non-commissioned and other inhabitants now to be enlisted for the special defence and safety of this Colony, shall be allowed Six Pence a day, for billeting, from the time of their enlistment until supplied from the Colony stores.

*Resolved*, That the three thousand stand of Arms to be procured for the use of this Colony be of the following dimensions, to wit: the length of the barrel three feet ten inches, the diameter of the bore from inside to inside three-quarters of an inch, the length of the blade of the bayonet fourteen inches, the length of the socket four inches and one-quarter; that the barrel be of a suitable thickness, with iron ramrod, and a spring in the lowest loop to secure the ramrod; a good substantial lock, and a good stock well mounted with brass, marked with the name (initial letters) of the maker's name. And

*Resolved*, That all the Arms that shall be made and completed according to the above regulations in this Colony by the first day of *July* next, shall be purchased and taken up by this Colony at a reasonable price.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the form for Commissions for the Major General and Brigadier Generals in the service of this Colony shall be as follows, and the Governour and Secretary are desired and directed to sign the same:

"Colony of CONNECTICUT:

" . . . . . Esquire, Captain General and Governour-in-Chief in and over the ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA,

"To . . . . . Esquire, greeting:

"By virtue of the power and authority to me given by the Royal Charter to the Governour and Company of the said Colony, under the great seal of *England*, I do, by these presents, reposing especial trust and confidence in your loyalty, courage, and good conduct, constitute and appoint you, the said . . . . ., to be . . . . . General and Commander of the Inhabitants enlisted and assembled for the special defence and safety of His Majesty's said Colony. You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of . . . . . General and Commander, in leading, conducting, ordering, and exercising in the service aforesaid the said Inhabitants, both Officers and Soldiers, and to keep them in good order and discipline, hereby commanding them to obey you as their . . . . . General; and you are to observe and follow such orders and instructions as you shall from time to time receive from me or the Commander-in-Chief of the said Colony for the time being, according to military rules and discipline, pursuant to the trust reposed in you.

"Given under my hand and the publick seal of said Colony of *Connecticut*, the . . . day of . . . in the fifteenth year of the reign of His Majesty *George* the Third, of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c., Anno Domini 1775.

"By his Honour's command."

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the form for Commissions for the Captains and Subaltern Officers of a Company for the special defence and safety of this Colony shall be as follows, and the Governour and Secretary are desired and directed to sign the same:

"Colony of CONNECTICUT:

" . . . . . Esquire, Captain General and Governour-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's Colony of CONNECTICUT in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA,

"To . . . . . greeting:

"By virtue of the power and authority to me given, in and by the Royal Charter to the Governour and Company of the said Colony, under the great seal of *England*, I do, by these presents, reposing special trust and confidence in your loyalty, courage, and good conduct, constitute and appoint you, the said . . . . ., to be . . . . . of the . . . . . Company in the . . . . . Regiment of the Inhabitants enlisted and assembled for the special defence and safety of His Majesty's said Colony. You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a . . . . . in leading, ordering, and exercising said Company, both inferior Officers and Soldiers, in the service

aforesaid, and to keep them in good order and discipline, hereby commanding them to obey you as their . . . . .; and you are to observe and follow such orders and instructions as you shall from time to time receive from me or the Commander-in-Chief of the said Colony for the time being, or other your superiour Officers, according to military rules and discipline, pursuant to the trust reposed in you.

"Given under my hand and the publick seal of said Colony, at . . . . . the . . . day of . . . in the fifteenth year of the reign of His Majesty King *George* the Third, Anno Domini 1775.

"By his Honour's command."

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour be, and he is hereby desired, authorized, and empowered to sign and deliver Beating Orders to the respective Officers appointed to enlist men for the special defence and safety of the Colony in the form following, viz:

"*Jonathan Trumbull*, Esquire, Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, to . . . . . greeting:

"I do hereby authorize and empower you, by beat of drum or otherwise, to raise by enlistment a Company of able-bodied effective Volunteers within this Colony, to consist of one hundred men, including Officers, for the defence of this Colony, during the pleasure of the Assembly, not exceeding seven months; and the Colonels of the respective Regiments of Militia, and the several Officers thereof, are requested to afford you all proper aid and assistance; and the Captains in the several Regiments are hereby requested to muster their respective Companies when requested thereunto by you, for the purpose aforesaid.

"Given under my hand this first day of *May*, 1775."

"I, . . . . . of . . . . . do acknowledge to have voluntarily enlisted myself a Soldier, to serve in a Regiment of Foot, raised by the Colony of *Connecticut*, for the defence of the same, to be commanded by . . . . . during the pleasure of the General Assembly, and as they shall direct, not exceeding seven months. As witness my hand, the . . . day of . . . , in the year of our Lord 1775."

In the Lower House the foregoing form of Enlistment being read, &c., is approved.

Test: . . . . . RICHARD LAW, Clerk.

Concurred in in the Upper House.

Test: . . . . . GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

This Assembly do appoint the persons hereafter named to the respective offices, to take the command of the inhabitants to be enlisted and assembled for the special defence and safety of this Colony, to lead and conduct them as the General Assembly shall order; and his Honour the Governour is desired, and he is hereby authorized and empowered, to give Commissions according to the form provided and ordered for each respective Officer, according to his office and rank, and Warrants to such as are appointed in the Staff, viz:

This Assembly do appoint *David Wooster*, Esquire, to be Major General.

*Joseph Spencer*, Esquire, to be Brigadier General.

*Israel Putnam*, Esquire, to be Second Brigadier General.

First Company in the First Regiment.—Major General

*David Wooster*, Esquire, to be Colonel of the First

Regiment, and Captain; *Jesse Leavenworth*, to be First

Lieutenant; *James Blakely*, to be Second Lieutenant;

*Amos Shepard*, to be Ensign.

Second Company in the First Regiment.—*Andrew Ward*,

Junior, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Regiment,

and Captain; *Stephen Hall* to be First Lieutenant;

*Jehiel Meigs* to be Second Lieutenant; *Augustus Collins*

to be Ensign.

Third Company in the First Regiment.—*Jabez Thompson*

to be First Major in the First Regiment, and Captain;

*Bradford Stull* to be First Lieutenant; *Ambrose Hind*

to be Second Lieutenant; *Nathan Pierson* to be Ensign.

Fourth Company in the First Regiment.—*David Welch*

to be Second Major of the First Regiment, and Captain;

*Bazaleel Beebe* to be First Lieutenant; *Aaron Foot* to

be Second Lieutenant; *Thomas Catlin* to be Ensign.



Fifth Company in the First Regiment.—*Benedict Arnold* Captain; *Caleb Trowbridge* to be First Lieutenant; *Jesse Curtiss* to be Second Lieutenant; *Nathan Edwards* to be Ensign.

Sixth Company in the First Regiment.—*William Douglass* to be Captain; *Samuel Blackman, Junior*, to be First Lieutenant; *Jared Robertson* to be Second Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Trusdell* to be Ensign.

Seventh Company in the First Regiment.—*Isaac Cook, Junior*, to be Captain; *John Hough* to be First Lieutenant; *Thomas Shepard* to be Second Lieutenant; *James Peck* to be Ensign.

Eighth Company in the First Regiment.—*Phineas Porter* to be Captain; *Stephen Mathews* to be First Lieutenant; *Isaac Bronson* to be Second Lieutenant; *David Smith* to be Ensign.

Ninth Company in the First Regiment.—*James Arnold* to be Captain; *Samuel Wilcott* to be First Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Bunnell* to be Second Lieutenant; *Philemon Potter* to be Ensign.

Tenth Company in the First Regiment.—*Samuel Peck, Junior*, to be Captain; *John Fowler, Junior*, to be First Lieutenant; *Israel Terrel* to be Second Lieutenant; *Samuel Doolittle* to be Ensign.

The Reverend *Benjamin Trumbull*, Chaplain of the First Regiment.

*Jared Potter*, Surgeon; *Levi Ives*, *Isaac Chester*, Surgeon's Mates, First Regiment.

#### Second Regiment.

First Company, Second Regiment.—*Joseph Spencer, Esq.*, to be Colonel of the Second Regiment, and Captain; *Daniel Cone*, First Lieutenant; *James Smith*, Second Lieutenant; *Joel Arnold*, Ensign.

Second Company, Second Regiment.—*Samuel Wyllys, Esquire*, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, and Captain; *Ezekiel Scott*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Cowper*, Second Lieutenant; *Marcus Cole*, Ensign.

Third Company, Second Regiment.—*Roger Enos, Esq.*, to be First Major, and Captain; *Elijah Rolinson*, First Lieutenant; *Silas Blogget*, Second Lieutenant; *Benjamin Frisbee*, Ensign.

Fourth Company, Second Regiment.—*Return Jonathan Meigs, Esquire*, to be Second Major, and Captain; *Elijah Blackman*, First Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Sumner*, Second Lieutenant; *Joseph Savage*, Ensign.

Fifth Company, Second Regiment.—*Solomon Willis*, Captain; *Jonathan Parker*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Fell, Jr.*, Second Lieutenant; *Noah Chapin, Jr.*, Ensign.

Sixth Company, Second Regiment.—*Noadiah Hooker*, Captain; *Peter Curtiss*, First Lieutenant; *Joseph Boyington*, Second Lieutenant; *Amos Wadsworth*, Ensign.

Seventh Company, Second Regiment.—*Abel Pettibone*, Captain; *Amasa Mills*, First Lieutenant; *Joseph Forward*, Second Lieutenant; *Jonathan Pettibone, Junior*, Ensign.

Eighth Company, Second Regiment.—*Levi Wells*, Captain; *James Ransom*, First Lieutenant; *John Isham*, Second Lieutenant; *Samuel Palmer*, Ensign.

Ninth Company, Second Regiment.—*John Chester*, Captain; *Barnabas Dean*, First Lieutenant; *Stephen Goodrich*, Second Lieutenant; *Charles Butler*, Ensign.

Tenth Company, Second Regiment.—*John Harman, Jun.*, Captain; *Samuel Wright*, First Lieutenant; *Consider Williston*, Second Lieutenant; *Oliver Hanchel*, Ensign.

Reverend *Benjamin Boardman*, Chaplain of the Second Regiment.

*William Jepson*, Surgeon; *Daniel Southmayd*, *Richard Watrous*, Surgeon's Mates, Second Regiment.

#### Third Regiment.

First Company, Third Regiment.—*Israel Putnam, Esq.*, to be Colonel of the Third Regiment, and Captain; *Jonathan Kingsley*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Grosvenor*, Second Lieutenant; *Elijah Loomis*, Ensign.

Second Company, Third Regiment.—*Experience Storrs, Esquire*, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, and Captain; *James Dana*, First Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Gray*, Second Lieutenant; *Isaac Farewell*, Ensign.

Third Company, Third Regiment.—*John Durkey* to be First Major, and Captain; *Joshua Huntington*, First

Lieutenant; *Jacobus De Witt*, Second Lieutenant; *Samuel Bingham*, Ensign.

Fourth Company, Third Regiment.—*Obadiah Johnson, Esquire*, to be Second Major, and Captain; *Ephraim Lyon*, First Lieutenant; *Wells Cliff*, Second Lieutenant; *Isaac Hide, Junior*, Ensign.

Fifth Company, Third Regiment.—*Thomas Knowlton*, Captain; *Reuben Marcey*, First Lieutenant; *John Keys*, Second Lieutenant; *Daniel Allen, Junior*, Ensign.

Sixth Company, Third Regiment.—*James Clark*, Captain; *Daniel Tilden*, First Lieutenant; *Andrew Fitch*, Second Lieutenant; *Thomas Bell*, Ensign.

Seventh Company, Third Regiment.—*Ephraim Manning*, Captain; *Stephen Lyon*, First Lieutenant; *Asa Morris*, Second Lieutenant; *William Fussell*, Ensign.

Eighth Company, Third Regiment.—*Joseph Elliott*, Captain; *Benoni Cutler*, First Lieutenant; *Daniel Waters*, Second Lieutenant; *Comfort Day*, Ensign.

Ninth Company, Third Regiment.—*Ebenezer Moseley*, Captain; *Stephen Brown*, First Lieutenant; *Melatiah Bingham*, Second Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Wales*, Ensign.

Tenth Company, Third Regiment.—*Israel Putnam, Jun.*, Captain; *Samuel Robinson, Junior*, First Lieutenant; *Amos Avery*, Second Lieutenant; *Caleb Stanley*, Ensign.

Rev. *Abiel Leonard*, Chaplain of the Third Regiment. *John Spalding*, Surgeon; *Penuel Cheeney*, *Elijah Adams*, Surgeon's Mates, Third Regiment.

#### Fourth Regiment.

First Company, Fourth Regiment.—*Benjamin Hinman, Esquire*, to be Colonel of the Fourth Regiment, and Captain; *David Hinman*, First Lieutenant; *Benjamin Hungerford*, Second Lieutenant; *Asahel Hurd*, Ensign.

Second Company, Fourth Regiment.—*George Pitkin, Esquire*, to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fourth Regiment, and Captain; *Isaac Fellows*, First Lieutenant; *David Bissell*, Second Lieutenant; *Edward Payne*, Ensign.

Third Company, Fourth Regiment.—*Samuel Elmore, Esquire*, to be Major of the Fourth Regiment, and Captain; *Amos Chappel*, First Lieutenant; *Oliver Parmely*, Second Lieutenant; *Moses Shepard*, Ensign.

Fourth Company, Fourth Regiment.—*Nathaniel Buel*, Captain; *Timothy Holcomb*, First Lieutenant; *Luther Stoddard*, Second Lieutenant; *Nathan Dawsey*, Ensign.

Fifth Company, Fourth Regiment.—*Shubael Griswold*, Captain; *Benjamin Mills*, First Lieutenant; *Aaron Austin*, Second Lieutenant; *Caleb Lyman*, Ensign.

Sixth Company, Fourth Regiment.—*Josiah Starr*, Captain; *Asaph Hall*, First Lieutenant; *Paul Yates*, Second Lieutenant; *Asahel Hodge*, Ensign.

Seventh Company, Fourth Regiment.—*Eleazar Curtiss, Junior*, Captain; *John Ranson, Junior*, First Lieutenant; *Morgan Noble*, Second Lieutenant; *John Rockwell*, Ensign.

Eighth Company, Fourth Regiment.—*John Sedgwick*, Captain; *Warham Gibbs*, First Lieutenant; *James Thomas*, Second Lieutenant; *Matthew Patterson*, Ensign.

Ninth Company, Fourth Regiment.—*John Watson, Jun.*, Captain; *Theodore Woodbridge*, First Lieutenant; *Titus Watson*, Second Lieutenant; *Jehiel Hull*, Ensign.

Tenth Company, Fourth Regiment.—*Hezekiah Parsons*, Captain; *Hezekiah Holdridge*, First Lieutenant; *John Skinner*, Second Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Watson*, Ensign.

Reverend *Cotton Mather Smith*, Chaplain to the Fourth Regiment.

*Lemuel Wheeler*, Surgeon; *Daniel Sheldon*, *Abel Catlin*, Surgeon's Mates, Fourth Regiment.

#### Fifth Regiment.

First Company, Fifth Regiment.—*David Waterbury, Jun.*, to be Colonel of the Fifth Regiment, and Captain; *Sylvanus Brown*, First Lieutenant; *Jonathan Whiting*, Second Lieutenant; *Samuel Hoyt*, Ensign.

Second Company, Fifth Regiment.—*Samuel Whiting*, to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fifth Regiment, and



Captain; *Elijah Beach*, First Lieutenant; *Robert Walker*, Second Lieutenant; *Abijah Sterling*, Ensign.

Third Company, Fifth Regiment.—*Thomas Hobby*, to be Major of the Fifth Regiment, and Captain; *Bazaleel Brown*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Lockwood*, Second Lieutenant; *John Waterbury*, Ensign.

Fourth Company, Fifth Regiment.—*David Dimon*, Captain; *Peter Hendrick*, First Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Hill*, Second Lieutenant; *Wakeman Burr*, Ensign.

Fifth Company, Fifth Regiment.—*Matthew Mead*, Captain; *Levi Taylor*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Cannon*, Second Lieutenant; *William Seymour*, Ensign.

Sixth Company, Fifth Regiment.—*Noble Benedict*, Captain; *James Clark*, First Lieutenant; *Ephraim Lyon*, Second Lieutenant; *Daniel Hickox*, Ensign.

Seventh Company, Fifth Regiment.—*Abraham Gray*, Captain; *Stephen Wakeman*, First Lieutenant; *Thaddeus Rockwell*, Second Lieutenant; *George Burr*, Ensign.

Eighth Company, Fifth Regiment.—*Joseph Smith, Jr.*, Captain; *Abel Botsford, Jr.*, First Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Blackman*, Second Lieutenant; *Silas Hubbel*, Ensign.

Ninth Company, Fifth Regiment.—*Nehemiah Beardslee*, Captain; *Samuel Keeler*, First Lieutenant; *Zephaniah Briggs*, Second Lieutenant; *William Benedict*, Ensign.

Tenth Company, Fifth Regiment.—*Zalmon Read*, Captain; *Peter Fairchild*, First Lieutenant; *David Peet*, Second Lieutenant; *Benjamin Nichols*, Ensign.

Reverend *Samuel Wood*, Chaplain of the Fifth Regiment.

*John Wood*, Surgeon; *Asael Fitch*, *Samuel Whiting*, Surgeon's Mates, Fifth Regiment.

#### Sixth Regiment.

First Company, Sixth Regiment.—*Samuel Holden Parsons*, Esquire, to be Colonel of the Sixth Regiment, and Captain; *David F. Sill*, First Lieutenant; *Christopher Ely*, Second Lieutenant; *Elisha Wade*, Ensign.

Second Company, Sixth Regiment.—*John Tyler*, Esq., to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth Regiment, and Captain; *Elnathan Rossiter*, First Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Brewster*, Second Lieutenant; *Joseph Hilyard*, Ensign.

Third Company, Sixth Regiment.—*Samuel Prentice*, Esq., to be Major of the Sixth Regiment, and Captain; *James Eldridge*, First Lieutenant; *Richard Hewet*, Second Lieutenant; *Oliver Babcock*, Ensign.

Fourth Company, Sixth Regiment.—*William Coit*, Captain; *Jedediah Hide*, First Lieutenant; *James Day*, Second Lieutenant; *William Adams, Junior*, Ensign.

Fifth Company, Sixth Regiment.—*James Chapman, Jun.*, Captain; *Christopher Darrow*, First Lieutenant; *John Raymond, Jr.*, Second; *George Lattimore*, Ensign.

Sixth Company, Sixth Regiment.—*Waterman Cleft*, Captain; *William Edmond*, First Lieutenant; *John McGregor*, Second Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Morgan*, Ensign.

Seventh Company, Sixth Regiment.—*Edward Mott*, Captain; *Benjamin Throop, Jr.*, First Lieutenant; *Jeremiah Halsey*, Second Lieutenant; *Nathan Peters*, Ensign.

Eighth Company, Sixth Regiment.—*Samuel Gale*, Captain; *Josiah Baldwin*, First Lieutenant; *Elisha Lee*, Second Lieutenant; *David Nevins*, Ensign.

Ninth Company, Sixth Regiment.—*John Ely*, Captain; *Abraham Waterhouse*, First Lieutenant; *Martin Kirtland*, Second Lieutenant; *Israel Doan*, Ensign.

Tenth Company, Sixth Regiment.—*Abel Spicer*, Captain; *Isaac Gallop*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Williams*, Second Lieutenant; *William Latham*, Ensign.

Rev. *Stephen Johnson*, Chaplain of the Sixth Regiment.

*Philip Turner*, Surgeon; *Thomas Fosdick*, *Benjamin Ellis*, Surgeon's Mates, Sixth Regiment.

Whereas this Assembly have ordered one-fourth part of their Militia to be enlisted and equipped for the defence and safety of this Colony, and appointed Officers to command the same, and as some of the Officers so appointed may fail to accept said trust, or by death or otherwise others may be wanted:

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour be desired, and he is hereby desired and empowered to appoint Officers to fill up any such vacancy that shall happen, and commission them accordingly.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That Captain *Joseph Trumbull* be appointed, and he is hereby appointed Commissary General, to take care of the Rations purchased at *Salem*,

by Brigadier-General *Spencer*, or any others that shall be sent for our inhabitants enlisting or assembling for the special defence and safety of this Colony, and take care that the same are distributed among them; and take advantage of any opportunity to purchase thereabouts any further supply, when to be had on better terms than to be purchased and had from this Colony; to purchase the same as there shall be occasion, and inform, from time to time, his doings therein for the directions of the Commissaries employed in this Colony.

This Assembly do appoint *Oliver Wolcott*, *Henry Champion*, *Thomas Mumford*, *Jedediah Strong*, Esquires, Captain *Jeremiah Wadsworth*, *Thomas Howel*, *Samuel Squier*, Esquires, Messrs. *Amasa Keys* and *Hezekiah Bissell*, Commissaries, to supply all necessary Stores and Provisions for the Troops now to be raised for the defence of this Colony.

On Report of the Committee to consider how far the Commissaries shall be instructed to procure Provisions and other Supplies for the immediate use of the men now to be raised for the defence of the Colony, it is now

*Resolved*, That *Joseph Trumbull*, Esquire, Commissary-General, immediately purchase one hoghead of *New-England Rum*, and one hundred Tin Kettles; and that Captain *Jeremiah Wadsworth* procure, as soon as may be, one hundred Tin Kettles, and also fifty barrels of Pork, also fifty bushels of Peas and Beans, and immediately forward said Peas and Beans to the Commissary-General, and also procure two hundred hundred weight of Bread; and that Mr. *Hezekiah Bissell* procure sixty barrels of Pork, and two hundred and forty hundred weight of Bread; and that the Commissaries in *Litchfield County* procure twenty barrels of Pork, and eighty hundred weight of Bread, and that the Commissaries for the County of *New-Haven*, *New-London*, and *Fairfield*, each procure fifty barrels of Pork, and two hundred hundred weight of Bread.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That *William Pitkin*, *Thomas Seymour*, *Oliver Ellsworth*, and *Ezekiel Williams*, Esquires, or any three of them, be a Committee with full power, and they, or any three of them, are hereby fully empowered to examine, liquidate, adjust, settle, and give needful orders for the payment of the several accounts of the expenses that have, or may be incurred, relative to assembling, equipping, supplying, encouraging, or paying wages to such of the inhabitants as may enlist for the defence of this Colony for the current year; said Committee to proceed therein according to such order, rules, and directions, as shall from time to time be given by this Assembly for that purpose.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Committee of Pay-Table be and they are hereby directed and empowered to take Bonds, with sufficient sureties, payable to the Governour and Company of this Colony, of every Commissary appointed, to provide Stores and Provisions for the Troops now raising for the defence of the Colony; and in such Bond every Commissary shall be obliged, faithfully and justly, to dispose of the money he shall receive for the purpose aforesaid, and to account with the Committee of Pay-Table for the same.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the chief Officers and Captains of the several Companies to be enlisted, shall be the Paymasters to their respective Companies, and that the Committee of the Pay-Table be and they are hereby directed and empowered to take Bonds, with sufficient sureties, payable to the Governour and Company of this Colony, of every Captain or other person who shall undertake to act as Paymaster to any one of said Companies now to be enlisted; and in such Bond, every Paymaster shall be obligated faithfully and justly to dispose of the money he shall receive for the purpose aforesaid, and to account to the Committee of the Pay-Table for the same; and such Paymaster shall be allowed one and a half per cent. for said service.

Whereas, a sum of Money is necessary for payment of incident charges of Government:

*Be it therefore enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That there be forthwith imprinted the sum of fifty thousand Pounds, Bills of Credit on this Colony, equal to lawful money, of suitable denominations



as the Committee herein appointed shall direct, and of the same tenour with the late impression of Bills of Credit of this Colony, without interest, payable at or before the tenth day of *May*, 1777, dated the ninth day of *May*, 1775. *William Pitkin, George Wyllys, Elisha Williams, Benjamin Payne, and Thomas Seymour*, Esquires, or any three of them, are appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid, to take care that said Bills be imprinted with all convenient speed, and to sign and deliver the same to the Treasurer of this Colony, taking his receipt therefor. And the said Committee shall be sworn to a faithful discharge of their trust, and the Treasurer is hereby directed to pay out said Bills according to the orders of Assembly. And for providing an ample and sufficient Fund to call in, sink, and discharge the aforesaid sum, to be emitted as aforesaid,

*Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That a Tax of seven pence on the pound be, and is hereby granted and ordered to be levied on all the Polls and Rateable Estate in this Colony, according to the list thereof, to be brought into this Assembly in *October*, 1775, with the additions; which Tax shall be collected and paid into the Treasury of this Colony by the tenth day of *May*, 1777; which Tax may be discharged by paying the Bills of this Colony of this emission, or lawful money; and the Treasurer of this Colony is hereby ordered and directed to send forth his Warrants for collecting the same accordingly.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration what disposition is best to be made of the Colony Powder, having made their Report, which has been accepted, it is now

*Resolved*, That Captain *Jabez Huntington*, of *Windham*, take into his care all the Powder that is lodged in the County of *Windham*, and that Mr. *Winthrop Saltonstall* take into his care the Powder lodged in the Town of *New-London*, and that *Jabez Huntington*, Esquire, of *Norwich*, take into his care the Powder lodged in the Town of *Norwich*, and that twenty-eight half-barrels of the Powder, lodged at *New-Haven*, be sent to the County of *Fairfield*, and committed to the care of *Thaddeus Burr*, Esq.; and that fourteen half-barrels of the Powder lodged at *New-Haven* be sent to the County of *Litchfield*, to the care of *Lynde Lord*, Esq., of *Litchfield*, and the remainder of the Powder lodged at *New-Haven*, be taken into the care of *Jonathan Fitch*, Esq., of *New-Haven*. And the aforesaid persons are ordered to deliver out the same according to such orders as shall from time to time be given them respectively by the General Assembly of the Colony; or in case of some sudden and extraordinary emergency, by the Selectmen of the respective Towns where the same is lodged, taking their receipts therefor.

*And it is further Resolved*, That if any more Powder shall be brought into the Colony, for the use and defence thereof, a suitable proportion thereof be committed to the care of *John Lawrence*, Esq., of *Hartford*, and the remainder thereof to be distributed into the several Counties in some suitable proportion, and committed to the care of the gentlemen before named, to be disposed as aforesaid.

This Assembly do appoint and direct *Robert Fairchild*, Esq., and Captain *Daniel Judson*, to inquire after and take into their care, for the use of the Colony, whatever Stores, of the camp or military kind, belonging to said Colony, as may be found with the heirs of *Theophilus Nichols*, Esq., deceased, late a Commissary for this Government, or in the hands of any other person in *Stratford*; and cause any Arms which need, to be forthwith repaired, and make report to next Assembly.

This Assembly do appoint Mr. *Jedediah Strong* to make inquiry at *Albany*, whether any Arms belonging to this Colony, and left there during the last War, yet remain there, and if any, how many, and in whose custody. He is also to receive and give proper receipts in behalf of this Colony for the same, and cause the same to be transported into this Colony as soon as conveniently may be, and make report of his doings in the premises to the next General Assembly.

This Assembly do appoint *Daniel Lyman, Enos Allyn, Thomas Howel, Dudley Woodbridge, Joseph Denison* the second, *Stephen Babcock, Gurdon Saltonstall, Thomas Mumford, John Lay*, Esquires, Captain *John Deshon*, Captain *Richard Dickenson*, and Mr. *John McCurdy*, a Committee, to take into consideration the best method and

means of securing and defending our Sea-coast, Ports, and Shipping therein, and to state the facts, and report their opinion thereon to the Assembly in *May* next, jointly or severally, without expense to this Colony.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That Colonel *Gurdon Saltonstall, Samuel Mott*, Esq., and Captain *John Deshon*, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee, forthwith to prepare Carriages, and other necessary apparatus for the Cannon at *New-London*, in this Colony, so that they may be put into the best order for use, in case of necessity for defence.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governor be, and he is hereby desired, authorized, and empowered, to give to Brigadier-General *Spencer* an order to the Colonels of the six Regiments under his command, to send to their respective Captains, to forward the enlistment of the inhabitants and men, for the special defence and safety of this Colony, and to hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice; and the four Regiments commanded by Brigadier *Spencer* and *Putnam*, and Colonels *Hinman* and *Parsons*, or such part of them as his Honour the Governor shall order, do forthwith get into readiness and march forward to *Boston*, or such place or places adjoining near thereto as shall be ordered.

Considering the dark and gloomy aspect of Divine Providence over this Colony and land, and that it is the indispensable duty of every People, suffering under the afflictive chastisements of a righteous God, with deep repentance, supplication, and amendment of life, to endeavour, by all the ways which God has prescribed, to avert his anger and incline him to become reconciled to his People,

It is therefore *Resolved by this Assembly*, That it be recommended to all the Ministers of the Gospel in this Colony, that they earnestly endeavour to dissuade their several congregations from all excess and all diversions which may be improper in the present day of distress, and that both they and their people cry mightily to God, that he would be pleased to spare his People, and be gracious unto them, and visit them with his loving kindness and tender mercies, and not give up his heritage to reproach, but preserve unto them their great and important rights and privileges, and guide and prosper the Publick Councils of this Colony and land, and in their hour of difficulty and distress, graciously manifest his power in the deliverance and salvation of his People, to the glory of own name.

This Assembly being informed by *Charles Webb*, Esq., Colonel of the Ninth Regiment of Militia in this Colony, that *Clap Raymond* of *Norwalk*, in said Regiment, Lieutenant of a Company of Militia, in the Parish of *Wilton*, in said *Norwalk*, of which *Matthew Mead* is Captain, hath, ever since said *Mead* was established and commissioned as Captain of said Company, wholly refused to obey the orders of said Captain, or do his duty as Lieutenant of said Company, in any respect;

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the aforesaid *Clap Raymond* be notified to appear before the General Assembly, to be holden at this place on the second *Thursday* of *May* next, to answer unto said information, and be dealt with thereupon as the wisdom of said Assembly shall direct. And that in the mean time the said *Clap Raymond* be, and he is hereby, suspended from the exercise of his office of Lieutenant of the Company aforesaid, and the Secretary of this Colony is hereby directed and authorized, by warrant under his hand, to give notice to said *Clap Raymond* that he appear and answer as aforesaid.

*An Act to repeal an Act, entitled An Act in further addition to an Act of this Colony, entitled an Act concerning Book Debts.*

Whereas a further continuance of said Act in force at this time may prove very inconvenient and prejudicial:

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That the said Act be repealed, and the same is hereby repealed and made void.

*An Act to exempt, for a limited time, the persons of Debtors from being imprisoned for Debt.*

Whereas, in the present situation of our publick affairs it will be prejudicial to the Colony to confine persons in Jail for Debt;



*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That during the continuance of this Act, no person shall be imprisoned or confined, or held in Prison, on any attachment or execution for Debt; and in every case wherein any Debtor is released out of Prison by virtue of this Act, who was imprisoned by virtue of an execution for Debt, the Creditor may take out an alias execution against the estate of such Debtor; and the Clerk of the Court, or the authority before whom the judgment was rendered, is hereby authorized to issue such alias execution, upon being certified by the Sheriff that such Debtor was released out of Prison without satisfying the Debt, by virtue of which alias execution the lawful fees for the former service and commitment may be collected, as well as the Debt. This Act to continue in force until the rising of the General Assembly in *October* next.

Upon the Memorial of *Joseph Gurnsey* and others, inhabitants of the Parish of *Westbury*, in the Town of *Waterbury*, shewing to this Assembly that they have, with great care and expense, applied themselves to the use of arms and military exercises for a considerable time, have gained considerable skill in military exercises and the art of war, and praying this Assembly to constitute them a special and distinct Military Company, &c., as per Memorial on file;

*Resolved by this Assembly,* That the Memorialists be, and they are hereby, constituted and made a distinct Military Company, and shall be distinguished by the name of the Nineteenth Company in the Tenth Regiment in this Colony, with power, under the direction of the Field Officers, to receive and enlist in the room of those that shall be removed by death or otherwise from said Company, provided the enlistment and enrolment aforesaid be made from the two Military Companies in the Parish of *Westbury*, in said Town of *Waterbury*, and that that enlistment and enrolment do not reduce the number of men in the two Military Companies aforesaid below the number by law established; and that said Company be, and they are hereby, constituted with all the powers, privileges, and advantages, and under the same regulations that other Companies by law do enjoy; and the Colonel, or chief Officers of said Regiment, is hereby directed and empowered by himself, or such officer as he shall appoint, to lead said company to the choice of their Officers on their being first formed and enlisted.

Upon the Memorial of *John Sulliff, Jun.*, and others, inhabitants of the Society of *Northbury*, in the Town of *Wa-*

*terbury*, shewing to this Assembly that there are within the limits of the West Company or Trainband in said Society, the major part of which have evidently discovered themselves inimical to the Constitution of this Colony, &c., and under Commissioned Officers wholly disaffected to the *American* cause, praying to be annexed to the new Company or Trainband in said *Northbury*, lately established by this Assembly, &c., as per Memorial on file;

*Resolved by this Assembly,* That *Thomas Matthews* and *Timothy Judd*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to inquire how far said Commissioned Officers are inimical to, or disaffected with, the *American* cause, and all matters contained in said Memorial, and make report to the next General Assembly.

Upon the Memorial of *Joseph Monson* of *New-Haven*, praying for permission to transport in the *Sea-Flower*, to the *West-Indies*, twenty-six head of Cattle, by him purchased for that purpose, before laying the embargo by this Assembly;

*Resolved,* That said *Monson* have liberty, and he is hereby permitted, to transport said Cattle in said vessel to the *West-India* Islands.

Upon the Memorial of *Joseph White*, of *Weathersfield*, in *Hartford* County, shewing that before any embargo was laid by this Assembly, he had procured twenty Cattle and necessary provisions for them, and eighty barrels of Pork, to be laden on board a vessel he owns, called the Schooner *Fox*, commanded by *James Mitchell*, and destined on a voyage to the *West-Indies*, and that said Cattle remain on his hands at great expense and loss, &c., praying for liberty to export said Cattle in said vessel, &c., as per Memorial on file, dated *May 3, 1775*;

*Resolved by this Assembly,* That the Memorialist, upon his taking out said eighty barrels of Pork, except so much as is necessary for sea-stores, have liberty, and liberty is given to him, to export said twenty Cattle in said vessel to the *West-Indies*, any thing in said Act laying an embargo notwithstanding.

Upon the Memorial of *Hezekiah Smith*, shewing that he had planned a voyage to the *West-Indies*, &c.;

*Resolved by this Assembly,* That the said *Hezekiah Smith* have liberty, and liberty is given and granted to him to ship the said fourteen Cattle to the *West-Indies* on board the vessel whereof he is master, the said embargo lately laid by this Assembly notwithstanding.

This Assembly was adjourned by proclamation without day.

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, April 27, 1775.

Whereas the Continental Congress did resolve in the words following, viz: "And we further agree and associate that we will have no Trade, Commerce, Dealings, or Inter-course whatever, with any Colony or Province in *North America* which shall not accede to, or which shall hereafter violate this Association," &c.

And whereas the Parliament of *Great Britain*, in pursuance of their plan for subjugating and distressing the Colonies, have passed a Bill for depriving our brethren in *New-England* of the benefit of Fishing on their own Coasts; therefore,

*Resolved,* That all Exportations from this City to *Quebeck*, *Nova-Scotia*, *Georgia*, and *Newfoundland*, or any part of the Fishing Coasts or Fishing Islands, ought, in the opinion of this Committee, immediately to be suspended; and that it be accordingly recommended to every Merchant immediately to suspend all Exportations to those places, until the Continental Congress shall give further orders therein. By order of the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*.

JONATHAN B. SMITH, Secretary.

#### STEPHEN HOPKINS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Providence, Rhode-Island, April 27, 1775.

SIR: Yesterday, Mr. *John Brown*, one of the principal merchants of this Town, being at *Newport*, as an agent of

this Colony appointed by the General Assembly to purchase provisions for the use of this and your Government, was seized upon in a freight or packet boat coming to *Providence*. He was carried and confined on board a Man-of-War lying in *Newport*, and about three hundred barrels of flour in that packet and another freight boat, taken by the Ship-of-War. It is said the captures are to be sent to *Boston* for condemnation.

We are greatly alarmed at this open force and hostility, and cannot but expect that the worst of treatment will be offered to our agent. We have thought proper to send you this notice, to the end that you may detain all such of the King's Officers, or others, in his immediate service, as may be in your hands, to answer and be accountable for the conduct and treatment which may be had and acted to Mr. *Brown*, and such as may be captured with him in the said two vessels; and that you would, on your part, in the common cause, do your utmost to make reprisals of persons to stand as security in like manner; not doubting but you will cheerfully do those things which, by the laws of Nature and Nations, are justifiable to be done to those who put themselves in a state of war with others.

We are sorry to inform you that the first struggle which hath happened in our Colony, hath been unfavourable; an event which could not have come to pass, but by the faithlessness of some of the Members of our Assembly, who must have revealed their proceedings, although the oath of God was upon them to secrecy.

Reprisals, recommended by the Continental Congress, and sanctioned by the several Colonies, appears to be a



good remedial provision, and in this instance highly necessary to be put in practice; and we shall not fail ourselves to make use of it at every opportunity, and make the life of every Crown Officer in our power security for the safety of *John Brown*, and those captured with him.

I am, Sir, for myself, and in behalf of all the true friends of freedom in this Colony, your friend and servant,

STEP. HOPKINS.

To the President of the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*, at *Concord*, or elsewhere. On express by Doctor *Wm. Bowen*.

COLONEL ISAAC LEE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Farmington, April 27, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: In consequence of the alarming scenes that have occurred of late, by advice of the Field Officers and others of the Fifteenth Regiment, in this Colony, I gave orders for the whole Regiment under my command to be prepared with arms and ammunition, and cartridges, and every thing necessary for the defence of the Country; and to hold themselves ready to march at the shortest notice. There appeared such a spirit of zeal in the soldiers for an immediate march, that it was with difficulty that they were prevented, until they might have orders from the Captain-General, or the General Assembly. It appeared to us to be attended with very dangerous consequences, and to have a tendency to ruin the State, to march in such independent Companies, and ought by no means to be adopted but in a case of absolute necessity. On being assured by (as we thought) good authority, that more Troops were arrived, &c., gave orders for one-fifth of the Regiment to meet at the parade of the First Society, on the 26th of *April* instant, at ten o'clock in the morning. About one hundred and twenty able-bodied men appeared, and being divided into two Companies, I led them to the choice of their officers, &c. The First Company made choice of Captain *Nemiah Hooker* for their Captain, and Lieutenant *Peter Curtis*, First Lieutenant, Sergeant *David Mather*, Second Lieutenant, Sergeant *Amos* . . . . Ensign. I then led the Second Company to a choice, and they made choice of Captain *Asa Bray* for their Captain, Lieutenant *Joseph Byington*, First Lieutenant, Sergeant *Amos Beecher*, Second Lieutenant, Sergeant *Ambrose Sloper*, Ensign, &c., on which they were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march when they should receive orders from the Captain-General, or the General Assembly, &c., and then dismissed, and desired them to attend the business of their respective farms until further orders, &c.

Certified by your Honour's humble servant,

ISAAC LEE, JR., Colonel.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esquire, Captain-General of His Majesty's Troops in the Colony of *Connecticut*, &c.

N. B. There is also provisions contracted for—enough at least for twenty days, as also teams and carriages.

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON TO JONATHAN TRUMBULL, JUN.

Cambridge, Thursday, April 27, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I came into this place through *Roxbury*, last evening, and find great numbers of Troops, or rather armed men, in much more confusion than I expected, but perhaps with as little as possible, in this disordered state of the *Massachusetts*. Most of the soldiers here are inhabitants of this Province, who are now enlisting in a regular manner. General *Ward* is at *Roxbury*; General *Putnam* is Commander-in-chief at this place. They have both of them too much business upon their hands. I wish our General Officers, as soon as appointed, might immediately repair to Head Quarters; they will, at this crisis of Provincial politics, be very cordially accepted, and be of eminent service.

The Committee of Safety, who are the *primum mobile* in the military movements, are crowded with business. It is expected by many, that the inhabitants of *Boston* will have leave to come out this day, with their effects, provided they leave their arms and provisions. It is said that pork sold there yesterday for a pistareen per pound, and milk for a pistareen per quart. Many are suspicious that the General intends to deceive them till he get possession of their arms. An experienced Engineer deserted to the

Castle the 25th instant. Mr. *Josiah Quincy* is arrived from *London*, in a very low state of health, and not expected to live. The Restraining Act is come by the same ship. The reinforcements from *England* were not to sail till the middle of *April*. I will, if possible, enclose you a *Salem* paper. I expected to have seen brother *Joseph* by this time. Your affectionate brother,

JED. HUNTINGTON.

Mr. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Junior.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE SELECTMEN OF BOSTON.

Cambridge, April 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 25th instant came to hand last evening, or you should have had an answer sooner. We feel for you with the keenest sensibility. Nothing on our part shall be wanting. Our wish is, to know when you are to be permitted to come out; and at what time. We shall encourage the wagoners to go in. We have no desire to injure or molest the person or property of any one who inclines to take refuge in *Boston*; and so soon as we know the day appointed for you to come out, and the time limited therefor, we shall take care that our part is performed with that punctuality which we are determined ever to observe in all cases where the honour of our Country, or the safety of our beloved countrymen is concerned. We desire that we may be furnished, without delay, with an authenticated copy of your engagements with the General, and such other information as is necessary for us.

We are, gentlemen, &c.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE SELECTMEN OF BOSTON.

Cambridge, April 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: It is here currently reported, that General *Gage* gives out publicly that the Provincials fired upon his detachment before the Troops fired upon the Provincials. Such a report occasions astonishment and resentment, as there is the clearest evidence, not only that the Troops fired first at *Lexington*, and killed eight men there before our people fired one gun, and then marched several miles further, to *Concord*, and killed two men and wounded several others, before one gun was fired in that place by our men. He is a man, we trust, of too much honour to propagate such a false account, and has been scandalously deceived by his officers.

We think it probable that ten days may suffice for removing your persons and most valuable effects. We hope you will take care that your agreement is expressed in the most unequivocal terms. We take it that it is not expected that we suffer any persons to remove into Town, besides such as mean to take up their residence there.

We are, &c.

BOSTON COMMITTEE TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Boston, April 27, 1775.

SIR: Agreeably to your desire expressed in your letter of this date, we send you the following, which contains what has passed this day between his Excellency General *Gage*, and the Committee, respecting the inhabitants removing from the Town of *Boston*. We presume there will be a speedy application for passes, as there are a considerable number already who have given in their names, according to his Excellency's prescription, and therefore apprehend wagoners may be encouraged to come in as soon as may be.

It is with great satisfaction we observe your determination not to injure or molest the person or property of any one who inclines to take refuge in *Boston*, and hope you have made proclamation for them to come in accordingly; and that as soon as you know the time appointed for us to remove out of the Town, you are so kindly disposed to assist us all in your power under our perplexed circumstances.

We could not give you an earlier answer, as your letter did not come to hand till late this afternoon.

I am, respectfully, in behalf of the Committee, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN SCOLLAY.

To Doctor *Jos. Warren*, Chairman of the Committee of Congress.



P. S. We beg you will proclaim in every Township, that all persons desirous of coming into *Boston* with their effects, may come without molestation; and that we may be authorized immediately to send five or six persons, or gentlemen's servants, to ride through the different Towns or Parishes, with open letters to the families of such people as are desirous to come to *Boston*, to give them proper notice. You will favour us with an answer as soon as possible. I am, as above, your most humble servant,

JOHN SCOLLAY.

Town-Meeting, Boston, April 27, 1775.

The Committee waited on his Excellency General *Gage*, with the Papers containing the account of the Arms delivered to the Selectmen, and the Return made them by the Constables of the Town, relative to the delivery of Arms in their respective Wards. After long conversation on the subject of the inhabitants removing themselves and effects from the Town, his Excellency being obliged to attend to other business, left the affair to be settled with Brigadier General *Robertson*, who, after further conference, and reporting the substance of it to General *Gage*, returned to the Committee, and declared to them that General *Gage* gives liberty to the inhabitants to remove out of the Town, with their effects; and desires that such inhabitants as intend to remove, would give their names to the Selectmen, and signify whether they mean to convey out their effects by land or water, in order that passes may be prepared; for which passes application may be made to General *Robertson* any time after eight o'clock to-morrow morning; such passes to be had as soon as persons wanting them shall be ready to depart.

DOCTOR JOSEPH WARREN TO ARTHUR LEE.

Cambridge, April 27, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: Our friend *Quincy* just lived to come on shore to die in his own Country; he expired yesterday morning. His virtues rendered him dear, and his abilities useful to his Country.

The wicked measures of the Administration have at length brought matters to a crisis. I think it probable that this rage of the people, excited by the most clear view of the cursed designs of the Administration, and the barbarous effusion of the blood of their countrymen, will lead them to attack General *Gage*, and burn the ships in the harbour.

Lord *Chatham* and our friends must make up the breach immediately, or never. If any thing terrible takes place, it will not do to talk of calling the Colonies to account for it; but it must be attributed to the true cause—the unheard-of provocation given to this people. They will never talk of accommodation until the present Ministry are entirely removed. You may depend the Colonies will sooner suffer depopulation than come into any measures with them.

The next news from *England* must be conciliatory, or the connexion between us ends, however fatal the consequences may be. Prudence may yet alleviate the misfortunes, and calm the convulsions into which the Empire is thrown, by the madness of the present Administration. May *God Almighty* direct you. If any thing is proposed which may be for the honour and safety of *Great Britain* and these Colonies, my utmost efforts will not be wanting to effect a reconciliation. I am, in the utmost haste, surrounded by fifteen or twenty thousand men, your most obedient servant,

JOS. WARREN.

To *Arthur Lee*, Esquire, *London*.

P. S. The Narrative sent to Doctor *Franklin* contains a true state of facts; but it was difficult to make the people willing that any notice should be taken of the matter by way of narrative, unless the Army and Navy were taken or driven away.

J. W.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM QUEBECK, APRIL 27, 1775.

The Governour's Commission from the King was read here on *Monday*, the 24th instant. He has very ample powers; he chooses all the Members of the Council himself, and can discharge them at pleasure; can oblige what number of His Majesty's subjects in *Canada* he pleases to

march against any enemy, or supposed enemy, when he shall think fit; can build forts, or do any thing else with the people's money, and demolish them at pleasure. In short, he is possessed of absolute and despotick power, only with this difference, (if it is any,) that the majority of the Council (who hold their seats as before-mentioned) must approve of his measures. The Council consists of twenty-three persons, seven of them *Roman Catholics*.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, April 28, 1775.

Yesterday, at about one o'clock, *Mann Page*, Junior, Esquire, one of the Representatives for *Spottsylvania*, arrived here in twenty-four hours from *Fredericksburgh*, being charged by a number of people from different Counties, now assembling there, to inquire whether the gunpowder had been replaced in the publick magazine, the removal of which had spread a general alarm, and greatly exasperated all ranks of people. Expresses had been sent into several Counties, and it was expected that upwards of two thousand men would be assembled in *Fredericksburgh* by this evening; and the Militia of *Caroline* were ordered to meet to-morrow at ten o'clock, to be in readiness to join those of the upper Counties. Mr. *Page* returned again in the evening, and carried a letter from the Honourable the Speaker, to endeavour to pacify the people; and as that gentleman sets out to-morrow by land to attend the General Congress, we hear he proposes meeting them; and it is hoped, from his great influence, that he will be able to prevail on them to return home, and rest satisfied with the Governour's promise that the powder shall be given up when there is occasion for it. The independent Companies of *Caroline* and *Spottsylvania*, we hear, have determined to escort the Delegates from this Colony to *Hooe's Ferry*, on *Potomack*.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR FRANKLIN.

*Perth-Amboy*.

By His Excellency WILLIAM FRANKLIN, Esq., Captain-General, Governour, and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Province of NEW-JERSEY, and Territories thereon depending, in AMERICA, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral in the same, &c.:

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas I have lately received despatches from one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, containing matters of great importance to the Colony, in the present situation of publick affairs, and calculated to restore that harmony between *Great Britain* and her *American Colonies* so essential to the interest and happiness of both; and being desirous of communicating the same as early as possible to the General Assembly of this Colony, in order to give them an opportunity of using their best endeavours towards effecting so desirable a purpose; I have, therefore, thought fit, and by and with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Council, do hereby appoint the said General Assembly to meet at the City of *Burlington*, on *Monday*, the 15th day of *May* next; of which all His Majesty's subjects concerned therein are required to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, at the City of *Perth-Amboy*, the twenty-eighth day of *April*, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King *George* the Third, *Annoq. Domini* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

WILLIAM FRANKLIN.

By His Excellency's command:

CHARLES PETTIT, D. Secretary.  
God save the King.

MEETING OF THE INHABITANTS OF PERTH-AMBOY,  
NEW-JERSEY.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the North Ward of the City of *Perth-Amboy*, on *Friday*, the 28th of *April*, 1775:

Resolved unanimously, That *James Parker*, *Stephen Skinner*, and *Jonathan Deare*, Esquires, or any two of them, be a standing Committee of Correspondence for the North Ward of this City.



A copy of a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence of *Princeton*, signed by *Jonathan D. Sergeant*, Esquire, Clerk to the said Committee, transmitted by the Committee of *Woodbridge*, and by them directed to the inhabitants of this City, was read, wherein, after mentioning the very alarming intelligence lately received, a Provincial Congress for this Province is proposed to be held on the 5th day of *May* next; and a meeting of the inhabitants being now called, that their sense might be taken on the necessity and propriety of choosing Deputies to attend the said Congress:

The question was thereupon put, whether Deputies shall be sent or not, and carried in the affirmative unanimously.

*James Parker*, *Stephen Skinner*, and *Jonathan Deare*, Esquires, were then nominated as Deputies to attend the said Congress to represent this City, and were unanimously chosen; and it is requested that they, or any one or more of them do attend the said Congress accordingly.

It is also agreed by the inhabitants now assembled, that the expenses of the Deputies who shall attend the said Congress be defrayed by this City.

It is also requested that Mr. *Deare* acquaint the Committees of *Princeton* and *Woodbridge* of the proceedings of this meeting. By order of the meeting:

JOHN THOMSON, *Clerk*.

#### ADDRESS OF THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

New-York, April 28, 1775.

To the Freeholders and Freemen of the City and County of NEW-YORK:

We regret, gentlemen, the necessity we are under of addressing you upon this occasion, and perceive with anxiety the disorder and confusion into which this City has been unfortunately involved.

From cool and temperate counsels only, good consequences may be expected; nor can union (so essential to the success of our cause) be preserved, unless every member of society will consent to be governed by the sense of the majority, and join in having that sense fairly and candidly ascertained.

Conscious that the powers you conferred upon us were not adequate to the present exigency of affairs, we were unanimously of opinion that another Committee should be appointed; and well knowing that questions of the highest moment and the last importance would come under their consideration, and call for their determination, we thought it most advisable that it should consist of a large number, in order, by interesting many of weight and consequence in all publick measures, they might meet with the more advocates, receive less opposition, and be attended with more certain success.

The names of one hundred persons were mentioned by this Committee; you were left at liberty to approve or reject them, and appoint others in their room; and that your sense might be the better taken, polls in each Ward were directed to be opened. What could be more fair?

By all means, gentlemen, let us avoid divisions; and instead of cherishing a spirit of animosity against one another, let us join in forwarding a reconciliation of all parties, and thereby strengthen the general cause.

Many, no doubt, have become objects of distrust and suspicion, and, perhaps, not without reason; you have now an opportunity of trying them. It surely never can be good policy to put it out of their power to join us heartily; it is time enough to reject them when they refuse us their aid. In short, gentlemen, consider that our contest is for liberty; and therefore we should be extremely cautious how we permit our struggles to hurry us into acts of violence and extravagance inconsistent with freedom.

Permit us to entreat you to consider these matters seriously, and act with temper as well as firmness; and, by all means, join in the appointment of some Committee, to whom you may resort for counsel, and who may rescue you from tumult, anarchy, and confusion.

We take the liberty, therefore, of recommending it to you to go to the usual places of election in each of your Wards, on *Monday* next at nine o'clock in the morning, and then and there give your voices for a Committee of one hundred; to consist of such persons as you may think most

worthy of confidence and most capable of the arduous task. Being also fully persuaded of the necessity of a Provincial Convention being summoned with all possible expedition, we recommend it to you, at the same time, to choose twenty Deputies to represent this City and County in such Convention, to meet here on the 22d day of *May* next.

By order of the Committee:

ISAAC LOW, *Chairman*.

#### COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF NEW-YORK TO THE SEVERAL COUNTIES IN THE PROVINCE.

Committee Chamber, New-York, April 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The distressed and alarming situation of our Country, occasioned by the sanguinary measures adopted by the *British* Ministry, (to enforce which the sword has been actually drawn against our brethren in the *Massachusetts*;) threatening to involve this Continent in all the horrors of a civil war, obliges us to call for the united aid and counsel of the Colony at this dangerous crisis.

Most of the Deputies who composed the late Provincial Congress held in this City, were only vested with powers to choose Delegates to represent the Province at the next Continental Congress, and the Convention having executed that trust, dissolved themselves. It is therefore thought advisable by this Committee, that a Provincial Congress be immediately summoned to deliberate upon, and from time to time to direct such measures as may be expedient for our common safety.

We persuade ourselves that no arguments can now be wanting to evince the necessity of a perfect union; and we know of no method in which the united sense of the people of the Province can be collected, but in the one now proposed. We therefore entreat your County heartily to unite in the choice of proper persons to represent them at a Provincial Congress to be held in this City on the 22d of *May* next. Twenty Deputies are proposed for this City, and in order to give the greater weight and influence to the councils of the Congress, we could wish the number of Deputies from the Counties may be considerable.

We can assure you, that the appointment of a Provincial Congress, approved of by the inhabitants of this City in general, is the most proper and salutary measure that can be adopted in the present melancholy state of this Continent; and we shall be happy to find that our brethren in the different Counties concur with us in opinion. By order of the Committee:

ISAAC LOW, *Chairman*.

#### TO THE INHABITANTS OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, April 28, 1775.

On the 18th of instant, *April*, the humane and benevolent General *Gage* ordered a select number of about twelve hundred of his Grenadiers and best Troops, in a most secret manner, to march up the country as far as *Concord*, (as supposed) to seize Colonel *Hancock* and Mr. *Samuel Adams*. The first exploit they performed was in their way to *Lexington*; they found about thirty men exercising, and, without any provocation, fired upon them, (for about fifteen minutes,) killed six men, and wounded several when they were retreating as fast as possible; then the Troops proceeded on their way to *Concord*. On the road they killed a man on horseback, and killed geese, hogs, cattle, and every living creature they came across; they came to the house where said *Hancock* and *Adams* lodged, (who luckily escaped them;) they searched the house, and when they could not find them, these barbarians killed the woman of the house and all the children in cool blood, and then set the house on fire.

Alas! would not the heathen, in all their savage barbarity and cruelty, blush at such horrid murder, and worse than brutal rage? Is this the bravery of *British* Troops? Is this the part of a truly great commander? Is this the native courage and intrepidity of *English* soldiers, so much boasted of? Is it not rather the ferocity of a mad wild beast, from whom they cannot be supposed to differ only in shape? Let every *American* hear and abhor; let every inhabitant consider what he is likely to suffer if he falls into the hands of such cruel and merciless wretches; what miseries and calamities shall we not be subjected to, if we



submit to the unrighteous and tyrannical claims of the Parliament, of taking what we call our own, when and in what manner they please, without our consent; don't this teach us that a body of men, as well as a particular person, may tyrannically oppress? Let every *American* consider what interest have we in *George the Third*, or what inheritance have we in the Parliament of *Great Britain*. Have they not declared that all the *New-England* Colonies are rebels, and have ordered and commanded their blood-thirsty soldiers to cut the throats of men, women, and children, and are they not at this instant endeavouring to carry their bloody decrees into execution? And how long (besure not a great while) before the rest of the *Americans* will meet with the same, unless they tamely give up their all into their hands, to be taken by them as they please, without the Colonies' consent; but *God* be thanked, the soldiery have met with a check. And for what is all this rage and fury? For no other cause but that we are slow to believe the power of Parliament is omnipotent, and that they have a right to dispose of us and all we have as they please, without our consent. Surely no man in his senses, or that hath any notion of preserving his person or property, but what will, without hesitancy, resolve and determine to sell his life as dear as he can, rather than submit to such a slavish and abject condition. Therefore, my countrymen, think, and by thinking you will necessarily be led to determine that now or never you may be free; if once you lose this opportunity and submit, it is not probable you will ever have another. If any should say we had better try conciliatory measures, and again petition for relief from the King and Parliament, I ask, to what purpose can it be? Have not particular Colonies tried petitioning by themselves, and have not all the Colonies united in a petition for relief? And to what effect? Have they not been disdainfully and contemptuously trampled upon, and treated with scorn, and called nothing but factious complaints? Doth it not plainly appear, that both the King and the Ministry are so fixed and determined at all hazards to destroy *American* liberty, as that it is to as little purpose to complain, or reason with them, as it is to reason with irrational creatures? Therefore it seems there is nothing for us to do, but to appeal unto *God* in the use of what force and strength we have in defence of our liberties and properties, and rely on his Almighty aid for help to repel the tyrant's rage.

AN AMERICAN.

THOMAS BROWN TO COLONEL GEORGE PITKIN.

Cambridge, April 28, 1775, 3 o'clock, P. M.

This minute arrived from *Boston* Mr. *Henderson Inches*, with the agreeable news that the Governour had opened the gates, and given all the people that have a mind to move out, notice to give in their names to the Selectmen; and they are to have a guard to guard them out; and they are to have thirty wagons to move their effects; and when they return, thirty more to go in. The inhabitants are to resign their arms, and the Tories to have liberty to move in with their effects. And he furthermore brings advice by the last vessel from *England*, that when the Regiment of Light-Horse were going to embark, the populace rose and prevented their embarkation; and the General Officers that came away, were obliged to go on board *incognito*; but he further says the Ministry have ordered ten thousand Troops more to be sent, but they will not be here until the last of *May*; and being in haste, shall subscribe myself your most humble servant,

THOMAS BROWN.

To Colonel George Pitkin.

LETTER FROM THE CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE CONGRESS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
April 28, 1775. }

"Resolved unanimously, That the following Letter be authenticated by the President of this Congress, and delivered to Colonel Nathaniel Folsom, Colonel Josiah Bartlett, and Major Samuel Hobart, Esquires, Committee from the Convention of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, as an answer to their Letter of the 26th instant."

GENTLEMEN: It is with pleasure we have received your letter above mentioned, and by a Committee of this Con-

gress have had a conference with your respectable Committee.

We find the fullest conviction in the minds of the inhabitants of our sister Colonies, as well as of this, that by their immediate and most vigorous exertions, there is the greatest prospect of establishing their liberties and saving their Country; and that without such exertions, all must be lost.

It is the opinion of this Congress, as already communicated, that a powerful army on our side must at once cut out such a work for a tyrannical Administration, as, under the great opposition which they meet with in *England*, they cannot accomplish; and that their system of despotism must soon be shaken to the foundation. But should they still pursue their sanguinary measures, the Colonies will then be able to make a successful stand. We have the utmost confidence in your patriotick Colony, whose inhabitants have signalized themselves in joining their brethren in this; and I hope to see the *New-Hampshire* Government, which has been exposed to the corruption of a *British* Ministry, soon placed upon such a footing as will be best calculated to promote the true interest of the same, and to prevent in future such unhappy disputes as have taken place with the Mother Country. We have just received an agreeable account of the conduct of our brethren in *New-York*, and have delivered a copy of the letter to your Committee.

We sincerely thank you for the late measures taken by your Convention at *Exeter*, and are fully persuaded that the Congress of the Colony, which is to meet on the 17th of *May*, will take such effectual steps as the present emergency of publick affairs requires, and the Continent of *America* must necessarily approve at large.

LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEWPORT, RHODE-ISLAND.

Roxbury, April 28, 1775.

Notwithstanding your many neglects; notwithstanding my many avocations, I once more salute you, *jacta est alea*. What folly could have induced General *Gage* to act a part so fatal to *Britain*. It is all over with them; their withering laurels will soon be plucked from their brows by the rapacious *Bourbon*. I pity the madness which effected their destruction.

You have, no doubt, been informed of the affair of *Wednesday* the 19th. Is it not truly amazing, that such a body of Regulars, so thoroughly appointed, with artillery, &c., should be defeated and put to flight by a handful of raw, undisciplined peasants? We have lost but forty-one, and but few, not exceeding ten, wounded; they have near three hundred killed, wounded, and missing. Our countrymen swarm to our defence from all quarters. We are busily organizing our Troops, and shall soon have a well-constructed army in the field of thirty thousand men. *Gage* and his Troops are immured within the walls of *Boston*; and what is a delay to our satisfaction, our friends are entrapped by them. We have some hopes they will be liberated this day. General *Gage* has proposed, upon their surrendering their arms, that they march out. They surrendered their arms yesterday.

Poor *Quincy*, alas! he is no more. He returned to his native Country, pressed the beloved soil, and died. We did not see him; he breathed his last the night before last, at *Cape Ann*.

We have had an express by the way of *Connecticut*, enclosing transcripts from letters sent lately to *New-York*. Such a vile system of slavery is preparing for us as might make a *Domitian* blush. Thank *God*, our enemies will assuredly be defeated.

GOVERNOUR HOPKINS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Providence, April 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Joseph Brown* and Mr. *Moses Brown*, of this place, principal merchants, and gentlemen of distinction and probity, will wait upon you with this letter. Their brother, Mr. *John Brown*, of this Town, merchant, was, two days ago, forcibly taken at *Newport* in a packet, as he was coming from thence with a quantity of flour which he had purchased there. He was carried



on board a Ship-of-War and confined; and we have since heard that he was sent round to *Boston* with the flour.

I request you to give to the bearers any aid and assistance in your power, for procuring the relief and discharge of their brother. In my letter of yesterday to the Congress, the measure of reprisal in this instance was recommended, and if it may be, I wish it may be pursued.

I am your friend and humble servant,

STEP. HOPKINS.

President of the Congress in *Massachusetts*.

JAMES ANGELL TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Providence, Rhode-Island, April 28, 1775.

SIR: At the request of his Honour the Deputy Governor, I have undertaken to answer yours of the 26th instant.

We, Sir, sensibly feel the distresses of our brethren in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and can only say, that, as Brigadier of the three Battalions under my command in the County of *Providence*, I will furnish you, upon any alarm, with six hundred men; but the situation of matters is such, occasioned partly by our Assembly's not appointing officers for the fifteen hundred men which they ordered to be raised for your assistance, and partly by the seizure made by the Man-of-War at *Newport* of three hundred barrels of flour bought by this Colony for supplying our Army, that it will be impossible for our forces immediately to proceed to join your Army, unless they go destitute of provision, which, we imagine here, would rather be a burden than a help to our friends. However, men are enlisting very fast, and when our Assembly meets here, which will be next week, you may rely on it that our forces will, as fast and as soon as possible, march to your assistance. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES ANGELL.

Z. ANDREWS AND T. FREEMAN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Providence, Rhode-Island, April 28, 1775.

DEAR SIR: The anxiety we feel upon seeing the present situation of affairs, will be our apology for troubling you with a letter, the design of which is to convey you intelligence that might, with more propriety, come to you from other persons.

Deputy Governour *Sessions* received your letter requesting assistance, which we have seen a copy of yesterday. The Assembly have adjourned, after passing a simple vote that fifteen hundred men, with suitable stores, should be raised at Government's expense; and leaving the matter there. Nobody at present thinks himself authorized to enlist men, and therefore, scarce any thing in that way has been done. Mr. *John Brown* is taken prisoner on board a Man-of-War, and a quantity of flour which he had purchased at *Newport* is seized, and it is, with him, to sail in a sloop for *Boston* immediately, if he is not already gone.

Our Assembly meets here on *Wednesday* next, and then we hope to see something done in compliance with your request; but we do absolutely despair of any thing being done before, if then. We are sorry to say it, from our hearts; but fearing you might rely too much upon this Government, we thought it our indispensable duty to give you this information. The gentlemen who attended our Assembly as Delegates from your Congress well know where the difficulty lies, and which we hope will be removed next week.

We observed one clause in your letter respecting the artillery, upon which we beg leave to observe, that we have heavy cannon, if such are wanted; but if field-pieces are most required, we believe that more than four or five cannot be ready to come to you, which are now preparing with all possible despatch. We are, Sir, with great respect, your obedient humble servants,

ZEPH. ANDREWS, *Lieut. of Grenadiers*.

THOS. FREEMAN, *Lieut. of Light-Infantry*.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO STEPHEN HOPKINS.

Watertown, April 28, 1775.

SIR: It is with the deepest concern we find Mr. *Brown*, that valuable friend of the cause of *America*, betrayed into

the hands of our common enemies; and every measure for his release that can be pursued by us, shall most earnestly be adopted.

We have ordered *Samuel Murray*, son of the Mandamus Counsellor, and such Officers of General *Gage's* Army as are prisoners of war, not disabled from travelling, to be immediately sent, with a sufficient guard, to *Providence*; and I think it best that *Murray* and Officers should write to their friends in *Boston*, and acquaint them that Mr. *Brown's* friends have the same advantage over them as General *Gage* hath over Mr. *Brown*.

We beg leave to suggest to you the critical situation of the Colony at the present time, which disables the Congress from immediately seizing every Crown Officer in the Government. *Boston* is closed, and the numerous inhabitants so obnoxious to our enemies, are imprisoned therein. Several of our seaports are blockaded with shipping, and threatened with destruction if they join the Army. Under this situation, the inhabitants of those places most in danger, are day and night removing their furniture and effects; and we hope soon to see it generally done. Should we, therefore, seize the Crown Officers as proposed, it may hurl on us and our seaports sudden destruction, before they have an opportunity of saving themselves. We had it in contemplation to send a letter to the General, acquainting him that we should treat the Crown Officers with severity if Mr. *Brown* should be so treated by him; but we are apprehensive it would produce an unhappy, rather than good effect, as he has a greater number of our friends than we have of his. We desire you to give us your further sentiments of the matter. If any other way is left wherein the Congress can save Mr. *Brown*, it shall be readily pursued. We are, &c.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
April 28, 1775. }

Whereas, a worthy friend to the liberties of *America*, Mr. *John Brown*, of *Providence*, hath been lately seized, and with two other persons, carried on board a *British* Ship-of-War at *Newport*:

Ordered, That *Samuel Murray* and two such Officers of General *Gage's* Army, as are now prisoners of war, and not disabled from travelling on account of their wounds, be immediately sent under a sufficient guard to *Providence*, and delivered to Hon. *Stephen Hopkins*, Esquire, or other friends of said Mr. *Brown*; to be made such use of as they shall think proper, for obtaining the liberty of the said Mr. *Brown*.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO STEPHEN HOPKINS.

Watertown, April 29, 1775.

SIR: The above is a copy of an Order and Letter which passed this Congress yesterday, since which we have received from *Boston* copies of sundry Votes of that Town to Gen. *Gage*, upon the subject of a license, for the inhabitants to remove with their effects into the country; and by his answers it appears that he has consented to suffer such inhabitants as have inclination therefor, to leave the place with their effects, excepting fire-arms, which are to be delivered at *Faneuil Hall*, to the Selectmen of the Town, and the name of the owner to be placed on them; and the General expects, on the other hand, a Proclamation from Congress, giving liberty to all inhabitants of the Colony having inclination therefor, to remove, with all their effects, into *Boston*. Some of the inhabitants have already left the Town, by permission of the General; and under these circumstances, should we issue the Order which has passed in Congress, it may put a stop to this unexpected favourable event, and prevent the emancipation of many thousands of friends to *America*. We nevertheless propose to detain the prisoners of war; and if the General should not forfeit his plighted faith, to use all expedition in getting out the families and effects of our friends from *Boston*, that we may be at liberty to use our prisoners, and every other means in our power, for the release of Mr. *Brown*, as was intended. We have just heard that the passages to and from *Boston* are again stopped; but the occasion of this extraordinary manœuvre, we cannot yet learn.

We are, with great respect, &c.

To the Honourable *S. Hopkins*, Esq., of *Providence*.



LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE  
SEVERAL TOWNS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, April 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The barbarous murders committed on our innocent brethren on *Wednesday* the 19th instant, have made it absolutely necessary that we immediately raise an Army to defend our wives and children from the butchering hands of an inhuman soldiery, who, incensed at the obstacles they met with in their bloody progress, and enraged at being repulsed from the field of slaughter, will, without doubt, take the first opportunity in their power to ravage this devoted Country with fire and sword. We conjure, therefore, by all that is dear, by all that is sacred, that you give all assistance possible in forming the Army. Our all is at stake. Death and devastation are the certain consequences of delay; every moment is infinitely precious; an hour lost may deluge your Country in blood, and entail perpetual slavery upon the few of your posterity who may survive the carnage. We beg and entreat, as you will answer it to your Country, to your own consciences, and, above all, to *God* himself, that you will hasten and encourage, by all possible means, the enlistment of men to form the Army, and send them forward to Head Quarters at *Cambridge*, with that expedition which the vast importance and instant urgency of the affair demands. We are, &c.

NEWBURYPORT COMMITTEE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS  
COMMITTEE OF WAR.

Newburyport, April 28, 1775.

SIR: Mr. *Christian Febiger*, the bearer, has been a resident in this Town about three weeks. He came last from *New-Haven*, in *Connecticut*, and from what acquaintance we have had with him, it appears that he is a person well acquainted with the art military, and professes that since he is a *Dane*, he is willing to serve in the *American* Army for pay. He appeared very ready to assist in our late alarm. In behalf of the Committee.

JONA. TITCOMB.

To the Honourable the Chairman of the Committee of War.

SELECTMEN OF SANDBORNTON TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE  
CONGRESS.

Sandbornton, April 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The messenger who bears this waits upon you to request your advice at this critical and alarming juncture. We are in a state almost totally destitute of the proper means of defence. People among us are extremely uneasy and greatly alarmed. We have made repeated trials to furnish ourselves with ammunition, but without success. We therefore request such advice as you in your wisdom shall think fit, and such assistance as you may please to grant.

We are encouraged to make this application, as we understand the Province Store is opened, and a barrel of Powder brought to *Canterbury*. We can assure you that it will be applied to no other use but our Country's defence, being determined to resist all hostile attempts against our sacred and invaluable privileges to the last extremity.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,

JOHN SANDBORN,  
AARON SANDBORN,  
CALEB GILMAN.To the Honourable Congress convened at *Exeter*.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GAGE.

[Read before Congress, May 19, 1775.]

Hartford, April 28, 1775.

SIR: The alarming situation of publick affairs in this Country, and the late unfortunate transactions in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, have induced the General Assembly of this Colony, now sitting in this place, to appoint a Committee\* of their body, to wait upon your Excellency, and to desire me, in their name, to write to you, relative to those very interesting matters.

The inhabitants of this Colony are intimately connected

\* Doctor Johnson and Oliver Wolcott, Esquire.

with the people of your Province, and esteem themselves bound, by the strongest ties of friendship, as well as of common interest, to regard with attention whatever concerns them. You will not, therefore, be surprised that your first arrival at *Boston*, with a body of His Majesty's Troops, for the declared purpose of carrying into execution certain Acts of Parliament, which, in their apprehension, were unconstitutional and oppressive, should have given the good people of this Colony a very just and general alarm. Your subsequent proceedings in fortifying the Town of *Boston*, and other military preparations, greatly increased their apprehensions for the safety of their friends and brethren. They could not be unconcerned spectators of their sufferings in that which they esteemed the common cause of this Country; but the late hostile and secret inroads of some of the Troops under your command, into the heart of the Country, and the violences they have committed, have driven them almost to a state of desperation. They feel now, not only for their friends, but for themselves, and their dearest interests and connections.

We wish not to exaggerate; we are not sure of every part of our information, but by the best intelligence that we have yet been able to obtain, the late transaction was a most unprovoked attack upon the lives and property of His Majesty's subjects; and it is represented to us that such outrages have been committed as would disgrace even barbarians, and much more *Britons*, so highly famed for humanity as well as bravery.

It is feared, therefore, that we are devoted to destruction, and that you have it in command and intention to ravage and desolate the Country. If this is not the case, permit us to ask, why have these outrages been committed? Why is the Town of *Boston* now shut up? To what end are all the hostile preparations that are daily making? And why do we continually hear of fresh destinations of Troops to this Country? The people of this Colony, you may rely upon it, abhor the idea of taking up arms against the Troops of their Sovereign, and dread nothing so much as the horrors of a civil war. But, sir, at the same time we beg leave to assure your Excellency, that as they apprehend themselves justified by the principle of self-defence, they are most firmly resolved to defend their rights and privileges to the last extremity; nor will they be restrained from giving aid to their brethren, if any unjustifiable attack is made upon them.

Be so good, therefore, as to explain yourself upon this most important subject, so far as is consistent with your duty to our common Sovereign. Is there no way to prevent this unhappy dispute from coming to extremities? Is there no alternative but absolute submission, or the desolations of war? By that humanity which constitutes so amiable a part of your character, and for the honour of our Sovereign, and the glory of the *British* Empire, we entreat you to prevent it if possible. Surely it is to be hoped that the temperate wisdom of the Empire might even yet find expedients to restore peace, that so all parts of the Empire may enjoy their particular rights, honours, and immunities. Certainly this is an event most devoutly to be wished; and will it not be consistent with your duty to suspend the operations of war on your part, and enable us on ours to quiet the minds of the people, at least till the result of some further deliberations may be known?

The importance of the occasion will no doubt sufficiently apologize for the earnestness with which we address you, and any seeming impropriety which may attend it, as well as induce you to give us the most explicit and favourable answer in your power.

I am, with great esteem and respect, in behalf of the General Assembly, Sir, your most obedient servant.

To his Excellency *Thomas Gage*, Esq.

## GENERAL GAGE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Boston, April 29, 1775.

SIR: I transmit you herewith a circumstantial account of an unhappy affair that happened in this Province on the nineteenth instant, between His Majesty's Troops and the people of the country, whereby you will see the pitch their leaders have worked them up to, even to commit hostilities upon the King's Troops when an opportunity offered. It



has long been said that this was their plan, and so it has turned out.

I am, with regard and esteem, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

THOS. GAGE.

To the Honourable Governour Trumbull.

*A circumstantial Account of an Attack that happened on the 19th April, 1775, on His Majesty's Troops, by a number of the People of the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.*

On Tuesday the 18th of April, about half-past ten at night, Lieutenant Colonel Smith, of the Tenth Regiment, embarked from the Common, at Boston, with the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry of the Troops there, and landed on the opposite side; from whence he began his march towards Concord, where he was ordered to destroy a magazine of military stores, deposited there for the use of an Army to be assembled in order to act against His Majesty and his Government. The Colonel called his officers together, and gave orders that the Troops should not fire unless fired upon; and after marching a few miles, detached six Companies of Light-Infantry, under the command of Major Pitcairn, to take possession of two bridges on the other side of Concord. Soon after, they heard many signal guns, and the ringing of alarm-bells repeatedly, which convinced them that the country was rising to oppose them, and that it was a preconcerted scheme to oppose the King's Troops, whenever there should be a favourable opportunity for it. About three o'clock the next morning, the Troops being advanced within two miles of Lexington, intelligence was received that about five hundred men in arms were assembled, and determined to oppose the King's Troops; and on Major Pitcairn's galloping up to the head of the advanced Companies, two officers informed him that a man (advanced from those that were assembled) had presented his musket, and attempted to shoot them, but the piece flashed in the pan. On this the Major gave directions to the Troops to move forward, but on no account to fire, nor even to attempt it without orders. When they arrived at the end of the village, they observed about two hundred armed men drawn up on a green, and when the Troops came within one hundred yards of them, they began to file off towards some stone walls on their right flank; the Light-Infantry observing this, ran after them. The Major instantly called to the soldiers not to fire, but to surround and disarm them. Some of them who had jumped over a wall, then fired four or five shot at the Troops, wounded a man of the Tenth Regiment, and the Major's horse in two places, and at the same time several shots were fired from a meeting-house on the left. Upon this, without any order or regularity, the Light-Infantry began a scattered fire, and killed several of the country people, but were silenced as soon as the authority of their officers could make them.

After this, Colonel Smith marched up with the remainder of the detachment, and the whole body proceeded to Concord, where they arrived about nine o'clock, without any thing further happening; but vast numbers of armed people were seen assembling on all the heights. While Colonel Smith, with the Grenadiers and part of the Light-Infantry, remained at Concord to search for cannon, &c., there, he detached Captain Parsons, with six light companies, to secure a bridge at some distance from Concord, and to proceed from thence to certain houses, where it was supposed there was cannon and ammunition. Captain Parsons, in pursuance of these orders, posted three companies at the bridge, and on some heights near it, under the command of Captain Laurie, of the Forty-Third Regiment, and with the remainder went and destroyed some cannon-wheels, powder, and ball. The people still continued increasing on the heights, and in about an hour after, a large body of them began to move towards the bridge. The light companies of the Fourth and Tenth then descended and joined Captain Laurie. The people continued to advance in great numbers, and fired upon the King's Troops; killed three men, wounded four officers, one sergeant, and four privates; upon which (after returning the fire) Captain Laurie and his officers thought it prudent to retreat towards the main body at Concord, and were soon joined by two companies of Grenadiers. When Captain Parsons returned with the three Companies over the bridge, they observed

three soldiers on the ground, one of them scalped, his head much mangled, and his ears cut off, though not quite dead—a sight which struck the soldiers with horror. Captain Parsons marched on and joined the main body, who were only waiting for his coming up to march back to Boston. Colonel Smith had executed his orders, without opposition, by destroying all the military stores he could find. Both the Colonel and Major Pitcairn having taken all possible pains to convince the inhabitants that no injury was intended them, and that if they opened their doors when required, to search for said stores, not the slightest mischief should be done. Neither had any of the people the least occasion to complain; but they were sulky, and one of them even struck Major Pitcairn.

Except upon Captain Laurie at the bridge, no hostilities happened from the affair at Lexington, until the Troops began their march back. As soon as the Troops had got out of the Town of Concord, they received a heavy fire on them from all sides—from walls, fences, houses, trees, barns, &c., which continued, without intermission, till they met the First Brigade, with two field-pieces, near Lexington, ordered out under the command of Lord Percy to support them. Upon the firing of the field-pieces, the people's fire was for a while silenced; but as they still continued to increase greatly in numbers, they fired again, as before, from all places where they could find cover, upon the whole body, and continued so doing for the space of fifteen miles.

Notwithstanding their numbers, they did not attack openly during the whole day, but kept under cover on all occasions. The Troops were very much fatigued; the greater part of them having been under arms all night, and made a march of upwards of forty miles before they arrived at Charlestown, from whence they were ferried over to Boston.

The Troops had above fifty killed, and many more wounded; reports are various about the loss sustained by the country people; some make it very considerable, others not so much.

Williamsburgh, May 20, 1775.

*Account of an Attack upon a body of the King's Troops, by a number of People of the Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, on the 19th of APRIL, transmitted by General GAGE to Lord DUNMORE, Governour of VIRGINIA.*

General Gage having received intelligence that a considerable magazine of military stores was forming at Concord, for an Army which was to assemble there in order to act against His Majesty and his Government, thought proper to order the Grenadiers and light companies of the Regiments at Boston, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Smith, of the Tenth Regiment, to march to the Town of Concord, and to destroy all the military stores they might find there. Pursuant to these orders Lieutenant Colonel Smith crossed, about ten o'clock at night, from the Common to the opposite side, and began his march towards Concord, having first given strict charge to all his officers that they should, on no account, suffer any of their men to fire upon any inhabitants, unless they were first attacked by them. The advanced guard, consisting of six companies of Light-Infantry, under Major Pitcairn, had proceeded to within two miles of Lexington, when they received intelligence that five hundred men were drawn together, and seemed determined to oppose the Troops; at the same time many signal guns were fired from different places, bells were set ringing, and the country every where alarmed. As the party under Major Pitcairn advanced towards Lexington, a man presented his piece at the officer in the front, but it flashed in the pan; and when the party reached the end of the village, they discovered about two hundred men under arms, and drawn up on a green, who waited till the Troops came within about one hundred yards of them, and then filed off to their right, and posted themselves behind some stone walls. Upon which the soldiers ran up towards them, and Major Pitcairn called out to them not to fire, but to surround and disarm them; but the others having got over the walls, fired from behind them four or five shot at the Troops, which wounded a man of the Tenth Regiment, and the Major's horse in two places; at the same time several shot were fired from a meeting-house adjoining. Upon this, without any order or regularity, the soldiers began a scattered fire, and killed several



of the country people, but they were soon stopped by their officers.

Colonel *Smith* came up with the rest of the detachment, and they proceeded together to *Concord*, where they arrived about nine o'clock in the morning, and while he was putting his orders into execution, in destroying the magazine which was found there, he detached a party of six companies of Light-Infantry to secure a bridge at some little distance from the Town, and to destroy some ammunition which they were informed was in several houses thereabouts. This detachment was commanded by Capt. *Parsons*, of the Tenth Regiment, who, leaving three companies at the bridge, with the remainder went in search of and destroyed a quantity of powder, ball, and cannon-wheels, which he found. In the mean time a great number of the country people assembled about this party, and fired upon the three companies posted at the bridge—killed three men, wounded four officers, one sergeant, and four privates. The Troops returned the fire, and retreated towards their main body at *Concord*, and were soon followed by Captain *Parsons* and the other three Companies, who, in passing over the bridge, found three soldiers lying on the ground, one of whom had been scalped, his head much mangled, and his ears cut off, though not quite dead.

Lieutenant Colonel *Smith* being joined by this party, and having completed the business which had been the object of this design, quitted *Concord* on his return to *Boston*; but as soon as he had got without the place, he found himself attacked on all sides from the walls, houses, barns, trees, and every place that afforded cover, and a heavy fire continued upon the Troops until they were met by Lord *Percy* with his Brigade and two field-pieces, upon the firing of which the country people concealed themselves, and ceased. But as soon as the Troops put themselves in march they were again attacked as before, and without intermission, till the Troops reached *Charlestown*, from whence they were ferried over to *Boston*.

The Troops made several halts and returned the fire of the country people, who, however, kept themselves entirely covered and concealed, and did not make the least attempt to show themselves, or venture a close engagement. The Troops lost fifty men killed, and many more are wounded; the loss sustained by the others is not known; some accounts make it very considerable, others little or nothing.

ACCOUNT OF AN ATTACK ON THE INHABITANTS OF MASSACHUSETTS BY THE BRITISH TROOPS, ACTING UNDER THE ORDERS OF GENERAL GAGE, ON THE 19TH OF APRIL, 1775.

Worcester, Massachusetts, May 3, 1775.

*Americans*, for ever bear in mind the battle of *Lexington*, where *British* Troops, unmolested and unprovoked, wantonly, and in a most inhuman manner, fired upon and killed a number of our countrymen, then robbed them of their provisions, ransacked, plundered, and burnt their houses! Nor could the tears of defenceless women, some of whom were in the pains of childbirth, the cries of helpless babes, nor the prayers of old age, confined to beds of sickness, appease their thirst for blood, or divert them from their design of murder and robbery!

The particulars of this alarming event will, we are credibly informed, be soon published by authority, as a Committee of the Provincial Congress have been appointed to make special inquiry, and to take the depositions, on oath, of such as are knowing to the matter. In the mean time, to satisfy the expectation of our readers, we have collected from those whose veracity is unquestioned the following account, viz:

A few days before the battle, the Grenadier and Light-Infantry Companies were all drafted from the several Regiments in *Boston*, and put under the command of an Officer, and it was observed that most of the transports and other boats were put together, and fitted for immediate service. This manœuvre gave rise to a suspicion that some formidable expedition was intended by the soldiery, but what or where, the inhabitants could not determine; however, the town-watches in *Boston*, *Charlestown*, *Cambridge*, &c., were ordered to look well to the landing places. About ten o'clock on the night of the 18th of *April*, the Troops in *Boston* were discovered to be on the

move in a very secret manner, and it was found they were embarking in boats (which they privately brought to the place in the evening) at the bottom of the Common; expresses sat off immediately to alarm the country, that they might be on their guard. When the expresses got about a mile beyond *Lexington*, they were stopped by about fourteen officers on horseback, who came out of *Boston* in the afternoon of that day, and were seen lurking in by-places in the country till after dark. One of the expresses immediately fled, and was pursued two miles by an officer, who, when he had got up with him, presented a pistol, and told him he was a dead man if he did not stop; but he rode on until he came up to a house, when, stopping of a sudden, his horse threw him off. Having the presence of mind to halloo to the people in the house, "Turn out! turn out! I have got one of them," the officer immediately retreated as fast as he had pursued. The other express, after passing through a strict examination, by some means got clear.

The body of the Troops in the mean time, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel *Smith*, had crossed the river, and landed at *Phipps's* farm. They immediately, to the number of one thousand, proceeded to *Lexington*, six miles below *Concord*, with great silence. A Company of Militia, of about eighty men, mustered near the meeting-house; the Troops came in sight of them just before sunrise; the Militia, upon seeing the Troops, began to disperse; the Troops then sat out upon the run, hallooing and huzzaing, and coming within a few rods of them, the commanding officer accosted the Militia in words to this effect: "Disperse, you damn'd rebels! damn you, disperse!" Upon which the Troops again huzzaed, and immediately one or two officers discharged their pistols, which were instantaneously followed by the firing of four or five of the soldiers, and then there seemed to be a general discharge from the whole body. It is to be noticed they fired upon our people as they were dispersing, agreeable to their command, and that we did not even return the fire; eight of our men were killed, and nine wounded. The Troops then laughed, and damned the Yankees, and said they could not bear the smell of gunpowder. A little after this the Troops renewed their march to *Concord*, where, when they arrived, they divided into parties, and went directly to several places where the Province stores were deposited. Each party was supposed to have a tory pilot. One party went into the jail yard, and spiked up and otherwise damaged two cannon belonging to the Province, and broke and set fire to the carriages. They then entered a store and rolled out about a hundred barrels of flour, which they unheaded, and emptied about forty in the river; at the same time others were entering houses and shops, and unheading barrels, chests, &c., the property of private persons; some took possession of the Town-House, to which they set fire, but was extinguished by our people without much hurt. Another party of the Troops went and took possession of the *North* bridge. About one hundred and fifty Provincials, who mustered upon the alarm, coming towards the bridge, the Troops fired upon them without ceremony, and killed two upon the spot! (Thus did the Troops of *Britain's* King fire first at two several times upon his loyal *American* subjects, and put a period to ten lives, before one gun was fired upon them.) Our people then returned the fire, and obliged the Troops to retreat, who were soon joined by their other parties, but finding they were still pursued, the whole body retreated back to *Lexington*, both Provincials and Troops firing as they went. During this time an express from the Troops was sent to General *Gage*, who, thereupon, sent out a reinforcement of about fourteen hundred men, under the command of Earl *Percy*, with two field-pieces.\* Upon the arrival of this reinforcement at *Lexington*, just as the retreating party had got there, they made a stand, picked up their dead, and took all the carriages they could find

\* When the Second Brigade marched out of *Boston* to reinforce the First, nothing was played by the Fifes and Drums but *Yankee Doodle*, (which had become their favourite tune ever since that notable exploit, which did such honour to the Troops of *Britain's* King, of tarring and feathering a poor countryman in *Boston*, and parading with him through the principal streets, under arms, with their bayonets fixed.) Upon their return to *Boston*, one asked his brother officer how he liked the tune now? "Damn them, (returned he,) they made us dance it till we were tired." Since which *Yankee Doodle* sounds less sweet to their ears.



and put their wounded thereon; others of them, to their eternal disgrace be it spoken, were robbing and setting houses on fire, and discharging their cannon at the meeting-house. Whilst they were thus employed, a number of our people attacked a party of twelve of the enemy, (carrying stores and provisions to the Troops,) killed one of them, and took possession of their arms, stores, provisions, &c., without any loss on our side. The enemy having halted about an hour at *Lexington*, found it necessary to make a second retreat, carrying with them many of their dead and wounded. They continued their retreat from *Lexington* to *Charlestown* with great precipitation; our people continued the pursuit,\* firing till they got to *Charlestown Neck*, (which they reached a little after sunset,) over which the enemy passed, proceeded up *Bunker's Hill*, and the next day went into *Boston* under the protection of the *Somerset* Man-of-War of sixty-four guns.

A young man, unarmed, who was taken prisoner by the enemy, and made to assist in carrying off their wounded, says that he saw a barber who lives in *Boston*, thought to be one *Warden*, with the Troops, and that he heard them say he was one of their pilots. He likewise saw the said barber fire twice upon our people, and heard *Earl Percy* order the Troops to fire the houses. He also informs that several officers were among the wounded who were carried to *Boston*, where our informant was dismissed. They took two of our men prisoners in battle, who are now confined in barracks.

Immediately upon the return of the Troops to *Boston*, all communication to and from the Town was stopped by *General Gage*. The Provincials, who flew to the assistance of their distressed countrymen, are posted in *Cambridge*, *Charlestown*, *Roxbury*, *Watertown*, &c., and have placed guards on *Roxbury Neck*, within gun-shot of the enemy; guards are also placed every where in view of the Town, to observe the motion of the King's Troops. The council of war, and the different Committees of Safety and Supplies set at *Cambridge*, and the Provincial Congress at *Watertown*. The Troops in *Boston* are fortifying the place on all sides, and a Frigate-of-War is stationed up *Cambridge River*, and a sixty-four gun Ship between *Boston* and *Charlestown*.

Deacon *Joseph Loring's* house and barn, *Mrs. Mullikin's* house and shop, and *Mr. Joshua Bond's* house and shop in *Lexington*, were all consumed. They also set fire to several other houses, but our people extinguished the flames. They pillaged almost every house they passed by, breaking and destroying doors, windows, glasses, &c., and carrying off clothing and other valuable effects. It appeared to be their design to burn and destroy all before them; and nothing but our vigorous pursuit prevented their infernal purposes from being put in execution. But the savage barbarity exercised upon the bodies of our unfortunate brethren who fell, is almost incredible. Not content with shooting down the unarmed, aged, and infirm, they disregarded the cries of the wounded, killing them without mercy, and mangling their bodies in the most shocking manner.

We have the pleasure to say that, notwithstanding the highest provocations given by the enemy, not one instance of cruelty, that we have heard of, was committed by our Militia; but listening to the merciful dictates of the Christian religion, they "breathed higher sentiments of humanity."

#### EXTRACTS FROM SEVERAL INTERCEPTED LETTERS OF THE SOLDIERY IN BOSTON.

Boston, April 28, 1775.

I am well, all but the wound I received through the leg by a ball from one of the *Bostonians*. At the time I

\* An *American* Soldier, who had received a wound in his breast in pursuing *General Gage's* Troops, on the 19th of *April*, supported his body against a tree. A brother Soldier came up to him, and offered him assistance. "Pursue the enemy," said the wounded man. With these words on his lips, he fell back and died.

A gentleman who travelled lately through *Connecticut*, informs us that he met with an old gentlewoman, who told him that she had fitted out and sent five sons and eleven grandsons to *Boston*, when she heard of the engagement between the Provincials and Regulars. The gentleman asked her, if she did not shed a tear at parting with them? "No, (said she,) I never parted with them with more pleasure." But suppose, said the gentleman, they had all been killed. "I had rather (said the noble matron) this had been the case, than that one of the n had come back a coward."

wrote to you from *Quebeck* I had the strongest assurance of going home, but the laying the tax on the *New-England* people caused us to be ordered for *Boston*, where we remained in peace with the inhabitants, till on the night of the 18th of *April* twenty-one companies of Grenadiers and Light-Infantry were ordered into the country about eighteen miles, where, between four and five o'clock in the morning, we met an incredible number of people of the country in arms against us. Colonel *Smith*, of the Tenth Regiment, ordered us to rush on them with our bayonets fixed, at which time some of the peasants fired on us, and our men returning the fire, the engagement begun. They did not fight us like a regular army, only like savages, behind trees and stone walls, and out of the woods and houses, where in the latter, we killed numbers of them, as well as in the woods and fields. The engagement began between four and five in the morning, and lasted till eight at night. I cannot be sure when you will get another letter from me, as this extensive Continent is all in arms against us. These people are very numerous, and full as bad as the *Indians* for scalping and cutting the dead men's ears and noses off, and those they get alive, that are wounded, and cannot get off the ground.

Boston, April 28, 1775.

The Grenadiers and Light-Infantry marched for *Concord*, where were powder and ball, arms, and cannon mounted on carriages; but before we could destroy them all, we were fired on by the country people, who, not brought up in our military way, as ourselves, we were surrounded always in the woods. The firing was very hot on both sides. About two in the afternoon the Second Brigade came up, which were four Regiments and part of the Artillery, which were of no use to us, as the enemy were in the woods; and when we found they fired from the houses, we set them on fire, and they ran to the woods like devils. We were obliged to retreat to *Boston* again, over *Charles River*, our ammunition being all fired away. We had one hundred and fifty men wounded and killed, and some taken prisoners; we were forced to leave some behind, who were wounded. We got back to *Boston* about three o'clock next morning, and them that were able to walk were forced to mount guard, and lie in the field. I never broke my fast for forty-eight hours, for we carried no provisions, and thought to be back next morning. I had my hat shot off my head three times, two balls went through my coat, and carried away my bayonet by my side, and was near being killed. The people of *Boston* are in great trouble, for *General Gage* will not let the Town's people go out. Direct for me to *Chatham's* division of Marines.

Boston, April 30, 1775.

DEAR PARENTS: Before this reaches you, you may hear that our regiment has been engaged with the Provincials. The Grenadiers and Light-Infantry marched about nine at night. At six next morning four hundred and twenty-three soldiers, and forty-seven marines, in all fifteen hundred, marched to reinforce the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry, joined about one o'clock, and found them not engaged, which they had been eight hours before; for we had two pieces of cannon, which made us march slow. As soon as we came up we fired the cannon, which brought them from behind the trees, for we did not fight as you did in *Germany*, as we could not see above ten in a body, for they were behind trees and walls, and fired at us, and then loaded on their bellies. We had thirty-six rounds, which obliged us to go home that night, and as we came along they got before us and fired at us out of the houses, and killed and wounded a great many of us, but we levelled their houses as we came along. It was thought there were about six thousand at first, and at night double that number. The King's Troops lost in killed and wounded one hundred and fifty, and the *Americans* five hundred men, women, and children, for there was a number of women and children burnt in their houses. Our regiment has five killed and thirty-one wounded, particularly Colonel *Bernard* in the thigh, which all the regiment is sorry for. The shot flew thick. I got a wounded man's gun, and killed two of them, as I am sure of. We have been busy in fortifying the Town ever since we engaged, and in



a few days we expect a good many more Troops from *England*, and then we shall surely burn the whole Country before us, if they do not submit, which I do not imagine they will do, for they are an obstinate set of people. Tell *Bill* if he comes to *Boston* he may have a wife in every house he comes to, for the women are left at home while the men go to fight the soldiers. They have formed an army, and keep guard close to our works, so that our centries can talk together at ease. We were engaged from six to six. The whole Country is in arms against us, and they are headed by two of the Generals that headed our army last war; their names are *Ward* and *Putnam*. We have a great deal of shipping, but they are of little service, only to cover the Town, cannon and Troops, except the small schooners that go up in the creeks and destroy them, which they have done many of them. There is no market in *Boston*, the inhabitants all starving; the soldiers live on salt provisions, and the officers are supplied by the men-of-war cutters, who go up the creeks and take live cattle and sheep wherever they find them. We vex the *Americans* very much, by cutting down their liberty poles and alarm posts. We have had a great many died in our Regiment last winter, so that what with wounded men, and what have deserted, we have not three hundred men; and duty is so hard that we come off guard in the morning, and mount picket at night.

Boston, April 25, 1775.

**HONOURED MOTHER:** The rebels, when we came to *Concord*, burnt their stores, fired upon the King's Troops, and a smart engagement ensued. About two o'clock our Brigade came up to them, where we engaged and continued fighting and retreating towards *Boston*. The rebels were monstrous numerous, and surrounded us on every side; when they came up we gave them a smart fire, but they never would engage us properly. We killed some hundreds and burnt some of their houses. I received a wound in my head. The Troops are in *Boston*, and surrounded on the land side by the rebels, who are very numerous, and fully determined to lose their lives and fortunes, rather than be taxed by *England*. We had thirty-four killed and wounded; I suppose the King's Troops in all about one hundred and sixty. In case they take *Boston*, the Troops will retire on board the Men-of-War, and then the Men-of-War will burn the Town, and remain till more Troops come from *England*, and then conquer them; so their estates and lives will be forfeited. There are only four thousand soldiers, and about fifty or sixty thousand of them.

Boston, May 2, 1775.

**LOVING BROTHERS AND SISTERS:** The 19th of *April* the engagement happened, and my husband was wounded and taken prisoner, but they use him well, and I am striving to get to him, as he is very dangerous; but it is almost impossible to get out or in, or to get any thing, for we are forced to live on salt provisions entirely, and they are building batteries round the Town, and so are we, for we are expecting them to storm us, and are expecting more Troops every day. My husband is now lying in one of their hospitals, at a place called *Cambridge*, and there are now forty or fifty thousand of them gathered together, and we are not four thousand at most. It is very troublesome times, for we are expecting the Town to be burnt down every day, and I believe we are sold; and I hear my husband's leg is broke, and my heart is broke.

A SERIOUS ADMONITION TO THE INHABITANTS OF WILLIAMSBURGH.

Williamsburgh, Va., April 29, 1775.

*Friends and Fellow-Citizens:*

Permit one who sincerely wishes the prosperity of his Country, to address you on a subject of great importance, which has engaged the attention of us all, though the effects it has produced in our minds seem not to be of the same impression.

Some, I find, consider the Governour's ordering the removal of the powder from the magazine an illegal act, that as such it might be resisted; and the rage of patriotism has been carried so far as even to occasion a tumult directed to that end. What the consequences might have

been, I tremble to think of; and earnestly congratulate you, and my Country in general, that a stop has been put to this scene of confusion by the virtuous and zealous interposition of some of our worthy inhabitants. I feel particular pleasure, too, in reflecting, that those who, in an unguarded moment were for carrying things the farthest, have not yet advanced so far as to be impenetrable to the still voice of reason. Though we had committed our unruddered bark to the mercy of a stormy ocean, we have providentially recovered the firmer element, on which we may tread in security and peace; and here let us rest.

Anxious, my friends, for every thing which is necessary to our welfare, suffer me to observe, that even admitting the powder which was removed to have been purchased by this Country, (a fact I do not pretend to be acquainted with,) yet the money given for that purpose could be constitutionally given only to the King. The powder must therefore be under his direction, to be employed indeed for the benefit of the Country; but how, and in what manner, as long as our Government exists, is in the discretion of the King, or of his Representatives. It is true, Kings have sometimes violated the most sacred trust, and in the course of their Government have chose rather to build on a discretionary power originating in themselves, than on that fiduciary and limited authority which is derived from the people. Instances of this sort we have had, and fatal instances we have had too of the resentment of the people on account of their abused rights; but no man acquainted with that part of our history will, in his cooler moments, think it right to fly in an outrageous manner in the face of Government, upon every occasion when there may be real cause of complaint. A decent representation of grievances ought certainly to precede, and much, very much, ought to be borne before the people can be justified in resorting to their natural power, in the reclaiming of which so much disorder and confusion must necessarily arise.

How frantick, then, would it appear in us to think of acting on the idea of reverted power, and of appealing to Heaven upon no other inducement than the Governour's exertion of a right certainly vested in him by the Constitution, which, for what we know, might have been necessary to our welfare, and which, after the information his Excellency has been pleased to give to the Corporation, cannot, without the most causeless breach of good manners to him as a man, and of that respect and decorum which are due to him as our Governour, be conceived not to have been so, at least in his Lordship's opinion.

Understanding, however, that though a stop has been happily put to the commotions first occasioned by this affair, there is still a leaven of discontent among a few of us, which, without some seasonable address, might possibly spread, and break out into fresh disorder; I hope it will be taken in good part that I thus venture to commit my sentiments to the examination of every friend of order.

I beg leave to conclude by observing, that whatever opinions we may hold with respect to the *British* Parliament, I have never yet heard it doubted, whether we are not bound to the King by the most sacred tie of allegiance; and I trust we shall all join hand and heart in proving ourselves, as we have always hitherto been, among the most loyal of his subjects.

CIVIS.

OFFICERS OF ALBEMARLE VOLUNTEERS TO COLONEL GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Charlottesville, April 29, 1775.

SIR: The County of *Albemarle* in general, and the Gentlemen Volunteers in particular, are truly alarmed and highly incensed with the unjustifiable proceedings of Lord *Dunmore*, who, we are informed, has clandestinely taken possession of our ammunition lodged in the Magazine. We should have attended at *Fredericksburgh*, in order to have proceeded to *Williamsburgh* to demand a return of the powder, had the alarm reached us before an account of security being given for its delivery. However, to assure you and the world of our readiness and willingness to resent any encroachment of arbitrary power, we now declare to you, should it be necessary, that the First Company of Independents for *Albemarle* will attend in *Williamsburgh*, properly equipped, and prepared to enforce an



immediate delivery of the powder, (if not to be obtained otherwise) or die in the attempt. With respect, we remain ready to obey your commands.

CHARLES LEWIS, *Captain*,  
GEORGE GILMER, *Lieutenant*,  
JOHN MARKS, *Second Lieutenant*.

P. S. The Company will stand under arms all day on *Tuesday* waiting your answer.

#### FREDERICKSBURGH (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

Saturday, April 29, 1775.

At a Council of one hundred and two Members, Delegates of the Provincial Convention, Officers, and special Deputies of fourteen Companies of Light-Horse, consisting of upwards of six hundred well-armed and disciplined men, friends of Constitutional Liberty and *America*, now rendezvoused here in consequence of an alarm occasioned by the Powder being removed from the County Magazine, in the City of *Williamsburgh*, in the night of *Thursday* the 21st instant, and deposited on board an armed Schooner, by order of his Excellency the Governour:

The Council having before them the several matters of intelligence respecting this transaction, and particularly a Letter from the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, Speaker of the late House of Burgesses of *Virginia*, received here last night by an express despatched to *Williamsburgh* for the purpose of gaining intelligence, informing that the gentlemen of the City of *Williamsburgh* and neighbourhood have had full assurance from his Excellency that this affair will be accommodated, and advising that the gentlemen assembled here should proceed no further at this time. This Council came to the following determination, and offer the same as their advice to those publick spirited gentlemen, friends to *British* Liberty and *America*, who have honoured them by this appointment: Highly condemning the conduct of the Governour on this occasion, as impolitic, and justly alarming to the good people of this Colony, tending to destroy all confidence in Government, and to widen the unhappy breach between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, ill-timed and totally unnecessary, consider this instance as a full proof, that no opinion which may be formed of the good intentions of a Governour in private life, can afford security to our injured and oppressed Country; but that obedience to arbitrary and ministerial mandates, and the most tyrannical and oppressive system of Government, must be the fatal line of conduct of all His Majesty's present servants in *America*. At the same time justly dreading the horrors of a civil war, influenced by motives of the strongest affection to our fellow-subjects of *Great Britain*, most ardently wishing to heal our mutual wounds, and therefore preferring peaceable measures, whilst the least hope of reconciliation remains, do advise that the several companies now rendezvoused here do return to their respective homes; but considering the just rights and liberty of *America* to be greatly endangered by the violent and hostile proceedings of an arbitrary Ministry, and being firmly resolved to resist such attempts at the utmost hazard of our lives and fortunes, we do now pledge ourselves to each other to be in readiness, at a moment's warning, to reassemble, and by force of arms, to defend the Law, the Liberty, and Rights of this or any sister Colony, from unjust and wicked invasion.

Ordered, That expresses be despatched to the Troops assembled at the *Bowling Green*, and also to the Companies from *Frederick*, *Berkley*, *Dunmore*, and such other Counties as are now on their march, to return them thanks for their cheerful offer of service, and to acquaint them with the determination now taken.

GOD SAVE THE LIBERTIES OF AMERICA.

The foregoing Determination of Council having been read at the head of each Company, was cordially and unanimously approved.

JOHN DICKINSON TO ARTHUR LEE.

Fairhill, April 29, 1775.

DEAR SIR: The "*immedicabile vulnus*" is at length struck. The rescript to our Petition is written in blood. The impious war of tyranny against innocence has commenced in the neighbourhood of *Boston*.

We have not yet received any authentick accounts, but I will briefly mention the most material parts of the relations that have reached us.

General *Gage* having lately received despatches from *England*, gave orders on *Saturday*, the 15th of this month, that the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry should be excused from duty until further orders. Some of the inhabitants of the Town being alarmed by this circumstance, observed between ten and eleven o'clock on *Tuesday* night following, those bodies to be moving with great silence towards that water which is usually crossed in going to *Cambridge*. Notice of this movement was immediately conveyed into the country. The Troops mentioned embarked in boats, and landed at *Cambridge*, about four or five miles from *Boston*. From thence they marched, on *Wednesday* the 19th, in the morning, to *Lexington*, about twelve miles from *Boston*. At this place they found some Provincials exercising. The commander of the party ordered them to disperse. They did not. One of them said he was on his own ground; that they injured no person, and could not hurt any one, for they had no ammunition with them. The word was given, and the brave *Britons*, emulating no doubt the glorious achievements of their ancestors, gallantly gave fire upon those who were exercising, killed some, and put the rest to flight. This victory was gained by the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry, without the assistance of any other corps, though their numbers, it is said, did not exceed a thousand, and the Provincials amounted to at least, as it is reported, twenty-five or thirty men!

From *Lexington* the victors pursued their march to *Concord*, about twenty miles from *Boston*, where they destroyed a small Magazine, and set fire to the Court-House. By this time two or three hundred of the inhabitants were collected, and an engagement began. The Troops soon retreated, and lost two pieces of cannon, which they had seized.

General *Gage* receiving intelligence of this engagement, or of the murder at *Lexington*, between eight and nine o'clock on *Wednesday* morning, sent out a Brigade under Lord *Percy*, consisting of the Marines, the *Welsh* Fusileers, the fourth, thirty-eighth, and forty-seventh Regiments, with two field-pieces. The Grenadiers and Light-Infantry, still retreating, met his Lordship advancing to their relief; but the place of meeting is uncertain, supposed to be about five or six miles from *Boston*. The numbers of the country people being also now increased, a very warm contest ensued. The Provincials fought as desperate men. The Regulars bore the attack awhile, still retreating, but at length broke, and retired in the utmost confusion to a hill called *Bunker's Hill*, not far from *Charlestown*, which place is situated opposite to *Boston*, on the other side of *Charles* River. About a mile from the hill, one vessel-of-war, if not more, was stationed to cover the retreat into *Charlestown* down to the water-side, in order to pass over to *Boston*. In the retreat of this one mile, it is said the Regulars lost twelve officers and two hundred privates. The Provincials, afraid of the shipping's firing on *Charlestown*, and of hurting the Town's people, stopped the pursuit.

On the whole, the accounts say the Regulars had about five hundred men killed, and many are wounded and prisoners. The advices by several expresses are positive, that Lord *Percy* is killed, which gives great and general grief here, and also General *Haldimand*, the two first in command; that a wagon loaded with powder and ball, another with provisions, and the field-pieces attending the reinforcement, are taken. It is added that a party of three hundred sent out to *Marshfield*, are cut off and taken to a man. Several letters from *Boston* mention that the officers returned there, several of whom are wounded, declare they never were in better service. The whole of the fight lasted about seven hours. Part of it was seen from the hill in *Boston*.

I cannot say I am convinced of the truth of all the particulars above-mentioned, though some of them are supported by many probabilities. But these facts I believe you may depend on: that this most unnatural and inexpressibly cruel war began with the butchery of the unarmed *Americans* at *Lexington*; that the Provincials, incredible as it may be at *St. James* or *St. Stephen's*, fought bravely; that the Regulars have been defeated with considerable slaughter, though they behaved resolutely; that a Tory



dare not open his mouth against the cause of *America*, even at *New-York*; that the Continent is preparing most assiduously for a vigorous resistance; and that freedom, or an honourable death, are the only objects on which their souls are at present employed.

What human policy can divine the prudence of precipitating us into these shocking scenes? Why have we rashly been declared rebels? Why have directions been sent to disarm us? Why orders to commence hostilities? Why was not General *Gage* at least restrained from hostilities until the sense of another Congress could be collected? It was the determined resolution of some, already appointed Delegates for it, to have strained every nerve at that meeting to attempt bringing the unhappy dispute to terms of accommodation, safe for the Colonies, and honourable and advantageous for our Mother Country, in whose prosperity and glory our hearts take as large a share as any Minister's of State, and from as just and as generous motives, to say no more of them.

But what topicks of reconciliation are now left for men who think as I do, to address our countrymen? To recommend reverence for the Monarch, or affection for the Mother Country? Will the distinctions between the Prince and his Ministers, between the People and their Representatives, wipe out the stain of blood? Or have we the slightest reason to hope that those Ministers and Representatives will not be supported throughout the tragedy, as they have been through the first act? No. While we revere and love our Mother Country, her sword is opening our veins. The same delusions will still prevail, till *France* and *Spain*, if not other Powers, long jealous of *Britain's* force and fame, will fall upon her, embarrassed with an exhausting civil war, and crush, or at least depress her; then turn their arms on these Provinces, which must submit to wear their chains, or wade through seas of blood to a dear-bought and at best a frequently convulsed and precarious independence.

All the ministerial intelligence concerning us is false. We are a united, resolved people; are, or quickly shall be, well armed and disciplined; our smiths and powder-mills are at work day and night; our supplies from foreign parts continually arriving. Good officers, that is, well-experienced ones, we shall soon have, and the Navy of *Great Britain* cannot stop our whole trade. Our Towns are but brick and stone, and mortar and wood; they, perhaps, may be destroyed; they are only the hairs of our heads; if sheared ever so close, they will grow again. We compare them not with our rights and liberties. We worship as our fathers worshipped, not idols which our hands have made.

I am, dear Sir, your sincerely affectionate friend,

JOHN DICKINSON.

New-York, April 29, 1775.

The following publication, under the initial letters of my name, having appeared in an *English* Paper of the 27th of *January*, I take this opportunity to declare that it is altogether a malicious forgery, calculated to inflame the minds of my countrymen, and expose me to undeserved suspicion and distrust.

OLIVER DE LANCEY.

"The following is a copy of a Letter written by O . . . R DE L . . . X to a person high in Administration :

"SIR: The Resolutions of the Congress will never be observed; the Delegates themselves are ashamed of them, and many are studying ways to elude them. The people attached to Government, Sir, in this City, laugh at their Resolutions, and the most flaming zealots despise themselves for passing them. On occasion of the Stamp Act confederacies were formed, which treachery among themselves soon put an end to. There cannot be a doubt, Sir, but a similar defection will soon show how little may be depended on from the Resolutions of the Congress. In such defection this City will take the lead, and in which my influence shall be exerted, and may be relied on. Five of the Provinces are already preparing to violate their Resolutions.

"I beg leave to say that Government are extremely mistaken, if they are alarmed at a Congress like that at *Philadelphia*. I was born in this City, and am well acquainted with the other Colonies, from whose opposition Government has nothing to fear, except from *New-England*; and

as a dutiful subject to the Crown, I hope that they will meet a punishment suitable to their rebellion. This Province of *New-York* and *Pennsylvania* are most attached to the Crown and Parliament; and to the keeping them so, I hope I have some merit, together with my relations and connexions, of whom many are in the Assembly and Council; but notwithstanding, I would advise the keeping two Regiments here. I was not in Town when the packet arrived. Your favour I shall have the honour to answer per next opportunity. The Deputies from this City in the Congress were some of the meanest of the people.

"New-York, December 3, 1774."

At Mr. *De Lancey's* request, we have perused several Letters from him to persons in *England*, which he declared to us upon his honour were all he had written on political subjects during the present disturbances. These Letters, far from exciting violent measures against *America*, are calculated to discourage all hostile proceedings, and represent the Colonies as firmly resolved to submit to no Parliamentary taxation.

JAMES DUANE,  
JOHN JAY.

New-York, April 29, 1775.

#### TO THE PUBLICK.

Westchester County, New-York, April 29, 1775.

We, the subscribers, do hereby make this publick declaration: That whereas we and several others in *Westchester* County, having signed a certain number of Resolves, which, at the time of our said signing, we deemed constitutional, and as having a tendency to promote the interest of our Country; but since, upon mature deliberation and more full knowledge of the matter, find not only injurious to our present cause, but likewise offensive to our fellow-Colonists: We do therefore thus publicly testify our abhorrence of the same, and declare ourselves friends to the Colonies, and ever ready cheerfully to exert ourselves in the defence and preservation of the same.

JONATHAN FOWLER, Esquire,  
GEORGE CORNWELL, Esquire.

#### LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE OF BOSTON.

Boston, April 29, 1775.

SIR: We wrote you yesterday, and were in hopes of an answer, more especially as we find you have this day wrote a letter to Town, part of which has been communicated to the Committee, upon which we beg leave to observe, that it is very desirable to us that you would comply with our request of making proclamation or notification to such persons as may incline to come into *Boston* with their effects, as it must expedite the removal of our inhabitants, with their effects, from the Town of *Boston*; but to determine how many days will be necessary to effect this removal, is utterly impracticable. Those persons who are here from the country, and have left their effects behind, we desire may be permitted to send their servants to put them up and convey them to *Boston* without molestation; and that the Selectmen may be informed to whom they may direct such persons to apply for permits.

You will receive this by the hands of Mr. *Payne*, who, being one of the Committee, we refer you to him for more particular information. We are, very respectfully, your most humble servants,

JOHN SCOLLAY,                      SAML. AUSTIN,  
EZEK. GOLDTHWAIT,              EDWD. PAYNE,  
THOS. MARSHALL,                  JOHN PITTS.

To Doctor *Joseph Warren*, Chairman of the Committee of Congress.

#### LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEES OF THE SEVERAL TOWNS.

Cambridge, April 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As many of the persons now in camp came from their respective Towns, without any expectation of tarrying any time, and are now under the necessity of returning, this is to desire that you would, with the utmost haste, send other persons to supply their places for a few days, until the enlistments are complete, and the men sent down to us. We pray you immediately to set about this business, as the most fatal consequences must



follow, if we should be reduced to so weak a state as that the Army under General *Gage* may be able to issue out of the Town, and spread destruction through this Country, and we think none can be unwilling to come for a few days to relieve their brethren, who have been absent from their families. We are, &c.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE SEVERAL TOWNS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Cambridge, April 29, 1775.

One half of the Militia and Minute-Men in your Town are hereby ordered forthwith to march to the Town of . . . , as we have information that General *Gage* designs speedily to sally out of the Town of *Boston* with a detachment of his Army. You are therefore not to lose one moment's time, but come instantly to the support of your brethren, and the half to hold themselves in complete readiness to march upon the slightest notice.

We are, &c.

SAMUEL THOMPSON TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Brunswick, Maine, April 29, 1775.

I this minute have an opportunity to inform you of the state of our affairs at the eastward, that we are all staunch for country, except three men, and one of them is deserted. The other two are in irons. As for the vessels which attempted to convey stuff to our enemies, are stopped, and I am about to move about two hundred of white pine masts and other stuff got for our enemies' use. Sir, having heard of the cruel murders they have done in our Province makes us more resolute than ever; and finding that the sword is drawn first on their side, that we shall be animated with that noble spirit that wise men ought to be, until our just rights and liberties are secured to us. Sir, my heart is with every true son of *America*, though my person can be in but one place at once, though very soon I hope to be with you on the spot. If any of my friends inquire after me, inform them that I make it my whole business to pursue those measures recommended by the Congresses. We being upon the sea-coast, and in danger of being invaded by pirates, as on the 27th instant, there was a boat or barge came into our harbour and river, and sounding as they went up the river.

Sir, as powder and guns are wanted in this eastern part, and also provisions, pray Sir, have you thought something on this matter against I arrive, which will be as soon as business will admit. Sir, I am, with the greatest regard to the country, at heart your ready friend and humble servant,

SAMUEL THOMPSON.

MEETING OF THE INHABITANTS OF LONDONDERRY, NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of *Londonderry*, on the 29th of *April*, Colonel *Stephen Holland* personally appeared and made the following Declaration, upon which the inhabitants of said Town voted unanimously, that it was satisfactory to them for his past conduct.

Attest: JOHN BELL, Town Clerk.

"Whereas through mistake, misunderstanding, misrepresentation, or for reasons unknown to me, I am represented an enemy to my Country: to satisfy the publick, I solemnly declare I never aided or assisted any enemy to my Country in any thing whatsoever; and that I make this Declaration not out of fear of any thing I may suffer, but because it gives me the greatest uneasiness to think that the true sons of liberty, and real friends to their Country, (from any of the first mentioned reasons,) should believe me capable so much as in thought of injuring or betraying my Country, when the truth is, I am ready to assist my countrymen in the glorious cause of liberty, at the risk of my life and fortune.

"STEPHEN HOLLAND.

"Londonderry, April 29, 1775."

ALEXANDER SPOTSWOOD TO COL. GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Fredericksburgh, April 30, 1775.

SIR: It is imagined, that the first thing which will come on the carpet at the meeting of Congress, will be that of

establishing regular armies throughout the Continent on pay. If such a thing should take place, there is not the least doubt that you will have the command of the whole forces in this Colony. In that case, I shall ever esteem you as my best friend, if you will use your interest in procuring me a commission; or, should the power of appointing officers be vested in you, and you should think proper to confer so great an honour on me, as qualifying me to be one of your officers, you will find me, as I have always been, ready to serve my Country gratis in the glorious cause of liberty, at the risk of my life and fortune.

I am extremely glad to inform you, that, after a long debate, it was at last agreed we should not march to *Williamsburgh*. I am, with respect, &c.

ALEXANDER SPOTSWOOD.

TO THE RESPECTABLE PUBLICK.

New-York, April 30, 1775.

*Johannes Slegt*, Chairman of the Committee of *Ulster* County, has published me as an enemy to my Country for selling Tea, in which is set forth, that all the Merchants and Skippers had signed articles, in which they agreed not to sell Tea. This is absolutely false, for there are more which have not signed for the very reasons I had, and the Committee knew that they had not all signed at the time of publishing this piece of malice. It is known in *Kingston*, that I was for maintaining the Association, and that I offered to sign the third article, which I would abide by, but that the Committee would not agree to it; moreover, that the Committee in *New-York* had determined that no Tea should be sold, and that I would quit selling it. It was reported by one of the members of the Committee, on the day of meeting, that he had purchased Tea at my house. *Johannes Slegt* continued drinking Tea after the 1st of *March*, in direct violation of the Association; and *John Beekman* did confess at the meeting, that he had a quantity of Tea, and intended that it should be made use of in his family, contrary to the Association. This I could not but consider as a great piece of chicanery, that the sale of Tea should be prohibited, and others declare that they would continue to use it in their families, when the Association expressly mentions, that they shall not purchase nor use it. I told those gentlemen that I would refer the matter to the consideration of the Committee at *New-York*, and would firmly adhere to their explanation of the third article of the Association, which I must confess I did not think prohibited the selling of Tea, and that the Non-Consumption Agreement was only intended to preserve the Non-Importation Agreement. The report that I am unfriendly to the cause of liberty, and had given an affront to the Committee of *New-York*, is a most villanous falsehood. And as it is agreed upon by the well wishers of *American* liberty, not to purchase nor use any Tea in their families, I am determined to abide by such their agreement.

JACOBUS LOW.

LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN NOW AT NEW-YORK TO THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE IN PORTSMOUTH, NEW-HAMPSHIRE, DATED APRIL 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: At this time of general confusion through the Colonies, nothing can give greater pleasure to every well-wisher to his Country, than the unanimity that takes place through the Continent, more especially at this City; as it is evident (from a number of private letters from *London*) that Administration have put the greatest dependance on the *Yorkers* breaking with the other Colonies. But notwithstanding all the endeavours of designing men, I have the pleasure to inform you, that by the notable struggles of the sons of freedom, all difficulties are surmounted, and nothing can equal the determined spirit of the people here. Yesterday about six or seven thousand men were out on the plain, among whom were some families who have been in the opposition; one and all unanimously voted to defend their liberties, &c., at all hazards. They have stopped clearing to the Custom-House, have taken all the city arms and ammunition from the Hall and Magazine; every preparation is making to completely arm the inhabitants; great numbers of people are employed hauling the cannon from the City to *King's* bridge, about fourteen



miles, where they will immediately intrench. All denominations are under arms, and in high spirits. It is the opinion of almost every one in this place that the Acts of Parliament would have been repealed, had it not been for the encouragement given Administration by this place, that the Colonies would break their union. No people can be more despised, nor more frightened than those here who have been inimical to their Country, particularly the eleven Members of the House. Mr. *Rivington* has made a recantation; President *Cooper* has decamped; and it was with much difficulty the people were prevented from taking the lives of those who they have considered as traitors to their Country. All Government seems to be laid aside. The City is now to be regulated by a Committee of Safety, consisting of one hundred worthy men. Though there was a number of large vessels, loaded with wheat and flour, and cleared out, and many partly loaded . . . It was nobly done; immediately stopt every vessel. The *New-England* men are held in the highest esteem for their bravery, and people here are determined to supply provisions, and march to their assistance when called for. The die is thrown, and every man of us, whether we are hearty in the cause or not, must abide by the cast; and as we are all considered as rebels, (not by the Nation, but by a . . . Ministry,) let us one and all (which they are determined on this way) stand forth boldly; which will most certainly, under God, insure us success, and that soon.

## TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Killingsworth, April 30, 1775. }  
 Nine o'clock, P. M. }

SIR: This moment Captain *Caldwell* came over to me from *Guildford*, where I have a vessel loaded for the *West-Indies*, having all her cargo on board, consisting of forty thousand lumber, twenty-three oxen, and one horse, having on board no provisions but for the use of said vessel, which was cleared at the Custom-House on the twenty-fourth instant, and informed me that the honourable General Assembly have embargoed all vessels bound to the *West-Indies* with stock and other provisions. As I have the good of my Country at heart, and pay the greatest regard to the resolves and determinations of the Legislature of this Colony, I would by no means do any thing that should have the remotest appearance of acting counter to their determinations; but your Honour must be sensible the unshipping my cattle and stores must be attended with great loss, as the stock is by no means fit for a present market. I humbly request my said vessel may be permitted to sail, as I had not the least suspicion of an embargo, and have only waited several days for a wind. I would have waited myself on your Honour, but my present indisposition would not permit; and for the purpose of obtaining permission, my son now waits on your Honour, on whose goodness I greatly rely; and am your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,

THEOPHILUS MORGAN.

General Assembly, April, 1775. }  
 In the Upper House. }

His Honour the Governour is desired to grant a permit to Mr. *Theophilus Morgan*, that his vessel may proceed on its voyage according to the request in the within letter.

Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*.

Concurred in in the Lower House.

Test: RICHARD LAW, *Clerk*.

## COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE SELECTMEN OF BOSTON.

Cambridge, April 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a Resolve of Congress, which we hope will remove every obstacle to the removal of our friends from *Boston*. The necessity of going from this Town to *Watertown*, in order to lay the proposals of this Committee before the Provincial Congress, we hope will suggest to you an apology for any supposed delay. But be assured that no person now in *Boston* is more sensible of the distress, nor more desirous of relieving our brethren there, than the members of this Committee. Encouragement will be given to-morrow to the wagoners in the country, to repair to *Boston* to give all possible assist-

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ance to our friends, in the removal of their effects. I wrote yesterday to General *Gage* upon the subject, and requested him to take into consideration the expediency of restraining the country from sending in more than thirty wagons at one time, but I have received no answer. If I should receive any, the contents, so far as they respect my ever-adored Town of *Boston*, shall be communicated to you. We are, &c.

## TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR MASSACHUSETTS.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, April 30, 1775.

There is much probability that the last mail from *England* for General *Gage* passed through *Northampton*, eastward or northward, yesterday about twelve o'clock. It may be that it may pass up the river as far as *Northfield*, before it steers its course from the sea-shore. Probably its direction may be to *Portsmouth* or *Salem*. No one will judge that it will attempt to enter *Boston* directly. No doubt the bearer will be several times shifted before its arrival to the place of destination. The people of *Northampton* yesterday knew nothing that there was any suspicion of the mail's passing by land. The circumstances which make up the evidence that a traveller who passed this Town yesterday was the bearer of the mail, are too many to be mentioned. He undoubtedly came from *Hudson's River* to *Northampton*, whether in a direct or oblique course, is not yet made certain. The suspected bearer, who was at *Northampton*, does not altogether answer the description given in the *New-York* letter of the probable bearer from them, but many think it more likely that they would attempt to get the mail along by some acquainted up the river, in the County of *Cumberland*, than by *Oliver De Lancey, Jun*.

Quere. Whether it is not expedient to search every suspicious person passing as far northward as any road leading from *Connecticut River* to *Portsmouth*.

## BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, April 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: You have desired me to state the number of cannon, &c., at *Ticonderoga*. I have certain information that there are at *Ticonderoga* eighty pieces of heavy cannon, twenty brass guns, from four to eighteen pounders, and ten to twelve large mortars. At *Skenesborough*, on the *South-Bay*, there are three or four brass cannon. The Fort is in a ruinous condition, and has not more than fifty men at the most. There are large numbers of small arms, and considerable stores, and a sloop of seventy or eighty tons on the lake. The place could not hold out an hour against a vigorous onset. Your most obedient servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

Honourable *Joseph Warren*, and the honourable Committee of Safety.

## MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Cambridge, April 30, 1775.

It has been proposed to us to take possession of the Fortress at *Ticonderoga*. We have a just sense of the importance of that fortification, and the usefulness of those fine cannon, mortars, and field-pieces which are there; but we would not, even upon this emergency, infringe upon the rights of our sister Colony, *New-York*. But we have desired the gentleman, who carries this letter, to represent the matter to you, that you may give such orders as are agreeable to you.

We are, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servants,

JOSEPH WARREN, *Chairman*.

To *Alexander McDougall*.

## MEETING OF FREEHOLDERS OF KING WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

At a meeting of the Freeholders of the County of *King William*, at the Court-House, on *Monday* the first of *May*, *Carter Braxton* and *William Aylett*, Esquires, were unanimously chosen their Delegates to represent them in Convention for one year, from the date hereof.



A subscription being then opened for the relief of our brethren in *Massachusetts-Bay*, and it being thought highly necessary, at this important crisis, that supplies should be sent to them, and money being the only means by which

that relief could be afforded with certainty, the sum of one hundred and seventy-five Pounds was immediately contributed, and it is expected that a much larger sum will be given, when collections are made from the whole County.

PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.

Monday, May 1, 1775.

The House met pursuant to their adjournment.

Ordered, That Mr. Gray and Mr. Hillegas wait on the Governour, and acquaint him that a quorum of the Representatives being met, they are ready to receive any business his Honour may be pleased to lay before them.

Mr. Charles Thomson laid before the House a Letter from William Bollan, Benjamin Franklin, and Arthur Lee, Esquires, dated London, February 5, 1775, which was read by order, and is as follows, viz :

SIR: Our last letter informed you that the King had declared his intention of laying the Petition before his two Houses of Parliament. It has accordingly been laid before each House, but undistinguished among a variety of letters and other papers from *America*.

A motion made by Lord Chatham, to withdraw the Troops from *Boston*, as the first step towards a conciliating plan, was rejected ; and the Ministry have declared, in both Houses, the determination to enforce obedience to all the late laws. For this purpose, we understand that three Regiments of Foot, one of Dragoons, seven hundred Marines, six Sloops-of-War and two Frigates, are now under orders for *America*.

We think it proper to inform you that your cause was well defended by a considerable number of good and wise men in both Houses of Parliament, though far from being a majority, and that many of the commercial and manufacturing parts of the Nation, concerned in the *American Trade*, have presented, or, as we understand, are preparing to present Petitions to Parliament, declaring their great concern for the present unhappy controversies with *America*, and praying expressly, or in effect, for healing measures, as the proper means of preserving their commerce, now greatly suffering or endangered. But the treatment the Petitions already presented have hitherto received, is such as, in our opinion, can afford you no reliance on any present relief through their means.

As soon as we learned that the Petition of the Congress was before the House of Commons, we thought it our duty to support it, if we might be permitted so to do, as there was no other opportunity for the numerous inhabitants of the Colonies to be heard in defence of their rights. Accordingly we joined in a Petition for that purpose. Sir George Savile kindly undertook to present it, but on previously opening the purport of it, as the order is, a debate arose on the propriety of receiving it, and, on a division, it was rejected by a great majority.

The following extract of a letter from General Gage to Lord Dartmouth, as laid before Parliament, we think it our duty to transmit, viz :

"December 15, 1774.—Your Lordship's idea of disarming certain Provinces would doubtless be consistent with prudence and safety, but it neither is, nor has been practicable, without having recourse to force, and being masters of the Country."

It was thrown out in debate by a principal member of Administration, that it would be proper to alter the Charters of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*.

Enclosed we send you a copy of the Resolutions passed in a Committee of the Whole House on *Thursday* last, which are to be reported on *Monday*.\* It is said that these

\* That it is the opinion of this Committee, that an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, to return His Majesty our most humble thanks for having been most graciously pleased to communicate to this House the several papers relating to the present state of the *British Colonies in America*, which, by His Majesty's commands, have been laid before this House, and from which, after taking them into our most serious consideration, we find that a part of His Majesty's subjects, in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, have proceeded so far to resist the authority of the Supreme Legislature, that a rebellion at this time actually exists within the said Province, and we see, with the utmost concern, that they have been countenanced and encouraged by unlawful combinations and engagements, entered into by His Majesty's subjects in several of the other Colonies, to the injury and oppression of many of their innocent fellow-subjects, resident within the Kingdom of Great

Britain and the rest of His Majesty's Dominions. This conduct, on their part, appears to us the more inexcusable, when we consider with how much temper His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament have acted in support of the laws and Constitution of *Great Britain*. To declare that we can never so far desert the trust reposed in us as to relinquish any part of the sovereign authority over all His Majesty's Dominions, which by law is vested in His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament, and that the conduct of many persons in several of the Colonies during the late disturbances, is alone sufficient to convince us how necessary this power is for the protection of the lives and fortunes of all His Majesty's subjects ; that we ever have been, and always shall be, ready to pay attention and regard to any real grievances of any of His Majesty's subjects, which shall, in a dutiful and constitutional manner, be laid before us ; and whenever any of the Colonies shall make a proper application to us, we shall be ready to afford them every just and reasonable indulgence ; but that at the same time we consider it as our indispensable duty, humbly to beseech His Majesty that His Majesty will take the most effectual measures to enforce due obedience to the laws and authority of the Supreme Legislature ; and that we beg leave, in the most solemn manner, to assure His Majesty, that it is our fixed resolution, at the hazard of our lives and properties, to stand by His Majesty against all rebellious attempts in the maintenance of the just rights of His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament.

We send you likewise a copy of Lord Chatham's first motion in the House of Lords, and of his plan of a Bill for settling the troubles between *Britain* and her Colonies, both which were rejected on the first reading.

With great respect, we are, Sir, your most obedient humble servants,

WM. BOLLAN,  
B. FRANKLIN,  
ARTHUR LEE."

The Members appointed to wait on the Governour with the Message of the House, reported they had delivered the same according to order, and that his Honour was pleased to say he should lay some business before the House shortly.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

May 2, 1775.—The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Governour, by Mr. Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, together with a copy of a Resolution of the House of Commons, passed the 20th of *February* last, which were read by order, and are as they respectively follow, viz :

*A Message from the Governour to the Assembly.*

GENTLEMEN: I have ordered the Secretary to lay before you a Resolution† entered into by the *British House of*

*Britain* and the rest of His Majesty's Dominions. This conduct, on their part, appears to us the more inexcusable, when we consider with how much temper His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament have acted in support of the laws and Constitution of *Great Britain*. To declare that we can never so far desert the trust reposed in us as to relinquish any part of the sovereign authority over all His Majesty's Dominions, which by law is vested in His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament, and that the conduct of many persons in several of the Colonies during the late disturbances, is alone sufficient to convince us how necessary this power is for the protection of the lives and fortunes of all His Majesty's subjects ; that we ever have been, and always shall be, ready to pay attention and regard to any real grievances of any of His Majesty's subjects, which shall, in a dutiful and constitutional manner, be laid before us ; and whenever any of the Colonies shall make a proper application to us, we shall be ready to afford them every just and reasonable indulgence ; but that at the same time we consider it as our indispensable duty, humbly to beseech His Majesty that His Majesty will take the most effectual measures to enforce due obedience to the laws and authority of the Supreme Legislature ; and that we beg leave, in the most solemn manner, to assure His Majesty, that it is our fixed resolution, at the hazard of our lives and properties, to stand by His Majesty against all rebellious attempts in the maintenance of the just rights of His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament.

Ayes, two hundred and ninety-six ; noes, one hundred and six.

Amendment proposed to leave out from the first [and] to the end of the question, and insert [to assure His Majesty, that in order to fix the true dignity of his Crown, and the authority of Parliament on a sure foundation, we shall endeavour to recover the hearts of his subjects in *America*, too many of whom are unhappily alienated from their usual affection to their Mother Country, by endeavouring to remove all those causes of jealousy and apprehension which have arisen from an unfortunate management of His Majesty's affairs, and from acts of the last Parliament, made without sufficient information of the true state of *America*.]

Question put, that the words proposed to be left out stand part of this question? Ayes, three hundred and four ; noes, one hundred and five.

† The Resolution of the House of Commons.

Luna, 20<sup>th</sup> Die Februarii, 1775.—The House in a Committee on the *American Papers*, motion made and question proposed,

That it is the opinion of this Committee, that when the Governour, Council, and Assembly, or General Court, of any of His Majesty's Provinces or Colonies in *America* shall propose to make provision, according to the condition, circumstances, and situation of such Province or Colony, for contributing their proportion to the common defence, (such proportion to be raised under the authority of the General Court or General Assembly of such Province or Colony, and disposable by Parliament,) and shall engage to make provision also for the support of the civil Government, and the administration of justice in such Province or Colony, it will be proper, if such proposal shall be approved by His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament, and for so long as such provision shall be made accordingly, to forbear, in respect of such Province or Colony, to levy any duty, tax, or assessment, or to impose any further duty, tax, or assessment, except only such duties as it may be expedient to continue to levy or impose for the regulation of Commerce, the nett produce of the duties last mentioned to be carried to the account of such Province or Colony respectively.



Commons the twentieth of *February* last, relative to the unhappy differences subsisting between our Mother Country and her *American* Colonies. You will perceive by this Resolve not only a strong disposition manifested by that august body to remove the causes which have given rise to the discontents and complaints of His Majesty's subjects in the Colonies, and the dreadful impending evils likely to ensue from them, but that they have pointed out the terms on which they think it just and reasonable a final accommodation should be grounded.

Let me earnestly entreat you, gentlemen, to weigh and consider this plan of reconciliation held forth and offered by the parent to her children, with that temper, calmness, and deliberation, that the importance of the subject and the present critical situation of affairs demand. Give me leave to observe, that the Colonies, amidst all those complaints which a jealousy of their liberties has occasioned, have never denied the justice or equity of their contributing towards the burdens of the Mother Country, to whose protection and care they owe not only their present opulence, but even their very existence. On the contrary, every state and representation of their supposed grievances that I have seen, avows the propriety of such a measure, and their willingness to comply with it.

The dispute, then, appears to me to be brought to this point: Whether the redress of any grievances the Colonists have reason to complain of, shall precede, or be postponed to the settlement of that just proportion which *America* should bear towards the common support and defence of the whole *British* Empire.

You have, in the Resolution of the House of Commons, which I have authority to tell you is entirely approved by His Majesty, a solemn declaration that an exemption from any duty, tax, or assessment, present or future, except such duties as may be expedient for the regulation of Commerce, shall be the immediate consequence of proposals on the part of any of the Colony Legislatures, accepted by His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament, to make provision, according to their respective circumstances, for contributing their proportion to the common defence, and the support of the civil Government of each Colony.

I will not do you so much injustice, gentlemen, as to suppose you can desire a better security for the inviolable performance of this engagement, than the Resolve itself, and His Majesty's approbation of it gives you.

As you are the first Assembly on the Continent to whom this Resolution has been communicated, much depends on the moderation and wisdom of your counsels; and you will be deservedly revered to the latest posterity, if, by any possible means, you can be instrumental in restoring the publick tranquillity, and rescuing both Countries from the dreadful calamities of a civil war. JOHN PENN.

May 2, 1775.

A Remonstrance from a number of Farmers and Millers in the County of *Bucks*, respecting an alteration of the sizes of Flour-Barrels, was presented to the House and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter received in their recess from the Speaker of the House of Assembly of the Colony of *New-York*, with sundry Papers therein referred to, which were read by order, and the said Letter is as follows, viz:

"New-York, April 10, 1775.

"SIR: By an order of the General Assembly of this Colony, I am directed to transmit you the enclosed papers upon the subject of the unhappy situation of *American* affairs; they contain a List of Grievances, with the Resolutions of the House in consequence thereof, and also a Petition to the King, a Memorial to the House of Lords, and a Representation and Remonstrance to the Commons of *Great Britain*. I am also directed to request of you to lay the same before the House of Assembly of your Colony at their first meeting after the receipt hereof. I shall only add that our Assembly stands adjourned until the third day of *May* next, and that I am, respectfully, Sir, your most humble servant,

"JOHN CRUGER, *Speaker*.

"To the Speaker of the General Assembly of the Province of *Pennsylvania*."

May 3, 1775.—The House met pursuant to adjournment, and taking into consideration the Governour's Message of yesterday, with the Resolution of the House of Commons attending it, after some debate thereon,

Ordered, That Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Charles Thomson, Mr. Brown, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Webb, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Allen, Mr. Chreist, Mr. Edmonds, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Hunter, and Mr. William Thompson, be a Committee to essay and bring in a draught of an Answer to the said Message.

May 4, 1775.—The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a draught of an Answer to the Governour's Message reported an Essay for that purpose, which being read by paragraphs, and after some alteration, agreed to by the House, was ordered to be transcribed.

The Answer of the House to the Governour's Message being transcribed according to order, was again read, signed by the Speaker, and follows in these words, viz:

*Answer to the Governour's Message from the House.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: We have taken into our serious consideration your Message of the second instant, and the Resolution of the *British* House of Commons therein referred to.

Having "weighed and considered this plan with the temper, calmness, and deliberation that the importance of the subject and the present critical situation of affairs demand," we are sincerely sorry that we cannot "think the terms pointed out" afford "a just and reasonable ground for a final accommodation" between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

Your Honour observes, "that the Colonies, amidst all those complaints which a jealousy of their liberties has occasioned, have never denied the justice or equity of contributing towards the burdens of the Mother Country;" but your Honour must know, that they have ever unanimously asserted it as their indisputable right, that all aids from them should be their own free and voluntary gifts, not taken by force nor extorted by fear.

Under which of these descriptions the "plan held forth and offered by the parent to her children" at this time, with its attendant circumstances, deserves to be classed, we choose rather to submit to the determination of your Honour's good sense, than to attempt proving by the enumeration of notorious facts, or the repetition of obvious reasons.

If no other objection to "the plan" proposed occurred to us, we should esteem it a dishonourable desertion of sister Colonies, connected by an union founded on just motives and mutual faith, and conducted by General Councils, for a single Colony to adopt a measure so extensive in consequence, without the advice and consent of those Colonies engaged with us by solemn ties in the same common cause.

For we wish your Honour to be assured, that we can form no prospect appearing reasonable to us, of any lasting advantages for *Pennsylvania*, however agreeable they may be at the beginning, but what must arise from a communication of rights and prosperity with the other Colonies; and that if such a prospect should be opened to us, we have too sincere an affection for our brethren, and too strict a regard "for the inviolable performance of" our "engagements," to receive any pleasure from benefits equally due to them, yet confined to ourselves, and which, by generously rejecting them at present, may at length be secured to all.

Your Honour is pleased to observe, that as we are "the first Assembly on the Continent to whom this Resolution has been communicated, much depends on the moderation and wisdom of our counsels, and we shall be deservedly revered to the latest posterity, if, by any possible means," we "can be instrumental in restoring the publick tranquillity, and rescuing both Countries from the dreadful calamities of a civil war."

Your Honour, from your long residence and conversation among us, must be persuaded that the people we represent are as peaceable and obedient to Government, as true and faithful to their Sovereign, and as affectionate and dutiful to their superiour State, as any in the world; and though we are not inattentive to the approbation of "posterity," as



it might reflect honour upon our Country, yet higher motives have taught us upon all occasions to demonstrate by every testimony our devotion to our King and Parent State.

Still animated by the same principles, and most earnestly desirous of enjoying our former undisturbed condition of dependance and subordination productive of so many blessings to "both Countries," we cannot express the satisfaction we should receive "if, by any possible means," we could "be instrumental in restoring the publick tranquillity." Should such an opportunity offer, we shall endeavour with the utmost diligence and zeal to improve it, and to convince His Majesty and our Mother Country, that we shall ever be ready and willing with our lives and fortunes to support the interests of His Majesty and that Country, by every effort that can be reasonably expected from the most loyal subjects, and the most dutiful Colonists.

Until Divine Providence shall cause, in the course of his dispensations, such a happy period to arrive, we can only deprecate, and, if it be possible, strive by prudence to avoid the "calamities of a civil war;" a dreadful misfortune, indeed, and not to be exceeded but by an utter subversion of the liberties of *America*. Signed by order of the House:

JOHN MORTON, *Speaker*.

May 4, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Brown and Mr. John Jacobs wait on the Governour and deliver the foregoing Answer to his Message.

A Petition from a considerable number of the inhabitants of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth that the Petitioners, deeply affected with a sense of the imminent dangers to which this Province particularly and the Colonies in general are exposed at this instant, are compelled, by the first law dictated by nature, to endeavour to preserve themselves from utter destruction, and therefore look up to the honourable House, the guardians of publick liberty, in whom the people of this Province have reposed the highest trust, for that protection which, under the favour of the *Almighty God*, it is in their power to afford; that the Petitioners in this contest for freedom and all the blessings attending it, have been greatly encouraged by the firmness, wisdom, and publick spirit of the late and present House of Assembly; and affairs being now reduced to extremity by the commencement of a civil war on this Continent, which, in all probability must, in its course, soon reach *Pennsylvania*, the Petitioners most humbly and fervently beseech and supplicate the honourable House to grant, raise, and apply with all possible despatch, a sum of money, at least amounting to Fifty Thousand Pounds, towards putting this Province into a state of defence, in such manner as to the House shall appear most proper and effectual.

*Ordered* to lie on the table.

May 5, 1775.—The House met pursuant to their adjournment.

The Members appointed to wait on the Governour with the Answer of the House to his Message of the second instant, reported they had delivered the same according to order.

The House resumed the consideration of the Petition presented yesterday from the inhabitants of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, for aid from Government towards putting the Province into a state of defence; and after a debate of some length, adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

The House met at three o'clock P. M., and proceeded to the consideration of the Petition from the inhabitants of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, and after further time spent therein, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

May 6, 1775.—The House met pursuant to adjournment. Being acquainted that with Captain Osborne, who arrived yesterday, came passenger Benjamin Franklin, Esquire, late Agent for this Province in London:

*Resolved*, n. c. d., That the said Benjamin Franklin, Esquire, be, and he is hereby added to the Deputies appointed by this House on the part of *Pennsylvania*, to attend the Continental Congress expected to meet on the 10th instant in this City.

*Resolved*, n. c. d., That the Honourable Thomas Willing, Esquire, of *Philadelphia*, and James Wilson, Esquire, of *Carlisle*, be also added to the said Deputies for this Province.

Post Meridian, May 9, 1775.—The House resumed the consideration of the Petition from the inhabitants of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, and after some time spent therein, adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Upon motion, the House resumed the consideration of the Draught of Instructions to the Deputies for this Province, brought in at the last sitting, which being considered, and, after some alterations, agreed to by the House, was ordered to be transcribed.

A Petition from the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, respecting engagements they have entered into for the publick security, whereby a considerable debt hath accrued, which cannot be discharged without the aid of the Legislature, was presented to the House and read.

*Ordered* to lie on the table.

The Instructions to the Deputies appointed by this Province to attend the Continental Congress being transcribed according to order, were signed by the Speaker, and follow in these words, viz:

GENTLEMEN: The trust reposed in you is of such a nature, and the modes of executing it may be so diversified in the course of your deliberations, that it is scarcely possible to give you particular instructions respecting it.

We shall, therefore, in general, direct that you meet in Congress the Delegates of the several *British* Colonies, to be held on the 10th instant, to consult together on the present critical and alarming situation and state of the Colonies, and that you exert your utmost endeavours to agree upon and recommend such further measures as shall afford the best prospect of obtaining redress of *American* grievances, and restoring that union and harmony between *Great Britain* and the Colonies so essential to the welfare and happiness of both Countries.

You are directed to make report of your proceedings to this House at their next sessions after the meeting of the Congress. Signed by order of the House:

JOHN MORTON, *Speaker*.

May 9, 1775.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

May 11, 1775.—The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Taking again into consideration the Petition from the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, after some debate,

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Accounts do examine the Funds of the Province, and report to the House what sum they may immediately draw from thence.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Three o'clock, P. M.—The Committee of Accounts reported that, upon examining the Provincial Funds, they find the sum of Two Thousand Pounds at the disposal of the House.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That George Gray, Michael Hillegas, and Charles Humphreys, Esquires, or any two of them, are hereby authorized and empowered to draw orders on Samuel Preston Moore, Esquire, to the amount of Eighteen Hundred Pounds, out of the Interest Money in his hands, and on the Provincial Treasurer for the sum of Two Hundred Pounds, out of the rents of the Province Island, to be disposed of and applied towards discharging certain engagements lately entered into for the publick security.

The House then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

May 12, 1775.—The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That Mr. Gray, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Mifflin, Mr. Charles Thomson, Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Wayne, Mr. Slough, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Edmonds, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Hunter, and Mr. William Thompson, or



a majority of them, do immediately use such measures to provide Stores that may be necessary for the service of the Province at this time, not exceeding in value the sum of Five Thousand Pounds, as to them shall appear most expedient and effectual.

*Joseph Galloway*, Esquire, having repeatedly moved in Assembly to be excused from serving as a Deputy for this Province in the Continental Congress, the House this day took his motion into consideration, and do hereby agree to excuse him from that service.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

*Three o'clock, P. M.*—*Ordered*, That *Mr. Wynkoop* and *Mr. Edmonds* wait on the Governour, and acquaint

him that the House incline to adjourn to *Monday*, the 19th of *June* next, if his Honour has no objection thereto.

The House adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

*May 13, 1775.*—The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Members appointed to wait on the Governour with the Message of last night, reported they had delivered the same according to order, and that his Honour was pleased to say, he had no objection to the adjournment proposed by the House.

The House adjourned to *Monday*, the 19th of *June* next, at four o'clock, P. M.

#### MEETINGS OF INHABITANTS OF MORRIS COUNTY, NEW-JERSEY.

Pursuant to an appointment of a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County of *Morris*, agreeable to notice given by the former Committee of Correspondence, the said Freeholders and Inhabitants did meet accordingly on *Monday*, the first day of *May*, Anno Domini, 1775.

*JACOB FORD*, Esq., *Chairman*,  
*WILLIAM DE HART*, Esq., *Clerk*.

And came into the following Votes and Resolutions, to wit:

That Delegates be chosen to represent the County of *Morris*, and that the said Delegates be vested with the power of legislation, and that they raise Men, Money, and Arms for the common defence, and point out the mode, method, and means of raising, appointing, and paying the said Men and Officers, subject to the control and direction of the Provincial and Continental Congress; and that afterwards they meet in Provincial Congress with such Counties as shall send to the same, jointly with them to levy taxes on the Province, with full power of legislative authority, if they think proper to exercise the same, for the said Province, and the said Provincial Congress be subject to the control of the Grand Continental Congress.

And they proceeded to elect the following persons to be their Delegates as aforesaid, to wit:

*William Winds*, Esquire, *William De Hart*, Esquire, *Silas Condit*, *Peter Dickerson*, *Jacob Drake*, *Ellis Cook*, *Jonathan Stiles*, Esq., *David Thompson*, Esq., *Abraham Kitchell*.

By order: *WILLIAM DE HART*, Clerk.

And pursuant to the above appointment, the said Delegates met at the house of Captain *Peter Dickerson*, at *Morristown*, in the County of *Morris*, on the said first day of *May*, 1775:

Present: *William Winds*, Esquire, *William De Hart*, Esq., *Silas Condit*, *Peter Dickerson*, *Jacob Drake*, *Ellis Cook*, *Jonathan Stiles*, Esq., *David Thompson*, Esquire, *Abraham Kitchell*.

*William Winds*, Esq., was unanimously chosen Chairman. *Archibald Dallas* was appointed Clerk.

*Voted unanimously*, That any five of the Delegates, when met, be a body of the whole, and do make a board, and that a majority of them so met should make a vote.

*Voted unanimously*, That Forces should be raised.

Then the Delegates adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to meet at the house of Captain *Peter Dickerson* aforesaid.

Tuesday, Nine o'clock, May 2, 1775.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Delegates met.

Present: *William Winds*, Esq., *William De Hart*, Esq., *Silas Condit*, *Peter Dickerson*, *Ellis Cook*, *Jonathan Stiles*, Esq., *David Thompson*, Esq., *Abraham Kitchell*.

*Voted*, That three hundred men should be raised, exclusive of Commissioned Officers.

*Voted*, That the said three hundred men be Volunteers.

*Voted*, That the three hundred men, so raised, shall be divided in Five Companies, sixty men each.

*Voted*, That those Companies shall be commanded by

three Commissioned Officers, viz: a Captain and two Lieutenants.

*Voted*, That two Field Officers shall be appointed, and that each of them shall supply the place of Captain in the two first Companies.

*Voted*, That *William Winds* shall be Colonel.

At twelve o'clock adjourned, to meet at half an hour after one o'clock in the afternoon.

Half past One o'clock.

Met, according to adjournment. All the Members present.

*Voted*, That *William De Hart*, Esquire, shall be Major.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Ball*, *Joseph Morris*, and *Daniel Budd* shall be Captains.

*Voted*, That *John Huntington* be Captain-Lieutenant in the Colonel's Company, and *Silas Howell* to be Captain-Lieutenant in the Major's Company.

*Voted*, That the Captain of each Company shall appoint his Lieutenants.

*Ordered*, That the Captains shall discipline their men at the rate of one day every week, and to continue the same till further orders; and the times be appointed, and the places of training affixed by the Captains.

*Voted*, That in case of any invasion or alarm, either in this or any of the neighbouring Provinces, the said Officers and men shall be called out to service by the Commanding Officer for the time being; and the said Officers and men shall be paid as follows, viz: Captains, Seven Shillings, Proclamation money, per day; First Lieutenants, Six Shillings per day; Second Lieutenants, Five Shillings per day; Sergeants, Three Shillings and Six Pence per day; Private men, Three Shillings per day, and found with Provisions, Arms, and Ammunition; and when only in discipline at home, the same wages, and to find themselves, and their wages to be paid every two months.

*Voted*, That the following be the form of the Enlisting paper, to be signed by the recruits:

"We, the subscribers, do voluntarily enlist in the Company of Captain . . . . . to be and serve in the Regiment under the command of Colonel *William Winds*, in this or any of the neighbouring Provinces, where we may be called, agreeable to certain Resolves, made and entered into by the Delegates for the County of *Morris*."

*Ordered*, That five hundred weight of Powder and a ton of Lead be purchased and kept in a Magazine, for the use of the new Regiment now to be raised for the County of *Morris*.

*Voted*, That *William De Hart*, Esquire, be appointed to purchase the said Powder and Lead.

*Voted*, That the Votes and Resolves of this meeting shall be subject to the control of the Provincial and Continental Congresses, to take place after due notice being given to us by either of the said Congresses, of their disapprobation of all or any of our proceedings.

And the Delegates taking into consideration the unhappy circumstances of this Country, do recommend to the inhabitants of this County capable of bearing arms, to provide themselves with Arms and Ammunition to defend their Country in case of any invasion.



Adjourned till the ninth day of this month, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to meet at the house of Captain *Peter Dickerson*, in *Morristown*.

WOODBIDGE (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO THE SEVERAL COMMITTEES OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In Committee, Woodbridge, New-Jersey, }  
May 1, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: We have received repeated intelligence by expresses of your engaging and defeating the Regulars under the command of General *Gage*, which is universally credited in this Colony; and we have the pleasure of assuring you, your conduct and bravery on that occasion is greatly applauded and admired by all ranks of men. In consequence of the intelligence, a Provincial Convention will be held, as soon as the Members can possibly be convened; in the mean time the inhabitants are putting themselves in the best posture of defence, being determined to stand or fall with the liberties of *America*. We have, for some time past, feared the *New-Yorkers* would desert *American* liberty, but are now fully convinced, by their late spirited conduct, that they are determined to support the grand cause. We also learn, with pleasure, that the inhabitants of *Pennsylvania* and the other Southern Provinces are firm, unanimous, and spirited. We have only to add, that you have our unfeigned and hearty thanks for the noble stand you have made, and our sincere and fervent prayers for a speedy deliverance from all your calamities.

We are, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants. By order of the Committee:

MOSES BLOOMFIELD, *Chairman*.

New-York, May 1, 1775.

This day the following gentlemen were chosen a General Committee for the City and County of *New-York*, in the present alarming exigency:

|                      |                     |                      |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Isaac Low,           | William Denning,    | Cornelius Clopper,   |
| Philip Livingston,   | Isaac Roosevelt,    | John Reade,          |
| James Duane,         | Jacob Van Voorhies, | J. Van Courtlandt,   |
| John Alsop,          | Jeremiah Platt,     | Jacobus Van Zandt,   |
| John Jay,            | Comfort Sands,      | Gerardus Duyckinck,  |
| P. V. B. Livingston, | Robert Benson,      | Peter Goelet,        |
| Isaac Sears,         | William W. Gilbert, | John Marston,        |
| David Johnston,      | John Berrian,       | Thomas Marston,      |
| Alex. McDougall,     | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | John Morton,         |
| Thomas Randall,      | Nicholas Roosevelt, | George Folliott,     |
| Leonard Lispenard,   | Edward Fleming,     | Jacobus Lefferts,    |
| William Walton,      | Lawrence Embree,    | Richard Sharpe,      |
| John Broome,         | Samuel Jones,       | Hamilton Young,      |
| Joseph Hallett,      | John De Lancey,     | Abram. Brinckerhoff, |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,   | Frederick Jay,      | Benjamin Helme,      |
| Nicholas Hoffman,    | William W. Ludlow,  | Walter Franklin,     |
| Abraham Walton,      | John B. Moore,      | David Beekman,       |
| Peter Van Schaack,   | Rodolphus Ritzma,   | William Seaton,      |
| Henry Remsen,        | Lindley Murray,     | Evert Banker,        |
| Peter T. Curtenius,  | Lancaster Burling,  | Robert Ray,          |
| Abraham Brasher,     | John Lasher,        | Nicholas Bogart,     |
| Abraham P. Lott,     | George Janeway,     | William Laight,      |
| Abraham Duryee,      | James Beekman,      | Samuel Broome,       |
| Joseph Bull,         | Samuel Verplanck,   | John Lamb,           |
| Francis Lewis,       | Richard Yates,      | Daniel Phenix,       |
| Joseph Totten,       | David Clarkson,     | Anthony Van Dam,     |
| Thomas Ivers,        | Thomas Smith,       | Daniel Duncomb,      |
| Hercules Mulligan,   | James Desbrosses,   | John Imlay,          |
| John Anthony,        | Augustus Van Horne, | Oliver Templeton,    |
| Francis Bassett,     | Garret Keteltas,    | Lewis Pintard,       |
| Victor Bicker,       | Eleazer Miller,     | Cornelius P. Low,    |
| John White,          | Benjamin Kissam,    | Thomas Buchannan,    |
| Theophilus Anthony,  | John M. Scott,      | Petrus Byvanck.      |
| William Goforth,     |                     |                      |

The following twenty-one gentlemen were, at the same time, chosen Deputies for the City and County of *New-York*, to meet Deputies of the other Counties in Provincial Congress, on *Monday*, the 21st of *May*, 1775:

|                      |                   |                    |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Leonard Lispenard,   | James Beekman,    | Joseph Hallett,    |
| Isaac Low,           | John M. Scott,    | J. Van Courtlandt, |
| Abraham Walton,      | Thomas Smith,     | John De Lancey,    |
| Isaac Roosevelt,     | Benjamin Kissam,  | Richard Yates,     |
| Abraham Brasher,     | Samuel Verplanck, | John Marston,      |
| Alex. McDougall,     | David Clarkson,   | Walter Franklin,   |
| P. V. B. Livingston, | George Folliott,  | Jacobus Van Zandt. |

COUNCIL OF NEW-YORK.

At a Council held at the Council Chamber in the City of *New-York*, on *Monday*, the first day of *May*, 1775, Present: The Honourable *Cadwallader Colden*, Esquire, His Majesty's Lieutenant Governour, &c., &c., Mr. *Watts*,

Mr. *De Lancey*, Mr. *Apthorp*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Wallace*, Mr. *White*, Mr. *Axtell*, Mr. *Cruger*, Mr. *Jouney*.

That the advice of the Council for the prorogation of the Assembly may not be interpreted a neglect of the last intimations of His Majesty's pleasure for restoring the tranquillity of the Empire, signified in the Earl of *Dartmouth's* Letter of the 3d of *March*, the Council observed to his Honour:

That there was, in the course of the last winter, a general expectation in this Province of some signification to the Colonies upon the contested subject of taxation and other grievances, and an earnest desire in the people to maintain their ancient union with, and dependance upon *Great Britain*.

That if the Secretary of State's Letter had found the Colony in this temper, there was room to hope, from the explicit declarations contained in it, of His Majesty's most gracious intentions of promoting a reconciliation between the several branches of the Empire, that the Colonies would have declared themselves upon its important contents in some way favourable to the Union, which every good subject to His Majesty so ardently desires, and which the Council conceive the people of this Colony were disposed most strenuously to promote.

That Lord *Dartmouth's* Letter arrived on the 24th of *April*, the very day after the news reached us of the melancholy event in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, of the 19th *April*, which has thrown the Provinces into confusion, kindled a flame that renders it impossible for the Representatives of the people to give that attention to his Lordship's Letter that is expected by His Majesty, until the present ferments subside.

Astonished by accounts of acts of hostility in the moment of the expectation of terms of reconciliation, and now filled with distrust, the inhabitants of this City burst through all restraints on the arrival of the intelligence from *Boston*, and instantly emptied the vessel laden with Provisions for that place, and then seized the City Arms, and in the course of a few days distributed them among the multitude, formed themselves into Companies, and trained openly in the streets; increased the numbers and power of the Committee before appointed, to execute the Association of the Continental Congress; convened themselves, by beat of drum, for popular Resolutions; have taken the keys of the Custom-House by military force; shut up the Port; drawn a number of small cannon into the country; called all parts of the Colony to a Provincial Convention; chosen twenty Delegates for this City; formed an Association, now signing by all ranks, engaging submission to Committees and Congresses, in firm union with the rest of the Continent, and openly avow a resolution, not only to resist the Acts of Parliament complained of as grievances, but to withhold succours of all kinds from the Troops, and to repel every species of force, whenever it may be exerted, for enforcing the taxing claims of Parliament, at the risk of their lives and fortunes.

In such a change of temper and conduct, (which has entirely prostrated His Majesty's Government in this Province,) there cannot be the least prospect of bringing the Assembly to a deliberate consideration of the Earl of *Dartmouth's* Letter; nor is there any foundation for the most distant hope of accomplishing His Majesty's intentions, if there is any farther irritation by the movements of the Army, and fresh effusions of blood. And as it appears to the Council to be of the last importance to the *British* Empire, that the true state of the Colonies be immediately made known to His Majesty, and also to the Commander-in-chief of his forces on this Continent, the Council, moved by their zeal for the interest of the Crown and the felicity of His Majesty's subjects, recommend it to his Honour to transmit, as soon as possible, the full information of the late events in this Province, with assurances to General *Gage* that the great end of the reconciliation, so explicitly urged in the Secretary of State's Letter, cannot be accomplished, agreeable to His Majesty's expectations, unless he can find means to remove the suspicion of his meditating further operations on the part of the Army, that the people may, with due composure of mind, attend to the terms recommended by His Majesty for re-establishing the tranquillity of the Empire.



## PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR COLDEN.

*By the Honourable CADWALLADER COLDEN, Esquire, His Majesty's Lieutenant Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of NEW-YORK, and the Territories depending thereon in AMERICA:*

## A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the General Assembly of this Province stands adjourned to the third day of *May* instant: I have thought fit for His Majesty's service to prorogue, and I do, by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council, prorogue the said General Assembly to the seventh day of *June* next, of which all His Majesty's subjects concerned therein are required to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, at Fort *George*, in the City of *New-York*, the first day of *May*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

CADWALLADER COLDEN.

By his Honour's command:

SAM. BAYARD, JUN., *Deputy Secretary*.

God save the King.

## TIMOTHY PICKERING, JUNIOR, TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR MASSACHUSETTS.

Salem, May 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As a great number of men will soon be out of employ within the limits of the First Regiment, in *Essex*, it is thought by many highly expedient that they should have an opportunity to enlist into the Army. I imagine a Regiment may presently be enlisted, if field officers be appointed; and I beg leave to recommend Lieutenant Colonel *John Mansfield*, of *Lynn*, as well qualified to take the command of the proposed Regiment, and Captain *Israel Hutchinson*, of *Danvers*, to be the second in command. The latter is an active man, of experience in war, having made three campaigns; and both he and Colonel *Mansfield* will, I am persuaded, be very acceptable to the people. I do not think just now of a Major; but as soon as it is known that a Regiment is to be formed in the environs of *Salem*, I doubt not but a sufficient number of suitable persons will present themselves to fill all the vacant offices in the Regiment. I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

TIM. PICKERING, Junior.

To the Committee of Safety.

## BOSTON COMMITTEE TO DOCTOR JOSEPH WARREN.

Boston, May 1, 1775.

SIR: We wrote you the 29th ultimo, per Mr. *Edward Payne*, who left the Town yesterday morning. As General *Gage* thought that he could not, in his official capacity, correspond with you on the subject you imparted to him, he desired us to write you on it; in conformity to which, we say that you have, in a great measure, adopted the same sentiments in your Resolves, which we are this day favoured with in yours of yesterday, saving that part of it that respects persons being sent from hence to carry into execution the desires of any of the inhabitants of the Province now in *Boston*, respecting their bringing their effects from the different parts of the Government where their dwelling places are. In order to remove all difficulties, we do propose to give to persons to be sent from hence, either servants or others, passes to the office you have established, desiring they may be furnished with passes for so long a time as may be proper for them, according to the distance they go; that they may have liberty to procure any help necessary for the conveyance of said effects, and that they may pass and repass unmolested.

If the above be agreeable, please to favour us with an answer by the bearer. We are, with respect and the greatest regard and sincere affection, Sir, your most humble obedient servants,

JOHN SCOLLAY, SAMUEL AUSTIN,

THOS. MARSHALL, JOHN PITTS,

TIMOTHY NEWELL,

To Doctor *Joseph Warren*.

## LEMUEL WILLIAMS TO BENJAMIN AIKIN, ESQUIRE, IN WATERTOWN.

Dartmouth, May 1, 1775.

SIR: I am desired to acquaint you that Mr. *Samuel Allen*, (by the desire of the principal part of the inhabitants of this place) is sent to you to know the minds of the Provincial Congress, whether it is most proper at this time for the Merchants in this place to send their Vessels and Provisions to sea, or not. Your early proposing the same to that respectable body, will much oblige your humble servant,

LEMUEL WILLIAMS.

## ELBRIDGE GERRY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Monday morning, 1775.

Mr. *White*, of *Marblehead*, from *Boston*, who has been an Addresser, was dismissed yesterday, after having been taken in a vessel of his own, with salt, and carried up to that place. He informs the inhabitants of *Marblehead*, that a transport arrived there yesterday with one hundred and fifty Troops, and sailed from *Ireland* in company with thirty-three more, which had on board eight Regiments, three hundred and fifty Recruits, and one Regiment of Dragoons. He parted with seventeen of them on *Friday* last; and it was supposed when they all arrived, that they would be twelve thousand strong; but I cannot conceive that there will be that number. Notwithstanding which, it may be highly necessary to be ready for such an army. This I have by a brother from *Marblehead*, just arrived, who received it from *White*, and thought it proper to apprise you of it, to be communicated to Congress, if necessary. He likewise adds an anecdote of a vessel in *Marblehead*, loaded with molasses, under custody of the Sloop-of-War posted there, which the inhabitants boarded the last night: they slipped her cables, and after running her into the wharf, where a number of our men armed, were posted to receive her, they unladed her cargo, and saved the whole. I am, in much haste, Sir, your very humble servant,

ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Honourable President of the Congress.

## PETITION OF JONATHAN BREWER.

*To the Honourable the President and Members of the Provincial Congress of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, now sitting in WATERTOWN, in said Province.*

The Petition of *Jonathan Brewer*, Esq., of *Waltham*, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioner having a desire of contributing all in his power for this Country's good, begs leave to propose to this honourable House to march with a body of five hundred Volunteers to *Quebeck*, by way of the Rivers *Kennebeck* and *Chadier*, as he humbly begs leave to apprehend that such a diversion of the Provincial Troops into that part of *Canada*, would be the means of drawing the Governour of *Canada* with his Troops, into that quarter, and which would effectually secure the Northern and Western Frontiers from any inroads of the Regular or *Canadian* Troops. This he humbly conceives he could execute with all the facility imaginable. He therefore begs that this honourable Assembly would take this his proposal into consideration, and to act thereon as in their wisdom shall seem meet.

J. BREWER.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM HOLLAND, OF MAY 2, 1775, TO THE REV. MR. WILLIAM GORDON, OF ROXBURY.

When the Parliament met, I was in hopes the manly Address of the General Congress to the King, and that to the People of *England*, would have opened their eyes, and have led them to apply a remedy suitable to the disease; but instead of that, what have they done? Like true quacks, they deal in inflammatories, and attempt to heal by exasperating the evil they should cure. Of this nature is Lord *North's* concession, the merit of which, (if it has any) is wholly destroyed by the Restraining Bill. By this they will further provoke those who are already sufficiently enraged, and force the discarded useless fishermen to fly to arms, and to fight against Administration, from a principle of hatred, as well as zeal for the publick. Never, sure, were Ministers more infatuated than those headless beings



who manage the affairs of *England*; and to tell you the truth, it is like man like master with respect to the latter. Don't you remember what Mr. T. . . . once told you concerning his invincible obstinacy, as mentioned by a gentleman who was much about his person when he was a youth? Has not all his conduct confirmed it ever since he mounted the Throne? For I am persuaded he (as tutored by the assuming favourite) and the junto, is at the bottom of all these wild measures; nor will they relinquish them till they smart severely for their folly. *Don Quixote* like, they are obstinately bent on fighting wind-mills; and no wonder if they get broken heads in the encounter. Were they alone to smart, it were no great matter; but the mischief is, that I fear they will draw down irreparable evils upon both *Englands*. Lord North is only a tool to do the dirty work of his more dirty superiors; and the precious Parliament are, in their place, the tools to do his dirty work in return, for the pay he gives them. They have lately employed that old mungy jacobite Doctor, alias Dictionary *Johnson*, alias the Rambler, to answer the Congress, in a pamphlet entitled "Taxation no Tyranny"—a piece full of sophistical quibbles, dressed out in pedantick bombast language. I hope to see some good answer to it; and am pleased to see how effectually the authors of the *Monthly Review*, in their last Review, (*March*,) have cut him down in a few words. If you ever see that periodical work on your side the water, it will give you pleasure to read what they have said on the subject. If we may believe the papers, all things with you threaten war. In the last it is affirmed the standard of liberty had been lately erected at *Salem*, and that it was repaired to by numbers in arms, determined to fight or die. Should the King's Troops be worsted in any general action, of which I think there is the greatest probability, what an uproar will it make in *England*. And then let the Ministry stand clear. If the Troops beat you, you can soon recruit. If they gain five battles, and lose but one, it is over with them, so great is the disadvantage under which they engage, besides what arises from the circumstances of climate, and fighting against those who fight, or are at least persuaded they fight *pro aris et focis*, and this upon their own ground.

The *English* Ambassador at the *Hague* applied to the States to forbid their subjects supplying the *Americans* with arms and ammunition. The States published a prohibition under the penalty of a Thousand Guilders, that is, about Ninety Pounds Sterling. I leave you to comment on this at your leisure, and judge if, where the profits of a voyage are so great as a voyage of that kind must be, it is not worth the merchant's while to risk that sum. And to assist you in your determination on that point, it is owned by our Ambassador at this place, that a *Dutch* ship has lately got into *Virginia*, where it has landed four hundred barrels of powder and fourteen hundred stand of arms. *France* was applied to to forbid its subjects furnishing you with any military stores. *France*, it is well known, could easily have crushed all such assistance by an express prohibition; but *France* knows better than to do it, and therefore only tells its subjects, if they do it, it is entirely at their own risk, which is plainly saying, if you will venture, you may. *Spain*, when applied to, roundly refused to give any hindrance to her subjects supplying you; and I dare say, from present appearances, will soon act openly against *England*.

An article lately appeared in the *English* papers, that a *Prussian* ship sailed from *Stetten* to some part of *America*, with thirty field-pieces, a good store of powder, ball, and small arms, and six or seven *Prussian* Generals, whose names were mentioned at length. This begins to gain great credit in this part of the world, and is now affirmed to be true. It is said they were engaged for by an *American* agent at the Court of *Berlin*. That politick Prince, too, is on the watch; he bears no good will to the Court of *London*; and in case *England* should be engaged in a war with her Colonies, will carve himself a handsome slice out of a certain Electorate, or the world will be greatly mistaken.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN AMERICAN GENTLEMAN  
AT PARIS, DATED MAY 2, 1775, TO HIS FRIEND IN  
PHILADELPHIA.

I find the *French* are extremely attentive to our *American* politicks, and to a man strongly in favour of us; whe-

ther mostly from ill-will to *Britain*, or friendship to the Colonies, may be matter of doubt; but they profess it to be upon a principle of humanity, and a regard to the natural rights of mankind. They say that the *Americans* will be either revered or detested by all *Europe*, according to their conduct at the approaching crisis; they will have no middle character; for in proportion as their virtue and perseverance will render them a glorious, their tame submission will make them a despicable people.

#### GLOUCESTER COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Gloucester*, at the Court-House, on *Tuesday*, the 2d of *May*, 1775:

*Resolved*, That we will not ship a single Hogshead of Tobacco to *Great Britain*, until the determination of the Continental Congress respecting Exportation be known.

*Resolved*, That we deem the Resolution of our Committee last *November*, not to ship any Tobacco to Mr. *Norton's* House, as still obligatory, the Ship *Virginia* having arrived without the concessions then required.

JASPER CLAYTON, Clerk.

#### COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA.

At a Council held at the Palace, *May* 2, 1775. Present: His Excellency the Governour, *Thos. Nelson*, *Richard Corbin*, *William Byrd*, *Ralph Wormeley, Jr.*, Esquires, *John Camm*, Clerk, and *John Page*, Esquire.

The Governour was pleased to address himself to the Board in the following manner:

GENTLEMEN: Commotions and insurrections have suddenly been excited among the people, which threatens the very existence of His Majesty's government in this Colony; and no other cause is assigned for such dangerous measures, than that the gunpowder, which had some time past been brought from on board one of the King's ships to which it belonged, and was deposited in the Magazine of this City, has been removed, which, it is known, was done by my order, to whom, under the constitutional right of the Crown which I represent, the custody and disposal of all publick stores of arms and ammunition alone belong. And whether I acted in this matter (as my indispensable duty required) to anticipate the malevolent designs of the enemies of order and government, or to prevent the attempts of any enterprising negroes, the powder being still as ready and convenient for being distributed for the defence of the Country, upon any emergency, as it was before, which I have publicly engaged to do, the expediency of the step I have taken is equally manifest, and therefore it must be evident that the same headstrong and designing people, who have already but too successfully employed their artifices in deluding His Majesty's faithful subjects, and in seducing them from their duty and allegiance, have seized this entirely groundless subject of complaint, only to enslave afresh, and to precipitate as many as possible of the unwary into acts which, involving them in the same guilt, their corruptors think may bind them to the same plans and schemes which are unquestionably meditated in this Colony for subverting the present, and erecting a new form of Government.

Induced by an unaffected regard for the general welfare of the people whom I have had the honour of governing, as well as actuated by duty and zeal in the service of His Majesty, I call upon you, his Council, in this Colony, for your advice upon this pressing occasion; and I submit to you whether a Proclamation should not issue conformable to what I have now suggested; and before our fellow-subjects abandon themselves totally to extremities, which must inevitably draw down an accumulation of every human misery upon their unhappy Country, to warn them of their danger, to remind them of the sacred oaths of allegiance which they have taken, and to call up in their breasts that loyalty and affection which upon so many occasions have been professed by them to their King, their lawful sovereign; and farther, to urge and exhort, in particular, those whose criminal proceedings on this occasion have been, and are still, so alarming, to return to their duty, and a due obedience to the laws; and, in general, all persons whatsoever to rely upon the goodness and tenderness of our most gracious Sovereign to all his subjects, equally, and upon the wisdom of his Councils, for a redress of all their real



grievances, which redress can only be obtained by constitutional applications; and, lastly, to enjoin all orders of people to submit, as becomes good subjects, to the legal authority of their Government, in the protection of which their own happiness is most interested.

The Council thereupon acquainted his Excellency, that as the matters he had been pleased to communicate to them were of the greatest consequence, they desired time to deliberate thereon till the next day.

At a Council held at the Palace, *May 3, 1775.* Present: His Excellency the Governour, *Thomas Nelson, Richard Corbin, William Byrd, Ralph Wormeley, Jr.,* Esquires, *John Camm, Clerk, and John Page, Esquire.*

The Board resuming the consideration of the subject laid before them yesterday by the Governour, advised him to issue the following Proclamation; and the same was ordered accordingly.

*By his Excellency the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governour General of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, and Vice-Admiral of the same:*

A PROCLAMATION.

VIRGINIA, to wit:

Whereas there is too much reason to suppose that some persons in the different parts of this Colony are disaffected to His Majesty's Government, and by their weight and credit with the people, are endeavouring to bring the Country into such a situation as to afford them the fairest prospect of effecting a change in the form of it, covering the wicked designs under the specious appearance of defending their liberties, and have taken advantage of the unhappy ferment which themselves have raised in the minds of their fellow-subjects, in prosecution of their dangerous designs to oppose the most undoubted prerogative of the King, which, in a late instance, I thought it expedient to exert, by removing on board His Majesty's Ship the *Fowey*, a small quantity of Gunpowder, belonging to His Majesty, from the Magazine in this City: I have thought fit, by advice of His Majesty's Council, to issue this my Proclamation, with a view of undeceiving the deluded, and of exposing to the unwary the destruction into which they may be precipitated, if they suffer themselves to be longer guided by such infatuated counsels.

Although I consider myself, under the authority of the Crown, the only constitutional judge in what manner the munition, provided for the protection of the people of this Government, is to be disposed of for that end, yet, for effecting the salutary objects of this Proclamation, and removing from the minds of His Majesty's subjects the groundless suspicions they have imbibed, I think proper to declare that the apprehensions which seemed to prevail throughout this whole Country, of an intended insurrection of the Slaves, who had been seen in large numbers in the night time about the Magazine, and my knowledge of its being a very insecure depository, were my inducements to that measure, and I chose the night as the properest season, because I knew the temper of the times, and the misinterpretations of my design which would be apt to prevail if the thing should be known. Acting under these motives, I certainly rather deserved the thanks of the Country, than their reproaches. But whenever the present ferment shall subside, and it shall become necessary to put arms into the hands of the Militia for the defence of the people against a foreign enemy or intestine insurgents, I shall be as ready as on a late occasion to exert my best abilities in the service of the Country. In the mean time, as it is indispensably necessary to maintain order and the authority of the laws, and thereby the dignity of His Majesty's Government, I exhort and require, in His Majesty's name, all his faithful subjects to leave no expedient untried which may tend to that happy end. Such as are not to be influenced by the love of order for its own sake, and the blessings it is always productive of, would do well to consider the internal weakness of this Colony, as well as the dangers to which it is exposed from a savage enemy, who, from the most recent advices I have received from the frontier inhabitants, are ready to renew their hostilities against the people of this Country. But as, on the one hand, nothing

can justify men, without proper authority, in a rapid recurrence to arms, nothing excuse resistance to the Executive power in the due enforcement of law; so, on the other, nothing but such resistance and outrageous proceedings shall ever compel me to avail myself of any means that may carry the appearance of severity.

Anxious to restore peace and harmony to this distracted Country, and to induce a firmer reliance on the goodness and tenderness of our most gracious Sovereign to all his subjects equally, and on the wisdom of his Councils for a redress of all their real grievances, which can only be obtained by loyal and constitutional applications, I again call upon and require all His Majesty's liege subjects, and especially all Magistrates and other officers, both civil and military, to exert themselves in removing the discontents, and suppressing the spirit of faction which prevail among the people, that a dutiful submission to the laws of the land may be strictly observed, which shall ever be the rule of my conduct, as the interest and happiness of this Dominion ever have been, and shall continue to be, the objects of my administration.

Given under my hand, and the seal of the Colony, at *Williamsburgh*, this third day of *May, 1775*, and in the fifteenth year of His Majesty's reign. *DUNMORE.*

*God save the King.*

COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION FOR KENT COUNTY ON DELAWARE.

*Dover, Tuesday, May 2, 1775. P. M.*

The Committee met by adjournment, when the following Letter was laid before them by the President of the Committee of Correspondence for said County:

"I acknowledge to have wrote a piece (and did not sign it) since said to be an extract of a Letter from *Kent County on Delaware*, published in *Humphreys's Ledger*, No. 3. It was not dated from any place, and is somewhat altered from the original. I folded it up, and directed the same to *Joshua Fisher and Sons*. I had no intention to have it published, and further let them know, the author thought best it should not be published, nor did I think they would. I am sincerely sorry I ever wrote it, as also for its being published, and hope I may be excused for this my first breach in this way, and I intend it shall be the last.

"*ROBERT HOLLIDAY.*"

To the Committee of Correspondence for *Kent County on Delaware.*

*Resolved unanimously*, That this be not satisfactory, and that Mr. *Holliday* be requested to attend the Committee at their next meeting, on *Tuesday* the ninth instant, then to give further satisfaction for the gross misrepresentation of the people of this County, by said Letter, from which an extract was published in *Humphreys's Ledger*.

*Tuesday, May 9, P. M.*

The Committee met according to adjournment, when Mr. *Holliday* appeared, and offered to make the necessary concessions for his conduct.

*On motion, Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Mr. *Holliday's* concessions in writing.

This being done, Mr. *Holliday* waited on the Committee with his concessions, drawn up in the form of an Address, as follows:

"*To the Committee of Inspection for KENT County on DELAWARE:*

"GENTLEMEN: With sorrow and contrition for my weakness and folly, I confess myself the author of the Letter from which an extract was published in the third number of *Humphreys's Ledger*, said to be from *Kent County, on Delaware*, but at the same time do declare it was published without my consent, and not without some alterations.

"I am now convinced the political sentiments therein contained were founded in the grossest error, more especially that malignant insinuation, that "if the King's Standard were now erected, nine out of ten would repair to it," could not have been suggested but from the deepest insinuation. True, indeed it is, the people of this County have ever shown a zealous attachment to His Majesty's person and Government, and whenever he raised his standard in a just cause, were ready to flock to it; but let the severe



account I now render to an injured people witness to the world, that none are more ready to oppose tyranny, or to be first in the cause of liberty, than the inhabitants of *Kent County*.

"Conscious that I can render no satisfaction adequate to the injuries done my Country, I can only beg the forgiveness of my countrymen upon those principles of humanity which may induce them to consider the frailty of human nature. And I do profess and promise, that I will never again oppose those laudable measures necessarily adopted by my countrymen for the preservation of *American* freedom, but will co-operate with them to the utmost of my abilities, in their virtuous struggle for liberty, so far as is consistent with my religious principles.

"ROBERT HOLLIDAY."

May 9, 1775.

Voted satisfactory.

Published by order of the Committee,  
THOMAS NIXON, JR., Clerk.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA TO HIS FRIEND IN LONDON.

Philadelphia, May 2, 1775.

Do not we see the hand of Providence in the late repulse of the National soldiery? *New-England* men who are justly noted for religious attentions, do say, that *God* hath evidently appeared on their side, and fought for them; thus deriving powerful motives for perseverance and vigour in a cause so favoured. And indeed the battle has been the *Lord's*. He has wrought by few, as easily as he could by many.

The Militia, it is said, threaten the siege of *Boston*, however difficult it may seem, and we have a report that General *Gage* is suffering the inhabitants to retire. This forebodes the destruction of that City; but the people of the Colony contemplate that consequence, the bombardment of their Coast-Towns, and the total stagnation of their Fishery and Trade. These advices must strike terror into the *British* Ministry, and astonish all *Europe*. But this comes of driving people to despair. Though I trust you will have come away, yet I venture to risk a letter.

This is the last I shall write to you, till further advices from you. Indeed means of conveyance will probably fail, for we expect that the Congress (about to sit) will recommend the total suspension of exportation at their first meeting. This has already taken place at *New-York*. The van of the *New-England* Militia has actually arrived there, and will be joined by the inhabitants, who are arraying. You may be assured that from *Maryland* north-eastward, there is no scarcity of ammunition. Gunpowder abounds in *New-England*. A proper magazine of victuals for six months, and stores, (even tents for thirty thousand men,) have been collected at *Worcester*, forty-five miles west of *Boston*.

Our City affords thirty Companies, from fifty to one hundred each, of trained bands, who daily practise the manual exercise of the musket. Citizens may not perhaps be so much esteemed as soldiers; but it is the same throughout the Country.

NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

At a meeting of the *New-Jersey* Provincial Committee of Correspondence (appointed by the Provincial Congress) at the City of *New-Brunswick*, on *Tuesday*, the second day of *May*, *Anno Domini*, 1775, agreeable to summons of *Hendrick Fisher*, Esq., Chairman.

Present: *Hendrick Fisher*, *Samuel Tucker*, *Joseph Borden*, *Joseph Riggs*, *Isaac Pearson*, *John Chetwood*, *Lewis Ogden*, *Isaac Ogden*, *Abraham Hunt*, and *Elias Boudinot*, Esquires.

The Committee having seriously taken into consideration as well the present alarming and very extraordinary conduct of the *British* Ministry, for carrying into execution sundry Acts of Parliament for the express purpose of raising a revenue in *America*, and other unconstitutional measures therein mentioned; as also the several acts of hostility that have been actually commenced for this purpose by the Regular Forces under General *Gage* against our brethren of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*;

and not knowing how soon this Province may be in a state of confusion and disorder, if there are not some effectual measures speedily taken to prevent the same: This Committee are unanimously of opinion, and do hereby advise and direct, that the Chairman do immediately call a Provincial Congress to meet at *Trenton*, on *Tuesday* the twenty-third day of this instant, in order to consider of and determine such matters as may then and there come before them; and the several Counties are hereby desired to nominate and appoint their respective Deputies for the same, as speedily as may be, with full and ample powers for such purposes as may be thought necessary for the peculiar exigencies of this Province.

The Committee do also direct their Chairman to forward true copies of the above minute to the several County Committees of this Province, without delay.

HENDRICK FISHER, Chairman.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

The Committee met at the *Exchange*, at six o'clock, *Monday*, 1st *May*, 1775. Present:

|                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Low,          | Theophilus Anthony, | Benjamin Kissam,    |
| Philip Livingston,  | William Goforth,    | John M. Scott,      |
| James Duane,        | William Denning,    | Cornelius Clopper,  |
| John Alsop,         | Isaac Roosevelt,    | John Reade,         |
| Isaac Sears,        | Jacob Van Voorhies, | John Van Cortlandt, |
| Alex. McDougall,    | Jeremiah Platt,     | Jacobus Van Zandt,  |
| Thomas Randall,     | Comfort Sands,      | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| Leonard Lispenard,  | Robert Benson,      | John Marston,       |
| William Walton,     | William W. Gilbert, | Thomas Marston,     |
| John Broome,        | Nicholas Roosevelt, | Richard Sharpe,     |
| Joseph Hallett,     | John Berrian,       | Hamilton Young,     |
| Nicholas Hoffman,   | Edward Fleming,     | Benjamin Helme,     |
| Abraham Walton,     | John De Lancey,     | Walter Franklin,    |
| Peter Van Schaack,  | Frederick Jay,      | David Beekman,      |
| Henry Remsen,       | William W. Ludlow,  | William Seaton,     |
| Peter T. Curtenius, | John B. Moore,      | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Abraham Brasher,    | Lindley Murray,     | William Laight,     |
| Abraham P. Lott,    | Lancaster Burling,  | Samuel Broome,      |
| Abraham Duryee,     | John Lasher,        | John Lamb,          |
| Joseph Bull,        | George Janeway,     | Daniel Phenix,      |
| Francis Lewis,      | James Beekman,      | Anthony Van Dam,    |
| Joseph Totten,      | Richard Yates,      | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Thomas Ivers,       | David Clarkson,     | John Imlay,         |
| Hercules Mulligan,  | Thomas Smith,       | Oliver Templeton,   |
| John Anthony,       | James Desbrosses,   | Cornelius F. Low,   |
| Francis Bassett,    | Augustus Van Horne, | Thomas Buchanan,    |
| Victor Bicker,      | Garret Kettletas,   | Petrus Byvanck,     |
| John White,         | Eleazer Miller,     |                     |

Mr. *Isaac Low* was unanimously elected Chairman; Mr. *Henry Remsen*, Deputy Chairman; Mr. *John Blagge*, Secretary; and Mr. *Thomas Pettit*, Messenger.

The following Address was received from Mr. *Samuel Broome* and his Company, which was read in the words following, viz:

"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

"We wait on you by order of one hundred inhabitants who have formed themselves into a Military Association Company, in order to co-operate with their fellow-citizens in carrying into effect the purposes of the General Association; and we are desired to assure you that they have great confidence in your wisdom and zeal, and are determined to be guided by your advice, and to support your resolutions respecting the preservation of *American* liberty, of the peace and good order of the City, the safety of individuals (unless proscribed by you) and of private property; upon every occasion we will cheerfully take our tour of duty; and when our services are wanted you may apply to Mr. *Samuel Broome*, who we have chosen to command us."

Mr. *Scott* moved, seconded by Mr. *McDougall*, That a Sub-Committee of four members for each Ward be appointed to offer the Association without delay to the inhabitants of this City and County, and that they take down the names of such of them as shall not sign the Association, and report their names to this Committee.

On the question, whether every person should be waited on except the Lieutenant-Governour, carried in the affirmative, by a great majority.

The following Rules for the government of this Committee in their debates and proceedings, were read, agreed to, and ordered to be entered on their Minutes, viz:

1st. That the Chairman, and in his absence, the Deputy Chairman, and in the absence of both, a Chairman to be appointed *pro tempore*, shall preside at every meeting,



and keep order and decorum, and that it shall be his duty to sign all letters from the Board.

2d. That a Secretary shall be appointed who is not a member of the Board.

3d. That all Addresses shall be made to the Chair, and standing.

4th. That if more than one shall rise to speak at the same time, the Chairman shall determine who shall first be heard.

5th. That the substance of every motion which is seconded, shall be entered on the Minutes.

6th. That no interruption shall be offered while a member is delivering his sentiments.

7th. That every question shall be determined by a majority of voices, and after a determination, the same question shall not be resumed, but with the consent of a majority at a subsequent meeting.

8th. That when a question shall be determined, the names of the members shall be entered as they shall vote, on each side.

9th. That the Committee shall meet every *Monday* at six o'clock in the evening, and on application of any five members the Chairman, or in his absence the Deputy, and in the absence of both, the Secretary, shall call a special meeting, printed notice whereof to be left at the residence of each member.

10th. That, for the despatch of business and to prevent interruptions, the doors, at our meetings, shall be shut, and that no act, proceeding, or debate of the Committee shall be published or divulged, except to a member, unless leave shall be first given by the Committee.

11th. That when the Chairman and Deputy Chairman shall be out of Town, the five first members named on the list of the body, who may be in Town, shall be at liberty to open Letters directed to the Committee, and that the contents of such Letters shall not be communicated but to a member, without leave of the Committee.

12th. That every member after appearing shall keep his seat, and not leave the Committee without the consent of the Chairman.

13th. That no question shall be determined the day that it is agitated, if one-third of the members then present desire it to be postponed to the next meeting.

14th. That no member shall be at liberty to speak more than twice to the same point without leave of the Board.

15th. That at every stated weekly meeting, these Rules shall be publicly read previous to the proceeding upon business.

Whereas it appears by the publick Papers that all Exportation from *Philadelphia* to *Quebeck*, *Nova-Scotia*, *Georgia*, and *Newfoundland*, or any part of the Fishing Coasts or Fishing Islands are suspended, and that it be accordingly recommended to every Merchant immediately to suspend all Exportation to those places until the Continental Congress shall give further orders therein :

*Resolved*, That the above measure be recommended by this Committee to the Merchants and Inhabitants of this City and County, and that henceforth no Provisions or other necessities be sent from this Port to the Army or Navy at *Boston*, and that the Committee of *Philadelphia* be requested to establish the same restriction, until the Continental Congress shall give further orders therein.

*Ordered*, That the above be published.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Van Schaack*, and Mr. *McDougall* be a Sub-Committee to draft and report an Answer to Captain *Samuel Broome's* Address.

Mr. *McDougall* moved, seconded by Mr. *Scott*, that a Sub-Committee be appointed to devise ways and means to purchase Arms, Ammunition, and Provisions in our exigency, and that they report the same without delay to this Committee.

Carried unanimously in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Remsen*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Lispenard*, Mr. *Van Dam*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Kissam*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Duryee*, Mr. *Yates* and Mr. *Curtenius* be a Committee for the above purpose.

The Committee adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

The Committee met, by adjournment, *Tuesday* morning, nine o'clock, *May 2*, 1775. Present :

|                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Low,          | William Goforth,    | Cornelius Clopper,  |
| Philip Livingston,  | Isaac Roosevelt,    | John Reade,         |
| James Duane,        | Jacob Van Voorhies, | John Van Cortlandt, |
| Isaac Sears,        | Jeremiah Platt,     | Jacobus Van Zandt,  |
| Alex. McDougall,    | Comfort Sands,      | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| Thomas Randall,     | Robert Benson,      | John Marston,       |
| Leonard Lispenard,  | William W. Gilbert, | Thomas Marston,     |
| William Walton,     | John Berrian,       | Richard Sharpe,     |
| John Broome,        | John De Lancey,     | Hamilton Young,     |
| Joseph Hallett,     | Frederick Jay,      | David Beekman,      |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,  | William W. Ludlow,  | William Seaton,     |
| Nicholas Hoffman,   | John B. Moore,      | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Abraham Walton,     | Lancaster Burling,  | William Laight,     |
| Henry Remsen,       | John Lasher,        | Samuel Broome,      |
| Peter T. Curtenius, | George Janeway,     | John Lamb,          |
| Abraham Brasher,    | James Beekman,      | Daniel Phenix,      |
| Abraham P. Lott,    | Richard Yates,      | Anthony Van Dam,    |
| Abraham Duryee,     | Thomas Smith,       | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Joseph Bull,        | James Desbrosses,   | John Imlay,         |
| Francis Lewis,      | Augustus Van Horne, | Oliver Templeton,   |
| Joseph Totten,      | Eleazer Miller,     | Cornelius P. Low,   |
| Thomas Ivers,       | Garret Kettlelas,   | Thomas Buchannan,   |
| Hercules Mulligan,  | Benjamin Kissam,    | Petrus Byvanck.     |
| Theophilus Anthony, | John M. Scott,      |                     |

Mr. *Duane* moved, seconded by Mr. *McDougall*, that the Committee come into the following Resolution, viz :

*Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to every inhabitant to perfect himself in Military Discipline, and be provided with Arms, Accoutrements, and Ammunition as directed by law.

Carried unanimously in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolve be immediately made publick by a handbill.

Mr. *Goforth* moved, seconded by Mr. *Lamb*, that a Committee be appointed to move all the Cannon out of Town that are private property, and to provide every thing necessary thereto, and that a particular account be taken of them, and the names of the proprietors.

Carried unanimously in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Sears*, Captain *Randall*, Mr. *Lamb*, Mr. *A. P. Lott*, Mr. *Brasher*, and Mr. *Goforth* be a Sub-Committee for the above purposes. Names added : Mr. *Berrian*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Byvanck*.

Mr. *Lamb*, seconded by Mr. *McDougall*, made a motion in the words following, viz :

Whereas it is essentially necessary in the present posture of our affairs, that the true state of this City should be known in regard to what quantity of Arms and Ammunition can be procured for our defence :

I move that a Sub-Committee of Inspection be appointed for that purpose, and to make inquiry of the inhabitants what Military Stores and Arms they have for their own use, and for sale, and that the said Committee be desired to report the same to this Board with all convenient speed.

Which being unanimously agreed to ;

*Ordered*, That the same be referred to the Committees appointed for carrying about the Association in the different Wards, and that the same consist of the following persons, viz :

MONTGOMERIE WARD.—Joseph Bull, John Berrian, David Beekman, Petrus Byvanck.

SOUTH WARD.—Thomas Randall, Frederick Jay, John Lasher.

DOCK WARD.—Gabriel H. Ludlow, Nicholas Hoffman, Gerardus Duyckinck, and Abraham Brinkerhoff.

WEST WARD.—Jacob Van Voorhies, Peter T. Curtenius, William W. Gilbert, John Van Cortlandt.

NORTH WARD.—Captain Fleming, John White, Robert Benson, John Anthony.

OUT WARD.—John M. Scott, George Janeway, Cornelius P. Low, Jeremiah Platt, Benjamin Helme.

EAST WARD.—Thomas Ivers, John Imlay, Oliver Templeton, John Broome, Joseph Hallett, Augustus Van Horne, Daniel Phenix.

Mr. *Duane* moved, seconded by Mr. *McDougall*, that the Committee come into the following Resolution, viz :

*Resolved*, That an humble Address be presented to his Honour the Lieutenant-Governour, to explain the motives which, at this alarming juncture, have obliged the inhabitants to appoint the present Committee for their safety and preservation, and to assure his Honour that this Committee will at all times exert their utmost endeavours to promote good order, and support the Civil Magistrates as far as



shall be compatible with the melancholy exigency of our publick affairs.

Carried unanimously in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the following gentlemen be a Committee for the above purpose, viz: Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *John Jay*, Mr. *Van Schaack*, Mr. *Kissam*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Low*, and Mr. *Lewis*.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Correspondence and Intelligence be appointed, and that it consist of the following persons, viz: Mr. *Low*, Mr. *Van Schaack*, Mr. *Kissam*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *P. V. B. Livingston*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt* and Mr. *McDougall*, who are desired to transmit to *England*, and to the Committees of the principal Cities on this Continent, copies of the Association entered into in this City, with such further acts and resolutions of this Committee for advancing the common cause, as they shall direct to be published.

The Committee adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

#### ASSOCIATION OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, May 4, 1775.

The following Association was set on foot here last *Saturday, April 29*, and has been transmitted, for signing, to all the Counties in the Province, and signed by most of the men of this City:

"Persuaded that the salvation of the rights and liberties of *America* depend, under *God*, on the firm union of its inhabitants, in a vigorous prosecution of the measures necessary for its safety, and convinced of the necessity of preventing the anarchy and confusion which attend a dissolution of the powers of Government: We, the Freemen, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the City and County of *New-York*, being greatly alarmed at the avowed design of the Ministry to raise a revenue in *America*, and shocked by the bloody scene now acting in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, do, in the most solemn manner, resolve never to become slaves; and do associate, under all the ties of religion, honour, and love to our Country, to adopt and endeavour to carry into execution whatever measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved upon by our Provincial Convention, for the purpose of preserving our Constitution and opposing the execution of the several arbitrary and oppressive Acts of the *British Parliament*, until a reconciliation between *Great Britain* and *America*, on constitutional principles, (which we most ardently desire,) can be obtained; and that we will, in all things, follow the advice of our General Committee respecting the purposes aforesaid, the preservation of peace and good order, and the safety of individuals and private property."

#### GOVERNOUR WANTON TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF RHODE-ISLAND.

Newport, May 2, 1775.

*To the General Assembly of the ENGLISH Colony of RHODE-ISLAND, &c., to be held at PROVIDENCE, within and for said Colony, on the first WEDNESDAY in MAY, 1775.*

GENTLEMEN: As indisposition prevents my meeting you in the General Assembly, that candour I have so often experienced from the Representatives of the freemen of this Colony encourages me to hope that you will excuse my personal attendance at this Session. Since the last Session of the General Assembly at *Providence*, I have had the honour of receiving a letter from the Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, dated *Whitehall*, the 3d of *March*, 1775, enclosing the Resolution of the House of Commons, respecting the provision which they expect each Colony or Province in *America* to make for the common defence, and also for the civil Government and the administration of justice in such Colony, both which I have directed to be laid before you, and also a letter from the Committee of the Provincial Congress, which are all the publick letters I have received during the recess.

As the dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies is now brought to a most alarming, dangerous crisis, and this once happy Country threatened with all the horrors and calamities of a civil war, I consider myself bound by

every tie of duty and affection, as well from an ardent desire to see a union between *Britain* and her Colonies established upon an equitable, permanent basis, to entreat you to enter into the consideration of the Resolution of the House of Commons, and also his Lordship's Letter which accompanied that Resolution, with the temper, calmness, and deliberation which the importance of them demands, and with that inclination to a reconciliation with the Parent State which will recommend your proceedings to His Majesty and both Houses of Parliament.

The prosperity and happiness of this Colony is founded on its connexion with *Great Britain*, "for if once we are separated, where shall we find another *Britain* to supply our loss? Torn from the body to which we are united by Religion, Liberty, Laws, and Commerce, we must bleed at every vein."

Your Charter privileges are of too much importance to be forfeited; you will, therefore, duly consider the interesting matters now before you with the most attentive caution; and let me entreat you not to suffer your proceedings for accommodating these disputes, which have already too long subsisted between both Countries, to have the least appearance of anger or resentment; but that a kind, respectful behaviour towards His Majesty and both Houses of Parliament accompany all your deliberations.

I shall always be ready to join with you in every measure which will secure the full possession of our invaluable Charter privileges to the latest posterity, and prevent the good people of this Colony from that ruin and destruction which, in my opinion, some of the orders of the late Assembly must inevitably involve them in, if they are not speedily repealed; for, besides the fatal consequences of levying war against the King, the immense load of debt that will be incurred, if the late Resolutions for raising an Army of Observation of fifteen hundred men within this Colony be carried into execution, will be insupportable, and must unavoidably bring on universal bankruptcy throughout this Colony.

If I have the honour of being re-elected, I shall, as I ever have done, cheerfully unite with you in every proceeding (which may be consistent with that duty and allegiance which I owe to the King and the *British Constitution*) for increasing the welfare and happiness of this Government.

I am, with great respect and esteem, gentlemen, your most humble servant, J. WANTON.

#### PROVIDENCE, RHODE-ISLAND, COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Providence, May 2, 1775.

SIR: The bearer hereof, *John Lascell*, hath been appointed by the Committee of Inspection for this Town to ride as a special post between this and *Cambridge, Roxbury, &c.* He will return on *Friday* next. We have only to inform you that the General Assembly of this Colony meet here to-morrow, for the purpose of an annual election, &c., in which session the melancholy situation of your Colony in particular, and of *America* in general, will be seriously attended to. What will be the result, *God Almighty* only knows; we wish and expect the best. Should any thing occur demanding particular notice, you will please to intimate it.

We are, Sir, with unfeigned affection, your friends and brethren,

JAMES ANGELL,  
J. VARNUM,  
EZEKEL CORNELL.

President Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN CONNECTICUT TO HIS FRIEND IN NEW-YORK, DATED MAY 2, 1775.

I received your esteemed favour of the 24th *April*, and observe your fears respecting the times, which are truly distressing; however, I feel no apprehensions from General *Gage's* ever being able to penetrate into the country thus far, if he was even reinforced with fifty thousand men. In the last conflict there never was more than two hundred and fifty men engaged with the Troops, who made out to kill, wound, and take prisoners, upwards of two hundred of his



men, with the loss of thirty-seven at most, which would not have been even so many, but the ardour of the country people led them between the flank guards and main body several times, which exposed them to certain death, being between two fires.

Our Assembly has sent two gentlemen to General *Gage*, to give him to understand that if he means to continue his hostile proceedings, he must expect all the country armed against him, determined to repel force with force to the last man; and I believe the prudent General will not venture his bones forty miles out in the country, with all the aid expected over this summer. The people in this country and *Massachusetts*, &c., are in high spirits, and fear him not, but wish he would try one expedition more into the country.

NATHANIEL FREEMAN TO DR. BENJAMIN CHURCH.

Sandwich, May 2, 1775.

SIR: Yours, enclosing the Resolve of the Committee of Safety, as to securing the boats, &c., has been received. I have secured all the boats in this part of the Country that will be of service to the Colony, and have given Col. *Cobb* orders to secure those below, which, I presume, by this time is done. We hauled the boats ashore, and hid them in swamps, sand, and wood, which was all that could be done here. Any farther orders from the honourable Committee in the cause of *God* and my Country, I am ready to execute with the greatest pleasure. And am, Sir, your very humble servant,

NATHL. FREEMAN.

Doctor *Church*.

GENERAL THOMAS TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Roxbury Camp, May 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of directions from the Committee of Safety, I sent an officer, on whom I could depend, to the house of Governour *Hutchinson*, who brought off all the papers he could find in that house, but I was informed that Colonel *Taylor*, of *Milton*, had lately taken several trunks out of the Governour's house not many days ago, in order to save them from being plundered. I immediately sent another messenger to Colonel *Taylor* for all the papers that belong to Governour *Hutchinson*, which he had in possession; he sent me for answer, he did not know of any papers that belong to Doctor *Hutchinson*, but just now comes and informs me that there are several trunks in his house, which he took as aforesaid, which he expects will be sent for very soon, and suspects there may be papers in the trunks; and if it is thought proper two or three judicious persons be sent to break open and search for papers, he will give them his assistance. This, gentlemen, is submitted to the consideration of the honourable Committee. I have, gentlemen, the honour to subscribe myself your most obedient humble servant,

JNO. THOMAS.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE GOVERNOUR OF CONNECTICUT.

Cambridge, May 2, 1775.

We yesterday had a conference with Dr. *Johnson* and Colonel *Wolcott*, who were appointed by your Assembly to deliver a letter to, and hold a conference with, General *Gage*. We feel the warmest gratitude to you for those generous and affectionate sentiments which you entertain towards us. But you will allow us to express our uneasiness on account of one paragraph in your letter, in which a cessation of hostilities is proposed. We fear that our brethren in *Connecticut* are not even yet convinced of the cruel designs of Administration against *America*, nor thoroughly sensible of the miseries to which General *Gage's* Army have reduced this wretched Colony. We have lost the Town of *Boston*, and we greatly fear for the inhabitants of *Boston*, as we find the General is perpetually making new conditions, and forming the most unreasonable pretensions for retarding their removal from that garrison. Our sea-ports on the eastern coasts are mostly deserted. Our people have been barbarously murdered by an insidious enemy, who, under cover of the night, have marched into the heart of the country, spreading destruction with fire and sword. No business but that of war is either done or

thought of in this Colony. No agreement or compact with General *Gage* will in the least alleviate our distress, as no confidence can possibly be placed in any assurances he can give to a people whom he has first deceived in the matter, taking possession of and fortifying the Town of *Boston*, and whom he has suffered his Army to attack in the most inhuman and treacherous manner. Our relief now must arise from driving General *Gage*, with his Troops, out of the Country, which, with the blessing of *God*, we are determined to accomplish, or perish in the attempt, as we think an honourable death in the field, whilst fighting for the liberties of all *America*, far preferable to being butchered in our own houses, or to be reduced to an ignominious slavery.

We must entreat that our sister Colony, *Connecticut*, will afford, immediately, all possible aid, as at this time delay will be attended with all that fatal train of events which would follow from an absolute desertion of the cause of *American* liberty. Excuse our earnestness on this subject, as we know that upon the success of our present contest depend the lives and liberties of our Country and succeeding generations. We are, &c.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO MR. VOSE, AT MILTON.

Cambridge, May 2, 1775.

I am directed to let you know that Mr. *Boyce* applied to this Committee for a prisoner, who is a paper-maker, and was then at *Worcester*, and agreed to pay the expenses of removal, &c. In consequence of this application, the prisoner has been removed to his mills, but he refuses to pay the charges, (as Colonel *Barrett* informs.) The Committee consider themselves as ill treated, and are determined to remove the prisoner from Mr. *Boyce's*, and tender him to you upon the same conditions, desiring your immediate attendance. We are, &c.

RICHARD DERBY, JUN., TO GENERAL WARD.

Ipswich, May 2, 1775, Five o'clock, P. M.

SIR: I am now on my way from *Newburyport* to *Salem*, from whence I proposed sending the following advice per express, but meeting with an opportunity by one of your officers, I embrace it, and inform you that about two o'clock this afternoon Captain *John Lee* arrived at *Newbury* from *Bilboa*, in twenty-nine days, and informed me that on the 14th of last month, in longitude forty-five degrees from *London*, he spoke a vessel from *Plymouth*, in *England*, who informed him that three days before he parted with a fleet of sixty sail of transports bound for *Boston*, under the command of Admiral Lord *Howe*, having on board twelve thousand *Hessian* Troops. He saw and read the *London* papers down to the 12th of *March*, from which, and by the Captain of the vessel, he learnt that twenty-seven Commissioners were on board the fleet, and that they were directed, if possible, to adjust matters; if not, they were ordered to risk every thing to penetrate into the Country; if not able to effect this, then to burn and destroy all in their power. *Burgoyne* was near sailing, with four thousand *Hanoverians*, for *Quebeck*, and a number of regiments are gone to the Southern Colonies. The Ministry had quieted the *Prussian* Monarch, by paying him all his demands. *France* and *Spain* had objected against any *Prussians* coming this way.

This is the purport of what I had from the Captain, who is a man of veracity. I advised the gentlemen at *Newbury* to collect what further they could, and inform you. Please to inform the Court of this matter. I am, &c.,

RICHARD DERBY, JUN.

P. S. Captain *Lee* could not obtain leave to bring any *English* paper, but only to read them.

RICHARD GLOVER TO MATTHEW TILGHMAN.

London, May 3, 1775.

SIR: The high station which you hold, and the distinguished character you bear in your Country, must apologize for me, who, trusting to your liberal sentiments, use the freedom of troubling you with this application. It is suggested by a sense of justice, and the certain knowledge



that I am singly possessed of the means to vindicate a friend of yours and mine—I mean Mr. *William Molleson*, the most eminent trader to your Province, who hath been more than once unwarrantably traduced in the *American* prints. For these twelve months past, that gentleman, upon the subject of dispute between this Kingdom and its Colonies, hath not taken a single step without my privity and advice. If, therefore, his conduct hath, in any shape, been erroneous, I am bound in justice to transfer the blame from him to myself. He was the first person to whom I imparted, in confidence, my anxiety at the consequences which I early foreboded from such a dispute. It was about the beginning of last *May*. He asked my opinion of calling a general meeting of the Merchants in that season. I answered in the negative, alleging that the Resolutions of the Congress to be held in *September* should first be known, and the Parliament assembled here, whence the only lights could proceed to regulate a conduct without doors, which might promise success; and for that desirable purpose, all attempts should be laid aside which might imply the least mixture of party; that the subject was too serious and important for any tincture of that kind, and that the interval should be filled up by his communication of intelligence to proper quarters from time to time, and endeavour to lay, if possible, a foundation for conciliatory measures. His unwearied vigilance and attention to this plan, the weight which his discreet proceedings acquired, led me once to hope for a happier issue than, to my grief and disappointment, I have seen.

The same feelings at length produced impatience in him; an earlier meeting of the Merchants than I wished, was the effect of his zeal. Upon their express invitation, I had the honour to attend them, and rendered all the little assistance in my power. Mr. *Molleson* was among the foremost in diligence and activity; and I, who had been his original adviser and partaker in all his proceedings for such a length of time, without interruption, must be a competent witness to the sincerity of his ardour, and his unshaken fidelity of conduct.

Sir, this narrative of mine deserves some regard, because I am known not to be under the influence of any party. What I am, whoever pleases to read may judge. I neither court nor fear any set of men on either side of the *Atlantic*. Truth is my pursuit; the prosperity of all my wish; and that each may contribute to that end, is my prayer.

As this letter contains no secret, be pleased to use it in any shape, as may best conduce to its design of defeating misrepresentation, and of doing justice. I have the honour to remain, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

RICHARD GLOVER.

To the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esquire.

EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOUR OF GEORGIA.

Whitehall, May 3, 1775.

SIR: I have received your Letters, numbered from 35 to 41, and have laid them before the King.

The grounds upon which Masters of Ships, who were Midshipmen, and acted as Master's Mates on board the Fleet in the last war, claim each two thousand acres of Land, in virtue of the Royal Proclamation, refers to facts of which I have no official information. Whenever the Lords of the Admiralty shall, upon a proper application to them by those claimants, certify the facts on which they state their claims, I will not fail to receive His Majesty's pleasure upon their case. In the mean time, the matter must rest upon the opinion I think very properly adopted by yourself and the Council.

I have already so repeatedly expressed to you my sentiments of the present disorders in *America*, and the sense I have of your meritorious conduct, in the prudent and proper measures you have pursued for preventing, as far as you are able, the contagion from spreading itself through the Province of *Georgia*, that I have nothing to add on that subject, but to express my wishes that the steps I have taken for your support will encourage the friends of Government to resist the violences that are threatened, and preserve the publick peace in all events. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

Sir *James Wright*, Baronet.

EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOUR OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

Whitehall, May 3, 1775.

SIR: Your Letters of the 26th of *January* and 10th of *March*, numbers 27 and 28, the latter of which I received only yesterday, contain matter of very great importance.

The Addresses from the four Counties of *Guilford*, *Dobbs*, *Rowan*, and *Surry*, breathe a spirit of loyalty to the King, and attachment to the authority of *Great Britain*, which cannot be too much encouraged; and it will be necessary that you lose no time in acquainting the inhabitants of those Counties, that these testimonies of their duty and affection have been most graciously received by His Majesty; that His Majesty will not fail to afford them those marks of his royal favour which such a meritorious conduct appears to deserve; and that, as soon as the necessary forms will admit, His Majesty's clemency towards the insurgents in 1770, will be extended, in a Proclamation of general pardon to all, except *Herman Husband*s. In the mean time, it is His Majesty's pleasure that you do pursue every step that may improve so favourable a symptom in the present state of general phrenzy; and perhaps you will not find it difficult, through the channel of some respectable persons in those Counties, to procure proper associations of the people in support of the Government. Such a measure cannot fail to cast a damp upon the machinations of faction, and disconcert any desperate measure they may have in contemplation.

I hope we may yet avoid the fatal necessity of drawing the sword; but it is prudent to provide, as far as we are able, against every possible mischief; and therefore you will do well to consider in time, whether it may not be practicable, in such an event, to embody and lead forth, in support of Government, such of the men in those Counties as are able to bear arms. If matters should come to this issue, it is the King's pleasure that you hold out to gentlemen of interest and leading amongst them, assurances of His Majesty's favour in granting them such commissions as shall be suitable to their rank and station; and every other encouragement and advantage allowed to any other troops in His Majesty's service, as far as is consistent with the established rules of the Army.

I confess to you, Sir, that this appears to me to be a matter of so much importance, that I cannot too earnestly recommend it to your attention, and that no time may be lost, in case of absolute necessity.

I have received His Majesty's commands to write to General *Gage*, to apprise him of this favourable circumstance, and to instruct him that he do, upon application from you, send some able and discreet officer to you, in order to concert the means of carrying so essential a service into effect; and, if necessary, to lead the people forth against any rebellious attempts to disturb the publick peace.

There are several other matters in your letters which will require consideration and instruction; but, as the mail for *Charlestown* will be made up to-night, I can only for the present add, that I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

His Excellency Gov. *Martin*, North-Carolina.

AMELIA COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of the County of *Amelia*, at the Court-House thereof, on *Wednesday*, the 3d of *May*, 1775:

*WILLIAM ARCHER*, Esquire, was chosen *Chairman* for the day.

It appearing to this Committee that the Militia of this County, since the expiration of the late Militia Laws, hath been totally neglected; and it being indispensably necessary for the internal security of the County, that the same be properly and regularly disciplined, and that Patrollers in every neighbourhood be constantly kept on duty:

*Resolved*, That application be made to the Lieutenant of this County, to direct forthwith a general muster of the Militia of the County; that he do his utmost to carry into execution the Law made in the year 1738, for embodying and disciplining the Militia of this Colony; that he give all the countenance and encouragement in his power to the



Officers who are recruiting or embodying independent Companies, agreeable to the Resolution of the Convention of the 25th day of *March* last.

*Resolved*, That every member of this Committee open a subscription for raising half a pound of Gunpowder and one pound of Lead, by voluntary donation from each tithable person in this County, agreeable also to the said Resolution of the 25th.

*Resolved*, That *John Tabb* and *Everard Meade*, or either of those gentlemen, be appointed immediately, to purchase, for the use of this County, eight hundred pounds of Gunpowder, and three thousand two hundred pounds of Lead at least, for which we, and every of us, oblige ourselves to pay.

*Resolved*, That every member of this Committee have in readiness a stand of Arms and Ammunition, agreeable to the said Resolution of the 25th.

*Resolved*, That the Ammunition, when purchased, be lodged in the care of Mr. *John Tabb*, at his store, Mr. *Thomas G. Peachy*, Mr. *Samuel Sherwin*, Mr. *Thomas Williams*, Mr. *Gabriel Foulkes*, Mr. *John Pride*, with each one hundred pounds of Powder and four hundred pounds of Lead; and with Mr. *James Scott*, at this Court-House, two hundred pounds of Powder and eight hundred pounds of Lead.

*Resolved*, That publick notice be given to the Freeholders of this County, to meet and choose Delegates at next Court, to represent them in Convention for one year.

*Resolved*, That this Committee be adjourned till the fourth *Thursday* in this month.

JOHN PRIDE, Clerk.

#### NEW-KENT COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for *New-Kent* County, at the Court-House, the 3d day of *May*, 1775:

*Resolved unanimously*, That Lord *Dunmore's* conduct in removing the Powder from the Magazine of this Colony on board an armed vessel, at the time and in the manner it appears to have been done, was an ill-advised and arbitrary step, tending to disquiet the minds, and endanger the safety of His Majesty's loyal subjects of this Colony in general, and of the inhabitants of the City of *Williamsburgh* in particular.

*Resolved*, That his Lordship's verbal answer to the Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of *Williamsburgh*, was unsatisfactory and evasive; and that his Lordship's not returning the Powder agreeable to their request, and the known desire of the people of this Colony, is a sufficient proof that he was influenced by the worst motives.

*Resolved*, That this and other parts of his Lordship's conduct which have lately transpired, evince him to be an enemy to liberty and the true interests of this Colony, and a zealous supporter of tyranny and despotism over the people who have the unhappiness to live under his Government, and that he has thereby forfeited all title to their confidence.

*Resolved*, That the City of *Williamsburgh* are entitled to the ready and cheerful assistance of this County, in case they should be in danger from any invasion or insurrection.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Committee are due to the Committee of *Hanover*, for communicating their Order of the 2d instant; that this Committee are sensible of the dangers that threaten us from the Governour's conduct, as well as from other quarters, and will co-operate with a majority of the Counties of this Colony in such measures as shall be adopted for their defence and preservation.

It appearing to this Committee that a body of armed men from the County of *Hanover* have marched through this County, in order to make reprisals upon the King's property to replace the Gunpowder taken from the Magazine:

*Resolved*, That such proceedings make it particularly necessary for the inhabitants of this County to prepare for their defence, against any dangers that may ensue in consequence of it, by keeping their Arms in the best order, and the greatest readiness to act on any occasion.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of this County immediately to form a Company of Volunteers,

to be assembled at the lower part of this County, ready to act on any emergency, as may be found necessary.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM SMITH, Clerk.

#### CUMBERLAND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for *Cumberland* County, held on *Wednesday*, the 3d of *May*, 1775:

*Resolved unanimously*, That the thanks of this Committee, and of all the inhabitants of this County, are justly due to Captain *Charles Scott*, and his Independent Company, for their spirited offers of their service in defending this Colony against wicked invaders, and their cheerful appearance at this place to day, in readiness to march forwards on a late alarm; and that this Committee, in behalf of themselves and their constituents, do accordingly present to the said Captain *Scott*, and his Company, their most cordial thanks as aforesaid.

GEORGE CARRINGTON, Chairman.

#### EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOUR OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Whitehall, May 3, 1775.

SIR: I have received your letter of the 28th of *February*, and have laid it before the King. I have only to say that it gave His Majesty great concern to find that there is yet no appearance in *Pennsylvania* of a disposition in the people to return to a just sense of their situation, and of the fatal consequences of their longer continuing in a state of disobedience to the authority of the Supreme Legislature. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

Deputy Governour Penn.

Philadelphia, May 3, 1775.

On *Saturday* last we had a meeting in this City of the Military Associators, when it was determined that each Ward should be formed into one or more Companies; the Officers to be chosen in the respective Wards. Two troops of Light-Horse are now raising. Two companies of expert Riflemen, and two companies of Artillery-men are forming. We have six pieces of brass artillery, and several light iron ones. Our Provincial arms, powder, &c., are all secured. Three Provincial Magazines are forming. In short, *Mars* has established his empire in this populous City; and it is not doubted but we shall have, in a few weeks from this date, four thousand men, well equipped, for our defence, or for the assistance of our neighbours.

#### MEETING OF INHABITANTS OF ACQUACKANONK, ESSEX COUNTY, NEW-JERSEY.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Township of *Acquackanonk*, in said County, held at Mr. *James Leslie's*, near *Acquackanonk* Bridge, on *Wednesday*, the 3d day of *May*, Anno Domini 1775, an Association was then and there entered into and subscribed by the Freeholders and Inhabitants of said Township, being *verbatim* the same as that entered into by the Freeholders and Inhabitants at *Newark*, in said County. The following gentlemen, in number twenty-three, were then chosen or elected a General Committee, agreeable to said Association.

MICHAEL VREELAND, Esq., in the Chair.

*Henry Garretse*, *Peter Peterse*, *John Berry*, *Robert Drummond*, Esquires, Captain *Francis Post*, *Thomas Post*, *Daniel Niel*, *Richard Ludlow*, Captain *Abraham Godwin*, *John Spier*, *Jacob Van Riper*, *Lucas Wessels*, *Francis Van Winkle*, *Cornelius Van Winkle*, *Henry Post*, Junior, Doctor *Walter Degraw*, *John Peer*, *Jacob Garretse*, *Jacob Vreeland*, *Abraham Van Riper*, *Stephen Ryder*, Doctor *Nicholas Roche*, Committee Clerk.

Of the same number were chosen the following Delegates to attend the Provincial Convention to be held at *Trenton* the 23d instant, agreeable to the aforesaid Association, to represent said Township: *Henry Garretse*, *Robert Drummond*, *Michael Vreeland*, and *John Berry*, Esquires.



*Peter Peterse, Esquire, Daniel Niel, Richard Ludlow, Thomas Post, and Doctor Nicholas Roche,* are appointed a Committee of Correspondence for said Township.

*Daniel Niel*, Deputy Chairman to the General Committee, and *Richard Ludlow*, Deputy Clerk.

ADDRESS OF ISAAC WILKINS.

New-York, May 3, 1775.

MY COUNTRYMEN: Before I leave *America*, the land I love, and in which is contained every thing that is valuable and dear to me—my wife, my children, my friends, and property; permit me to make a short and faithful declaration, which I am induced to do neither through fear, nor a consciousness of having acted wrong. An honest man and a Christian hath nothing to apprehend from this world. *God* is my judge, and *God* is my witness, that all I have done, written, or said, in relation to the present unnatural dispute between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, proceeded from an honest intention of serving my Country. Her welfare and prosperity were the objects towards which all my endeavours have been directed. They still are the sacred objects which I shall ever steadily and invariably keep in view. And when in *England*, all the influence that so inconsiderable a man as I am can have, shall be exerted in her behalf.

It has been my constant maxim through life to do my duty conscientiously, and to trust the issue of my actions to the *Almighty*. May that *God* in whose hands are all events, speedily restore peace and liberty to my unhappy Country. May *Great Britain* and *America* be soon united in the bands of everlasting amity, and when united may they continue a free, a virtuous, and happy Nation to the end of time.

I leave *America*, and every endearing connection, because I will not raise my hand against my Sovereign, nor will I draw my sword against my Country; when I can conscientiously draw it in her favour, my life shall be cheerfully devoted to her service.

ISAAC WILKINS.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

The Committee met, by adjournment, *Wednesday* morning, nine o'clock, *May 3, 1775*. Present:

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Low,           | Francis Bassett,    | Garret Kettlotas,   |
| James Duane,         | Victor Bicker,      | Eleazer Miller,     |
| John Alsop,          | John White,         | Benjamin Kissam,    |
| John Jay,            | Theophilus Anthony, | Cornelius Clopper,  |
| P. V. B. Livingston, | William Goforth,    | John Reade,         |
| Alex. McDougall,     | William Denning,    | Jacobus Van Zandt,  |
| Thomas Randall,      | Isaac Roosevelt,    | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| Leonard Lisenard,    | Jacob Van Voorhies, | Peter Goalet,       |
| William Walton,      | Jeremiah Platt,     | Thomas Marston,     |
| Joseph Hallett,      | Comfort Sands,      | Jacobus Lefferts,   |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,   | William W. Gilbert, | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| Nicholas Hoffman,    | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | Benjamin Helme,     |
| Abraham Walton,      | Nicholas Roosevelt, | Evert Banker,       |
| Peter Van Schaack,   | Edward Fleming,     | Robert Ray,         |
| Henry Remsen,        | Frederick Jay,      | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Peter T. Curteneus,  | William W. Ludlow,  | Samuel Broome,      |
| Abraham Brasher,     | John B. Moore,      | John Lamb,          |
| Abraham P. Lott,     | Rodolphus Ritzma,   | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Abraham Duryee,      | John Lasher,        | John Inlay,         |
| Joseph Bull,         | George Janeway,     | Oliver Templeton,   |
| Francis Lewis,       | James Beekman,      | Lewis Pintard,      |
| Thomas Ivers,        | Richard Yates,      | Cornelius P. Low,   |
| Hercules Mulligan,   | Thomas Smith,       | Thomas Buchannan,   |
| John Anthony,        | Augustus Van Horne, | Petrus Byvanck.     |

A Letter dated *New-York, May 3, 1775*, from *John Cruger* and *Jacob Walton*, Esquires, received and read, and is as follows, viz:

New-York, May 3, 1775.

SIR: At the desire of the gentlemen who presented the Association to us, we have committed to writing our reasons for not signing it, which we have thought proper to communicate to you in order to be laid before the Committee.

It appears to us that signing this paper would involve us in the greatest inconsistency. As we were elected Representatives in General Assembly for this City and County, we conceive that the faithful performance of this important trust requires of us a free, unbiassed exercise of our own judgment. To submit this to the control of any power on earth would, in our opinion, be deserting that trust; but to engage implicitly to approve and carry into execution the regulations of any other body would justly expose us to the reproach of our own conscience, the censure not only of

our constituents but of the whole world. In our legislative capacity we have already transmitted to the King and both Houses of Parliament, representations of our grievances. We have, to the utmost of our power, framed these in such a manner as we thought would be most likely to ensure them success by procuring a redress of our complaints, healing the present unhappy differences, and fixing for the Colonies a permanent Constitution upon principles of liberty and a lasting union with the Mother Country. These representations were a long time in agitation, and a state of our grievances, with the Resolutions of the House thereon, were publickly known to our constituents, and no disapprobation of our proceedings ever signified to us. Upon mature reflection, and after revolving our conduct with the most impartial deliberation, we cannot but approve what we have done, and will therefore patiently wait for the event, which will, we hope, be productive of much benefit not only to this Colony, but to the cause of *American* liberty in general; at least we have the fullest testimony of our consciences for the uprightness of our intentions.

We can with the greatest truth declare our approbation of any Association for preserving the peace and good order of the City and Province, and for the protection of personal safety and private property, and so far are we from giving the least countenance to the claims of Parliament to a right of taxing the Colonies, that we will contribute to the utmost of our power in measures necessary for preventing its being carried into execution. The preservation of the Constitution, which we are convinced gives us a right to an absolute exemption from Parliamentary taxation, we have most ardently at heart, and we shall at all times strenuously co-operate in opposing every violation of it. These reasons, with the publick manifestation of our principles contained in the representation of the General Assembly to the King and Parliament, we are persuaded must be satisfactory to every reasonable man. But to engage for an indiscriminate approbation of the measures of others, and that before we know them, would be to prejudge matters of the utmost importance, and to preclude us from the exercise of our own judgments, and that free deliberation without which our legislative powers would be a mere sound, and thereby to betray a trust which we are under the most solemn engagements to preserve free and inviolate, and of which we cannot be divested until the period of the dissolution of the House. As the signing of this Association, therefore, would in effect be to deprive ourselves of our legislative powers, we cannot but suppose, from the tenor of it, an exemption of us is implied in it.

With the most anxious concern for the distresses of the inhabitants of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the most sincere wishes for their relief, and the liberty and prosperity of all the Colonies,

We are, Sir, your most humble servants,

JOHN CRUGER,

JACOB WALTON.

To Mr. *Isaac Low*, Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. *McDougall*, seconded by Mr. *Duane*, made a motion in the words following:

Whereas this Committee is informed that the Postmaster has discharged the Eastern Post-rider:

I therefore move, Mr. Chairman, that a Sub-Committee be immediately appointed to wait on the Postmaster, to know the true state of the matter; and that they report his answer in writing.

Ordered, That Colonel *Walton* and *Benjamin Kissam*, Esquires, be a Committee for the above mentioned purpose.

Mr. *Lamb*, seconded by Mr. *Brasher*, made a motion in the words following, viz:

Whereas it has been confidently asserted that a considerable body of the *British* soldiery are ordered to this City from *England*; in consequence of which a number of Troops from *Connecticut* have lately marched into this City, with a view of aiding and assisting us in preparing for our defence:

I therefore move, that the thanks of this body be immediately presented to the officers and men for their kind offers of assistance, a conduct that is equally expressive of their anxious solicitude for our safety, as of a noble zeal in the service of our common Country, in this day of difficulty and danger.



Which being unanimously agreed to,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lamb*, Mr. *Brasher*, Mr. *Ritzma*, Captain *Fleming*, Captain *Sears*, Mr. *S. Broome*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *McDougall*, be a Committee for the above purpose.

The Chairman having acquainted this Board that four gentlemen from *Philadelphia* were desirous of a conference with some of the members, on the subject of our publick affairs at this alarming juncture,

*Ordered*, That the Committee consist of the following gentlemen for that purpose, viz: Mr. *P. Livingston*, Mr. *Remsen*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *J. Jay*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Low*, Mr. *Young*, Mr. *S. Broome*, Mr. *P. V. B. Livingston*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *A. Walton*, Mr. *Buchanan*, and Mr. *Pintard*.

A Letter, dated *New-Windsor*, 29th *April* last, signed by *James Clinton* and others, inhabitants of *Ulster County*, was presented to this Committee by Mr. *Robert Boyd*, Jun., requiring our advice and assistance in procuring Arms and Ammunition for their poor.

*Resolved*, That this Committee do earnestly recommend it to the gentlemen who have subscribed the said letters, and to their fellow-subjects in general, to adopt and sign an Association similar to that which has so cheerfully and generally been entered into by the inhabitants of the City, and to perfect themselves in military discipline as soon as possible; that with respect to purchasing Arms, this Committee will give all the advice in their power, but it will be necessary to raise money for that purpose by voluntary contributions in their County for equipping their poor inhabitants.

The Committee appointed to wait on the Postmaster to inquire whether he had discharged the Eastern Post-rider,

Report, that they have waited on him accordingly, and upon asking the Postmaster whether he had discharged the said Post-rider, he answered he had, and assigned the following reasons for doing it, viz: That the four last mails between *New-York* and *Boston* have been stopped, the mails broken open, many of the letters taken out and publickly read, some of which were detained and others sent open to the General Post Office in this City, and that the riders informed him that it was not safe for them to travel with the mail; in consequence of which, they were dismissed by him until they could carry the mail with safety as heretofore. And we report also, that on Mr. *Foxcroft's* request, we left with him the order of this Committee, which was certified by the Chairman.

*Ordered*, That the subject-matter of this Report be referred to the Committee of Correspondence and Intelligence, and that they make a report thereof at the next meeting of this Committee.

The Committee adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

The Committee met, by adjournment, *Thursday* morning, nine o'clock, 4th *May*, 1775. Present:

Isaac Low,  
James Duane,  
P. V. B. Livingston,  
Isaac Sears,  
Alex. McDougall,  
Thomas Randall,  
Leonard Lisenard,  
Gabriel H. Ludlow,  
Nicholas Hoffman,  
Abraham Walton,  
Henry Remsen,  
Peter T. Curtenius,  
Abraham P. Lott,  
Francis Lewis,  
Joseph Totten,  
Hercules Mulligan,  
Victor Bicker,

John White,  
Theophilus Anthony,  
William Goforth,  
Jeremiah Platt,  
Robert Benson,  
John Berrian,  
Gabriel W. Ludlow,  
Nicholas Roosevelt,  
Frederick Jay,  
William W. Ludlow,  
John B. Moore,  
John Lasher,  
George Janeway,  
James Beekman,  
Richard Yates,  
Augustus Van Horne,  
Eleazer Miller,

John M. Scott,  
Cornelius Clopper,  
Jacobus Van Zandt,  
Jacobus Lefferts,  
Richard Sharpe,  
Hamilton Young,  
Abram. Brinkerhoff,  
Evert Banker,  
Robert Ray,  
Anthony Van Dam,  
Daniel Dunscomb,  
John Imlay,  
Oliver Templeton,  
Lewis Pintard,  
Cornelius P. Low,  
Petrus Byvanck,  
Thomas Ivers.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Sears*, Captain *Randall*, and Captain *Fleming* be a Committee to procure proper judges to go and view the ground at or near *King's Bridge*, and report to this Committee, with all convenient speed, whether it will answer the purposes intended by it.

*Ordered*, That the Accounts against the Committee of Sixty be procured by Mr. *Pettit* and the Secretary, and that a return thereof be made to this Committee.

The Committee adjourned until to-morrow morning.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

New-York Committee Chamber, May 3, 1775.

The Postmaster having, for the present, discharged the Eastern Post-riders, the General Committee have directed us, their Sub-Committee of Intelligence, to devise the best ways and means for continuing a correspondence with the Eastern Colonies: It is, therefore, our opinion, that the present Eastern Post-riders be employed to depart from this City on the usual days, and to go the usual stages; and the publick is hereby informed that Mr. *Ebenezer Hazard* has undertaken to receive and forward Letters from this City.

From information received by the Committee from *Connecticut*, it will be necessary (in order to prevent Letters from being opened by the Committees on the road) that they be inspected here by some well known member of the General Committee, and by him endorsed with his name, as one of the Committee of *New-York*.

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON,  
BENJ. KISSAM,  
ALEXR. MCDUGALL,  
PETER VAN SCHAAK.

GENERAL GAGE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

[Read before Congress, May 19, 1775.]

Boston, May 3, 1775.

SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th *April* last, in behalf of the General Assembly of your Colony, relative to the alarming situation of publick affairs in this Country, and the late transactions in this Province.

That this situation is greatly alarming, and that these transactions are truly unfortunate, are truths to be regretted by every friend to *America*, and by every well-wisher for the peace, prosperity, and happiness of this Province. The intimate connexion and strong ties of friendship between the inhabitants of your Colony and the deluded people of this Province, cannot fail of inducing the former to interpose their good offices to convince the latter of the impropriety of their past conduct, and to persuade them to return to their allegiance, and to seek redress of any supposed grievances in those decent and constitutional methods, in which alone they can hope to be successful.

That Troops should be employed for the purpose of protecting the Magistrates in the execution of their duty, when opposed with violence, is not a new thing in the *English* or any other Government. That any Acts of the *British* Parliament are unconstitutional or oppressive, I am not to suppose; if any such there are, in the apprehension of the people of this Province, it had been happy for them if they had sought relief only in the way which the Constitution, their reason, and their interest, pointed out.

You cannot wonder at my fortifying the Town of *Boston*, or making any other military preparations, when you are assured that, previous to my taking these steps, such were the open threats, and such the warlike preparations throughout this Province, as rendered it my indispensable duty to take every precaution in my power for the protection of His Majesty's Troops under my command against all hostile attempts.

The intelligence you seem to have received, relative to the late excursion of a body of Troops into the Country, is altogether injurious, and contrary to the true state of facts. The Troops disclaim with indignation the barbarous outrages of which they are accused, so contrary to their known humanity. I have taken the greatest pains to discover if any were committed, and have found examples of their tenderness, both to the young and the old; but no vestige of their cruelty or barbarity. It is very possible that in firing into houses, from whence they were fired upon, that old people, women, or children, may have suffered; but if any such thing has happened, it was in their defence, and undesigned.

I have no command to ravage and desolate the Country; and were it my intention, I have had pretence to begin it upon the sea-ports, who are at the mercy of the fleet. For your better information, I enclose you a narrative of that affair, taken from gentlemen of indisputable honour and veracity, who were eye-witnesses of all the transactions of that day. The leaders here have taken pains to prevent any account of this affair getting abroad but such as they



have thought proper to publish themselves; and to that end the post has been stopped, the mails broke open, and letters taken out; and by these means the most injurious and inflammatory accounts have been spread throughout the Continent, which has served to deceive and inflame the minds of the people.

When the Resolves of the Provincial Congress breathed nothing but war; when those two great and essential prerogatives of the King, the levying of Troops and disposing of the Publick Moneys, were wrested from him; and when magazines were forming, by an assembly of men unknown to the Constitution, for the declared purpose of levying war against the King, you must acknowledge it was my duty, as it was the dictate of humanity, to prevent, if possible, the calamities of a civil war, by destroying such magazines. This, and this alone, I attempted.

You ask, why is the Town of *Boston* now shut up? I can only refer you for an answer to those bodies of armed men who now surround the Town, and prevent all access to it. The hostile preparations you mention, are such as the conduct of the people of this Province has rendered it prudent to make, for the defence of those under my command. You assure me the people of your Colony abhor the idea of taking arms against the Troops of their Sovereign; I wish the people of this Province (for their own sakes) could make the same declaration.

You inquire, is there no way to prevent this unhappy dispute from coming to extremities? Is there no alternative but absolute submission, or the desolations of war? I answer, I hope there is. The King and Parliament seem to hold out terms of reconciliation, consistent with the honour and interest of *Great Britain*, and the rights and privileges of the Colonies. They have mutually declared their readiness to attend to any real grievances of the Colonies, and to afford them every just and reasonable indulgence which shall, in a dutiful and constitutional manner, be laid before them; and His Majesty adds, it is his ardent wish that this disposition may have a happy effect on the temper and conduct of his subjects in *America*. I must add, likewise, the Resolution of the 27th *February*, on the grand dispute of taxation and revenue, leaving it to the Colonies to tax themselves, under certain conditions. Here is surely a foundation for an accommodation, to people who wish a reconciliation rather than a destructive war between Countries so nearly connected by the ties of blood and interest; but I fear the leaders of this Province have been, and still are, intent only on shedding blood.

I am much obliged by your favourable sentiments of my personal character, and assure you, as it has been my constant wish and endeavour hitherto, so I shall continue to exert my utmost efforts to protect all His Majesty's liege subjects under my care in their persons and property. You ask, whether it will not be consistent with my duty to suspend the operations of war on my part? I have commenced no operations of war, but defensive; such you cannot wish me to suspend, while I am surrounded by an armed Country, who have already begun, and threaten further to prosecute an offensive war, and are now violently depriving me, the King's Troops, and many others of the King's subjects under my immediate protection, of all the conveniences and necessities of life, with which the Country abounds. But it must quiet the minds of all reasonable people, when I assure you that I have no disposition to injure or molest quiet and peaceable subjects; but on the contrary, shall esteem it my greatest happiness to defend and protect them against every species of violence and oppression.

I am, with great regard and esteem, Sir, your obedient and humble servant,

THOS. GAGE.

The Hon. Governour *Trumbull*.

TO THE PRINTER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SPY.

MR. THOMAS: The piece in your last, signed *Thomas Gage*, is replete with such notorious falsehoods, calumny, and evasion, that I scarce know whether it admits of any animadversion, to make it appear most false, abusive, and irritating to every honest mind; neither would it come into my heart to say any thing upon it, were it not that there are, even to this day, those that will speak so far favourably of him as to suggest that they do not think it is his doings so much as some others, that things are carried

on as they are; and he is under a necessity of doing as he does, or he would endanger his own life to his master, &c.

Let us, then, take a short view of what he has done, and see whether we have any reason to conceive a favourable opinion of him, any thing better than that he is a most inimical, malicious, and blood-thirsty man. It is well known what a calumniating, malicious letter he sent to *England* about this Province, when *Bernard* was Governour here; that was certainly a most officious piece of malice; he was under no necessity of doing that. It is as manifest that he knew what he was undertaking when he came over last year, that it was to carry most arbitrary, unrighteous schemes into execution. Let it be that he was persuaded to believe that he should meet with no very powerful opposition, and that he would not have undertook, if he had known what opposition would have been; this will argue his baseness, and not any goodness; a disposition to trample upon the weak, and to set up power instead of righteousness, and to cast truth to the ground. As soon as he arrived, the first specimen of his goodness was to strike out thirteen Counsellors, very worthy men. Soon after this he dissolved the General Assembly, without even suffering them to have any pay for their service.

The next thing he did remarkable, was his sending in the night and plundering the magazine at *Charlestown*. Soon after this he went to intrenching and fortifying upon the *Neck*, and it would be tedious to enumerate all the falsehoods he publicly told about this to President *Randolph*, to the Town of *Boston*, and to sundry Committees; telling them that he was not about to hurt the Town by it, to stop the avenues; that he could not fortify it stronger than nature had formed, &c., &c. It would be endless to enumerate all the robberies, abuses, and insults, which his Troops have committed against the inhabitants of *Boston*, and passengers; the tarring and feathering, quarrelling with the watch, shooting at children passing quietly in the street, violently taking away men's substance from them and detaining it, knocking them down and leaving them half dead; all this before the *Concord* expedition, and all justified by the humane *Thomas Gage*. As to the *Concord* expedition and *Lexington* battle, they are too well known by the publick to be the most barbarous, savage conduct of the Troops, to admit of any illustration. The most barbarous *Indians*, I presume, would be ashamed of such conduct. It is not to be wondered that his Troops deny what they have done; for it is no new proverb that they who steal will lie, and much more; they that rob will murder, in a most savage manner; and *Thomas Gage* owns, in his letter, that he sent out his men to destroy, and yet says he has "commenced no war but defensive!"

Upon the whole, it is the well known character of the *Devil* to deceive by fair pretences, lie, and destroy; which character is most amply exemplified in what is above related. But the *Devil* did speak the truth twice—I do not know that this man has once; so I will leave him for the present.

CERTIFICATE TO EBENEZER BRADISH, JUNIOR, ESQUIRE,  
OF CAMBRIDGE.

Cambridge, May 3, 1775.

Whereas *Ebenezer Bradish*, Jun., Esq., of *Cambridge*, has been represented as a person unfriendly to the just rights and liberties of his Country, and by withdrawing himself from *Cambridge* and retiring to *Boston*, on the day of the late unhappy commencement of hostilities between the Troops under the command of General *Gage* and the inhabitants of this Province, he has increased the publick suspicions against him, whereby he is rendered more odious and disagreeable to his countrymen:

Therefore, to remove from the minds of our beloved friends and countrymen all groundless apprehensions, and to do justice to Mr. *Bradish*, we, the subscribers, having made due inquiry into the cause of his going to *Boston* at the time aforesaid, and of his conduct since, do say that we are satisfied that Mr. *Bradish* had no desire by that means to do any injury to his Country, but on the contrary his design was friendly, and his conduct justifiable; and we recommend it to all persons to conduct towards Mr. *Bradish* as a gentleman who is not unfriendly to the rights and



privileges of his countrymen, so far as we are able to discover, upon strict inquiry into his late conduct.

SETH POMEROY, General, of *Northampton*.  
 THOMAS LEGATE, Colonel, of *Leominster*.  
 ELISHA PORTER, Colonel, of *Hadley*.  
 JOHN PATTERSON, Colonel, of *Lenox*.  
 HENRY HERRICK, Colonel, of *Beverly*.  
 LEVI SHEPARD, Major, of *Northampton*.  
 JONATHAN W. AUSTIN, Major, of *Chelmsford*.  
 THOMAS WILLIAMS, Captain, of *Stockbridge*.  
 EBENEZER SAYER, Colonel, of *Wells*.  
 JESSE LEAVENWORTH, of *New-Haven*.

N. B. Whereas a report has been unjustly spread abroad that it was not the Regulars but our people who took the goods lost out of my house; this is to certify to all good people, that the said report is false, and never came from me, and that I am certain my house was not only shot at but plundered by the Regulars. EBENEZER BRADISH.

May 11, 1775.

#### ORDERS TO BENEDICT ARNOLD.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, May 3, 1775.

SIR: Confiding in your judgment, fidelity, and valour, we do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you Colonel and Commander-in-Chief over a body of men not exceeding four hundred. Proceed with all expedition to the western parts of this and the neighbouring Colonies, where you are directed to enlist those men, and with them forthwith to march to the Fort at *Ticonderoga*, and use your best endeavours to reduce the same, taking possession of the cannon, mortars, stores, &c., also the vessel and the other cannon and stores upon the Lake. You are to bring back with you such of the cannon, mortars, stores, &c., as you shall judge may be serviceable to the Army here, leaving behind what may be necessary to secure that post, with a sufficient garrison. You are to procure suitable provisions and stores for the Army, and draw upon the Committee of Safety for the same, and to act in every exigency according to your best skill and discretion for the publick interest, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

BENJAMIN CHURCH, *Chairman Com. of Safety*.

By order: WM. COOPER, *Secretary*.

To *Benedict Arnold*, Esquire, Commander of a body of Troops on an expedition to subdue and take possession of the Fort of *Ticonderoga*, &c.

Weymouth, May 3, 1775.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety now sitting at CAMBRIDGE, the Petition of the Selectmen of BRAINTREE, WEYMOUTH, and HINGHAM, humbly sheweth:

That the several Towns to which they respectively belong are in a defenceless state, and, as we apprehend, in great danger of an attack from the Troops now in *Boston*, or from the Ships in the harbour, more especially as they are now or soon will be in want of fresh provisions. That we have been at the trouble and expense of keeping up a military watch in each Town for this fortnight past, an expense which we are by no means able to bear, and which is no real defence to us; besides all that has been said, the inhabitants of said Towns have been, and are still likely to be in our present situation, almost constantly kept in a tumult and disorder, and unable to keep about their business, to their great damage.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray your Honours to take our distressed state into your wise and serious consideration, and grant us at least the return of those men that have enlisted in the service from our several Towns, or such other relief and protection as in your wisdom you shall think fit; and your Petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

|                 |   |                                |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|
| JAMES PENIMAN,  | { | <i>Selectmen of Braintree.</i> |
| NORTON QUINCY,  |   |                                |
| EDMUND SOPER,   |   |                                |
| JONATHAN BASS,  |   |                                |
| JAMES HUMPHREY, | { | <i>Selectmen of Weymouth.</i>  |
| SAML. KINGMAN,  |   |                                |
| EBR. COLSON,    |   |                                |
| BENJ. CUSHING,  |   |                                |
| JOSEPH ANDREWS, | { | <i>Selectmen of Hingham.</i>   |

New-Castle, May 3, 1775.

To the Honourable JOHN HANCOCK, Esquire, President, and the Honourable the other Members of Congress for the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in CONCORD assembled, the Petition of JAMES CARGILL humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioner was chosen yesterday to take command of the Liberty-men in *New-Castle*, and on viewing their state finds them almost destitute of ammunition, and chiefly unable to supply themselves, as their greatest dependence was on lumber trade, which is now stopped; and we find there is no town stock to supply them, and those of them that would gladly buy for themselves know not where it is to be had. Therefore prays that you would take our condition into your wise consideration, and if in your wisdom you should judge it best to grant us any supply out of the publick stock, that you would send it to us by the bearer, Lieutenant *John Farley*; and your Petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c. JAMES CARGILL.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in Congress assembled, May, 1775:

May it please your Honours:

The Association in *Eastham* (which, at present, consists of about ninety persons, and is increasing) finding the Town of *Eastham* (though urged thereto) have not complied with the Resolve made and passed in Provincial Congress, at *Concord*, the 31st of *March*, 1775, in regard to paying in their money to the Receiver-General, immediately called a meeting of the Association, voted to hire what money was not collected of the Association, and have accordingly paid in the whole of our part of the Province Tax to the Constables, viz: Captain *Job Crocker*, who was Collector for the year 1774, and Mr. *Jonathan Linnelye*, the third, who is Collector for the present year. As they are both members of this Association, they have engaged to transmit the same to *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, of *Stow*, without delay.

N. B. It is voted by the Association, as their desire, that the Orders, Resolves, and Recommendations of the Provincial Congress for this Town may be directed in future to some one of this Committee, as they are not always made publick if they fall into the hands of some men in this Town. Per order of the Association:

|                 |   |                                     |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| THOMAS PAINE,   | { | <i>Committee of Correspondence.</i> |
| ISAAC SPARROW,  |   |                                     |
| THOMAS TWINING, |   |                                     |
| HEMAN LINNELL,  |   |                                     |
| JOHN DAVIS,     |   |                                     |

#### PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress, May 11, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
 May 3, 1775. }

To the Honourable American Continental Congress, to be convened at PHILADELPHIA on the tenth of MAY instant.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Congress of this Colony, impressed with the deepest concern for their Country, under the present critical and alarming state of its publick affairs, beg leave, with the most respectful submission whilst acting in support of the cause of *America*, to request the direction and assistance of your respectable Assembly.

The enclosed packet, containing the copies of Depositions which we have despatched for *London*, also an Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*, and a Letter to our Colony Agent, *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq., are humbly submitted to your consideration.

The sanguinary zeal of the Ministerial Army to ruin and destroy the inhabitants of this Colony, in the opinion of this Congress, hath rendered the establishment of an Army indispensably necessary. We have accordingly passed an unanimous resolve for thirteen thousand six hundred men to be forthwith raised by this Colony, and proposals are made by us to the Congress of *New-Hampshire*, and Governments of *Rhode-Island* and *Connecticut* Colonies, for furnishing men in the same proportion.



The sudden exigency of our publick affairs precluded the possibility of waiting for your direction in these important measures, more especially as a considerable reinforcement from *Great Britain* is daily expected in this Colony, and we are now reduced to the sad alternative of defending ourselves by arms, or submitting to be slaughtered.

With the greatest deference we beg leave to suggest that a powerful Army, on the side of *America*, hath been considered by this Congress as the only means left to stem the rapid progress of a tyrannical Ministry. Without a force superiour to our enemies, we must reasonably expect to become the victims of their relentless fury; with such a force we may still have hopes of seeing an immediate end put to the inhuman ravages of mercenary Troops in *America*, and the wicked authors of our miseries brought to condign punishment, by the just indignation of our brethren in *Great Britain*.

We hope that this Colony will at all times be ready to spend and be spent in the cause of *America*. It is nevertheless a misfortune greatly operating to its disadvantage, that it has a great number of sea-port towns exposed to the approach of the enemy by sea, from many of which the inhabitants have removed, and are now removing their families and effects to avoid destruction from ships of war. These, we apprehend, will be generally distressed from want of subsistence, and disabled from contributing aid for supporting the forces of the Colony, but we have the greatest confidence in the wisdom and ability of the Continent to support us, so far as it shall appear necessary for supporting the common cause of the *American Colonies*.

We also enclose several Resolves [passed this day] for empowering and directing our Receiver-General to borrow the sum of one hundred thousand Pounds, lawful money, and to issue his notes for the same, it being the only measure which we could have recourse to for supporting our forces; and we request your assistance in rendering our measures effectual, by giving our notes a currency through the Continent.

JOS. WARREN, *President pro tem.*

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
April 26, 1775. }

*To the Inhabitants of GREAT BRITAIN:*

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-SUBJECTS: Hostilities are at length commenced in this Colony by the Troops under command of General *Gage*; and it being of the greatest importance that an early, true, and authentick account of this inhuman proceeding should be known to you, the Congress of this Colony have transmitted the same, and from want of a session of the honourable Continental Congress, think it proper to address you on the alarming occasion.

By the clearest depositions relative to this transaction, it will appear that on the night preceding the nineteenth of *April* instant, a body of the King's Troops, under command of Colonel *Smith*, were secretly landed at *Cambridge*, with an apparent design to take or destroy the military and other stores provided for the defence of this Colony, and deposited at *Concord*; that some inhabitants of the Colony, on the night aforesaid, whilst travelling peaceably on the road between *Morton* and *Concord*, were seized and greatly abused by armed men, who appeared to be officers of General *Gage's* Army; that the Town of *Lexington* by these means was alarmed, and a company of the inhabitants mustered on the occasion; that the Regular Troops, on their way to *Concord*, marched into the said Town of *Lexington*, and the said Company, on their approach, began to disperse; that notwithstanding this, the Regulars rushed on with great violence, and first began hostilities by firing on said *Lexington* Company, whereby they killed eight and wounded several others; that the Regulars continued their fire until those of said Company, who were neither killed nor wounded, had made their escape; that Colonel *Smith*, with the detachment, then marched to *Concord*, where a number of Provincials were again fired on by the Troops, two of them killed, and several wounded, before the Provincials fired on them; and that these hostile measures of the Troops produced an engagement that lasted through the day, in which many of the Provincials, and more of the Regular Troops, were killed and wounded.

To give a particular account of the ravages of the

Troops as they retreated from *Concord* to *Charlestown*, would be very difficult, if not impracticable; let it suffice to say, that a great number of the houses on the road were plundered and rendered unfit for use; several were burnt; women in childbed were driven by the soldiery naked into the streets; old men, peaceably in their houses, were shot dead; and such scenes exhibited as would disgrace the annals of the most uncivilized Nation.

These, brethren, are marks of ministerial vengeance against this Colony, for refusing, with her sister Colonies, a submission to slavery. But they have not yet detached us from our Royal Sovereign. We profess to be his loyal and dutiful subjects, and so hardly dealt with as we have been, are still ready, with our lives and fortunes, to defend his person, family, crown, and dignity. Nevertheless, to the persecution and tyranny of his cruel Ministry we will not tamely submit; appealing to Heaven for the justice of our cause, we determine to die or be free.

We cannot think that the honour, wisdom, and valour of *Britons* will suffer them to be longer inactive spectators of measures in which they themselves are so deeply interested; measures pursued in opposition to the solemn protests of many noble Lords, and expressed sense of conspicuous Commoners, whose knowledge and virtue have long characterized them as some of the greatest men in the Nation; measures executing contrary to the interest, Petitions, and Resolves of many large, respectable, and opulent Counties, Cities, and Boroughs, in *Great Britain*; measures highly incompatible with justice, but still pursued with a specious pretence of easing the Nation of its burden; measures which, if successful, must end in the ruin and slavery of *Britain*, as well as the persecuted *American Colonies*.

We sincerely hope that the great Sovereign of the Universe, who hath so often appeared for the *English* Nation, will support you in every rational and manly exertion with these Colonies, for saving it from ruin; and that in a constitutional connection with the Mother Country, we shall soon be altogether a free and happy people.

Per order: JOS. WARREN, *President pro tem.*

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
April 26, 1775. }

*To the Hon. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Esq., LONDON:*

SIR: From the entire confidence we repose in your faithfulness and abilities, we consider it the happiness of this Colony that the important trust of agency for it, on this day of unequalled distress, is devolved on your hands; and we doubt not your attachment to the cause of the liberties of mankind will make every possible exertion in our behalf a pleasure to you, although our circumstances will compel us often to interrupt your repose by matters that will surely give you pain. A single instance hereof is the occasion of the present letter; the contents of this packet will be our apology for troubling you with it. From these you will see how and by whom we are at last plunged into the horrors of a most unnatural war. Our enemies, we are told, have despatched to *Great Britain* a fallacious account of the tragedy they have begun; to prevent the operation of which to the publick injury, we have engaged the vessel that conveys this to you as a packet in the service of this Colony, and we request your assistance in supplying Captain *Derby*, who commands her, with such necessities as he shall want, on the credit of your constituents in *Massachusetts-Bay*. But we most ardently wish that the several papers herewith enclosed may be immediately printed and dispersed through every Town in *England*, and especially communicated to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of *London*, that they may take such order thereon as they may think proper; and we are confident your fidelity will make such improvement of them as shall convince all who are not determined to be in everlasting blindness, that it is the united efforts of both *Englands* that must save either. But that whatever price our brethren in the one may be pleased to put on their constitutional liberties, we are authorized to assure you that the inhabitants of the other, with the greatest unanimity, are inflexibly resolved to sell theirs only at the price of their lives. Signed by order of the Provincial Congress:

JOS. WARREN, *President pro tem.*



[No. 1.]

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, *Solomon Brown, Jonathan Loring, and Elijah Sanderson*, all of lawful age, and of *Lexington*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the eighteenth of *April* instant, being on the road between *Concord* and *Lexington*, all of us mounted on horses, we were, about ten of the clock, suddenly surprised by nine persons, whom we took to be regular officers, who rode up to us mounted and armed, each having a pistol in his hand; and after putting pistols to our breasts, and seizing the bridles of our horses, they swore that if we stirred another step we should be all dead men; upon which we surrendered ourselves. They detained us until two o'clock the next morning, in which time they searched and greatly abused us; having first inquired about the magazine at *Concord*, whether any guards were posted there, and whether the bridges were up; and said four or five regiments of Regulars would be in possession of the stores soon. They then brought us back to *Lexington*, cut the horses' bridles and girths, turned them loose, and then left us.

SOLOMON BROWN,  
JONATHAN LORING,  
ELIJAH SANDERSON.

MIDDLESEX, April 25, 1775:

*Jonathan Loring, Solomon Brown, and Elijah Sanderson*, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by them subscribed. Before us,

WM. REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WM. STICKNEY,  
Justices of the Peace.

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

I, *Elijah Sanderson*, above named, do further testify and declare, that I was in *Lexington* Common the morning of the nineteenth of *April* aforesaid, having been dismissed by the officers above-mentioned, and saw a large body of Regular Troops advancing towards *Lexington* Company, many of whom were then dispersing. I heard one of the Regulars, whom I took to be an officer, say, "damn them, we will have them;" and immediately the Regulars shouted aloud, run, and fired on the *Lexington* Company, which did not fire a gun before the Regulars discharged on them. Eight of the *Lexington* Company were killed while they were dispersing, and at considerable distance from each other, and many wounded; and although a spectator, I narrowly escaped with my life. ELIJAH SANDERSON.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 25, 1775:

*Elijah Sanderson*, above named, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,  
WM. REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WM. STICKNEY,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority, duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed, Josiah Johnson, and William Stickney*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit are to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of *April*, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.

[No. 2.]

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

I, *Thomas Price Willard*, of lawful age, do testify and declare, that being in the house of *Daniel Harrington*, of said *Lexington*, on the nineteenth instant, in the morning, about half an hour before sunrise, looked out of the window of said house and saw (as I suppose) about four hundred of Regulars, in one body, coming up the road, and

marched toward the north part of the common, back of the meeting-house of said *Lexington*; and as soon as said Regulars were against the east end of the meeting-house, the commanding officers said something, what I know not; but upon that the Regulars ran till they came within about eight or nine rods of about a hundred of the Militia of *Lexington*, who were collected on said common, at which time the Militia of *Lexington* dispersed; then the officers made a huzza, and the private soldiers succeeded them. Directly after this an officer rode before the Regulars to the other side of the body, and hallooed after the Militia of said *Lexington*, and said, "Lay down your arms, damn you; why don't you lay down your arms?" and that there was not a gun fired till the Militia of *Lexington* were dispersed. And further saith not.

THOMAS PRICE WILLARD.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

The within named *Thomas Price Willard* personally appeared, and after due caution to testify the whole truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the written deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,  
WM. REED,  
JONA. HASTINGS,  
DUNCAN INGRAHAM,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify that *Wm. Reed, Jona. Hastings, and Duncan Ingraham*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my hand and seal this twenty-sixth of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.

[No. 3.]

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

*Simon Winship*, of *Lexington*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and Province of *Massachusetts-Bay, New-England*, being of lawful age, testifieth and saith, that on the nineteenth of *April* instant, about four o'clock in the morning, as he was passing the publick road in said *Lexington*, peaceably and unarmed, about two miles and a half distant from the meeting-house in said *Lexington*, he was met by a body of the King's Regular Troops, and being stopped by some officers of said Troops, was commanded to dismount. Upon asking why he must dismount, he was obliged by force to quit his horse, and ordered to march in the midst of the body; and being examined whether he had been warning the Minute-Men, he answered no, but had been out, and was then returning to his father's. Said *Winship* further testifies that he marched with said Troops until he came within about half a quarter of a mile of said meeting-house, where an officer commanded the Troops to halt, and then to prime and load. This being done, the said Troops marched on till they came within a few rods of Captain *Parker's* Company, who were partly collected on the place of parade, when said *Winship* observed an officer at the head of said Troops flourishing his sword, and with a loud voice giving the word fire; which was instantly followed by a discharge of arms from said Regular Troops. And said *Winship* is positive, and in the most solemn manner declares, that there was no discharge of arms on either side till the word fire was given by said officer as above.

SIMON WINSHIP.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 25, 1775:

*Simon Winship*, above named, appeared, and after due caution to testify the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed.

WM. REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON.

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify



all whom it doth or may concern, that *Wm. Reed* and *Josiah Johnson*, Esquires, are two of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, *Anno Domini* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, *Notary Publick*.

[No. 4.]

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

I, *John Parker*, of lawful age, and commander of the Militia in *Lexington*, do testify and declare, that on the nineteenth instant, in the morning, about one of the clock, being informed that there were a number of Regular Officers riding up and down the road, stopping and insulting people as they passed the road, and also was informed that a number of Regular Troops were on their march from *Boston*, in order to take the Province Stores at *Concord*, ordered our Militia to meet on the common in said *Lexington*, to consult what to do, and concluded not to be discovered, nor meddle or make with said Regular Troops (if they should approach) unless they should insult us; and upon their sudden approach, I immediately ordered our Militia to disperse and not to fire. Immediately said Troops made their appearance, and rushed furiously, fired upon and killed eight of our party, without receiving any provocation therefor from us.

JOHN PARKER.

MIDDLESEX, ss., *April 25, 1775*:

The above named *John Parker* personally appeared, and after being duly cautioned to declare the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by him subscribed. Before us,

WM. REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WM. STICKNEY,  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *Wm. Reed*, *Josiah Johnson*, and *Wm. Stickney*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is and ought to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATH'L GORHAM, *Notary Publick*.

[No. 5.]

Lexington, April 24, 1775.

I, *John Robbins*, being of lawful age, do testify and say, that on the nineteenth instant, the Company under the command of Captain *John Parker* being drawn up (sometime before sunrise) on the green or common, and I being in the front rank, there suddenly appeared a number of the King's Troops, about a thousand, as I thought, at the distance of about sixty or seventy yards from us, huzzaing and on a quick pace towards us, with three officers in their front on horseback, and on full gallop towards us; the foremost of which cried, "Throw down your arms, ye villains, ye rebels;" upon which said Company dispersing, the foremost of the three officers ordered their men, saying, "Fire, by *God*, fire; at which moment we received a very heavy and close fire from them; at which instant, being wounded, I fell, and several of our men were shot dead by one volley. Captain *Parker's* men, I believe, had not then fired a gun. And further the deponent saith not.

JOHN ROBBINS.

MIDDLESEX, ss., *April 25, 1775*:

I, *John Robbins*, within named, appeared, and being duly cautioned to testify the truth, and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition, subscribed by his special order, he being so maimed and wounded that he thought he could neither write his name nor make his mark. Before us,

WM. REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed* and *Josiah Johnson*, Esquires, are two of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, *Anno Domini* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATH'L GORHAM, *Notary Publick*.

[No. 6.]

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, *Benjamin Tidd*, of *Lexington*, and *Joseph Abbott*, of *Lincoln*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the morning of the nineteenth of *April* instant, about five o'clock, being on *Lexington* common, and mounted on horses, we saw a body of Regular Troops marching up to the *Lexington* Company which was then dispersing. Soon after the Regulars fired first a few guns, which we took to be pistols from some of the Regulars who were mounted on horses, and then the said Regulars fired a volley or two before any guns were fired by the *Lexington* Company. Our horses immediately started and we rode off. And further saith not.

BENJAMIN TIDD,  
JOSEPH ABBOTT.

MIDDLESEX, ss., *April 25, 1775*:

*Benjamin Tidd* and *Joseph Abbott* above named, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by them subscribed.

WM. REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WM. STICKNEY,  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *Wm. Reed*, *Josiah Johnson*, and *William Stickney*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, *Notary Publick*.

Charlestown, May 2, 1775.

[No. 7.]

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, *Nathaniel Mullekin*, *Philip Russell*, *Moses Harrington*, Junior, *Thomas* and *Daniel Harrington*, *William Grmer*, *William Tidd*, *Isaac Hastings*, *Jonas Stone, Jr.*, *James Wyman*, *Thaddeus Harrington*, *John Chandler*, *Joshua Reed, Jun.*, *Joseph Simonds*, *Phineas Smith*, *John Chandler, Jun.*, *Reuben Lock*, *Joel Viles*, *Nathan Reed*, *Samuel Tidd*, *Benjamin Lock*, *Thomas Winship*, *Simeon Snow*, *John Smith*, *Moses Harrington* the third, *Joshua Reed*, *Ebenezer Parker*, *John Harrington*, *Enoch Willington*, *John Hosmer*, *Isaac Green*, *Phineas Stearns*, *Isaac Durant*, and *Thomas Headly, Jun.*, all of lawful age, and inhabitants of *Lexington*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, do testify and declare, that on the nineteenth of *April* instant, about one or two o'clock in the morning, being informed that several officers of the Regulars had, the evening before, been riding up and down the road, and had detained and insulted the inhabitants passing the same; and also understanding that a body of Regulars were marching from *Boston* towards *Concord*, with intent (as it was supposed) to take the stores belonging to the Colony in that Town, we were alarmed; and having met at the place of our Company's parade, were dismissed by our Captain, *John Parker*, for the present, with orders to be ready to attend at the beat of the drum. We further testify and



declare, that about five o'clock in the morning, hearing our drum beat, we proceeded towards the parade, and soon found that a large body of Troops were marching towards us. Some of our Company were coming up to the parade, and others had reached it; at which time the Company began to disperse. Whilst our backs were turned on the Troops we were fired on by them, and a number of our men were instantly killed and wounded. Not a gun was fired by any person in our Company on the Regulars, to our knowledge, before they fired on us, and they continued firing until we had all made our escape.

|                       |                     |                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Nathaniel Mullekin,   | Joshua Reed, Jr.,   | John Smith,          |
| Philip Russell,       | Joseph Simonds,     | Mos. Harrington 3d., |
| Mos. Harrington, Jr., | Phineas Smith,      | Joshua Reed,         |
| Thomas Harrington,    | John Chandler, Jr., | Ebenezer Parker,     |
| Daniel Harrington,    | Reuben Lock,        | John Harrington,     |
| William Grimer,       | Joel Viles,         | Enoch Willington,    |
| William Tidd,         | Nathan Reed,        | John Hosmer,         |
| Isaac Hastings,       | Samuel Tidd,        | Isaac Green,         |
| Jonas Stone, Jr.,     | Benjamin Lock,      | Phineas Stearns,     |
| James Wyman,          | Thomas Winship,     | Isaac Durant,        |
| Thad. Harrington,     | Simeon Snow,        | Thos. Headley, Jr.   |
| John Chandler,        |                     |                      |

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 25, 1775:

*Nathaniel Mullekin, Philip Russell, Moses Harrington, Jun., Thomas Harrington, Daniel Harrington, William Grimer, William Tidd, Isaac Hastings, Jonas Stone, Jr., James Wyman, Thaddeus Harrington, John Chandler, Joshua Reed, Jun., Joseph Simonds, Phineas Smith, John Chandler, Jun., Reuben Lock, Joel Viles, Nathan Reed, Samuel Tidd, Benjamin Lock, Thomas Winship, Simeon Snow, John Smith, Moses Harrington, 3d, Joshua Reed, Ebenezer Parker, John Harrington, Enoch Willington, John Hosmer, Isaac Green, Phineas Stearns, Isaac Durant, and Thomas Headley, Jun.,* above named, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the above deposition, as containing nothing but the truth as subscribed by them.

WILLIAM REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WM. STICKNEY,  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed, Josiah Johnson* and *William Stickney*, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April, Anno Domini* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, *Notary Publick.*

[No 8.]

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, *Nathaniel Parkhurst, Jonas Parker, John Munroe, Jun., John Winship, Solomon Peirce, John Muzzy, Abner Mead, John Bridge, Junior, Ebenezer Bowman, William Munroe 3d, Micah Hagar, Samuel Sanderson, Samuel Hastings, and James Brown*, of *Lexington*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and Colony of *Massachusetts Bay*, in *New-England*, and all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on the morning of the nineteenth of *April* instant, about one or two o'clock, being informed that a number of Regular Officers had been riding up and down the road, the evening and night preceding, and that some of the inhabitants as they were passing had been insulted by the officers, and stopped by them; and being also informed that the Regular Troops were on their march from *Boston*, in order as it was said, to take the Colony Stores then deposited at *Concord*, we met on the parade of our Company in this Town; and after the Company had collected we were ordered by Captain *John Parker*, who commanded us, to disperse for the present, and to be ready to attend the beat of the drum; and accordingly the Company went into houses near the place of parade. We further testify and say, that about five o'clock in the morning, we attended the beat of our drum, and were formed on the parade. We were faced towards the Regulars, then marching up to us, and some of our Company were coming to the parade with their backs towards the Troops, and others

on the parade began to disperse, when the Regulars fired on the Company before a gun was fired by any of our Company on them; they killed eight of our Company, and wounded several, and continued their fire until we had all made our escape.

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| NATH'L PARKHURST,  | JOHN BRIDGE, JUN., |
| JONAS PARKER,      | EBENEZER BOWMAN,   |
| JOHN MUNROE, JUN., | WILLIAM MUNROE 3d. |
| JOHN WINSHIP,      | MICAH HAGAR,       |
| SOLOMON PEIRCE,    | SAMUEL SANDERSON,  |
| JOHN MUZZY,        | SAMUEL HASTINGS.   |
| ABNER MEAD,        | JAMES BROWN.       |

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 25, 1775:

*Nathaniel Parkhurst, Jonas Parker, John Munroe, Jr., John Winship, Solomon Peirce, John Muzzy, Abner Mead, John Bridge, Jun., Ebenezer Bowman, William Munroe, third, Micah Hagar, Samuel Sanderson, Samuel Hastings, and James Brown*, above named, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by them subscribed.

WILLIAM REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WM. STICKNEY,  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed, Josiah Johnson*, and *William Stickney*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of *April, Anno Domini* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, *Notary Publick.*

[No. 9.]

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

I, *Timothy Smith*, of *Lexington*, in the County of *Middlesex* and Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the morning of the nineteenth of *April* instant, being at *Lexington* common as a spectator, I saw a large body of Regular Troops marching up towards the *Lexington* Company, then dispersing, and likewise saw the Regular Troops fire on the *Lexington* Company, before the latter fired a gun. I immediately ran, and a volley was discharged at me, which put me in imminent danger of losing my life. I soon returned to the common, and saw eight of the *Lexington* men who were killed, and lay bleeding, at a considerable distance from each other, and several were wounded; and further saith not.

TIMOTHY SMITH.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 25, 1775:

*Timothy Smith*, above named, being duly cautioned to testify the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by him subscribed.

WILLIAM REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WM. STICKNEY,  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed, Josiah Johnson*, and *William Stickney*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, *Notary Publick.*

[No. 10.]

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, *Levi Mead* and *Levi Harrington*, both of *Lexington*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, and of lawful age, do testify



and declare, that on the morning of the nineteenth of *April*, being on *Lexington* common as spectators, we saw a large body of Regular Troops marching up towards the *Lexington* Company, and some of the Regulars on horses, whom we took to be officers, fired a pistol or two on the *Lexington* Company, which was then dispersing. These were the first guns that were fired, and they were immediately followed by several volleys from the Regulars, by which eight men were killed, and several wounded.

LEVI MEAD,  
LEVI HARRINGTON.

MIDDLESEX, ss., *April 25, 1775* :

*Levi Harrington* and *Levi Mead* above named being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by them subscribed.

Before us,  
WILLIAM REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WILLIAM STICKNEY,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed*, *Josiah Johnson*, and *William Stickney*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.

[No. 11.]

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

I, *William Draper*, of lawful age, and an inhabitant of *Colrain*, in the County of *Hampshire*, and Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*, do testify and declare, that being on the parade of said *Lexington*, *April 19th* instant, about half an hour before sunrise the King's Regular Troops appeared at the meeting-house of *Lexington*. Captain *Parker's* Company, who were drawn up back of said meeting-house on the parade, turned from said Troops, making their escape by dispersing; in the mean time the Regular Troops made a huzza and ran towards Captain *Parker's* Company, who were dispersing, and immediately after the huzza was made the commanding officer of said Troops (as I took him) gave the command to the said Troops, "Fire! fire! damn you, fire!" and immediately they fired before any of Captain *Parker's* Company fired, I then being within three or four rods of said Regular Troops; and further saith not.

WILLIAM DRAPER.

MIDDLESEX, ss., *April 25th, 1775* :

*William Draper*, above named, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed. Before us,

WILLIAM REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WILLIAM STICKNEY,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify to all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed*, *Josiah Johnson*, and *William Stickney*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit are to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.

[No. 12.]

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

I, *Thomas Fessenden*, of lawful age, testify and declare, that being in a pasture near the meeting-house at said

*Lexington*, on *Wednesday* last, at about half an hour before sunrise, I saw a number of Regular Troops pass speedily by said meeting-house on their way towards a Company of Militia of said *Lexington*, who were assembled to the number of about one hundred in a Company at the distance of eighteen or twenty rods from said meeting-house, and after they had passed by said meeting-house, I saw three officers on horseback advance to the front of said Regulars, when one of them being within six rods of the said Militia, cried out "Disperse, you rebels, immediately;" on which he brandished his sword over his head three times; meanwhile the second officer, who was about two rods behind him, fired a pistol pointed at said Militia, and the Regulars kept huzzaing till he had finished brandishing his sword, and when he had thus finished brandishing his sword, he pointed it down towards said Militia, and immediately on which the said Regulars fired a volley at the Militia, and then I ran off as fast as I could, while they continued firing till I got out of their reach. I further testify, that as soon as ever the officer cried "Disperse, you rebels," the said Company of Militia dispersed every way as fast as they could, and while they were dispersing the Regulars kept firing at them incessantly, and further saith not.

THOMAS FESSENDEN.

MIDDLESEX, ss., *April 23, 1775* :

The within named *Thomas Fessenden* appeared, and after due caution to testify the whole truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,  
WILLIAM REED,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
WILLIAM STICKNEY,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify to all whom it may or doth concern, that *William Reed*, *Josiah Johnson*, and *William Stickney*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my hand and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.

[No. 13.]

I, *John Bateman*, belonging to the Fifty-Second Regiment, commanded by Colonel *Jones*, on *Wednesday* morning on the nineteenth day of *April* instant, was in the party marching to *Concord*, being at *Lexington*, in the County of *Middlesex*; being nigh the meeting-house in said *Lexington*, there was a small party of men gathered together in that place when our Troops marched by, and I testify and declare, that I heard the word of command given to the Troops to fire, and some of said Troops did fire, and I saw one of said small party lay dead on the ground nigh said meeting-house, and I testify that I never heard any of the inhabitants so much as fire one gun on said Troops.

JOHN BATEMAN.

MIDDLESEX, ss., *April 23, 1775* :

The above named *John Bateman* voluntarily, being previously cautioned to relate nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the above deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,  
JOHN CUMMINGS,  
DUNCAN INGRAHAM,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify that *John Cummings* and *Duncan Ingraham*, Esquires, are two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed



my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATH'L GORHAM, *Notary Publick*.

[No. 14.]

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

We, *John Hoar, John Whitehead, Abraham Garfield, Benjamin Munroe, Isaac Parks, William Hosmer, John Adams, and Gregory Stone*, all of *Lincoln*, in the County of *Middlesex, Massachusetts-Bay*, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on *Wednesday* last we were assembled at *Concord* in the morning of said day, in consequence of information received that a Brigade of Regular Troops were on their march to the said Town of *Concord*, who had killed six men at the Town of *Lexington*. About an hour afterward we saw them approaching to the number, as we apprehended, of about twelve hundred, on which we retreated to a mill about eighty rods back, and the said Troops then took possession of the hill where we were first posted. Presently after this we saw the Troops moving towards the North Bridge, about one mile from the said *Concord* meeting-house; we then immediately went before them and passed the bridge, just before a party of them, to the number of about two hundred, arrived; they there left about one-half of their two hundred at the bridge, and proceeded with the rest towards Colonel *Barrett's*, about two miles from the said bridge. We then seeing several fires in the Town, thought the houses in *Concord* were in danger, and marched towards the said bridge, and the Troops who were stationed there observing our approach, marched back over the bridge, and then took up some of the plank; we then hastened our march towards the bridge, and when we had got near the bridge they fired on our men, first three guns, (one after the other,) and then a considerable number more; and then, and not before, (having orders from our commanding officer not to fire till we were fired upon,) we fired upon the Regulars, and they retreated. On their retreat through the Town of *Lexington* to *Charlestown*, they ravaged and destroyed private property, and burnt three houses, one barn, and one shop.

JOHN HOAR, ISAAC PARKS,  
JOHN WHITEHEAD, WILLIAM HOSMER,  
AB'M GARFIELD, JOHN ADAMS,  
BENJAMIN MUNROE, GREGORY STONE.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

The within named *John Hoar, John Whitehead, Abraham Garfield, Benjamin Munroe, Isaac Parks, William Hosmer, John Adams, and Gregory Stone*, appeared and made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition.

Before us,

WILLIAM REED,  
JOHN CUMMINGS,  
JONATHAN HASTINGS,  
DUNCAN INGRAHAM,  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify, that *William Reed, John Cummings, Jonathan Hastings, and Duncan Ingraham*, Esquires, are four of His Majesty's Justices, and that full faith is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATH'L GORHAM, *Notary Publick*.

[No. 15.]

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

We, *Nathan Barrett, Captain; Jonathan Farrer, Joseph Butler, and Francis Wheeler*, Lieutenants; *John Barrett*, Ensign; *John Brown, Silas Walker, Ephraim Melvin, Nathan Buttrick, Stephen Hosmer, Junior, Samuel Barrett, Thomas Jones, Joseph Chandler, Peter Wheeler, Nathan Peirce, and Edward Richardson*, all of *Concord*, in the County of *Middlesex*, in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, of lawful age, testify and declare, that on *Wednesday*, the nineteenth instant, about an hour after sunrise, we assembled on a hill near the meeting-house in *Concord* aforesaid, in consequence of an information,

that a number of Regular Troops had killed six of our countrymen at *Lexington*, and were on their march to said *Concord*; and about an hour afterwards we saw them approaching to the number, as we imagine, of about twelve hundred; on which we retreated to a hill about eighty rods back, and the aforesaid Troops then took possession of the hill where we were first posted. Presently after this we saw them moving towards the North Bridge, about one mile from said meeting-house; we then immediately went before them, and passed the bridge just before a party of them, to the number of about two hundred, arrived. They there left about one-half of these two hundred at the bridge, and proceeded with the rest towards Colonel *Barrett's*, about two miles from the said bridge. We then seeing several fires in the Town, thought our houses were in danger, and immediately marched back towards said bridge, and the Troops who were stationed there observing our approach, marched back over the bridge, and then took up some of the planks. We then hastened our steps towards the bridge, and when we had got near the bridge, they fired on our men, first three guns, (one after the other,) and then a considerable number more; upon which, and not before, (having orders from our commanding officer not to fire till we were fired upon,) we fired upon the Regulars, and they retreated. At *Concord*, and on their retreat through *Lexington*, they plundered many houses, burnt three at *Lexington*, together with a shop and a barn, and committed damage, more or less, to almost every house from *Concord* to *Charlestown*.

NATHAN BARRETT, NATHAN BUTTRICK,  
JONATHAN FARRER, STEPHEN HOSMER, JR.,  
JOSEPH BUTLER, SAMUEL BARRETT,  
FRANCIS WHEELER, THOMAS JONES,  
JOHN BARRETT, JOSEPH CHANDLER,  
JOHN BROWN, PETER WHEELER,  
SILAS WALKER, NATHAN PEIRCE,  
EPHRAIM MELVIN, EDWARD RICHARDSON.

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

We, *Joseph Butler and Ephraim Melvin*, do testify and declare, that when the Regular Troops fired upon our people at the North Bridge in *Concord*, as related in the foregoing deposition, they shot one, and we believe two, of our people, before we fired a single gun at them.

JOSEPH BUTLER,  
EPHRAIM MELVIN.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

The within named *Nathan Barrett, Jonathan Farrer, Joseph Butler, Francis Wheeler, John Barrett, John Brown, Silas Walker, Ephraim Melvin, Nathan Buttrick, Stephen Hosmer, Junior, Samuel Barrett, Thomas Jones, Joseph Chandler, Peter Wheeler, Nathan Peirce, and Edward Richardson*, appeared and made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by them subscribed.

Before us,

JONATHAN HASTINGS,  
JOHN CUMMINGS,  
DUNCAN INGRAHAM,  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do hereby certify all whom it may or doth concern, that *Jonathan Hastings, John Cummings, and Duncan Ingraham*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, *Notary Publick*.

[No. 16.]

Concord, April 23, 1775.

I, *Timothy Minot*, Junior, of *Concord*, on the nineteenth day of this instant, *April*, after that I had heard of the Regular Troops firing upon *Lexington* men, and fearing that hostilities might be committed at *Concord*, thought it my incumbent duty to secure my family. After I had secured my family, some time after that returning towards my own dwelling and finding that the bridge on the north-



ern part of said *Concord* was guarded by Regular Troops, being a spectator of what had happened at said bridge, declare that the Regular Troops stationed on said bridge, after they saw the men that were collected on the westerly side of said bridge march towards said bridge, then the Troops returned towards the easterly side of said bridge, and formed themselves, as I thought, for regular fight. After that they fired one gun, then two or three more, before the men that were stationed on the westerly part of said bridge fired upon them. TIMOTHY MINOT, JUN.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

Doctor Timothy Minot, Junior, personally appeared, and after due caution to testify the truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,  
WILLIAM REED,  
JONATHAN HASTINGS,  
JOHN CUMMINGS,  
DUNCAN INGRAHAM,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Jonathan Hastings, John Cummings, and Duncan Ingraham, are four of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.

[No. 17.]

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

I, James Barrett, of *Concord*, Colonel of a Regiment of Militia in the County of *Middlesex*, do testify and say, that on *Wednesday* morning last about daybreak I was informed of the approach of a number of the Regular Troops to the Town of *Concord*, where were some magazines belonging to this Province. When there was assembled some of the Militia of this and the neighbouring Towns, I ordered them to march to the North Bridge, (so called,) which they had passed and were taking up. I ordered said Militia to march to said bridge and pass the same, but not to fire on the King's Troops unless they were first fired upon. We advanced near said bridge, when the said Troops fired upon our Militia and killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others, which was the first firing of guns in the Town of *Concord*. My detachment then returned the fire, which killed and wounded several of the King's Troops.

JAMES BARRETT.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

The above named James Barrett personally appeared, and after due caution to testify the whole truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,  
WILLIAM REED,  
JONATHAN HASTINGS,  
DUNCAN INGRAHAM,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Jonathan Hastings, and Duncan Ingraham, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATH'L GORHAM, Notary Publick.

[No. 18.]

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

We, Bradbury Robinson, Samuel Spring, Thaddeus Bancroft, all of *Concord*, and James Adams, of *Lexing-*

ton, all in the County of *Middlesex*, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on *Wednesday* morning last, near ten of the clock, we saw near one hundred of the Regular Troops, being in the Town of *Concord*, at the North Bridge in said Town, (so called,) and having passed the same, they were taking up said bridge, when about three hundred of our Militia were advancing towards said bridge in order to pass said bridge, when, without saying any thing to us, they discharged a number of guns on us, which killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others, when we returned the fire on them, which killed two of them and wounded several; which was the beginning of hostilities in the Town of *Concord*.

BRADBURY ROBINSON,  
SAMUEL SPRING,  
THADDEUS BANCROFT,  
JAMES ADAMS.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

The withinnamed Bradbury Robinson, Samuel Spring, Thaddeus Bancroft, and James Adams, made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition by them subscribed.

Before us,  
WILLIAM REED,  
WILLIAM STICKNEY,  
JONATHAN HASTINGS,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, certify to all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, William Stickney, and Jonathan Hastings, Esqrs., are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is and ought to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATH'L GORHAM, Notary Publick.

[No. 19.]

Concord, April 23, 1775.

I, James Marr, of lawful age, testify and say, that in the evening of the eighteenth instant, I received orders from George Hutchinson, Adjutant of the Fourth Regiment of Regular Troops stationed at *Boston*, to prepare and march, to which order I attended, and marched to *Concord*, where I was ordered by an officer, with about one hundred men, to guard a certain bridge there. While attending that service, a number of people came along, in order, as I suppose, to cross said bridge, at which time a number of the Regular Troops first fired upon them.

JAMES MARR.

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

The above named James Marr appeared, and after due caution to testify the truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him voluntarily subscribed.

Before us:  
DUNCAN INGRAHAM,  
JONAS DIX,  
Justices of the Peace.

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify that Duncan Ingraham and Jonas Dix, Esquires, are two of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.

[No. 20.]

Medford, April 25, 1775.

I, Edward Thoroton Gould, of His Majesty's own Regiment of Foot, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the eighteenth instant, under the orders of General Gage, I embarked with the Light-Infantry and Grenadiers of the line, commanded by Colonel



*Smith*, and landed on the marshes of *Cambridge*, from whence we proceeded to *Lexington*. On our arrival at that place, we saw a body of Provincial Troops armed, to the number of about sixty or seventy men; on our approach they dispersed, and soon after firing began; but which party fired first, I cannot exactly say, as our Troops rushed on shouting and huzzaing previous to the firing, which was continued by our Troops as long as any of the Provincials were to be seen. From thence we marched to *Concord*. On a hill near the entrance of the Town, we saw another body of Provincials assembled; the Light-Infantry Companies were ordered up the hill to disperse them; on our approach they retreated towards *Concord*. The Grenadiers continued on the road under the hill towards the Town. Six companies of Light-Infantry were ordered down to take possession of the bridge which the Provincials retreated over; the Company I commanded was one; three Companies of the above detachment went forward about two miles. In the mean time the Provincial Troops returned, to the number of about three or four hundred. We drew up on the *Concord* side of the bridge; the Provincials came down upon us, upon which we engaged, and gave the first fire. This was the first engagement after the one at *Lexington*; a continual firing from both parties lasted through the whole day. I myself was wounded at the attack of the bridge, and am now treated with the greatest humanity, and taken all possible care of by the Provincials at *Medford*. EDWD. THOROTON GOULD,

*Lieut. King's own Regt.*

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
MIDDLESEX County, April 25, 1775. }

Lieutenant *Edward Thoroton Gould*, aforementioned, personally made oath to the truth of the foregoing declaration by him subscribed. Before us:

THAD. MASON,  
JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
SIMON TUFTS,

Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid,  
Quorum unus.

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify to all whom it doth or may concern, that *Thaddeus Mason*, *Josiah Johnson*, and *Simon Tufts*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, *quorum unus*, for the County of *Middlesex*; and that full faith and credit is and ought to be given to their transactions as such, both in Court and out. In witness I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of *April*, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.

ALEXANDER SCAMMELL TO JOHN SULLIVAN.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, May 3, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: Your leaving *New-Hampshire* at a time when your presence was so extremely necessary to cherish the glorious ardour which you have been so instrumental in inspiring us with, spread a general gloom in *Durham*, and in some measure damped the spirit of liberty through the Province; and nothing but the important business in which you are embarked would induce us to dispense with your presence with any degree of patience or resignation.

But when the horrid din of civil carnage surprised us on the 20th of *April*, the universal cry was—Oh! if Major *Sullivan* was here! I wish to God Major *Sullivan* was here! ran through the distressed multitude. *April* Court, which was then sitting, adjourned immediately. To arms! to arms! was breathed forth in sympathetic groans.

I went express to *Boston*, by desire of the Congressional Committee, then sitting at *Durham*, proceeded as far as *Bradford*, where I obtained credible information that evening. Next morning I arrived at *Exeter*, where the Provincial Congress was assembling with all possible haste. There I reported what intelligence I had gained: that the *American Army* at *Cambridge*, *Woburn*, and *Charlestown*, was more in need of provisions than men; that fifty thousand had assembled in thirty-six hours; and that the

Regulars, who had retreated from *Concord*, had encamped on *Bunker's Hill*, in *Charlestown*.

The Congress, upon this report, resolved that the *Durham* Company, then at *Exeter*, (armed complete for an engagement, with a week's provisions,) should return home, and keep themselves in constant readiness. All the men being gone from the westward and southward of *Newmarket*, and Men-of-War expected hourly into *Portsmouth*, it was with the greatest difficulty your *Durham* soldiers were prevailed upon to return. Six or seven expresses arrived at *Durham* the night after our return; some desiring us to march to *Kittery*; some to *Hampton*; some to *Ipswich*, &c., which places, they said, sundry Men-of-War were ravaging. The whole country was in a continual alarm; but suspecting that the Marines at *Portsmouth* might take advantage of the confusion we were then in, and pay *Durham* a visit, we thought proper to stand ready to give them a warm reception; and supposing that your house and family would be the first mark of their vengeance, although I had been express the whole night before, I kept guard to defend your family and substance to the last drop of my blood. Master *Smith* being under the same apprehension, did actually lay in ambush behind a warehouse, and came very near sinking a fishing-boat anchored off in the river, which he supposed heaped full of Marines. Men, women, and children, were engaged day and night in preparing for the worst.

Many Towns in this Province have enlisted Minute-Men, and keep them under pay; and the Congress, before this, would actually have raised an army, had they not waited for the General Court, which sits to-morrow, in order to raise as much money as they can, to pay off their army when raised.

I am extremely mortified that I am unable to join the army at *Cambridge*. The particulars of the skirmish between the Regulars and *Americans* will, long before this, have reached you. In longing expectation, your safe, happy, and speedy return is hoped for by all your friends, but by none more sincerely than your dutiful humble servant,

ALEX. SCAMMELL.

To *John Sullivan*, Esq., at *Philadelphia* or *New-York*.

COMMITTEE OF BRUNSWICK TO THE BOSTON COMMITTEE  
OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Brunswick, May 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, beg liberty to inform you with our situation, as we are chosen by this Town to examine into the circumstances of it; and finding the Town very deficient as to arms and ammunition, have sent by water to *Salem*, but have just had our money returned back, without arms or ammunition; and at present we have not more than a quarter of a pound of powder to a man, throughout the Town, nor more than one firelock to two men; and in this defenceless state we are obliged to apply to you to assist our trusty friend whom we have sent, which is Captain *Nathaniel Larrabee*; and as we think it would be unsafe to transport powder by water, we have ordered him to take only one hundred weight, and for him to consult with you how and in what way it would be safest to get arms and more powder down to us.

We should esteem it a favour to be informed by you by way of letter, at every convenient opportunity, of our publick affairs. We are, gentlemen, yours ever to be commanded,  
AARON HINKLEY, SAML. STANDWOOD,  
BENJ. STONE, JAMES CURTIS.

NORFOLK (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of the County of *Norfolk*, at the Court-House of said County, on *Thursday*, the 4th of *May*, 1775:

The Resolves of the Convention held at the Town of *Richmond*, on the 20th of *March* last, were read, and unanimously approved.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Committee be presented to *Thomas Newton*, Junior, and *James Holt*, Esquires, our worthy Delegates, for their faithful discharge of the important trust reposed in them.

Having heretofore placed the highest degree of confidence in the good intentions of our Chief Magistrate to-



ern part of said *Concord* was guarded by Regular Troops, being a spectator of what had happened at said bridge, declare that the Regular Troops stationed on said bridge, after they saw the men that were collected on the westerly side of said bridge march towards said bridge, then the Troops returned towards the easterly side of said bridge, and formed themselves, as I thought, for regular fight. After that they fired one gun, then two or three more, before the men that were stationed on the westerly part of said bridge fired upon them. **TIMOTHY MINOT, JUN.**

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

Doctor *Timothy Minot, Junior*, personally appeared, and after due caution to testify the truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,  
**WILLIAM REED,  
 JONATHAN HASTINGS,  
 JOHN CUMMINGS,  
 DUNCAN INGRAHAM,**  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
 CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed, Jonathan Hastings, John Cummings*, and *Duncan Ingraham*, are four of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

**NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.**

[No. 17.]

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

I, *James Barrett*, of *Concord*, Colonel of a Regiment of Militia in the County of *Middlesex*, do testify and say, that on *Wednesday* morning last about daybreak I was informed of the approach of a number of the Regular Troops to the Town of *Concord*, where were some magazines belonging to this Province. When there was assembled some of the Militia of this and the neighbouring Towns, I ordered them to march to the North Bridge, (so called,) which they had passed and were taking up. I ordered said Militia to march to said bridge and pass the same, but not to fire on the King's Troops unless they were first fired upon. We advanced near said bridge, when the said Troops fired upon our Militia and killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others, which was the first firing of guns in the Town of *Concord*. My detachment then returned the fire, which killed and wounded several of the King's Troops.

**JAMES BARRETT.**

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

The above named *James Barrett* personally appeared, and after due caution to testify the whole truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,  
**WILLIAM REED,  
 JONATHAN HASTINGS,  
 DUNCAN INGRAHAM,**  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
 CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed, Jonathan Hastings*, and *Duncan Ingraham*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

**NATH'L GORHAM, Notary Publick.**

[No. 18.]

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

We, *Bradbury Robinson, Samuel Spring, Thaddeus Bancroft*, all of *Concord*, and *James Adams*, of *Lexing-*

*ton*, all in the County of *Middlesex*, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on *Wednesday* morning last, near ten of the clock, we saw near one hundred of the Regular Troops, being in the Town of *Concord*, at the North Bridge in said Town, (so called,) and having passed the same, they were taking up said bridge, when about three hundred of our Militia were advancing towards said bridge in order to pass said bridge, when, without saying any thing to us, they discharged a number of guns on us, which killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others, when we returned the fire on them, which killed two of them and wounded several; which was the beginning of hostilities in the Town of *Concord*.

**BRADBURY ROBINSON,  
 SAMUEL SPRING,  
 THADDEUS BANCROFT,  
 JAMES ADAMS.**

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

The withinnamed *Bradbury Robinson, Samuel Spring, Thaddeus Bancroft*, and *James Adams*, made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition by them subscribed.

Before us,  
**WILLIAM REED,  
 WILLIAM STICKNEY,  
 JONATHAN HASTINGS,**  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
 CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, certify to all whom it doth or may concern, that *William Reed, William Stickney*, and *Jonathan Hastings*, Esqrs., are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is and ought to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of *April*, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

**NATH'L GORHAM, Notary Publick.**

[No. 19.]

Concord, April 23, 1775.

I, *James Marr*, of lawful age, testify and say, that in the evening of the eighteenth instant, I received orders from *George Hutchinson*, Adjutant of the Fourth Regiment of Regular Troops stationed at *Boston*, to prepare and march, to which order I attended, and marched to *Concord*, where I was ordered by an officer, with about one hundred men, to guard a certain bridge there. While attending that service, a number of people came along, in order, as I suppose, to cross said bridge, at which time a number of the Regular Troops first fired upon them.

**JAMES MARR.**

MIDDLESEX, ss., April 23, 1775:

The above named *James Marr* appeared, and after due caution to testify the truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him voluntarily subscribed.

Before us:  
**DUNCAN INGRAHAM,  
 JONAS DIX,**  
*Justices of the Peace.*

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
 CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify that *Duncan Ingraham* and *Jonas Dix*, Esquires, are two of His Majesty's Justices for the County of *Middlesex*, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of *April*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

**NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.**

[No. 20.]

Medford, April 25, 1775.

I, *Edward Thoroton Gould*, of His Majesty's own Regiment of Foot, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the eighteenth instant, under the orders of General *Gage*, I embarked with the Light-Infantry and Grenadiers of the line, commanded by Colonel



*Smith*, and landed on the marshes of *Cambridge*, from whence we proceeded to *Lexington*. On our arrival at that place, we saw a body of Provincial Troops armed, to the number of about sixty or seventy men; on our approach they dispersed, and soon after firing began; but which party fired first, I cannot exactly say, as our Troops rushed on shouting and huzzaing previous to the firing, which was continued by our Troops as long as any of the Provincials were to be seen. From thence we marched to *Concord*. On a hill near the entrance of the Town, we saw another body of Provincials assembled; the Light-Infantry Companies were ordered up the hill to disperse them; on our approach they retreated towards *Concord*. The Grenadiers continued on the road under the hill towards the Town. Six companies of Light-Infantry were ordered down to take possession of the bridge which the Provincials retreated over; the Company I commanded was one; three Companies of the above detachment went forward about two miles. In the mean time the Provincial Troops returned, to the number of about three or four hundred. We drew up on the *Concord* side of the bridge; the Provincials came down upon us, upon which we engaged, and gave the first fire. This was the first engagement after the one at *Lexington*; a continual firing from both parties lasted through the whole day. I myself was wounded at the attack of the bridge, and am now treated with the greatest humanity, and taken all possible care of by the Provincials at *Medford*. EDWD. THOROTON GOULD,  
Lieut. King's own Regt.

Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
MIDDLESEX County, April 25, 1775. }

Lieutenant *Edward Thoroton Gould*, aforementioned, personally made oath to the truth of the foregoing declaration by him subscribed. Before us: THAD. MASON,

JOSIAH JOHNSON,  
SIMON TUFTS,

Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid,  
Quorum unus.

Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, }  
CHARLESTOWN, ss. }

I, *Nathaniel Gorham*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify to all whom it doth or may concern, that *Thaddeus Mason*, *Josiah Johnson*, and *Simon Tufts*, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, quorum unus, for the County of *Middlesex*; and that full faith and credit is and ought to be given to their transactions as such, both in Court and out. In witness I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of *April*, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

NATHANIEL GORHAM, Notary Publick.

ALEXANDER SCAMMELL TO JOHN SULLIVAN.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, May 3, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: Your leaving *New-Hampshire* at a time when your presence was so extremely necessary to cherish the glorious ardour which you have been so instrumental in inspiring us with, spread a general gloom in *Durham*, and in some measure damped the spirit of liberty through the Province; and nothing but the important business in which you are embarked would induce us to dispense with your presence with any degree of patience or resignation.

But when the horrid din of civil carnage surprised us on the 20th of *April*, the universal cry was—Oh! if Major *Sullivan* was here! I wish to God Major *Sullivan* was here! ran through the distressed multitude. *April* Court, which was then sitting, adjourned immediately. To arms! to arms! was breathed forth in sympathetic groans.

I went express to *Boston*, by desire of the Congressional Committee, then sitting at *Durham*, proceeded as far as *Bradford*, where I obtained credible information that evening. Next morning I arrived at *Exeter*, where the Provincial Congress was assembling with all possible haste. There I reported what intelligence I had gained: that the *American Army* at *Cambridge*, *Woburn*, and *Charlestown*, was more in need of provisions than men; that fifty thousand had assembled in thirty-six hours; and that the

Regulars, who had retreated from *Concord*, had encamped on *Bunker's Hill*, in *Charlestown*.

The Congress, upon this report, resolved that the *Durham* Company, then at *Exeter*, (armed complete for an engagement, with a week's provisions,) should return home, and keep themselves in constant readiness. All the men being gone from the westward and southward of *Newmarket*, and Men-of-War expected hourly into *Portsmouth*, it was with the greatest difficulty your *Durham* soldiers were prevailed upon to return. Six or seven expresses arrived at *Durham* the night after our return; some desiring us to march to *Kittery*; some to *Hampton*; some to *Ipswich*, &c., which places, they said, sundry Men-of-War were ravaging. The whole country was in a continual alarm; but suspecting that the Marines at *Portsmouth* might take advantage of the confusion we were then in, and pay *Durham* a visit, we thought proper to stand ready to give them a warm reception; and supposing that your house and family would be the first mark of their vengeance, although I had been express the whole night before, I kept guard to defend your family and substance to the last drop of my blood. Master *Smith* being under the same apprehension, did actually lay in ambush behind a warehouse, and came very near sinking a fishing-boat anchored off in the river, which he supposed heaped full of Marines. Men, women, and children, were engaged day and night in preparing for the worst.

Many Towns in this Province have enlisted Minute-Men, and keep them under pay; and the Congress, before this, would actually have raised an army, had they not waited for the General Court, which sits to-morrow, in order to raise as much money as they can, to pay off their army when raised.

I am extremely mortified that I am unable to join the army at *Cambridge*. The particulars of the skirmish between the Regulars and *Americans* will, long before this, have reached you. In longing expectation, your safe, happy, and speedy return is hoped for by all your friends, but by none more sincerely than your dutiful humble servant,

ALEX. SCAMMELL.

To *John Sullivan*, Esq., at *Philadelphia* or *New-York*.

COMMITTEE OF BRUNSWICK TO THE BOSTON COMMITTEE  
OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Brunswick, May 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, beg liberty to inform you with our situation, as we are chosen by this Town to examine into the circumstances of it; and finding the Town very deficient as to arms and ammunition, have sent by water to *Salem*, but have just had our money returned back, without arms or ammunition; and at present we have not more than a quarter of a pound of powder to a man, throughout the Town, nor more than one firelock to two men; and in this defenceless state we are obliged to apply to you to assist our trusty friend whom we have sent, which is Captain *Nathaniel Larrabee*; and as we think it would be unsafe to transport powder by water, we have ordered him to take only one hundred weight, and for him to consult with you how and in what way it would be safest to get arms and more powder down to us.

We should esteem it a favour to be informed by you by way of letter, at every convenient opportunity, of our publick affairs. We are, gentlemen, yours ever to be commanded,  
AARON HINKLEY, SAML. STANDWOOD,  
BENJ. STONE, JAMES CURTIS.

NORFOLK (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of the County of *Norfolk*, at the Court-House of said County, on *Thursday*, the 4th of *May*, 1775:

The Resolves of the Convention held at the Town of *Richmond*, on the 20th of *March* last, were read, and unanimously approved.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Committee be presented to *Thomas Newton*, Junior, and *James Holt*, Esquires, our worthy Delegates, for their faithful discharge of the important trust reposed in them.

Having heretofore placed the highest degree of confidence in the good intentions of our Chief Magistrate to-



wards his Majesty's most loyal and faithful subjects, the good people of this Dominion, over whom he presides, which we can safely affirm had gained him their universal esteem and respect, with equal surprise and sorrow we have seen in our publick Gazettes an extract of a Letter said to be wrote by our said Chief Magistrate, on the 24th of *December* last, to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and most grossly misrepresenting all the good people of this Colony, particularly the Magistrates, and those whom the people have elected as Committees to be the guardians of their inestimable rights and liberties. And as his Excellency has not thought proper to disavow being the author of such Letter, we must take it for granted that the extract published is a faithful copy. We therefore think it our indispensable duty, in justice to our own reputations, and that of our constituents, who have honoured us with such marks of their confidence and esteem, to refute so unjust and unmerited, so defamatory and atrocious a charge.

First, then, we declare that we know of no instance wherein any Committee in this or the neighbouring Counties has assumed an authority to inspect the books, or any other secrets of the trade of Merchants. We admit to have known some instances where some Merchants, being suspected of a breach of the Association, have voluntarily offered some private letters and books to be inspected, in order to acquit themselves of such charge.

He next says we stigmatize those we discover to have transgressed what we hardly call the Laws of the Congress; which stigmatizing, to use the words in the said extract, "is no other than inviting the vengeance of an outrageous and lawless mob to be exercised on the unhappy victims." Several in this Borough and County have been held up for publick censure for breaches of the Association, but no vengeance of any mob or individual has been inflicted on them, not even that fashionable one lately introduced by the Troops under the command of General *Gage*; and we could call upon sundry persons here who were thus stigmatized, to justify this assertion.

We wish his Excellency had deigned to name the County where the Committee had proceeded so far as to swear the men of their Independent Company to execute all orders which they should give them, as it is a piece of information entirely new to us; as well as that of every other County forming an Independent Company, for the avowed purpose, (as he says) of protecting their Committees, and to be employed against Government, if occasion require. We hope all the dark plots of our most secret or declared enemies will prove ineffectual in bringing matters to that unhappy issue; and we have so high an opinion of the virtue of our countrymen, that we look upon the solemnity of an oath altogether unnecessary to stimulate them to stand forth firm and intrepid upon all just occasions, in support of their civil and religious rights and liberties.

Whilst we were thus fondly flattering ourselves that we had in his Excellency a most powerful advocate in order to accommodate the unhappy disputes subsisting between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, we leave the world to judge what poignant sorrow we must feel on the discovery that it was a vain delusion; and that, instead of the good offices we expected, he was all the time widening the breach, by misrepresenting so greatly our conduct to those in power; and we now discover, from his Excellency's said Letter, that his gentle and lenient conduct, which we were too ready to attribute to the regard he possessed, and which we flattered ourselves he had for his Government, proceeded only from his fears of the disgrace of a disappointment; and we find, as soon as it was known that that Letter would be made publick, the mask was thrown off; and the first step taken to open the eyes of the people, was the seizing of the Gunpowder in the publick Magazine, in the most secret manner. How far such a manœuvre is justifiable, is not our intention at present to inquire into, that being a point on which the publick will undoubtedly undertake to judge for themselves; but we cannot help giving it as our opinion, that his Excellency's answer to the Address of the respectable Corporation of the City of *Williamsburgh*, on that occasion, is highly disrespectful and evasive. And now, my countrymen, let us, by our steady perseverance in virtue and unanimity, convince his Excellency, when he says that every step we take must inevitably defeat its own

purpose, that he (to use the phrase of our late truly worthy and noble Governour) has not augured right.

We thought ourselves under the indispensable necessity of making the foregoing strictures on the above-mentioned Letter, lest our silence might be construed by our countrymen, or others, into a tacit confession of our guilt; and now we submit to the publick how far his Excellency merits the continuance of that unlimited confidence heretofore placed in him. The tribute of our respect we are still willing to pay him as our Chief Magistrate, and the representative of our most gracious Sovereign, to whom we shall always pay all due obedience.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk send a copy of these proceedings to Messrs. *Dixon* and *Hunter*, and Mr. *John Hunter Holt*, to be published; and they are desired to publish them in their next Gazettes.

BENJAMIN CROOKER, Clerk.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, May 4, 1775.

The Town of *York* being somewhat alarmed by a Letter from Captain *Montague*, commander of His Majesty's ship the *Fowey*, addressed to the Honourable *Thomas Nelson*, Esquire, President of His Majesty's Council in *Virginia*; and a copy of said Letter being procured, a motion was made that the copy should be laid before the Committee, and considered. The copy was read, and is as follows:

Fowey, May 4, 1775.

SIR: I have this morning received certain information, that his Excellency the Lord *Dunmore*, Governour of *Virginia*, is threatened with an attack at daybreak this morning, at his Palace at *Williamsburgh*, and have thought proper to send a detachment from His Majesty's Ship under my command, to support his Excellency; therefore strongly pray you to make use of every endeavour to prevent the party from being molested or attacked, as, in that case, I must be under a necessity to fire upon this Town.

To the Honourable *Thomas Nelson*, from

GEORGE MONTAGUE.

The Committee, together with Captain *Montague's* Letter, taking into consideration the time of its being sent, which was too late to permit the President to use his influence had the inhabitants been disposed to "molest and attack" the detachment; and further considering that Colonel *Nelson*, who, had this threat been carried into execution, must have been a principal sufferer, was, at that very moment, exerting his utmost endeavours in behalf of Government, and the safety of his Excellency's person, unanimously came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That Captain *Montague*, in threatening to fire upon a defenceless Town, in case of an attack upon the detachment, in which said Town might not be concerned, has testified a spirit of cruelty unprecedented in the annals of civilized times; that, in his last notice to the President, he has added insult to cruelty; and that, considering the circumstance already mentioned, of one of the most considerable inhabitants of said Town, he has discovered the most hellish principles that can actuate a human mind.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of this Town, and of the County in general, that they do not entertain or show any other mark of civility to Captain *Montague*, besides what common decency and absolute necessity require.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk do transmit the above proceedings to the publick Printers, to be inserted in the *Virginia Gazettes*.

WILLIAM RUSSELL, Clerk to Committee.

TOWN-MEETING, UPPER FREEHOLD, (MONMOUTH COUNTY)  
NEW-JERSEY.

Monmouth County, Upper Freehold, May 4, 1775.

This day, agreeable to previous notice, a very considerable number of the principal inhabitants of this Township met at *Inlay's* Town:

JOHN LAWRENCE, Esquire, in the Chair.

When the following Resolves were unanimously agreed to:

*Resolved*, That it is our first wish to live in union with *Great Britain*, agreeable to the principles of the Consti-



tution; that we consider the unnatural civil war which we are about to be forced into, with anxiety and distress; but that we are determined to oppose the novel claim of the Parliament of *Great Britain* to raise a revenue in *America*, and risk every possible consequence rather than submit to it.

*Resolved*, That it appears to this meeting that there are a sufficient number of Arms for the people.

*Resolved*, That a sum of money be now raised to purchase what further quantity of Powder and Ball may be necessary; and it is recommended that every man capable of bearing arms enter into Companies to train, and be prepared to march at a minute's warning; and it is further recommended to the people that they do not waste their Powder in fowling or hunting.

A subscription was then opened, and One Hundred and Sixty Pounds instantly paid into the hands of a person appointed for that purpose. The Officers of four Companies were then chosen, and the meeting broke up in perfect unanimity.

ELISHA LAWRENCE, *Clerk*.

#### TOWN-MEETING, NEWARK, NEW-JERSEY.

Newark, New-Jersey, May 4, 1775.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Township of *Newark*, in *New-Jersey*, on *Thursday*, the 4th day of *May*, A. D. 1775:

Doctor WILLIAM BURNETT in the Chair.

An Association having been entered into and subscribed by the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of said Town, a motion was made and agreed to, that the same be read. The same was accordingly read, and is as follows:

"We, the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Township of *Newark*, having deliberately considered the openly avowed design of the Ministry of *Great Britain* to raise a revenue in *America*; being affected with horror at the bloody scene now acting in the *Massachusetts-Bay* for carrying that arbitrary design into execution; firmly convinced that the very existence of the rights and liberties of *America* can, under *God*, subsist on no other basis than the most animated and perfect union of its inhabitants; and being sensible of the necessity, in the present exigency, of preserving good order, and a due regulation in all publick measures, with hearts perfectly abhorrent of slavery, do solemnly, under all the sacred ties of religion, honour, and love to our Country, associate and resolve, that we will, personally, and as far as our influence can extend, endeavour to support and carry into execution whatever measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or agreed upon by the proposed Convention of Deputies of this Province, for the purposes of preserving and fixing our Constitution on a permanent basis, and opposing the execution of the several despotick and oppressive Acts of the *British* Parliament, until the wished-for reconciliation between *Great Britain* and *America*, on constitutional principles, can be obtained.

"That a General Committee be chosen by this Town for the purposes aforesaid, and that we will be directed by, and support them in all things respecting the "common cause, the preservation of peace, good order, the safety of individuals, and private property."

*Voted*, That *Isaac Ogden*, Esquire, Captain *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *Bethuel Pierson*, and *Caleb Camp*, be the Deputies to represent said Township in the Provincial Congress referred to in the said Association.

The General Committee also mentioned in the said Association, was then chosen, consisting of forty-four.

*Agreed*, That the powers delegated to the Deputies and General Committee, continue until the expiration of five weeks after the rising of the next Continental Congress, and no longer.

*Agreed*, That the General Committee have power to appoint one or more Sub-Committees, to act on any emergency.

ISAAC LONGWORTH, *Town Clerk*.

The General Committee immediately convened, and elected *Lewis Ogden*, Esquire, Chairman, Doctor *William Burnett*, Deputy Chairman, and *Elisha Boudinot*, Esq., Clerk of the said General Committee.

*Agreed*, That the above-named *Lewis Ogden*, Esquire,

Doctor *William Burnett*, *Elisha Boudinot*, Esquire, *Isaac Ogden*, Esquire, and Mr. *Isaac Longworth*, be a Committee of Correspondence for said Town.

ELISHA BOUDINOT, *Clerk to Committee*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK TO HIS CORRESPONDENT IN LONDON, DATED MAY 4, 1775.

The General Committee of One Hundred have stopped all supplies to *Boston*, *Newfoundland*, and all the Fishing Coasts, after the example of *Philadelphia*. The members of His Majesty's Council have sent a copy of the Minutes of their proceedings to the Committee this morning, with liberty to communicate the purport of them. The minutes (which are the outlines of a letter to be transmitted by this packet) contain a just and true account of the circumstances which took place on the news of an engagement; acknowledged the receipt of a letter from Lord *Dartmouth* of the 24th of *March*, wherein he hints at a plan of accommodation being to be offered; in answer to which they give their opinion explicitly, that no terms will be attended to in the present ferment; and unless General *Gage* ceases hostilities, it will be in vain to make proposals of any kind. In short, that this and all other Provinces are resolved, not only to refuse submission to the late and present Acts of Parliament, but to oppose, at the risk of their lives and fortunes, all those who come to enforce them.

New-York, May 4, 1775.

We hear that the Post, having been interrupted, the Postmaster (who has hitherto, without legal authority, been appointed from home, and as a convenience, permitted here unquestioned) has discharged the riders, the expense of which he has no longer a fund to support. An office for this necessary business will doubtless be put under proper regulations by the Continental Congress, and no more be permitted to return to the rapacious hands of unauthorized intruders, since it would be the most contemptible pusillanimity to suffer a revenue to be raised from our property to defray the expense of cutting our throats! We hear Mr. *William Goddard*, who has been a great sufferer, with many others, by the malpractices of an illegal holder of this office, is now on a journey to the Eastward, in order to put the business under proper regulations to be laid before the Congress.

#### GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO DOCTOR JOSEPH WARREN.

Hartford, May 4, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the 2d of *May* instant, is received. You may be informed from our letter to Brigadier-General *Putnam*, what is already done by our General Assembly, and need not fear our firmness, deliberation, and unanimity to pursue the measures which appear best for our common defence and safety, and in no degree to relax our vigilant preparations for that end, and to act in union and concert with our sister Colonies, and shall be cautious of trusting promises which may be in the power of any one to evade. We hope no ill consequences will attend our embassy to General *Gage*.

Should be glad to be furnished with the evidences duly authenticated concerning the attack on the 19th of *April* last, at *Lexington*, which it is presumed you have taken. Though we are at a distance from the distressing scene before your eyes, yet are most sensibly affected with the alarming relations of them.

I am, in behalf of the Governour and Company, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *Joseph Warren*, Esquire.

#### COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, May 4, 1775.

The distressed situation into which a wicked and despotick Administration have involved this Country, will justify us in your eyes, as we presume, in our present most earnest and pressing desire that you will immediately send us three or four thousand men of your establishment, in order



wards his Majesty's most loyal and faithful subjects, the good people of this Dominion, over whom he presides, which we can safely affirm had gained him their universal esteem and respect, with equal surprise and sorrow we have seen in our publick Gazettes an extract of a Letter said to be wrote by our said Chief Magistrate, on the 24th of *December* last, to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and most grossly misrepresenting all the good people of this Colony, particularly the Magistrates, and those whom the people have elected as Committees to be the guardians of their inestimable rights and liberties. And as his Excellency has not thought proper to disavow being the author of such Letter, we must take it for granted that the extract published is a faithful copy. We therefore think it our indispensable duty, in justice to our own reputations, and that of our constituents, who have honoured us with such marks of their confidence and esteem, to refute so unjust and unmerited, so defamatory and atrocious a charge.

First, then, we declare that we know of no instance wherein any Committee in this or the neighbouring Counties has assumed an authority to inspect the books, or any other secrets of the trade of Merchants. We admit to have known some instances where some Merchants, being suspected of a breach of the Association, have voluntarily offered some private letters and books to be inspected, in order to acquit themselves of such charge.

He next says we stigmatize those we discover to have transgressed what we hardly call the Laws of the Congress; which stigmatizing, to use the words in the said extract, "is no other than inviting the vengeance of an outrageous and lawless mob to be exercised on the unhappy victims." Several in this Borough and County have been held up for publick censure for breaches of the Association, but no vengeance of any mob or individual has been inflicted on them, not even that fashionable one lately introduced by the Troops under the command of General *Gage*; and we could call upon sundry persons here who were thus stigmatized, to justify this assertion.

We wish his Excellency had deigned to name the County where the Committee had proceeded so far as to swear the men of their Independent Company to execute all orders which they should give them, as it is a piece of information entirely new to us; as well as that of every other County forming an Independent Company, for the avowed purpose, (as he says) of protecting their Committees, and to be employed against Government, if occasion require. We hope all the dark plots of our most secret or declared enemies will prove ineffectual in bringing matters to that unhappy issue; and we have so high an opinion of the virtue of our countrymen, that we look upon the solemnity of an oath altogether unnecessary to stimulate them to stand forth firm and intrepid upon all just occasions, in support of their civil and religious rights and liberties.

Whilst we were thus fondly flattering ourselves that we had in his Excellency a most powerful advocate in order to accommodate the unhappy disputes subsisting between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, we leave the world to judge what poignant sorrow we must feel on the discovery that it was a vain delusion; and that, instead of the good offices we expected, he was all the time widening the breach, by misrepresenting so greatly our conduct to those in power; and we now discover, from his Excellency's said Letter, that his gentle and lenient conduct, which we were too ready to attribute to the regard he possessed, and which we flattered ourselves he had for his Government, proceeded only from his fears of the disgrace of a disappointment; and we find, as soon as it was known that that Letter would be made publick, the mask was thrown off; and the first step taken to open the eyes of the people, was the seizing of the Gunpowder in the publick Magazine, in the most secret manner. How far such a manœuvre is justifiable, is not our intention at present to inquire into, that being a point on which the publick will undoubtedly undertake to judge for themselves; but we cannot help giving it as our opinion, that his Excellency's answer to the Address of the respectable Corporation of the City of *Williamsburgh*, on that occasion, is highly disrespectful and evasive. And now, my countrymen, let us, by our steady perseverance in virtue and unanimity, convince his Excellency, when he says that every step we take must inevitably defeat its own

purpose, that he (to use the phrase of our late truly worthy and noble Governour) has not augured right.

We thought ourselves under the indispensable necessity of making the foregoing strictures on the above-mentioned Letter, lest our silence might be construed by our countrymen, or others, into a tacit confession of our guilt; and now we submit to the publick how far his Excellency merits the continuance of that unlimited confidence heretofore placed in him. The tribute of our respect we are still willing to pay him as our Chief Magistrate, and the representative of our most gracious Sovereign, to whom we shall always pay all due obedience.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk send a copy of these proceedings to Messrs. *Dixon* and *Hunter*, and Mr. *John Hunter Holt*, to be published; and they are desired to publish them in their next Gazettes.

BENJAMIN CROOKER, Clerk.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, May 4, 1775.

The Town of *York* being somewhat alarmed by a Letter from Captain *Montague*, commander of His Majesty's ship the *Fowey*, addressed to the Honourable *Thomas Nelson*, Esquire, President of His Majesty's Council in *Virginia*; and a copy of said Letter being procured, a motion was made that the copy should be laid before the Committee, and considered. The copy was read, and is as follows:

Fowey, May 4, 1775.

SIR: I have this morning received certain information, that his Excellency the Lord *Dunmore*, Governour of *Virginia*, is threatened with an attack at daybreak this morning, at his Palace at *Williamsburgh*, and have thought proper to send a detachment from His Majesty's Ship under my command, to support his Excellency; therefore strongly pray you to make use of every endeavour to prevent the party from being molested or attacked, as, in that case, I must be under a necessity to fire upon this Town.

To the Honourable *Thomas Nelson*, from

GEORGE MONTAGUE.

The Committee, together with Captain *Montague's* Letter, taking into consideration the time of its being sent, which was too late to permit the President to use his influence had the inhabitants been disposed to "molest and attack" the detachment; and further considering that Colonel *Nelson*, who, had this threat been carried into execution, must have been a principal sufferer, was, at that very moment, exerting his utmost endeavours in behalf of Government, and the safety of his Excellency's person, unanimously came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That Captain *Montague*, in threatening to fire upon a defenceless Town, in case of an attack upon the detachment, in which said Town might not be concerned, has testified a spirit of cruelty unprecedented in the annals of civilized times; that, in his last notice to the President, he has added insult to cruelty; and that, considering the circumstance already mentioned, of one of the most considerable inhabitants of said Town, he has discovered the most hellish principles that can actuate a human mind.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of this Town, and of the County in general, that they do not entertain or show any other mark of civility to Captain *Montague*, besides what common decency and absolute necessity require.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk do transmit the above proceedings to the publick Printers, to be inserted in the *Virginia* Gazettes.

WILLIAM RUSSELL, Clerk to Committee.

TOWN-MEETING, UPPER FREEHOLD, (MONMOUTH COUNTY)  
NEW-JERSEY.

Monmouth County, Upper Freehold, May 4, 1775.

This day, agreeable to previous notice, a very considerable number of the principal inhabitants of this Township met at *Imlay's* Town:

JOHN LAWRENCE, Esquire, in the Chair.

When the following Resolves were unanimously agreed to:

*Resolved*, That it is our first wish to live in union with *Great Britain*, agreeable to the principles of the Consti-



tution; that we consider the unnatural civil war which we are about to be forced into, with anxiety and distress; but that we are determined to oppose the novel claim of the Parliament of *Great Britain* to raise a revenue in *America*, and risk every possible consequence rather than submit to it.

*Resolved*, That it appears to this meeting that there are a sufficient number of Arms for the people.

*Resolved*, That a sum of money be now raised to purchase what further quantity of Powder and Ball may be necessary; and it is recommended that every man capable of bearing arms enter into Companies to train, and be prepared to march at a minute's warning; and it is further recommended to the people that they do not waste their Powder in fowling or hunting.

A subscription was then opened, and One Hundred and Sixty Pounds instantly paid into the hands of a person appointed for that purpose. The Officers of four Companies were then chosen, and the meeting broke up in perfect unanimity.

ELISHA LAWRENCE, *Clerk*.

#### TOWN-MEETING, NEWARK, NEW-JERSEY.

Newark, New-Jersey, May 4, 1775.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Township of *Newark*, in *New-Jersey*, on *Thursday*, the 4th day of *May*, A. D. 1775:

DOCTOR WILLIAM BURNETT in the Chair.

An Association having been entered into and subscribed by the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of said Town, a motion was made and agreed to, that the same be read. The same was accordingly read, and is as follows:

"We, the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Township of *Newark*, having deliberately considered the openly avowed design of the Ministry of *Great Britain* to raise a revenue in *America*; being affected with horror at the bloody scene now acting in the *Massachusetts-Bay* for carrying that arbitrary design into execution; firmly convinced that the very existence of the rights and liberties of *America* can, under *God*, subsist on no other basis than the most animated and perfect union of its inhabitants; and being sensible of the necessity, in the present exigency, of preserving good order, and a due regulation in all publick measures, with hearts perfectly abhorrent of slavery, do solemnly, under all the sacred ties of religion, honour, and love to our Country, associate and resolve, that we will, personally, and as far as our influence can extend, endeavour to support and carry into execution whatever measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or agreed upon by the proposed Convention of Deputies of this Province, for the purposes of preserving and fixing our Constitution on a permanent basis, and opposing the execution of the several despotick and oppressive Acts of the *British* Parliament, until the wished-for reconciliation between *Great Britain* and *America*, on constitutional principles, can be obtained.

"That a General Committee be chosen by this Town for the purposes aforesaid, and that we will be directed by, and support them in all things respecting the "common cause, the preservation of peace, good order, the safety of individuals, and private property."

*Voted*, That *Isaac Ogden*, Esquire, Captain *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *Bethuel Pierson*, and *Caleb Camp*, be the Deputies to represent said Township in the Provincial Congress referred to in the said Association.

The General Committee also mentioned in the said Association, was then chosen, consisting of forty-four.

*Agreed*, That the powers delegated to the Deputies and General Committee, continue until the expiration of five weeks after the rising of the next Continental Congress, and no longer.

*Agreed*, That the General Committee have power to appoint one or more Sub-Committees, to act on any emergency.

ISAAC LONGWORTH, *Town Clerk*.

The General Committee immediately convened, and elected *Lewis Ogden*, Esquire, Chairman, Doctor *William Burnett*, Deputy Chairman, and *Elisha Boudinot*, Esq., Clerk of the said General Committee.

*Agreed*, That the above-named *Lewis Ogden*, Esquire,

Doctor *William Burnett*, *Elisha Boudinot*, Esquire, *Isaac Ogden*, Esquire, and Mr. *Isaac Longworth*, be a Committee of Correspondence for said Town.

ELISHA BOUDINOT, *Clerk to Committee*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK TO HIS CORRESPONDENT IN LONDON, DATED MAY 4, 1775.

The General Committee of One Hundred have stopped all supplies to *Boston*, *Newfoundland*, and all the Fishing Coasts, after the example of *Philadelphia*. The members of His Majesty's Council have sent a copy of the Minutes of their proceedings to the Committee this morning, with liberty to communicate the purport of them. The minutes (which are the outlines of a letter to be transmitted by this packet) contain a just and true account of the circumstances which took place on the news of an engagement; acknowledged the receipt of a letter from Lord *Dartmouth* of the 24th of *March*, wherein he hints at a plan of accommodation being to be offered; in answer to which they give their opinion explicitly, that no terms will be attended to in the present ferment; and unless General *Gage* ceases hostilities, it will be in vain to make proposals of any kind. In short, that this and all other Provinces are resolved, not only to refuse submission to the late and present Acts of Parliament, but to oppose, at the risk of their lives and fortunes, all those who come to enforce them.

New-York, May 4, 1775.

We hear that the Post, having been interrupted, the Postmaster (who has hitherto, without legal authority, been appointed from home, and as a convenience, permitted here unquestioned) has discharged the riders, the expense of which he has no longer a fund to support. An office for this necessary business will doubtless be put under proper regulations by the Continental Congress, and no more be permitted to return to the rapacious hands of unauthorized intruders, since it would be the most contemptible pusillanimity to suffer a revenue to be raised from our property to defray the expense of cutting our throats! We hear Mr. *William Goddard*, who has been a great sufferer, with many others, by the malpractices of an illegal holder of this office, is now on a journey to the Eastward, in order to put the business under proper regulations to be laid before the Congress.

#### GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO DOCTOR JOSEPH WARREN.

Hartford, May 4, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the 2d of *May* instant, is received. You may be informed from our letter to Brigadier-General *Putnam*, what is already done by our General Assembly, and need not fear our firmness, deliberation, and unanimity to pursue the measures which appear best for our common defence and safety, and in no degree to relax our vigilant preparations for that end, and to act in union and concert with our sister Colonies, and shall be cautious of trusting promises which may be in the power of any one to evade. We hope no ill consequences will attend our embassy to General *Gage*.

Should be glad to be furnished with the evidences duly authenticated concerning the attack on the 19th of *April* last, at *Lexington*, which it is presumed you have taken. Though we are at a distance from the distressing scene before your eyes, yet are most sensibly affected with the alarming relations of them.

I am, in behalf of the Governour and Company, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *Joseph Warren*, Esquire.

#### COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, May 4, 1775.

The distressed situation into which a wicked and despotick Administration have involved this Country, will justify us in your eyes, as we presume, in our present most earnest and pressing desire that you will immediately send us three or four thousand men of your establishment, in order



to enable us to secure a pass of the greatest importance to our common interest, and which the enemy will certainly possess themselves of as soon as their reinforcement arrive; and if they once get possession, it will cost us much blood and treasure to dislodge them, but may now be secured by us if we had a force sufficient, without any danger. Therefore we earnestly repeat our request for three or four thousand men for the present purpose, with all possible despatch, and supported with all necessary stores of ammunition and provision; and would beg that they may be forwarded in Companies or Regiments, as fast as they can be got ready. This will make it easier to the Troops, and to the country through which they may pass, and may probably be of more essential service to our common cause. We are, &c.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Cambridge, May 4, 1775.

It is with the highest satisfaction this Committee received your letter of the 2d instant, expressive of your tender care and sympathy with this Colony under our alarming situation. All we can write on this occasion is, that the exigency of our affairs requires all the assistance which your better judgment shall dictate. We rest assured that your zeal for the common safety will inspire you to do every thing that is proper for the safety and preservation of the unalienable rights of *America*. We are, &c.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN PITTSFIELD TO AN OFFICER AT CAMBRIDGE, DATED MAY 4, 1775.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that a number of gentlemen from *Connecticut* went from this place last *Tuesday* morning, having been joined by Colonel *Easton*, Captain *Dickinson*, and Mr. *Brown*, with forty soldiers, on an expedition against *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, expecting to be reinforced by a thousand men from the *Grants* above here, a post having previously taken his departure to inform Colonel *Ethan Allen* of the design, and desiring him to hold his *Green-Mountain* boys in actual readiness. The expedition has been carried on with the utmost secrecy, as they are in hopes of taking those forts by surprise. We expect they will reach those forts by *Saturday* next, or *Lord's* day at farthest. The plan was concerted at *Hartford* last *Saturday*, by the Governour and Council; Colonel *Hancock*, and Mr. *Adams*, and others from our Province being present. Three hundred Pounds were drawn immediately out of the Treasury for the aforesaid purpose, and committed to those gentlemen that were here. We earnestly pray for success to this important expedition, as the taking those places would afford us a key to all *Canada*. Should success attend this expedition, we expect a strong reinforcement will be sent from the western part of *Connecticut* to keep those forts, and to repair and fortify them well.

We have had much work here of late with the Tories; a dark plot has been discovered of sending names down to General *Gage*; in consequence of which, and the critical situation of this Town, we have been obliged to act with vigour, and have sent Mr. *Jones* and Mr. *Graves* to *Northampton* Jail, where they now lie in close confinement, and have sent a hue and cry after Major *Stoddard* and Mr. *Little*, who have fled to *New-York* for shelter. We hope it will not be long before they are taken into custody and committed to close confinement. Our Tories are the worst in the Province; all the effect the late and present operations have had upon them is, they are mute and pensive, and secretly wish for more prosperous days to toriyism.

As to your important operations, sir, you have the fervent prayers of all good men that success may attend them. I hope *God* will inspire you with wisdom from above in all your deliberations, and your soldiers with courage and fortitude, and that *Boston* will be speedily delivered into your hands, the General thereof, and all the King's Troops, that the den of thieves, that nest of robbers, that asylum for traitors and murderers, may be broke up, and never another red coat from *England* set foot on these shores.

SELECTMEN OF TOPSHAM, IN LINCOLN COUNTY, TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Topsham, May 4, 1775.

This is to inform the Honourable Congress that the Town of *Topsham* is almost destitute of powder and flints; and we desire that your honourable body would direct Mr. *Prince Rose*, the man we have sent for powder, to some place where he can get about sixty or seventy weight of powder, and you will oblige the inhabitants of *Topsham*, who are true friends to liberty and friends to our Country.

In behalf of the inhabitants of *Topsham*:

JOHN FULTON, }  
JAMES BEVERIDGE, } Selectmen.

COLONEL THOMAS GILBERT TO HIS SONS.

Boston, May 4, 1775.

On the 27th of *April*, I left the Ship, took passage on board a packet sloop on the first instant, in health arrived here, where I expect to stay till the Rebels are subdued, which I believe will not be long first, as the Ships and Troops are daily expected. My greatest fears are, you will be seduced or compelled to take arms with those deluded people. Dear sons, if those wicked sinners, the Rebels, entice you believe them not, but die by the sword rather than be hanged as Rebels, which will certainly be your fate sooner or later if you join them, or be killed in battle, and will be no more than you deserve. I wish you in *Boston*, and all the friends to Government. The Rebels have proclaimed that those friends may have liberty, and come in; but as all their declarations have hitherto proved, I fear, false, this may be so. Let *Ruggles* know his father wants him here. You may come by water from *Newport*. If here the King will give you provisions and pay you wages; but by experience you know neither your persons nor estates are safe in the country, for as soon as you have raised any thing, they will rob you of it, as they are more savage and cruel than heathens, or any other creatures, and, it is generally thought, than devils. You will put yourselves out of their power as soon as possible. This is from your affectionate father,

THOS. GILBERT.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON TO HIS FRIEND IN NEW-YORK, DATED MAY 5, 1775.

It has been long the object of Administration to traduce your Province, representing it as inimical to the system of opposition to their measures, so universally adopted in the other Colonies. To obviate this calumny, the friends of *America* have had little opportunity of vindicating you, because the intelligence from *New-York* comes here generally to persons absolutely devoted to the mandates of a very wicked Administration. The mercantile connections of *New-York*, as far as my knowledge extends, are as little friendly to *American* liberty as any I know. I wish it was in my power to point out your friends, for I do not mean to expose your enemies, who make themselves conspicuous enough.

The Troops from *Ireland*, destined to shackle the *Bostonians*, and with them every *American*, are about sailing. The three Generals, *Howe*, *Clinton*, and *Burgoyne*, have sailed. *Howe* is well known in *America*; *Clinton* is the son of one of your former Governours; these are both men of character—they go on this business with much reluctance; but they were told, you must do this or starve. As to *Burgoyne*, I am not master of language enough to express the horrible blackness of his character. Refer to the letters of *Junius* to the Duke of *Grafton*, to which I will add but one anecdote, for the truth of which you may be assured; that he (*Burgoyne*) declared, when those letters were published, if he could find out the author, he would assassinate him. Governour *Tryon* goes off in a day or two to strengthen the ministerial party with you, and has the command of money to bribe. A word to the wise. Major *Skene* has deceived the Ministry, in persuading them that he can bribe all the Members of the Continental Congress, for which purpose he has been sent off to *Philadelphia*.

The ministerial plan is undoubtedly to reduce every *American* to the most degraded state of absolute bondage and servitude. The two modes by which they hope to accomplish their end, are, using force and violence in *New-*



*England*; and with bribery and other artifices, to divide the rest of the Colonies from the common cause; for this end *New-York* is not mentioned in the lately passed Act of Parliament for restraining the trade of *Virginia, Maryland, &c.* This grant, however, I cannot view in any other light than that of a tyrant, who might allow me to eat, but at the same time would put me to death if I went to a certain place where only I could get any thing to eat; for all connection whatsoever is cut off between *New-York* and the other Colonies. There is not in nature a clearer truth to me, than that if *America* is firmly united, and determined to encounter every difficulty rather than submit to the tyranny that is at this moment planned for them all without distinction by the present Ministers, it will be impracticable for the scheme to succeed. Without taking into the account the uncertainty of war, where the battle is not always to the strong, the natural and self-evident reasons for determining so absolutely in this question, are so clear and decisive, that it would be more absurd than any sceptick ever was yet to doubt it. I therefore conclude, the yeomanry at large, in the Government of *New-York*, will steadily persevere in maintaining their rights, and firmly unite with the other Colonies in whatever measures the grand Continental Council at *Philadelphia* may think best to adopt; notwithstanding the attempts to disunite you by a few men, who, for a golden gratuity, will sell themselves, their Country, and posterity, to tyranny, in hopes they may be the under-executioners. It is confidently said here, that Doctor *Cooper's* reward for what he has been doing and writing against his Country, will be the *American* Bishoprick, which is certainly to be established as soon as you are subdued. Parson *Vardell* is here, the agent for this business, I am told, and if so, no doubt expects a deanery to be added to his present appointments. Your persecutions will be complete, when the religious is added to the military.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

The Committee met, by adjournment, *Friday, 5th May, 1775.* Present:

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Philip Livingston,   | William Goforth,    | Jacobus Van Zandt,  |
| Isaac Low,           | William Denning,    | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| John Alsop,          | Isaac Roosevelt,    | Peter Goellet,      |
| John Jay,            | Jacob Van Voorhies, | Thomas Marston,     |
| P. V. B. Livingston, | Jeremiah Platt,     | Jacobus Lefferts,   |
| Alex. McDougall,     | Comfort Sands,      | Richard Sharpe,     |
| Leonard Lispenard,   | Robert Benson,      | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| William Walton,      | William W. Gilbert, | Benjamin Helme,     |
| John Broome,         | John Berrian,       | Walter Franklin,    |
| Joseph Hallett,      | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | David Beekman,      |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,   | Nicholas Roosevelt, | William Seaton,     |
| Nicholas Hoffman,    | Edward Fleming,     | Evert Banker,       |
| Abraham Walton,      | John De Lancey,     | Robert Ray,         |
| Henry Remsen,        | Frederick Jay,      | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Peter T. Curtenius,  | William W. Ludlow,  | William Laight,     |
| Abraham Brasher,     | John B. Moore,      | Samuel Broome,      |
| Abraham P. Lott,     | Lancaster Burling,  | John Lamb,          |
| Joseph Bull,         | John Lasher,        | Daniel Phenix,      |
| Francis Lewis,       | George Janeway,     | Anthony Van Dam,    |
| Joseph Totten,       | Richard Yates,      | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Thomas Ivers,        | Thomas Smith,       | John Imlay,         |
| Hercules Mulligan,   | Augustus Van Horne, | Oliver Templeton,   |
| John Anthony,        | Eleazer Miller,     | Lewis Pintard,      |
| Francis Basset,      | Benjamin Kissam,    | Cornelius P. Low,   |
| Victor Bicker,       | John M. Scott,      | Thomas Buchannan,   |
| John White,          | Cornelius Clopper,  | Petrus Byvanck,     |
| Theophilus Anthony,  | John Reade,         |                     |

Mr. *McDougall*, from the Committee of Correspondence and Intelligence, reported a draft of a Circular Letter to the different Colonies, which being read and approved of,

*Ordered*, That copies be engrossed and forwarded accordingly by the Committee of Correspondence.

A Letter, dated *Richmond County, 2d May, 1775*, from *Paul Micheau* and others, advising of their having appointed Deputies to attend the Provincial Congress, received and read.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Duyckinck* and Mr. *Denning* be a Sub-Committee to attend the sales of a parcel of Cutlery, the property of *Henry Johns*, imported in *December* last.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sharpe*, Mr. *Seaton*, Mr. *Duyckinck*, and Mr. *G. W. Ludlow*, be a Committee to wait on every gentleman chosen to represent this City and County in Provincial Congress, and to request their strict attendance at the time appointed; and if any of them should decline to accept and execute that trust, to make report

thereof to this Committee; and that they also wait on those gentlemen who have been chosen of this Committee and have not attended, to request their attendance; and if any of them should decline, to make report also of their names to this Committee.

Mr. *McDougall*, from the Committee of Correspondence, reported a draft of an answer to the address of Captain *Samuel Broome* and his Company; which being approved of,

*Ordered*, That the same be engrossed, signed by the Chairman, and presented to Captain *Broome*.

A Letter, dated *Annapolis, May 1, 1775*, from *Matthew Tilghman*, enclosing a Resolution of their Provincial Convention, suspending all Exportation to *Quebeck, Newfoundland, Nova-Scotia, &c.*, received and read.

Mr. *Kissam*, from the Committee of Correspondence, reported and read the draft of a Letter to the Lord Mayor and Corporation of *London*, which being approved of,

*Ordered*, That copies be engrossed, signed, and forwarded.

A Letter, dated *Albany, 3d May, 1775*, from the Committee of Correspondence, received and read.

*Ordered*, That as Messrs. *Adams* and *Hancock* are daily expected in this City, the Committee of Correspondence and Intelligence wait on them, and request a private conference on the subject-matter of the above letter.

Mr. *Berrian*, seconded by Mr. *Jay*, moved that the tenth rule of this Committee be amended: that instead of every proceeding or debate of this Committee being kept secret, every thing may be divulged except such particular matters as shall be enjoined from the Chair to be kept private.

Which being unanimously agreed to,

*Ordered*, That the said amendment be accordingly made.

The Committee adjourned to *Monday, 8th instant*.

#### CIRCULAR LETTER FROM THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE TO THE SEVERAL COLONIES.

New-York, May 5, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: At a time when the most vigorous exertions are most absolutely necessary for the defence of *American* liberty against the depredations of ministerial power; and the blood of our brethren in the *Massachusetts* has been actually shed for daring to maintain the rights of *Englishmen*; the inhabitants of this City and County have, in the most explicit manner, as you may perceive by the enclosed Association, resolved to stand and fall with the freedom of the Continent.

We are confident that our constituents are sincere in the strong assurances they have given us, that while we continue in office, they will be guided by our advice and direction. We have thought it necessary to advise the withholding supplies from the *British Fisheries* on the *American* Coasts, and to cease all exports to those Colonies which at this alarming juncture refuse to unite in the common cause. The expediency of this measure is too evident to need elucidation, and will doubtless procure us many hearty advocates in *Britain* for the redress of our grievances. Besides which, we have resolved to withhold all provisions and necessaries from the Army and Navy at *Boston*.

Our late Committee of Observation thought proper to recommend the appointment of a Provincial Congress; in consequence of which our constituents have chosen twenty-one Deputies to meet at this City, on the 22d instant, those who may be appointed for that purpose in the other Counties of this Colony. For your further satisfaction on these matters, we beg leave to refer you to the enclosed papers, to require you to communicate the substance of this information to your next neighbours, and to assure you that in our department we will watch incessantly for the publick safety. By order of the Committee:

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,  
HENRY REMSEN, Deputy Chairman.

TO THE LORD MAYOR AND CORPORATION OF LONDON.  
Committee Chamber, New-York, May 5, 1775.

MY LORD AND GENTLEMEN: Distinguished as you are



by your noble exertions in the cause of liberty, and deeply interested in the expiring commerce of the Empire, you necessarily command the most respectful attention. The General Committee of Association for the City and County of *New-York* beg leave, therefore, to address you, and the capital of the *British* Empire, through its Magistrates, on the subject of *American* wrongs. Born to the bright inheritance of *English* freedom, the inhabitants of this extensive Continent can never submit to the ignominious yoke, nor move in the galling fetters of slavery: the disposal of their own property with perfect spontaneity, and in a manner wholly divested of every appearance of constraint, is their indefeasible birthright. This exalted blessing they are resolutely determined to defend with their blood, and transfer it uncontaminated to their posterity.

You will not then wonder at their early jealousy of the design to erect in this land of liberty a despotism scarcely to be paralleled in the pages of antiquity, or the volumes of modern times; a despotism consisting in power assumed by the Representatives of a part of His Majesty's subjects, at their sovereign will and pleasure to strip the rest of their property. And what are the engines of Administration to execute this destructive project? The duty on tea; oppressive restraints on the commerce of the Colonies; the blockade of the Port of *Boston*; the change of internal police in the *Massachusetts* and *Quebeck*; the establishment of Popery in the latter, the extension of its bounds; the ruin of our *Indian* commerce by regulations calculated to aggrandize that arbitrary Government; unconstitutional admiralty jurisdictions throughout the Colonies; the invasion of our right to a trial in the most capital cases by a jury of the vicinage; the horrid contrivance to screen from punishment the bloody executioners of ministerial vengeance; and, not to mention the rest of the black catalogue of our grievances, the hostile operations of an Army, who have already shed the blood of our countrymen. The struggles excited by the detestable Stamp Act have so lately demonstrated to the world that the *Americans* will not be slaves, that we stand astonished at the gross impolicy of the Minister. Recent experience has evinced that the possessors of this extensive Continent would never submit to a tax by pretext of legislative authority in *Britain*; disguise, therefore, became the expedient; in pursuit of the same end, Parliament declared their absolute supremacy over the Colonies, and have already endeavoured to exercise that supremacy in attempting to raise a revenue under the specious pretence of providing for their good Government and defence. Administration, to exhibit a degree of moderation, purely ostensible and delusory; while they withdrew their hands from our most necessary articles of importation, determined, with an eager grasp, to hold the duty on tea as a badge of their taxative power. Zealous on our part for an indissoluble union with the Parent State, studious to promote the glory and happiness of the Empire, and impressed with a just sense of the necessity of a controlling authority, to regulate and harmonize the discordant commercial interests of its various parts, we cheerfully submit to a regulation of commerce by the Legislature of the Parent State, excluding in its nature every idea of taxation.

Whither, therefore, the present machinations of arbitrary power infallibly tend, you may easily judge; if unremittingly pursued, as they were inhumanly devised, they will, by a fatal necessity, terminate in a total dissolution of the Empire. The subjects of this Country will not, we trust, be deceived by any measures conciliatory in appearance, while it is evident that the Minister aims at a solid revenue to be raised by grievous and oppressive Acts of Parliament, and by fleets and armies employed to enforce their execution. They never will, we believe, submit to an auction in the Colonies, for the more effectual augmentation of the revenue, by holding it up as a temptation to them, that the highest bidders shall enjoy the greatest share of governmental favour. This plan, as it would tend to sow the seeds of discord, would be far more dangerous than hostile force, in which we hope the King's Troops will ever be, as they have already been, unsuccessful. Instead of those unusual, extraordinary, and unconstitutional modes of procuring levies from the subject, should His Majesty graciously be pleased upon suitable emergencies, to make

requisitions in ancient form, the Colonies have expressed their willingness to contribute to the support of the Empire; but to contribute of their voluntary gift as *Englishmen*. And when our unexampled grievances are redressed, our Prince will find his *American* subjects testifying on all proper occasions, by as ample aids as their circumstances will permit, the most unshaken fidelity to their Sovereign, and inviolable attachment to the welfare of his realm and Dominions.

Permit us further to assure you, that *America* is grown so irritable by oppression, that the least shock in any part is, by the most powerful and sympathetick affection, instantaneously felt through the whole Continent; that *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland*, and *New-York*, have already stopped their exports to the Fishing Islands, and those Colonies which at this dangerous juncture have refused to unite with their brethren in the common cause, and all supplies to the Navy and Army at *Boston*; and that probably the day is at hand when our Continental Congress will totally shut up our Ports. The minions of power here may now inform Administration, if they can ever speak the language of truth, that this City is as one man in the cause of liberty; that to this end our inhabitants are almost unanimously bound by the enclosed Association; that it is continually advancing to perfection by additional subscriptions; that they are resolutely bent on supporting their Committee, and the intended Provincial and Continental Congresses; that there is not the least doubt of the efficacy of their example in the other Counties; in short, that while the whole Continent are ardently wishing for peace on such terms as can be acceded to by *Englishmen*, they are indefatigable in preparing for the last appeal. That such are the language and conduct of our fellow-citizens, will be further manifested by a representation of the Lieutenant-Governour and Council, of the first instant, to General *Gage*, at *Boston*, and to His Majesty's Ministers, by the packet.

Assure yourselves, my lord and gentlemen, that we speak the real sentiments of the confederated Colonies on the Continent, from *Nova-Scotia* to *Georgia*, when we declare, that all the horrors of civil war will never compel *America* to submit to taxation by authority of Parliament.

A sincere regard to the publick weal and the cause of humanity, a hearty desire to spare the further effusion of human blood, our loyalty to our Prince, and the love we bear to all our fellow-subjects in His Majesty's Realm and Dominions, and a full conviction of the warmest attachment in the capital of the Empire to the cause of justice and liberty, have induced us to address you on this momentous subject, confident that the same cogent motives will induce the most vigorous exertions of the City of *London* to restore union, mutual confidence, and peace to the whole Empire.

We have the honour to be, my lord and gentlemen, your most obedient, and affectionate fellow-subjects,

|                              |                       |                      |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Isaac Low, <i>Chairman</i> , | John Lasher,          | John Broome,         |
| John Jay,                    | Theophilus Anthony,   | John B. Moore,       |
| Francis Lewis,               | Thomas Smith,         | Nicholas Bogart,     |
| John Alsop,                  | Richard Yates,        | John Anthony,        |
| Philip Livingston,           | Oliver Templeton,     | Victor Bicker,       |
| James Duane,                 | Jacobus Van Zandt,    | William Goforth,     |
| Gerardus Duyckinck,          | Jeremiah Platt,       | Hercules Mulligan,   |
| William Seaton,              | Peter T. Curtenius,   | Nicholas Roosevelt,  |
| Wm. W. Ludlow,               | Thomas Randall,       | Cornelius P. Low,    |
| Cornelius Clopper,           | Lancaster Burling,    | Francis Bassett,     |
| Abm. Brinkerhoff,            | Benjamin Kissam,      | James Beekman,       |
| Henry Remsen,                | Jacobus Lefferts,     | Thomas Ivers,        |
| Robert Ray,                  | Anthony Van Dam,      | William Denning,     |
| Evert Banker,                | Abraham Walton,       | John Berrian,        |
| Joseph Totten,               | Hamilton Young,       | Benjamin Helme,      |
| Abraham P. Lott,             | Augustus Van Horne,   | William W. Gilbert,  |
| David Beekman,               | Abraham Duryoe,       | Daniel Dunscomb,     |
| Isaac Roosevelt,             | Samuel Verplanck,     | John Lamb,           |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,           | Rudolphus Ritzma,     | Richard Sharp,       |
| William Walton,              | John Morton,          | John Morin Scott,    |
| Daniel Phenix,               | Joseph Hallett,       | Jacob Van Voorhies,  |
| Frederick Jay,               | Robert Benson,        | Comfort Sands,       |
| Samuel Broome,               | Abraham Brasher,      | Edward Fleming,      |
| John De Lancey,              | Leonard Lispenard,    | Peter Goelet,        |
| Alex. McDougall,             | Thomas Marston,       | Gerret Ketletus,     |
| John Reade,                  | Nicholas Hoffman,     | Thomas Buchanan,     |
| Joseph Ball,                 | P. V. B. Livingston,  | J. Desbrosses, Jun., |
| George Janeway,              | Lewis Pintard,        | Petrus Byvanck,      |
| John White,                  | John Imlay,           | Lawrence Embree,     |
| Gabriel W. Ludlow,           | Eleazer Miller, Jun., |                      |

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of *London*.



MEMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK ASSEMBLY TO GENERAL GAGE.  
New-York, May 5, 1775.

SIR: In the recess of the General Assembly we, who are members of it, cannot avoid addressing your Excellency on a subject of the utmost importance.

We have long seen, with the greatest anxiety, the progress of the unhappy contest between *Great Britain* and the Colonies; and as we have ardently wished for a cordial reconciliation, so we have, to the utmost of our power, endeavoured to pursue the means of attaining so desirable an end. While we were looking up to this object, encouraged to hope for the attainment of it by the assurances we had that a spirit of reconciliation was prevailing in the Mother Country, we were extremely alarmed at the late melancholy transactions in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, ending in actual bloodshed. The immediate effect occasioned by the intelligence of such important events, was a general agitation in the minds of the people here, which has since subsided into a fixed, confirmed resolution, to withhold all supplies and succours from the Troops under your Excellency's command, while they are at the same time associating and arming to put themselves in a state of defence.

Alarmed as we are by the ruinous consequences which must inevitably follow the prosecution of hostile measures, and anxiously affected with the calamities of an unnatural civil war, we are induced most earnestly to entreat your Excellency, in behalf of the Colonies, (which, however tenacious of their rights and liberties, and jealous of every infringement of them, can be exceeded in loyalty and affection for our most gracious Sovereign by none of his subjects,) that your Excellency will, as far as may be consistent with your duty, immediately order a cessation of further hostilities, until His Majesty can be apprised of the situation of the *American Colonies*. From such a request we entertain the most favourable expectations, when we reflect on the humanity and clemency which distinguish your Excellency's character, and which must render a conflict between *Britons* and *Americans* a subject of the most disagreeable nature to you. While we consider the state of mind which prevails among the people here, we cannot but mention their apprehensions at the report of the destination of some Troops for this place; should this really be the case, we must express our wish that it might also be consistent with your Excellency's duty, that no military force might land or be stationed in this Province.

It behooves us to acquaint your Excellency that two of the members of His Majesty's Council of this Province have this day sailed in the Packet for *England*; and we flatter ourselves that the indulgent Father of his People will be moved by the distressed situation of his *American* subjects, and that he will permit a negotiation to take place, which may prevent the further effusion of blood, and open a door for a lasting accommodation of present disputes. We are your Excellency's most obedient humble servants,

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| JOHN CRUGER,      | JAMES JAUNCEY,      |
| FRED. PHILIPS,    | ZEB. WILLIAMS,      |
| JACOB WALTON,     | BENJ. SEAMAN,       |
| DANIEL KISSAM,    | JOHN RAPALJE,       |
| P. VAN CORTLANDT, | SAMUEL GALE,        |
| SIMON BOERUM,     | CHRISTOPH. BILLOPP, |
| JOHN COE,         | SAMUEL WELLS.       |

To his Excellency General *Gage*.

## SELECTMEN OF WORCESTER TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

[Worcester, May 5, 1775.]

The Selectmen of *Worcester* humbly pray that you would let them know what establishment you have made for a Post, or Post-riders from *Worcester* to the Army, &c., that they may conduct themselves agreeable to your orders and the publick weal.

We also beg your direction what regard we shall pay to Governour *Gage's* precept for calling a General Assembly, to be held in *Boston*, on the 31st day of *May* next. We think a similarity of conduct of every Town in the Province best, and know not how to obtain it but by your

direction. We are, gentlemen, your humble servants, the Selectmen of *Worcester*. Per order:

JOSHUA BIGELOW.

To the Honourable *President* of the Provincial Congress, and the Honourable *Members* thereof, now assembled at *Watertown*.

## PETITION TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

An address to the Provincial Congress, or any gentleman that is a Storekeeper for the Congress, from us, the out-skirts of the settlements on *Sheepscot River* and *Deer's River*, (without the limits of any Town,) under the command of *Charles Glidden*, Senior.

GENTLEMEN: It is our humble petition to you to supply us, your petitioners, with powder and ball, or lead, in order to be ready furnished to attend any alarm or call to assist in vindication of our *American* cause; and entreating your compliance with and fulfilment of this our address, will encourage our hearts, and raise up our spirits to a higher pitch of courage, and shall ever subscribe ourselves your obliged friends, and ready to serve.

|                    |                       |                      |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Charles Glidden,   | John Byenton,         | Timothy Ferrin,      |
| Nathan Deasell,    | John Decker,          | Joseph Rodgers,      |
| Meires Carr,       | Timothy Ferrin,       | William Carr,        |
| John Phillbrick,   | Jeremiah Brand,       | Samuel Parum,        |
| Benjamin Stickney, | Obadiah North,        | Ebenezer Phillbrick, |
| Ephraim Brown,     | Benjamin Kenney,      | Jeremiah Brand,      |
| Mason Wottles,     | Charles Glidden, Jr., | Moses Cope,          |
| James Reios,       | Michael Glidden,      | Jonathan Heath,      |
| William Byenton,   | Ebenezer Grover,      | David Hutchins,      |
| Ezekiel Stearns,   | Thomas Grover,        | Oliver Peselen,      |
| James Murphy,      | Stephen Grover,       | Ezekiel Peselen,     |
| Jacob Rowell,      | Benjamin Dow,         | Isaac Heath,         |
| Thos. Cunningham,  | Samuel Ball,          | Andrew Glidden.      |
| James Shepard,     | John Ball,            |                      |

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE HON. ENOCH FREEMAN, ESQ., TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Falmouth, May 5, 1775.

We have lately heard that the *Penobscot Indians* are highly exasperated at Captain *Goldthwaite*, for suffering the Tender to dismantle the Fort there, and carry off the powder; that the truck trade is stopped, as we are informed; and that there was a number of men round about there going to take *Goldthwaite*, for delivering up the Fort, into their custody, but what they intend to do with him I don't hear. Perhaps it would be prudent for the Congress to send down there and secure the *Indians* in our interest, by keeping the truck trade open, supplying them powder, or any other method in their wisdom, upon mature consideration, they may think best. A hint on this head is enough.

The Selectmen of this Town have this moment agreed with one Mr. *Jabez Matthews* and one *David Dinsmore*, of *New-Gloucester*, to go over to *Quebeck*, to make discovery whether any *Canadians* are in motion to come on our back settlements, or to excite the *Indians* to do it; and I have wrote to Mr. *Remington Holby*, of *Vassalborough*, to procure one or two to go with them as hunters. And they are charged to be cautious not to let the *Canadians* have reason so much as to suspect their business; and they will depend on your endeavouring to get the Congress to order them adequate satisfaction out of the publick fund. If they discover any evil designs, we shall be glad to know it, that we may prepare accordingly for our defence. If they find there is no design upon us, it will be a great satisfaction to this eastern country.

I could write a good deal in favour of sending such an embassy, but as my time is almost wholly taken up on publick matters, I have little time to spare.

## PETITION OF TIMOTHY LANGDON TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Georgetown, May 5, 1775.

To the Honourable the *President* of the Provincial Congress, the *Petition* of TIMOTHY LANGDON humbly sheweth:

That upon the second day of *May* instant, a Committee of Safety for ten Towns in the County of *Lincoln*, met at *Pownalsborough*, and, amongst other matters, took under consideration the expediency of removing the King's masts,



being now in the dock in *Georgetown*; when it was unanimously voted that it was inexpedient to remove them.

That on the fourth day of *May* instant, a meeting of the Committees of Inspection for a number of Towns in the County of *Lincoln*, was held in *Georgetown*, and after duly considering of all matters respecting the King's masts, were of opinion that all persons be forbid to work upon said masts, or aid in any manner in fitting them for the King's use.

That *Edward Parry*, Esquire, who had procured those masts more than a year since, had promised the Committee that no person should ship those masts for him, but there they should remain in the dock in *Georgetown*. The Committees of Inspection were then of opinion, that it was inexpedient to remove the masts from the Dock.

That while the Committees of Inspection were met, Colonel *Samuel Thompson*, of *Brunswick*, in the County of *Cumberland*, appeared with twenty armed men, and when he had heard of the result of the Committees, he seized upon the body of *Edward Parry*, Esquire, and kept him in custody till he gave bonds in two thousand Pounds to tarry in this Town till the pleasure of Congress shall be known respecting him, and also obliged the said *Edward* to pay for the victuals and drink of him the said *Thompson* and his men, amounting to the sum of forty-two Shillings, lawful money.

That the said *Edward Parry* has ever behaved himself as a peaceable member of society, and he declared to the Committees, that had he known there was any order of Congress respecting the masts, he would not have concerned himself with them. Wherefore, your petitioner, at the request of, and as Clerk to the Committee of Inspection, humbly prays the honourable Congress that they would take the matters of fact above stated under consideration, and that orders be sent to Messrs. *Dummer Sewall* and *Jordan Parker*, the bondmen for said *Parry*, that he the said *Parry* may be released from his confinement, and they the said *Dummer* and *Jordan* released from their bonds; and your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

TIM. LANGDON.

#### JAMES GOWEN AND OTHERS TO GENERAL WARD.

Kittery, May 5, 1775.

SIR: Captain *Johnson Moulton*, the bearer hereof, who has been a number of years in the service of this Province the last war, and performed to general satisfaction of all parties, and it appearing by the disposition of our men, who are acquainted with him in the service, that he will be the most likely to raise a regiment of good effective men, therefore do recommend him to your Honour (if you think proper) for a Colonel's commission.

And are your Honour's assured friends and humble servants,

JAMES GOWEN,  
BENJ. CHADBURN,  
NATHAN LORD, JUN.

N. B. There is a considerable number of good men enlisted already, with a view of said *Moulton's* being their Colonel.

The Hon. *Artemas Ward*, Esquire.

#### THOMAS CHASE TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Roxbury Camp, May 5, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: General *Thomas* desires you would send a Committee to examine the trunks of *Thomas Hutchinson*, as they have sent for them, and the General has directions from you not to permit them to go to *Boston* till your Committee had examined them. I am, in behalf of his Excellency the General, your most obedient servant,

THOS. CHASE, Major Brig.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety.

#### COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL THOMAS.

Boston, May 6, 1775.

SIR: This Committee are of opinion, that it is the order of the Provincial Congress that the effects of all persons whatsoever should be permitted to go into *Boston* without search or detention, and therefore the trunks of Governour *Hutchinson* are not to be detained or injured.

We are, &c.

#### PROCLAMATION BY LORD DUNMORE.

By His Excellency the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governour General of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

#### A PROCLAMATION.

VIRGINIA, to wit:

Whereas I have been informed, from undoubted authority, that a certain *Patrick Henry*, of the County of *Hanover*, and a number of deluded followers, have taken up arms, chosen their Officers, and, styling themselves an Independent Company, have marched out of their County, encamped, and put themselves in a posture of war, and have written and despatched letters to divers parts of the Country, exciting the people to join in these outrageous and rebellious practices, to the great terrour of all His Majesty's faithful subjects, and in open defiance of law and Government; and have committed other acts of violence, particularly in extorting from His Majesty's Receiver General the sum of Three Hundred and Thirty Pounds, under pretence of replacing the Powder I thought proper to order from the Magazine; whence it undeniably appears that there is no longer the least security for the life or property of any man: Wherefore, I have thought proper, with the advice of His Majesty's Council, and in His Majesty's name, to issue this my Proclamation, strictly charging all persons, upon their allegiance, not to aid, abet, or give countenance to the said *Patrick Henry*, or any other persons concerned in such unwarrantable combinations, but on the contrary to oppose them and their designs by every means; which designs must, otherwise, inevitably involve the whole Country in the most direful calamity, as they will call for the vengeance of offended majesty and the insulted laws to be exerted here, to vindicate the constitutional authority of Government.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Colony, at *Williamsburgh*, this 6th day of *May*, 1775, and in the fifteenth year of His Majesty's reign.

DUNMORE.

God save the King.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA, DATED MAY 6, 1775.

Yesterday the County Committee met from nineteen Townships, on the short notice they had. About three thousand men have already associated. The arms returned amount to about fifteen hundred. The Committee have voted five hundred effective men, besides commissioned officers, to be immediately drafted, taken into pay, armed and disciplined, to march on the first emergency; to be paid and supported as long as necessary, by a tax on all estates, real and personal, in the County; the returns to be taken by the Township Committees, and the tax laid by the Commissioners and Assessors; the pay of the officers and men nearly as usual in times past. This morning we meet again at eight o'clock: among other subjects of inquiry this day, the mode of drafting, or taking into pay, arming, and victualing immediately the men, and the choice of field and other officers, will, among other important matters, be the subject of deliberation. The strength or spirit of this County perhaps may appear small, if judged of by the number of men proposed; but when it is considered that we are ready to raise fifteen hundred or two thousand, should we have support from the Province; and that independent, and in uncertain expectation of such support, we have voluntarily drawn upon this County a debt of about Twenty-Seven Thousand Pounds per annum, I hope we shall not appear contemptible. We make great improvement in military discipline; it is yet uncertain who may go.

New-York, May 6, 1775.

Many printed copies of a letter to the regular soldiers of *Great Britain*, now on service in *America*, were, on the 4th instant, distributed among the soldiers in the barracks in this City. The purport of this letter was to prove that soldiers of *Great Britain* could not legally be sent to *America*, without the consent of the Legislature of the Colony where they were sent; that in the Colonies soldiers were not subject to the military laws of *England*, nor could be



punished or held by them; but that any officer who should presume to inflict any pains or penalties on, or to detain a soldier in *America*, on authority of a law of *England* not adopted by the Legislature in *America*, would himself be liable to severe punishments, and might be prosecuted by any soldier he should so punish or detain.

The next day, after the roll was called, (which was an hour before the usual time,) the men were ordered to march and form a circle; after which, Captain . . . made the following elegant oration:

"Soldiers, I make no doubt but you saw and have read the printed handbills which were thrown over our gates the last evening; those that have not, I particularly desire they will; they will see the licentiousness of the people, and the intention of that paper. I say it is with a design of endeavouring to draw you from your duty, degrading the Regiment; and what is worse, persuading you to destroy your souls and bodies. Look on your lappels, and I think I am certain it will put you in remembrance never to be guilty of either. You may depend that these disputes will be soon settled, in such a manner, and upon such terms, that all the deserters must be given up, and you may be certain that they will be hanged like so many dogs. These very rebels who decoy you, will be the first to deceive for their own purposes. I forgot to mention to you a circumstance which Captain . . . wrote to me in this letter, (showing it;) and for your satisfaction I will read the paragraph, to show you what you are to expect, if you are taken by any of those rebels and barbarians: 'Three companies of Light-Infantry were posted at a bridge, but after a vigorous defence were dislodged by so great a number of inhabitants or rebels, (I cannot say which,) coming upon them; they left behind them one killed and three wounded. Three scoundrels were so barbarous, that nothing but savages could have equalled it; two of these wounded men were scalped; besides this, one of them had his ears cut off, and eyes picked out. Such unheard-of barbarity could never be performed before by any civilized Nation.'"

So, my brother soldiers of the Eighteenth Regiment, congratulate me on my happy escape; I could not bear such confinement; I was never used to it before, though I have been a soldier near twenty years. I am now in good pay, where you may be soon, if you will follow my example; make haste, and come all to me, and you shall be taken good care of.

A DESERTER.

New-York, Tuesday, May 9, 1775.

Saturday evening last, the 6th instant, arrived here from the eastward, on their way to the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, the Honourable *John Hancock*, *Thomas Cushing*, *Samuel Adams*, *John Adams*, and *Robert Treat Paine*, Esquires, Delegates for the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*; and the Honourable *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Roger Sherman*, and *Silas Deane*, Esquires, Delegates for the Colony of *Connecticut*. They were met a few miles out of Town by a great number of the principal gentlemen of the place, in carriages and on horseback, and escorted into the City by near a thousand men under arms. The roads were lined with greater numbers of people than were ever known on any occasion before. Their arrival was announced by the ringing of bells, and other demonstrations of joy. They had double centries placed at the doors of their lodgings.

On Monday morning, the above gentlemen, with *Philip Livingston*, *James Duane*, *John Alsop*, and *Francis Lewis*, Esquires, Delegates for this City; Colonel *William Floyd*, for *Suffolk*, and *Simon Boerum*, Esq., for *King's County*, in this Province, set out for *Philadelphia*, attended by a great train to the *North River* ferry, where two or three sloops and a number of other vessels were provided; and it is said about five hundred gentlemen crossed the ferry with them, among whom were two hundred of the Militia under arms.

The Delegates were received at the ferry by a number of gentlemen from *Newark*, in *New-Jersey*, Captain *Allen*, at the head of his troop of Horse, and Captain *Rutgers*, at the head of his company of Grenadiers, (which were allowed by the gentlemen present to be as complete companies as they had seen.) The whole proceeded to *Newark*, where an entertainment was provided, and a

number of patriotick toasts were drank. After dinner they were escorted to *Elizabethtown*, and on their way were met by the gentlemen and militia of that place.

Jamaica Plain, Roxbury, May 6, 1775.

The following is a copy of a paper found among those of the late *Josiah Quincy*, Esquire, delivered to him, signed by an intimate acquaintance of mine, an eminent merchant in *London*.

WILLIAM GORDON.

"The *Quebeck* Bill recalls to my mind some considerations, which lead me to think that it is fraught with infinitely more mischief to *Britain* and *America*, than most of its opposers are aware of; and that the planners and promoters of this Bill will, in the end, be found to have advanced the interest of *France* to the destruction of that of *Britain*, in a much more eminent degree than has hitherto been done by the very worst Minister that ever lived.

"The late *Thomas Hollis*, Esquire, well known in *America* on account of his many liberal benefactions, gave the following account of himself to a gentleman from whom I had it, viz: That the said *Thomas Hollis* had always the worst opinion of Lord *Bute's* principles; and believing him to have no attachment either to *George* the Third, or his family, did, when the last peace, (that is, of *Paris*,) was negotiating, at his own expense, send abroad a gentleman, whose sole business it was to watch every motion, and discover every secret relating to this peace. The gentleman thus sent by Mr. *Hollis* so far succeeded as to discover that there were four secret articles; and Mr. *Hollis* enumerated the four following to my friend, and he to me, very soon after the peace, and long before any one of them was ever talked of being carried into execution:

"1. That a Popish Bishop was to be fixed by the King in *Canada*.

"2. That the Popish Religion was to be established there.

"3. That the bounds of *Canada* were to be fixed.

"4. That *Canada*, when thus fixed, was to be given back to the *French*.

"Now, Sir, when this account was first related to me, as it was long before any thing of this kind was agitated, I own I did not believe it possible that *Bute* could be bold enough to make such an infamous treaty, and therefore was at a loss how to controvert an authority so good, or to dispute an evidence which was so circumstantial; but I own, as I have now lived to see three of those secret articles executed, I firmly believe that the fourth will be as strictly observed; and that *Canada* restored to the *French*, thus fixed and improved, will enable *France* to distress our Colonies, and in the end give a mortal stab to the trade, the liberty, and glory of *Britain*. When I see either King, Ministers, or People, plan, execute, or acquiesce in measures so evidently ruinous to their own true interest, I am at a loss to discover what are the leading principles on which such infatuation is founded. No sagacity can suggest any adequate motives.

"N. B. When Lord *Bute* was at *Venice*, he attended mass constantly in a publick manner."

COPY OF AN INTERCEPTED LETTER, DATED MONTREAL, MAY 6, 1775.

DEAR FINLAY: Since your departure we have had many disagreeable things happened here, and news of worse from *Boston*, which have given me great uneasiness on your account, for fear you should fall into their hands, and be detained till matters are settled between them and the Mother Country, which desired event, I am afraid, is now far distant, since hostilities are commenced; but I hope you heard the shocking news in time to take such measures as to avoid any danger.

In the night of the 30th of April,\* some malicious and mischievous person or persons disfigured the King's bust on the parade, by blacking its face, hanging a chaplet of potatoes about its neck, with a wooden cross and a label, on which was wrote, "*Le Pape de Canada ou le sot Anglois*," (the Pope of *Canada* and the fool of *England*,) with an intent, no doubt, of creating jealousies, animosities,

\* The *Quebeck* Act took effect in *Canada* on the first of May, 1775.



and disturbances amongst the people, particularly between the *English* and *Canadians*; and I am sorry to tell you they have met with great success.

Early the next morning, when it was discovered, the commanding officer sent two Sergeants to clean the bust and take off the chaplet, label, and cross. The new Judges and conservators of the peace were then consulted, but they took no immediate measures on the occasion, except sending an account of the transaction to the Governour. The military first took up the matter, and blamed the *English* inhabitants, throwing many reflections on them, particularly the Committee, who, some amongst them, were absolutely charged with the fact, which has occasioned great uneasiness, and I am afraid will be attended with bad consequences. The *Canadians* also point them out as the authors; so that you may judge a subscription of One Hundred Pounds Sterling was entered into by the Merchants, &c., at the Coffee-House, as a reward to any person who should discover the offender. The military gentlemen also subscribed Fifty Guineas for the same purpose; and advertisements were made out and published by both parties the next day, by beat of drum. In the course of the publication two frays happened. Mr. *Belestre* was standing at a corner of a street with a number of others, when the advertisement was read, and he observed that whoever did it deserved to be hanged; upon which young *Franks* observed they did not hang people for such trifles, and that it was not worth the trouble, which incensed *Belestre*, who abused *Franks*, and took him by the nose, which *Franks* returned with a blow that knocked him down, and cut his forehead; somebody then interposed and parted them; both parties applied to the Judges, but neither could get satisfaction. *Belestre* being the aggressor, could not get *Franks* bound over, and he could not *Belestre*, but for what reason I cannot tell. The next day *Franks* was apprehended and committed to prison, not for the assault, but on *Belestre's* affidavit, for the expressions he made use of about the crime, which I mentioned before, and bail was refused; however, the day following the Judges sent him notice, that upon consideration they had agreed to take bail, but he refused to give any, and is now in prison waiting for an answer from the Governour, to a state of the case he sent to his father.

The other affair happened between *Ezekiel Solomons*, the *Jew*, and *Pallieur*; the latter accused the *Jews* of having disfigured the bust, upon which some words ensued, and *Solomons* knocked him down; he has been apprehended, and has given bail.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Portsmouth, May 6, 1775.

SIR: We have received intelligence that Mr. *Edward Parry*, of this Town, together with Mr. *John Barnard* and Mr. *Wilson*, are now confined in irons in the County of *Lincoln*; for what cause we have not been able to explore. But from the past conduct of Mr. *Parry* in this Town, we are convinced he never merited such treatment; and that it cannot but meet with the disapprobation of your Congress, which have constantly manifested, in all their proceedings, a contrary temper.

We trust that Congress will exert their influence to procure the immediate release of that gentleman; and wish that humanity and candour may distinguish all our noble struggles in the cause of liberty. I am your most obedient servant. By order of the Committee:

WM. WHIPPLE.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AT CAMBRIDGE.

In General Assembly, Providence, May 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of yesterday we received by express this morning. We are now pursuing every method in our power to have our men in readiness to take the field as early as possible; and you may rest assured that we will exert ourselves upon this important occasion; and that the Army we have voted to be raised, which is to consist of fifteen hundred men, will be supplied with all necessary stores and ammunition; and one company is to be furnished with six three-pounders. As soon as they are in readiness we will give you the earliest information thereof, that they may be disposed of in such a manner as will best serve our common interest. I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant. By order of the House:

METCALF BOWLER, *Speaker*.

ASSEMBLY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Members of the House of Representatives of the Province of *New-Hampshire*, at a Session began and held at *Portsmouth*, in said Province, on *Thursday*, the 4th day of *May*, 1775:

SOMERSWORTH.—Honourable *John Wentworth*, Esquire.

PORTSMOUTH.—Mr. *Jacob Sheafe*, Captain *Woodbury Langdon*, Captain *John Langdon*.

DOVER.—*Otis Baker*, Esquire, Captain *Caleb Hodgdon*, Captain *Josiah Moulton*.

HAMPTON.—Mr. *Josiah Moulton*, Junior.

HAMPTON FALLS.—*Meshech Weare*, Esquire, *John Gidding*, Esquire.

EXETER.—Colonel *Nathaniel Folsom*, Esquire.

NEW-CASTLE.—Mr. *Henry Prescott*.

RYE.—Mr. *Samuel Jenness*.

KINGSTOWN.—Colonel *Josiah Bartlett*, Esquire.

NEWINGTON.—Major *Richard Downing*, Esquire.

STRATHAM.—Deacon *Stephen Boardman*.

LONDONDERRY.—Colonel *Stephen Holland*, Esquire.

GREENLAND.—Colonel *Clement March*, Esquire.

DURHAM.—*Ebenezer Thompson*, Esquire.

NEWMARKET.—Colonel *Joseph Smith*, Esquire.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Captain *Eliphalet Merrill*.

CHESTER.—*John Webster*, Esquire.

PLASTOW and HAMSTEAD.—Mr. *John Calef*.

SALEM and PELHAM.—Mr. *Jacob Butler*, Junior.

HOLLIS.—Colonel *John Hale*, Esquire.

MERRIMACK.—Captain *John Chamberlin*.

NOTTINGHAM-WEST and LITCHFIELD.—*Wiseman Clagget*, Esquire.

KENSINGTON.—Major *Nathaniel Healy*, Esquire.

ROCHESTER.—Deacon *James Knowles*.

BARRINGTON.—Mr. *Joshua Foss*.

AMHERST and BEDFORD.—Mr. *Paul Dudley Sargent*.

WINCHESTER.—Colonel *Samuel Ashley*, Esquire.

KEENE.—Captain *Isaac Wyman*.

CHARLESTOWN.—Mr. *Elijah Grout*.

PLYMOUTH.—Colonel *John Fenton*, Esquire.

OXFORD.—*Israel Morey*, Esquire.

LYME.—. . . . *Greene*, Esquire.

Thursday, May 4, 1775, A. M.

A number of the elected Members met, and were adjourned by the Deputy Secretary to *Friday*, the 5th instant, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon.

Friday, May 5, 1775, A. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Honourable *Theodore Atkinson*, *Jonathan Warner*, *Peter Gillman*, and *John Sherburne*, Esquires, came into the Assembly Chamber and administered the usual oaths to the Members present, and then returned.

The Honourable *Theodore Atkinson*, *Jonathan Warner*, *Peter Gillman*, and *John Sherburne*, Esquires, came from the Council Board with a message from his Excellency, that it was his Excellency's pleasure that the House proceed to the choice of a Speaker, and present him to the Chair for approbation.

The House then proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, and unanimously chose the Honourable *John Wentworth*, Esquire.

Voted, That *Jacob Sheafe*, Esquire, Captain *Woodbury Langdon*, *Otis Baker*, and *Wiseman Clagget*, Esquires, be a Committee to inform his Excellency that the House had made choice of the Honourable *John Wentworth*, Esquire, for their Speaker.



The Honourable *Theodore Atkinson*, *Jonathan Warner*, *Peter Gillman*, and *John Sherburne*, Esquires, came from the Board and informed the House that his Excellency approved of the Honourable *John Wentworth*, Esquire, as Speaker of the House, and that his Excellency required the attendance of the Speaker and all the Members in the Council Chamber.

The Speaker and House immediately waited on his Excellency in the Council Chamber, where his Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses, after which they returned to their Chamber.

*Voted*, That *Meshech Weare*, Esquire, be Clerk to this House.

The Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esquire, the Clerk elect of this House, being absent,

*Voted*, That *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esquire, be Clerk *pro tempore* to this House, who was sworn to the faithful discharge of his trust by *Wiseman Clagget*, Esquire.

*Voted*, That the following Rules be observed by this House, viz:

*First*. That whoever shall, by any misbehaviour in speech or action, justly offend any of the Members of this House, shall be admonished, fined, or imprisoned, as the House shall see meet.

*Second*. That no Member speak twice to any matter in debate before the House, until every Member have liberty to speak once to the same matter, if he should see cause.

*Third*. That every Member direct his speech to the Speaker, and not to one another; and when any Member has a mind to speak to any matter in debate, he shall stand up and ask leave of the Speaker, and not speak without his consent, and shall be silent at his command; but if the Member speaking thinks such command unreasonable or unreasonable, the Speaker shall take a vote of the House thereon, to which such Member shall submit on pain of forfeiting such sum as the House shall determine.

*Fourth*. That whenever it happens there are as many votes on the one side of the question as on the other without the Speaker, that then the Speaker make the casting vote.

*Fifth*. That if the Speaker be absent, the House may choose a Speaker *pro tempore*, that the business of the House may be carried on without delay.

*Sixth*. That if any Member, after being qualified and entered, shall absent himself at any time without leave from the House, he shall be liable to be fined at the discretion of the House.

*Seventh*. That if any Member of this House shall by the major part of the House be thought unfit and not qualified for said place, it shall be in the power of the House to dismiss such person, giving to the Town or Precinct notice to choose another person to fill up such vacancy.

*Eighth*. That every Bill to be passed in this House be read three times, and that there be two adjournments of this House before any Bill be passed into an Act.

*Ninth*. That the Speaker and eighteen Members be a House to do business.

*Tenth*. That no vote that is passed in this House shall be reconsidered by a less number than was present when it passed.

*Voted*, That Mr. Speaker, Doctor *Gidding*, Mr. *Clagget*, Mr. *Langdon*, and Colonel *Bartlett*, be a Committee to make a draft for an Answer to his Excellency's Speech, and lay the same before the House as soon as may be.

Saturday, May 6, 1775, A. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Speaker communicated to the House a Letter directed to him and signed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives of *New-York*, requesting the same to be laid before this House, together with a List of Grievances and Resolutions of that House in consequence thereof, and also a Petition to the King, a Memorial to the House of Lords, and a Representation and Remonstrance to the Commons of *Great Britain*; all which were read, and are on file.

Mr. *Baker*, Mr. *Langdon*, and Doctor *Gidding* being appointed a Committee yesterday to wait on his Excellency

and desire he would be pleased to favour the House with a copy of his Speech to both Houses, was omitted to be entered then, as also that Mr. *Warner* brought a copy of his Excellency's Speech and delivered it to the Speaker, as follows:

*Gentlemen of the Council, and of the Assembly:*

As I cannot doubt but you will exercise your usual diligence in despatching the ordinary business of the Legislature, it becomes unnecessary for me particularly to urge your attention to that subject. You may be assured that I will give all the facility in my power to every measure that may be found conducive to the publick good; for as it heretofore hath been, so shall it constantly remain the invariable object of my warmest wishes and ambition, to promote the happiness and prosperity of His Majesty's Government and subjects of *New-Hampshire*.

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:*

It is incumbent on me at this time to recommend to you to grant the necessary supply for the support of His Majesty's Government for the current year; but I doubt not you will cheerfully make proper provision for that purpose. The Treasurer's accounts for the year past, I shall order to be prepared for your inspection.

We cannot but view with inexpressible concern the alarming pitch to which the unfortunate dispute between *Great Britain* and her Colonies is daily advancing. A matter of such a momentous nature, which fills every humane mind with the deepest anxiety and affliction, and wherein this Province is unhappily involved, cannot, I presume, fail of engaging your most serious attention. It is therefore my duty, at such a critical and important moment, to call, in the most earnest and most solemn manner, upon you, gentlemen, who are the only constitutional and legal Representatives of the people, to direct your counsels to such measures as may tend to secure their peace and safety.

On the wisdom, candour, and moderation of your deliberations it will greatly depend to avert the calamities that must naturally attend a continuance of this unhappy contest; and I trust your conduct will be guided by such principles as shall effectually lead to a restoration of the publick tranquillity and a perfect re-establishment of an affectionate reconciliation with our Mother Country, upon a solid, equitable, and permanent foundation.

*Gentlemen of the Council, and of the Assembly:*

Connected as we are with our Parent State by the strongest ties of kindred, religion, duty, and interest, it is highly incumbent upon us, in this time of general disquietude, to manifest our loyalty and attachment to the best of Sovereigns, and our firm and unshaken regard for the *British* Empire; and I have full confidence that those great considerations will influence every part of your conduct. You may entirely rely on my most ardent zeal to co-operate with you in whatever constitutional means may be found necessary to accomplish that most essential object to the well-being of this Province—a restoration of our harmony with *Great Britain*.

J. WENTWORTH.

New-Hampshire Council Chamber, }  
May 5, 1775.

The Honourable *Theodore Atkinson* came from the Board and delivered the following written Message from his Excellency:

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:*

The Speaker, Mr. *Gidding*, and Mr. *Langdon*, three of your Members, came to me last evening as a Committee from the House, desiring a short adjournment. I am always disposed to show every indulgent regard in my power to the wishes of the House; but when I consider what uneasiness prevails at present among your constituents, of which I dare say you are not insensible, and that they must look to your counsels for relief from their fears and jealousies, I think it my duty to recommend to you to consider the matter, and if you should be of opinion that you will better consult the interests of your constituents by continuing to sit, I doubt not but your own private concerns will readily give way to the publick welfare.

J. WENTWORTH.

New-Hampshire Council Chamber, }  
May 6, 1775.



Upon reading and considering the foregoing Message, *Voted*, That the following be presented to his Excellency as an Answer thereto:

**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:** In answer to your Message of this day in consequence of a verbal Message to your Excellency from the House last evening by the Speaker, Mr. *Gidding*, and Mr. *Langdon*, requesting a short adjournment, we would observe, that we think it not only very necessary for our private interest, at this particular season of the year, but especially for the interest of the Province in general at this peculiarly alarming crisis, that this House should be adjourned to some time early in *June* next, in order that we may in the mean time have an opportunity of fully consulting our constituents respecting the several weighty matters necessary to be considered by the House the present session.

The Deputy Secretary came from the Board and said it was his Excellency's pleasure to adjourn the General

Assembly to *Monday*, the 12th day of *June* next, and accordingly, in His Majesty's name, adjourned the General Assembly to that time, and delivered to the Speaker the following written Message from his Excellency:

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:*

In consequence of your representation to me, in answer to my Message of this day's date, that it will be expedient for you, as well for the accommodation of your own private affairs as to give an opportunity of consulting your constituents on the matters necessary to be considered by you in the present session, that the House should be adjourned for a short time, I have thought fit to adjourn the General Assembly, and it is accordingly adjourned to *Monday*, the 12th day of *June* next, at ten o'clock in the morning, then to meet at the State-House in *Portsmouth* for the despatch of the publick business.

J. WENTWORTH.

New-Hampshire Council Chamber, }  
May 6, 1775. }

THOMAS JEFFERSON TO DOCTOR WILLIAM SMALL.

May 7, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Within this week we have received the unhappy news of an action of considerable magnitude between the King's Troops and our brethren of *Boston*, in which, it is said, five hundred of the former, with the Earl of *Percy*, are slain. That such an action has occurred is undoubted, though perhaps the circumstances may not have reached us with truth. This accident has cut off our last hope of reconciliation, and a phrenzy of revenge seems to have seized all ranks of people. It is a lamentable circumstance that the only mediatory power acknowledged by both parties, instead of leading to a reconciliation has divided people, should pursue the incendiary purpose of still blowing up the flames, as we find him constantly doing in every speech and publick declaration. This may perhaps be intended to intimidate into acquiescence; but the effect has been most unfortunately otherwise. A little knowledge of human nature, and attention to its ordinary workings, might have foreseen that the spirits of the people here were in a state in which they were more likely to be provoked than frightened by haughty deportment. And to fill up the measure of irritation, a proscription of individuals has been substituted in the room of just trial. Can it be believed that a grateful people will suffer those to be consigned to execution, whose sole crime has been the developing and asserting their rights? Had the Parliament possessed the power of reflection, they would have avoided a measure as impotent as it was inflammatory. When I saw Lord *Chatham's* Bill, I entertained high hope that a reconciliation could have been brought about. The difference between his terms and those offered by our Congress might have been accommodated, if entered on by both parties with a disposition to accommodate. But the dignity of Parliament, it seems, can brook no opposition to its power. Strange that a set of men who have made sale of their virtue to the Minister, should yet talk of retaining dignity! But I am getting into politicks, though I sat down only to ask your acceptance of the wine, and express my constant wishes for your happiness.

TH. JEFFERSON.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, CORRESPONDENCE, AND PROTECTION, IN ALBANY.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, }  
May 7, 1775. }

SIR: We have received your important and very agreeable letter of the first of *May* current, by the worthy Captain *Ten Eyck*. While we lament the effusion of the blood of our friends and fellow-countrymen, shed by more than brutal cruelty, and urged on by the corrupt administration of a *British* Minister of State, yet, amidst all our sorrows on that melancholy occurrence, we rejoice greatly at the bright prospect lying before us, in the unanimity of the Colonies on this extended Continent. We have the highest satisfaction in the assurances from you, that the City of *Albany* continues firm and resolute to co-operate with their brethren in *New-York*, and in the several Colonies on the Continent, in their opposition to the Ministerial plan now

prosecuting against us, and that the City have unanimously appointed a Committee of Safety, Protection, and Correspondence, which we esteem as a necessary measure to bind us all in one indissoluble bond of union in the common cause of the *American* Colonies. Be assured, sir, that we shall ever esteem it as our honour and interest to correspond with you at all times on matters tending to promote the common good. Suffer us to say that we have the greatest pleasure in your information that the extensive County of *Albany* will follow your laudable example, and the important aid the general cause will receive from our sister Colony *New-York*. The enclosed, you may depend upon it, is a well authenticated account of the late engagement in this Colony, and supported by a great number of affidavits. Permit us to say that you may rely upon the resolution of the people of this Colony to exert themselves in every possible way, and have long since devoted their lives and fortunes in the glorious cause of liberty and their Country, and that they never can give up their stand to oppose despotism and tyranny, while they have such full assurances from their sister Colonies, that they are equally engaged in the defence of the natural and constitutional rights of *Americans*. The blood of our neighbours, untimely poured out, cries aloud to the survivors to defend the *American* rights for which they bled and died. We have their wounds fresh in mind; and while the Colonies are united, we have the fullest assurances (under *God*) of the salvation of our Country.

We are, &c.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JAMES SCAMMON.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, }  
May 7, 1775. }

We are informed by the Field Officers of the First and Second Regiments, together with a number of gentlemen of note in the County of *York*, that it would be most agreeable that Captain *Johnson Moulton* should have the command of the Regiment to be raised in that County. The Committee, taking these matters into their most serious consideration, and the necessity of an Army being formed as soon as possible, as the salvation of the Country must depend (under *God*) on our union and exertions; and notwithstanding, sir, you have received orders for enlisting a Regiment, with a prospect of having the command of the same, yet we flatter ourselves that you will, when you view the importance of completing the Army, the delay that may arise in your quarter should you not consent to come under Mr. *Johnson Moulton*, you will cheerfully comply and rest satisfied, as we conceive it is the interest of your Country you aim at, and not any emolument or honours that may respect you as an individual. We doubt not, from these considerations, you will be actuated by that zeal and ardour in the cause of your Country that shall promote its truest interest, and that we shall soon be informed that the Regiment intended to be raised in the County of *York* is completed to the satisfaction of officers and men.

We are, &c.

To Colonel James Scammon.



## PROCLAMATION BY ADMIRAL GRAVES.

By SAMUEL GRAVES, Esq., Vice-Admiral of the Blue, and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels employed, and to be employed, in the River St. LAWRENCE, &c.

Whereas I have received information that a vessel is arrived at *Marblehead* with a very considerable quantity of money on board from a *Spanish* wreck, which must by all means be prevented from falling into the hands of the Rebels: You are therefore hereby required and directed to sail in His Majesty's Schooner, under your command, to *Marblehead*, without a moment's delay of time, and bring the vessel into *Boston* Harbour with the money, or remove the money into the *Diana* without delay, and let the vessel follow you hither.

Given under my hand on board His Majesty's Ship *Preston*, at *Boston*, the 7th of *May*, 1775.

SAMUEL GRAVES.

To Lieut. *Graves*, Commander of His Majesty's Schooner *Diana*.

By command of the Admiral: G. SEFFERINA.

## COMMON COUNCIL OF WILLIAMSBURGH, VIRGINIA.

At a Court of Common Council for the City of *Williamsburgh*, held the eighth day of *May*, 1775:

Whereas it hath been represented to this Hall, that on the fourth instant, in the night time, some person or persons unknown, had broke into the publick Magazine, and taken from thence sundry Fire-Arms belonging to His Majesty:

We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the said City, being desirous to maintain peace, order, and good government, do hereby declare our abhorrence of such unlawful proceeding, and do require the inhabitants to use their utmost endeavours to prevent the like outrage in future, and exhort all persons who may be in possession of any of the said Arms, to return the same immediately, to be replaced in the Magazine.

And it having been recommended to this meeting, by the Governour and Council, to appoint a guard to protect the said Magazine, they are of opinion that they have no authority to lay any tax for that purpose, but that if some trusty person should be appointed by his Excellency the Governour to be keeper thereof, and care taken to strengthen it with proper bars, there probably would be a stop put to violences of that nature; and they do humbly recommend to his Excellency Mr. *Gabriel Maupin*, who lives near the Magazine, as a person worthy of that trust.

MATTHEW DAVENPORT, Town Clerk.

## SUSSEX COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of *Sussex*, at the Court-House, *Monday*, 8th of *May*, 1775:

Present: *David Mason*, *Augustine Claiborne*, *Michael Blow*, *Henry Gee*, *John Cargill*, *William Nicholson*, *William Blunt*, *Robert Jones*, *John Peters*, *John Mason, Jr.*, *James Jones*, *George Rieves*, *Richard Parker*, and *George Booth*, gentlemen.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Committee be given to the Rev. Mr. *Campbell*, for his excellent prayer of this morning, prior to the Committee entering upon business.

This Committee taking into consideration a paragraph which appears in the publick newspapers, said to be extracted from a letter written to Lord *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, by Lord *Dunmore*, Governour of *Virginia*, on the twenty-fourth day of *December* last:

Resolved unanimously, as their opinion, That the said extracts (being fraught with calumny, falsehoods, and illiberal reflections against the good people of this Colony in general, who are now, and for some time past have been, contending for their dearest rights in the most decent and orderly manner) can be no other than a wicked and detestable forgery, or the work of some dirty ministerial sycophant, intending to widen our present unhappy differences with the Mother Country, and impress the people of this Colony with unfavourable sentiments of a ruler who, they are unwilling to believe, would so meanly forfeit that gene-

ral esteem he had, by a mild and pacifick administration, so generally acquired. With this opinion of the said extracts, this Committee cannot forbear, however reluctantly, to observe, that a late manœuvre in seizing the powder in the publick magazine of this Colony, and privately conveying it away in the night, together with his evasive answer to the addresses of the Corporation of the City of *Williamsburgh*, presented to his Lordship upon that occasion, but too plainly point out to this Colony that the first Magistrate has swerved from the line of conduct which has hitherto marked his administration, and impressed this Committee with an idea that his private wishes are unfavourable to the welfare of this Colony, and the liberties of mankind. No other motives, we presume, could have actuated him to the commission of an act conceived in secrecy and brought forth in darkness; the design of which was evidently to render (at least as far as in his power so to do) this Colony defenceless, and lay it open to the attacks of a savage invasion, or a domestick foe, which a late Proclamation threatens us with, and which his Excellency could not be ignorant of.

Resolved unanimously, That it is absolutely necessary that this County be put into the best posture of defence possible; and to that end, that a meeting of the people be convened at the following places, on the following respective days, that is to say: those that muster under Captains *Moore*, *Judkins*, and *Mason*, at *Brown's* Quarter, on *Tuesday* the sixteenth instant; those that muster under Captains *Jones*, *Smith*, *Hill*, and *Marrable*, at the *High-Hills* on the seventeenth; and those that muster under Captains *Nicholson*, *Parker*, *Reeves*, *Irby*, and *Harrison*, at the plantation lately belonging to Captain *James Jones*, on the nineteenth; and that they, and every of them, do bring with them to the said several meetings what arms they and every of them have. And this Committee do earnestly request the Field-Officers and Captains to attend the said several meetings, in order to animate the people in the present time of danger to compliance of the Resolutions of the late Convention.

Resolved unanimously, That we, the members of this Committee now present, and every of us, will, in order to raise a sufficient sum of money to purchase Ammunition, in this time of imminent danger, pay, by way of contribution for that purpose, the sum of ten Pounds, current money, on or before the first day of *June* next. And as we doubt not but the absent members of this Committee will do the same for themselves, therefore Messrs. *John Cargill*, *Jas. Jones*, and *George Reeves*, are requested immediately to purchase ammunition for the use of this County, to the amount of two hundred Pounds, current money, the present members engaging to indemnify them in such purchase; and that they make report of their proceedings to the next Committee.

Resolved unanimously, That a Committee of Intelligence and Correspondence be appointed, of the following persons, that is to say: Messrs. *Blow*, *Peete*, *Nicholson*, *Cargill*, *Gee*, *David Mason*, *Claiborne*, and *Blunt*; that upon they, or any one of them, receiving an alarm, he or they do forthwith fall upon the best method in his or their power, to give notice of such alarm throughout this County, and also to some one or more of the Committees of *Southampton* and *Brunswick*, fixing upon the most convenient place for the people to rendezvous at, being guided therein by the quarter threatened most with an invasion, insurrection, or other attack.

Ordered, That the proceedings of this day be transmitted by the Chairman, as soon as may be convenient, to the press, in order to their publication.

MICHAEL BLOW, Chairman.

## MECKLENBURGH COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a general meeting of the Freeholders of *Mecklenburgh* County, convened on *Monday*, the 8th day of *May*, 1775, at the Court-House of said County, in order to elect a Committee, pursuant to a Resolution of the *American* Continental Congress: The better to secure a due observation of the Association entered into by said Congress, the Freeholders then proceeded to the choice of a Committee, and elected into the office the following gentlemen, viz: *John Speed*, *Bennett Goode*, *William Lucas*, *Henry Speed*, *Francis Ruffin*, *Lewis Burwell*, *Robert Burton*,



*Edmund Taylor, Cleverious Coleman, Thacker Burwell, Sir Peyton Skipwith, Benjamin Whitehead, George Baskerville, Reuben Vaughan, Joseph Speed, John Tabb, John Jones, William Leigh, Robert Ballard, Samuel Hopkins, Junior, and John Ballard, Junior.*

*John Speed, Esq.*, was unanimously chosen Chairman, and *Mr. Isaac Holmes*, Clerk of this Committee.

*Resolved unanimously*, That every member of this Committee exert his endeavours to enlist Volunteer Soldiers, agreeable to the Resolution of the late Provincial Convention.

It being too late in the day to proceed on business, the Committee adjourned to *Saturday*, the 13th of *May*, 1775.

Saturday, May 13, 1775.

The Committee met according to adjournment, and came to the following Resolves :

The Resolves of the Convention held at the Town of *Richmond*, the 20th of *March*, 1775, were read, and unanimously approved of.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Committee be presented to *Robert Burton* and *Bennett Goode*, Esquires, our worthy Delegates, for their faithful discharge of the important trust reposed in them.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the removal of the Gunpowder out of the Magazine, by express orders of Lord *Dunmore*, is truly alarming; and that by his answer for such conduct to the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of *Williamsburgh*, on that important occasion, he has highly forfeited all title to the confidence of the good people of *Virginia*.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk send copies of these Resolves to each of the Printers, and they are desired to publish them in their next Gazettes.

ISAAC HOLMES, Clerk.

#### PRINCE GEORGE (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for *Prince George's County*, held at *Blandford*, on *Monday*, the 8th of *May*, 1775, the following Resolutions were entered into, viz :

*Resolved, nem. con.*, That every Merchant, Trader, or other person, importing any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise into this County, before he lands the same ought to produce to the Chairman of this Committee a certificate from the Chairman of the Committee of the County, Town, or City, from whence the said Goods, Wares, or Merchandise were re-shipped, that the same were imported into this Colony before the first day of *February*.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Intelligence, consisting of *Benjamin Harrison*, of *Brandon*, *David Meade*, *Richard K. Meade*, *Hubbard Wyatt*, *Peter Eppes*, *James Cocke*, *Nathaniel Harrison*, *John Baird*, *Robert Boyd*, *William McWhann*, *Richard Bland*, Junior, *Theodorick Bland*, Junior, *Nathaniel Raines*, *Thomas Bonner*, and *John Raines*, Senior, be appointed to convey any alarm, as speedily as possible, to the adjacent Counties; and that the same mode be recommended to every County in this Colony.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above Resolutions be transmitted to the Printer, and he is desired to publish them as soon as possible.

By order of the Committee :

HARTWELL RAINES, Secretary.

At a Committee held for the County of *Prince George*, the 8th of *May*, 1775. Present: twenty Members.

The following Letter from the Committee of the Borough of *Norfolk* to the Chairman of this Committee, was read, viz :

Norfolk, May 1, 1775.

A charge was laid before the Committee for *Norfolk Borough*, that *Mr. James Marsden* had purchased of *Captain Fazakerly* one puncheon of Linens, imported since the 1st of *February*, and that he had furnished him with twenty barrels of Pork. Upon inquiry, it appeared that *Mr. Marsden* knew nothing about the Linens, but furnished *Captain Fazakerly* with the Pork by order of *Captain Charles Alexander*.

As there may have been some foundation for the charge,

I am directed by this Committee to request you will please to inquire of *Captain Alexander* for what consideration he gave the order.

WILLIAM DAVIES, Secretary.

*Captain Charles Alexander* being requested, did attend the Committee, and made the following confession, viz :

That he had himself purchased the Linens inadvertently, without considering the consequence of violating the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, to which he acknowledged he ought to have paid agreeable regard; and he is extremely sorry for having thus incurred the displeasure of the good people of *America*, and thereby forfeited that good opinion which he would be always happy to have, and those favours which he might otherwise have hoped to have enjoyed from them. He also confesses that *Mr. Marsden* was acquainted with the circumstances of the said goods being imported contrary to the terms of the Association, subsequent to the said *Alexander's* purchasing of them; and that the said *Marsden* paid the Pork to the order above-mentioned, knowing that it was for part of the price of the said Linens, and afterwards sent the said Linens, and a parcel of Shoes, with an invoice thereof, accompanied with a Letter, to *Humphrey Richards*, factor for the said *Alexander*, in *Blandford*, signed *Marsden, Maxwell*, and Company. And the said *Alexander* further says, that the order he gave on *Mr. Marsden* to pay the Pork to *Captain Fazakerly*, was a conditional order, to pay *Captain Fazakerly*, in case the Convention then sitting should consent to the sale of the said goods, as there was then a Petition before the Convention for that purpose. *Captain Alexander* has further voluntarily agreed to re-ship the Linens, and a parcel of Shoes (under the same circumstances) remaining unsold, at his own cost, or store them under the inspection of the Committee; and that the profits arising upon such part thereof as are already sold, amounting to . . . shall be lodged in the hands of this Committee, for the use of, and forthwith to be sent to the poor of *Boston*.

CHAS. ALEXANDER.

The above examination was transmitted to the Committee of the Borough of *Norfolk*; in consequence of which the following Letter from the Committee of the said Borough, directed to the Chairman of the Committee of *Prince George*, the 3d day of *July*, 1775, when twenty-four of the members were present, *Richard Bland*, Esquire, in the Chair, was read :

Norfolk, May 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As *Captain Alexander* is within your jurisdiction, the Committee of this Borough are clearly of opinion that they have no authority to take up the matter with respect to his conduct, but only as far as relates to *Mr. Marsden*. It is therefore the request of this Committee, that you will please to resume the consideration of *Captain Alexander's* conduct, and take such steps therein as you may think proper. With respect to the part *Mr. Marsden* took in the matter, *Captain Alexander* denies that he was in any wise concerned, and that the facts contained in your letter have been mistaken by you. His testimony here directly contradicts his testimony before you. We therefore send you his examination, taken in writing, and repeatedly read and assented to by him. We shall be glad to be favoured with your answer.

WILLIAM DAVIES, Secretary.

#### Captain ALEXANDER'S Examination at NORFOLK BOROUGH.

Question. Did *Mr. Marsden* know of your purchasing the Linens, &c., from *Captain Fazakerly*?

Answer. I cannot tell positively, but think he did not know of my purchase.

Q. Did *Mr. Marsden* pay the Pork to your order, knowing that it was for part of the purchase of the said Linens?

A. He did not.

Q. Did *Mr. Marsden* send the Linens, and a parcel of Shoes, with an invoice thereof, accompanied with a letter, to *Mr. Humphrey Richards*, signed *Marsden, Maxwell*, and Company, or not?

A. He did not, but there was a letter directed to me, written by *Mr. Marsden's* young man, (*John Elm*) in their name.

Q. Was the condition respecting the consent of the



Convention for Captain *Fazakerly* to sell his Goods, expressed in the order, or not?

A. It was not, but was only agreed to verbally between the Captain and myself.

The said *Charles Alexander* having had proper notice, and failing to attend; and the Committee taking into their consideration the aforesaid Letter and Examination,

*Resolved unanimously*, That the said *Charles Alexander* has infringed the Tenth Article of the Continental Congress, and that he be held up to the publick as inimical to *America*, agreeable to the Eleventh Article of the Continental Association; and it is recommended to the good people of *America* to break off all dealings with the said *Charles Alexander*, his Factors, or Agents.

By order of the Committee:

HARTWELL RAINES, *Secretary*.

#### LOUISA COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for the County of *Louisa*, at the Court-House, the 8th of *May*, 1775:

The Committee being fully sensible of the benefits that may redound to the community in general from the spirited behaviour of Captain *Patrick Henry*, and the other Officers and Gentlemen Soldiers of the Volunteer Company of *Hanover*, in procuring satisfaction for the Gunpowder taken out of the Colony's Magazine, beg leave to return them our most hearty thanks.

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| THOMAS WALKER,   | GARRITT MINOR,       |
| WILLIAM WHITE,   | THOS. JOHNSON, JUN., |
| JAMES DABNEY,    | THOS. JOHNSON, SEN., |
| CHARLES BARRETT, | NATHL. ANDERSON,     |
| SAMUEL RAGLAND,  | JOHN CRUTCHFIELD,    |
| WILLIAM PETTUS,  | ROBERT ANDERSON,     |
| WADDY THOMPSON,  | CHARLES SMITH.       |

Signed by the whole Committee, except one, who was absent.

HENRY GARRITT, *Clerk*.

#### MEETING OF FREEHOLDERS OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

At a meeting of the Freeholders of the County of *Westchester*, at the *White-Plains*, on *Monday*, the 8th day of *May*, 1775, pursuant to a general notice for that purpose, they did appoint a Committee of ninety persons for the said County, and determined that any twenty of them should be empowered to act for the said County, and then appointed the following persons (nominated by the said Committee) to represent the said County in Provincial Convention, viz:

*Gouverneur Morris*, *Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Stephen Ward*, *Joseph Drake*, *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *James Holmes*, *David Dayton*, *John Thomas*, Jun., *Robert Graham*, *William Paulding*.

The Committee then signed an Association, similar to that which was signed in the City of *New-York*, and appointed Sub-Committees to superintend the signing of the same throughout the County.

By order of the Committee:

JAMES VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman*.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

The Committee met, by adjournment, *Monday*, *May* 8, 1775. Present:

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| P. V. B. Livingston, | William Denning,    | John M. Scott,      |
| Isaac Sears,         | Isaac Roosevelt,    | Cornelius Clopper,  |
| Alex. McDougall,     | Jacob Van Voorhies, | John Reade,         |
| Thomas Randall,      | Robert Benson,      | Jacobus Van Zandt,  |
| Leonard Lisenard,    | William W. Gilbert, | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| William Walton,      | John Berrian,       | John Marston,       |
| Joseph Hallett,      | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | Jacobus Lefferts,   |
| Nicholas Hoffman,    | Nicholas Roosevelt, | Richard Sharpe,     |
| Henry Remsen,        | Edward Fleming,     | Hamilton Young,     |
| Peter T. Curtenius,  | Lawrence Embree,    | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| Abraham Brasher,     | William W. Ludlow,  | Benjamin Helme,     |
| Joseph Bull,         | John B. Moore,      | Evert Banker,       |
| Joseph Totten,       | Lancaster Burling,  | Robert Ray,         |
| Thomas Ivers,        | John Lasher,        | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Hercules Mulligan,   | George Janeway,     | John Lamb,          |
| John Anthony,        | David Clarkson,     | Anthony Van Dam,    |
| John White,          | Thomas Smith,       | John Imlay,         |
| Theophilus Anthony,  | James Desbrosses,   | Oliver Templeton,   |
| William Goforth,     | Eleazer Miller,     | Lewis Pintard,      |
| Cornelius P. Low,    | Thomas Buchanan,    | Petrus Byvanck.     |

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Mr. *McDougall*, seconded by Mr. *Scott*, moved in the words following, viz:

Whereas it is necessary for the maintenance of the liberties of this and the neighbouring Colonies, that every person in this City and County who now have Arms or Ammunition, or other articles which will be wanted for our defence, to dispose of, or may import any of those articles for sale, should make the same known to some friend of the Country. And whereas, the disposal of any of those articles to any person other than such who will put them into the hands of men well-affected to the liberties of *America* may tend to enslave this Country, I therefore move that this Committee come into the following Resolutions, viz:

1. *Resolved*, That any person in this City or County who have Arms, Ammunition, or the other articles necessary for our defence, to dispose of, or shall import any of those articles for sale, and shall not, within ten days after the publication of these Resolutions, or in ten days after the importation of such Arms, Ammunition, &c., aforesaid, inform the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of this Committee of the quantity and quality of the same, he shall be held up to the publick as an enemy to this Country.

2. *Resolved*, That any person in this City or County, who shall, during the unhappy contest with our Parent State, dispose of any Arms, Ammunition, or other articles aforesaid, to any person, knowing or having reason to believe such person to be inimical to the liberties of *America*, or shall put those articles in the hands of any such person, or any other person, knowing or having reason to believe that they are to be used against those liberties, he shall be held up as an enemy to this Country.

Which being unanimously agreed to,

*Ordered*, That the same be published in handbills.

Mr. *Smith*, seconded by Mr. *Clarkson*, made a motion in the words following, viz:

I move that the Committee address his Honour the Lieutenant Governour, requesting that he would immediately apply to General *Gage* to give orders, in case any Troops should arrive here from *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, that they encamp on *Staten Island*, and not be permitted to land in this City; and that in case any Troops should arrive here before an answer can be had from General *Gage*, that in that case his Honour would apply to the Commanding Officer of such Troops, requesting that they may be landed and encamped on *Staten Island*.

Which being unanimously agreed to,

*Ordered*, That an Address be accordingly drawn up and ingrafted in the former Address ordered to be presented to his Honour.

A Letter, dated *Newark*, 5th *May*, 1775, from the Committee of Correspondence, received and read.

A Letter, dated *Suffolk County*, 5th *May*, 1775, from *William Smith*, received and read.

Mr. *Scott*, from the Committee of Correspondence, reported the draught of a Letter in answer to one of the 3d instant from *Albany*, which being read and approved of,

*Ordered*, That the same be engrossed and forwarded.

The Committee adjourned till to-morrow, the 9th instant.

The Committee met, by adjournment, *Tuesday*, 9th of *May*, 1775. Present:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *Chairman*, *pro tem*.

|                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Sears,        | William W. Gilbert, | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| Alex. McDougall,    | John Berrian,       | Benjamin Helme,     |
| Thomas Randall,     | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | David Beekman,      |
| Nicholas Hoffman,   | Edward Fleming,     | Evert Banker,       |
| Peter Van Schaack,  | William W. Ludlow,  | Robert Ray,         |
| Abraham P. Lott,    | Rodolphus Ritzma,   | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Abraham Duryee,     | John Lasher,        | John Lamb,          |
| Joseph Bull,        | James Desbrosses,   | Anthony Van Dam,    |
| Joseph Totten,      | Aug. Van Horne,     | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Thomas Ivers,       | Cornelius Clopper,  | John Imlay,         |
| Hercules Mulligan,  | Jacobus Van Zandt,  | Oliver Templeton,   |
| Theophilus Anthony, | Gerardus Duyckinck, | Lewis Pintard,      |
| William Goforth,    | Thomas Marston,     | Thomas Buchanan,    |
| Isaac Roosevelt,    | Jacobus Lefferts,   | Petrus Byvanck,     |
| Comfort Sands,      | Richard Sharpe,     | Francis Bassett,    |

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Correspondence be directed, without delay, to draught and report to this Board a Resolution for regulating the conduct of the Owners, Masters, and Mates, of such Vessels as shall depart from this Port with Provisions.



A Letter, dated *Kingsland District, Tryon County*, 19th April, 1775, from *William Petri*, received and read.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Correspondence be directed to draught and report an Answer to the above Letter.

Mr. *Lamb*, seconded by Mr. *McDougall*, moved in the words following, viz:

As the Firelocks belonging to this City are at present only fitted with ordinary wooden rammers, and consequently cannot be of much use in case of necessity, I move that a Sub-Committee be appointed to wait on the Corporation, to request that they will give directions to have them fitted with Steel Rammers.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sharpe*, Mr. *Curtenius*, and Mr. *Ritzma*, be a Committee for the above purpose.

*Ordered*, That the Letter to the Lord Mayor of *London* be published in *Monday's Paper*.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Chairman return the thanks of this Committee to Mr. *Sharpe*, for delivering a number of Arms gratis to the inhabitants of this City.

Committee adjourned until to-morrow afternoon.

The Committee met by adjournment, *Wednesday, May 10, 1775*. Present:

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| P. V. B. Livingston, | William Denning,    | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| Isaac Sears,         | Jeremiah Platt,     | Peter Goelet,       |
| Alex. McDougall,     | Comfort Sands,      | John Marston,       |
| Thomas Randall,      | Robert Benson,      | Thomas Marston,     |
| Leonard Lisenard,    | William W. Gilbert, | Jacobus Lefferts,   |
| John Broome,         | John Berrian,       | Richard Sharpe,     |
| Joseph Hallett,      | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | Hamilton Young,     |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,   | Nicholas Roosevelt, | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| Nicholas Hoffman,    | Edward Fleming,     | Benjamin Helme,     |
| Henry Remsen,        | Lawrence Embree,    | David Beekman,      |
| Peter T. Curtenius,  | John De Lancey,     | William Seaton,     |
| Abraham Brasher,     | Frederick Jay,      | Evert Banker,       |
| Abraham P. Lott,     | William W. Ludlow,  | Robert Ray,         |
| Joseph Bull,         | John B. Moore,      | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Joseph Totten,       | Rodolphus Ritzma,   | Samuel Broome,      |
| Thomas Ivers,        | Lancaster Burling,  | John Lamb,          |
| Hercules Mulligan,   | John Lasher,        | Anthony Van Dam,    |
| John Anthony,        | George Janeway,     | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Francis Bassett,     | James Beekman,      | John Imlay,         |
| Victor Bicker,       | David Clarkson,     | Oliver Templeton,   |
| John White,          | James Desbrosses,   | Lewis Pintard,      |
| Theophilus Anthony,  | Benjamin Kissam,    | Cornelius P. Low,   |
| William Goforth,     | John M. Scott,      | Petrus Byvanck.     |

*Ordered*, That Mr. *McDougall* and Mr. *Kissam* be directed to draught a Letter to the gentlemen in Delegation for this City and County, requesting the advice and direction of the Continental Congress now sitting at *Philadelphia*, with respect to the conduct to be observed by the inhabitants of this City toward any Troops that may arrive here.

In pursuance of the above Order, Mr. *Kissam* reported and read the draught of a Letter to the above gentlemen at *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That the same be engrossed and forwarded.

Mr. *Scott*, from the Committee of Correspondence, reported the draught of an Address to his Honour the Lieutenant-Governour, which being read and approved of,

*Ordered*, That copies thereof be engrossed, and that Mr. *De Lancey*, Captain *Randall*, and Mr. *John Marston* be a Sub-Committee to wait on his Honour to know when he would be pleased to receive the said Address.

The Committee met by adjournment, on *Thursday*, the 11th of *May*, 1775. Present:

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| P. V. B. Livingston, | Hercules Mulligan,  | George Janeway,     |
| Isaac Sears,         | John Anthony,       | James Beekman,      |
| Alex. McDougall,     | Francis Bassett,    | Gerret Ketletas,    |
| Leonard Lisenard,    | Theophilus Anthony, | Benjamin Kissam,    |
| William Walton,      | William Goforth,    | Cornelius Clopper,  |
| John Broome,         | William Denning,    | John Reade,         |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,   | Isaac Roosevelt,    | Jacobus Van Zandt,  |
| Nicholas Hoffman,    | Robert Benson,      | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| Abraham Walton,      | William W. Gilbert, | Jacobus Lefferts,   |
| Peter Van Schaack,   | John Berrian,       | Richard Sharpe,     |
| Henry Remsen,        | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | Hamilton Young,     |
| Abraham Brasher,     | Edward Fleming,     | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| Abraham P. Lott,     | Frederick Jay,      | Benjamin Helme,     |
| Abraham Duryee,      | William W. Ludlow,  | Evert Banker,       |
| Joseph Totten,       | Daniel Phenix,      | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Robert Ray,          | Anthony Van Dam,    | John Imlay,         |
| Nicholas Bogart,     | Lewis Pintard,      | Cornelius P. Low,   |
| Oliver Templeton,    | John B. Moore,      | Thomas Buchannan.   |
| Thomas Ivers,        |                     |                     |

A Letter, dated *Albany*, 8th *May*, 1775, from the Committee of Correspondence, received and read.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Circular Letter of this Board to the neighbouring Colonies be printed.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John Broome*, Mr. *Benson*, and Mr. *Phenix*, be a Sub-Committee to convey the earliest intelligence to the Committees of the several Counties in this Province of all such matters as they shall judge necessary to communicate, and they are hereby authorized to transmit such intelligence without previously laying it before this Committee for their approbation.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the Physicians and others in this City and County, who are in the practice of Innoculating for the Small Pox, be requested immediately to desist from Innoculating in this City and County, until the sense of this Committee be signified to the contrary; and that this Resolution be published in the several Newspapers in this City.

The Committee adjourned till to-morrow morning.

The Committee met by adjournment, *Friday, May 12, 1775*. Present:

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| P. V. B. Livingston, | Theophilus Anthony, | Jacobus Van Zandt,  |
| Isaac Sears,         | William Goforth,    | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| Alex. McDougall,     | William Denning,    | Peter Goelet,       |
| Thomas Randall,      | Isaac Roosevelt,    | Jacobus Lefferts,   |
| Leonard Lisenard,    | Comfort Sands,      | Richard Sharpe,     |
| William Walton,      | Robert Benson,      | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| John Broome,         | William W. Gilbert, | Benjamin Helme,     |
| Joseph Hallett,      | John Berrian,       | Walter Franklin,    |
| Nicholas Hoffman,    | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | David Beekman,      |
| Abraham Walton,      | Edward Fleming,     | Evert Banker,       |
| Peter Van Schaack,   | John De Lancey,     | Robert Ray,         |
| Henry Remsen,        | Frederick Jay,      | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Peter T. Curtenius,  | William W. Ludlow,  | Daniel Phenix,      |
| Abraham Brasher,     | John B. Moore,      | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Abraham P. Lott,     | John Lasher,        | John Imlay,         |
| Abraham Duryee,      | James Beekman,      | Oliver Templeton,   |
| Joseph Bull,         | Augustus Van Horne, | Lewis Pintard,      |
| Joseph Totten,       | Gerret Ketletas,    | Cornelius P. Low,   |
| Thomas Ivers,        | Benjamin Kissam,    | Thomas Buchannan,   |
| John Anthony,        | John M. Scott,      | Nicholas Roosevelt, |
| Victor Bicker,       | Cornelius Clopper,  | George Janeway.     |
| John White,          | John Reade,         |                     |

Captain *Randall*, from the Committee appointed to wait on his Honour the Lieutenant-Governour, to know when it would be his pleasure to receive the Address of this Committee, reported that his Honour would be ready to receive the Address to-morrow at twelve o'clock, at *Jamaica*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *C. P. Low*, Mr. *Van Dam*, Colonel *Walton*, Captain *Randall*, Mr. *De Lancey*, Mr. *T. Marston*, Mr. *Van Schaack*, Mr. *Sharpe*, Mr. *Duyckinck*, Mr. *Templeton*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Kissam*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Remsen*, Mr. *Duryee*, Mr. *A. Walton*, and Mr. *F. Jay*, be a Committee to present the said Address; and that they be charged to apply to the principal people of the Towns of *Jamaica*, *Hempstead*, and *Oyster Bay*, to represent to them the necessity of their joining with their countrymen in sending Delegates to the Provincial Congress.

A Letter, dated *Philadelphia*, 11th *May*, 1775, from Mr. *Bardley*, received and read; referred to the Committee of Correspondence to answer.

Mr. *McDougall*, seconded by Mr. *Fleming*, moved that the Committee of Correspondence be directed to draught and report, without delay, two Resolutions relative to the conduct proper to be observed by the citizens to those who do not sign the Association, and to direct that no inhabitant of this City and County be treated as an enemy to his Country, but by the determination of the Continental or Provincial Congress, or by this Committee.

Committee adjourned to *Monday*, 15th *May*, 1775.

At a Special Meeting of the Committee, *Sunday*, 14th *May*, 1775. Present:

|                     |                     |                      |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Alex. McDougall,    | William Goforth,    | Samuel Verplanck,    |
| Leonard Lisenard,   | William Denning,    | Richard Yates,       |
| Joseph Hallett,     | Isaac Roosevelt,    | Gerret Ketletas,     |
| Nicholas Hoffman,   | Jacob Van Voorhies, | John Van Cortlandt,  |
| Henry Remsen,       | Jeremiah Platt,     | Jacobus Lefferts,    |
| Abraham Brasher,    | Comfort Sands,      | Abram. Brinkerhoff,  |
| Abraham P. Lott,    | Robert Benson,      | Benjamin Helme,      |
| Abraham Duryee,     | William W. Gilbert, | David Beekman,       |
| Joseph Bull,        | John Berrian,       | Robert Ray,          |
| Joseph Totten,      | Nicholas Roosevelt, | Nicholas Bogart,     |
| Thomas Ivers,       | Edward Fleming,     | William Light,       |
| Hercules Mulligan,  | William W. Ludlow,  | Daniel Phenix,       |
| John Anthony,       | John B. Moore,      | Anthony Van Dam,     |
| Francis Bassett,    | Rodolphus Ritzma,   | Daniel Dunscomb,     |
| Victor Bicker,      | Lancaster Burling,  | John Imlay,          |
| John White,         | John Lasher,        | Cornelius Peter Low, |
| Theophilus Anthony, | James Beekman,      | Petrus Byvanck.      |



*Ordered*, That the Address from this Committee, as presented yesterday to Lieutenant-Governour *Colden*, with his Answer now read, be published.

Whereas, it is strongly suspected that the Man-of-War now in this Harbour is supplied from some part of the *Jersey* and *Staten Island*, with Provisions and other necessaries, with intent to ship the same to *Boston* for the use of the Army and Navy :

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Correspondence write to such of the neighbouring Committees, as also to such persons as they shall think necessary, requesting them to use all possible means for preventing the same.

Adjourned till to-morrow afternoon, at 4 o'clock.

*To the Honourable CADWALLADER COLDEN, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governour and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Colony of NEW-YORK, and the Territories thereon depending, in AMERICA, &c.:*

*The Humble ADDRESS of the General Committee of Association for the City and County of NEW-YORK:*

*May it please your Honour:*

It frequently happens, under every form of Government, that the measures of Administration excite the just jealousies of the people, and that the same measures pursued divest them of all confidence in those in whose hands the ordinary executive powers are lodged. In such a state of things it is natural for the people to cast their eyes upon those of their fellow sufferers on whose abilities and integrity they can rely, and to ask their advice and direction for the preservation of all that is dear and valuable to them.

That such is the frame and temper of our inhabitants, you have had the fullest opportunity to know in the course of that residence with which you have lately honoured us.

This City and County, as well as the rest of the Colony, have exercised the greatest patience in waiting, though in vain, for a redress of the many unconstitutional and oppressive burdens under which this whole Continent has groaned for several years past. To their inexpressible grief they have found that the most dutiful applications for redress have not only been rejected, but have been answered by reiterated violations of their rights.

You cannot, therefore, wonder, Sir, that at this most interesting crisis, when their all is at stake, and when, under the authority of Administration, the sword has been drawn, though unsuccessfully, against their brethren of the *Massachusetts*, for asserting those invaluable rights which are the common inheritance of *Britons* and *Americans*, that the City and County of *New-York* have proceeded to associate in the common cause, and to the election of a Committee and Delegates in Congress, to represent them in their claims, and to direct their counsels and conduct for the preservation of those inestimable privileges to which the great Creator, the order of their being as rational creatures, and our happy Constitution, have given them an undoubted title.

To this important end they have unanimously invested us, their Committee, with a trust, which we are determined, with the best of our abilities and most faithfully to discharge; and in the execution of which we think it our indispensable duty to declare:

That our constituents, while they cheerfully yield that the Legislature of the Parent State may make provisions in their nature merely calculated to regulate the Trade of the Empire; yet they claim as their indefeasible birthright a total exemption from all taxes, internal and external, by authority of Parliament, and from every aid to the Crown, but on royal requisitions to their Representatives in Assembly, constitutionally convened, and freely deliberating and determining upon every such requisition.

That they never can, nor will submit to the establishment of unconstitutional admiralty jurisdictions; but will ever regard them as engines that may be employed for the most tyrannical purposes.

That they are determined never to part with their precious, and lately invaded right, of trial by peers of their vicinage, in any case whatsoever.

That they look with the utmost dread on every expedient by authority of Parliament, or otherwise, that may tend to secure from condign punishment offenders against

the most essential rights of human nature, by removing them for their trial to places distant from the scene of perpetration, at the discretion of a Governour or Commander-in-Chief.

That they esteem, and therefore will by every lawful means oppose the late oppressive restraints upon Commerce, as subversive in their nature of the liberties of *America*.

That they regard the hostile blockade of the Port of *Boston*, the attack upon the venerable Charter rights of the *Massachusetts*, the extension of the bounds of *Quebeck*, the establishment of Popery and an arbitrary form of Government in that Province, and the exclusive privileges virtually given to it in the *Indian* trade, as so many steps of an ill-judging Administration, that most eminently endanger the liberty and prosperity of the whole Empire.

That they view with inexpressible horror, the bloody standard erected in the Eastern parts of the confederated Colonies, and feel, as in their own bodies, every stroke which their brave compatriots have received from the hand of their fellow-subjects cruelly and unnaturally armed against them by mistaken ministerial severity.

In short, that they are determined to equip themselves for maintaining, with successful bravery and resolution, the unquestionable rights of *Englishmen*.

Permit us at the same time, Sir, to assure you in their behalf, that though they are arming with great diligence and industry, it is not with design to oppose, but to strengthen Government in the due exercise of constitutional authority. It is to be in a state of readiness to repel every lawless attack by our superiours, and to prevent the anarchy and confusion to which ministerial misconduct has evidently paved the way. It is to defend the liberties of the subject, and to enable your Honour, and those in office under you, efficaciously to administer the just Government of this Colony.

Your Honour cannot but see the sudden transition of the inhabitants of this Capital from a state of tumult, occasioned by hostilities committed against their brethren, to tranquillity and good order, as the consequence of our appointment. It is our ardent wish, Sir, that the same tranquillity and good order may be permanent. We look forward, therefore, with deep concern at the expected arrival of Troops from *Great Britain*; an event that will probably be attended with innumerable mischiefs. Their presence will doubtless revive the resentment of our inhabitants at the repeatedly avowed designs of subjugating the Colonies by military force. Mutual jealousies may break out into reciprocal violence. Thousands will, in that case, be poured in upon us from our other Counties and the neighbouring Colonies, who, we are well assured, have resolved to prevent this City from being reduced to the present situation of *Boston*. Thus, instead of being a secure garrison-town and place of arms, as is vainly expected by some, the streets of *New-York* may be deluged with blood. Such a destructive evil, we are well assured, your Honour will do every thing in your power to avert. Permit us then, Sir, to beseech you to apply to *Great Britain* for orders that such Troops as may arrive from *Great Britain* or *Ireland* do not land or encamp in this City and County; and in case of their arrival before your Honour shall receive the General's answer, to solicit their commanding officer to the same purpose.

Give us leave, Sir, to conclude by assuring you, that we are determined to improve that confidence with which the people have honoured us, in strengthening the hands of the civil Magistrate, in every lawful measure calculated to promote the peace and just rule of this Metropolis, and consistent with that jealous attention which, above all things, we are bound to pay to the violated rights of *America*.

We are, Sir, with the greatest respect, your Honour's most obedient and humble servants.

*Ordered unanimously by the Committee:*

HENRY REMSEN, *D. Chairman.*

New-York, May 11, 1775.

*His Honour's Answer.*

GENTLEMEN: I have the best authority to assure you, that our most gracious Sovereign and both Houses of Parliament have declared their readiness to afford every just



and reasonable indulgence to the Colonies, whenever they should make a proper application on the ground of any real grievances they may have to complain of. This declaration has been followed by a Resolution of the House of Commons, which it was expected would have manifested the justice and moderation of Parliament, and a disposition to comply with every wish of the subjects in *America*. They offer to forbear every kind of taxation or assessment on *America*, except such as are necessary for the regulation of Commerce, and only require that the Colonies should make provision by such ways and means as are best suited to their respective circumstances, for contributing a proportion to the common defence of the Empire, and for the support of their own civil Government and the administration of justice. His Majesty's Ministers did not doubt this temper in Parliament would meet with such a return on the part of the Colonies as would lead to a happy issue of the present disputes, and to a re-establishment of publick tranquillity on grounds of equity, justice, and moderation. Is it not, then, to be lamented as the most unfortunate event, that the patience of the people was exhausted at the moment of this prospect of a peaceable and happy accomplishment of all their wishes? Will not those in whom they now confide yet endeavour to obtain it? Must this Country, till now happy and flourishing beyond parallel, be involved in the dreadful calamities ever attendant on civil war, while there remains one possible means untried, by which so great, so cruel an evil might be averted? You tell me, gentlemen, that the people have lost all confidence in the ordinary officers of Government, and that they have cast their eyes upon you for advice and direction. I cannot divest myself of the most affectionate concern for the welfare, the peace, and prosperity of the people over whom I have so long presided as the immediate representative of their august Sovereign; with whom I have lived the term of a long life, and among whom I leave all that is dear and valuable to me.\* I am impelled by my duty, and a most zealous attachment to the interest and safety of this people, to exhort you not to irritate the present enraged state of their minds, nor suffer them to plunge into labyrinths from whence they can neither advance nor retreat, but through blood and desolation.

His Majesty's Ministers have, in the strongest terms, expressed the satisfaction with which the King received the assurances of the loyalty and affection of his faithful subjects in this Government, and of their ardent desire for a permanent reconciliation with the Mother Country. I cannot, then, conceive upon what grounds a suspicion is entertained that the City of *New-York* is to be reduced to the present state of *Boston*. I have not had the least intimation that any Regular Troops were destined for this Province. It is proper that General *Gage* should know your sentiments on this subject, and I shall embrace the first opportunity of communicating your request to him. At the same time I think there is reason to suspect that this report has been invented to facilitate the introduction of an armed force from *Connecticut*, which, I am told, is meditated. Will not the apprehension of such a design rouse you, gentlemen, and every virtuous citizen, to avert, by every means in your power, a measure so humiliating, so dangerous to the honour, safety, and freedom of this Colony?

I have beheld with inexpressible anxiety the state of tumult and disorder which raged in the Metropolis of this Province; and I am sorry that a recent instance, since your appointment, revives the threatening prospect of insecurity to which the inhabitants are reduced. I exhort you to carry into effect the assurances you give me, that you are determined to improve that confidence with which the people have honoured you, in strengthening the hands of the civil Magistrates. Let this be done immediately, and with impartial firmness on every occasion; that the houses, persons, and property of your fellow-citizens may not be attacked and insulted with impunity, and every degree of domestick security and happiness sapped to the foundation.

CADWALLADER COLDEN.

May 13, 1775.

\* To know what confidence this Colony ought to put in the assurances given to our Committee by a certain person who fills a high post in this Government, it will be sufficient to read the extracts of the letters he wrote to the Ministry, and which have been exhibited before the Parliament.

To the Honourable JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esq., Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in the Colony of CONNECTICUT:

May it please your Honour:

We, your Honour's dutiful Petitioners, inhabitants of that part of the society of *Ridgebury* which is within the Township of *Ridgefield*, beg leave humbly to represent, that in the present important struggle for the preservation of the rights and liberties of this Country, a large number of the inhabitants of this Parish have appeared firmly attached to the common cause, and adopted the measures concerted by the General Congress and recommended by our worthy Representatives in the General Assembly; whilst the Town, as a body, have rejected and protested against said measures. That as we presume this was a reason why the appointment of a Captain of a Company in the Forces now raising for the defence of this Colony fell upon a member of this rather than of the first society in the Town, but that the man appointed (Lieutenant *Abraham Gray*) hath declined taking a commission in the present service, yet that as he was not one of those who had openly and publicly manifested a concurrence with us, and with the Country in general, in pursuing the measures recommended by the General Congress, we conceive his refusal cannot be reasonably construed as any evidence of backwardness among us to engage in the present service.

We therefore humbly pray that the commission may not be transferred to any person out of this part of the Town, especially as we conceive there are men among us as well qualified to hold it as may be found elsewhere; and we beg leave particularly to mention *Ichabod Doolittle* as a man, in our apprehension, very suitable for the office, and humbly pray your Honour to appoint him to take the commission of a Captain, which the said Lieutenant *Gray* hath declined; and your Honour's Petitioners shall ever pray.

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| DANIEL COLBY,       | TIMOTHY BENEDICT,  |
| DAVID ROCKWELL,     | NATHAN STEVENS,    |
| ISAAC KEELER,       | JONAH FOSTER,      |
| SAMUEL BENNET,      | NATHANIEL STEVENS, |
| SAMUEL KEELER, JR., | ABRAHAM GRAY,      |
| ZACHARIAH STEARNS,  | NATHAN FOSTER,     |
| SAMUEL NORTHRUP,    | WILLIAM FORESTER,  |
| BARTHOLOMEW WEED,   | AZOR HURLBERT,     |
| MATTHEW NORTHRUP,   | JEREMIAH BIRCHARD, |
| THOMAS FROST, JR.,  | ABIJAH ROCKWELL.   |
| ISAIAH BIRCHARD,    |                    |

Ridgebury, in Ridgefield, May 8, 1775.

#### COMMITTEE OF MALDEN AND CHELSEA.

Malden, May 8, 1775.

The Joint Committee of *Malden* and *Chelsea* met.

*Voted*, That Captain *John Dexter*, *Thomas Hills*, and *Jonathan Williams*, be a Committee to wait on General *Ward*, and inform him that Doctor *Samuel Danforth*, of *Boston*, passes backwards and forwards to that place; and from his well known conduct and behaviour, we have reason to suspect his attachment to our most righteous cause; likewise his screwing Hay, and moving it down to *Winnesimmet Ferry*, in order to be removed to *Boston*; and that the Committee has taken care that said Hay shall be removed to some more secure place.

JOHN DEXTER, Chairman.

Hartford, Connecticut, May 8, 1775.

We have the pleasure to acquaint the publick that a Constitutional Post-Office is now rising on the ruins of the Parliamentary one, which is just expiring in convulsions. Mr. *William Goddard*, encouraged by the friends of liberty at *New-York*, hath engaged a faithful rider to proceed from Mr. *John Holt's* office on *Thursday* next, with the Eastern mails for *Philadelphia*, and Colonies southward. The first-mentioned gentleman is arrived here, and will proceed this day for the Provincial Congress at *Watertown*, and the camp near *Boston*, in order to complete the important business of his journey, having had the satisfaction of seeing Constitutional Posts and Postmasters established in every considerable Town which he hath visited. The patriotic conduct of the General Assembly of this Colony hath greatly contributed to the success of Mr. *Goddard's* enter-



prise, and it is not doubted but the institution will be patronised and properly regulated by the Continental Congress. Several of the old Postmasters have resigned their appointments and engaged in the new plan, and others may follow their example. Messrs. *Peets* and *Hurd*, and *Adams* and *Hyde*, are also employed as riders in the service of their Country.

#### GODDARD'S POST-OFFICES.

*Persons appointed to receive and forward Letters, &c.*

|                     |                                               |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| CAMBRIDGE, MASS.    | Mr. James Winthrop.                           |
| WORCESTER, "        | Mr. Isaiah Thomas.                            |
| SPRINGFIELD, "      | Mr. Moses Church.                             |
| NEWPORT, R. ISLAND, | The Committee.                                |
| PROVIDENCE, "       | "                                             |
| NEW-LONDON, CONN.   | Mr. Nathaniel Shaw.                           |
| HARTFORD, "         | Mr. William Ellery.                           |
| MIDDLETOWN, "       | Mr. Wesley Hobby.                             |
| NEW-HAVEN, "        | Mr. Elias Beers.                              |
| FAIRFIELD, "        | Thaddeus Burr, Esq.                           |
| STAMFORD, "         | Mr. Ebenezer Weed.                            |
| NORWALK, "          | The Committee, who will appoint a Postmaster. |
| NEW-YORK, N. Y.     | Mr. John Holt.*                               |
| NEWARK, NEW-JERSEY, | Mr. William Camp.                             |
| ELIZA'TOWN, "       | Mr. De Hart.                                  |
| WOODBIDGE, "        | Capt. Nathaniel Heard.                        |
| BRUNSWICK, "        | John Dennis, Esq.                             |
| PRINCETON, "        | Mr. Baldwin.                                  |
| TRENTON, "          | The Committee.                                |
| BRISTOL, PENN.      | Mr. Charles Besconer.                         |
| PHILADELPHIA "      | Mr. William Bradford.                         |
| WILMINGTON, DEL.    | Mr. Hempfield.                                |

\* A Constitutional Post-Office is now kept at J. Holt's Printing Office in Water Street, near the Coffee-House, New-York, where Letters are received in, and carefully despatched by riders who may be depended upon for the faithful performance of duty, and execution of the most important trusts that business may require, as none but men of property and approved characters, will be employed.

The Posts for Philadelphia and the Southwestern Colonies set out about eight o'clock every Monday and Thursday morning, proceed that day, through the Towns of Newark, Elizabethtown, Rahway, Woodbridge, Bonumtown, Piscataway, and Brunswick, to Princeton, where they meet and exchange mails with the Posts from Philadelphia, who pass through Frankfort, Bristol, Trenton, and Maidenhead. These Posts the next day (Tuesday) return with the mails to the above office in New-York, and to Mr. Bradford's, at the Coffee-House in Philadelphia; from whence other Posts set out for the Westward and Eastward at the usual times. Those from New-York for the Eastward, set out about nine o'clock on Monday, about noon on Thursday, and return to New-York with the Eastern mails, on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The rates of postage for the present, are the same that they used to be under the unconstitutional Post-Office, and accounts are carefully kept of all the moneys received for Letters, as well as expended on riders, &c. That where rates and rules are affixed, and offices regularly established throughout the British Colonies, by each Provincial and by the Continental Congress, what shall be done before that time may be taken into the account, and properly adjusted.

The subscriber having at all times acted consistently, and to the utmost of his power in support of the English Constitution and the rights and liberties of his countrymen, the inhabitants of the British American Colonies, especially as a printer, regardless of his own personal safety or private advantage; and having always, both by speech and publications from his press, openly, fully, and plainly denied the right of the British Parliament to tax, or make laws to bind Americans, in any case whatsoever, without their own free consent; and done his utmost to stimulate his countrymen, with whom he is determined to stand or fall, to assert and defend their rights against the encroachments and unjust claims of Great Britain and every other power; and as he has, by this conduct, incurred the displeasure of many men in power, and been a very great sufferer (the greatest, he believes, in this Country) by the stoppage and obstruction given to the circulation of his newspapers by the Post-Office, which has long been an engine in the hand of the British Ministry to promote their schemes of enslaving the Colonies and destroying the English Constitution, (the very institution and existence of this office afforded the Ministry one of the most plausible arguments in favour of their pretended right to tax the Colonies, and was a precedent of their admission of that right, and of the exercise of it;) and as the Colonies are at length roused to defend their rights, and in particular to wrest the Post-Office from the tyrannical hands which have long held it, and put it on a constitutional footing; and many gentlemen among the most hearty and able friends to America, in this and the neighbouring Colonies, both in and out of the Continental Congress, having encouraged the subscriber to hope that they think him a proper person to hold the office of Postmaster in this Colony, with the business of which he is well acquainted, and will favour his application for the same: He humbly requests the favour, concurrence, and assistance of the honourable Convention of Deputies for this Colony, in his appointment to the said office, the duties of which it will be his constant care to discharge with faithfulness, and to general satisfaction, ever grateful for favours conferred, and studious to deserve them.

JOHN HOLT.

|                       |                                               |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| BALTIMORE, MARYLAND,  | Mr. Goddard's Office.                         |
| ANNAPOLIS, "          | Mr. Samuel H. Howard.                         |
| GEORGETOWN ON } "     | Mr. Thomas Richardson.                        |
| the POTOMACK, }       | "                                             |
| ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, | Mr. James Hendricks.                          |
| DUMFRIES, "           | Mr. Richard Graham.                           |
| FRED'KSEURGH, "       | Capt. George Weedon.                          |
| NORFOLK, "            | William Davies, Esq.                          |
| WILL'MSBURGH, "       | The Committee, who will appoint a Postmaster. |

#### POST RIDERS.

From FALMOUTH to PORTSMOUTH, Mr. . . . .  
 From PORTSMOUTH to CAMBRIDGE, Mr. Trobb.  
 From CAMBRIDGE to HARTFORD, Messrs. Adams and Hyde.  
 From HARTFORD to NEW-YORK, Messrs. Peet and Hurd.  
 From NEW-YORK to PHILADELPHIA, Mr. James Van Brocket.  
 From CAMBRIDGE to PROVIDENCE, NEWPORT and NEW-LONDON, Messrs. Peter and Benjamin Mumford.  
 From NEW-LONDON to NEW-YORK, lower road, Messrs. Peet and Hurd.  
 From CAMBRIDGE to PROVIDENCE, NORWICH and NEW-LONDON, Mr. Nathaniel Bushell.

#### TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Boston, May 8, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: The printed paper which I now send you, was brought to me by a kind neighbour who picked it up in the street, and as it is mine by the gift of the finder of it, I have thought it my duty to send it unto you, that so, as the Province is interested in it, it may by you be communicated to the Provincial Assembly over which you preside.

This "Circumstantial Account," as it is called, of the late engagement, has been so privately printed that some of their own officers have not the knowledge of it; and as this is the account which is most probably sent home, it is here currently reported that above thirty depositions upon oath, to the truth of it, have been sent along with it.

You will see, by this account, that the people of our Province are represented as the blamable causes of all that occurred. They attacked; they fired first; they committed cruelties. The British Soldiers only did their duty; and having done it, they did not properly retreat, but marched back to Charlestown.

I wish you, sir, and the Provincial Congress, the happiest direction from above in all your counsels and managements for the publick weal, and prosperity and the blessing of the Lord of Hosts in the prosecution of them; and am, with my most cordial respects to yourself and all our Delegates with you, your faithful friend and most obedient servant,

SAMUEL MATHER.

#### SELECTMEN OF WORCESTER TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Worcester, Massachusetts, May 8, 1775.

The Committee appointed by the inhabitants of the Town to take into their consideration what is requisite to be done with a number of people who have shown themselves disaffected to their Country, do report:

That in their humble opinion, as William Cambell has broke through his engagements with the fathers of the people, and presumed to go out of the Town and Province before the Resolve of the Provincial Congress was known, in order to injure the good people of this place, and has been, and by his conduct still appears to be, an inveterate enemy to the rights and privileges of this Country, notwithstanding his declarations to the contrary, he should be sent to Watertown or Cambridge, to be dealt with as the honourable Congress or the Commander-in-Chief shall think necessary, it being judged highly improper that he should tarry any longer in this Town.

And whereas Mr. Samuel Paine, of Worcester, has been found guilty of propagating a report, viz: "that the goods, &c., taken out of the dwelling house of Ebenezer Bradish, of Menotomy, was not taken by the Regular Troops, but by our people; and furthermore, that our Troops quartered



in College were lousy and deserted by hundreds;" the inhabitants of the Town of *Worcester* assembled,

*Resolve*, That said *Paine* be sent to *Watertown* or *Cambridge* with *William Cambell*, under the care of Captains *Jonas Hubbard* and *Edward Craft*, to be dealt with as the honourable Congress or Commander-in-Chief shall, upon examination, think proper.

JOSHUA BIGELOW,

Per order Selectmen of *Worcester*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress in *Watertown*, or Commander-in-Chief at *Cambridge*.

—  
Worcester, Massachusetts, May 9, 1775.

I, *Gardner Chandler*, of lawful age, do testify and say, that on the sixth instant, being in my garden, *Samuel Paine* came to me, (being the first time I had seen him since he came from *Cambridge*.) I asked him what news. He told me none but what we had here. I then asked him how matters were at Mr. *Bradish's* house; he said that the *Hampshire* Soldiers had got possession of it, and of all that was in it. I then mentioned the things that were lost the first day; he said they were not taken by the Regulars, but by our people. I asked him if the Soldiers did not come off; he said he heard they did in great numbers; and that he was told that the men were so close stowed in the Colleges that they were lousy.

GARDNER CHANDLER.

WORCESTER, ss., May 9, 1775:

The within named *Gardner Chandler*, after due caution, made oath to the truth of the within written affidavit taken before me.

ROBERT GODDARD,

Justice of the Peace.

SPOTTSYLVANIA COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee for the County of *Spottsylvania*, held at the Town-House in *Fredericksburgh*, on *Tuesday* the ninth of *May*, 1775: Present twenty-six members:

FIELDING LEWIS, Esq., in the Chair.

The Committee having before them a copy of the proceedings of Captain *Patrick Henry*, and other gentlemen, officers and volunteers under his command, concerning the Powder taken from the County Magazine, cordially approve of the same, and unanimously vote them their thanks for their prudent, firm, and spirited conduct on that occasion.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the easy acquisition of the Powder from the County Magazine in the City of *Williamsburgh*, by order of his Excellency the Governour, and the convenient situation of that City with respect to the Navy, render it unsafe to continue the publick Treasury at that place, and that it is the opinion of this Committee that the same ought to be removed to a place of greater safety.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Chairman, *Charles Dick*, *James Mercer*, *Charles Mortimer*, and *George Thornton*, gentlemen, do write to the Treasurer, requesting him to call a Convention of the Delegates for this Colony as soon as possible.

ALEXANDER DICK, Clerk.

ORANGE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

May 9, 1775.

The Committee for *Orange* County met on *Tuesday* the ninth of *May*. Taking into their consideration the removal of the Powder from the publick Magazine, and the compensation obtained by the Independent Company of *Hanover*; and observing also that the receipt given by Captain *Patrick Henry* to his Majesty's Receiver-General refers the final disposal of the Money to the next Colony Convention, came to the following Resolutions:

1. That the Governour's removal of the Powder lodged in the Magazine, and set apart for the defence of the Country, was fraudulent, unnecessary, and extremely provoking to the people of this Colony.

2. That the resentment shewn by the *Hanover* Volunteers, and the reprisal they have made on the King's property, highly merit the approbation of the publick, and the thanks of this Committee.

3. That if any attempt should be made, at the ensuing Convention, to have the Money returned to His Majesty's Receiver-General, our Delegates be, and they are hereby

instructed, to exert all their influence in opposing such attempt, and in having the Money laid out in Gunpowder for the use of the Colony.

4. That the following Address be presented to Captain *Patrick Henry*, and the gentlemen independents of *Hanover*:

"GENTLEMEN: We, the Committee for the County of *Orange*, having been fully informed of your seasonable and spirited proceedings in procuring a compensation for the Powder fraudulently taken from the County Magazine by command of Lord *Dunmore*, and which it evidently appears his Lordship, notwithstanding his assurances, had no intention to restore, entreat you to accept their cordial thanks for this testimony of your zeal for the honour and interest of your Country. We take this occasion also to give it as our opinion, that the blow struck in the *Massachusetts* Government is a hostile attack on this and every other Colony, and a sufficient warrant to use violence and reprisal, in all cases where it may be expedient for our security and welfare."

JAMES TAYLOR,

ZACHARIAH BURNLEY,

JAMES MADISON, JR.,

JAMES WALKER,

HENRY SCOTT,

JAMES MADISON, *Chairman*.

THOMAS BARBOUR,

ROWLAND THOMAS,

WILLIAM MOORE,

LAWRENCE TALIAFERRO,

THOMAS BILL.

HANOVER COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting appointed and held for *Hanover* County, at the Court-House, on *Tuesday*, the 9th of *May*, 1775: Present: *John Syme*, *Samuel Overton*, *William Cranch*, *Meriwether Skelton*, *Richard Morris*, *Benjamin Anderson*, *John Pendleton*, *John Robinson*, *Nelson Berkeley*, and *George Dabney, Junior*.

Agreeable to a Resolution of the Committee held at *Newcastle*, the 2d instant, setting forth that they being fully informed of the violent hostilities committed by the King's Troops in *America*, and of the danger arising to the Colony by the loss of the publick Powder, and of the conduct of the Governour, which threatens altogether calamities of the greatest magnitude and most fearful consequences to this Colony; and therefore recommending reprisals to be made upon the King's property, sufficient to replace the Gunpowder taken out of the Magazine: It appears to this Committee that the Volunteers who marched from *Newcastle* to obtain satisfaction for the Gunpowder, by reprisal or otherwise, proceeded on that business as follows, to wit:

That an Officer, with sixteen men, was detached to seize the King's Receiver-General, with orders to detain him; and this, it was supposed, might be done without impeding the progress of the main body. The said Receiver-General not being apprehended, owing to his absence from home, the said detachment, according to orders, proceeded to join the main body on its march to *Williamsburgh*, and the junction happened on the 3d instant, at *Doncastle's* Ordinary, about sunset. A little after sunrise next morning, the Commanding Officer being assured that proper satisfaction, in money, should be instantly made, the Volunteers halted, and the proposal being considered by them, was judged satisfactory as to that point; and the following Receipt was given, to wit:

"Doncastle's Ordinary, New-Kent, May 4, 1775.

"Received from the Honourable *Richard Corbin*, Esq., His Majesty's Receiver-General, £330, as a compensation for the Gunpowder lately taken out of the publick Magazine by the Governour's order; which money I promise to convey to the *Virginia* Delegates at the General Congress, to be under their direction laid out in Gunpowder for the Colony's use, and to be stored as they shall direct, until the next Colony Convention, or General Assembly, unless it shall be necessary, in the mean time, to use the same in defence of this Colony. It is agreed, that in case the next Convention shall determine that any part of the said money ought to be returned to His Majesty's Receiver-General, that the same shall be done accordingly.

"PATRICK HENRY, JUNIOR."

It was then considered, that as a General Congress would meet in a few days; and probably a Colony Convention would shortly assemble, and that the reprisal now made



would amply replace the Powder, with the charges of transportation, the Commanding Officer wrote the following Letter, and sent it by express:

May 4, 1775.

SIR: The affair of the Powder is now settled, so as to produce satisfaction to me, and I earnestly wish to the Colony in general. The people here have it in charge from the *Hanover* Committee, to tender their services to you as a publick officer, for the purpose of escorting the publick Treasury to any place in this Colony, where the money would be judged more safe than in the City of *Williamsburgh*. The reprisal now made by the *Hanover* Volunteers, though accomplished in a manner least liable to the imputation of violent extremity, may possibly be the cause of future injury to the Treasury. If, therefore, you apprehend the least danger, a sufficient guard is at your service. I beg the return of the bearer may be instant, because the men wish to know their destination.

With great regard, I am, Sir, your most humble servant,  
PATRICK HENRY, JUNIOR.  
To Robert Carter Nicholas, Esq., Treasurer.

To which an answer was received from the said Mr. *Nicholas*, importing that he had no apprehension of the necessity or propriety of the proffered service. For which reasons, and understanding moreover, from others, that the private citizens of *Williamsburgh* were in a great measure quieted from their late apprehensions for their persons and property, the Volunteers judged it best to return home, and did so accordingly, in order to wait the further directions of the General Congress, or Colony Convention.\*

It appears also to this Committee, that before and on the march, strict orders were repeatedly given to the Volunteers to avoid all violence, injury, and insult, towards the persons and property of every individual; and that in executing the plan of reprisal on the persons of the King's servants, and his property, bloodshed should be avoided, if possible; and that there is the strongest reason that the foregoing orders respecting private persons and property, were strictly observed.

*Resolved*, That this Committee do approve of the proceedings of the Officers and Soldiers of the Volunteer Company, and do return them their sincere thanks for their services on the late expedition; and also that the thanks of this Committee be given to the many Volunteers of the different Counties, who joined and were marching, and ready to co-operate with the Volunteer Company of this County.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk do transmit a copy of these proceedings to the Printers, and desire that they will be pleased to publish the same in their *Gazettes* as soon as possible. By order of the Committee:

BARTLETT ANDERSON, Clerk.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN BUCKS COUNTY, TO HIS FRIEND IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MAY 9, 1775.

Our Committee met yesterday. From their Resolves, (a copy of which I enclose you,) you will find they have adopted your plan, and recommend our associating into companies to learn the military exercise of arms. Some Townships have already begun, and many others, animated with the same zeal for the welfare of their Country, will, I trust, readily fall in with the plan, a knowledge of which, we have great reason to fear we shall soon be called on to give a proof of. The unanimity, prudence, spirit, and firmness, which appeared in the deliberations of yesterday, do honour to *Bucks* County, and will, I hope, in some measure, wipe off those aspersions we too deservedly lay under.

A large number of the inhabitants being assembled, the

\* *HANOVER*, May 12, 1775.—Yesterday, *Patrick Henry*, one of the Delegates for this Colony, escorted by a number of respectable young gentlemen, Volunteers from this and *King William* and *Caroline* Counties, set out to attend the General Congress. They proceeded with him as far as *Mrs. Hooe's Ferry*, on the *Potomack*, by whom they were most kindly and hospitably entertained; and also provided with boats and hands to cross the river. And after partaking of this lady's beneficence, the bulk of the Company took their leave of Mr. *Henry*, saluting him with two platoons and repeated huzzas. A guard accompanied that worthy gentleman to the *Maryland* side, who saw him safely landed; and committing him to the gracious and wise Disposer of all human events, to guide and protect him whilst contending for a restitution of our dearest rights and liberties, they wished him a safe journey, and happy return to his family and friends.

Resolves of the day were made publick, who testified their highest approbation of the conduct of the Committee, and unanimously voted them the thanks of the County.

A disciple of those species of creatures called Tories, being formally introduced to a tar barrel, of which he was repeatedly pressed to smell, thought it prudent to take leave abruptly, lest a more intimate acquaintance with it should take place.

#### BUCKS COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of the County of *Bucks*, held at the house of *Richard Leedom*, May 8, 1775:

*Resolved unanimously*, That we do heartily approve of the Resolves of the late Provincial Convention, held at *Philadelphia*, the 23d day of *January* last, and do earnestly recommend it to the observation of the inhabitants of this County.

*Resolved unanimously*, That notwithstanding the disapprobation we have hitherto shown to the prosecution of any violent measures of opposition, arising from the hopes and expectations that the humanity, justice, and magnanimity of the *British* Nation would not fail of affording us relief; being now convinced that all our most dutiful applications have hitherto been fruitless and vain; and that attempts are now making to carry the oppressive Acts of Parliament into execution by military force, we do therefore earnestly recommend to the people of this County to form themselves into Associations in their respective Townships, to improve themselves in the military art, that they may be rendered capable of affording their Country that aid which its particular necessities may at any time require.

*Joseph Hart*, *John Kidd*, *Joseph Kirkbride*, *James Wallace*, and *Henry Wynkoop*, or any three of them, are appointed as Delegates to meet in Provincial Convention, if any should be found necessary.

The Committee request all persons who have taken subscriptions for the relief of the poor of *Boston*, as soon as possible to collect and pay the same into the hands of the Treasurer, *Henry Wynkoop*, that it may be speedily applied towards the benevolent purpose for which it was intended; and at the same time, to give those who have not subscribed an opportunity to contribute also.

By order of the Committee:

HENRY WYNKOOP, Clerk pro tem.

#### TO THE PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Bedford, May 9, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Not long since we were favoured with your letter of the 18th ultimo, enclosing the melancholy news of a number of Troops being ordered for *America*; in consequence of which we advertised a meeting of the County Committee, when the following Resolves were unanimously entered into:

At a meeting of the General Committee of the County of *Bedford*, held at *Bedford*, the 9th day of *May*, 1775, in pursuance of a notice for that purpose from the Committee of Correspondence for the said County:

GEORGE WOODS, Esquire, Chairman.

*Resolved unanimously*, That this County will immediately form themselves into Military Associations, and prepare themselves, in order to defend their lives, liberties, and properties, from any illegal attempts made against them.

*Resolved unanimously*, That each Township in this County shall be immediately notified to assemble themselves at a certain day and place most convenient for that purpose, and then and there, by ballot or otherwise, choose Officers in their respective Townships.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the said Officers, when chosen, shall make out a Roll, and each man shall subscribe his name in said Roll; and that the Captain shall immediately transmit a copy thereof to the Committee of Correspondence at *Bedford*.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the Committee of this County shall purchase all the Powder and Lead in any store that may be had within the said County, and have the same put up in some safe Magazine in the Town of *Bedford*, for the use of the said Soldiers; and that each Company shall, by subscription, make up a proportionable part



of the same; which Ammunition shall not be distributed without the orders of the Committee of Correspondence of the said County, or until it shall be thought necessary by this Committee, or a majority of them.

*Resolved unanimously,* That each Company in this County shall use their utmost endeavours to purchase or provide all the Ammunition they can, so that no person in the said Company shall have less than one pound of Powder, and Lead in proportion.

*Resolved unanimously,* That as soon as the said Companies are formed, they and each of them shall be subject to military regulations and discipline, in the same manner as any other of His Majesty's Troops are, (corporal punishment only excepted.)

*Resolved unanimously,* That in case any person or persons in this County shall refuse to subscribe himself in a roll of some Company in the said County, in order to defend the cause of liberty now contending for, or by any ways or means whatever discourage or disunite the said Associations, that then he or they so offending shall be immediately reported by some of the officers of their respective Townships, to the Committee of Correspondence at *Bedford*, in order that such steps may be taken as by the said Committee may be thought most prudent; and that, in the mean time, no person or persons within the said County shall, directly or indirectly, have any dealing or commerce, by either buying or selling, borrowing, or lending to or with any of the said offenders.

*Resolved unanimously,* That all persons within this County that are not at present provided with Guns, Swords, or Tomahawks, in case of ability shall provide for themselves; and in case of inability, that the Captain of each Company shall immediately transmit their names, or their number, to the Committee of Correspondence at *Bedford*, that proper measures may be taken in order to provide for them.

*Resolved unanimously,* That each Township shall meet and choose their Officers, and make return agreeable to the above Resolves, within the space of ten days from this date. By order of the Committee of Correspondence:

DAVID ESPY, Clerk.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ULSTER COUNTY, NEW-YORK,  
DATED MAY 9, 1775.

A great revolution in political measures has taken place in this County since we received a copy of the Association entered into by your City, with which many of us have ever been desirous to harmonize, especially in such proceedings as were conformable to the general sense of your inhabitants. On this principle, as well as from a full conviction of preventing the anarchy and confusion which attend a dissolution of the powers of Government, and of uniting with our fellow-subjects in adopting some general plan for obtaining a redress of grievances, on constitutional principles, forwarding the wished-for reconciliation between *Great Britain* and *America*, and preserving peace and good order, the safety of individuals and private property; I say, concurring with you unanimously, so far as I have heard, in these good purposes, the inhabitants of several Precincts met yesterday, and cheerfully agreed to bury in oblivion all past differences that had happened from discordant sentiments respecting the mode proper to be pursued for obtaining a redress of those grievances we have all so loudly complained of, and heartily to join with you in the measures you had taken for restoring internal harmony, peace, and concord, to our convulsed Country, on the brink of being overwhelmed with every species of the most outrageous violence, anarchy, and confusion.

Never were meetings so numerous, general, calm, dispassionate, orderly, or unanimous. In effecting these salutary dispositions, Mr. *Mason*, Pastor of the *Seceders'* Congregation in *New-York*, has great merit, for his repeated exhortations to the people of his sect here, (to whom he preached at this juncture,) zealously inculcating the doctrines of peace, order, and benevolence, reprehending all acts of violence, outrage, and licentiousness, and exerting all his other influences for enforcing those objects on this occasion. I hope the good seed he has sown will take firm root, produce a *British* constitutional plant, and long continue to bear fruit worthy of the husbandman that scattered it. May it never

be blasted by the noxious shade of a superincumbent tree, or the poisonous exhalations of surrounding shrubs; but thrive and flourish, and spread a benign farina, impregnating every variety of its species with its virtues, far and near.

It is the ardent wish of my heart, that both the ensuing Continental and Provincial Congress of this Colony, under the influences of a genuine spirit of patriotism and love for this Country, may seriously and calmly consider of and recommend such measures only as will tend to obtain for us a redress of our grievances on constitutional principles; lay a foundation for our speedily having confirmed to us, in the most extensive latitude our local circumstances will admit of, the pure and unmutated constitutional rights and privileges of free *Englishmen*, as established at the glorious and happy Revolution, on a basis solid and permanent; and whilst they are firmly actuated by these views and endeavours, I hope they may glow with every sentiment of affection, veneration, and regard for their Parent State, and give every testimony of it, by pursuing and recommending, with all their power, the most healing and conciliatory measures. In these sentiments I am happy in being joined by many, and most of the serious, considerate, sensible freeholders in this County. God send us a good deliverance.

JOEL CLARK TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Farmington, May 9, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I have been too long a soldier to feel my breast unmoved at the sound of my neighbours beating to arms. I feel too much for my distressed and injured Country to see the dangers which threaten it without wishing to share them with my countrymen; and I partake too much of the spirit of those ancestors we boast, not to offer my services at this crisis in any way inconsistent with honour and fidelity to my Country. I take the freedom to address your Honour as the Captain-General of this Colony, and tender therefore my services. I served in the ranks at the age of fifteen, in the reduction of *Louisburg*, in '45. I served in every other station in the last war, until I was appointed to the command of a Company in the three last years before the peace; in all which stations I appeal to those in the service for my conduct. Once I received the General's thanks for my service in a command of four hundred men, in 1760, and the additional pay of a Captain in the regular service. Now this don't argue either the want of skill or readiness in me of doing my duty. When I saw last winter the appointment of Field Officers by the honourable Assembly, of the Regiment I belong to, I had thoughts which I suppressed. The gentlemen I have no objection to. They may make a figure in peace, and they may make a figure in war. They have never had experience. I now see the danger to which my Country is reduced; and my love to that, and duty to your Honour, demand this offer of my service. I do not apply for want of bread or business of my own. I have enough of both, and a property to defend. The present union of hearts and hands of all ranks of people in the cause, renders it needless for me to take up your Honour's time. When dangers were represented in the alarm in *September* last, I raised a Company at some expense of my own, and was in readiness to march at the confirmation of the news. I know not whether it is in your Honour's power to give me a proper appointment in the service, but I shall always be satisfied in having done my duty in this address to your Honour, and am, with much respect, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

JOEL CLARK.

Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., Captain-General of the Forces in the Colony of *Connecticut*.

P. S. If your Honour will condescend to inquire of Generals *Wooster*, *Spencer*, *Putnam*, and Colonels *Ward*, *Wadsworth*, *Waterbury*, *Champion*, &c., for my character, &c., I shall esteem it as a favour: also Mr. *Root*, a Representative.

THOMAS HOWELL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-Haven, May 9, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: I have been informed that I had the honour to be nominated by the honourable General Assem-



bly as a Commissary to provide for the Troops now raising in the defence of the Colony. I sincerely thank the Assembly for this mark of respect. I have the interest of the Colony, its rights and privileges, at heart, as much, I believe, as any man. But as there has been for some time past an unhappy dispute in this Town, and by which we have, in some measure, been thrown into parties; and as one party has made (as I am told) an unfair representation against me, I think it my duty, when the interest of my Country is at stake, to sacrifice private interest to the public good. Upon that principle, sir, I have to inform you that I am willing to resign the office of Commissary, and I conceive it will conduce to the peace of the Town to have Mr. Jonathan Fitch appointed. He may, perhaps, reconcile all parties, which is the desire of, Sir, your humble servant,

THOMAS HOWELL.

#### SHEFFIELD (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for the Town of *Sheffield*, on *Tuesday*, the ninth day of *May*, 1775:

Complaint being made to this Committee that *John Westover*, *Job Westover*, and *Noah Westover*, had, in various instances, contravened the doings and Resolutions of the General and Provincial Congresses; and that the said *John*, *Job*, and *Noah*, were enemies of *American* liberty; it was thereupon ordered, that the Clerk cause the said *John*, *Job*, and *Noah*, to be notified to attend before this Committee on *Friday* next, at one o'clock, afternoon, at the house of Mr. *Daniel Dewey*, in this Town, to answer to the aforementioned complaint.

*Voted*, To adjourn this meeting till *Friday* next at one o'clock in the afternoon, then to meet at the house of Mr. *Daniel Dewey*.

Friday, May 12, 1775.

The Committee met according to adjournment.

*John Westover* and *Job Westover* appeared before the Committee; *Noah Westover* not being to be found, has not been notified. The Committee took into consideration the complaint against the said *John* and *Job*; and Captain *Daniel Lawrence*, his wife, Messrs. *Jonathan Westover* and *Joseph Kingman*, being adduced as witnesses, it appeared from their evidence (among many other matters) that the said *John* hath affirmed that the late Continental Congress, in their doings, were guilty of rebellion against the King; and that the said *Job* hath affirmed that the Parliament of *Great Britain* had a right to tax the *Americans*; and that each of them had said many things disrespectful of the said Congress, and the Provincial Congresses. The following question being, during the course of the examination, put to the said *John* and *Job*, viz: "If an engagement should unfortunately happen between the *British* and *American* Armies, which they would choose should prevail?" the said *John* answered, that the question was so difficult he could not give a direct answer. The said *Job*, in answer to said question, said that he supposed the consequences of a victory on the side of the *American* Army would be more prejudicial to this Country than the contrary. During the time the several matters aforesaid were under the consideration of the Committee, and before any resolution was had thereon, the said *John* voluntarily and solemnly engaged, that at no time hereafter will he do any thing detrimental to the cause now contended for by this Country; and that so far as he understands the true intent and meaning of the doings of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, he will not violate the same in any particular.

The following motion was then made and seconded, Whether the foregoing declaration of the said *John* is satisfactory to this Committee? It passed in the affirmative.

The following motion was then made and seconded, Whether the said *Job* is an enemy of *American* liberty? It passed in the affirmative unanimously. Therefore,

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the said *Job Westover* is an enemy of *American* liberty, and that it is the duty of all those who wish well to the cause of freedom, from henceforth to break off all dealings with the said *Job*.

*Voted*, That the Clerk do procure the foregoing proceedings with regard to said *John* and *Job Westover*, to be inserted in the *American Oracle of Liberty*.

A GENTLEMAN AT PITTSFIELD, IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY, TO AN OFFICER IN CAMBRIDGE.

Pittsfield, Massachusetts, May 9, 1775.

In my last I wrote to you of the Northern Expedition; before this week ends, we are in raised hopes here of hearing that *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point* are in our hands. *Solomons*, the *Indian* King of *Stockbridge*, was lately at Colonel *Easton's* of this Town, and said there that the *Mohawks* had not only given liberty to the *Stockbridge* *Indians* to join us, but had sent them a belt, denoting that they would hold five hundred men in readiness to join us immediately on the first notice; and that the said *Solomons* holds an *Indian* post in actual readiness to run with the news as soon as they shall be wanted. Those *Indians* would be of great service to you should the King's Troops march out of *Boston*, as some think they undoubtedly will upon the arrival of their recruits, and give us battle. Our Militia this way, Sir, are vigorously preparing for actual readiness. Adjacent Towns and this Town are buying arms and ammunition. There is a plenty of arms to be sold at *Albany* as yet; but we hear, by order of the Mayor, &c., no powder is at present to be sold there. The spirit of liberty runs high there, as you have doubtless heard by their post to our Head Quarters. I have exerted myself to disseminate the same spirit in King's District, which has of late taken surprising effect. The poor Tories of *Kinderhook* are mortified and grieved, and are wheeling about, and begin to take the quick step. *New-York* Government begins to be alive in the glorious cause, and to act with great vigour.

I fervently pray, Sir, that our Council of War may be inspired with wisdom from above, to direct the warlike enterprise with prudence, discretion, and vigour. O! may your councils and deliberations be under the guidance and blessing of Heaven! Since I began to write, an intelligent person, who left *Ticonderoga*, *Saturday* before last, informs me, that having went through there and *Crown Point* about three weeks ago, all were secure; but on his return, he found they were alarmed with our expedition, and would not admit him into the Fort; that there were twelve soldiers at *Crown Point*, and he judged near two hundred at *Ticonderoga*; that those Forts were out of repair, and much in ruins; that it was his opinion our men would undoubtedly be able to take them; and that he met our men last *Thursday*, who were well furnished with cattle, and wagons laden with provisions, and in good spirits, who he supposed would arrive there last *Sabbath* day, and he doubted not but this week they would be in possession of those Forts. He informed them where they might obtain a plenty of ball; and there are cannon enough at *Crown Point*, which they cannot secure from us. That he saw the Old Sow, brought from Cape *Breton*, and a number of good brass cannon, at *Ticonderoga*. Should this expedition succeed, and should the Council of War send up their orders for the people this way to transport by land twenty or thirty of the best of the cannon to Head Quarters, I doubt not but the people in this country would do it with all expedition. We could easily collect a thousand yoke of cattle for the business.

#### COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE OF LYNN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Lynn, May 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Captain *Barker*, will bring before your Honour Mr. *Josiah Martin*, as a person whom we have considered to have acted as an enemy to the Province, and have sent the evidences that appeared against him.

JOHN MANSFIELD, Chairman.

Evidences names: *Harthorn Ramsdell*, *John Bancroft*, *William French*, *James Bancroft*.

#### JOSIAH MARTIN TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, May 11, 1775.

Gentlemen of the Committee of Safety:

I was sent from *Lynn* by a guard of soldiers to be examined, and am sorry that myself or any other faithful and loyal subject to his Country should be treated as I am. Methinks it would give a check to the spirit of an *Alexander*. Humanity is the least we may expect of one another. Your true and loyal Whig, JOSIAH MARTIN.



## PETITION FROM COHASSET.

Cohasset, May 9, 1775.

*The Selectmen of the District of COHASSET humbly shew:*

That to their great satisfaction they find that the idea of Counties, Towns, and Districts, are in a great measure lost in a general conference for the safety of the whole, and that this Committee, on whom are the eyes of the Government, in various instances granted protection to such parts of the sea-coasts as were most exposed. Your Petitioners therefore beg leave to say, that they are in a defenceless state, and that they are exposed to be ravaged by the crews of every ship or vessel whose inclination leads them to plunder; that they have kept up a military watch from the twentieth of April last to this time, and which is absolutely necessary to be continued for the safety not only of said District, and the Towns adjoining, but of the whole. They therefore pray that they may have liberty to raise, on the same footing that men are raising in our neighbourhood, and have a Company, and that they may do duty in this place until the safety of the whole shall require their removal.

And, as in duty bound, shall pray.

ISAAC LINCOLN, } *Selectmen of*  
ABEL KENT, } *Cohasset.*  
THOMAS LATHROP, }

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON, TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MAY 10, 1775.

Before you receive this you will probably have determined the fate of both parts of the *British* Empire in that venerable assembly, the Continental Congress. We have no fears for you, but the infatuation of the Ministry here gives us as much to apprehend as ever. It is still the full persuasion of all the courtiers (and I almost think of the greatest part of the Nation) that notwithstanding all your seeming firmness and hostile preparations, you will submit to any thing rather than contend with us. A very short time will now determine that matter, for there is no appearance of any relaxation here. We wait for the great event with the most anxious and distressing impatience.

## ADDRESS OF THE VOLUNTEER COMPANY OF WILLIAMSBURGH, VIRGINIA.

At a meeting of the Volunteer Company of the City of *Williamsburgh*, on the tenth day of *May*, 1775, the following Address was unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be published.

JOHN BROWN, Clerk.

*To the Gentlemen, Freeholders, and Volunteers who so generously offered their assistance to the City of WILLIAMSBURGH, on a late alarming occasion:*

GENTLEMEN: A quick sensibility to insults offered our Country, and a determined resolution to risk every thing in support of its honour and interest, are ruling motives in the breast of every patriot. To these we ascribe your late movement towards the Metropolis, where certain incidents, sufficiently alarming at this juncture, had attracted the attention of all our worthy countrymen. We are happy in being able to convince you, that there is at present no necessity for their vigorous interposition; but the zealous alacrity with which you proffered your assistance, as it shows a sincere devotion to the publick good, must be highly pleasing to your fellow-countrymen, and demands our warmest thanks and acknowledgments.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED NEW-YORK, MAY 10, 1775.

When the news of the engagement between the Provincials and the Regulars arrived here, Doctor *Cooper*, with several others, fled on board the *Man-of-War*, and have since sailed for *Europe*, so that the City is almost cleared of Tories, and the few which remain are ashamed and afraid. A soldier who had deserted from the *Welsh* Fusiliers was among the forces which came to assist us from *New-England*; some of the soldiers in the barracks saw him, and told the officers. He was taken and confined; but when his *New-England* Captain heard of it, he went to the barracks, called for the commanding officer, and demanded his man. The officer told him he was a deserter;

the Captain replied he did not care, he would have him, as he had promised to protect him. An officer who was standing by, said, if he was the commanding officer he would take him prisoner. The Captain replied, he might, but he would be the dearest prisoner he ever had, and swore the barracks should be in a flame in one hour if they attempted such a thing. However, the commanding officer thought proper to deliver up the man; and the very next day two sentinels deserted from the Governour's door.

## TO THE PUBLICK.

Kingston, Ulster County, New-York, May 10, 1775.

When the characters of gentlemen who have acted in a publick capacity are impeached, (especially those who have taken upon them the execution of the measures of the last Continental Congress,) how disagreeable the task may be, it behooves every one who is a friend to truth, honesty, and liberty, to consider it as their duty, and incumbent on them, with all their efforts to support the proceedings of those gentlemen. This County in general, and *Kingston* in particular, have distinguished themselves by a ready compliance with the Association of the Congress, and some spirited measures to render them effectual; but as every flock contains some bad sheep, so the article of Tea has discovered the infected persons amongst us. The simile is just, and the cure used for the one, must be applied to the other, viz: a separation of the clean from the unclean. This has been done; the Committee of this Town have, after many friendly advices and entreaties, which proved in vain, been led to the disagreeable necessity of publishing Mr. *Jacobus Low*, merchant of this Town, all which have not as yet wrought a reformation of his conduct. He lately published a piece in vindication of his conduct, the like of which is not to be paralleled; it not only contains scurrilous and abusive language, but gross falsehoods.

First, he begins, "*Johannes Slegt*, Chairman of the Committee of *Ulster* County, has published me as an enemy of my Country, for selling Tea, in which it is set forth, that all the Merchants and Skippers had signed articles in which they agreed not to sell Tea." This, he says, "is absolutely false, for there are more who have not signed for the very reasons I had, and the Committee knew that they had not all signed at the time of publishing this piece of malice."

The Committee are surprised at Mr. *Low*'s ignorance and stupidity, since he has as well incurred the displeasure of the friends of liberty in the City of *New-York*, as here, by his non-compliance with his brethren, merchants in this Town. But it appears that he will endeavour to heap sin upon sin, to cure a wound by a fresh bruise; that is, by committing a crime and leading the guiltless in the execution thereof.

The Committee still say, that every Merchant and Skipper in this Town, who were possessed of *East-India* Tea for sale, had signed the said articles before the publication, which they are ready to prove by the original in their custody, (*Jacobus Low* only excepted.) They also deny that *Johannes Slegt* was Chairman for the County of *Ulster*, (as he says,) but only for the Town of *Kingston*. They also deny that any malice was shown unto him; but that, on the contrary, he was solicited, advised, and entreated to quit selling Tea, as the other merchants had done, to prevent a publication, which then proved abortive. As for the assertion of its being known in *Kingston* that said *Low* had offered to sign the Third Article of the Association, is even contradicted by his own advertisement, for he still adheres to the consumption of it.

As for the matters he asserts to have been reported in and by the Committee, is absolutely false; here the world may discover the wickedness of his heart, by endeavouring to punish others for his own crimes. In short, it is imposing on the publick to answer every part of so base a piece of wilful and false publication, from a man who was treated with so much lenity as he was from this Committee.

By order of the Committee:

JOHANNES SLEGT, Chairman.

N. B. Since the publication of Mr. *Low*, this Committee has been augmented to the number of seventeen, and have re-elected *Johannes Slegt* Chairman.



## TOWN-MEETING, PROVIDENCE, RHODE-ISLAND.

At a Town-Meeting held at *Providence*, on the tenth day of *May*, A. D. 1775, by adjournment, *Nicholas Cooke*, Esquire, Moderator :

*Voted*, That it be and it is hereby recommended to the honourable Town Council at their next session to establish a Watch in this Town of six men each night, agreeable to law, and to appoint a Master or Warden to set said Watch, and to have the oversight and direction thereof, for six months from this time; and that the said Town Council be desired to meet to settle said Watch on *Friday* next; and it is recommended to said Council that each person have the liberty to watch in their turn, or to furnish a person in his room, and on failure thereof to pay Three Shillings for each neglect.

*Voted*, That six persons be appointed to examine into the state of the inhabitants of this Town, and to make report of all such that are provided with Small-Arms and accoutrements agreeable to law, and of all such that are not provided agreeable to law with Small-Arms, &c., and of all persons that in their judgments are not of ability to supply themselves, saving and excepting all those that are or may be enlisted.

The following persons are appointed to make the examination, to wit: *Nathaniel Wheaton*, *Benjamin Thurber*, *David Lawrence*, *Paul Allen*, *Benoni Pearce*, and *Barnard Eddy*, and that the same be made on *Saturday* next.

*Voted*, That this meeting be adjourned to *Monday* next, two o'clock, P. M.

## GENERAL THOMAS TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Roxbury Camp, May 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have just received a letter from the Committee of Inspection for the Town of *Providence*, desiring me to inform them if the Committee of Safety have transmitted to their friend in *London* an account of the battle at *Lexington*, and have informed that the Colony have appointed a Committee of Safety, who has the direction of the Troops; therefore letters to this place on that subject should be directed to said Committee of Safety. I should be glad to know what answer I may return them. I am unacquainted with the proceedings of Congress, or the Committee of Safety, relative to that matter. If you will be pleased to send me an answer by the first opportunity, it will oblige your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

To the Committee of Safety in *Cambridge*.

## TOWN-MEETING, BRISTOL, MASSACHUSETTS.

May 10, 1775.

To the Honourable the Members of the Provincial Congress of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

On the second day of *May*, 1775, at a legal meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of *Bristol*, the following Articles were agreed to:

*First*. Whereas we wrote to your Honours last *March* a little sketch of our circumstances, and that we would put ourselves as soon as possible into military order, and then inform your Honours more particularly of our strength in regard to arms and ammunition: therefore we would now inform your Honours that we have endeavoured to put ourselves into military order and discipline as well as we were capable. We make out three Companies, each Company consisting of about sixty training soldiers exclusive of officers, which officers were chosen by vote of the several Companies in the training field. As to arms, the most of us have got guns, but we are in very low circumstances in regard to ammunition—powder especially; we have used several means to provide ourselves with powder, but it has happened to be to no purpose. Therefore if it is possible that your Honours can point out to us any way of relief in this particular we shall take it as a very great favour; we apprehend that we are very unsafe to be destitute of ammunition; as our Town borders on the sea, we are much exposed to our enemies.

*Second*. *Voted unanimously*, That Mr. *Thomas Brackett* be, and we hereby empower him to be, our agent and attorney in all matters whatsoever, in our name and stead to contract for any articles that our said attorney shall

think necessary for this Town: by whom we hope to receive advices from your Honours how we shall conduct in all matters. We remain, with earnest prayer to *Almighty God* for a blessing upon your Honours' persons, and upon your Honours' proceedings in behalf of this Province, your Honours' most dutiful, most obedient, and most humble servants. By order and in behalf of the Town of *Bristol*:

|                 |   |                                  |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------------|
| SAMUEL OATES,   | } | <i>Committee-Men.</i>            |
| ROBERT GIVEN,   |   |                                  |
| THOMAS BOYD,    |   |                                  |
| GEORGE RODGERS, | } | <i>Selectmen of<br/>Bristol.</i> |
| THOS. JOHNSTON, |   |                                  |
| JAMES HUSTON,   |   |                                  |
| WILLIAM BARNES, |   | <i>Town Clerk.</i>               |

## TIMOTHY PICKERING TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Salem, May 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: It appearing highly expedient that a Regiment should be formed from *Salem* and its environs, with a view to serve the general cause, I took the liberty of recommending Colonel *Mansfield* and Captain *Hutchinson* Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel of it. They then appeared to me the most suitable persons that could be found willing to fill these places, and I am still of the same opinion. I should not give you any further trouble about the matter, if I did not think Colonel *Hutchinson* was suffering unjustly by means of Colonel *Herrick*; the latter, as Mr. *Hutchinson* informs me, declared himself well pleased with his appointment, and heartily, in appearance, congratulated him upon it; and yet, with might and main is now endeavouring to supplant him, and he builds his hopes of succeeding, it seems, not upon Colonel *Hutchinson's* inefficiency, nor upon his own superior ability and merit, but upon a foundation which a man of honour, I think, would reject with disdain: Colonel *Herrick*, truly, has friends in Court! an admirable plea for his advancement; incontestable evidence of his merit! I should not have opened my lips to Colonel *Herrick's* disadvantage, had he not, in a manner which appears to me most ungenerous, endeavoured to supplant Colonel *Hutchinson*, and otherwise treated him with great incivility, to use a gentle word. What I have said, gentlemen, is grounded wholly upon Colonel *Hutchinson's* account of the matter; but from the manners and character of the gentleman, I cannot suffer myself to doubt his veracity. Nevertheless, if I am misinformed, I will readily ask Colonel *Herrick's* pardon. I should not, gentlemen, have presumed to intrude myself upon you, if Colonel *Hutchinson* himself had had an opportunity of laying the affair before you; but as he failed of this, I thought myself bound in justice to support him, and to express my indignation, and to bear my testimony against the indecent attack by which a post well deserved, and fairly obtained, was attempted to be wrested from him. This letter, if it comes to Colonel *Herrick's* knowledge, will doubtless offend him; but if it be necessary to expose it, I do not wish it should be concealed. Yet I am desirous of the friendship of all men; but in the innocence and integrity of my heart, I wrote my first letter in favour of Colonel *Hutchinson* and Colonel *Mansfield*; in the same spirit I have written this, and if a gentleman is offended with me for doing my duty, I can bear his resentment or reproaches with patience. I had like to have forgot to add, though it is of importance, and what, for the good of the common cause, I am bound to say, that it is probable the Regiment will be much dissatisfied if the Lieutenant-Colonel be displaced; and one Company, I am informed, have already expressed great uneasiness about it. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

TIMOTHY PICKERING, JUN.

To the Committee of Safety.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE HON. ENOCH FREEMAN, ESQ., TO SAMUEL FREEMAN, WATERTOWN.

Falmouth, May 10, 1775.

We are in confusion; though Colonel *Thompson* wrote us he had laid aside the scheme of coming here to take the Ship *Canceaux*, yet he appeared yesterday on the back of the *Neck*. I cannot help thinking but that it is a very imprudent action, and fear it will bring on the destruction of



the Town; for we can make no defence against a Man-of-War, and, undoubtedly, in a short time there won't be a house standing here.

Pray let Congress be informed of this affair, and let us know whether *Thompson* had such orders; and pray the Congress to give us some direction, for we are in such confusion nobody seems to be rational.

#### NEW-KENT COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for *New-Kent* County, at the Court-House, the 11th day of *May*, 1775:

The Committee taking into consideration Lord *Dunmore's* Proclamation, dated the third day of this month, said to be issued with the advice of His Majesty's Council, wherein the inhabitants of this Colony are indiscriminately charged, in general terms, with dissatisfaction to His Majesty's Government, and a design to effect a change in the form of it, think it necessary for themselves and their constituents to declare their sentiments. And accordingly,

*Resolved unanimously*, That unfeigned loyalty to His Majesty's person and Government, as by law established, and a due obedience to the laws of our Country, are the ruling principles of the inhabitants of this County; and that the suggestion on which the said Proclamation appears to be founded, so far as it respects the inhabitants of this County, is an injurious reflection upon them, and has no foundation in truth. At the same time we are determined, for ourselves and posterity, to support and maintain the rights and privileges of *British* subjects, which we are entitled to, against any tyrannical attempts whatever.

*Resolved*, That the Resolutions of this Committee, entered into on the third of this month, and the first Resolution entered into this day, be sent to the Printers to be published. By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM SMITH, *Clerk*.

#### SOMERSET COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

Pursuant to notice given by the Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence for the County of *Somerset*, in *New-Jersey*, the Freeholders of the County met at the Court-House the 11th day of *May*, 1775:

HENDRICK FISHER, Esq., chosen *Chairman*,  
FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, *Clerk*.

1. *Resolved*, That the several steps taken by the *British* Ministry to enslave the *American* Colonies, and especially the late alarming hostilities commenced by the Troops under General *Gage* against the inhabitants of *Massachusetts-Bay*, loudly call on the people of this Province to determine what part they will act in this situation of affairs; and that we therefore readily consent to elect Deputies for a Provincial Congress, to meet at *Trenton* on *Tuesday*, the 23d instant, agreeable to the advice and direction of the Provincial Committee of Correspondence.

2. *Resolved*, That the number of Deputies shall be nine, and that they shall be chosen by ballot.

Adjourned for an hour.

Four o'clock, the people re-assembled.

*Hendrick Fisher*, *John Roy*, Esquires, *Mr. Frederick Frelinghuysen*, *Mr. Enos Kelsey*, *Peter Schenck*, *Jonathan D. Sergeant*, *Nathaniel Airts*, *William Patterson*, and *Abraham Van Nest*, Esquires, are appointed Deputies for this County, who, or any five of them, are hereby empowered to meet the Deputies from the other Counties in Provincial Congress, at *Trenton*, on *Tuesday* the 23d instant, and to agree to all such measures as shall be judged necessary for the preservation of our constitutional rights and privileges.

*Resolved*, That the Deputies for this County be instructed, and they are hereby instructed to join with the Deputies from the other Counties, in forming such plan for the Militia of this Province, as to them shall seem proper; and we heartily agree to arm and support such a number of men as they shall order to be raised in this County.

*Resolved*, That this County will pay the expenses of their Deputies who shall attend the Congress.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Tobias Van Norden* and *Daniel Blackford* be added to the Committee of Observation for the Township of *Bridgewater*. By order:

FREDERICK FRELINGHUYSEN, *Clerk*.

#### RECANTATIONS OF MR. BAILEY, MR. M'MASTER, AND MR. ACHINCLOSS.

Whereas, I the subscriber, have, for a long series of time, both done and said many things that I am sensible has proved of great disadvantage to this Town and the Continent in general; and am now determined by my future conduct to convince the publick that I will risk my life and interest in defence of the constitutional privileges of this Continent, and humbly ask the forgiveness of my friends and the Country in general for my past conduct.

P. BAILEY.

Portsmouth, N. H., May 11, 1775.

Whereas, I the subscriber, have, for a long series of time, both done and said many things that I am sensible has proved of great disadvantage to this Town and the Continent in general; and am now determined by my future conduct to convince the publick that I will risk my life and interest in defence of the constitutional privileges of this Continent, and humbly ask the forgiveness of my friends and the Country in general for my past conduct.

JAMES McMASTER.

Portsmouth, N. H., May 11, 1775.

Whereas my past conduct hath made an ill impression upon the minds of many of the inhabitants of this Town and Province; and as many view me unfriendly to the rights and liberties of *British America*, I hereby declare that I am heartily sorry that any part of my conduct should have given uneasiness to any of the friends of *America*; and hereby engage to aid and assist in supporting the common cause of *America* to the utmost of my power; and I hope my future conduct will render me worthy of the friendship and protection of this Country.

THOS. ACHINCLOSS.

Portsmouth, N. H., May 22, 1775.

#### COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL THOMAS.

Cambridge, May 11, 1775.

The Captains *Caleb Wright* and *John Holmes*, of the County of *Berkshire*, now report verbally, that your Excellency is willing that about sixty of Colonel *Fellows's* men, who have not enlisted, may have liberty to return home, they having first the consent of this Committee. We have conferred with his Excellency General *Ward*, upon the subject, and are of opinion that no liberty ought to be granted to any for that purpose until the camps are so far strengthened as that all who were called in upon the late alarm may have liberty to return; and as the Troops from *Connecticut* are very soon expected, we think that these, with others which are daily coming in, will strengthen our hands so far as to relieve those who want to return to their homes. We are, &c.

#### LETTER FROM FALMOUTH, MASS., TO A GENTLEMAN IN WATERTOWN, DATED MAY 11, 1775.

SIR: It may not be disagreeable to you to have a more particular account of the solemn scene that has been acted here for two or three days past, than it can be expected common fame will give you.

Last *Tuesday* morning, Lieutenant-Colonel *Thompson*, of *Brunswick*, with about fifty armed men, with each a small bough of spruce in his hat, and having a spruce pole, with a green top on it for a standard, landed on the back part of our *Neck*, at a place called *Sandy Point*, where is a thick grove of trees. In that place they lay, unknown to the people of the Town, seizing and detaining several persons that happened to pass that way, till about one o'clock, when Captain *Mowat*, the Surgeon of his ship, and the Reverend Mr. *Wiswal*, taking a walk that way for their pleasure, were seized and made prisoners. As soon as the master of the ship (one *Hogg*) heard of it, he wrote to Colonel *Freeman*, that if Captain *Mowat* and the other prisoners were not delivered up in an hour or two, (I do not certainly know the time,) he would lay the Town in ashes. You can hardly conceive the consternation, confusion, and uproar that immediately ensued. Our women were, I believe, every one of them in tears, or praying, or



screaming; precipitately leaving their houses, especially those whose husbands were not at home, and widows hurrying their goods into countrymen's carts, never asking their names, though strangers, and carrying their children either out of Town, or up to the south end, according to the greater or less irritability of their nerves. Some persons bed-ridden, or in childbed, were hastily removed, with no small danger of their lives. Several gentlemen of the Town, who could attend it, and I among the rest, immediately repaired to Colonel *Thompson's* camp; and after obtaining leave of the advance guard, were permitted to speak with him. We endeavoured to persuade him to deliver up the prisoners, by all the rational arguments we could think of, but he appeared inflexible, and even furious. Here and there one in the Town (none but Tories however) were at first for rescuing the prisoners by our Militia; but the general voice of the Town was to observe a strict neutrality, excepting persuasives and arguments.

Colonel *Phinney*, of *Gorham*, Colonel of the Minute-Men, being in Town, and fearing a rescue, or for some other reason, sent out for his men, I suppose without asking the advice of any body; and soon afterwards sent word that they need not come into Town. Night was coming on, and the weather cool and windy, which endangered the health of some of the gentlemen, at least in the open field. It was therefore agreed by Colonel *Freeman* and his advisers, at the desire of *Mowat*, and by the free consent of *Thompson*, that the company of Cadets should escort the party and the prisoners to Mr. *Marston's*, in order that a consultation might be further held there. The two companies remained embodied before the door. Colonel *Thompson* remained unwilling to deliver up the prisoners, insisting much that Divine Providence had thrown them into his hands, and that it was open and settled war between the Colonies and *Britain*. But he was more and more convinced that the whole force of the Town was against him, and found himself disappointed of a reinforcement that he expected to meet him here; so that by about nine o'clock in the evening he was much cooled; and the prisoners giving their parole that they would deliver themselves into his hands at nine the next morning, General *Preble* and Colonel *Freeman* pledging themselves for them, he consented to set them at liberty. Upon which *Mowat*, having expressed his gratitude to the Town in strong terms, went aboard, and dismissed a number of our people, whom the master had, during the afternoon, caught in boats and made prisoners. But when Colonel *Thompson's* men found that he had given *Mowat* his liberty, they were hard to pacify. Not only Colonel *Phinney's* Minute-Men, but most of the Militia from *Gorham*, *Scarborough*, *Cape Elizabeth*, and *Stroudwater*, in the whole amounting, it is said, to six hundred, came into Town before morning, highly enraged at Captain *Mowat's* being dismissed, and seemingly determined to destroy his ship. *Wednesday* morning, when it was found that *Mowat* would not deliver himself up, the Army took and made prisoners of General *Preble* and Colonel *Freeman*, threatening to treat them in the same manner as they would treat *Mowat*, if they had him. Even their children were not permitted to speak with them, and they had no dinner that day. All the officers of the companies then present agreed to resolve themselves into a Committee of War; and after some hesitation they admitted the officers of our companies on the *Neck*, into the Committee; in which Committee a vote was passed by a considerable majority, that Captain *Mowat's* ship ought to be destroyed. In the next place they appointed a Committee out of their number, to consider in what manner it should be done. This Committee have not yet reported as I can find; but they have proceeded to call men before them who were suspected of being Tories, to question them, to draw promises from them, and especially to draw money and provisions from them. The Reverend Mr. *Wiswall* delivered himself up very willingly, and seemed rather impatient till they had him with them; saying to some that passed by his door, he was ready to die at any time, as he knew he was in a good cause—the cause of the church of *England*.

The Committee interrogated him concerning his political principles. He declared an abhorrence of the doctrine of passive obedience and non-resistance, and that he thought

*Great Britain* had no right to tax *America* internally; but as to the late Acts of Parliament, he had not examined them, and did not choose to give his opinion concerning them.

Old Mr. *Wyer* had a file of men sent after him, who, holding a pistol to his breast, forced him to go before the Committee; and when there he was interrogated whether he had said, "the Militia ought to rescue Captain *Mowat*?" to which he answered in the affirmative; also, whether he did not think it an imprudent speech? to which he answered, yes; also, whether he were of the same mind now? He answered, no, as matters are circumstanced; then whether he would say any thing again against the body of men in Town? He said, no. The Committee soon agreed to dismiss him, and one of them said he was not worth their notice. He thanked the gentlemen for their civility, made a low bow, and departed. Captain *Steward* called to the crowd before the door, to make way for Mr. *Wyer*, and told them out of the window the Committee had dismissed him as unworthy of their notice.

Captain *Pote* was fetched before the Committee, without making any resistance, though he had made formidable preparations to defend himself. It is reported that the Committee made him give them, for the benefit of the body, about fifty Pounds, (old tenour,) in cash and provisions, and that they have bound him in a bond of two thousand Pounds, to appear at the Congress of the Province, and give an account of himself to them. They taxed General *Preble* some barrels of bread and a number of cheeses, and two barrels of rum for each company then in Town, which he readily gave them, *Wednesday* afternoon, in value about ten Pounds, lawful money. *Wednesday* evening they made out a bill of one hundred and fifty-eight Pounds, lawful money, against *Preble* and *Freeman*, to satisfy the body for their time and trouble in the expedition; but I hear they have dropped that demand.

Yesterday morning they entered the house of Captain *Coulson*, and they use it as a barrack. The men made so free with a barrel of *New-England* rum, which they found in the cellar, that some of them were quite, and others almost drunken.

Between meetings yesterday, *Calvin Lombard*, being raised with liquor, went down to the water side and fired a brace of balls at *Mowat's* ship, which penetrated deep in its sides. The fire was answered from a fusee on board, but with no aim to do execution. Captain *Mowat* immediately wrote to Colonel *Freeman* to deliver up *Calvin*, and to raise the militia to dispel the mob from the country, as he called them, assuring him that otherwise he must fire upon the Town. This threw the Town again into a panic, but we had, notwithstanding, a pretty full meeting in the afternoon.

Yesterday they hauled Captain *Coulson's* boat up to the house, where it remained till just now, three quarters after twelve, when near a hundred men hauled it up through the streets and into Captain *Pearson's* back lot, down almost to the Cove. It is reported that *Mowat* sent word, or wrote on shore last evening, that he had bought that boat of *Coulson*, and paid for it, and that if it were not returned immediately, or speedily, he would fire upon the Town. He doubtless saw it hauled away just now, but he has not fired as yet; and here I sit writing at my desk in the old place, being fully convinced that *Mowat* never will fire upon the Town, in any case whatever. My house is turned into a kind of barrack. Several have removed bedding and other goods into it. We are full at nights. I don't know why people think themselves so safe here, unless it be because my wife is not yet much affrighted.

This morning the Committee sent to Deacon *Titcomb* for one hundred pounds of bread, who returned for answer that he had no bread but what he wanted for himself; but if the company would go out of Town immediately, he would give it them. Colonel *Phinney* promised that he would do his utmost endeavour to get them out of Town to-day; therefore the bread was delivered.

*Friday*, 3 o'clock.—They have just hauled another boat over to *Back Cove*, and left it with the former. The boat belongs to the ship. They have this day carried off Mr. *Tyng's* Bishop, a piece of plate said to be worth five hundred Pounds, (old tenour,) and his laced hat; but they say



they only take these things as pawns, to make the owners behave better, or to that purpose.

*Friday, 6 o'clock.*—The *Gorham* Company being the only one that remained here since *Wednesday* evening, excepting *Thompson*, are now gone out of Town, being urged and coaxed to it by Colonel *Phinney*. The Town thinks itself greatly relieved by it.

These companies paid no regard to the fast yesterday. I cannot find that any of them attended publick worship, except one; nor any of their officers, except Colonel *Phinney*. He was sent for to *Back Cove* by Colonel *Mitchell* and Colonel *Merrill*, who were vexed at the proceedings of the armament, and came to give advice. But *Thompson* would not wait on his senior.

The soldiery thought nothing too bad to say of the *Falmouth* gentry. Some of them were heard to say as they walked the streets yesterday, "this Town ought to be laid in ashes." I find the plan was concerted beforehand on purpose to humble *Falmouth*, for its arrogance in sending a message to *Thompson* last week, to dissuade him from coming to take the ships. He then wrote to Colonel *Freeman* that he had wholly laid aside his design; and being reminded of it, his answer was, "there is policy in war."

*Saturday, A. M.*—*Thompson* is not gone, as we supposed last night. The ship has sent out a little vessel with a swivel, to interrupt him. If he had gone last night he would have been destroyed. Your friend and servant.

P. S. Being disappointed last *Saturday* of sending the above, I am now able to add something more. Captain *Mowat* sent a letter to the Town on *Saturday*, informing them that he had heard that fort guns were going to be brought in and replaced, in order to destroy his ship; and demanding of the Town to return his boats, and drive out of Town the cowardly mob that was here. The Selectmen warned a Town-Meeting, to meet at eight o'clock, *Monday* morning. They met accordingly, and gave *Mowat* such an answer as pleased him: "That the Town disapproved of the proceedings of the armed body, but that we were unable to resist them."

The Reverend Mr. *Wiswal* went on board ship on *Saturday*; and *Sabbath* morning sent to his Wardens that he should not preach in the church, but that they might come on board if they pleased, and hear him. None went. Some say he has taken a final leave of his people; how it is I cannot yet find out. His family remains here, and he is gone to *Portsmouth*; some say and think to get himself a settlement there. His people seem to be universally set against him, except a few high Tories, and wish never to see his face any more.

Yesterday *Mowat* and *Coulson* and their ships departed for *Portsmouth*.

COMMITTEE OF DEER ISLAND TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Deer Island, Lincoln County, May 11, 1775.

SIRS: We, who are the Committee of this Town, do desire to make our complaint unto you, and will inform you in what poor circumstances we are at this time; and would beg your assistance, as we are without powder and ball, and no way to get any, as our wood and lumber will not sell at any price; and, gentlemen, we are in great want for corn and pork, and shall suffer, unless we have help from you, and unless the ports are opened and trade goes on. And, gentlemen, if you will be so kind unto us as to help us, we will make you full satisfaction for the same when we can sell our lumber. We would inform you that there is on this Island about three hundred souls, and we beg that you would consider what a poor condition we must be in. Gentlemen, we can't purchase either corn or pork at any rate whatsoever, and hope that your love and regard for your brethren, and true sons of liberty, will send us speedy relief. And, gentlemen, in complying with the above, you will greatly oblige your humble servants,

NATHAN DOW, ROBERT NASON,  
FRANCIS HASKELL, SAMUEL RAYNER,  
COVITNEY BABIDGE, ISAIAH CROCKETT.  
THOMAS THOMSON.

To the Hon. Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress.

COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO THE COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION, NEW-YORK.

Watertown, May 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We are directed by the Congress of this Colony, who are just informed that two men-of-war, the *Asia*, and one other, with three or four companies of Troops on board, sailed yesterday from *Boston* for your place, to give you the earliest notice thereof.

It is supposed that they have orders to secure the ammunition and military stores in the Fort of your City, &c., and your noble exertions in the common cause have given the Congress reason to think that a timely information relative to the matter, would be important to you. The post is now in waiting, which prevents us from indulging an inclination of enlarging. We are, respectfully, gentlemen, &c.,

ELBRIDGE GERRY, } Committee of  
JAMES WARREN, } Congress.  
BENJAMIN LINCOLN, }

To the Committee of Inspection of New-York.

COMMITTEE AT TICONDEROGA TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, May 10, 1775.

To the Provincial Congress now sitting at *Watertown*:

This is to certify, that previous to Colonel *Benedict Arnold's* arrival to the Forts *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, a Committee sent from the Colony of *Connecticut*, furnished with money for the purpose of reducing and garrisoning said Forts, had, with the assistance of seventy men from the *Massachusetts*, and one hundred and forty from the *New-Hampshire* Grants, marched within a few miles of *Ticonderoga*, and this morning, at daybreak, took possession of said Fort, and have given the command thereof into the hands of Colonel *Ethan Allen*. And said *Arnold* refuses to give up his command, which causes much difficulty; said *Arnold* not having enlisted one man, neither do we know that he has or could do it. And as said Committee have raised the men, and are still raising supplies for the purpose of repairing said Forts, taking the armed sloop, and defending this Country and said Forts, we think that said *Arnold's* farther procedure in this matter highly inexpedient, both in regard to expense and defence.

JAMES EASTON, EDWARD MOTT,  
EPAP. BULL, NOAH PHELPS.

Committee of War for the Expedition against TICONDEROGA and CROWN POINT.

ETHAN ALLEN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, May 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have to inform you with pleasure unfelt before, that on break of day of the tenth of *May, 1775*, by the order of the General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*, took the Fortress of *Ticonderoga* by storm. The soldiery was composed of about one hundred *Green Mountain Boys*, and near fifty veteran soldiers from the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. The latter was under the command of Colonel *James Easton*, who behaved with great zeal and fortitude, not only in council, but in the assault. The soldiery behaved with such resistless fury, that they so terrified the King's Troops that they durst not fire on their assailants, and our soldiery was agreeably disappointed. The soldiery behaved with uncommon rancour when they leaped into the Fort; and it must be confessed that the Colonel has greatly contributed to the taking of that Fortress, as well as *John Brown, Esq.*, Attorney at Law, who was also an able counsellor, and was personally in the attack. I expect the Colonies will maintain this Fort. As to the cannon and warlike stores, I hope they may serve the cause of liberty instead of tyranny, and I humbly implore your assistance in immediately assisting the Government of *Connecticut* in establishing a garrison in the reduced premises. Colonel *Easton* will inform you at large. From, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

To the Honourable Congress of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, or Council of War.



## BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Ticonderoga, May 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I wrote you yesterday that arriving in the vicinity of this place, I found one hundred and fifty men collected at the instance of some gentlemen from *Connecticut* (designed on the same errand on which I came) headed by Colonel *Ethan Allen*, and that I had joined them, not thinking proper to wait the arrival of the Troops I had engaged on the road, but to attempt the Fort by surprise; that we had taken the Fort at four o'clock yesterday morning without opposition, and had made prisoners, one Captain, one Lieutenant, and forty odd privates and subalterns, and that we found the Fort in a most ruinous condition and not worth repairing; that a party of fifty men were gone to *Crown Point*, and that I intended to follow with as many men to seize the sloop, &c., and that I intended to keep possession here until I had farther advice from you. On and before our taking possession here, I had agreed with Colonel *Allen* to issue further orders jointly, until I could raise a sufficient number of men to relieve his people; on which plan we proceeded when I wrote you yesterday, since which, Colonel *Allen*, finding he had the ascendancy over his people, positively insisted I should have no command, as I had forbid the soldiers plundering and destroying private property. The power is now taken out of my hands, and I am not consulted, nor have I a voice in any matters. There is here at present near one hundred men, who are in the greatest confusion and anarchy, destroying and plundering private property, committing every enormity, and paying no attention to publick service. The party I advised were gone to *Crown Point*, are returned, having met with head winds, and that expedition, and taking the sloop, (mounted with six guns,) is entirely laid aside. There is not the least regularity among the Troops, but every thing is governed by whim and caprice; the soldiers threatening to leave the garrison on the least affront. Most of them must return home soon, as their families are suffering. Under our present situation, I believe one hundred men would retake the Fortress, and there seems no prospect of things being in a better situation. I have therefore thought proper to send an express, advising you of the state of affairs, not doubting you will take the matter into your serious consideration, and order a number of Troops to join those I have coming on here, or that you will appoint some other person to take the command of them and this place, as you shall think most proper. Colonel *Allen* is a proper man to head his own wild people, but entirely unacquainted with military service; and as I am the only person who has been legally authorized to take possession of this place, I am determined to insist on my right, and I think it my duty to remain here against all opposition, until I have further orders. I cannot comply with your orders in regard to the cannon, &c., for want of men. I have wrote to the Governour and General Assembly of *Connecticut*, advising them of my appointment, and giving them an exact detail of matters as they stand at present. I should be extremely glad to be honourably acquitted of my commission, and that a proper person might be appointed in my room. But as I have, in consequence of my orders from you, gentlemen, been the first person who entered and took possession of the Fort, I shall keep it, at every hazard, until I have further advice and orders from you and the General Assembly of *Connecticut*.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

P. S. It is impossible to advise you how many cannon are here and at *Crown Point*, as many of them are buried in the ruins. There is a large number of iron, and some brass, and mortars, &c., lying on the edge of the Lake, which, as the Lake is high, are covered with water. The confusion we have been in has prevented my getting proper information, further than that there are many cannon, shells, mortars, &c., which may be very serviceable to our Army at *Cambridge*.

B. A.

## EDWARD MOTT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Shoreham, May 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I would congratulate you on the surrender of the Garrison of *Ticonderoga* to the *American* forces.

The affair was planned and conducted after the following manner. A number of the principal gentlemen of the Assembly at *Hartford*, on *Friday*, the twenty-eighth of *April*, conversing on the distressed condition of the people of *Boston*, and the means necessary to relieve them, fell on the scheme to take that Fortress, that we might have the advantage of the cannon that were there, to relieve the people of *Boston*. I told the gentlemen that in my opinion it might be taken by surprise with a few men, if properly conducted. On which they desired me, if I was willing to serve my Country in that way, to join Captain *Noah Phelps*, of *Simsbury*, and Mr. *Bernard Romans*, on that design, and furnished us with three hundred Pounds in cash, from the Treasury, and desired us to go forward to the upper Towns, and search into the situation of said Garrison, and, if I thought proper, to proceed to take possession of the same. On which we collected to the number of sixteen men in *Connecticut*, and proceeded forward till we came to Colonel *Easton's*, at *Pittsfield*, and there consulted with Colonel *Easton* and John *Brown*, Esq., who, after they heard our plan of operation, agreed to join us; and, after informing them that we intended raising our men on the Grants for the aforesaid purpose, as it would be difficult to raise and march a number of men through the country any distance, without our plans being discovered, Colonel *Easton* and Mr. *Brown* told us that the people on the Grants were poor, and at this time of year it would be difficult to raise a sufficient number of men there to take and hold said Garrison, whereupon Colonel *Easton* offered to raise men in his own Regiment for the aforesaid purpose, to join with the *Green Mountain Boys*. On which I set out with him for the Town of *Jericho*, where Colonel *Easton* raised between forty and fifty men, and proceeded to *Bennington*, at which place the men arrived the next day. At which place a Council of War was called, Colonel *Easton* being Chairman, it was voted that Colonel *Allen* should send forward parties to secure the roads to the northward, to prevent all intelligence from arriving before us. On *Sunday* evening, the seventh of this instant, (*May*) we arrived at *Castleton*, where, the next day, was held a Council of War by a Committee chosen for that purpose, of which Committee I had the honour to be Chairman. After debating and consulting on different methods of procedure in order to accomplish our designs, it was concluded and voted that we would proceed in the following manner, viz: That a party of thirty men, under the command of Captain *Herrick*, should, on the next day, in the afternoon, proceed to *Skenesborough*, and take into custody Major *Skene* and his party, and take possession of all the boats that they should find there, and in the night proceed up the Lake to *Shoreham*, with the remainder of our men, which was about one hundred and forty, who were under the command of Colonel *Ethan Allen*, and Colonel *James Easton* was his second, and Captain *Warner* the third in command; as these three men were the persons who raised the men, they were chosen to command, and to rank according to the number of men that each one raised. We also sent off Captain *Douglass*, of *Jericho*, to proceed directly to *Panton*, and there consult his brother-in-law, who lived there, and send down some boats to *Shoreham*, if possible, to help our people over to the Fort. All this was concluded should be done, or attempted, and voted universally. After this affair was all settled, and the men pitched on to go in each party, all were preparing for their march, being then within about nine miles of *Skenesborough*, and about twenty-five miles, the way we went, from *Ticonderoga*.

Colonel *Arnold* arrived to us from you with his orders. We were extremely rejoiced to see that you fully agreed with us as to the expediency and importance of taking possession of those garrisons, but were shockingly surprised when Colonel *Arnold* presumed to contend for the command of those forces that we had raised, who we had assured should go under the command of their own officers, and be paid and maintained by the Colony of *Connecticut*. But Mr. *Arnold*, after we had generously told him our whole plan, strenuously contended and insisted that he had a right to command them and all their officers, which bred such a mutiny among the soldiers which had nearly frustrated our whole design, as our men were for clubbing their fire-locks and marching home, but were prevented by Col-



onel *Allen* and Colonel *Easton*, who told them that he should not have the command of them, and if he had, their pay would be the same as though they were under their command; but they would damn the pay, and say they would not be commanded by any others but those they engaged with; and after the Garrison was surrendered, Mr. *Arnold* again assumed the command of the Garrison, although he had not one man there, and demanded it of Colonel *Allen*, on which we gave Colonel *Allen* his orders in writing, as follows, viz:

“To Colonel *Ethan Allen*.

“SIR: Whereas, agreeable to the power and authority to us given by the Colony of *Connecticut*, we have appointed you to take the command of a party of men, and reduce and take possession of the Garrison at *Ticonderoga*, and the dependencies thereto belonging, and as you are now in actual possession of the same, you are hereby required to keep the command and possession of the same, for the use of the *American Colonies*, until you have further orders from the Colony of *Connecticut*, or the Continental Congress.

“Signed by order of the Committee of War:

“EDWARD MOTT, *Chairman*.”

#### CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

At a General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Connecticut in New-England*, in *America*, holden at *Hartford*, in said Colony, on the second *Thursday* of *May*, being the eleventh day of said month, and continued by several adjournments until the thirty-first day of the same month, *Annoque Domini* 1775: Present:

The Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour; the Honourable *Matthew Griswold*, Esq., Deputy Governour; *Jabez Hamlin*, *Elisha Sheldon*, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Pitkin*, *Roger Sherman*, *William Samuel Johnson*, *Abraham Davenport*, *Joseph Spencer*, *Oliver Wolcott*, *James Abraham Hilhouse*, Esquires, Assistants.

Representatives or Deputies of the Freemen of the several Towns are as follow, viz:

HARTFORD.—Colonel *John Pitkin*, Col. *Samuel Wyllys*.  
WEATHERSFIELD.—Major *Thomas Belding*.

EAST-WINDSOR.—Mr. *William Wolcott*, Colonel *Erastus Wolcott*.

SYMSEBURY.—Captain *Judah Holcomb*, Mr. *Asahal Holcomb*.

WINDSOR.—Captain *Henry Allen*, Captain *Jonah Phelps*.

FARMINGTON.—Captain *Isaac Lee*, Mr. *Jonathan Root*.

SUFFIELD.—Mr. *Alexander King*, Captain *John Leavitt*.

EAST-HADDAM.—Mr. *Daniel Brainard*, Mr. *Jabez Chapman*.

STAFFORD.—Capt. *Isaac Pinney*, Captain *Samuel Davis*.

HADDAM.—Captain *Joseph Brooks*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*.

COLCHESTER.—Mr. *Henry Champion*, Dr. *John Watrous*.

SOMERS.—Mr. *Reuben Sikes*, Captain *Emery Pease*.

HEBRON.—Captain *Benjamin Buel*, Captain *Obadiah Hosford*.

GLASTENBURY.—Captain *Jonathan Wells*, Mr. *Ebenezer Plummer*.

MIDDLETOWN.—Col. *Matthew Talcott*, Mr. *Titus Hosmer*.

BOLTON.—Mr. *Benjamin Trumbull*, Mr. *Seth King*.

TOLLAND.—Capt. *Solomon Wells*, Captain *Samuel Chapman*.

WILLINGTON.—Maj. *Elijah Fenton*, Capt. *Timothy Pearl*.

ENFIELD.—Major *Nathaniel Terry*, Mr. *Nathaniel Chapin*.

CHATHAM.—Mr. *David Sage*, Mr. *Ebenezer White*.

NEW-HAVEN.—Mr. *Samuel Bishop*, Captain *Jonathan Fitch*.

DURHAM.—Colonel *James Wadsworth*, Mr. *Daniel Hall*.

GUILFORD.—Colonel *Andrew Ward*, Mr. *John Burgess*.

DERBY.—Captain *John Holbrook*, Mr. *Joseph Hull*.

WATERBURY.—Mr. *Joseph Hopkins*, Colonel *Jonathan Baldwin*.

MILFORD.—Captain *John Fowler*, Mr. *Ephraim Strong*.

Colonel *James Easton* was of great service both in council and action, and in raising men for the above expedition, and appeared to be well qualified to be not only a Colonel of the Militia at home, but to command in the field. And also *John Brown*, Esq., of *Pittsfield*, we recommend as an able counsellor, and full of spirit and resolution, as well as good conduct; wish they may both be employed in the service of their Country equal to their merit.

I have the pleasure to add, that on *Wednesday* morning last, the tenth of this instant (*May*) about the break of day, our men entered the gate, till when they were undiscovered, and in the most courageous and intrepid manner darted like lightning upon the guards, so that but two had time to snap their fire-locks at us, and in a few minutes the Fortress, with its dependencies, were delivered into our hands. There are about forty soldiers taken prisoners of war, including officers and excluding those taken at *Skenesborough*. Not one life lost in these noble acquisitions.

I am, gentlemen, in haste, your most obedient humble servant,

EDWARD MOTT,

*Chairman of the Committee of War.*

To the Honourable Provincial Congress, or to the Council of War for the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*. Per favour of Colonel *James Easton*.

BRANFORD.—Captain *Edward Russell*, Mr. *Daniel Page*.

WALLINGFORD.—Mr. *Samuel Beach*, Captain *Thaddeus Cook*.

NEW-LONDON.—Mr. *Richard Law*, Mr. *William Hilhouse*.

NORWICH.—Mr. *Benjamin Huntington*, Mr. *Samuel Huntington*.

STONINGTON.—Mr. *Charles Phelps*, Mr. *Nathaniel Minor*.

KILLINGWORTH.—Captain *Elnathan Stevens*, Capt. *John Pierson*.

GROTON.—Mr. *Thomas Mumford*, Mr. *Nathan Gallop*.

PRESTON.—Captain *Roger Sperry*, Colonel *John Tyler*.

LYME.—Mr. *Marshfield Parsons*, Mr. *Ezra Selden*.

SAYBROOK.—Captain *John Ely*.

FAIRFIELD.—Mr. *Jonathan Sturgess*, Captain *Samuel Squier*.

STRATFORD.—Captain *Robert Fairchild*, Captain *Ichabod Lewis*.

STAMFORD.—Col. *Charles Webb*, Col. *David Waterbury*.

DANBURY.—Colonel *Joseph Platt Cook*, Mr. *Thomas Taylor*, Junior.

RIDGEFIELD.—Mr. *Lemuel Morehouse*.

READING.—Mr. *William Hawley*.

NORWALK.—Mr. *Thomas Belding*.

NEW-FAIRFIELD.—Mr. *Ephraim Hubbel*, Captain *Neemiah Beardslee*.

GREENWICH.—Major *John Mead*, Mr. *Peter Mead*.

NEWTOWN.—Mr. *Joseph Beach*.

WINDHAM.—Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin*, Mr. *Ebenezer Devotion*.

LEBANON.—Colonel *William Williams*, Mr. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Junior.

MANSFIELD.—Colonel *Experience Storrs*, Mr. *Nathaniel Atwood*.

WOODSTOCK.—Captain *Elisha Child*, Captain *Samuel McClellen*.

COVENTRY.—Captain *Ebenezer Kingsbury*, Mr. *Jeremiah Ripley*.

CANTERBURY.—Mr. *David Payne*, Mr. *Eliashib Adams*.

KILLINGLY.—Mr. *Stephen Crosby*, Capt. *Eleazar Warren*.

POMFRET.—General *Israel Putnam*, Mr. *Elisha Lord*.

ASHFORD.—Captain *Benjamin Sumner*, Captain *Ichabod Ward*.

PLAINFIELD.—Captain *James Bradford*, Mr. *William Robinson*.

VOLUNTOWN.—Major *James Gordon*, Mr. *Robert Hunter*.

LITCHFIELD.—Mr. *Jedediah Strong*, Major *David Welch*.

WOODBURY.—Mr. *Daniel Sherman*, Captain *Increase Moseley*.

SALISBURY.—Colonel *Joshua Porter*, Captain *Abel Camp*.

KENT.—Mr. *Ephraim Hubbel*, Junior, Captain *Eliphalet Whittlesey*.



CANAAN.—Mr. *Asahel Bebee*, Captain *Samuel Forbes*.

SHARON.—Major *Ebenezer Gay*, Mr. *James Pardee*.

NEW-MILFORD.—Major *Samuel Canfield*, Captain *Sherman Boardman*.

GOSHEN.—Colonel *Ebenezer Norton*, Captain *Samuel Nash*.

NEW-HARTFORD.—Major *Abel Merrill*, Mr. *Zebulon Merrill*.

CORNWALL.—Mr. *Heman Swift*, Captain *Thomas Porter*.

TORRINGTON.—Major *Epaphras Sheldon*, Mr. *Noah Marshall*.

HARWINTON.—Mr. *Josiah Phelps*, Mr. *Mark Prindle*.

WESTMORELAND.—Captain *Zebulon Butler*, Major *Ezekiel Pierce*.

*William Williams*, Esquire, Speaker of the House of Representatives; *Richard Law*, Esquire, Clerk.

*An Act in further addition to an Act entitled an Act for forming and regulating the Militia, and for the encouragement of military skill, for the better defence of this Colony.*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the Town of Westmoreland shall be one entire Regiment, distinguished and called by the name of the Twenty-Fourth Regiment, and shall be under the same rules and orders, and have the same powers, privileges, and advantages, as other Regiments of this Colony by law have.*

*An Act in further addition to an Act entitled An Act for forming and regulating the Militia, and for the encouragement of military skill, for the better defence of this Colony.*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the Towns of Middletown and Chatham shall be one entire Regiment, distinguished and called by the name of the Twenty-Third Regiment, and shall be under the same rules and orders, and have the same powers, privileges, and advantages as other Regiments of this Colony by law have.*

*An Act in addition to an Act made and passed at a General Assembly holden at HARTFORD, on the second WEDNESDAY of JANUARY, 1774, incorporating and constituting the Town of WESTMORELAND.*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the bounds of the Town of Westmoreland be, and they are hereby extended westward until they meet with the line lately settled with the Indians at Fort Stanwix, commonly called the Stanwix Line, bounding north and south on the north and south lines of this Colony; and the inhabitants on said tract of land annexed as aforesaid are hereby incorporated with said Town of Westmoreland, and the same is hereby annexed to the County of Litchfield, to be under the same regulations and restrictions as are in and by said Act incorporating said Town of Westmoreland provided.*

Whereas a sum of Money is necessary for payment of incident charges of Government: *Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That there be forthwith imprinted the sum of Fifty-Thousand Pounds, Bills of Credit on this Colony, equal to lawful money, of suitable denominations, as the Committee herein appointed shall direct, and of the same tenour with the late emission of Bills of Credit of this Colony, without interest, payable at or before the first day of June, Anno Domini 1778, dated the first day of June, 1775; and Jabez Hamlin, William Pitkin, George Wylls, Elisha Williams, Benjamin Payne, Thomas Seymour, and Jesse Root, Esquires, or any three of them, are appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid, to take care said Bills be imprinted with all convenient speed, and to sign and deliver the same to the Treasurer of this Colony, taking his receipt therefor, and the said Committee shall be sworn to a faithful discharge of their trust; and the Treasurer is hereby directed to pay out said Bills according to the order of Assembly.*

*And for providing an ample and sufficient Fund to call*

*in, sink, and discharge the aforesaid sum to be emitted as aforesaid: Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That a Tax of Seven-Pence on the Pound be, and is hereby granted and ordered to be levied on all the polls and rateable estate in this Colony, according to the list thereof, to be brought into this Assembly in October, 1776, with the additions; which Tax shall be collected and paid into the Treasury of this Colony by the first day of June, Anno Domini 1778; which Tax may be discharged by paying the Bills of this Colony of this emission, or lawful money. And the Treasurer of this Colony is hereby ordered and directed to send forth his warrants for collecting the same accordingly.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That the Embargo laid by the General Assembly at their session in April last, be continued on the several articles mentioned in the Act of said Assembly laying said Embargo, until the first day of August next, and the same is continued by this Assembly; and his Honour the Governour is desired to issue his Proclamation accordingly: provided, nevertheless, that his Honour the Governour, by and with the advice of the Council, be, and is hereby empowered to discontinue such Embargo, in whole or in part, at any time when it may be judged proper and expedient.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That there be provided ninety Marque or Officers' Tents, and five hundred Tents for private Soldiers, and also Cloth for forty-eight marque tents and four hundred and sixty tents for private soldiers; one thousand and ninety-eight iron Pots that will contain about ten quarts each, unless a number of tin Kettles are already provided, in which case the number of pots be reduced to the number that will remain after deducting said kettles, but if the number of pots cannot be procured, then the defect to be supplied with tin kettles; and one thousand and ninety-eight Pails; two brass Kettles that will contain from eight to twelve gallons, for the use of each Company; two thousand and five hundred wooden Bowls, in the whole; four Frying Pans for the use of each Company; six thousand quart Rundlets; sixty Drums, and one hundred and twenty Fifes, all for the use of said Troops; six Standards, one for each Regiment, distinguished by their colour as follows, viz: for the first yellow, for the second blue, for the third scarlet, for the fourth crimson, for the fifth white, and for the sixth azure; a Medicine Chest and apparatus to the value not exceeding Forty Pounds, for each Regiment, under the direction of the respective Surgeons, with a capital set of Instruments for the use of the whole corps on each particular destination, and that whatever of medicine, apparatus, and instruments are left or not used, be returned for the use of the Colony; about seventy Books, each in quarto, consisting of one quire of paper, covered with cartridge paper; two reams of writing paper immediately; also ten reams of paper for making cartridges; and also one Cart or Wagon for each Company.*

*And it is further resolved by this Assembly, That the allowance of Provisions for said Troops be as follows, viz: three-quarters of a pound of Pork, or one pound of Beef, and also one pound of Bread or Flour, with three pints of Beans to each man per day, the beef to be fresh two days in the week; and also half a pint of Rice or a pint of Indian-Meal, and also six ounces of Butter; also three pints of Peas or Beans to each man per week; also one gill of Rum to each man upon fatigue per day, and not at any other time; Milk, Molasses, Candles, Soap, Vinegar, Coffee, Chocolate, Sugar, Tobacco, Onions in their season, and Vegetables be provided for said Troops, at the discretion of the General and Field Officers.*

*And it is further resolved by this Assembly, That One Shilling and Six Pence shall be paid to each of said men who shall supply themselves with three pounds of Ball, also Three Shillings for a pound of Powder, and Three Pence for half a dozen Flints; in case of failure such defect to be supplied by the Selectmen of each Town respectively out of the Town Stock, and in case of further failure the deficiency of three pounds of ball, one pound of powder, and six flints to each man, shall be supplied out of the stock of ammunition belonging to this Colony, and the Treasurer is hereby directed to order the same accordingly. Those Troops who march Eastward to be supplied out of the Colony stock at New-London, Nor-*



*wich, Windham, or Mansfield*; and that the account of powder, ball, and flints that shall be supplied by the several Towns, shall be adjusted by two Assistants or Justices of the Peace, and delivered to the Selectmen of such respective Towns, who shall present the same to the Committee of the Pay-Table, who shall give an order on the Treasurer to pay the sum due to such Selectmen accordingly; and that the Paymaster of each Company shall take a particular account of the powder, ball, and flints that each person belonging to such Company shall provide for himself, and shall procure an order on the Treasurer from the Committee of the Pay-Table for the sums due for the same according to the rates aforesaid, and such Paymaster shall receive and pay the same to each person to whom it is due accordingly; and that five thousand of the flints that belong to this Colony shall be sent to *New-London*, and five thousand of ditto to *Norwich*, ten thousand of ditto to *Windham*, five thousand of ditto to remain at *New-Haven*, three thousand of ditto be sent to *Fairfield*, and two thousand be sent to *Litchfield*, and delivered to the Keepers of the Colony Stores in those places; and that one ton of the ball belonging to the Colony, in the care of the Treasurer, be forthwith sent to *Windham*.

*An Act for encouraging the Manufacturing Fire-Arms and Military Stores within this Colony, for the safety and defence thereof.*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That there be procured, as soon as may be, three thousand stands of Arms for the use of this Colony, of the following dimensions, viz: the length of the barrel of the gun three feet and ten inches, the diameter of the bore from inside to inside three-quarters of an inch, the length of the blade of the bayonet sixteen inches; the length of the socket four inches and one-quarter; that the barrels of the guns be of a suitable thickness, with iron ramrods, with a spring in the lowest loop to secure the ramrod; a good substantial lock, and a good stock well mounted with brass, and marked with the name or initial letters of the maker's name.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That a bounty of Five Shillings shall be given for every stand of Arms, including a good lock, that shall be manufactured within this Colony by or before the twentieth day of *October* next; provided the same be not made for or sold to any person not belonging to this Colony; and also that a bounty or premium of One Shilling and Six Pence be given for every good Gun-lock that shall be made and manufactured within this Colony by or before the twentieth day of *October* next; and that all such arms made and manufactured in this Colony by or before the twentieth day of *October* next, shall be purchased by this Colony at a reasonable price over and above the premium or bounty aforesaid.

*And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That *William Williams, William Hilhouse, Titus Hosmer, Ichabod Lewis, Ebenezer Norton, and Erastus Wolcott*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to procure said Fire-Arms to be made and completed according to the direction of this Act; and said Committee are hereby ordered and directed forthwith to make inquiry what number of fire-arms and gun-locks may probably be made and furnished in the several parts of this Colony by the twentieth day of *October* next, and report the same to his Honour the Governour as soon as may be. And said Committee are also hereby empowered and directed to receive such sums of money out of the publick Treasury as may be necessary to pay for the arms that shall be made and completed pursuant to this Act by the time limited as aforesaid, with the bounty and premium aforesaid; and the Treasurer of this Colony is hereby ordered and directed to pay the same accordingly. And said Committee are hereby directed to pay the same to the several persons to whom it is due pursuant to this Act, according to the orders and directions they shall receive from the General Assembly of this Colony for that purpose, and receive and secure such arms so purchased for the use and benefit of this Colony.

*And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That a bounty or premium of Ten Pounds shall be given for every fifty pounds weight of Saltpetre that shall be

made and manufactured from materials found in this Colony within one year next after the rising of this Assembly, and so in proportion for a greater or lesser quantity. And also that a bounty or premium of Five Pounds shall be given for every hundred pounds weight of Sulphur that shall be made and manufactured within this Colony from materials found in any of the *British Colonies* on the Continent of *America* within one year next after the rising of this Assembly, and so in proportion for a greater or lesser quantity.

*An Act for Regulating and Ordering the Troops that are or may be raised for the defence of this Colony.*

Whereas *God* in his providence hath been pleased in great mercy to bestow upon the inhabitants of this Colony all the rights, liberties, and immunities of the free and natural-born subjects of the Realm of *England*, which have been established and confirmed by a sacred compact, and secured by a Royal Charter—which rights, liberties, and immunities were the birthright of our brave, virtuous, and religious ancestors whilst in *England*, who, rather than submit to religious or civil tyranny, chose to leave their pleasant seats and all their happy prospects in their native Country, bravely encountered the danger of untried seas and coasts of a howling wilderness, barbarous men and savage beasts, at the expense of their ease and safety of their blood, their treasure, and their lives, transplanted and reared the *English* Constitution in these wilds upon the strong pillars of civil and religious liberty, and having led the way by their great example, bequeathed their inestimable purchase as a sacred and inalienable legacy to their posterity, who have ever since united the sincerest loyalty to their Sovereign and the warmest affection for their elder brethren in *England* with the enjoyment of their aforesaid rights, liberties, and immunities; nor have they till lately been thought incompatible:

And whereas since the close of the last war the *British* Parliament, claiming a power of right to bind the people of *America* by Statute in all cases whatsoever hath, in some Acts, expressly imposed taxes upon them; and in others, under various pretences, but in fact for the purpose of raising a Revenue, hath imposed rates and duties payable in these Colonies, established a Board of Commissioners with unconstitutional powers, and extended the jurisdiction of Courts of Admiralty, not only for collecting said duties, but also for the trial of causes merely arising within the body of a County:

And whereas, in consequence of other Statutes, Judges, who before held only estates at will in their offices, have been made to depend on the Crown alone for their salaries; and Standing Armies kept up in time of peace; and it has been lately resolved in Parliament that, by force of a Statute made in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of King *Henry* the Eighth, Colonists may be transported to *England* and tried there upon accusations for treason and misprision, or concealment of treasons committed or alleged to be committed in the Colonies; and by a late Statute such trials have been directed in cases therein mentioned:

And whereas three Acts of Parliament have been passed, by one of which the Port of *Boston* is shut up, and thousands reduced from affluence to poverty and distress; by another the Charter of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* is subverted and destroyed; and by the third, under pretence of the impartial administration of justice, all hope of justice is taken away in certain cases:

And whereas another Statute hath been made, by which the *Roman Catholick* Religion is established, the equitable system of *English* laws abolished, and a tyranny exercised in the Province of *Quebeck*, to the great danger of the neighbouring Colonies; and also in the present session of Parliament another Act is passed, by which the *New-England* Colonies are in a great measure deprived of their Trade and Fishery—the blessings which *God* and nature have indulged them, being thus attempted by force to be wrested from them:

And whereas all our humble, dutiful, and loyal Petitions to the Throne for redress of grievances, have been treated with contempt, or passed by in silence by His Majesty's Ministers of State; and the refusal to surrender our just rights, liberties, and immunities, hath been styled rebellion, and Fleets and Armies have been sent into a neighbouring



Colony to force them to submit to slavery, and awe the other Colonies to submission, by the example of vengeance inflicted on her; who have, besides the usual calamities and insults that proceed from standing armies, fortified the Town of *Boston*, driven the peaceable inhabitants from their dwellings, and imbrued their hands in the blood of our countrymen; all which acts and measures have relation to all the *British* Colonies, in the principles from which they flow, and are evidently intended to force or terrify them into a submission to Parliamentary taxation, or at least into a surrender of their property at the pleasure of the *British* Parliament, and in such proportions as they shall please to prescribe, with which we must comply, or lie at the mercy of those who cannot know our situation and circumstances, and will be interested to oppress and enslave us; our liberty, our lives and property, will become precarious and dependant on the will of men over whom we can have no check or control; religion, property, personal safety, learning, arts, publick and private virtue, social happiness, and every blessing attendant on liberty, will fall victims to measures advanced and pursued against us, whilst shameless vice, infidelity, irreligion, abject dependance, ignorance, superstition, meanness, scurrility, and the whole train of despotism present themselves to our view in melancholy prospect:

And whereas, although this Assembly wish for no new rights and privileges, and desire only to preserve their ancient Constitution, as it has been understood and practised upon from the beginning; freely yielding to the *British* Parliament the regulation of our external commerce, for the purpose of securing the commercial advantages of all the Dominions of our Sovereign to the Mother Country, and the commercial benefits of its several members, excluding every idea of taxation for raising a revenue without our consent, and claiming only a right to regulate our internal police and Government, and are most earnestly desirous of peace, and deprecate the horrors of war; yet, when they see military preparations against them at hand, and the hopes of peace and harmony placed at a greater distance; being fully determined never to make a voluntary sacrifice of their rights, and not knowing how soon Parliamentary and Ministerial vengeance may be directed against them immediately, as it is now against the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, who are suffering in the common cause of *British America*; trusting in the justice of their cause, and the righteous providence of Almighty *God*, for the restoration of quiet and peace, or success in their efforts for their defence, have thought it their duty to raise Troops for the defence of this Colony:

And whereas it is necessary that such Troops, both officers and soldiers, should be made acquainted with their duty, and that Articles, Rules, and Regulations should be established to preserve order, good government, and discipline in the Army, agreeable to the mild spirit of our Constitution, and not according to the severities practised in Standing Armies:

Therefore, be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same: ARTICLE I. That all officers and soldiers not having just impediment shall diligently frequent divine service and sermon, in the places appointed for assembling the Regiment, Troop, or Company to which they belong; and such as wilfully absent themselves, or being present behave indecently or irreverently, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a Regimental Court Martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the President; if non-commissioned officers or soldiers, every person so offending shall, for his first offence, forfeit One Shilling, to be deducted out of his wages; for his second offence, he shall not only forfeit One Shilling, but be confined not exceeding twenty-four hours, and for every like offence shall suffer and pay in like manner; which money so forfeited shall be applied to the use of the sick soldiers of the Troop or Company to which the offender belongs.

ART. II. That whatever non-commissioned officers and soldiers shall use any unlawful oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the first Article; and if a commissioned officer be thus guilty of profane cursing or swearing, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence the sum of Four Shillings, lawful money.

ART. III. That any officer or soldier who shall behave

himself with contempt or disrespect towards the General or Generals, or Commander-in-Chief, or shall speak words tending to his or their hurt or dishonour, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the judgment of a General Court Martial.

ART. IV. That any officer or soldier who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any meeting or sedition in the Regiment, Troop, or Company to which he belongs, or in any other Regiment, Troop, or Company of the forces of this Colony; either by land or sea, or in an party, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court Martial shall be ordered.

ART. V. That any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who being present at any meeting or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavours to suppress the same, or, coming to the knowledge of any mutiny or intended mutiny, does not, without delay, give information thereof to the commanding officers, shall be punished by order of a General Court Martial according to the nature of his offence.

ART. VI. That any officer or soldier who shall strike his superiour officer, or draw or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful command of his superiour officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence, be ordered by the sentence of a General Court Martial.

ART. VII. That any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall desert, or without leave of his commanding officer absent himself from the Troop or Company to which he belongs, or from any detachment of the same, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a General Court Martial.

ART. VIII. That whatsoever officer or soldier shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other officer or soldier to desert, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court Martial.

ART. IX. That all officers of what condition soever shall have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays and disorders, though the persons concerned should belong to another Regiment, Troop, or Company, and either order officers to be arrested, or non-commissioned officers or soldiers to be confined and imprisoned, till their proper superiour officers shall be acquainted therewith; and whoever shall refuse to obey such officer, though of an inferiour rank, or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a General Court Martial.

ART. X. That no officer or soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches or gestures to another, nor shall any officer or soldier presume to send a challenge to any person to fight a duel; and whoever shall, knowingly and willingly, suffer any person whatsoever to go forth to fight a duel, or shall second, promote, or carry any challenge, shall be deemed a principal therein; and whatsoever officer or soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge shall also be considered as a challenger, and all such offenders in any of these or such like cases, shall be punished at the discretion of a General Court Martial.

ART. XI. That every officer commanding in quarters, or on a march, shall keep good order, and to the utmost of his power redress all such abuses or disorders which may be committed by any officer or soldier under his command; if upon any complaint made to him of officers or soldiers beating or otherwise ill treating any person, or of committing any kind of riot to the disquieting of the inhabitants of this Continent, he the said commander who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation make to the party or parties injured, as far as the offender's wages shall enable him or them, shall, upon due proof thereof, be punished as ordered by a General Court Martial, in such manner as if he himself had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

ART. XII. That if any officer shall think himself to be wronged by his Colonel, or his Commanding Officer of the Regiment, and shall, upon due application made to him, be refused to be redressed, he may complain to the General or Commander-in-Chief of the forces of this Colony, in order to obtain justice, who is hereby required to examine into said complaint and see that justice be done.



ART. XIII. That if any inferiour officer or soldier shall think himself wronged by his Captain or other officer commanding the Troop or Company to which he belongs, he is to complain thereof to the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, who is hereby required to summon a Regimental Court Martial for the doing justice to the complainant, from which Regimental Court Martial either party may, if he think himself still aggrieved, appeal to a General Court Martial; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal shall appear to be vexatious and groundless, the person so appealing shall be punished at the discretion of the General Court Martial.

ART. XIV. That whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall be convicted at a Regimental Court Martial of having sold, or designedly, or through neglect, wasted the Ammunition, Arms, or Provision, or other Military Stores delivered out to him to be employed in the service of this Colony, shall, if an officer, be reduced to a private sentinel, and if a private soldier, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a Regimental Court Martial.

ART. XV. That all non-commissioned officers and soldiers who shall be found one mile from the camp, without leave in writing from their Commanding Officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him or them by the sentence of a Regimental Court Martial.

ART. XVI. That no officer or soldier shall be out of his quarters or camp without leave from their Commanding Officer of the Regiment, upon penalty of being punished, according to the nature of his offence, by order of a Regimental Court Martial.

ART. XVII. That every non-commissioned officer or soldier shall retire to his quarters or tent at the beating of the retreat, in default of which he shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of the Commanding Officer.

ART. XVIII. That no officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, shall fail of repairing at the time fixed, to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by the Commanding Officer, if not prevented by sickness or some other evident necessity, or shall go from the said place of rendezvous, or from his guard, without leave from his Commanding Officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a Regimental Court Martial.

ART. XIX. That whatsoever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty, under arms, shall be cashiered for it; any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a Regimental Court Martial.

ART. XX. That whatsoever sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court Martial.

ART. XXI. That any person belonging to the Troops of this Colony, who, by discharging of fire-arms, beating of drums, or by any other means whatever, shall occasion false alarms in camp or quarters, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court Martial.

ART. XXII. That any officer or soldier who shall, without urgent necessity, or without leave of his superiour officer, quit platoon or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a Regimental Court Martial.

ART. XXIII. That no officer or soldier shall do violence or offer any insult or abuse to any person who shall bring provisions or other necessaries to the camp or quarters of the Army; any officer or soldier so offending shall, upon complaint being made to the Commanding Officer, suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a Regimental Court Martial.

ART. XXIV. That whatsoever officer or soldier shall shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like in time of an engagement, shall suffer death immediately.

ART. XXV. That any person belonging to the forces raised, or that may be raised for the defence of this Colony, who shall make known the watchword to any person who is not entitled to receive it according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole or watchword different from what he received, shall suffer

death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court Martial.

ART. XXVI. That whosoever belonging to the forces raised, or that may be raised for the defence of this Colony, shall relieve the enemy in Money, Victuals, or Ammunition, or shall knowingly harbour or protect an enemy, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court Martial shall be ordered.

ART. XXVII. That whosoever belonging to the forces already raised, or that may be raised for the defence of this Colony, shall be convicted of holding correspondence with, or of giving intelligence to, the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court Martial shall be ordered.

ART. XXVIII. That all Publick Stores taken in the enemy's camp or magazines, whether of Artillery, Ammunition, Clothing, or Provisions, shall be secured for the use of the Colony.

ART. XXIX. That if any officer or soldier shall leave his Post or Colours, in time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall, upon being convicted thereof before a General Court Martial, suffer such punishment as by said Court Martial shall be ordered.

ART. XXX. That if any Commander of any Post, Intrenchment, or Fortress, shall be compelled by the officers or soldiers under his command to give it up to the enemy, or to abandon it, the commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, or soldiers, who shall be convicted of having so offended, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a General Court Martial.

ART. XXXI. That all sutlers and retailers to a camp, and all persons whatsoever serving with the forces already raised, or that may be raised for the defence of this Colony in the field, though not enlisted soldiers, are to be subjected to the same orders, rules, and regulations, to which the officers and soldiers are or shall be subjected.

ART. XXXII. That no General Court Martial shall consist of less than thirteen, none of which shall be under the degree of a commissioned officer; and the President of each and every Court Martial, whether General or Regimental, shall have power to administer an oath to every witness, in order to the trial of offenders; and the members of all Courts Martial shall be duly sworn by the President, and the next in rank on the Court Martial shall administer the oath to the President.

ART. XXXIII. That the members both of General and Regimental Courts Martial shall, when belonging to different Corps, take the same rank which they hold in the Army; but when Courts Martial shall be composed of officers of one Corps, they shall take their ranks according to their commissions by which they are mustered in the said Corps.

ART. XXXIV. That all the members of a Court Martial are to behave with calmness, decency, and impartiality, and in giving of their votes are to begin with the youngest or lowest in commission.

ART. XXXV. That no Field Officer shall be tried by any person under the degree of a Captain; nor shall any proceedings or trials be carried on, excepting between the hours of eight in the morning and three in the afternoon, except in cases which require an immediate example.

ART. XXXVI. That the commissioned officers of a Regiment may, by the appointment of their Colonel or Commanding Officer, hold Regimental Courts Martial for the inquiry into such disputes or criminal matters as may come before them, and for the inflicting corporeal punishments for small offences, and shall give judgment by the majority of votes; but no sentence shall be executed till the Commanding Officer (not being a member of the Court Martial) shall have confirmed the same.

ART. XXXVII. That no Regimental Court Martial shall consist of less than five officers, excepting in cases where that number cannot be conveniently assembled, when three may be sufficient, who are likewise to determine by the majority of voices, which sentence is to be confirmed by the Commanding Officer, not being a member of the Court Martial.

ART. XXXVIII. That every officer commanding in any Fort, Castle, or Barrack, or elsewhere, where the Corps under his command consists of detachments from different Regiments, or of independent Companies, may assemble



Courts Martial for the trial of offenders, in the same manner as if they were Regimental, whose sentence is not to be executed till it shall be confirmed by the said Commanding Officer.

ART. XXXIX. That no person whatsoever shall use menacing words, signs or gestures, in the presence of a Court Martial then sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot so as to disturb their proceedings, on the penalty of being punished at the discretion of the Court Martial.

ART. XL. That to the end that offenders may be brought to justice, whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his Commanding Officer, if an officer, be put in arrest; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a Court Martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by proper authority.

ART. XLI. That no officer or soldier who shall be put in arrest or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a Court Martial can be conveniently assembled.

ART. XLII. That no officer commanding a Guard, or Provost Marshal, shall refuse to receive or keep any prisoner committed to his charge by an officer belonging to the forces aforesaid, which officer shall, at the same time, deliver an account in writing, signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

ART. XLIII. That no officer commanding a Guard, or Provost Martial, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge, without proper authority for so doing; nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it by the sentence of a General Court Martial.

ART. XLIV. That every Officer or a Provost Martial to whose charge prisoners shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give, in writing, to the Colonel of the Regiment to whom the prisoner belongs, (where the prisoner is confined upon the guard belonging to the said Regiment, and that his offence only relates to the neglect of duty in his own Corps,) or to the Commander-in-Chief, their names, their crimes, and the names of the officers who committed them, on the penalty of being punished for his disobedience or neglect, at the discretion of a General Court Martial.

ART. XLV. And if any officer under arrest shall leave his confinement before he is set a liberty by the officer who confined him, or by a superiour power, he shall be cashiered for it.

ART. XLVI. That whatsoever commissioned officer shall be convicted before a General Court Martial of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.

ART. XLVII. That all officers, conductors, matrosses, drivers, or any other persons whatsoever, receiving pay or hire in the service of the Artillery of this Colony, shall be governed by the aforesaid Rules and Articles, and shall be subject to be tried by Court Martial in like manner with the officers and soldiers of the Troops.

ART. XLVIII. That for offences arising amongst themselves, or in matters relating solely to their own Corps, the Courts Martial may be composed of their own officers; but where a number sufficient of such officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other Corps are interested, the officers of Artillery shall sit in Courts Martial with the officers of the other Troops.

ART. XLIX. That all crimes not capital, and all disorders and neglects which officers and soldiers may be guilty of to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, though not mentioned in the Articles of War, are to be taken cognizance of by a General or Regimental Court Martial, according to the nature or degree of the offence, and be punished at their discretion.

ART. L. That no Courts Martial shall order any offender to be whipped or receive more than thirty-nine stripes for one offence.

ART. LI. That the Field Officers of each and every Regiment are to appoint some suitable person belonging to such Regiment, to receive all such Fines as may arise within the same for any breach of any of the foregoing Articles, and shall direct the same to be carefully and pro-

perly applied to the relief of such sick, wounded, or necessitous soldiers as belong to such Regiment, and such persons shall account with such officer for all Fines received, and the application thereof.

ART. LII. That all members sitting in Courts Martial shall be sworn by the President of said Courts, which President shall himself be sworn by the officer in said Court next in rank; the oath to be administered previous to their proceeding to the trial of any offender, in form following, viz: "You, A B, swear that you will well and truly try and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the Rules for Regulating the Forces raised or to be raised for the defence of the Colony of *Connecticut*, so help you God."

ART. LIII. That all persons called to give evidence in any case before a Court Martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal at the discretion of such Court Martial; the oath to be administered in the form following, viz: "You swear the evidence you shall give in the case now in hearing shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God."

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the military officers in the several Towns, that were concerned in assembling or furnishing with Ammunition any of the inhabitants of this Colony who marched in the late alarm, either eastward or westward, are hereby ordered and directed to deliver to the Selectmen of such respective Towns, where any expense has been occasioned thereby, a particular account of the names of the persons who marched under arms as aforesaid, for the relief of people in distress, and have since returned; and also of the time every such person was detained, from the first of his march till his return; and also the quantity of Ammunition every such person was supplied with from any Colony or Town stock. And the Selectmen of all such respective Towns are hereby ordered and directed to collect a particular account of the expenses for provision, carriage, &c., that has incurred by means aforesaid, in such Town severally, with the names of the persons who advanced the same, or to whom the satisfaction may be due. And such Selectmen are also ordered and directed to lay before the Committee of the Pay-Table a particular account of the quantum of each article of expense for provision, time of those that marched, money advanced, &c.; which Committee of the Pay-Table are hereby ordered and directed to settle and adjust such accounts, and allow what shall be just and reasonable; the pay of the officers respectively, and wages of the men, to be the same as in the present establishment, and give to such Selectmen an order on the Treasurer for payment of the same. And such Selectmen are hereby directed to receive and pay the same accordingly to each of the persons to whom it is due; and such Selectmen are also hereby ordered and directed to receive back of such persons who marched in the service aforesaid, and have returned, such articles of Ammunition as they received from any Colony or Town stock, and see the same duly returned accordingly. And in case such Ammunition or part thereof shall not be returned, the value of such proportion so detained by each of said persons who received the same, shall be deducted out of the sum allowed to him respectively for his service aforesaid.

Whereas there is convincing evidence that a design is formed by the *British* Ministry of making a cruel invasion from the Province of *Quebeck* upon the Northern Colonies, for the purpose of distressing our lives and liberties, and some steps have actually been taken to carry said design into execution: And whereas several inhabitants of the Northern Colonies, residing in the vicinity of *Ticonderoga*, immediately exposed to incursions, impelled by a just regard for the defence and preservation of themselves and their countrymen from such imminent dangers and calamities, have taken possession of that post and of *Crown Point*, in which were lodged a quantity of Cannon and Military Stores, that would certainly have been used in the intended invasion of these Colonies, and have also taken into their custody a number of officers and soldiers who were holding and keeping said Posts, and of their own motion have sent them into this Colony; and as this Colony has no command of said Posts, now in possession of people of several Colonies, it is impracticable for said offi-



cers and soldiers to return to said posts, and the dictates of humanity require that said officers and soldiers, with their families, should be provided for and supported while they continue in this Colony: it is therefore,

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That Col. *Erastus Wolcott*, Captain *Samuel Wadsworth*, Captain *Ezekiel Williams*, and Mr. *Epaphras Bull*, *Henry Allyn*, Esquire, Colonel *Fisher Gay*, Col. *Matthew Talcott*, Col. *James Wadsworth*, Captain *Jonathan Wells*, *Ebenezer White*, Esquire, and Colonel *Jonathan Humphrey* be, and they, or any three of them, are hereby appointed a Committee, and are ordered and instructed, at the expense of this Colony, to take care of and provide for said officers and soldiers, with their families at present, and see that they be treated with humanity, kindness, and respect, according to their rank and station, and encourage, assist, and advise said soldiers in procuring such profitable labour and business as they may be capable of, wherever said soldiers can find persons willing to entertain and give them employment, until, by the advice of the Continental Congress or otherwise, this Assembly shall take further order concerning them, and that the Commander-in-Chief make a proper return, under his hand, to said Committee, of the corps that are under his command.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the form for Commissions for the Field-Officers in the service for the special defence and safety of this Colony, shall be as follows, and the Governour and Secretary are desired and directed to sign the same:

"Colony of CONNECTICUT:

"*JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esquire, Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's ENGLISH Colony in NEW-ENGLAND in AMERICA,*

"To *Benjamin Hinman*, Esquire, greeting:

"By virtue of the power and authority to me given, and by the Royal Charter to the Governour and Company of the said Colony, under the great seal of *England*, I do, by these presents, reposing especial trust and confidence in your loyalty, courage, and good conduct, constitute and appoint you, the said *Benjamin Hinman*, to be Colonel of the Fourth Regiment of the inhabitants enlisted and assembled for the special defence and safety of His Majesty's said Colony. You are, therefore, to lead, conduct, order, and exercise said Regiment in the service aforesaid, and to keep them in good order and discipline, hereby commanding them to obey you as their Colonel, and yourself to observe and follow such orders and instructions as you shall from time to time receive from me or the Commander-in-Chief of the said Colony for the time being, or other your superiour officers, according to military rules and discipline, pursuant to the trust reposed in you.

"Given under my hand and the publick seal of the said Colony at . . . , the first day of *May*, in the fifteenth year of the reign of His Majesty King *George* the Third, *Anno Domini* 1775."

*Resolved, further*, That the form for Warrants for the Officers on the Staff be as follows, and the Governour is directed to sign the same:

"*JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esquire, Governour and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Colony of CONNECTICUT in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA,*

"To *Rev. Cotton Mather Smith*, greeting:

"Reposing especial trust and confidence in your loyalty, piety, ability, integrity, and good conduct, I do hereby appoint you, the said *Cotton Mather Smith*, Chaplain of the Fourth Regiment of the inhabitants enlisted and assembled for the special defence and safety of His Majesty's said Colony; and do hereby authorize and empower you to exercise the several acts and duties of your office and station as Chaplain of the said Regiment, which you are faithfully to perform in a due and religious discharge thereof, according to the important trust reposed in you, for which this is your warrant.

"Given under my hand and seal at arms, in . . . , in the Colony aforesaid, this twentieth day of *May*, in the fifteenth year of the reign of His Majesty King *George* the Third, *Anno Domini* 1775."

"*JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esquire, Governour and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA,*

"To *Lemuel Wheeler*, Gentleman, greeting:

"I do, by these presents, reposing especial confidence in your loyalty, skill, and good conduct, appoint you, the said *Lemuel Wheeler*, to be Physician and Surgeon in the Fourth Regiment of inhabitants enlisted and assembled for the special defence and safety of His Majesty's said Colony; and I do hereby authorize and empower you to exercise your said office in a due discharge of the duties thereof, which you are carefully and diligently to attend as a Physician as aforesaid, according to the trust reposed in you, for which this is your sufficient warrant.

"Given under my hand and seal at arms, at . . . , in said Colony, the twentieth day of *May*, 1775, in the fifteenth year of His Majesty's reign."

"Colony of CONNECTICUT:

"*JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esquire, Governour and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's Colony of CONNECTICUT in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA,*

"To . . . , Gentleman, greeting:

"I do, by these presents, reposing especial trust and confidence in your loyalty, fidelity, and good conduct, constitute and appoint you, the said . . . , to be Commissary in the . . . Regiment of the inhabitants enlisted and assembled for the special defence and safety of His Majesty's said Colony; and you having first given bond, with sufficient surety for a faithful discharge of your trust, I do authorize and empower you to exercise your said office in a due performance of the duties thereof in the Regiment aforesaid, keeping proper accounts, and the same render on oath when required, according to the trust reposed in you, for which this is a sufficient warrant.

"Given under my hand and seal at arms, in . . . , the . . . day of *May*, *A. D.* 1775, in the fifteenth year of His Majesty's reign."

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Committee of the Pay-Table be directed to give orders on the Treasurer of this Colony for payment to all such persons who have actually expended moneys or given their written obligations therefor, more than to the amount of what is equitably due to them for their personal service in obtaining possession of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, upon their exhibiting their accounts, and having them liquidated and approved by said Committee; and also, that said Committee be, and they are hereby further directed to receive the accounts of the cost and expenses, both of men and provisions, incurred in taking and securing said Fortresses, by any inhabitants of this Colony, or any others by them engaged and employed, digest the same into proper form, and lay the same before this or some future Assembly, for their equitable consideration and allowance.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That all accounts of disbursements made by order or direction of this Assembly relative to the present extraordinary emergencies of Government, be laid before the Pay-Table Committee already appointed, to be by them examined, settled, and adjusted; and said Committee are hereby directed to draw all needful orders on the Treasurer for the payment thereof.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That each non-commissioned officer and soldier belonging to any military company or trainband in this Colony, shall be paid out of the Colony Treasury Six Pence for each half day he shall attend and perform military exercises, and Twelve Pence for each day he shall attend and perform regimental exercise, in obedience to a law of this Colony passed at the session of the General Assembly in *October* last; and that the Clerk of each of said Companies shall make out duplicate and attested Rolls of such non-commissioned officers and soldiers as performed military exercises as aforesaid, and deliver the same to the Captain, or, in his absence, to the chief officer of such company whereof he is Clerk, and said Captain or chief officer shall present said Roll to two assistants, or two Justices of the Peace, to be by them examined and approved, which Rolls, when approved, shall, by such authority, be noted thereon accordingly, one of which Rolls shall be delivered to such officer, and the other held by said



authority; and thereupon said authority shall draw an order on the Treasurer of this Colony, payable to such Captain or chief officer, who shall receive the money due them of the Treasurer, and pay the same to each non-commissioned officer and soldier as shall be due according to said Roll.

*Resolved by this Assembly, That Jabez Hamlin, Matthew Talcott, and Titus Hosmer, Esquires, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to provide such stores of Lead as they shall judge necessary for the use of this Colony; and that said Committee may be effectually able to execute their said trust, they are authorized and directed, on behalf of this Colony, to contract for, purchase, or take the Lead Ore that is or may be raised out of the Lead Mines in Middletown, and cause any and greater quantities of Ore to be dug out of said mine, and by the best and most prudent ways and means they can, to procure said Ore to be refined and fitted for the use of this Colony, and to erect any furnace or building necessary for that purpose; and that said Committee have power and authority to take and receive out of the Colony Treasury from time to time, any sum or sums of money that shall be found necessary to enable them to procure said Lead, or purchase said Lead Ore, and smelt, refine, and separate the lead therefrom, not exceeding the sum of Four Hundred Pounds, lawful money, in the whole; and the Colony Treasurer is ordered to pay and advance the said sum of money to the said Committee, or their order, accordingly, always provided that the owner or owners of said mine or ore shall have reasonable allowance and be duly compensated for any loss, hurt, or damage, that he or they may or shall sustain or suffer by reason of the premises.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That the Commander-in-Chief for the time being, of the Forces raised in this Colony, at their respective destinations, be authorized and empowered, and they are hereby empowered to procure a suitable Armourer or Armourers to repair any Fire-Arms that may be damaged in the service, as occasion may call for, and lay the account thereof before the Committee of the Pay-Table, who are hereby directed to draw orders on the Treasurer for the payment thereof.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That the Committee of the Pay-Table be directed to repair the Arms belonging to this Colony in the hands of the Treasurer, and deliver out as many of them as may be wanted, to the inhabitants enlisted for the special defence of this Colony, and have them appraised, and take proper receipts therefor.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That Samuel Mott, Esquire, be and he is hereby appointed Engineer, forthwith to repair to Ticonderoga and Crown Point, to assist and act in said capacity, and to take rank as a Lieutenant-Colonel among the Troops raised for the defence of this Colony.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That Thaddeus Burr, Esq., of Fairfield, and Charles Church Chandler, Esq., of Woodstock, be a Committee to engage and employ, at the publick expense of this Colony, two News-Carriers to perform regular stages from Fairfield to Woodstock, and from Woodstock to Fairfield, passing through the Towns of Windham and Lebanon, in such manner that they severally arrive in Hartford every Saturday; and that they forward all proper intelligence to Fairfield and Woodstock, with all convenient speed; also, that Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq., of New-London, be a Committee to engage and employ two News-Carriers at the expense of the Colony, to perform regular stages from Woodstock to New-Haven, on the Fairfield stage, and from New-Haven to Woodstock, in such manner that they severally arrive in New-London every Saturday; and that they forward all proper intelligence each way every Monday morning, with all convenient despatch; and that Thaddeus Burr, Esquire, of Fairfield, Charles Church Chandler, Esquire, of Woodstock, and Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq., of New-London, be a Committee to forward, at the publick expense of this Colony, all such extraordinary and important intelligence which shall be received from time to time at either place, as they shall judge proper and necessary; the aforesaid regulations to continue in force until the rising of the Assembly in October next, and no longer.*

*This Assembly do appoint the Honourable Matthew Griswold, Esquire, and the Honourable Eliphalet Dyer, Jabez Huntington, and Samuel Huntington, Esquires, Wil-*

*liam Williams, Nathaniel Wales, Junior, Jedediah Elderkin, Joshua West, and Benjamin Huntington, Esquires, a Committee to assist his Honour the Governour when the Assembly is not sitting, to order and direct the marches and stations of the inhabitants enlisted and assembled for the special defence of the Colony, or any part or parts of them, as they shall judge necessary, and to give orders from time to time for furnishing and employing said inhabitants so enlisted with every matter and thing that may be needful to render the defence of the Colony effectual.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That the Commissions ordered by the Special Assembly in April last, to the respective Officers appointed to enlist men for the defence of the Colony, shall be dated May 1, 1775, and the Secretary ordered to fill them up accordingly.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That the Warrants to the Staff Officers, viz: Chaplain, Surgeon, and Surgeon's Mates for each Regiment enlisted and formed for the special defence and safety of this Colony, shall be dated the 20th day of May, 1775, and his Honour the Governour is directed to fill the same accordingly.*

*This Assembly grants to Major-General Wooster the sum of Four Pounds per month, to assist and enable him to provide a proper Secretary for the necessary service of such Department.*

*This Assembly grants to Brigadier Generals Spencer and Putnam, respectively, as they shall find necessary, the sum of Four Pounds per month, to assist and enable them to provide proper Secretaries for the necessary service of their respective Departments.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That the Commissaries appointed by this Assembly for supplying the inhabitants raised for the defence of the Colony, shall be allowed one and a half per cent. commission on all supplies purchased and paid for by order of the Assembly.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That Jabez Hamlin and Jesse Root, Esquires, be added to, and they are hereby appointed of the Committee to sign the Bills of Publick Credit on this Colony, ordered to be emitted by the General Assembly holden at this place by special order of his Honour the Governour, on the 26th day of April last, any three of said Committee to execute the trust aforesaid.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That five hundred pounds of Powder be immediately borrowed by the Committee of the Pay-Table, from the Town stocks of the adjacent Towns, and put into the hands of Colonel James Easton, to be transported with the utmost expedition to Crown Point and Ticonderoga, to be there used for the present and immediate defence of those Posts, till the Resolves of the Continental Congress may be carried into execution; and that an order be drawn by the Committee of Pay-Table on the Colony Treasurer, in favour of said Colonel Easton, for Two Hundred Pounds, lawful money, to be improved by him in defraying the expenses of transporting said Powder and other necessary purposes, for the immediate support and security of said Fortresses, rendering his account therefor.*

*Resolved by this Assembly, That the pay of the Adjutants in the Forces assembled for the defence of this Colony shall be the sum of Six Pounds per month; and that such Adjutants shall sustain and receive pay for that office only; and it is further resolved that the pay of the First Lieutenants of the Colonels' Companies in each Regiment, respectively, shall be Six Pounds per month.*

*This Assembly do appoint David Johnson, Junior, Second Lieutenant in the Second Company in the Fourth Regiment, to be enlisted and assembled for the special defence of this Colony, in the room of David Bissell, superseded.*

*This Assembly do appoint Major Jabez Thompson to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Regiment of Militia in this Colony, in the room of Lieutenant-Colonel Gould, resigned.*

*Captain William Douglass, Major of the Second Regiment, in room of Major Thompson, promoted.*

*Gold Selleck Silliman, Esq., to be Colonel of the Fourth Regiment, in room of Colonel . . . . ., resigned.*

*Captain Ichabod Lewis to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fourth Regiment, in the room of Gold Selleck Silliman, Esq., promoted.*



*Thomas Belding*, Esq., to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth Regiment, in the room of *Matthew Talcott*, Esq., resigned.

*John Chester*, Esq., to be Major of the Sixth Regiment, in the room of *Thomas Belding*, Esq., promoted.

*John Mead*, Esq., to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Ninth Regiment, in the room of *David Waterbury*, resigned.

*Stephen H. John*, Esq., to be Major of the Ninth Regiment, in room of *John Mead*, Esq., promoted.

*William Williams*, Esq., to be Colonel of the Twelfth Regiment, in room of *Joseph Spencer*, Esq., resigned.

*Henry Champion*, Esq., to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Twelfth Regiment, in room of *William Williams*, Esq., resigned.

*Dyer Throop*, Esq., to be Major of the Twelfth Regiment.

*Matthew Talcott*, Esq., to be Colonel of the Twenty-Third Regiment.

Captain *Comfort Sage* to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Twenty-Third Regiment.

Captain *John Penfield* to be Major of the Twenty-Third Regiment.

*Zebulon Butler*, Esq., to be Colonel of the Twenty-Fourth Regiment.

*Nathan Denison*, Esq., to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Twenty-Fourth Regiment.

*William Judd*, Esq., to be Major of the Twenty-Fourth Regiment.

*Oliver Smith*, Esq., to be Major of the Eighth Regiment, in room of Major *Charles Phelps*, Esq., resigned.

Upon the Memorial of *John Sutliff*, Junior, and others, Inhabitants of the Society of *Northbury*, in *Waterbury*, showing to this Assembly that they live within the limits of the West Military Company or Trainband, in said Society, and that the major part of said Company, both Officers and Soldiers, are totally disaffected to the general cause of *American* liberty, and that they altogether refuse to adopt the measures advised by the Continental Congress, but publicly speak and act in direct opposition thereto:

Upon which a Committee, viz: *Thomas Matthews* and *Timothy Judd*, Esquires, were appointed, who have made their Report to this Assembly, and the same being also accepted:

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Captain and Ensign of said West Military Company or Trainband, in the Society of *Northbury*, in said *Waterbury*, be and they are hereby cashiered and dismissed from their respective military offices; and the Colonel of the Regiment said Company is part of is hereby directed to lead said Company to the choice of a Captain and an Ensign, and other needful officers, and make return to this Assembly.

Upon the Memorial of *Nathaniel Niles*, of *Norwich*, in the County of *New-London*, shewing to this Assembly that it is of importance that the manufacturing of Iron Wire, upon which the Woollen and Cotton Manufactories so greatly depend, should be set up and carried on with the greatest expedition, which the Memorialist is willing to undertake and pursue, upon proper encouragement, and hath made some progress therein, &c., as per Memorial on file:

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That *Jabez Huntington*, *Samuel Huntington*, and *Elijah Backus*, Esquires, all of *Norwich*, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine into the matters contained in said Memorial, and the expenses of erecting proper works for the manufacturing of Iron Wire; and what encouragement may be properly given the Memorialist therefor; and if said Committee, upon due examination, shall judge it reasonable and expedient, they are hereby empowered to draw their order on the Colony Treasurer for any sum not exceeding Three Hundred Pounds to be paid by said Treasurer, who is hereby directed to pay the same to the Memorialist, upon his giving good security to the acceptance of said Committee, that said sum shall be improved solely for the setting up and carrying on said Manufactory; and that the principal sum so received shall be repaid at the expiration of four years after received, without any interest thereon.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Secretary of this Colony be directed to send to the Towns of *Torrington* and *New-Hartford*, to return to this Assembly, in *October* next, the whole of their Lists, the exemption that hath been granted to the Society of *Torrington* notwithstanding

ing; and also to all the rest of the Towns in this Colony that are incorporated, that have not yet sent in their Lists.

This Assembly do appoint *Elisha Sheldon*, Esq., Colonel *Samuel Wyllys*, Mr *Ezra Selden*, Mr. *William Hawley*, Mr. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Junior, and Major *Samuel Canfield*, to audit and adjust the Colony Accounts with *John Lawrence*, Esq., the present Treasurer of this Colony.

Whereas the situation of publick affairs are such at present, that the attention of the publick is called off from private matters to things of greater importance; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the consideration of all private business of a civil and disputable nature, be referred over to the session of this Assembly in *October* next.

This Assembly grants to his Honour Governour *Trumbull*, the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Pounds, for the first half of his salary the current year.

This Assembly grants to the Honourable Deputy Governour *Griswold* the sum of Fifty Pounds, for the first half of his salary the current year.

This Assembly grants to *John Lawrence*, Esq., the sum of One Hundred and Eighty Pounds, for his salary the year past as Treasurer of this Colony.

This Assembly grants to *George Wyllys*, Esq., Secretary of this Colony, the sum of Twenty Pounds, for his salary the year past.

This Assembly is adjourned by Proclamation, &c., until the Governour shall see cause to call it to meet together again. Test: *GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.*

#### *In the Lower House:*

Mr. *Hosmer*, Colonel *Wolcott*, Colonel *Elderkin*, and Mr. *Sturgess*, are appointed a Committee to join the Committee from the Honourable Upper House, to consider what Intelligence, Papers, and Documents are material and necessary to be transmitted and communicated to the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*; and likewise take into their consideration what matters and things relative to the late hostile transactions, it is expedient to make publick, and report make. Test: *RICHARD LAW, Clerk.*

#### *In the Upper House:*

*Jabez Hamlin*, Esquire, is appointed to join the Committee of the Lower House in the affair above-mentioned. Test: *GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.*

#### *To the Honourable the General Assembly now sitting in HARTFORD.*

We, your Honours' Committee appointed to consider what Intelligence, Papers, and Documents are material and necessary to be transmitted and communicated to the Continental Congress now sitting at *Philadelphia*; and likewise what matters and things relative to the late hostile transactions it is expedient to make publick, beg leave to report our opinion:

First. That it is material and necessary that copies of the Letter wrote by his Honour the Governour to General *Gage*, at the request and in behalf of the Assembly, and of General *Gage's* answer to said Letter, and of his Narrative of the proceedings of the Troops on the 18th and 19th of *April* last, accompanied with a Letter from his Honour the Governour, should be prepared and transmitted to Colonel *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Roger Sherman*, and *Silas Deane*, Esquires, Delegates from this Colony to the Continental Congress, to be made use of at their discretion; the Narrative from the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the Depositions taken by and received from them, being, as we are well informed, already sent to said Continental Congress, we are of opinion it is not necessary to forward from hence.

Secondly. That a concise and true Narration of the late hostile attack made by the Troops under the command of General *Gage* upon the inhabitants of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, with the Depositions to support and confirm the same, should be prepared for the press, and be printed and dispersed through this Colony; and we farther beg leave to submit it to the consideration of the Assembly, whether it would not answer some good purpose, if the Narrative of said transactions received from General *Gage*, were printed and published with the Narrative and proofs aforesaid. Per order: *J. HAMLIN.*



EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN PHILADELPHIA.

London, May 12, 1775.

I did not, until this day, receive your kind favour of *March 17*, which confirmed the agreeable intelligence of the decisive victory of the sons of liberty in *New-York*, over the pitiful and mercenary supporters of despotism.

The Remonstrance of their Assembly to the House of Commons, Mr. *Burke*, the agent, is to present next *Monday*, the 15th instant. I fancy you may take it for granted, the Ministry are determined it shall not be received; but if their minds should change before that time, it will be received only to be condemned, by ordering it to lay on the table, which is almost as slighting a mode of procedure as refusing to receive it. Thus are applications treated, when made in the very manner the Ministers themselves have pointed out. In short, nothing will please, but an absolute and total submission, at the shrine of despotism, of the lives, liberties, and property, of yourselves and posterity to endless generations.

Whether these things are not worthy of contending for, even unto death, I leave you to judge, who may enjoy the blessings of them, or feel the curse of wanting them forever. The advantages of commerce are now, for the first time in this Kingdom, held at naught by our wicked Ministers; as they suppose commerce enlarges the ideas of men in general, and gives more aversion to tyranny than confined employment; therefore, the trade of poor old *England* is to be buried in the same grave with *American* liberty.

The merchants and manufacturers you well know, however, before this, have bestirred themselves in the *American* cause; but as they did not really feel, their exertions were not earnest enough to command success. For my own part, I am convinced this business can never be settled without bloodshed, unless you are tame enough to give up every thing that can be held dear in this world, viz: civil and religious liberty, to absolute tyranny; because I know the Ministers, or, in plain words, their master, Lord *Bute*, has ordained it shall be. In my mind, there should not be one moment's hesitation about the choice: we can die but once, and never on a better occasion than in the cause of *God*, and the rights of mankind. The friends of liberty in this Country, who are really numerous, look to you with wonderful attention. They expect much good from your virtue; and, in my judgment, when the first engagement happens in *America*, a flame will burst out here that must overwhelm the contrivers of all this mischief. The eyes of all *Europe* are upon you; and I believe we should have had a foreign war before this, but *France* and *Spain* wait to see the business first fairly begun in *America*. However, this day the foreign mail brings certain intelligence of twelve *Spanish* Men-of-War arriving at *Cadiz* from the *Mediterranean*, which has occasioned much speculation among the politicians, and horrible grimaces among the ministerial gentry. I am no enthusiast; but still I am convinced that this *American* business is in the hand of Providence, to make you a great and wonderful Empire. Every circumstance is in your favour, and I have no doubt of your sagacity and virtue in taking advantage thereof.

We suppose, by this time, all the Troops for *Boston* have left *Ireland*—seven Regiments of Infantry and one of Horse; the Foot may be about three thousand effective men, and the Horse from two to four hundred. The Cavalry, if they arrive (for probably many will die on the passage) cannot be fit for service this summer. Next week Sir *George Savile* in the House of Commons, and Lord *Camden* in the House of Lords, are each of them to present a Petition from the inhabitants of *Quebeck*, praying for the repeal of the *Quebeck* Government Act, when each of them, in their several Houses, will make a motion for that purpose.

From what knowledge I have of *America*, it appears to me an absolute certainty that the ministerial plan of slavery that is formed for you can never succeed, if you continue unanimous, and determine to resist, even unto death, rather than resign your liberties. Depend on your own efforts, and leave the issue to Providence, which, as the guardians of virtue, will certainly make your efforts successful.

## RICHMOND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee elected for the County of *Richmond*, meeting by an adjournment from the 10th of this instant, at the Court-House of this County, on the 12th of *May*, 1775, present *Landon Carter*, Esquire, Chairman, and a very full bench of the Members:

The Committee appointed on the 10th instant, having brought in their Report, according to the order of that day, the same was received and read, and is as follows:

Your Committee, taking into consideration, according to order, the late Address of his Excellency the Governour to the Council, on the 2d of this instant, and the Proclamation issued in consequence of their advice on the 3d instant, think themselves indispensably bound to their constituents to vindicate them from the groundless aspersions, and very unjust accusations with which a part of this community are therein charged, and which are only calculated to induce a belief that the people of this Country are meditating a plan to change the present form of Government. They have, therefore,

*Resolved*, 1st. That the late commotions in some parts of this Country, alluded to in the Address and Proclamation, arose from a full conviction of a cruel and determined plan of Administration to enslave these Colonies, which has been manifested in various instances, and of which the late proceedings of his Excellency, in removing the Powder from the Magazine, with the several circumstances attending the same, appear evidently to be a part.

2d. That our repeated and dutiful applications for redress of grievances, our patient endurance under a long course of irritating and oppressive measures, and our most solemn declarations "that our utmost wish was a restitution of the rights which we enjoyed until the year 1763," are convincing proofs of our attachment to the Constitution, our loyalty to our Sovereign, and our love of order.

3d. That the whole of his Excellency's conduct respecting the unhappy disputes between the Colonies and the *British* Ministry, especially the groundless and injurious charges alleged against the people of this Colony, in his Address to the Council, and in his Proclamation of the 3d of this instant, (*May*), are unjustifiable and inimical, and therefore he has justly forfeited the confidence of the people of this Colony.

4th. That the Members of His Majesty's Council who advised the above-mentioned Proclamation, acted inconsistently with that wisdom, justice, and generosity which ought to characterize them as legislators, judges, and natives of the most distinguished in the Colony; and we do declare, that we find ourselves deeply affected that those who should be mediators between the executive power and the people, should concur in fixing a stigma on their fellow-subjects, so unjust and so undeserved.

5th. That in order to remove these atrocious aspersions, and to convince the world of our firm attachment to the Constitution as it existed before the year 1763, we hereby solemnly pledge ourselves to support it at the hazard of our lives and fortunes.

Every Resolve contained in the foregoing being distinctly read, and separately considered, was passed *nemine contradicente*.

*Ordered*, That these proceedings of this day, as soon as may be convenient, be transmitted to the Press for the satisfaction of the publick.

WILLIAM SMITH, Clerk pro tem.

## PROCLAMATION BY LORD DUNMORE.

By His Excellency the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governour-General of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, and Vice-Admiral of the same:

## A PROCLAMATION.

VIRGINIA, to wit:

Whereas the General Assembly stands prorogued to the first *Thursday* in *September* next, but it is judged expedient and necessary that they should be sooner convened: I have therefore thought proper, by this Proclamation, in His Majesty's name, to appoint the first *Thursday* in the next month for that purpose; at which time their attend-



ance is accordingly required at the Capitol, in the City of *Williamsburgh*, for the despatch of publick business.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Colony, at *Williamsburgh* aforesaid, this 12th day of *May*, in the fifteenth year of His Majesty's reign. DUNMORE.

*God save the King.*

TO THE PUBLICK.

Whereas the following false reports have been industriously propagated, with the malicious design of injuring my character with the publick, viz: that I had insulted the Delegates of the present Congress at *Bristol*, and declared that they were an unlawful body of men, and that the Magistrates ought to disperse them; and "that I have wrote letters to the Ministry inimical to *America*:" Now in justice to my own reputation, and that the good people of this Province may not be deceived by such groundless falsehoods, I do declare that these reports are malicious and without the least foundation; and that however easy it might have been to establish a correspondence with Administration, was I capable of entertaining a thought inimical to the Country where all I hold dear and valuable is fixed, and where I am determined to spend the remainder of my life, yet I have, neither directly nor indirectly any such correspondence, nor ever wrote a sentiment to any man in *Great Britain* injurious to the rights and freedom of *America*, nor ever recommended any measure whatever to be pursued in respect to the present dispute between the two Countries. And I do hereby call on the author or authors of these false reports to make good their malicious charges, or to take that blame to themselves which such malevolence deserves.

All that I have to request of my countrymen on this or the like occasions is, that they will deal with so much candour and justice towards me as to discredit any malevolent reports, until the authors shall exhibit some proof in support of their charges: and this I trust no good man will think unreasonable, as he cannot but be aware that the most innocent may be condemned, unless this great rule of justice be observed.

JOSEPH GALLOWAY.

Trevoze, Pennsylvania, May 12, 1775.

Bergen County, New-Jersey, Committee Chamber, }  
May 12, 1775. }

*Resolved*, That *John Fell*, Esquire, *Theunis Dey*, Esquire, *Thomas Brown*, Esquire, *Peter Zabriskie*, Esq., *John Demarest*, Esquire, Mr. *Samuel Berry*, Mr. *Cornelius Van Vorst*, Mr. *Isaac Noble*, Mr. *Aarent J. Schuyler*, Mr. *Jacob Terhune*, Doctor *Abraham Van Boskirk*, *John Van Boskirk*, Esquire, Mr. *Gabriel Ogden*, Mr. *Jost Zabriskie*, and Mr. *Gabriel Van Orden*, be a Standing Committee of Correspondence for this County, and that any five of them, of which the President or Vice President to be one, have power to act.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above Resolve be printed in the *New-York* Newspapers.

By order of the Committee: JOHN FELL, *Chairman*.

At a meeting of the Committee of Correspondence for *Bergen County, New-Jersey*, May 12, 1775:

Present: *John Fell*, *Theunis Dey*, *Thomas Brown*, *John Demarest*, Esquires, Messrs. *Cornelius Van Vorst*, *Isaac Noble*, *Jacob Terhune*, Doctor *Abraham Van Boskirk*, *John Van Boskirk*, Esquire, Messrs. *Gabriel Ogden*, *Jost Zabriskie*, and *Gabriel Van Orden*:

*John Demarest*, Esquire, chosen President; Mr. *Gabriel Van Orden*, chosen Vice-President.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above proceedings be published in the *New-York* Newspapers.

By order of the Committee of Correspondence:

JOHN DEMAREST, *President*.

TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Whereas an agreement has been made between General *Gage* and the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, for the removal of the persons and effects of such of the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* as may be so disposed, (excepting their fire-arms and ammunition,) into the country,

and in consequence thereof, the Provincial Congress have made a Resolution, the purport of which is nearly similar to the above agreement, in confidence that said agreement would be punctually adhered to; but by sad experience we find the inhabitants of *Boston* are not permitted to leave the Town according to the agreement, and nothing to prevent, that we know of, but the cruel exertion of despotick power: Therefore it is humbly submitted to the Committee of Safety, whether it is not advisable to suspend the aforesaid Resolution of Congress until they are fully satisfied the above agreement is punctually fulfilled, and in the mean time to apprehend and seize all Crown officers and known enemies to the liberties of the Colonies, to be liberated when it may be judged reasonable by the Congress; and also to recommend the like mode of conduct to our sister Colonies.

S. OSGOOD, *Major of Brigade*.

May 12, 1775.

PETITION OF JOHN SAWYER AND OTHERS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

*To the Honourable Congress now sitting at WATERTOWN, the humble Petition of us the subscribers, whose names are underwritten, humbly sheweth, &c.*

Whereas your petitioners have lately settled in the eastern parts, and are in great distress for want of provisions and ammunition, by reason of the lumber failing of sale, and the great drought last summer, that our crops being cut short, and being in great distress for fear of the enemy, as we have news from *Cooper* shewing that the *Indians* on the Cape are building forty *Indian* canoes, and it is expected that the Governour of *Halifax* has hired the *Indians* to come along shore and kill us and our families, and take our creatures, and we have nothing to defend ourselves with but our hands, as there is no powder of any value among us, (we also fear the tenders coming to get our cattle:)

Your humble petitioners therefore beg your assistance, and grant us some relief, and send us some corn and other necessaries of life, and some powder, balls, flints, and a few small arms, that we may have wherewithal to defend ourselves and fight for our lives and liberties, which we pray *God* to give us strength and courage, as long as we have life, in the defence of our Country, provided your Honours should order us any support.

We, your petitioners, bind ourselves to pay forthwith the interest and charges in sending, as soon as lumber will have any sale, and trading revive.

We, your petitioners, beg your serious consideration, and as in duty bound we shall ever pray.

|                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| John Sawyer,      | Andrew Herrick,   | Samuel Robset,    |
| Jacob Trussel,    | Shadrach Watson,  | Joshua Herrick,   |
| James Dodge,      | William Reed,     | Enoch Blasdel,    |
| Samuel Watson,    | Robert Dougherty, | Moses Eaton,      |
| Abner Dodge,      | Daniel Black,     | Ebenezer Eaton,   |
| Nehemiah Allen,   | John Herrick,     | Nathaniel Allen,  |
| John Black,       | James Fly,        | Benjamin York,    |
| Moses Black,      | Samuel Cousons,   | George Goodwin,   |
| Samuel Hale,      | Samuel Herrick,   | Ebenezer Herrick, |
| Joshua Trussel,   | Joseph Bapson,    | John Dodge,       |
| William Obee,     | Stephen Gatchell, | John Carter,      |
| Jonathan Clay,    | Cornelius Morgan, | James Carter,     |
| Ebenezer Hinkley, |                   |                   |

There being in the Town in number that are able to bear arms seventy, but living at a great distance, and not having time to assemble at this time, the vessel just ready to sail, we would beg for the whole.

May 12, 1775.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Amesbury, May 12, 1775.

SIR: Mr. *John Currier* has enlisted about forty soldiers, who are ready to march, provided he may be their Captain, (and upon this condition they enlisted,) and we can recommend him to be a person of good character, and conducted very well in the last war, and that he has been steady and faithful in the affairs of the Town he has been chosen to serve in; and we desire that he may be enlisted to the office that his soldiers expected him to have; and further, we expect that he will shortly enlist more men to fill his Company. And as we lately received a letter from the Congress, recommending to us to be assisting and encouraging the enlisting of soldiers, we have done our



endeavours in promoting and encouraging the same, and are still ready to do all in our power to forward all necessities recommended to us.

Sir, we are your humble and obedient servants,

CALEB PILSBURY, }  
JOSIAH SARGEANT, } *Selectmen of Amesbury.*

In Committee of Supplies Chamber, }  
Watertown, May 12, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: The Congress having resolved that the Army should be supplied with such goods, wares, and merchandise as shall appear necessary by the Colony, and not as has been by Sutlers, we have procured some articles that are wanted, and sent them, with a copy of the Resolves, to one of the Deputies of the Commissary at *Cambridge*, Mr. *Browne*; but we think that it will be found necessary to have Deputies for this business only, as it must take up the whole time of one person to deliver goods to two Regiments only, and keep good accounts against the soldiers, more especially as the accounts must be exhibited to the Captains, that they may deduct them on making up the muster-roll. As the Commissary is now confined with sickness to his chamber, we desire you to appoint a Deputy for the particular business, that the goods procured by us may be received by him, and immediately disposed of to the soldiers, who are much in want thereof.

DAVID CHEEVER,  
*One of the Committee of Supplies.*

In Committee of Supplies Chamber, }  
Watertown, May 13, 1775. }

SIR: We shall be glad to know how the matter is circumstanced with respect to the Colony Arms which were lent to the Scholars, that proper measures may be pursued to get them in. Pray send a line by the bearer.

We are truly your friends, &c., &c.

DAVID CHEEVER, *per order.*

To the Committee of Safety.

GENERAL THOMAS TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Roxbury, May 12, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I find no establishment made by the Congress for such officers as Adjutant and Quartermasters General, which officers are as necessary, in a large encampment, as almost any whatever; and where any number of Regiments are posted in camp, there cannot be a proper regulation of duty without such. I should be glad to be advised whether I may be allowed to give any encouragement to any suitable persons for such office, that they will receive any reward in future if they will undertake it. And as I understand there are a number of the Rules for the *Massachusetts* Army printed, and are now at *Cambridge*, should be glad a number may be forwarded by the bearer for the use of the Camp in *Roxbury*.

I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your most obedient humble servant,

JNO. THOMAS.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety.

JAMES CAVET TO ARTHUR ST. CLAIR AND OTHERS.

Pittsburgh, May 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I am sorry that it is so much in my power to doubt the Governour's attention to this unhappy Country. We have not had, since our confinement, the least account from him, and I think it is beyond a doubt he got our packet. Our express is returned, and says he gave the letters to Doctor *Plunket* at *Susquehannah*, who would certainly send them. Our situation, and that of the well affected inhabitants of this place, is become almost intolerable; it is impossible for any person to conceive the cruel mode of proceedings at this place, unless those who are unhappy enough to be eye-witnesses thereof. Mr. *Smith*, in particular, will, (if not by some means prevented,) in a short time be absolutely ruined. Mr. *Hanna* and myself will, at this court, be confined in the guard-room of Fort *Dunmore*, if we don't give bail, and God knows whether it will be in our power so to do, for we are informed, by some of our friends, that none other will be acceptable but those who will come into open court and

swear they are worth whatever sum is in the recognizance, and no doubt it will be an enormous sum. Mr. *Smith* was this day taken with a writ of one hundred thousand Pounds damages. But I need not descend into particulars; every part of their conduct appears that they not only want the jurisdiction of this quarter, but also to rob every man of his property.

And, gentlemen, it is by your friends here thought advisable that the Sheriff, with a party of fifty men, or thereabouts, should come up and take us who are in confinement, and also as many of these rascals as possible, as there will be no strength to oppose you, there being but eighteen men in the Fort. It is surprising what a pusillanimous temper must prevail amongst the people in general to suffer the peace and welfare of a whole County to be destroyed by such a handful of villains. But let the people be called upon by the Sheriff, and certainly they will not refuse to come. If such a step be thought best, it ought to be managed with secrecy and despatch. Pray send off an express by *Tuesday* night to us with advice, for if we are not taken off we must give bail, if it can be had, and the thoughts of so doing is no small mortification after hanging out so long. I have no time to say any more, but acknowledge myself your humble servant,

JAMES CAVET.

To Arthur St. Clair, John Carnaghan, William Lochey, Esquires, and all our brethren inclusive.

P. S. I must beg your pardon and patience also for writing so long an epistle, but I had almost forgot to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 9th, and also to inform you that Mr. *Scott* is bound by the Sheriff to appear here next court, and I suppose will share the same fate of *Hanna* and myself.

DOCTOR ELEAZER WHELOCK TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Dartmouth College, May 13, 1775.

MUCH HONOURED AND RESPECTED SIR: Your favour of 17th ultimo duly arrived. Mr. *Dean* is not yet returned; I am now daily expecting him, with one of my *English* pupils, who has resided with the Tribe at *St. Francis* ever since last *August*, to learn their language. I have no suspicion of any publick design of hostilities in any of the Northern Tribes; but we are lately alarmed with accounts that several of our own people have been authorized by General *Gage* to go to *Canada* and collect a party there to join them in distressing us at a time which they shall think favourable for their purpose. The bearer, Mr. *Smith*, who is a tutor of this college, and a young gentleman to be depended upon, can give you the account, which I suppose you have likely already had, for substance, from Esquire *Curtis*, of this place.

But we are many of us more alarmed by the rash, precipitant, and headlong conduct of a number among us who have been honoured with His Majesty's commissions, civil and military, but have of late openly and publicly given them up, and that only upon this principle, viz: that His Majesty has forfeited his Crown, and that all commissions from him are therefore vacated of course; and have accordingly appointed a set of officers of their own choosing, and appear to be plunging themselves and their dependants as far and as fast as they can into a state of anarchy. They assume to themselves the right of treating their fellow men in a rough and sovereign manner, seizing, stopping, controlling, and examining strangers and others in such a hostile manner as tends to inspire a general fear in all sorts; e. g., two of my scholars, a few days ago, were peaceably and inoffensively travelling from college home, when they were, by a ruffian, stopped in the road, who presented a gun cocked at their breasts, and swore by God they were dead men if they did not immediately tell him who they were, where they were going, and what their business was; and this without milder or other introduction to his inquiry. And it is feared, if a speedy stop cannot be put to this evil, murders, and frequent ones, too, will ensue; and that they will prove themselves really to be what these Colonies have been so injuriously charged with being, and bring the fiercest rage of a Northern Army upon these infant frontiers, and justify them in savage cruelties, prevent any testimonial of our Governour in our favour, and draw away the strength of the Provinces below us from our de-



fence, which he may have no occasion to do if we behave ourselves soberly, adhere firmly to our Constitution, though at the same time, as individuals, are helping our brethren as much as our feeble state will allow. And I would humbly propose whether this case, as the evil seems to be spread wide in part of this Province, and in the new countries adjoining in *New-York* Province, be not worthy to be communicated for the consideration of the Continental Congress, who can put a stop to it, if any can.

I also fear much evil from the unprovoked, harsh, cruel, and worse than savage threats given out by some against my *Indian* boys, which have already occasioned fear in some of them; and I fear, if it be not stopped, will produce some unfavourable accounts from them to their friends; this evil I am constantly guarding against as much as possible.

I have lately received letters from my honoured patrons in *London*, of *February* 17th, replete with expressions of friendship to this institution, but with assurances that no further publick aids are to be expected by me from that side the water till this publick controversy between them and us be amicably settled, which they suggest no present grounds of encouragement to expect; nor do they think fit in their publick and united capacity to write a word of politicks, but as private friends some of them express their great friendship to the religious and civil liberties of *America*, and their apprehensions that if the sword should be drawn in the controversy on this side the water, it will be soon theirs also.

I would humbly propose to your Honour, and if you shall think proper, to your honourable Assembly, whether—considering the surprising progress of this institution under the smiles of Heaven hitherto, and the fair prospect not only of its great utility to the general and charitable design of it, but also as it is, and likely may long be, an important barrier against the present threatening mischiefs of a Northern enemy—it may not be thought worthy your charitable recommendation of it to the charity and benevolence of the Continental Congress, to be by them recommended to the favour and notice of the pious and charitable of these Colonies.

This may greatly serve the interests of this institution in its present infant, feeble, and deserted state, and not only so, but raise it higher in the esteem of the savage Tribes, which are its first object, and enable me to increase its influence to the good purposes of preserving and increasing that peace and friendship which at present subsists between us and them, and seems to be of very great importance to both. My printed Narrative may give you and other gentlemen some short account of the progress and present state of it, by which you may be able to judge for yourselves of the propriety and expediency of what I here propose. All which I do, with the greatest cheerfulness and confidence, submit to your wise, prudent, and friendly determination. I would not have any thing published or sent abroad which I have hinted, so as to expose my friends at home, who, I find, are cautious in that matter. I am, my honoured and dear Sir, with much esteem and respect, your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,

ELEAZER WHEELLOCK.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THOMAS FRASER TO GEORGE ERVING, IN BOSTON, DATED LONDON, MAY 13, 1775.

I thank you most heartily for the great trouble you have given yourself in sending our house, as well as myself, so particular an account of the state of your present unfortunate Country. Sorry, very sorry am I to find so many thousands of its inhabitants act as if they were infatuated, and determined, as much as in them lays, that every thing shall be in confusion. I have for many months flattered myself there was no chance that any blood would be shed on account of the present disagreeable contest. I still hope the wide breach may be healed without proceeding to such extremities, but really I have now my fears. However, trusting that an over-ruling Providence will order every thing for the best, I will patiently wait the event. I am sorry that your trade, as well as ours, is so much interrupted; when it will be otherwise I cannot say. Your brig, the *Harmony*, lies in our river, and what is to be done with her I cannot say; on her arrival, our *J. L.* sent

his servant with a note to Lord *North*, acquainting him that the vessel was come, and that he was ready to wait upon his Lordship. I am surprised he has not sent a line; it is probable he may have forgot it. Mr. *Lane* sends to him again to-morrow. I am the more surprised he has not desired him to come to his house, because he read your letter with great attention, and expressed his uneasiness that the friends of good order laboured under so many inconveniences, which he wished might be avoided in future. You have before been informed of his Lordship saying he was glad your brig was gone forward, because it gave him an opportunity of well considering the application you have made. From his silence, I should apprehend he doth not mean the scheme should be put in execution. He hinted to Mr. *Lane*, that if permission was given, we must apply to the Admiralty. In short, I wish you success in all your engagements; but whether or no you and I may have reason to have desired that Captain *Shayler* might come fully loaded with merchandise from hence, is a point that I cannot determine. You must allow that affairs are in a very critical situation; and although a civil war may never break out, yet there has been a great appearance of one. If you should for once lose the profit you expected to make by the *Harmony*, I hope it will be amply made up to you when matters get settled; then there may be some comfort in executing our friends' commissions. You may believe me when I say I have experienced very little satisfaction for these two years past, and scarce know what course to take with the little business we have left. I trust that when matters once get settled, that Administration will take proper notice of those who have ventured so much to serve them; your friends here will not be backward in promoting your interest on every occasion.

I have neither time nor abilities to enter into the minutiae of things as I could wish. I have a great respect for Mr. *Erving*, and hope there will ever be a lasting friendship subsisting between us. What the *Americans* will think of the Restraining Act of the Fishery, &c., I cannot tell; I should think it must bring about universal confusion and anarchy, or a happy and speedy settlement; this last I earnestly wish may take place. Mr. *Lane* proposes, when he sees Lord *North*, to desire him to destroy your letter; though, as it had been in his possession many weeks before, presume it can signify but little, especially as I am pretty confident the contents of your letter will never be known to the publick. I am, with great respect, Sir, your most humble servant,

THOMAS FRASER.

TIMOTHY LADD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Goffstown, N. H., May 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: After my regards to your Honours with freedom, whereas it is thought there will be a number of soldiers called for out of this Province for the assistance and defence of *North America*, for our privileges and liberties; I would inform your Honours that if occasion should call for a number, I am ready to serve your Honours in this Government and my Country, for the defence of our privileges and the enjoyment of liberty in *America*.

If your Honours should call for me, I am ready to serve my Country with all freedom and assistance that I am capable of; as I think it is the duty of all well-wishers to liberty and the *North America*. Wishing success to liberty, so I subscribe myself your well-wisher and humble servant,

TIMOTHY LADD.

To the Honourable Congress sitting at *Exeter*.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Ticonderoga, May 14, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: My last was the 11th instant per express, since which a party of men have seized on *Crown Point*, in which they took eleven prisoners, and found sixty-one pieces of cannon serviceable, and fifty-three unfit for service. I ordered a party to *Skenesborough*, to take Major *Skene*, who have made him prisoner, and seized a small schooner, which is just arrived here. I intend setting out in her directly, with a batteau and fifty men, to take possession of the sloop, which, we are advised this morning



by the post, is at *St. John's*, loaded with provisions, &c., waiting a wind for this place. Enclosed is a list of cannon, &c., here, though imperfect, as we have found many pieces not included, and some are on the edge of the lake, covered with water. I am, with the assistance of Mr. *Bernard Romans*, making preparation at *Fort George* for transporting to *Albany* those cannon that will be serviceable to our Army at *Cambridge*. I have about one hundred men here, and expect more every minute. Mr. *Allen's* party is decreasing, and the dispute between us subsiding. I am extremely sorry matters have not been transacted with more prudence and judgment; I have done every thing in my power, and put up with many insults to preserve peace and serve the publick. I hope soon to be properly released from this troublesome business, that some more proper person may be appointed in my room; till which I am, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

P. S. Since writing the above, Mr. *Romans* concludes going to *Albany* to forward carriages for the cannon, &c., and provisions, which will be soon wanted. I beg leave to observe he has been of great service here, and I think him a very spirited, judicious gentleman, who has the service of the Country much at heart, and hope he will meet proper encouragement.

B. A.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, NOW SITTING AT WATERTOWN.

Falmouth, May 14, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: The Committee of Correspondence in this Town beg leave to inform you, that some time past we received advice from *Georgetown*, that Colonel *Thompson* was fitting two vessels there with design to attempt the taking the King's ship *Canceaux*, stationed in this harbour, commanded by Captain *Mowat*, a gentleman whose conduct since he has been here has given no grounds of suspicion he had any design to distress or injure us; but on the other hand has afforded his assistance to sundry vessels in distress. As we thought such an attempt had the appearance of laying the foundation for the destruction of this Town, the Committee of Correspondence met, and wrote to the Committee of Correspondence at *Georgetown*, desiring they would prevent their coming; we also wrote to Colonel *Thompson* desiring him to desist from such an attempt, as it would throw this Town into the greatest confusion imaginable; we sent an express, and received his answer that he had dropped the design of coming. But on Monday night he landed upwards of sixty men on the back side of a neck of land joining this Town, who came there in a number of boats, and lay undiscovered till about the middle of the next day; at which time Captain *Mowat*, the Doctor of the ship, and Parson *Wiswal*, were taking a walk on said neck, when a detachment from Colonel *Thompson's* party rushed from their concealment, surrounded the gentlemen, and made them prisoners, and conducted them to the Colonel, who was with the main body on the back side of the neck. Captain *Hogg*, who now commanded the ship, immediately clapped springs on his cabsels, she laying within musket shot of the Town, and swore if the gentlemen were not released by six o'clock, he would fire on the Town. He fired two cannon, and although there were no shot in them, it frightened the women and children to such a degree, that some crawled under wharves, some ran down cellar, and some out of Town. Such a shocking scene was never presented to view here. The gentlemen who were in custody were conducted to a publick house, where Captain *Mowat* declared if he was not released it would be the destruction of the Town. Every gentleman present used his utmost endeavours to accommodate the matter. Colonel *Thompson* consented that a Committee should be chosen, consisting of officers from his party, and gentlemen from the Town, to consult in what manner the affair could be accommodated; but as it was late, the Committee chose to defer the consideration of it till next morning. Captain *Mowat* then requested he might go on board his ship that night; and he would pawn his word and honour he would return next morning, at what time, and at what place should be appointed. Colonel *Thompson* consented, provided Colonel *Freeman*, and Brigadier *Preble*, would pass their words, and that the

several gentlemen should return according to their promise, and also pawn their word and honour if the gentlemen failed coming, that they would deliver themselves up and stand by the consequences; which was consented to. Captain *Mowat* not coming according to promise, which was to have been at nine o'clock next morning, the sponsors appeared according to promise, and were confined. Captain *Mowat* wrote to them, and let them know he had fully determined to have complied with his promise, but he had sent his man on shore to carry some dirty linen to his washing-woman, and to bring off some clean; that said man made oath, that two of the body, under arms, one of which swore, by all that was sacred, the moment he came on shore he should have what was in his piece, and the other that he should never return on board again with his life: and that two more of his men made oath, they heard several of the men under arms say, the moment he came on shore they would have his life; this was what he wrote to plead an excuse for not complying with his promise. Colonel *Thompson* told the two gentlemen under confinement, that he must have some provision and refreshment for his men, which they procured to the amount of thirteen or fourteen Pounds, lawful money, on which they were dismissed. About ten o'clock, he sent an account to them for time and expense, amounting to one hundred and fifty-eight Pounds and eighteen Shillings, lawful money, and gave them till next morning nine o'clock to return an answer, which they did in the negative. He said he would have satisfaction before he left the Town. He then seized all the goods he could find belonging to Captain *Coulson* and *William Tyng*, Esquires. They also carried off one boat belonging to *Coulson*, and one other to Captain *Mowat*. They also obliged Captain *Pote* to furnish them with some provisions, and a small matter of cash. They also brought one man on his knees for speaking disrespectfully of the Colonel and his men. Colonel *Thompson*, we doubt not, is a true friend to his Country, and a man of courage and resolution; but as our Town lays so much exposed to the Navy, that had he succeeded in his attempt, (which there was not the least probability of,) it must have proved the destruction of this Town and the country back, which is now in the greatest distress for want of provisions. We have only related plain facts, that the honourable members of the Provincial Congress may not be imposed on with false accounts, to whom please to communicate this letter. We are, with great esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JEDEDIAH PREBLE, *Chairman*.

COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE OF FALMOUTH TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Falmouth, May 15, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: We, the Committee of Correspondence in *Falmouth*, would beg leave to represent to your Honours the situation and circumstances of this Town and County, and if there is any impropriety in our doing it, your candour will excuse it.

The alarming attempt of Colonel *Thompson* to take the Ship *Canceaux*, Captain *Henry Mowat* commander, now in this harbour, has occasioned great uneasiness in this Town, as it has a tendency to bring on us certain ruin, by the Admiral resenting it in such a manner as to block up our harbour before the time; and we have no force to oppose or prevent it; no fortifications, no ammunition, no cannon; and if provisions are stopped from coming in here, the Town is ruined, as well as the country, which depends upon the Town for supplies, of which at present there is a great scarcity. We think Colonel *Thompson's* attempt was rash and injurious, if not unjustifiable, as we cannot learn he had any authority from you or the Congress. We are sure it was contrary to the will and without any orders from his superiour officers in the militia, though solicited for by him; and the people here seemed to be laid under contribution by them to subsist his men.

We hope care will be taken that every attack upon our enemies through the Province shall be conducted by proper officers, orderly, regularly, and with proper authority, lest it should occasion a civil war among ourselves. 'Tis true, in defending ourselves, which may be sudden, immediate and resolute opposition, in the best manner that can be suddenly thought of, should be adopted; but we are afraid



that if any number of men at any time, and in any manner, may collect together, and attack any thing, or any person they please, every body may be in danger. *Sat verbum sapienti.*

We are also concerned lest a good deal of confusion should arise from a number of our young men in the country possessing themselves of the enlisting papers lately printed, some calling themselves Colonels, some Majors, appointing their own officers, Adjutants, Chaplains, Chirurgeons, &c., &c., without having, as we can learn, any written orders for so doing; for they seem to contend already who shall be chief officers, and they are uncertain whether the men they enlist are to be stationed here for defence, or to march to *Cambridge* to make up the Standing Army.

Enlisting papers, we understand, were sent to General *Preble*, but he not having any written orders did not act in the affair. If the Army can be completed without drawing men from hence, as we have all along been made to understand was the case, we cannot help thinking it would be most prudent; however, we shall not be backward if there is real occasion for men; and in that case we humbly submit whether it would not be best some person or persons should be appointed to conduct the affair according to orders. We hope we shall be excused for thus troubling your Honours, as we were solicited to do it by a number of gentlemen. We are, with great veneration, your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

ENOCH FREEMAN, *per order.*

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Province of the *Massachusetts Bay, Cambridge.*

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
May 18, 1775. }

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Thompson* have the following Letter sent him.

"SIR: This Congress has received information that the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Falmouth*, on hearing that you were about making an attack on the *Canceaux* man-of-war, lying in the harbour of that Town, desired you to forbear any proceedings of that kind, which you promised to do, but that you afterwards took the Captain of said ship-of-war, and detained the Honourable *Jedediah Preble* and *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, as hostages for the return of the said Captain, and that you levied contributions of money and other things from the subjects there, and took a boat belonging to the said *Canceaux*.

"Though this Congress approves of your general zeal for this Country, yet it appears that your conduct in taking the Captain of the ship against your promise, and your levying money, or other things of the people, is by no means justifiable, and it is therefore expected that you attend the next Congress that shall be held in this Colony, and do your character justice in this matter, and that you return said boat, and stay all further proceedings of this kind in the mean time."

Williamsburgh, Va., May 19, 1775.

On *Monday* last, *May 15, 1775*, Captain *Montague's* detachment of Marines took their departure from this City, and are returned on board the *Fowey*.

The same day a Council was held at the Capitol, after the breaking up of which, the following Address was made publick:

"To all the good People of VIRGINIA:

"We, His Majesty's faithful subjects, the Council of this Colony, deeply impressed with the most sincere regard for the prosperity of our Country, and the welfare of all its inhabitants, and being desirous, by our example, and by every means in our power, to preserve the peace and good order of the community, can no longer forbear to express our abhorrence and detestation of that licentious and ungovernable spirit that is gone forth, and misleads the once happy people of this Country.

"The Council recommend it to all orders of men to consider seriously what will be the probable consequence of such a conduct as hath been lately pursued, and whether a redress of the grievances complained of will not be more likely to be obtained by gentle, mild, and constitutional

methods, than by such intemperate behaviour, which must tend to exasperate and inflame, rather than reconcile the differences that now unhappily subsist.

"The Council wish, upon this occasion, that all odious distinctions may be laid aside, and that they may be considered not as a separate body of men, and having a distinct interest from the rest of their countrymen and fellow-subjects, but, in the light in which they have always regarded themselves, as the watchful guardians of the rights of the people, as well as of the prerogative of the Crown. They are most of them natives of this Country, they have families, they have property, and they trust they have integrity too, which are the best securities men can give to any society for the faithful discharge of their duty.

"Let, then, their exhortations have proper weight and influence among the people; and they plight their faith that they will join heartily with them in the use of such means as shall be judged most salutary and conducive for enforcing obedience to the laws, and supporting the Constitution of their Country, under which it has flourished from its infancy, and for obtaining a happy and speedy conclusion to all our troubles.

"As his Excellency the Governour hath issued his Proclamation for the speedy meeting of the General Assembly, the Council are happy in finding an opportunity will be given the people of representing their grievances in the manner prescribed by the Constitution.

"Signed by order of the Members of the Council:

"JOHN BLAIR, Clerk of the Council."

#### CHESTER COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of *Chester*, at the Borough of *Chester*, *May 15, 1775*, *Anthony Wayne*, Esquire, in the chair, the following Resolves were made, viz:

Whereas the *British* Parliament, instead of hearing our just complaints or showing the least regard to the dutiful and loyal Petition of the late Continental Congress in behalf of *America*, have proceeded to fresh acts of tyranny and oppression, which, added to an Address of both Lords and Commons to His Majesty, declaring the inhabitants of the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* to be in a state of open rebellion, and several of the other Colonies encouragers of the same, have induced the soldiery under the command of General *Gage*, at *Boston*, to commence a civil war, by wantonly firing upon and murdering a number of the inhabitants of that Province: And whereas the said Address militates equally against all the inhabitants of the other Colonies, who have the virtue to refuse obedience to laws and measures destructive to the best rights and liberties of *America*, which, if suffered to take effect, must inevitably reduce these Colonies to a state of abject slavery, from which, in all probability, no human efforts would ever be able to rescue them; and although we will not yield to any of our fellow-subjects in point of duty and loyalty to our most gracious Sovereign, yet we cannot be so far negligent of our own happiness as totally to neglect providing for our common safety:

*Therefore resolved unanimously*, 1st. That it is the indispensable duty of all the freemen of this County immediately to form and enter into Associations for the purpose of learning the military art; and that they provide themselves with proper Arms and Ammunition, to be ready in case of emergency to defend our liberty, property, and lives, against all attempts to deprive us of them. And we solemnly engage to promote such Associations to the utmost of our power.

2d. *Resolved, nem. con.*, That no Powder be expended in this County, except on emergent occasions, and the store and shop-keepers are requested not to dispose of any, except to some one or more of this Committee, who are ordered to purchase the same.

3d. *Resolved, nem. con.*, That this Committee, confiding in the wisdom and virtue of the Continental Congress now sitting in *Philadelphia*, will adopt, and use their utmost endeavours to carry into execution, all such measures as the said Congress shall recommend for the preservation of *American* liberty.

4th. *Resolved, nem. con.*, It is earnestly recommended to every subscriber in this County for the relief of the poor



in *Boston*, that they immediately pay the same, as it is much wanted for the benevolent purposes intended.

5th. *Resolved, nem. con.*, That each member of this Committee will give his attendance at the Borough of *Chester* on the 31st of this instant, at ten o'clock, A. M., in order to consult the Justices, Grand Jury, and Board of

Commissioners and Assessors, on ways and means to procure a proper quantity of Arms and Ammunition for the use of this County.

The Committee then adjourned to the time and place above-mentioned. By order of the Committee :

FRANCIS JOHNSTON, *Secretary*.

#### ASSEMBLY OF NEW-JERSEY.

Votes and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Colony of *New-Jersey*, at a sitting begun at *Burlington*, Monday, May 15, 1775, and continued until the twentieth day of the same month ; being the first sitting of the Fourth Session of the Twenty-Second Assembly of *New-Jersey*.

#### NAMES OF THE REPRESENTATIVES.

*City of PERTH-AMBOY*.—*Cortland Skinner*, Speaker, *John Combs*.

*MIDDLESEX*.—*John Wetherill*, *Azariah Dunham*.

*MONMOUTH*.—*Edward Taylor*, *Richard Lawrence*.

*ESSEX*.—*Stephen Crane*, *Henry Garriuse*.

*SOMERSET*.—*Hendrick Fisher*, *John Ray*.

*BERGEN*.—*Theunis Dey*, *John Demarest*.

*MORRIS*.—*Jacob Ford*, *William Winds*.

*City of BURLINGTON*.—*James Kinsey*, *Thomas P. Hewlings*.

*County of BURLINGTON*.—*Henry Paxon*, *Anthony Sykes*.

*GLOUCESTER*.—*John Hinchman*, *Robert F. Price*.

*SALEM*.—*Grant Gibbon*, *Benjamin Holme*.

*CAPE MAY*.—*Jonathan Hand*, *Eli Eldridge*.

*HUNTERDON*.—*Samuel Tucker*, *John Mehelm*.

*CUMBERLAND*.—*John Sheppard*, *Theophilus Elmer*.

*SUSSEX*.—*Nathaniel Pettit*, *Joseph Barton*.

*Burlington*, Monday, May 15, 1775.

Pursuant to his Excellency's several prorogations of the General Assembly from time to time till this day, the House met.

*Azariah Dunham*, Esq., being duly returned a Representative to serve in the General Assembly for the County of *Middlesex*, and now attending, was admitted into the House, and took the usual oaths, and made and subscribed the declaration by law appointed, before *Cortland Skinner*, Esq., thereto authorized by *dedimus potestatem*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Dunham* do take his seat in the House.

The House adjourned till three P. M.

The House met.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fisher* and Mr. *Wetherill* do wait upon his Excellency and acquaint him that a sufficient number of Members to constitute a House are met, and are ready to receive any thing he may please to lay before them.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter to him from *William Bollan*, *Benjamin Franklin*, and *Arthur Lee*, Esquires, dated *London*, December 24, 1774 ; which was read.

Mr. Speaker also laid before the House a Letter to him from the Honourable *John Cruger*, Esquire, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Province of *New-York*, enclosing their Petition to the King, the Memorial to the House of Lords, and a Representation to the House of Commons, a List of Grievances, and the Resolutions entered into by the General Assembly there, on the eighth of *March* last ; all which were read.

Mr. *Fisher* reported that Mr. *Wetherill* and himself waited upon his Excellency with the message of the House according to order, and that his Excellency was pleased to say that the House should hear from him to-morrow morning.

The House adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, May 16, 1775.

The House met and adjourned till three P. M.

The House met.

A Message from his Excellency by Mr. Deputy Secretary *Pettit* :

Mr. SPEAKER: His Excellency is in the Council Chamber, and requires the immediate attendance of the House.

Whereupon Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and, with the House, went to wait upon his Excellency ; and being returned, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and reported that the House had waited on his Excellency, who was pleased to make a Speech to the Council and House of Assembly, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a copy. And the same, by order of the House, was read, and is as follows, viz :

*Gentlemen of the Council, and Gentlemen of the Assembly :*

The sole occasion of my calling you together at this time, is to lay before you a Resolution of the House of Commons, wisely and humanely calculated to open a door for the restoration of that harmony between *Great Britain* and her *American Colonies*, on which their mutual welfare and happiness so greatly depend.

This Resolution having already appeared in the publick papers, and a great variety of interpretations put upon it, mostly according to the different views and dispositions by which men are actuated, and scarcely any having seen it in its proper light, I think I cannot, at this critical juncture, better answer the gracious purposes of His Majesty, nor do my Country more essential service, than to lay before you as full an explanation of the occasion, purport, and intent of it, as is in my power. By this means you, and the good people you represent, will be enabled to judge for yourselves, how far you ought or ought not to acquiesce with the plan it contains, and what steps it will be prudent for you to take on this very important occasion.

You will see in the King's answer to the joint Address of both Houses of Parliament on the seventh of *February*, how much attention His Majesty was graciously pleased to give to the assurance held out in that Address, of the readiness of Parliament to afford every just and reasonable indulgence to the Colonies, whenever they should make a proper application on the ground of any real grievance they might have to complain of. This Address was accordingly soon after followed by the Resolution of the House of Commons, now laid before you, a circumstance which afforded His Majesty great satisfaction, as it gave room to hope for a happy effect, and would, at all events, ever remain an evidence of their justice and moderation, and manifest the temper which has accompanied their deliberations upon that question, which has been the source of so much disquiet to the King's subjects in *America*.

His Majesty, ardently wishing to see a reconciliation of the unhappy differences by every means through which it may be obtained, without prejudice to the just authority of Parliament, which His Majesty will never suffer to be violated, has approved the Resolution of his faithful Commons, and has commanded it to be transmitted to the Governors of his Colonies, not doubting that this happy disposition to comply with every just and reasonable wish of the King's subjects in *America*, will meet with such a return of duty and affection on their part, as will lead to a happy issue of the present dispute, and to a re-establishment of the publick tranquillity on those grounds of equity, justice, and moderation, which this Resolution holds forth.

What has given the King the greater satisfaction in this Resolution, and the greater confidence in the good effects of it, is, his having seen that, amidst all the intemperance into which a people, jealous of their liberties, have been unfortunately misled, they have nevertheless avowed the justice, the equity, and the propriety of subjects of the same State contributing, according to their abilities and situation, to the publick burdens ; and this Resolution, it is thought, holds no proposition beyond that.

It would probably be deemed unjust to suppose that any of the King's subjects in the Colonies can so far forget the



benefits they have received from the Parent State as not to acknowledge that it is to her support, held forth at the expense of her blood and treasure, that they principally owe that security which hath raised them to their present state of opulence and importance. In this situation, therefore, justice requires that they should, in return, contribute according to their respective abilities to the common defence; and their own welfare and interest demand that civil establishment should be supported with becoming dignity.

It has been the care, and it is the firm determination of Parliament to see that both these ends are answered, and their wisdom and moderation have suggested the propriety of leaving to each Colony to judge of the ways and means of making due provision for these purposes, reserving to themselves a discretionary power of approving or disapproving what shall be offered.

The Resolution neither points out what the civil establishment should be, nor demands any specific sum in aid of the public burdens. In both these respects it leaves full scope for that justice and liberality which may be expected from Colonies that, under all their prejudices, have never been wanting in expressions of an affectionate attachment to the mother Country, and a zealous regard for the general welfare of the *British* Empire; and therefore the King trusts that the provision they will engage to make for the support of civil government, will be adequate to the rank and station of every necessary officer, and that the sum to be given in contribution to the common defence will be offered on such terms, and proposed in such a way, as to increase or diminish according as the public burdens of *Great Britain* are from time to time augmented or reduced, in so far as these burdens consist of taxes and duties which are not a security for the National Debt.

By such a mode of contribution, the Colonies will have full security that they can never be required to tax themselves, without Parliament's taxing the subjects in *Great Britain* in a far greater proportion; and it may be relied upon, that any proposition of this nature, made by any of the Colonies, and accompanied with such a state of their faculties and ability, as may evince the equity of the proposal, will be received with every possible indulgence; provided it be at the same time unaccompanied with any declarations, and unmixed with any claims which will make it impossible for the King, consistently with his own dignity, or for Parliament, consistently with their constitutional rights, to receive it. But it is not supposed that any of the Colonies will, after this example of the temper and moderation of Parliament, adopt such a conduct. On the contrary, the pleasing hope is cherished that the public peace will be restored, and that the Colonies will enter into the consideration of the Resolution of the House of Commons with that calmness and deliberation which the importance of it demands, and with that good will and inclination to a reconciliation, which are due to the candour and justice with which Parliament has taken up this business, and at once declared to the Colonies what will be ultimately expected from them.

It has been already observed that the King entirely approves the Resolution of the House of Commons, and I have His Majesty's commands to say, that a compliance therewith by the General Assembly will be most graciously considered by His Majesty, not only as a testimony of their reverence for Parliament, but also as a mark of their duty and attachment to their Sovereign, who has no object nearer to his heart than the peace and prosperity of his subjects in every part of his Dominions. At the same time I must tell you His Majesty considers himself as bound, by every tie, to exert those means the Constitution has placed in his hands for preserving that Constitution entire, and to resist, with firmness, every attempt to violate the rights of Parliament, to distress and obstruct the lawful commerce of his subjects, or to encourage in the Colonies ideas of independence inconsistent with their connexion with *Great Britain*.

Here, gentlemen, you have a full and candid state of the disposition and expectations of His Majesty and the Parliament. They require nothing of *America* but what the Colonies have repeatedly professed themselves ready and willing to perform. A late Assembly of this Province, in their Petition to the King in 1766, express themselves thus: "As no danger can approach *Britain* without giv-

ing us the most sensible alarm, so your Majesty may be assured, that with filial duty we shall ever be ready to afford all the assistance in our power, and stand or fall with that Kingdom from which we boast our descent, and to which we are attached by the strongest ties of duty, gratitude and affection." And in a subsequent Petition they say: "Very far it is from our intentions to deny our subordination to that august body, (the Parliament,) or our dependence on the Kingdom of *Great Britain*. In these connexions, and in the settlement of our liberties under the auspicious influence of your Royal House, we know our happiness consists; and, therefore, to confirm those connexions, and to strengthen this settlement, is at once our interest, duty, and delight."

Similar declarations have been repeatedly made in other Colonies. The following vote was passed in the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, to wit: "The House, taking into consideration the many taxes their fellow-subjects in *Great Britain* are obliged to pay towards supporting the dignity of the Crown, and defraying the necessary and contingent charges of the Government, and willing to demonstrate the fidelity, loyalty, and affection of the inhabitants of this Province to our gracious Sovereign, by bearing a share of the burden of our fellow-subjects, proportionable to our circumstances, do, therefore, cheerfully and unanimously resolve that three thousand Pounds be paid for the use of the King, his heirs and successors, to be applied to such uses as he in his royal wisdom shall think fit to direct and appoint." And the said three thousand Pounds was afterwards paid into His Majesty's Exchequer by the Agent of the Province accordingly.

Nor can I avoid mentioning what was done in the Convention of Committees from every County in *Pennsylvania*, who met in *July* last for the express purpose of giving instructions to their Representatives in Assembly on this very subject. Several of these instructions manifest such a candour and liberality of sentiment, such just ideas of the importance of our connexion with *Great Britain*, and point out so rational a method to be pursued for obtaining a redress for the supposed grievances, (previous to any attempts to distress the trade of that Kingdom,) that it is greatly to be regretted that the conduct of *America*, in a matter of such vast importance to its future welfare, had not been regulated by the principles and advice they suggested. In those instructions, speaking of the powers Parliament had claimed and lately exercised, the Convention say: "We are thoroughly convinced they will prove unfailing and plentiful sources of dissensions to our mother Country and these Colonies, unless some expedients can be adopted to render her secure of receiving from us every emolument that can, in justice and reason, be expected; and us secure in our lives, properties, and an equitable share of commerce. Mournfully revolving in our minds the calamities that, arising from these dissensions, will most probably fall on us and our children, we will now lay before you the particular points we request of you to procure, if possible, to be finally decided, and the measures that appear to us most likely to produce such a desirable period of our distresses and dangers." Then, after enumerating the particular Acts of Parliament, which they consider as grievances, and desire to have repealed, they add: "In case of obtaining these terms, it is our opinion that it will be reasonable for the Colonies to engage their obedience to the Acts of Parliament, commonly called the Acts of Navigation, and to every other Act of Parliament declared to have force at this time in these Colonies, other than those above mentioned, and to confirm such Statutes by Acts of the several Assemblies. It is also our opinion that, taking example from our mother Country in abolishing the Courts of Wards and Liveries, tenures in capite, and by Knights' service and purveyance, it will be reasonable for the Colonies, in case of obtaining the terms before mentioned, to settle a certain annual revenue on His Majesty, his heirs and successors, subject to the control of Parliament, and to satisfy all damages done to the *East-India* Company. This our idea of settling a revenue, arises from a sense of duty to our Sovereign, and of esteem for our mother Country. We know and have felt the benefits of a subordinate connexion with her. We neither are so stupid as to be ignorant of them, nor so unjust as to deny them. We have also experienced the pleasures of gratitude and love, as well as



advantages from that connexion. The impressions are not erased. We consider her circumstances with tender concern. We have not been wanting, when constitutionally called upon, to assist her to the utmost of our abilities, inasmuch that she has judged it reasonable to make us recompenses for our over-strained exertions; and we now think we ought to contribute more than we do to the alleviation of her burdens. Whatever may be said of these proposals on either side of the *Atlantick*, this is not a time either for timidity or rashness. We perfectly know that the great cause now agitated is to be conducted to a happy conclusion only by that well-tempered composition of counsels which firmness, prudence, loyalty to our Sovereign, respect to our Parent State, and affection to our native Country, united, must form." "In case of war, or in any emergency of distress, we shall also be ready and willing to contribute all aids within our power. And we solemnly declare, that on such occasions, if we, or our posterity, shall refuse, neglect, or decline thus to contribute, it will be a mean and manifest violation of a plain duty, and a weak and wicked desertion of the true interests of this Province, which ever have been, and must be, bound up in the prosperity of our Mother Country. Our union, founded on mutual compacts and mutual benefits, will be indissoluble; at least more firm than an union perpetually disturbed by disputed rights and retorted injuries." I could quote several more passages from these instructions, which are expressive of the same honest and generous sentiments with regard to *Great Britain*, but I shall only make one more extract, and that respecting the mode which they recommended to be pursued for the redress of grievances, viz: "But other considerations have weight with us. We wish every mark of respect to be paid to His Majesty's administration. We have been taught, from our youth, to entertain tender and brotherly affections for our fellow-subjects at home. The interruption of our commerce must greatly distress great numbers of them. This we earnestly desire to avoid. We therefore request that the Deputies you shall appoint may be instructed to exert themselves at the Congress, to induce the Members of it to consent to make a full and precise state of grievances, and a decent, yet firm claim of redress, and to await the event before any other step is taken. It is our opinion that persons should be appointed and sent home to present this state and claim at the Court of *Great Britain*." After mentioning their confidence in the intended General Congress, and their resolution to abide their determinations for the sake of unanimity, they declare that it is "with a strong hope and trust that they will not draw this Province into any measure judged by us, who must be better acquainted with its state than strangers, highly inexpedient. Of this kind, we know any other stoppage of trade, but of that with *Great Britain*, will be. Even this step we should be extremely afflicted to see taken by the Congress, before the other mode, above pointed out, is tried."

Happy would it have been at this day, in all probability, if some such healing measure had been pursued. Some plan of union, or proposal of "a mutual compact" for "mutual benefit," was the grand object which every honest man in the Colonies had at heart. An imperfect one (if not too glaringly so) was better than none, as it would, if it had answered no other purpose, have laid a foundation for negotiation and treaty. It has been lately observed in Parliament, "That it does not appear the Colonies were seriously inclined to come into any reasonable terms of accommodation, as no body was authorized to make any proposals to that effect."

However, it can be of little avail now to animadvert on past transactions. Who has been most in the right or most in the wrong, can never be satisfactorily decided. Many things will ever happen in the course of a long continued dispute, which good men of both parties must reflect on with pain, and wish to have buried in oblivion. In the present situation of affairs we should only look forward, and endeavour to fall on some expedient that may avert the impending danger. To effect this desirable purpose, a plan is now formed and recommended to you by His Majesty, containing terms greatly corresponding with the avowed sentiments of many of the Colonies, and which, I think, can only want to be rightly understood in order to be generally adopted. It does not require from the people of this Country any formal acknowledgment of the right of taxa-

tion in the Parliament. It waives all dispute on that head, and suspends the exercise of it forever, if so long the Colonies shall perform their part of the contract. It does not even require as a preliminary that the Non-Importation and Non-Exportation Agreements shall be abolished. It comes before you in the old accustomed manner, by way of requisition, being approved and adopted by the King, who has directed his several Governours to signify to the respective Assemblies his desire that they should grant such aids for the common defence, and the support of Government within the Colonies, as shall appear to them just and equitable, and proportionate to their abilities. His Majesty and the Parliament, 'tis true, are to judge whether the aids which each Colony may offer are worth acceptance, or adequate to their respective abilities, as they did during the course of the last war, very much to the satisfaction of those Colonies who exerted themselves; often making them a compensation "according as their active vigour and strenuous efforts respectively appeared to merit." The necessity of some such supreme judge is evident from the very nature of the case, as otherwise some Colonies might not contribute their due proportion. During the last war I well remember it was ardently wished by some of the Colonies that others who were thought to be delinquent might be compelled, by Act of Parliament, to bear an equal share of the public burdens. It appears, by the minutes of Assembly, in *March* and *April*, 1758, that some of the neighbouring Colonies thought *New-Jersey* had not, at that time, contributed its due share towards the expenses of the war, and that President *Reading* (the then Commander-in-Chief of the Colony) was of the same opinion. And since my administration, when the Assembly, in 1764, was called upon to make provision for raising some Troops on account of the *Indian* war, they declined doing it for some time but "on condition a majority of the Eastern Colonies, as far as to include *Massachusetts-Bay*, should come into His Majesty's requisition on the occasion." But as none of the Assemblies of the *New-England* Governments thought themselves nearly concerned, nothing was granted by them, and the whole burden of the expeditions then carried on fell upon *Great Britain* and three or four of the middle Colonies; with which this Colony was dissatisfied, and the Assembly complained of it in one of their Addresses to me on the occasion. But what fully evinces that there is no design of oppression or extortion in the proposed reservation in His Majesty and his Parliament of the right of approving the aids which may be offered by the Colonies, is His Majesty's gracious assurance that the propositions on this head will be received with every possible indulgence. The moneys raised by the several Colonies as their proportion to the common defence, is made subject to the disposal of Parliament, as in justice it ought, as they furnish the whole sum which may be wanted for that necessary purpose, according to the estimates annually laid before them by the Crown, besides making provision for the civil list and National Debt, towards which the Colonies are not asked to contribute. The Army and Navy establishment, it is well known, is necessarily increased since the extension of the *British* Dominions in *America*. The whole *American* civil and military establishment, as paid by *Great Britain*, after the peace of *Aix-la-Chapelle*, was, it is said, only £70,000 sterling; but since the last peace, it amounts to upwards of £350,000. As this great additional expense was chiefly incurred on an *American* account, it cannot but be reasonable that *America* should pay some part of it. To remove every objection that other taxes may be raised upon *America*, under the colour of regulations on commerce, the produce of all such duties is to be carried to the account of that Province where it is to be levied.

We have now, thank Heaven, a happy opportunity of getting entirely rid of this unnatural contest, by only complying with what I think has been fully proved and acknowledged to be our indispensable duty. Wherever a people enjoy protection, and the other common benefits of the State, nothing can be more reasonable than that they should bear their share of the common burden.

It is much to be lamented that there is so much truth in the observation, that mankind generally act, not according to right, but according to the present interest, and most according to present passion. In the present case there are no difficulties but what may be easily surmounted, if men



come together sincerely disposed to serve their Country, unbiased by any sinister views or improper resentments. This, gentlemen, I trust will be found to be your disposition in this most alarming situation of publick affairs. Let me conjure you, however, not to come to any precipitate resolutions respecting the plan of accommodation now communicated to you. I have no objection to give you any time you may think necessary for the due consideration of it. It is, indeed, a concern of a more interesting nature than ever before came under the consideration of an *American* Assembly. If it is adopted, all will yet be well. If it is totally rejected, or nothing similar to it proposed, or made the basis of a negotiation, it will necessarily induce a belief of what has been lately so often mentioned in publick, "That it is not a dispute about modes of taxation, but that the *Americans* have deeper views, and mean to throw off all dependance upon *Great Britain*, and to get rid of every control of their Legislature." Should such sentiments ever prevail, they cannot but have the most fatal effects to this Country. I am, however, fully convinced that the body of the people in the Colonies do not even entertain a wish of the kind. Rather than lose the protection of *Great Britain, America*, were it ever so constitutionally and allowedly independent, would find it for its advantage to purchase that protection at an expense far beyond what *Great Britain* would ever think of requiring while we show her that regard and obedience to which she is justly entitled, and which our own interest and safety should prompt us to show, if there were no other considerations.

Taxation being the principal source of the present disorders, when that important point is once settled, every other subject of complaint which has grown out of it will, no doubt, of course, be removed; for you may rely, gentlemen, that notwithstanding the many inimical and oppressive designs which the jealousies and suspicions of incensed people have attributed to Government, yet it is evident, from the whole tenour of the letters which I have had the honour to receive from the King's Ministers, that His Majesty and they have nothing more at heart than to have these unhappy differences accommodated on some just and honourable plan, which shall at the same time secure the liberties of the people, without lessening the necessary power and dignity of Parliament.

God grant that the Colonies may manifest the same laudable disposition, and that a hearty reconciliation and harmony may take place of the present confusion and dissension.

WM. FRANKLIN.

Council Chamber, May 16, 1775.

Mr. Deputy Secretary laid before the House the copy of an Address to the King from the Lords and Commons of *Great Britain*, of the 7th of *February*, 1775, together with His Majesty's Answer; also, a copy of a Resolution of the Honourable House of Commons of *Great Britain*, of the 20th of *February* last; all which were read.

Ordered, That his Excellency's Speech and the said Papers be read a second time.

Mr. Tucker laid before the House a printed Pamphlet lately received from *Great Britain*, entitled "*The Parliamentary Register*, No. 5," containing, among other things, a Paper entitled "An extract of a Letter from Governour *Franklin* to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, dated *Perth-Amboy*, *February* 1, 1775; received *February* 28," in these words, viz:

"The General Assembly of this Province are now sitting, being convened on the 11th of last month, in order to transact the publick business.

"At the opening of the session I had some hopes of prevailing on the House of Representatives not to approve of the proceedings of the General Congress held at *Philadelphia*, for which purpose a paragraph of my speech was particularly calculated. But the Delegates from this Province took the alarm, and used their utmost endeavours with the members to persuade them to give their approbation to those proceedings, as otherwise one grand end the Congress had in view would be entirely frustrated, namely: the preserving an appearance of unanimity throughout the Colonies, without which they said their measures could not have that weight and efficacy with the Government and people of *Great Britain*, as was intended.

"The scheme, however, met with some opposition in the House, every member proposing to defer the consideration of it to a future time, or to give their approbation to only some parts of the proceedings of the Congress; but by the artful management of those who espoused the measure, it was carried through precipitately the very morning it was proposed, as your Lordship will see by a copy of their Resolutions now enclosed, which were all previously prepared for the purpose."

Which Extract was read, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. *Crane* had leave of absence upon special occasion. The House adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

—  
Wednesday, May 17, 1775.

The House met.

His Excellency's Speech, together with the Papers accompanying the same, were read the second time, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter to him from *John Smith*, Esquire, Treasurer of the Eastern Division, dated *Perth-Amboy*, May 13, 1775, setting forth that he had attended the Justices and Freeholders of *Middlesex*, with the sum of Nine Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety-Eight Pounds and Three Shillings, to be sunk according to law on the *Wednesday* preceding; but that no sufficient number to constitute a Board had attended; and praying that an act of Assembly may immediately pass to cancel and burn said Bills; which Letter was read, and ordered a second reading.

The House adjourned till three, P. M.

—  
The House met.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House on His Excellency's Speech and the Papers accompanying the same, and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Fisher*, Chairman of the Committee, reported that the Committee had gone through the matters to them referred, and had come to one Resolution, which he was ready to report whenever the House will please to receive the same.

Ordered, That the Report be made immediately.

Whereupon Mr. *Fisher* reported the Resolution of the Committee, as follows, viz:

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to his Excellency in answer to his Speech; to which the House agreed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fisher*, Mr. *Wetherill*, Mr. *Kinsey*, Mr. *Paxon*, and Mr. *Lawrence*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in the draught of an Address to his Excellency, in answer to his Speech.

*Joseph Barton*, Esquire, being duly returned a Representative in Assembly for the County of *Sussex*, and now attending, was admitted into the House, and took the usual oaths, and made and subscribed the Declaration by law appointed, before *Cortland Skinner*, Esquire, authorized by *dedimus potestatum*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Barton* do take his seat in the House.

The House adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

—  
Thursday, May 18, 1775.

The House met.

The printed Paper, entitled "An Extract of a Letter from Governour *Franklin* to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, dated *Perth-Amboy*, *February* 1, 1775; received *February* 28," was read the second time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hinchman*, Mr. *Mehelm*, Mr. *Combs*, Mr. *Taylor*, and Mr. *Holme*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in the draught of a Message to his Excellency, to request his Excellency would be pleased to inform this House whether the said Extract is authentick or not.

The House adjourned till three, P. M.

—  
The House met.

Mr. *Hinchman*, from the Committee appointed this morning, brought in the draught of a Message to his Excellency, according to order; which was read, amended, agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.



The engrossed Message to his Excellency was read and compared, and the same is as follows, viz :

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Dey* and Mr. *Hewlings* do wait upon his Excellency with the following Message :

*May it please your Excellency :*

A printed Pamphlet lately received from *Great Britain*, entitled "*The Parliamentary Register*, No. 5," has been laid before this House, containing, among other things, a Paper entitled "*An Extract of a Letter from Governour Franklin to the Earl of Dartmouth*, dated *Perth-Amboy*, February 1, 1775; received February 28," in these words :

"The General Assembly of this Province are now sitting, being convened on the 11th of last month, in order to transact the publick business.

"At the opening of the session I had some hopes of prevailing on the House of Representatives not to approve of the proceedings of the General Congress held at *Philadelphia*, for which purpose a paragraph of my speech was particularly calculated. But the Delegates from this Province took the alarm, and used their utmost endeavours with the members to persuade them to give their approbation to those proceedings, as otherwise one grand end the Congress had in view would be entirely frustrated, namely : the preserving an appearance of unanimity throughout the Colonies, without which they said their measures would not have that weight and efficacy with the Government and people of *Great Britain*, as was intended.

"The scheme, however, met with some opposition in the House, every member proposing to defer the consideration of it to a future time, or to give their approbation to only some parts of the proceedings of Congress; but by the artful management of those who espoused the measure, it was carried through precipitately the very morning it was proposed, as your Lordship will see by a copy of their Resolutions now enclosed, which were all previously prepared for the purpose."

We request your Excellency will be pleased to inform this House whether the said Extract contains a true representation of the words or substance of the Letter, or any part of the Letter by your Excellency written relative to the proceedings of the last session of Assembly.

By order of the House :

RICHARD SMITH, Clerk.

House of Assembly, May 18, 1775.

Mr. *Fisher*, from the Committee on the Address to his Excellency, brought in a draught; which was read, and ordered a second reading.

Mr. Deputy Secretary *Pettit* laid before the House His Majesty's royal approbation of two Acts of Assembly of this Province; and also His Majesty's royal disallowance of one other Act, in these words, viz :

"At the Court at *St. James's*, the 20th day of *February*, 1775. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty, Lord President, Duke of *Queensbury*, Duke of *Newcastle*, Earl of *Denbigh*, Earl of *Rochford*, Earl of *Dartmouth*, Viscount *Falmouth*.

"Whereas, by commission under the great seal of *Great Britain*, the Governour, Council, and Assembly of His Majesty's Colony of *New-Jersey* are authorized and empowered to make, constitute, and ordain Laws, Statutes, and Ordinances for the publick peace, welfare, and good government of the said Colony, which Laws, Statutes, and Ordinances are to be as near as conveniently may be, agreeable to the Laws and Statutes of this Kingdom, and are to be transmitted to His Majesty for his royal approbation or disallowance: And whereas, in pursuance of the said powers, two Acts were passed in the said Colony in the last session of the General Assembly there, which have been transmitted, entitled as follows, viz :

"An Act for striking One Hundred Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, and directing the mode for sinking the same.

"An Act for the relief of *Abner Hatfield*, an insolvent debtor.

"Which Acts, together with the representation from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations thereupon, having been referred to the consideration of a Committee of the Lords of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council for Plantation Affairs, the said Lords of the Com-

mittee did this day report as their opinion to His Majesty, that the said Acts were proper to be approved. His Majesty taking the same into consideration, was pleased, with the advice of his Privy Council, to declare his approbation of the said Acts; and pursuant to His Majesty's royal pleasure thereupon expressed, the said Acts are hereby confirmed, finally enacted, and ratified accordingly; whereof the Governour or Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's said Colony of *New-Jersey*, for the time being, and all others whom it may concern, are to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

G. CHETWYND."

"At the Court at *St. James's*, the 20th day of *February*, 1775. Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty, Lord President, Duke of *Queensbury*, Duke of *Newcastle*, Earl of *Denbigh*, Earl of *Rochford*, Earl of *Dartmouth*, Viscount *Falmouth*.

"Whereas, by commission under the great seal of *Great Britain*, the Governour, Council, and Assembly of His Majesty's Colony of *New-Jersey* are authorized and empowered to make, constitute, and ordain Laws, Statutes, and Ordinances for the publick peace, welfare, and good government of the said Colony, which Laws, Statutes, and Ordinances are to be as near as conveniently may be, agreeable to the Laws and Statutes of this Kingdom, and are to be transmitted for His Majesty's royal approbation or disallowance: And whereas, in pursuance of the said powers, an Act was passed in the said Colony in the last session of General Assembly, and transmitted, entitled as follows, viz :

"An Act for lowering the interest of Money to Six per Cent. within this Colony.

"Which Act, together with a representation from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations thereupon, having been referred to the consideration of a Committee of the Lords of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, the said Lords of the Committee did this day report as their opinion to His Majesty, that the said Act ought to be disallowed. His Majesty, taking the same into consideration, was pleased, with the advice of his Privy Council, to declare his disallowance of the said Act; and pursuant to His Majesty's royal pleasure thereupon expressed, the said Act is hereby disallowed, declared void, and of none effect; whereof the Governour or Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's said Colony of *New-Jersey*, for the time being, and all others whom it may concern, are to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

G. CHETWYND."

The House adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, May 19, 1775.

The House met.

The Address to his Excellency was read the second time, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

The House accordingly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House on the Address, and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Fisher*, Chairman of the Committee, reported that the Committee had gone through the Address, and had made sundry amendments to the same; and by leave of the House Mr. *Fisher* reported the Address with the amendments; which were read; and the Address being further amended in the House, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the said Address as amended and agreed to, be engrossed.

The House adjourned till three, P. M.

The House met.

The engrossed Address to his Excellency was read and compared.

*Ordered, nem. con.*, That Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Tucker* and Mr. *Hinchman* do wait upon his Excellency, and desire to be informed when his Excellency will be attended by the House with their Address.

Colonel *Ford* had leave of absence on urgent business.

Mr. *Tucker* reported that Mr. *Hinchman* and himself waited on his Excellency according to order, and that his Excellency was pleased to say the House should hear from him.



The House adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, May 20, 1775.

The House met.

A Message from his Excellency, by Mr. Deputy Secretary *Pettit* :

Gentlemen :

As the Honourable *Samuel Smith*, Esquire, has resigned his office of Treasurer of the Western Division, I now inform you that I have, with the advice of the Council, appointed *Joseph Smith*, Esquire, to that office; which appointment, I doubt not, will be to your satisfaction.

WM. FRANKLIN.

Burlington, May 20, 1775.

Which was read; and thereupon a certified copy of the Bond entered into by the said *Joseph Smith*, Esq., being laid before the House, executed according to law,

*Resolved*, That this House is entirely satisfied with the security therein mentioned.

It also appearing that the late Treasurer hath paid into the hands of the said *Joseph Smith*, Esquire, the sum of Six Thousand One Hundred and Sixty-Six Pounds Fourteen Shillings and Eight Pence, the balance of the said late Treasurer's accounts, as settled by the Committees of the Council and this House, together with all books, papers, &c., belonging to the Colony :

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this House that the late Treasurer's Bond be taken off the files, cancelled, and delivered to him.

It also appearing that the Chest heretofore used for keeping the publick money, &c., is private property,

*Ordered*, That the present Treasurer do procure a proper and strong Iron Chest for that purpose; and upon his exhibiting an account of the expense thereof,

*Resolved*, That this House will make provision to defray the said expense.

A Message from his Excellency, by Mr. Deputy Secretary *Pettit* :

Mr. Speaker :

His Excellency is in the Council-Chamber, and requires the immediate attendance of the House.

Whereupon Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and with the House went to wait upon his Excellency in the Council-Chamber, when he addressed the Governour in the words, or to the effect following :

"I am ordered by the House of Assembly to deliver to your Excellency their Address, which being different from my sentiments, I think it necessary thus publicly to declare it; a step I should not have taken, had I been permitted to enter my dissent on the Minutes of the House."

Having delivered the Address, and being returned, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported that the House had waited on his Excellency with their Address, in these words, viz :

To his Excellency WILLIAM FRANKLIN, Esquire, Captain-General, Governour, and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's Colony of NOVA-CESAREA, or NEW-JERSEY, and Territories thereon depending in AMERICA, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral in the same, &c.

The humble Address of the Representatives of the said Colony, in General Assembly convened :

May it please your Excellency :

We, His Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Representatives of the Colony of *New-Jersey*, in General Assembly convened, have taken under our consideration your Excellency's Speech at the opening of the session, together with the Resolution of the House of Commons accompanying the same, containing a proposition for accommodating of the unhappy differences at present subsisting between our Parent Country and the Colonies.

As the Continental Congress is now sitting to consider of the present critical situation of *American* affairs; and as this House has already appointed Delegates for that purpose, we should have been glad that your Excellency had postponed the present meeting until their opinion could be had upon the Resolution now offered for our considera-

tion, and to which we have no doubt that a proper attention will be paid; more especially as we cannot suppose you to entertain a suspicion that the present House has the least design to desert the common cause, in which all *America* appears to be both deeply interested and firmly united, so far as separately, and without the advice of a body in which all are represented, to adopt a measure of so much importance. Until this opinion is known, we can only give your Excellency our present sentiments, being fully of opinion that we shall pay all proper respect to, and abide by, the united voice of the Congress on the present occasion.

Your Excellency is pleased to tell us that this Resolution "has had a variety of interpretations put on it;" "that scarcely any have seen it in its proper light;" and you proceed to give us that explanation of the design and occasion, which you apprehend will enable us and our constituents to judge how far the plan it contains ought to be acquiesced in, and what steps it may be prudent to take in the present situation. We confess that your Excellency has put a construction on the proposition, which appears to us to be new; and if we would be of the opinion that the Resolution "holds no proposition beyond the avowal of the justice, the equity, and the propriety of subjects of the same State contributing, according to their abilities and situation, to the publick burden," and did not convey to us the idea of submitting the disposal of all our property to others in whom we have no choice, it is more than probable that we should gladly embrace the opportunity of settling this unhappy dispute.

Most Assemblies on the Continent have, at various times, acknowledged and declared to the world their willingness not only to defray the charge of the administration of justice, and the support of the civil Government, but also to contribute, as they have hitherto done when constitutionally called upon, to every reasonable and necessary expense for the defence, protection, and security of the whole *British* Empire; and this Colony in particular hath always complied with his Majesty's requisitions for those purposes. And we do now assure your Excellency that we shall always be ready, according to our abilities and to the utmost of our power, to maintain the interests of His Majesty and of our Parent State. If, then, your Excellency's construction be right, and if a proposal "of this nature" will, as you are pleased to inform us, be received by His Majesty with every possible indulgence, we have hopes that the declaration we now make will be looked on by His Majesty and his Ministers, not only to be similar to what is required from us, but also to be a "basis of a negotiation" on which the present differences may be accommodated—an event which we most ardently wish for.

We have considered the Resolution of the House of Commons. We would not wish to come to a determination that might be justly called precipitate, in the present alarming situation of affairs; but if we mistake not, this Resolution contains no new proposal. It appears to us to be the same with one made to the Colonies the year preceding the passing of the late Stamp Act; at least it is not materially different therefrom. *America* then did not comply with it; and though we are sincerely disposed to make use of all proper means to obtain the favour of His Majesty and the Parliament of *Great Britain*, yet we cannot, in our present opinion, comply with a proposition which we really apprehend to give up the privileges of freemen; nor do we want any time to consider whether we shall submit to that which, in our apprehension, will reduce us and our constituents to a state little better than that of slavery.

By the Resolution now offered, if assented to, we think we shall be, to all intents and purposes, as fully and effectually taxed by our fellow-subjects in *Great Britain*, where we have not any representation, as by any of the late Acts of the *British* Parliament under which we have been aggrieved; of which we have complained; and from which we have prayed to be relieved; and that, too, in a much greater degree, perhaps, than by all those Acts put together. We cannot consent to subject the property of our constituents to be taken away for services and uses, of the propriety of which we have no right to judge, while to us are only left the ways and means of raising the money. We have always thought and contended, that we had a right to dispose of our property ourselves; and we have always cheerfully yielded our assistance to His Majesty in that



way, when the exigencies of affairs required us so to do, and he has condescended to ask it from us. It is the freedom of granting, as well as the mode of raising moneys, which this House cannot voluntarily part with, without betraying the just rights of the Constitution. The present Resolution seems to require us to raise a proportion which a Parliament of *Great Britain* may at any time think fit to grant. At this time we cannot form any judgment, either of the extent of the proposition, or of the consequences in which the good people of the Colony may be involved by our assent to a provision so indeterminate; for it appears to us to be impossible to judge what proportion or share the people can bear, until we know what situation they will be in when any sum is intended to be raised.

Upon the whole, though sincerely desirous to give every mark of duty and attachment to the King, and to show all due reverence to the Parliament of our Parent State, we cannot, consistent with our real sentiments, and the trust reposed in us, assent to a proposal big with consequences destructive to the publick welfare; and hope that the justice of our Parent Country will not permit us to be driven into a situation, the prospect of which fills us with anxiety and horror.

There may be much truth in the observation, "that mankind generally act not according to right, but according to present interest, and most according to present passion." Yet we trust that our conduct on the present occasion is neither influenced by the one nor the other; and we persuade ourselves that your Excellency is so well acquainted with the people you govern, that it is quite unnecessary for us to make use of any means to convince you of the injustice of the charge, "that the *Americans* have deeper views, and mean to throw of all dependance on *Great Britain*, and to get rid of every control of their Legislature."

We heartily pray that the supreme Disposer of events, in whose hands are the hearts of all men, may avert the calamities impending over us, and influence our Sovereign, his Ministry, and the Parliament, so as to induce them to put a stop to the effusion of the blood of the Colonists, who wish always to look upon their fellow-subjects in *Great Britain* as their brethren, and are really desirous to promote their interests and happiness upon any reasonable terms; and it will give us great pleasure to find your Excellency amongst those who, by just and proper representations of the dispositions of the inhabitants of these Colonies, shall assist in settling of the present unhappy differences. By order of the House:

CORTLAND SKINNER, *Speaker*.

House of Assembly, May 19, 1775.

To which his Excellency was pleased to make the following Answer:

Gentlemen:

I have done my duty. I lost no time in laying before you the propositions I had received for an amicable accommodation of the present unhappy differences. I gave you as full and candid an explanation of them as I was authorized or enabled to do. Whether those propositions or my explanation of them did or did not contain any thing new, is but little to the purpose. The question is, whether they ought or ought not to be approved, either in whole or in part, or be made the ground of a negotiation; and whether, in the latter case, every Assembly on the Continent ought not to take some active measures to effect an end so desirable. In stating the matter to you, I could have no suspicion that you did not think yourselves competent to the business, and were necessarily to wait the determination of another body. It was but the last session you assured me that you would not "suffer any of the rights vested in you by the Constitution to be wrested out of your hands by any person or persons whatsoever." I shall forbear to point out the inconsistency of this Address with that declaration. Nor shall I aim to convince you of the wrong ideas you have formed of those propositions. Were they ever so rightly understood, or ever so well approved by you, yet, to judge by your own declaration, it could be of no avail. The times are indeed greatly altered. I shall be happy to see some proper attempts made to mend them. My representations and endeavours, from the first commencement of this unnatural dispute to this day, have not been, nor shall they ever be, wanting to-

wards effecting a reconciliation. I am persuaded that if a disposition of this sort is manifested, and the proper steps are pursued by those who have it in their power to take the lead in this important affair on the part of *America*, it may be easily accomplished to mutual satisfaction. His Majesty, I am sure, would wish to avoid the shedding of the blood of his *American*, as much as that of his *British* subjects. They must be all equally dear to him, if they are equally dutiful. The *Americans*, in general, have been, and I hope will ever prove as well disposed to His Majesty and Family, as the subjects of any other part of the Dominions.

The House adjourned till three, P. M.

The House met.

His Excellency having laid before the House a copy of the Resolution of the honourable the House of Commons of *Great Britain*, of the 20th of *February*, 1775, containing a plan formed for the accommodation of the unhappy differences between our Parent State and the Colonies; which plan, under the present circumstances, this House could not comply with and adopt; and yet this House being desirous of making use of all proper means to effect a reconciliation, do recommend it to their Delegates to lay the same plan before the Continental Congress for their consideration.

Ordered, That Mr. *Mehelm* and Mr. *Elmer* do go to the Council, and inquire whether they have any business before them; if not, that this House proposes to apply to his Excellency for a dismission.

Mr. *Mehelm* reported that Mr. *Elmer* and himself waited on the Council accordingly, who said they had nothing before them.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fisher* and Mr. *Lawrence* do wait upon his Excellency, and acquaint him that the House having gone through the business, is desirous of a dismission.

Mr. *Fisher* reported, that Mr. *Lawrence* and himself waited upon the Governour accordingly, who was pleased to say the House should hear from him presently.

A Message from his Excellency by Mr. Deputy Secretary *Pettit*.

*A Message to the Assembly.*

Gentlemen:

It has been my unhappiness almost every session during the existence of the present Assembly, that a majority of the members of the House have suffered themselves to be persuaded to seize on every opportunity of arraigning my conduct, or fomenting some dispute, let the occasion be ever so trifling, or let me be ever so careful to avoid giving any just cause of offence. This, too, has been done with such an eagerness in the promoters of it as can only be accounted for on a supposition that they are either actuated by unmanly private resentment, or by a conviction that their whole political consequence depends upon a contention with their Governour. Such effusions of ill-humour have never yet, however, nor is it likely they ever will, produce any benefit to the Province; on the contrary, they have occasioned great delays and obstructions to the publick business, and consequently been attended with very considerable expense to the people.

In this light, and in no other, can I look upon the proceedings of your House with respect to the matter mentioned in your Message of *Thursday*. A member receives a pamphlet from *England*, containing, as is pretended, an extract of a letter from me to the Secretary of State. What does he do with it? Does he come to me, or does he write to me on the subject, or does he even request any other person to inquire of me whether the extract is genuine or not? No, he treasures it up, till the House meets; but either through motives of shame or fear, he does not choose to appear openly in the affair himself. He looks around for some person to take the odium of the intended business off his hands, and presently finds one exactly fitted to his purpose. The pamphlet is accordingly laid before the Assembly, the extract is read, inserted at large on the Minutes, ordered a second reading, and after it had been on record two days, the House at length thought proper to send me a message requesting I would be pleased to inform them "whether the said extract contains a true representation of the words or substance of the letter, or any part of the



letter by me written relative to the proceedings of the last session of Assembly."

If such a procedure does not manifest a premeditated affront, and an intention to do me a personal injury, let any man judge, who considers the several steps which have been taken in this affair, the many falsehoods which have been industriously propagated respecting the contents of the letter, and the present turbulent state of the Province.

Some, if not all of you, must have known that the pamphlet though called the *Parliamentary Register*, was not a publication authorized by Parliament, or of any more authority than a common magazine or newspaper. Nor can I doubt but that some of you must have seen or heard that what was lately published in that work, as the Speech of the Earl of *Chatham*, was publickly denied by his Lordship. It is well known to be as much the practice in *England* to write and publish speeches which were never spoke, as it is in *America* to publish extracts of letters which were never wrote by the persons to whom they are attributed.

Besides, gentlemen, as to the particular extract in question, I cannot but flatter myself that I am not so remarkable for writing nonsense and contradictions, but that you might have at least doubted the genuineness of the extract when you saw on the very face of it so glaring an absurdity as could not be supposed to have come from the pen of any man of common sense. Would you not have thought me extremely deficient in the common marks of respect which is due from one gentleman to another, and much more from one branch of the Legislature to another, had I seen a pretended extract of a letter, said to be wrote by you to your Agent, or from him to you, containing evident nonsense and absurdity, and should order it to be read in Council, and entered on the minutes without making any inquiry as to the authenticity of it, until two days after? Would you not have construed such conduct into a designed affront, or suspected that it was calculated to expose you to ridicule, or to promote some intended injury, more especially in times so circumstanced as the present.

I cannot think that you have the least right to a sight of any part of my correspondence with the King's Ministers, and I am convinced that you would deem it a very improper request, were I to ask you to communicate to me your correspondence with the Agent of this Province, at the Court of *Great Britain*. I will, however, thus far comply with your request as to assure you that "the said extract does not contain a true representation of the words or substance of my letter;" but had you, before you suffered it to be entered on your Minutes, applied to me, either in a private or publick way, I should have had not the least scruple to have let you seen the whole of what I wrote "relative to the proceedings of the last session of Assembly." It has ever been my rule, as it is my duty, to represent matters exactly in the light as they appear to me from the best information I can obtain at the time of writing my despatches. If I afterwards find that I have been mistaken in any thing, I never fail to rectify the mistake as soon as discovered.

On the whole, gentlemen, I have very particular reasons to complain of the treatment I have received on account of this pretended extract. Great pains have been taken to propagate an idea that I wrote a letter to *England* inimical to the Province or to *America* in general. After it is produced nothing of the kind appears, nor should I have the least objection to the publication of my whole correspondence with the King's Ministers. You have on your Minutes a copy of a letter from Lord *Shelburne*, which will shew that the representations I made of the disposition and conduct of the people of this Province, at the time of the Stamp Act, a time somewhat similar to the present, were, to use his Lordship's words, "much to its honour." My sentiments respecting the present transactions I have no scruple to declare do not entirely coincide with those of either party. But I trust that those who know me best will do me the justice to allow that no office or honour in the power of the Crown to bestow, will ever influence me to forget or neglect the duty I owe my Country, nor the most furious rage of the most intemperate zealots induce me to swerve from the duty I owe His Majesty.

WM. FRANKLIN.

1. *Resolved*, That the laying of the *Parliamentary Register* before this House, containing a publication said to be an extract of a Letter from Governour *Franklin* to Lord *Dartmouth*, so far from doing or carrying an appearance of intending an injury to the character of his Excellency, or deserving of those personal reflections contained in his Message to the House of this day, had, in the opinion of this House, a tendency to do him real service, by giving him an opportunity of exculpating himself from the charge of writing the said Letter or extract, if the charge had been groundless.

2. *Resolved*, That Mr. *Fisher*, Mr. *Kinsey*, Mr. *Tucker*, Mr. *Paxon*, and Mr. *Hinchman*, be a Committee to consider of the said Message, and make report to the next sitting of Assembly.

On the question, Whether the House agrees to the said Resolutions or not? It passed in the affirmative:

| Yeas.          | Yeas.         | Yeas.         |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Mr. Combs,     | Mr. Dey,      | Mr. Holme,    |
| Mr. Wetherill, | Mr. Demarest, | Mr. Hand,     |
| Mr. Dunham,    | Mr. Winds,    | Mr. Eldridge, |
| Mr. Taylor,    | Mr. Kinsey,   | Mr. Tucker,   |
| Mr. Lawrence,  | Mr. Hewlings, | Mr. Mehelm,   |
| Mr. Garritse,  | Mr. Paxon,    | Mr. Sheppard, |
| Mr. Fisher,    | Mr. Sykes,    | Mr. Elmer,    |
| Mr. Rey,       | Mr. Hinchman, | Mr. Pettit.   |

Nay. Mr. Barton.

A Message from his Excellency, by Mr. Deputy Secretary *Pettit*.

MR. SPEAKER: His Excellency is in the Council Chamber, and requires the immediate attendance of this House.

Whereupon Mr. Speaker, with the House, waited upon his Excellency, who was pleased to prorogue the General Assembly to the 20th day of *June* next, then to meet at *Burlington*.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

The Committee met, by adjournment, *Monday*, 15th *May*, 1775. Present:

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Low,           | Theophilus Anthony, | Gerret Ketletas,    |
| P. V. B. Livingston, | William Goforth,    | Cornelius Clopper,  |
| Alex. McDougall,     | William Denning,    | John Reade,         |
| Leonard Lispenard,   | William W. Gilbert, | J. Van Cortlandt,   |
| John Broome,         | John Berrian,       | Jacobus Van Zandt,  |
| Joseph Hallett,      | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,   | Edward Fleming,     | John Marston,       |
| Peter Van Schaack,   | John De Lancey,     | Hamilton Young,     |
| Henry Remsen,        | Frederick Jay,      | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| Peter T. Curtenius,  | William W. Ludlow,  | Benjamin Helme,     |
| Abraham Brasher,     | Lancaster Burling,  | David Beekman,      |
| Abraham P. Lott,     | John Lasher,        | Evert Banker,       |
| Joseph Bull,         | George Janeway,     | Robert Ray,         |
| Thomas Ivers,        | James Beekman,      | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Hercules Mulligan,   | Samuel Verplanck,   | William Laight,     |
| John Anthony,        | Richard Yates,      | Daniel Phenix,      |
| John White,          | David Clarkson,     | John Imlay.         |

A Letter, dated *Philadelphia*, 13th *May*, 1775, from *John Lamb*, received and read.

Mr. P. V. B. *Livingston*, from the Committee of Correspondence reported and read, the draft of an Answer to

a Letter, dated *Tryon County*; 19th *April*, 1775: also an Answer to one received from *Thomas Barclay*, dated *Philadelphia*, *May* 11th, 1775, which being approved of,

*Ordered*, That the same be forwarded.

Mr. *Remsen* moved, seconded by Mr. *Laight*, in the words following:

Whereas the inhabitants of this City have reposed a trust of great importance in this Committee, which we are bound in honour to discharge with fidelity; and as the purposes of our appointment may in a great measure be defeated unless the members are in a situation to be assembled on sudden emergencies; I therefore move that it be

*Resolved*, That no member do absent himself out of Town longer than forty-eight hours at a time, without leave first obtained from the Committee, or from the Chairman; and that every member be served with a copy of this Resolve.

The following Address was presented by Captains *Lasher*, *Ritzma*, *Stockholm*, *Banker*, *Fleming*, and *Lott*:

We, the subscribers, who, by the unanimous consent and approbation of many of our fellow-citizens, have formed dif-



serent companies of Foot, in order to co-operate with the rest of our fellow-citizens in carrying into execution the General Association of the late Continental Congress, do hereby offer our service to the General Committee, cheerfully to take our tour of duty in such military services as the Committee may direct, and to be otherwise subservient to the end of their appointment.

JOHN LASHER, CHRIS. BANKER,  
RODOL. RITZMA, EDWARD FLEMING,  
ANDREW STOCKHOLM, ABRAHAM P. LOTT.

Ordered, That the Committee of Correspondence be directed to draft an Answer to the above Address.

Committee Chamber, New-York, May 15, 1775.

Resolved, That copies of the Association be lodged at the following places in the respective Wards in this City, to wit:

In the *South-Ward*, at the house of Mr. John Lasher;  
*Dock-Ward*, at the house of Mr. Gerardus Duyckinck;  
*East-Ward*, at the house of Mr. John Imlay;  
*West-Ward*, at the house of Mr. Peter T. Curtenius;  
*North-Ward*, at the house of Mr. John White;  
*Montgomerie-Ward*, the house of Mr. Petrus Byvanck;  
*Out-Ward*, at the house of Mr. Thomas Ivers;

To the intent, that all such persons who have not yet subscribed the Association, may with the greater convenience do it. And it is hereby recommended to them to make their subscriptions as speedily as possible, as returns of all such as decline are to be made to the Committee.

By order of the Committee:

ISAAC LOW, *Chairman*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

New-York, May 15, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have this moment received by express from *Albany*, the within authentick intelligence of the fortress of *Ticonderoga* having been surprised and taken by a detachment of Provincials from *Connecticut* and the *Massachusetts-Bay*. And as we do not conceive ourselves authorized to give any opinion upon a matter of such importance, we have thought proper to refer it to the Congress; and that the people of *Albany* may be acquainted with the sentiments of that Assembly as early as possible, their express, who is the bearer hereof, will carry any despatches the Congress may think proper to send on the occasion to the City of *Albany*, by a short route from *Philadelphia*.

We have already wrote to the Committee of *Albany* in answer to their letters to us, referred to in the enclosed; but it seems our letters were not come to hand.

We are, gentlemen, with great respect, your obedient humble servants. By order of the Committee:

ISAAC LOW, *Chairman*.

The Honourable Peyton Randolph, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress.

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Albany, May 12, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We applied to you on the third instant, for your advice on an application to us for supplying with provisions, &c., some Troops from *Connecticut*, on their intended attack against *Ticonderoga*, &c., and it is to our great regret that we have hitherto received no answer, although we pressed it, and have since wrote to you on the subject, by Colonel Schuyler, since which time frequent applications have been made to us on the same subject; and as we are unacquainted with the sentiments of our Colony on this very important enterprise, we have declined interfering.

We have just now received the original of the enclosed copy; by its contents you will see that they have succeeded in surprising *Ticonderoga*, and that a requisition is made for men and provisions in order to enable them to repair and hold that fortress. Mr. Brown, who was personally in the action, brought the letter, and made the demand, says, that the prisoners were on their way to this City; but that unless they are immediately assisted, they are afraid they will be obliged to abandon the fort, and leave the artillery behind, of which there are about two hundred

pieces, great and small. He is dissatisfied with our answer, and went away abruptly, though we told him the circumstances we were in, and that we would immediately despatch an express to you. We hope you will no longer keep us in suspense.

As the Troops in *Canada* will probably endeavour to retake it, the consequence of this enterprise will probably involve the northern parts of this Colony in the horrors of war and devastation, and therefore we earnestly call on you to furnish us with your advice in this alarming crisis, immediately, by Captain *Barent Ten Eyck*, who is sent express. We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

By order of the Committee of the City of *Albany*.

ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., *Chairman*.

Mr. Isaac Low, Chairman of the Committee, *New-York*.

ETHAN ALLEN TO THE ALBANY COMMITTEE.

Ticonderoga, May 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have the inexpressible satisfaction to acquaint you that at day-break of the tenth instant, pursuant to my directions from sundry leading gentlemen of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, I took the fortress of *Ticonderoga*, with about one hundred and thirty *Green Mountain Boys*. Colonel *Easton* with about forty-seven valiant soldiers, distinguished themselves in the action. Colonel *Arnold* entered the fortress with me side by side. The guard was so surprised, that contrary to expectation they did not fire on us, but fled with precipitancy. We immediately entered the fortress, and took the garrison prisoners, without bloodshed, or any opposition. They consisted of one Captain, and a Lieutenant and forty-two men.

Little more need be said. You know Governour *Carleton* of *Canada* will exert himself to retake it; and as your County is nearer than any other part of the Colonies, and as your inhabitants have thoroughly manifested their zeal in the cause of their Country, I expect immediate assistance from you both in men and provisions. You cannot exert yourselves too much in so glorious a cause. The number of men need be more at first, till the other Colonies can have time to muster. I am apprehensive of a sudden and quick attack. Pray be quick to our relief, and send us five hundred men immediately—fail not. From your friend and humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN, *Commander of Ticonderoga*.

Abraham Yates, Chairman of the Committee, *Albany*.

NEWBURGH (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the major part of the Committee of Correspondence and Observation, for the Precinct of *Newburgh*, in *Orange County*, *New-York*, met agreeable to adjournment, at the house of *Martin Wyganh*, on Monday, the 15th of May, 1775: *Wolver Ecker*, was chosen Chairman, *Cornelius Hasbrouck*, Clerk.

This Committee, taking into consideration the present most alarming situation of our publick affairs, occasioned by the bloody measures of a wicked Ministry; and considering the great utility of a General Association being fully signed by every male person, from the age of sixteen and upwards in this Province; and whereas we have reason to lament that a number of persons in this Precinct are so lost to the preservation of themselves and their Country, that they refuse, or neglect to sign the Association with the rest of their neighbours, fellow-sufferers, and countrymen in this Precinct:

1. Resolved, That this Committee, in their several Districts, as they, or the major part of them shall agree respectively, be, and are hereby appointed to wait on such person or persons who have neglected and refused to sign the said Association, and in the most friendly manner to invite them to sign the same.

2. Resolved, That in case any person or persons, being males, and of the age aforesaid, shall refuse to sign the same, or does not come in and sign the same, on or before the 29th of this instant, he or they shall, and are hereby deemed enemies to their Country.

3. Resolved, That any person or persons refusing as aforesaid, that it is the opinion of this Committee, that no person or persons whatsoever shall have any kind of con-



nection or dealings with such person or persons whatsoever; and that whosoever shall have any such connection, ought to be treated in like manner, and be considered as an enemy to his Country, notwithstanding he or they may have signed the Association.

4. *Resolved*, And we do recommend it to all our neighbouring and adjacent Towns, Precincts, Counties, and Provinces, that they will, in like manner treat such persons as aforesaid.

5. *Resolved*, That the names of such person or persons, who shall refuse as aforesaid, shall be made publick in the Newspapers.

6. *Resolved*, That any person or persons owning Negroes in this Precinct shall not, on any account whatever, suffer his or their Negro or Negroes to be absent from his dwellinghouse or farm, after sun-down, or send them out in the day time off their farm without a pass; and in case any Negroes shall be found absent, contrary to the above Resolve, (except it be in return with his or their masters team,) shall be apprehended by any person or persons whatsoever, and brought forthwith before any two or more of this Committee, who shall cause them to receive thirty-five lashes, or any number less, as the said Committee shall judge proper.

7. *Resolved*, That the above Resolves of the Committee shall be subject to the control of the Provincial and Continental Congresses, to their approbation and disapprobation.

8. *Resolved*, That we will truly adhere to and obey whatever Resolutions the Continental and Provincial Congresses, or either of them shall resolve and direct, with respect to this Precinct or other matters which are to be observed in general, until such times as His Majesty, and his Lords and Commons shall repeal and disannul all their present tyrannical acts and measures, and again restore us to our former liberties and privileges, which, by law and nature we are entitled to, as natural born subjects.

By order of the Committee:

WOLVER ECKER.

#### PROVIDENCE (RHODE-ISLAND) TOWN-MEETING.

At a Town-Meeting held at *Providence*, by adjournment, on *Monday*, the fifteenth day of *May*, A. D. 1775, Mr. *Joseph Brown*, Moderator:

*Voted*, That the doings of the Town Council, on the matter of the Watch, be approved and accepted, and that Mr. *Zephaniah Andrews* be, and is hereby appointed to build a guard-house and three watch-boxes in this Town, agreeable to the vote of the Town Council establishing a Watch, and that the said Mr. *Andrews* advise with Messrs. *John Brown* and *Jonathan Arnold* on that matter.

*Voted*, That the master of the Watch, together with *John Brown* and *Jonathan Arnold*, have full power to direct what instrument or instruments the Watch shall be provided with from time to time.

*Voted unanimously*, That the Committee who were appointed by the Town, at their last meeting, to inquire into the state and preparation of the several inhabitants of this Town, in respect to Fire-Arms and other military stores and accoutrements required by law, as they are not prepared to make their report at this meeting, be, and they are hereby directed to make their report to Colonel *John Mathewson*, *Edward Thurber*, and *Jonathan Arnold*, who are appointed by the Town a Committee to receive the same; and they, together with the aforesaid Committee, are hereby appointed and empowered to purchase, at the expense and on account and risk of the Town, such and so many Arms as shall appear to them necessary to supply all able-bodied men who are by said Committee deemed unable to provide for themselves, and furnish such supplies of military stores and accoutrements as they judge necessary, under certain rules and restrictions to be by them made. And that the said Committee make their report to the Town as soon as they have completed the business assigned them in this vote, together with the regulations which shall be by them made as aforesaid.

And it is further voted, That the said Committee do, as soon as may be after receiving the Report of the first Committee as aforesaid, furnish each Captain of the Militia Companies in this Town with lists of those persons

who live within the limits of their respective Companies, that are able to provide themselves with Arms, &c., as the law requires; and that upon receipt thereof it is recommended to them to strictly adhere to the law, and cause all such to provide themselves, or exact their fines for each deficiency.

*Voted*, That Major *Truman* and Mr. *Paul Allen* be a Committee to make up the whole of the Town's stock of Powder and Lead, or procure the same to be made into Cartridges as soon as may be, at the expense of the Town, and when so made, return the same to the Captains of the several Military Companies in this Town.

*Voted*, That the vote passed in town-meeting on the last *Tuesday* of *August*, be reprinted in the *Providence Gazette*.

Worcester, May 24, 1775.

The week before last, the *Falcon*, sloop-of-war, was cruising about *Cape Cod*, and meeting with a wood sloop in ballast, seized her, but promising the Skipper to release him and his vessel if he would give information of any vessel that was just arrived from the *West-Indies* with a cargo on board; he at length told the Captain of the *Falcon* that there was a sloop at *Dartmouth*, which had just arrived; whereupon the Captain of the *Falcon*, instead of releasing the wood sloop, armed and manned her, and sent her in search of the *West-Indiaman*. They found the vessel lying at anchor, but her cargo was landed; however, they seized her and carried her off, after putting part of their crew and some guns and ammunition on board. Notice of this getting on shore, the people fitted out a third sloop, with about thirty men and two swivel-guns, and went in pursuit of these royal pirates, whom they came up with at *Martha's Vineyard*, where they lay at anchor, at about a league's distance from each other; the first surrendered without firing a gun; our people, after putting a number of hands on board, bore down upon the other, which, by this time, had got under sail; but the people in the *Dartmouth* sloop coming up with her, the pirates fired upon them; the fire was immediately returned, by which three of the pirates were wounded, among whom was the commanding officer. Our people boarded her immediately, and having taken both sloops, carried them into *Dartmouth*, and sent the prisoners to *Cambridge*; from thence nine of them were yesterday brought to this Town.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEWPORT, RHODE-ISLAND, DATED MAY 10, 1775.

Last *Friday* the *Falcon*, Captain *Lindsey*, took two sloops at *Bedford*, with intention of sending them to the Islands near the *Vineyard*, to carry from thence a parcel of sheep to *Boston*. The *Bedford* people resented this conduct in such a manner as to immediately fit out two sloops, with thirty men on board, and last *Saturday* retook them both, with fifteen men on board. In the action there were three of the men-of-war sailors badly wounded, one of whom is since dead. The other thirteen they immediately sent to *Taunton* Jail.

#### GROTON (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

Groton, May 15, 1775.

The inhabitants of *Groton* in town-meeting assembled, the Reverend *Samuel Dana* offered that to the Town with regard to his political principles and conduct with which the Town voted themselves fully satisfied, and that he ought to enjoy the privileges of society in common with other members; and we hope this, with the following by him subscribed, will be fully satisfactory to the publick.

OLIVER PRESCOTT, ISAAC FARNSWORTH,  
JAMES PRESCOTT, MOSES CHILD,  
JOSIAH SARTELL,

Committee of Correspondence for GROTON.

"I, the subscriber, being deeply affected with the miseries brought on this Country by a horrid thirst for ill-got wealth and unconstitutional power; and lamenting my unhappiness in being left to adopt principles in politics different from the generality of my countrymen, and thence to conduct in a manner that has but too justly excited the jealousy



and resentment of the true sons of liberty against me, earnestly desirous at the same time to give them all the satisfaction in my power, do hereby sincerely ask forgiveness of all such for whatever I have said or done that had the least tendency to the injury of my Country, assuring them that it is my full purpose, in my proper sphere, to unite with them in all those laudable and fit measures that have been recommended by the Continental and Provincial Congresses, for the salvation of this Country, hoping my future conversation and conduct will fully prove the uprightness of my present professions.

"SAMUEL DANA.

"Groton, May 22, 1775."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GOVERNOUR GAGE TO LORD DARTMOUTH, DATED BOSTON, MAY 15, 1775.

They have been enlisting among the country people as many men as could be collected at forty shillings a man, and we are told they are enlisting them in the other Provinces. If they proceed in their movements it seems impossible to be long before we again come to blows; and from the beginning I have perceived it was the wish and design of the leaders here to bring affairs to that crisis; but so to manage it as to bring the rest of the Colonies to support them. It is astonishing how they have duped the whole Continent.

TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of WILLIAM BENT and others, humbly sheweth:

That from various hands we, the subscribers, have obtained beating orders, and have respectively enlisted a company of men, consisting of fifty-six privates; and being all from the same neighbourhood, and doing duty along our seacoast, we are desirous of being immediately formed into a regiment.

And we beg leave most earnestly to move to your Honours, that Colonel *Lemuel Robinson*, of *Dorchester*, may be appointed to take the command of us as our Colonel. From the acquaintance we have with this gentleman, and from his known military character, we are induced to think that he is highly worthy the honour and the trust, and therefore are very desirous of being under his command.

Besides, we are concerned for the honour of the County of *Suffolk*. Present appearances render it suspicious that there are not gentlemen enough in said County sufficiently capacitated to command the Companies raised in it—a thought too degrading. And we are apprehensive that we, or a part of us, shall be put under the command of officers from other Counties; which will be very disagreeable, not only to us, but to our Companies also.

We therefore pray, that for the honour of the County, and for the peace and good order of our Companies, Colonel *Lemuel Robinson* may have the command of us. And as in duty bound, will ever pray.

|                 |   |                   |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| WILLIAM BENT,   | { | <i>Milton.</i>    |
| ELIJAH VOSE,    |   |                   |
| SETH TURNER,    | { | <i>Braintree.</i> |
| JOHN VINTON,    |   |                   |
| SILAS WILD,     |   |                   |
| JACOB GOULD,    | { | <i>Weymouth.</i>  |
| JOSEPH TREFONT, |   |                   |
| JOTHAM LORING,  | { | <i>Hingham.</i>   |
| JAMES LINCOLN,  |   |                   |
| JOB CUSHING,    |   | <i>Cohasset.</i>  |

May 15, 1775.

PETITION OF JOHN BOICE AND HUGH M'LEAN.

To the Honourable the Congress of the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, assembled at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of JOHN BOICE and HUGH McLEAN, of MILTON, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners carry on the business of manufacturers of Paper at *Milton*, which has been deemed of great utility to the publick; that *John Salter*, *James Calder*, *Wil-*

*liam Durant*, and *William Pierse*, now enlisted soldiers in the Provincial service, were all of them apprentices to your petitioners, and have attained so great a knowledge in the art of paper making, that their attendance on that business is absolutely necessary to its being carried on; that they have done the principal part of the work at your petitioners' mills for two years past; and unless they are released from the service they are now in, it is impossible for your petitioners to continue this so useful and necessary branch of *American* manufactures. Wherefore, the petitioners pray that the said *John Salter*, *James Calder*, *William Durant*, and *William Pierse*, may be, by order of this honourable Congress, dismissed as soon as may be from the service of the Provincial Army. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN BOICE,  
HUGH McLEAN.

May 15, 1775.

JOSEPH PRIME AND OTHERS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Berwick, May 15, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: This day, on our waiting on Major *Wood*, on his march to Head-Quarters, we are informed that one *Alexander Scammell* is appointed Major of the Regiment now raising in the County of *York*. Mr. *Scammell* lives in *New-Hampshire*, and has no property in *Berwick* or the County of *York*. We being military officers in said County of *York*, not attending the County meeting in advising to the field officers, do approve of the choice at said meeting, that is, *Johnson Moulton*, First Colonel; *J. S. Scammon*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Daniel Wood*, Major.

We are, gentlemen, with esteem, yours, &c.

JOSEPH PRIME, JOSEPH PRAY, JUN.,  
JONA. HAMILTON, JUN., MARK LORD.

To the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, &c., &c.

JEDEDIAH PREBLE TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Falmouth, May 15, 1775.

HONOURED GENTLEMEN: These wait on you by Colonel *Phinney*, who brought me all the papers necessary for enlisting a Regiment in the County of *Cumberland*. I advised with the Committee of Correspondence, who was of opinion it would be difficult for our County to spare a Regiment to be moved out of the Province of *Maine*, as we lay much exposed to the Navy by sea, and the *Indians* and *French* on our back settlements, if they should be employed against us; but should be glad to do every thing in our power for the defence of our just rights and dearer liberties. Our men are zealous in the cause of their Country, and ready to venture every thing for the defence of it. Colonel *March* informs me your Honours have appointed him a Colonel, and gave him orders to raise a Regiment in this County, and to appoint all his officers; this he acquainted me with after I had delivered Colonel *Phinney* the papers back again, which he brought to me. It is impossible we can spare two Regiments out of this County, and they have both made considerable progress; am much afraid there will be some difficulty in settling the affair. I am persuaded the men in general would prefer Colonel *Phinney*, and so should I for that reason, as I look on Colonel *Phinney* to be equal to Colonel *March* in every respect.

Should have done myself the honour to have waited on you in person, but am still in a poor state of health, and so exercised with the gout that I cannot bear my shoes. I purpose to visit the Camp whenever I am able to undergo the fatigue of so long a journey. I wish courage and conduct in our officers, resolution and a spirit of obedience in our soldiery, and a speedy end of all our troubles. I am your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

JEDEDIAH PREBLE.

LETTER TO THE EASTERN INDIANS.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 15, 1775.

FRIENDS AND GOOD BROTHERS: We, the Delegates of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, being come together in Congress to consider what may be best for you and ourselves to do to get rid of the slavery designed to be brought



upon us, have thought it our duty to write you the following Letter:

Brothers, the great wickedness of such as should be our friends, but are our enemies, (we mean the Ministry of *Great Britain*,) have laid deep plots to take away our liberty and your liberty. They want to get all our money; make us pay it to them when they never earned it; to make you and us their servants, and let us have nothing to eat, drink, or wear, but what they say we shall, and prevent us from having guns and powder to use and kill our deer and wolves, and other game, or to send to you for you to kill your game with, and to get skins and furs to trade with us for what you want. But we hope soon to be able to supply you with both guns and powder of our own making.

We have petitioned to *England* for you and us, and told them plainly we want nothing but our own, and don't want to hurt them; but they won't hear us, and have great ships and their men with guns to make us give up, and kill us, and have killed some of our men; but we have drove them back and beat them, and killed a great many of their men. The *Englishmen* of all the Colonies, from *Nova-Scotia* to *Georgia*, have firmly resolved to stand together and oppose them. Our liberty and your liberty is the same. We are brothers, and what is for our good is for your good; and we, by standing together, shall make those wicked men afraid, and overcome them, and all be freemen. Captain *Goldthwait* has given up *Fort Pownall* to our enemies. We are angry at it, and we hear you are angry with him, and we don't wonder at it. We want to know what you, our good brothers, want from us of clothing or warlike stores, and we will supply you as fast as we can. We will do all for you we can, and fight to save you any time, and hope none of your men, or the *Indians* in *Canada*, will join with our enemies. You may have a great deal of good influence on them. Our good brothers, the *Indians* at *Stockbridge*, all join with us, and some of their men have enlisted as soldiers, and we have given them that enlisted each one a blanket and a ribbon, and they will be paid when they are from home in the service, and if any of you are willing to enlist we will do the same for you. We have sent Captain *John Lane* to you for that purpose, and he will show you his orders for raising one Company of your men to join with us in the war with your and our enemies.

Brothers, we humbly beseech that *God*, who lives above, and who does what is right here below, to be your friend, and bless you, and to prevent the designs of those wicked men from hurting you or us.

Brothers, if you let Mr. *John Preble* know what things you want, he will take care to inform us, and we will do the best for you that we can.

#### TOWN-MEETING, PORTSMOUTH, NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Extracts of sundry Votes passed at a Town-Meeting held at the North Meeting-House in *Portsmouth*, May 15, 1775:

*Voted*, That the Town will aid and assist the Committee that is or shall be chosen in behalf of this Town, to preserve the peace and order of it, whenever the Committee shall judge occasion may require.

And that this Committee be fully empowered to inquire touching any obnoxious persons who may flee to this Town for an asylum, and that they shall judge whether it is expedient for any such refugees to reside here or depart from it; and any inhabitant of this Town who shall be obnoxious, shall be only accountable to the Committee for their conduct.

*Voted*, That no other persons but the Committee shall concern with any such refugees; but if any person shall know of any such obnoxious persons coming into Town, the earliest notice thereof should be given the Committee.

*Voted*, That the Committee be empowered to call before them, and upon proper evidence to pass censure upon, any inhabitants of this Town who shall dare to transgress any of the preceding votes, or in any manner to disturb the peace of the Town.

*Voted*, That it is recommended to the inhabitants of this Town to refrain from purchasing any Lamb that shall be killed before the first day of *August* next, and that they kill no Lambs before that time.

*Voted*, That the Town recommend the use of fresh Fish to the inhabitants, twice a week at least.

#### COMMITTEE AND SELECTMEN OF MARLOW TO THE PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Marlow, N. H., May 15, 1775.

We received your letter inviting us to send a Deputy in our behalf to represent us at a Congress at *Exeter*, on the 17th instant, to consult on the affairs of this Government, and adopt such plan as may be most expedient to preserve the rights and privileges of this and the other Colonies. After notice, we met and considered the matters, and our own circumstances, and our poverty is such that at present we are not able to support a Deputy at said Congress. But being well-wishers to the continuance of our rights and privileges, both civil and sacred, we have chosen us a Committee of Correspondence with the other Committees of the other Towns in said Province, and we do hereby acquaint you of our free and voluntary will and resolution, with the hazard of our lives and interests to assist in the defence of the same with our neighbouring Colonies; and we do hereby commit and entrust the consulting of the measures to be proceeded in to your wise and prudent conduct, under *God*, considering him as the alone Governour of men under him; and we hope and trust that *God* will give wisdom and understanding and strength according to the troubles and trials of the day in which we now live; and in all things we mean to pay our portion according to our ability, hoping that *God* will help us so to do.

SAMUEL GUFFIN,  
NATHANIEL HADLEY,  
ELIAS LEWIS,

*Com. of Correspondence and Selectmen of MARLOW.*

To the Provincial Committee to be held at *Exeter*, in the Province of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. We should be glad to be favoured with what measures are concerted by the said Congress.

#### TOWN OF ALSTEAD TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Alstead, N. H., May 15, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We received a letter from the former Convention requesting us to assist by sending a man to represent us. We should gladly have embraced the privilege were we in a capacity; but our ability is such that we look upon ourselves as not able to maintain a man to sit in Congress, but have proceeded so far in town-meeting, duly warned, to choose a Committee to correspond with our sister Towns, and to draw a letter to forward our doings, joining with the Town of *Marlow* in this procedure, which are as follows, viz:

Made choice of *Nathaniel Sartell Prentiss*, *Oliver Shepherd*, and *Simon Brooks*, as a Committee of Correspondence, and voted to abide by the proceedings of a Convention at the risk of our all, trusting in their wisdom and sagacity (under *God*) that their endeavours and proceedings will happily extricate us out of the alarming evil that we either feel or fear; which will be the constant prayer and wish of your friends and brethren in one common cause, the inhabitants of *Alstead*.

By a vote of the Town chose Mr. *Oliver Shepherd* to forward these our proceedings immediately, and make return. In behalf of the Committee:

NATHANIEL PRENTISS, Town Clerk.

To the Honourable the Delegates from the several Towns in this Province now sitting at *Exeter*, *New-Hampshire*.

#### AUGUSTA COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of that part of *Augusta* County that lies on the west side of the *Laurel Hill*, at *Pittsburgh*, the 16th day of *May*, 1775, the following gentlemen were chosen a Committee for the said District, viz: *George Croghan*, *John Campbell*, *Edward Ward*, *Thomas Smallman*, *John Cannon*, *John McCullough*, *William Gee*, *George Valandingham*, *John Gibson*, *Dorsey Pentecost*, *Edward Cook*, *William Crawford*, *Devereux Smith*, *John Anderson*, *David Rodgers*, *Jacob Vanmetre*,



*Henry Enoch, James Ennis, George Willson, William Vance, David Shepherd, William Elliot, Richmond Willis, Samuel Sample, John Ormsbey, Richard Maher, John Nevill, and John Sweringer.*

The foregoing gentlemen met in committee, and resolved that *John Campbell, John Ormsbey, Edward Ward, Thomas Smallman, Samuel Sample, John Anderson, and Devereux Smith*, or any four of them, be a Standing Committee, and shall have full power to meet at such times as they shall judge necessary, and in case of any emergency, to call the Committee of this District together, and shall be vested with the same power and authority as the other Standing Committees and Committees of Correspondence are in the other Counties within this Colony.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the cordial and most grateful thanks of this Committee are a tribute due to *John Harvie*, Esquire, our worthy Representative in the late Colonial Convention held at *Richmond*, for his faithful discharge of that important trust reposed in him; and to *John Nevill*, Esquire, our other worthy Delegate, whom nothing but sickness prevented from representing us in that respectable Assembly.

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Committee have the highest sense of the spirited behaviour of their brethren in *New-England*, and do most cordially approve of their opposing the invaders of *American* rights and privileges to the utmost extreme, and that each member of this Committee, respectively, will animate and encourage their neighbourhood to follow the brave example.

The imminent danger that threatens *America* in general, from Ministerial and Parliamentary denunciations of our ruin, and is now carrying into execution by open acts of unprovoked hostilities in our sister Colony of *Massachusetts*, as well as the danger to be apprehended to this Colony in particular from a domestick enemy, said to be prompted by the wicked minions of power to execute our ruin, added to the menaces of an *Indian* war, likewise said to be in contemplation, thereby thinking to engage our attention, and divert it from that still more interesting object of liberty and freedom, that deeply, and with so much justice, hath called forth the attention of all *America*; for the prevention of all, or any of those impending evils, it is

*Resolved*, That the recommendation of the *Richmond* Convention, of the 20th of last *March*, relative to the embodying, arming, and disciplining the Militia, be immediately carried into execution with the greatest diligence in this County, by the officers appointed for that end; and that the recommendation of the said Convention to the several Committees of this Colony, to collect from their constituents, in such manner as shall be most agreeable to them, so much money as shall be sufficient to purchase half a pound of gunpowder, and one pound of lead, flints, and cartridge paper, for every tithable person in their County, be likewise carried into execution.

This Committee, therefore, out of the deepest sense of the expediency of this measure, most earnestly entreat that every member of this Committee do collect from each tithable person in their several districts the sum of Two Shillings and Six-Pence, which we deem no more than sufficient for the above purpose, and give proper receipts to all such as pay the same into their hands; and the sum so collected to be paid into the hands of *Mr. John Campbell*, who is to give proper security to this Committee, or their successors, for the due and faithful application of the money so deposited with him for the above purpose, by or with the advice of this Committee, or their successors; and this Committee, as your representatives, and who are most ardently labouring for your preservation, call on you, our constituents, our friends, brethren, and fellow-sufferers, in the name of *God*, of every thing you hold sacred or valuable, for the sake of your wives, children, and unborn generations, that you will, every one of you, in your several stations, to the utmost of your power, assist in levying such sum, by not only paying yourselves, but by assisting those who are not at present in a condition to do so. We heartily lament the case of all such as have not this small sum at command in this day of necessity; to all such we recommend to tender security to such as Providence has enabled to lend them so much; and this Committee do pledge their faith and fortunes to you, their constituents, that we shall, without fee or reward, use our best endeav-

ours to procure, with the money so collected, the ammunition our present exigencies have made so exceedingly necessary.

As this Committee has reason to believe there is a quantity of Ammunition destined for this place for the purpose of Government, and as this country, on the west side of the *Laurel Hill*, is greatly distressed for want of ammunition, and deprived of the means of procuring it, by reason of its situation, as easy as the lower Counties of this Colony, they do earnestly request the Committees of *Frederick, Augusta, and Hampshire*, that they will not suffer the ammunition to pass through their Counties for the purposes of Government, but will secure it for the use of this destitute country, and immediately inform this Committee of their having done so.

*Resolved*, That this Committee do approve of the Resolution of the Committee of the other part of this County, relative to the cultivating a friendship with the *Indians*; and if any person shall be so depraved as to take the life of any *Indian* that may come to us in a friendly manner, we will, as one man, use our utmost endeavours to bring such offender to condign punishment.

*Ordered*, That the Standing Committee be directed to secure such Arms and Ammunition as are not employed in actual service, or private property, and that they get the same repaired, and deliver them to such Captains of Independent Companies as may make application for the same, and taking such Captain's receipt for the arms so delivered.

*Resolved*, That the sum of fifteen Pounds, current money, be raised by subscription, and that the same be transmitted to *Robert Carter Nicholas*, Esq., for the use of the Deputies sent from this Colony to the General Congress. Which sum of money was immediately paid by the Committee then present.

*Mr. John Campbell* reported, from the Select Committee for considering the grievances, as Instructions to the Delegates, which he read in his place, and handed it to the Clerk's table, where it was again read, and is as follows:

*To JOHN HARVIE and GEORGE ROOTES, Esquires.*

GENTLEMEN: You being chosen to represent the people on the west side the *Laurel Hill* in the Colonial Congress for the ensuing year, we, the Committee for the people aforesaid, desire you will lay the grievances hereafter mentioned before the Congress at their first meeting, as we conceive it highly necessary they should be redressed, to put us on a footing with the rest of our brethren in the Colony.

1st. That many of the inhabitants in this part of the County have expended large sums of money, and supplied the soldiers in the last *Indian* war with provisions and other necessities, many of whom have expended all they had; and though, at the same time, we bear a grateful remembrance of the good intentions of the late Colonial Congress, so feelingly and generously expressed in their Resolves, yet the unhappy situation we are reduced to by the payment of those supplies being delayed, involves this new and flourishing country in extreme poverty.

2d. That the maintaining a garrison at this place, when there is no other method used for supplying them with provisions, but by impressing from the inhabitants of the country, ought to be considered.

3d. That this country, joining the *Indian* Territory and the Province of *Quebeck*, (which by its late change of Constitution is rendered inimical to liberty,) lies exposed to the inroads of the Savages and the Militia of that Province; and should the Ministry or their emissaries be able to stir up either of them against the Colonies, this country will be in need of support to enable them to provide against, and withstand any attempt that may be made on their civil or religious liberties.

4th. That for want of freeholders we cannot get legal Grand Jurors, which are necessary for the well government of the country.

5th. That the unsettled boundary between this Colony and the Province of *Pennsylvania*, is the occasion of many disputes.

6th. That the collecting the duty on skins and furs, for which a commission hath lately been sent up here, will banish the *Indian* Trade from this place and Colony.

Which Report being agreed to,



*Resolved unanimously*, That a fair copy be drawn off and delivered to our Delegates as their instructions.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing proceedings be certified by the Clerk of this Committee, and published in the *Virginia Gazette*.

By order of the Committee.

JAMES BERWICK, Clerk.

DOCTOR FRANKLIN TO DOCTOR PRIESTLEY, IN LONDON.

Philadelphia, May 16, 1775.

DEAR FRIEND: You will have heard, before this reaches you, of a march stolen by the Regulars into the country by night, and of their expedition back again. They retreated twenty miles in six hours.

The Governour had called the Assembly to propose Lord *North's* pacifick plan, but, before the time of their meeting, began cutting of throats. You know it was said he carried the sword in one hand, and the olive branch in the other; and it seems he chose to give them a taste of the sword first.

He is doubling his fortifications at *Boston*, and hopes to secure his Troops till succour arrives. The place, indeed, is naturally so defensible, that I think them in no danger.

All *America* is exasperated by his conduct, and more firmly united than ever. The breach between the two Countries is grown wider, and in danger of becoming irreparable.

I had a passage of six weeks, the weather constantly so moderate that a *London* wherry might have accompanied us all the way. I got home in the evening, and the next morning was unanimously chosen by the Assembly of *Pennsylvania* a Delegate to the Congress now sitting.

In coming over, I made a valuable philosophical discovery, which I shall communicate to you when I can get a little time. At present am extremely hurried.

Yours, most affectionately, B. FRANKLIN.

MEETING OF THE INHABITANTS OF WESTMORELAND,  
PENNSYLVANIA.

At a general meeting of the inhabitants of the County of *Westmoreland*, held at *Hanna's Town* the 16th day of *May*, 1775, for taking into consideration the very alarming situation of this Country, occasioned by the dispute with *Great Britain*:

*Resolved unanimously*, That the Parliament of *Great Britain*, by several late Acts, have declared the inhabitants of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to be in rebellion, and the Ministry, by endeavouring to enforce those Acts, have attempted to reduce the said inhabitants to a more wretched state of slavery than ever before existed in any state or country. Not content with violating their constitutional and chartered privileges, they would strip them of the rights of humanity, exposing lives to the wanton and unpunishable sport of a licentious soldiery, and depriving them of the very means of subsistence.

*Resolved unanimously*, That there is no reason to doubt but the same system of tyranny and oppression will (should it meet with success in the *Massachusetts-Bay*) be extended to every other part of *America*: it is therefore become the indispensable duty of every *American*, of every man who has any publick virtue or love for his Country, or any bowels for posterity, by every means which *God* has put in his power, to resist and oppose the execution of it; that for us we will be ready to oppose it with our lives and fortunes. And the better to enable us to accomplish it, we will immediately form ourselves into a military body, to consist of Companies to be made up out of the several Townships under the following Association, which is declared to be the Association of *Westmoreland* County:

Possessed with the most unshaken loyalty and fidelity to His Majesty, King *George* the Third, whom we acknowledge to be our lawful and rightful King, and who we wish may long be the beloved Sovereign of a free and happy people throughout the whole *British* Empire; we declare to the world, that we do not mean by this Association to deviate from that loyalty which we hold it our bounden duty to observe; but, animated with the love of liberty, it is no less our duty to maintain and defend our just rights

(which, with sorrow, we have seen of late wantonly violated in many instances by a wicked Ministry and a corrupted Parliament) and transmit them entire to our posterity, for which purpose we do agree and associate together:

1st. To arm and form ourselves into a Regiment or Regiments, and choose officers to command us in such proportion as shall be thought necessary.

2d. We will, with alacrity, endeavour to make ourselves masters of the manual exercise, and such evolutions as may be necessary to enable us to act in a body with concert; and to that end we will meet at such times and places as shall be appointed either for the Companies or the Regiment, by the officers commanding each when chosen.

3d. That should our Country be invaded by a foreign enemy, or should Troops be sent from *Great Britain* to enforce the late arbitrary Acts of its Parliament, we will cheerfully submit to military discipline, and to the utmost of our power resist and oppose them, or either of them, and will coincide with any plan that may be formed for the defence of *America* in general, or *Pennsylvania* in particular.

4th. That we do not wish or desire any innovation, but only that things may be restored to, and go on in the same way as before the era of the Stamp Act, when *Boston* grew great, and *America* was happy. As a proof of this disposition, we will quietly submit to the laws by which we have been accustomed to be governed before that period, and will, in our several or associate capacities, be ready when called on to assist the civil magistrate in carrying the same into execution.

5th. That when the *British* Parliament shall have repealed their late obnoxious Statutes, and shall recede from their claim to tax us, and make laws for us in every instance, or when some general plan of union and reconciliation has been formed and accepted by *America*, this our Association shall be dissolved; but till then it shall remain in full force; and to the observation of it, we bind ourselves by every thing dear and sacred amongst men.

No licensed murder! no famine introduced by law!

*Resolved*, That on *Wednesday*, the twenty-fourth instant, the Township meet to accede to the said Association, and choose their officers.

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL.

At a Council held at *Philadelphia* on *Tuesday*, 16th *May*, 1775.

Present: The Honourable *John Penn*, Esq., Governour, *James Tilghman*, *Andrew Allen*, Esquires.

The Governour acquainted the Board that eight *Cayuga* Indians came to Town on *Saturday* last from *Canasatego*, on the *Cayuga* branch of *Susquehannah*, on some business with this Government, and that he now proposed to hear what they had to say.

Whereupon the Board agreed that they should be immediately sent for, and they were accordingly introduced.

The Governour then acquainting them that he was ready to hear them, . . . , addressing himself to the Governour, first went through some short usual ceremonies of clearing the throat and heart, and opening the ears, &c., and then producing a belt of wampum, spoke as follows, viz: That three of their company who were present as the nearest surviving relations of the old *Seneca Sohaes*, who lived for many years with his family and connexions on a tract of land within the manor of *Conestogo*, in *Lancaster* County; that the old man, with his family and relations, were several years ago murdered there by some wicked men belonging to this Government; and that the said tract of land, containing about five hundred acres, now became the property of his three relatives present, one of whom is *Sohaes's* brother; that they had come down at this time to see their brother *Onas*, and to make sale of the said land to him. That the land is very rich, and worth a great deal of money; but as their brother *Onas* was himself well acquainted with its value, they desired he would purchase it from them, for such a price as he thought reasonable, and they would be entirely satisfied.

He then delivered the belt of wampum to the Governour, and told him that he had finished what he had to say.

The Governour thereupon acquainted the *Indians* that



he and his Council would take their Speech into consideration, and give them an answer on *Thursday* morning.

At a Council held at *Philadelphia* on *Thursday*, 18th *May*, 1775. Present: The Honourable *John Penn*, Esq., Governour, *William Logan*, *Benjamin Chew*, *Andrew Allen*, *Edward Shippen*, Jr., Esquires.

The eight *Cayuga Indians* being sent for, attended at the Board in order to receive the Governour's answer to their Speech on *Tuesday* last, which the Governour in part delivered to them; but as it appeared to the Board that the *Indians* did not clearly and fully comprehend his meaning, the person who undertook to interpret to them, not being sufficiently acquainted with their language, and the *Indians* expressing great dissatisfaction on being informed that this land had already been purchased and paid for, it was agreed that *Isaac Still*, a *Delaware Indian* interpreter, should be immediately sent for, to interpret the Governour's answer to the *Indians* in Council, on *Saturday* morning next.

At a Council held at *Philadelphia* on *Saturday*, 20th *May*, 1775. Present: The Honourable *John Penn*, Esq., Governour, *William Logan*, *James Tilghman*, *Andrew Allen*, *Edward Shippen*, Jr., Esquires.

The eight *Cayuga Indians*, by the desire of the Governour, again attended the Board, with the *Indian* interpreter, *Isaac Still*, and having taken their seats, the Speaker repeated over the Speech he had delivered to the Governour on *Tuesday* last, which was the same in substance as entered on the Minutes of that day, and the Governour returned them his answer, which was fully explained to them by *Isaac Still*, and is as follows, viz:

"BRETHREN: The tract of land you mention, consisting of five hundred acres, part of the *Conestogo* Manor where old *Sohaes* dwelt, was included in a purchase long since made from the *Indians*; notwithstanding which I agree that *Sohaes* and his family had the proprietary's permission to live thereon as long as they chose to remain in the inhabited part of the country.

"Some time after the death of *Sohaes*, and all his family that resided there, in the year 1768, there was a treaty held at *Fort Stanwix*, to which I was invited by Sir *William Johnson*, in order to treat with the *Indians* concerning the purchase of a large tract of land, part of which lay in the King's Government, and part in the Province of *Pennsylvania*. At this treaty the last great *Indian* purchase was made, for which I then paid the *Indians* ten thousand Dollars. But before the treaty was finished, Sir *William Johnson* informed me that the *Indians* expected to be paid for the five hundred acres of land, part of the *Conestogo* Manor, where *Sohaes* dwelt. I accordingly agreed to pay them for it. The price agreed on was two hundred Pounds, *York* money, or five hundred Dollars, the value of which was then delivered in goods to *Togaiaio*, the *Cayuga* Chief, to be distributed as he thought proper; and the deed I now show you for the land I bought of the *Indians* at that treaty, signed by the Chiefs of the *Six Nations*, expressly includes this five hundred acres of land. Having therefore already purchased the lands twice, it cannot reasonably be expected that I should pay for it again. However, as you have come from a great distance, under an expectation of selling this land, and perhaps did not receive so great a portion of the goods I delivered at *Fort Stanwix* as should have been paid to the relatives of *Sohaes*, and to show you the desire I have to preserve peace and friendship with the *Indians*, and that when they pay me a visit they should not go away dissatisfied, I am willing to make you a present, which I hope you will think a generous one. I therefore desire you will accept of these three hundred Dollars." A belt.

The *Indians* accordingly very gladly accepted the three hundred Dollars, and signed a receipt for the same on the back of the deed executed at *Fort Stanwix*, expressing it to be in full satisfaction of all claims of *Sohaes's* family to the said five hundred acres of land.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, by adjournment, *Tuesday*, 16th *May*, 1775. Present, forty-seven Members.

Mr. *McDougall*, from the Committee of Correspondence, reported the draft of an answer to a Letter received from *Elisha Lawrence*, dated 9th *May*, 1775, which being read and approved of,

Ordered, That the same be forwarded.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Ward Companies of Militia for the City and County of *New-York*, to enroll their men in the different beats, so that they may be in readiness to take their tour of duty as a Military Night Watch for this City, and it is recommended to the men in the different Wards to appear punctually for that purpose.

At a special meeting of the Committee, on *Wednesday*, 17th *May*, 1775. Present, forty-seven Members.

A Letter, dated *Philadelphia*, 17th *May*, 1775, from the gentlemen in delegation for this Colony, enclosing an extract of the Minutes of the Continental Congress, respecting the conduct to be observed by the inhabitants of this City towards any Troops that may arrive here, received and read.

Ordered, That the same be published.

An Affidavit of *Charles Murray*, Captain of the sloop *Modesty*, respecting the seizing Guns and Powder on board the said sloop, by His Majesty's ship-of-war *Kingfisher*, was read.

Resolved, That his worship the Mayor of this City, be furnished with a copy of the Affidavit of Captain *Charles Murray*, and be requested to procure a conveyance of it to Captain *Montague* of His Majesty's Ship *Kingfisher*, and to desire his answer on the subject matter of the said Affidavit.

Philadelphia, May 16, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed we send you the advice of the Congress on the subject on which you requested it; and lest the advice to remove the Military Stores might be construed to extend to those belonging to the Crown, we think it prudent to suggest to you, that the contrary construction is the true one.

You would have received this advice before, had not sundry circumstances not material, or perhaps proper to explain, concurred in deferring it till now.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| JAMES DUANE,   | LEWIS MORRIS,      |
| FRANCIS LEWIS, | PHILIP LIVINGSTON, |
| JOHN JAY,      | JOHN ALSOP.        |

In Congress, Monday, May 15, 1775.

The City and County of *New-York*, having through their Delegates applied to the Congress for their advice how to conduct themselves with regard to the Troops expected there; the Congress took the matter into their most serious deliberation, and came to the following Resolution:

"That it be recommended for the present to the inhabitants of *New-York*, that if the Troops which are expected should arrive, the said Colony act on the defensive, so long as may be consistent with their safety and security; that the Troops be permitted to remain in the barracks so long as they behave peaceably and quietly, but that they be not suffered to erect fortifications, or take any steps for cutting off the communication between the town and country; and that if they commit hostilities, or invade private property, the inhabitants should defend themselves and their property, and repel force by force; that the warlike stores be removed from the Town; that places of retreat, in case of necessity, be provided for the women and children of *New-York*; and a sufficient number of men be embodied, and kept in constant readiness for protecting the inhabitants from insult and injury."

A true copy from the Minutes:

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

ERASTUS WALCOTT AND OTHERS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Hartford, May 16, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We were yesterday informed of the success of an expedition undertaken, and set on foot by some individuals of this Colony, in a secret manner, against



*Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, the particular account of which you will have received before this comes to hand. Immediately on receipt of this news, an express was despatched from hence to the Continental Congress for their advice in this important matter. Posts were also sent to *Albany*, to the Committee of Correspondence for that City, requesting them to afford their aid in maintaining that pass till the opinion of the Colonies can be known.

We understand an expedition against the same place hath been undertaken under the authority of your Province; but the adventure being set on foot by some private gentlemen in this Colony, and success having attended their enterprise before the forces from the *Massachusetts Bay* came up, some question arose about the right to command and hold this important pass. We consider all the Colonies, and the *New-England* Colonies especially, as brethren united together in one joint interest, and pursuing the same general design, and that whatever expedition in furtherance of the grand designs may be undertaken by any one of the Colonies, or body of men in either of them, ought to be considered as undertaken for the joint benefit of the whole confederate Colonies, and the expenses of the enterprise, and cost of maintaining and defending the same, is to be borne by all in proportion to their abilities.

This is not a time for the Colonies to contend about precedency, but we hope all will wish to put out a helping hand, and mutually afford each other all necessary assistance against our common enemy. Some parts of your Province are more conveniently situated to furnish men, &c., for maintaining our possession. We doubt not you will exert yourselves to secure every advantage which may arise from this successful attempt, in which we hope the City and County of *Albany*, and the Colony of *Connecticut* will co-operate with you, but of this we cannot assure you, as our calls are very many.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

ERASTUS WOLCOTT, SAMUEL BISHOP,  
WILLIAM WILLIAMS, SAMUEL H. PARSONS.

Committee of Correspondence for Connecticut.

Honourable Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts*.

P. S. We hope you will not omit any thing you can do, as 'tis uncertain what *New-York* will undertake without the consent of the General Congress, &c.

JOSEPH WARREN TO ARTHUR LEE.

Cambridge, May 16, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: Every thing here continues the same as at the period of my writing a short time ago. Our military operations go on in a very spirited manner. General *Gage* had a reinforcement of about six hundred Marines the day before yesterday; but this gives very little concern here. It is not expected that he will sally out of *Boston* at present, and if he does, he will but gratify thousands who impatiently wait to avenge the blood of their murdered countrymen. The attempt he has made to throw the odium of the first commencement of hostilities on the people here, has operated very much to his disadvantage, as so many credible people were eye witnesses of the whole affair, whose testimonies are justly supposed of infinitely greater weight than any thing he has brought or can bring in support of his assertion. My private opinion is, that he is really deceived in this matter, and is led (by his officers and some other of the most abandoned villains on earth, who are natives of this Country, and who are now shut up with him in *Boston*) to believe that our people actually began the firing; but my opinion is only for myself; most people are satisfied not only that he knows that the Regulars began the fire, but also that he gave his orders to the commanding officer to do it. Thus by attempting to clear the Troops from what every one is sure they were guilty of, he has brought on strong suspicions that he himself is guilty of having preconcerted the mischief done by them. Indeed his very unmanly conduct, relative to the people of *Boston*, in detaining many of them, and contriving new excuses for delaying their removal after they had given up their fire-arms upon a promise of being suffered to leave town and carry with them their effects, has much lessened his character confirmed former suspicions.

The Continental Congress is now sitting. I suppose

before I hear from you again, a new form of Government will be established in this Colony. *Great Britain* must now make the best she can of *America*. The folly of her Minister has brought her into this situation. If she has strength sufficient even to depopulate the Colonies, she has not strength sufficient to subjugate them. However, we can yet without injuring ourselves offer much to her. The great national advantages derived from the Colonies may, I hope, yet be reaped by her from us. The plan for enslaving us, if it had succeeded, would only have put it in the power of the Administration to provide for a number of their unworthy dependants, whilst the Nation would have been deprived of the most essential benefits which might have arisen from us by commerce; and the taxes raised in *America* would, instead of easing the Mother Country of her burdens, only have been employed to bring her into bondage.

I cannot precisely tell you what will become of General *Gage*; I imagine he will at least be kept closely shut up in *Boston*. Perhaps you will very soon hear something further relative to these things. One thing I can assure you has very great weight with us; we fear if we push this matter as far as we think we are able—to the destruction of the Troops and Ships-of-War—we shall expose *Great Britain* to those invasions from foreign Powers, which we suppose it will be difficult for her to repel.

In fact, you must have a change in men and measures or be ruined. The truly noble *Richmond*, *Rockingham*, *Chatham*, *Shelburne*, with other Lords, and the virtuous and sensible minority in the House of Commons, must take the lead. The confidence we have in them will go a great way; but I must tell you that those terms which would readily have been accepted before our countrymen were murdered, and we in consequence compelled to take arms, will not now do.

Every thing in my power to serve the united interest of *Great Britain*, shall be done; and I pray that you, your brother, and Mr. *Sayre*, (to whom I beg you would make my most respectful compliments,) would write fully, freely, and speedily, to me, and let me know what our great and good friends in the House of Commons think expedient and practicable to be done.

God forbid that the Nation should be so infatuated as to do any thing further to irritate the Colonies; if they should, the Colonies will sooner throw themselves into the arms of any other power on earth, than ever consent to an accommodation with *Great Britain*. That patience which I frequently told you would be at last exhausted, is no longer to be expected from us. Danger and war are become pleasing; and injured virtue is now armed to avenge herself. I am, my dear Sir, your most obedient servant,

JOS. WARREN.

To Arthur Lee, Esq., London.

P. S. Please to let Mr. *Sayre* and Sheriff *Lee* know that I shall write to them by the first opportunity. This will be handed you by our good friend Mr. *Barrell*, who will give you a more particular account of our publick affairs.

J. W.

LETTER FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
May 16, 1775. }

“Resolved, That Doctor *Benjamin Church* be ordered to go immediately to *Philadelphia*, and deliver to the President of the Honourable *American Congress* there now sitting, the following application, to be by him communicated to the Members thereof; and the said *Church* is also directed to confer with the said Congress respecting such other matters as may be necessary to the defence of this Colony, and particularly the state of the Army therein.”

May it please your Honours:

That system of Colony administration which, in the most firm, dutiful, and loyal manner, has been in vain remonstrated against by the representative body of the United Colonies, seems still, unless speedily and vigorously opposed by the collected wisdom and force of all *America*, to threaten ruin and destruction to this Continent.

For a long time past this Colony has, by a corrupt Administration in *Great Britain* and here, been deprived of



the exercise of those powers of government, without which a people can be neither rich, happy, nor secure. The whole Continent saw the blow pending, which if not warded off must inevitably have subverted the freedom and happiness of each Colony. The principles of self-defence, roused in the breasts of freemen by the dread of impending slavery, caused to be collected the wisdom of *America* in a Congress, composed of men who, through time, must, in every land of freedom, be revered among the most faithful asserters of the essential rights of human nature.

This Colony was then reduced to great difficulties, being denied the exercise of civil Government according to our Charter, or the fundamental principles of the *English* Constitution, and a formidable Navy and Army (not only inimical to our safety, but flattered with the prospect of enjoying the fruit of our industry) were stationed for that purpose in our Metropolis. The prospect of deciding the question between our Mother Country and us by the sword, gave us the greatest pain and anxiety; but we have made all the preparation for our necessary defence that our confused state would admit of; and as the question equally affected our sister Colonies and us, we have declined, though urged thereto by the most pressing necessity, to assume the reins of civil Government without their advice and consent; but have hitherto borne the many difficulties and distressing embarrassments necessarily resulting from a want thereof.

We are now compelled to raise an Army, which, with the assistance of the other Colonies, we hope, under the smiles of Heaven, will be able to defend us and all *America* from the further butcheries and devastations of our implacable enemies. But as the sword should, in all free States, be subservient to the civil powers; and as it is the duty of the Magistrates to support it for the people's necessary defence, we tremble at having an Army (although consisting of our own countrymen) established here, without a civil power to provide for and control them.

We are happy in having an opportunity of laying our distressed state before the representative body of the Continent, and humbly hope you will favour us with your most explicit advice respecting the taking up and exercising the powers of civil Government, which we think absolutely necessary for the salvation of our Country; and we shall readily submit to such a general plan as you may direct for the Colonies, or make it our great study to establish such a form of Government here, as shall not only most promote our own advantages, but the union and interest of all *America*.

As the Army now collecting from different Colonies is for the general defence of the rights of *America*, we would beg leave to suggest to your consideration the propriety of your taking the regulation and general direction of it, that the operations of it may more effectually answer the purposes designed.

JOS. WARREN, *President pro tem.*

Attest: SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary pro tem.*

To the Hon. the Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

COMMITTEE OF BROWNFIELD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Brownfield, May 16, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: There are five or six families of *Indians* hunting at *Androscoggin*, about twenty-five miles north of my house. Several of the women and youngsters were at my house last week; one of them expressed much concern about the times; said their men could not hunt, eat, nor sleep; keep calling together every night; courting, courting, courting, every night, all night. O, strange *Englishmen* kill one another. I think the world is coming to an end. Mrs. Brown asked which side they would fight. Answered, why should we fight for t'other country, for we never see t'other country; our hunting is in this country. One of them said her brother was a Colonel; she wished she could see him; she would tell him not to fight for t'other country, but to fight for this country. One of the party is gone to *Canada*. They wanted powder, but got none. Some of them were painted; and as it was the first time they came in paint, it surprised some of our women. I thought it best you should know of their concern and uneasiness, and that one was gone to *Canada*. The bearer, Mr. Holt, is used to the woods; has been a

hunting this spring where they are; if necessary will go to them.

At this day it appears to me to be necessary for every man to be supplied with arms, &c. We have in this Town ten guns, shot, twenty pounds of powder, and half a hundred of lead. James Holt, James Haywood, and myself, are a Committee in behalf of this Town, and was to provide every thing necessary. I have been to *Portsmouth* to purchase, but could not; my business called me immediately home. Now Mr. Holt sets out to apply to you for relief. If he can be supplied, we will stand accountable, and stand ready to serve our Country. The bearer has served long in the last war; was at *Nova-Scotia* in 1755; was in the siege at Fort *Bosajure*; has given repeated evidence he can stand fire, and is now ready to serve his Country, if required. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

HENRY YOUNG BROWN.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for *Cumberland* County, held on *Wednesday*, the 17th of *May*, 1775:

Mr. Chairman opened the business of the day by laying before the Committee informations lately received by express from the Northward, respecting the Government of *New-York*, amongst which is a Resolution of the *Maryland* Provincial Convention, for immediately suspending all Exportations from that Province to *Quebeck*, *Nova-Scotia*, *Georgia*, and *Newfoundland*, or any part of the Fishing Coasts, or Fishing Islands, and to the Town of *Boston*, until the Continental Congress shall give farther directions thereon: Whereupon the Committee, after the maturest deliberation, came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Committee doth heartily approve of the said Resolution of the *Maryland* Provincial Convention, as well concerted upon the view of the present conjuncture of affairs, and doth recommend it as a proper rule of conduct to all men.

*Resolved*, That the present alarming situation of *American* affairs, especially in the Province of *New-York*, renders it absolutely necessary that a Colony Convention be immediately called; and this Committee do recommend it to *Robert Carter Nicholas*, Esquire, in the most earnest terms, to call a Colony Convention as speedily as possible, provided the General Assembly now called to meet on the first *Thursday* in *June*, shall be prorogued to a farther day.

The following Address to the inhabitants of the lower parts of *Virginia*, was proposed, and unanimously agreed to:

*Friends and Countrymen:*

We, the Committee for the County of *Cumberland*, taking into our serious consideration the unremitting efforts of despotick Administration to effect the total subversion of *American* liberty, aided by the wicked and venal tools of corruption, who are endeavouring, by the basest misrepresentations and falsehoods, to effect an unnatural division between the Mother Country and her Colonies, covering their wicked design under the specious pretence of duty and attachment to our gracious Sovereign, and the sacred laws of the *British* Empire; and also to the unhappy situation to which you will be reduced in case of a hostile invasion of this Colony, do, for ourselves and our constituents, (should such a distressing circumstance take place,) most cordially invite you to remove so many of your wives and children into this County as the inhabitants thereof can conveniently entertain, where they will meet with the best protection and accommodations we are able to afford.

GEORGE CARRINGTON, *Chairman*.

CECIL COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Cecil* County, at *Elk Ferry*, on the 17th day of *May*, 1775:

In consequence of an information being made, that *Charles Gordon*, Attorney-at-Law in *Cecil* County, had treated with great disrespect, and maliciously aspersed the Continental Congress, the Provincial Convention, and the Committee of this County; and had, at divers times, and by sundry ways and means, vilified their proceedings; a Summons thereupon issued from the Committee, commanding his appearance to answer to the above charge; to which



Summons he returned the following verbal answer, as appears by affidavit :

"On the 17th day of *May*, 1775, personally came *William Savin* before me the subscriber, one of his Lordship's Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid, and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, that he served *Mr. Gordon* with a copy of the within Summons in time for him to have observed it ; and that he told him (this deponent) that he would not meet, and if the Committee wanted him they must come to his plantation, but not inside his yard gate ; that he asked why they did not come themselves, or send some of their head men ; that upon his (this deponent) saying he believed unless he did not comply with their request, they would all come, he, *Mr. Gordon*, said he was ready to receive them ; that his plantation was large enough to hold them all, but they must not come inside his yard gate, or there would be lives lost. *Mr. Gordon* said he had said, and does still say, that they are a parcel of damned scoundrels of the Committee, and that if they have any thing to say to him, they must come to him, for he was at their defiance."

Sworn before

DAVID SMITH.

Whereupon the Committee entered into the following Resolve, viz :

Whereas *Charles Gordon*, Attorney-at-Law in *Cecil County*, hath treated this Committee with great contempt and insolence ; and the general tenour of his conduct for a long time hath been such, as in our opinions declares him to be an enemy to the common cause of liberty for which we are contending ; and whereas he hath this day been duly summoned to appear before this Committee and answer unto the above charge, to which Summons he returned an impertinent and insolent answer, even menacing this Committee with destruction if they attempt to proceed any farther against him : It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That he lie under the imputation of being an enemy to this Country, and as such we will have no dealings or communication with him, nor permit him to transact any business with us, or for us, either in a publick or private capacity, which shall be commenced after the date hereof, until he appears before this Committee and satisfies them with respect to the above charge ; and we do earnestly recommend it to all the good people of this County to observe the same line of conduct.

*Resolved*, That the above be published.

JAMES VEAZEY, JUNIOR, *Chairman*.

JOHN VEAZEY, 3d, *Clerk pro tem*.

Philadelphia, May 20, 1775.

On *Wednesday* evening last, *May 17*, arrived here *John Brown*, Esquire, from *Ticonderoga*, express to the General Congress, from whom we learn, that on the beginning of this instant, a company of about fifty men from *Connecticut* and the western part of *Massachusetts*, and joined by upwards of one hundred from *Bennington*, in *New-York* Government, and the adjacent Towns, proceeded to the eastern side of *Lake Champlain*, and on the night before the 11th current, crossed the Lake with eighty-five men, (not being able to obtain craft to transport the rest) and about daybreak invested the Fort, whose gate, contrary to expectation, they found shut, but the wicker open, through which, with the *Indian* war-whoop, all that could, entered one by one, others scaling the wall on both sides of the gate, and instantly secured and disarmed the sentries, and pressed into the parade, where they formed the hollow square ; but immediately quitting that order, they rushed into the several barracks on three sides of the Fort, and seized on the garrison, consisting of two officers and upwards of forty privates,\* whom they brought out, disarmed, put under guard, and have since sent prisoners to *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*. All this was performed in about ten minutes, without the loss of a life, or a drop of blood on our side, and but very little on that of the King's Troops.

In the Fort were found about thirty barrels of flour, a few barrels of pork, seventy odd chests of leaden ball, computed at three hundred tons, about ten barrels of powder, in bad condition, near two hundred pieces of ordnance, of all sizes, from eighteen-pounders downwards, at *Ticon-*

*deroga* and *Crown Point*, which last place, being held only by a Corporal and eight men, falls of course into our hands.

By this sudden expedition, planned by some principal persons in the four neighbouring Colonies, that important pass is now in the hands of the *Americans*, where we trust the wisdom of the Grand Continental Congress will take effectual measures to secure it, as it may be depended on that Administration means to form an army in *Canada*, composed of *British* Regulars, *French*, and *Indians*, to attack the Colonies on that side.

*Mr. Brown* brought intercepted letters from Lieutenant *Malcolm Fraser*, to his friends in *New-England*, from which appear, that General *Carleton* has almost unlimited powers, civil and military, and has issued orders for raising a *Canadian* Regiment, in which, *Mr. Fraser* observes, the officers find difficulty, as the common people are by no means fond of the service. He likewise remarks, that all the King's *European* subjects are disaffected at the partial preference given to the late converts to loyalty, as he phrases it, to their utter exclusion from all confidence, or even common civility. Matters are indeed in such a situation, that many, if not most of the merchants, talk of leaving the Province.

*Mr. Brown* also relates, that two regular officers of the *Twenty-Sixth* Regiment, now in *Canada*, applied to two *Indians*, one a head warrior of the *Caughnawaga* tribe, to go out with them on a hunt to the south and east of the *Rivers St. Lawrence* and *Sorrel*, and pressing the *Indians* farther and farther on said course, they at length arrived at *Cohass*, where the *Indians* say they were stopped and interrogated by the inhabitants, to whom they pretended they were only on a hunt, which the inhabitants (as the *Indians* told *Mr. Brown*) replied must be false, as no hunters used silver (bright) barrelled guns. However, the *Cohass* people dismissed them all ; and when they returned into the woods, the *Indian* warrior insisted on knowing what their real intention was, and they told him that it was to reconnoitre the woods to find a passage for an army to march to the assistance of the King's friends in *Boston*. The *Indian* asked where they would get the army ? They answered, in *Canada*, and that the *Indians* in the upper Castles would join them. The Chief, on this, expressed resentment, that he, being one of the head men of the *Caughnawaga* tribe, should never have been consulted in the affair. But *Mr. Brown* presumed the aversion of this honest fellow and his friends to their schemes, was the reason of their being kept from their knowledge.

The conductors of this grand expedition are to be *Monsieur St. Luke le Corne*, the villain who let loose the *Indians* on the prisoners at *Fort William Henry*, and one of his associates.

Watertown, May 18, 1775.

Yesterday Colonel *Easton* arrived at the Provincial Congress in *Watertown* from *Ticonderoga*, and brings the glorious news of the taking of that place by the *American* forces without the loss of a man ; of which interesting event we have collected the following particulars, viz :

Last *Tuesday* se'night about two hundred and forty men from *Connecticut* and this Province, under Colonels *Allen* and *Easton*, arrived at the Lake near *Ticonderoga* ; eighty of them crossed it, and came to the Fort about the dawn of day. The sentry was much surprised at seeing such a body of men, and snapped his piece at them ; our men, however, immediately rushed forward, seized and confined the sentry, pushed through the covered way, and all got safe upon the parade, while the garrison were sleeping in their beds. They immediately formed a hollow square, and gave three huzzas, which brought out the garrison ; an inconsiderable skirmish with cutlasses or bayonets ensued, in which a small number of the enemy received some wounds. The commanding officer soon came forth ; Colonel *Easton* clapped him upon the shoulder, told him he was his prisoner, and demanded, in the name of *America*, an instant surrender of the Fort, with all its contents, to the *American* forces. The officer was in great confusion, and expressed himself to this effect : damn you, what—what does all this mean ? Colonel *Easton* again told him that he and his garrison were prisoners. The officer said that he hoped he should be treated with honour. Colonel

\* A party of the *Twenty-Sixth*, commanded by Captain *Delaplace*.



*Easton* replied he should be treated with much more honour than our people had met with from the *British Troops*. The officer then said, he was all submission, and immediately ordered his soldiers to deliver up all the arms, in number about one hundred stands. As they gave up their arms, the prisoners were secured in the hollow square.

The *American* forces having thus providentially got possession of this important fortress, found in it upwards of one hundred pieces of cannon, several mortars, and a considerable quantity of shot, stores, and some powder.

After this acquisition, a detachment of our *Troops* was despatched to take possession of *Crown Point*, where there is a considerable number of cannon. Another detachment was sent to *Skenesborough*, where they took Major *Skene* and his family, with a number of soldiers, and several small pieces of cannon.

Colonel *Easton* met several hundred men from the western parts of this Province, on their way to *Ticonderoga*. They were on the same expedition, not knowing the Fort was taken till they met Colonel *Easton*. Part of them pursued their march, in order to secure and garrison the Fort.

The prisoners, to the number of about one hundred, including negroes, &c., were brought off by *John Brown*, Esquire. Colonel *Allen* was left commander of the Fort.

The officers and soldiers in this important expedition behaved with the utmost intrepidity and good conduct, and therefore merit the highest applauses of their grateful Country.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Committee-Chamber, May 17, 1775.

Whereas, by some misapprehension or mistake of the Seventh Resolve of the late Provincial Convention, sundry Lambs have been lately brought into market and purchased by some of the inhabitants of this City: In order, therefore, to rectify such mistake, and as much as possible to preserve and promote the breed of Sheep, it is ordered that said Resolve be re-published in all the Newspapers; and the Committee do earnestly request all persons to discourage a practice which has so pernicious a tendency to deprive us of wool, one of the most material and necessary articles of manufacture.

“Resolved unanimously, That from and after the first day of *March* next, no person or persons should use in his, her, or their families, (unless in cases of necessity,) and on no account to sell to the butchers, or kill for the market, any Sheep under four years old; and where there is a necessity for using any mutton in their families, it is recommended to them to kill such as are the least profitable to keep.”

ISAAC MELCHER, *Secretary pro tem*.

An account of the commencement of Hostilities between GREAT BRITAIN and AMERICA, in the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY. By the Reverend Mr. WILLIAM GORDON of ROXBURY, in a Letter to a Gentleman in ENGLAND, dated MAY 17, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: I shall now give you a letter upon public affairs. This Colony, judging itself possessed of an undoubted right to the chartered privileges which had been granted by our glorious deliverer, King *William the Third*, and finding that the Continent was roused by the measures and principles of Administration, was determined upon providing the necessary requisites for self-defence, in case there should be an attempt to support the late unconstitutional Acts by the point of the sword, and upon making that resistance which the laws of *God* and nature justified, and the circumstances of the people would admit, and so to leave it with the righteous Judge of the world to settle the dispute. Accordingly the Provincial Congress, substituted by the inhabitants in lieu of the General Assembly, which could not convene but by the call of the Governour, prepared a quantity of stores for the service of an army, whenever the same might be brought into the field. These stores were deposited in various places; many of them at *Concord*, about twenty miles from *Charlestown*, which lies on the other side of the river, opposite to *Boston*, answering to *Southwark*, but without the advantage of a bridge. It was apprehended by numbers, from the attempt made to

surprise some cannon at *Salem* on the 26th *February*, that there would be something of the like kind in other places; and many were uneasy, after the resolutions of the Parliament were known, that any quantity of stores was within so small a distance of *Boston*, while there was no regular force established for the defence of them. Several were desirous of raising an army instantly upon hearing what had been determined at home; but it was judged best upon the whole not to do it, as that step might be immediately construed to the disadvantage of the Colony by the enemies of it, and might not meet with the unanimous approbation of the Continental Congress.

Here I must break off for a few minutes to inform you, by way of episode, that on the 30th of *March*, the Governour ordered out about eleven hundred men to parade it for the distance of five miles, to *Jamaica Plains*, and so round by the way of *Dorchester* back again; in performing which military exploit, they did considerable damage to the stone fences, which occasioned a Committee's being formed, and waiting upon the Provincial Congress, then at *Concord*, on the point of adjourning, which prevented their adjournment, and lengthened out the session till the news of what Parliament had done reached them on *April* 2d, by a vessel from *Falmouth*, which brought the account before the Governour had received his despatches, so that obnoxious persons took the advantage of withdrawing from *Boston*, or keeping away, that they might not be caught by the General, were orders for that purpose given him from home, as there is much reason to suppose was the case, from a hint in an intercepted letter of Mr. *Mauduit's* to Commissioner *Hallowell*, and from subsequent intelligence. The Tories had been for a long while filling the officers and soldiers with the idea, that the Yankees would not fight, but would certainly run for it, whenever there was the appearance of hostilities on the part of the Regulars. They had repeated the story so often, that they themselves really believed it, and the military were persuaded to think the same in general, so that they held the country people in the utmost contempt. The officers had discovered, especially since the warlike feat of tarring and feathering, a disposition to quarrel, and to provoke the people to begin, that they might have some colour for hostilities. This cast of mind was much increased upon the news of what Parliament had resolved upon; the people, however, bore insults patiently, being determined that they would not be the aggressors.

At length the General was fixed upon sending a detachment to *Concord*, to destroy the stores, having been, I apprehend, worried into it by the native Tories that were about him, and confirmed in his design by the opinion of his officers, about ten of whom, on the 18th of *April*, passed over *Charlestown Ferry*, and by the neck through *Roxbury*, armed with swords and pistols, and placed themselves on different parts of the road in the night to prevent all intelligence, and the country's being alarmed; they stopped various persons, threatening to blow their brains out, ordering them to dismount, &c. The Grenadier and Light-Infantry Companies had been taken off duty some days, under pretence of learning a new exercise, which made the *Bostonians* jealous; one and another were confirmed in their suspicions by what they saw and heard on the 18th, so that expresses were forwarded to alarm the country, some of whom were secured by the officers on the road; the last had not got out of Town more than about five minutes, ere the order arrived to stop all persons from leaving the Town. An alarm was spread in many places, (to some the number of officers on the road to *Concord* proved an alarm;) however, as there had been repeated false ones, the country was at a loss what to judge. On the first of the night, when it was very dark, the detachment, consisting of all the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry, the flower of the army, to the amount of eight hundred or better, officers included, the companies having been filled up, and several of the inimical torified natives, repaired to the boats, and got into them just as the moon rose, crossed the water, landed on *Cambridge* side, took through a private way to avoid discovery, and therefore had to go through some places up to their thighs in water. They made a quick march of it to *Lexington*, about thirteen miles from *Charlestown*, and got there by half an hour after four.



Here I must pause again, to acquaint you that in the morning of the 19th, before we had breakfasted, between eight and nine, the whole neighbourhood was in alarm; the Minute-men (so called from their having agreed to turn out at a minute's warning) were collecting together; we had an account that the Regulars had killed six of our men at *Lexington*; the Country was in an uproar; another detachment was coming out of *Boston*; and I was desired to take care of myself and partner. I concluded that the Brigade was intended to support the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry, and to cover their retreat, in which I was not mistaken. The Brigade took out two cannon, the detachment had none. Having sent off my books, which I had finished packing up the day before, conjecturing what was coming on from the moment I had heard of the resolutions of Parliament, though I did not expect it till the reinforcement arrived, we got into our chaise, and went to *Dedham*. At night we had it confirmed to us, that the Regulars had been roughly handled by the *Yankees*, a term of reproach for the *New-Englanders*, when applied by the Regulars. The Brigade under Lord *Percy* marched out, playing, by way of contempt, *Yankee Doodle*; they were afterwards told, that they had been made to dance to it.

Soon after the affair, knowing what untruths are propagated by each party in matters of this nature, I concluded that I would ride to *Concord*, inquire for myself, and not rest upon the depositions that might be taken by others. Accordingly I went the last week. The Provincial Congress have taken depositions, which they have forwarded to *Great Britain*; but the Ministry and pretended friends to Government, will cry them down, as being evidence from party persons and rebels; the like may be objected against the present account, as it will materially contradict what has been published in *Boston*, though not expressly, yet as it is commonly supposed, by authority; however, with the impartial world, and those who will not imagine me capable of sacrificing honesty to the old, at present heretical, principles of the Revolution, it may have some weight.

Before Major *Pitcairn* arrived at *Lexington* signal guns had been fired, and the bells had been rung to give the alarm; but let not the sound of bells lead you to think of a ring of bells like what you hear in *England*; for they are only small sized bells, (one in a Parish,) just sufficient to notify to the people the time for attending worship, &c. *Lexington* being alarmed, the train band or Militia, and the alarm men (consisting of the aged and others exempted from turning out, excepting upon an alarm) repaired in general to the common, close in with the meeting-house, the usual place of parade; and there were present when the roll was called over about one hundred and thirty of both, as I was told by Mr. *Daniel Harrington*, clerk to the company; who further said, that the night being chilly, so as to make it uncomfortable being upon the parade, they having received no certain intelligence of the Regulars being upon their march, and being waiting for the same, the men were dismissed, to appear again at the beat of drum. Some who lived near, went home, others to the publick house at the corner of the common. Upon information being received about half an hour after, that the Troops were not far off, the remains of the company who were at hand collected together, to the amount of about sixty or seventy, by the time the Regulars appeared, but were chiefly in a confused state, only a few of them being drawn up, which accounts for other witnesses making the number less, about thirty. There were present as spectators, about forty more, scarce any of whom had arms. The printed accounts tell us, indeed, that they observed about two hundred armed men. Possibly the intelligence they had before received had frightened those that gave the account to the General, so that they saw more than double. The said account, which has little truth in it, says, "that Major *Pitcairn* galloping up to the head of the advanced companies, two officers informed him, that a man (advanced from those that were assembled) had presented his musket, and attempted to shoot them, but the piece flashed in the pan."

The simple truth, I take to be this, which I received from one of the prisoners at *Concord* in free conversation, one *James Marr*, a native of *Aberdeen*, in *Scotland*, of the Fourth Regiment, who was upon the advanced guard,

consisting of six, besides a sergeant and corporal: They were met by three men on horseback before they got to the meeting-house a good way; an officer bid them stop; to which it was answered, you had better turn back, for you shall not enter the Town; when the said three persons rode back again, and at some distance one of them offered to fire, but the piece flashed in the pan without going off. I asked *Marr* whether he could tell if the piece was designed at the soldiers, or to give an alarm? He could not say which. The said *Marr* further declared, that when they and the others were advanced, Major *Pitcairn* said to the *Lexington* Company, (which, by the by, was the only one there,) stop, you rebels! and he supposed that the design was to take away their arms; but upon seeing the Regulars they dispersed, and a firing commenced, but who fired first he could not say. The said *Marr*, together with *Evan Davies* of the Twenty-Third, *George Cooper* of the Twenty-Third, and *William McDonald* of the Thirty-Eighth, respectively assured me in each other's presence, that being in the room where *John Bateman*, of the Fifty-Second, was, (he was in an adjoining room, too ill to admit of my conversing with him,) they heard the said *Bateman* say, that the Regulars fired first, and saw him go through the solemnity of confirming the same by an oath on the bible.

*Samuel Lee*, a private in the Eighteenth Regiment, Royal *Irish*, acquainted me, that it was the talk among the soldiers that Major *Pitcairn* fired his pistol, then drew his sword, and ordered them to fire; which agrees with what *Levi Harrington*, a youth of fourteen last November, told me, that being upon the common, and hearing the Regulars were coming up, he went to the meeting-house, and saw them down in the road, on which he returned to the *Lexington* Company; that a person on horseback rode round the meeting, and came towards the company that way, said something loud, but could not tell what, rode a little further, then stopped and fired a pistol, which was the first report he heard, then another on horseback fired his pistol; then three or four Regulars fired their guns; upon which, hearing the bullets whistle, he ran off, and saw no more of the affair.

Mr. *Paul Revere*, who was sent express, was taken and detained some time by the officers, being afterwards upon the spot, and finding the Regulars at hand, passed through the *Lexington* Company with another, having between them a box of papers belonging to Mr. *Hancock*, and went down a cross road, till there was a house so between him and the company as that he could not see the latter; he told me likewise, that he had not got half a gun-shot from them before the Regulars appeared; that they halted about three seconds; that upon hearing the report of a pistol or gun, he looked round, and saw the smoke in front of the Regulars, our people being out of view because of the house; then the Regulars huzzaed and fired, first two more guns, then the advanced guard, and so the whole body. The bullets flying thick about him, and he having nothing to defend himself with, ran into a wood, where he halted, and heard the firing for about a quarter of an hour.

*James Brown*, one of the *Lexington* Militia, informed me, that he was upon the common; that two pistols were fired from the party of the soldiers towards the Militiamen as they were getting over the wall to be out of the way, and that immediately upon it the soldiers began to fire their guns; that being got over the wall, and seeing the soldiers fire pretty freely, he fired upon them, and some others did the same.

*Simon Winship* of *Lexington*, declared, that being upon the road about four o'clock, two miles and an half on this side of the meeting-house, he was stopped by the Regulars, and commanded by some of the officers to dismount, or he was a dead man; that he was obliged to march with the said Troops until he came within about half a quarter of a mile of the said meeting-house, when an officer commanded the Troops to halt, and then to prime and load; which being done, the Troops marched on till they came within a few rods of Captain *Parker's Lexington* Company, who were partly collected on the place of parade, when said *Winship* observed an officer at the head of said Troops flourishing his sword round his head in the air, and with a loud voice giving the word *fire*; the said *Winship* is positive that there was no discharge of arms



on either side, until the word fire was given by the said officer as above.

I shall not trouble you with more particulars, but give you the substance as it lies in my own mind, collected from the persons whom I examined for my own satisfaction. The *Lexington* Company upon seeing the Troops, and being of themselves so unequal a match for them, were deliberating for a few moments what they should do, when several dispersing of their own heads, the Captain soon ordered the rest to disperse for their own safety. Before the order was given, three or four of the regular officers, seeing the company as they came up on the rising ground on this side the meeting, rode forward one or more, round the meeting-house, leaving it on the right hand, and so came upon them that way; upon coming up one cried out, "you damned rebels, lay down your arms;" another, "stop, you rebels;" a third, "disperse, you rebels," &c. Major *Pitcairn*, I suppose, thinking himself justified by Parliamentary authority to consider them as rebels, perceiving that they did not actually lay down their arms, observing that the generality were getting off, while a few continued in their military position, and apprehending there could be no great hurt in killing a few such Yankees, which might probably, according to the notions that had been instilled into him by the tory party, of the *Americans* being poltrons, end all the contest, gave the command to fire, then fired his own pistol, and so set the whole affair agoing. The printed account says very different; but whatever the General may have sent home in support of that account, the publick have nothing but bare assertions, and I have such valid evidence of the falsehood of several matters therein contained, that with me it has very little weight. The same account tells us, that several shots were fired from a meeting-house on the left, of which I heard not a single syllable, either from the prisoners or others, and the mention of which it would have been almost impossible to have avoided, had it been so, by one or another among the numbers with whom I freely and familiarly conversed. There is a curious note at the bottom of the account, telling us, that notwithstanding the fire from the meeting-house, Colonel *Smith* and Major *Pitcairn*, with the greatest difficulty kept the soldiers from forcing into the meeting-house, and putting all those in it to death. Would you not suppose that there was a great number in the meeting-house, while the Regulars were upon the common on the right of it, between that and the *Lexington* Company? Without doubt. And who do you imagine they were? One *Joshua Simonds*, who happened to be getting powder there as the Troops arrived; besides whom, I believe there were not two, if so much as one; for by reason of the position of the meeting-house, none would have remained in it through choice but fools and madmen. However, if Colonel *Smith* and Major *Pitcairn's* humanity prevented the soldiers putting all those persons to death, their military skill should certainly have made some of them prisoners, and the account should have given us their names. To what I have wrote respecting Major *Pitcairn*, I am sensible his general character may be objected. But character must not be allowed to overthrow positive evidence when good, and the conclusions fairly deduced therefrom. Besides, since hearing from Mr. *Jones* in what shameful abusive manner, with oaths and curses, he was treated by the Major at *Concord*, for shutting the doors of his tavern against him and the Troops; and in order to terrify him to make discoveries of stores; and the manner in which the Major crowed over the two four-and-twenty pounders found in the yard, as a mighty acquisition, worthy the expedition on which the detachment was employed, I have no such great opinion of the Major's character; though, when he found that nothing could be done of any great importance by bullying, blustering, and threatening, he could alter his tone, begin to coax, and offer a reward. It may be said this *Jones* was a jailer; yes, and such a jailer as I would give credit to, sooner than the generality of those officers that will degrade the *British* arms, by employing their swords in taking away the rights of a free people, when they ought to be devoted to a good cause only. There were killed at *Lexington* eight persons—one *Parker* of the same name with the Captain of the company, and two or three more, on the common; the rest on the other side of the walls and

fences while dispersing. The soldiers fired at persons who had no arms. Eight hundred of the best *British* Troops in *America* having thus nobly vanquished a company of non-resisting Yankees while dispersing, and slaughtering a few of them by way of experiment, marched forward in the greatness of their might to *Concord*. The *Concord* people had received the alarm, and had drawn themselves up in order for defence; upon a messenger's coming and telling them that the Regulars were three times their number, they prudently changed their situation, determining to wait for reinforcements from the neighbouring Towns, which were now alarmed; but as to the vast numbers of armed people seen assembling on all the heights, as related in the account, 'tis mostly fiction. The *Concord* Company retired over the north bridge, and when strengthened returned to it, with a view of dislodging Captain *Laurie*, and securing it for themselves. They knew not what had happened at *Lexington*, and therefore orders were given by the commander not to give the first fire. They boldly marched towards it, though not in great numbers, (as told in the account,) and were fired upon by the Regulars, by which fire a Captain belonging to *Acton* was killed, and I think a private. The Reverend Mr. *Emerson* of *Concord*, living in the neighbourhood of the bridge, who gave me the account, went near enough to see it, and was nearer the Regulars than the killed. He was very uneasy till he found that the fire was returned, and continued till the Regulars were drove off. Lieutenant *Gould*, who was at the bridge, and was wounded and taken prisoner, has deposed that their Regulars gave the first fire there, though the printed narrative asserts the contrary; and the soldiers that knew any thing of the matter, with whom I conversed, made no scruple of owning the same that Mr. *Gould* deposed.

After the engagement began, the whole detachment collected together as fast as it could. The narrative tells us, that as Captain *Parsons* returned with his three companies over the bridge, they observed three soldiers on the ground, one of them scalped, his head much mangled, and his ears cut off, though not quite dead; all this is not fiction, though the most is. The Reverend Mr. *Emerson* informed me how the matter was, with great concern for its having happened. A young fellow coming over the bridge in order to join the country people, and seeing the soldier wounded and attempting to get up, not being under the feelings of humanity, very barbarously broke his skull, and let out his brains with a small axe, (apprehend of the tomahawk kind,) but as to his being scalped and having his ears cut off, there was nothing in it. The poor object lived an hour or two before he expired. The detachment, when joined by Captain *Parsons*, made a hasty retreat, finding by woful experience that the Yankees would fight, and that their numbers would be continually increasing. The Regulars were pushed with vigour by the country people, who took the advantage of walls, fences, &c., but those that could get up to engage were not upon equal terms with the Regulars in point of number any part of the day, though the country was collecting together from all quarters, and had there been two hours more for it, would probably have cut off both detachment and Brigade, or made them prisoners. The soldiers being obliged to retreat with haste to *Lexington*, had no time to do any considerable mischief. But a little on this side *Lexington* Meeting-House where they were met by the Brigade, with cannon, under Lord *Percy*, the scene changed. The inhabitants had quitted their houses in general upon the road, leaving almost every thing behind them, and thinking themselves well off in escaping with their lives. The soldiers burnt in *Lexington* three houses, one barn, and two shops, one of which joined to the house, and a mill-house adjoining to the barn; other houses and buildings were attempted to be burnt, and narrowly escaped. You would have been shocked at the destruction which has been made by the Regulars, as they are miscalled, had you been present with me to have beheld it. Many houses were plundered of every thing valuable that could be taken away, and what could not be carried off was destroyed; looking-glasses, pots, pans, &c., were broke all to pieces; doors when not fastened, sashes and windows wantonly damaged and destroyed. The people say that the soldiers are worse than the *Indians*; in short, they have given the Country such



an early specimen of their brutality as will make the inhabitants dread submission to the power of the *British* Ministry, and determine them to fight desperately rather than have such cruel masters to lord it over them. The Troops at length reached *Charlestown*, where there was no attacking them with safety to the Town, and that night and the next day crossed over in boats to *Boston*, where they continue to be shut up; for the people poured down in so amazing a manner from all parts, for scores of miles round, (even the grey-headed came to assist their countrymen,) the General was obliged to set about further fortifying the Town immediately at all points and places.

The proceedings of *April* 19th have united the Colony and Continent, and brought in *New-York* to act as vigorously as any other place whatsoever; and has raised an army in an instant, which are lodged in the several houses of the Towns round *Boston* till their tents are finished, which will be soon. All that is attended to, besides ploughing and planting, &c., is making ready for fighting. The non-importations and non-exportations will now take place from necessity, and traffick give place to war.

We have a fine spring, prospects of great plenty; there was scarce ever known such a good fall of lambs; we are in no danger of starving through the cruel acts against the *New-England* Governments; and the men who had been used to the fishery, (a hardy generation of people,) Lord *North* has undesignedly kept in the Country to give strength to our military operations, and to assist as occasion may require: thanks to a superiour wisdom for his blunders. The General is expecting reinforcements, but few have arrived as yet; the winds, contrary to the common run at this season, instead of being easterly, have been mostly the reverse. When the reinforcement arrives, and is recovered of the voyage, the General will be obliged in honour to attempt dislodging the people, and penetrating into the country; both soldiers and inhabitants are in want of fresh provisions, and will be like to suffer much, should the Provincial Army be able to keep the Town shut up on all sides, excepting by water, as at present.

The General engaged with the Selectmen of *Boston*, that if the Town's people would deliver up their arms into their custody, those that chose it should be allowed to go out with their effects. The townsmen complied, and the General forfeited his word, for which there will be an after reckoning, should they ever have it in their power to call him to an account. A few have been allowed to come out with many of their effects; numbers are not permitted to come out, and the chief of those who have been, have been obliged to leave their merchandise and goods (linen and household stuff, cash and plate excepted) behind them. You must look back to the origin of the United Provinces, that you may have an idea of the resolution of this people. May the present struggle end as happily in favour of *American* liberty, without proving the destruction of *Great Britain*. We are upon a second edition of King *Charles* the First's reign, enlarged. May the dispute be adjusted before the times are too tragical to admit of it. Both officers and privates have altered their opinion of the *Yankees* very much since the 18th of *April*.

The detachment while at *Concord* disabled two twenty-four-pounders, destroyed their two carriages and seven wheels for the same, with their limbers; sixteen wheels for brass three-pounders, and two carriages, with limber and wheels for two four-pounders; five hundred pounds of ball thrown into the river, wells, and other places; and broke in pieces about sixty barrels of flour, half of which was saved. Cannot be certain of the number that were killed. Apprehend, upon the whole, the Regulars had more than one hundred killed, and one hundred and fifty wounded, besides about fifty taken prisoners. The country people had about forty killed, seven or eight taken prisoners, and a few wounded.

N. B. I never saw the printed account till *Monday*, so that I was not directed by it in any of my inquiries when at *Lexington* and *Concord*. The General, I am persuaded, gave positive orders to the detachment not to fire first, or I am wholly mistaken in my opinion of him. The prisoners at *Worcester*, *Concord*, and *Lexington*, all agreed in their being exceedingly well used. The policy of the people would determine them thereto, if their humanity did not.

Worcester, May 17, 1775.

A great number of that arch traitor *Hutchinson's* letters have lately fell into the hands of our people. By them is discovered the diabolical plans that have been laid to enslave this Country, and show to the world what an indefatigable slave he has been to his masters the Ministry, and their grand master the Devil. These letters will, undoubtedly, be soon made publick. A correspondent at *Roxbury* has favoured us with the following extract from one of them, to General *Gage*, then at *New-York*:

"Boston, July 23, 1771.

"SIR: I have the honour of your letter of the 15th. Yesterday a vessel arrived, which left *London* on the 24th of *May*. I have letters to the 22d. Parliament rose the 9th, and nothing done as to *America*. I send you a passage of a letter from Sir *Francis Bernard*. I have the honour to be, very respectfully, &c.

"SIR: It appears to me to be a matter of great importance to His Majesty's general service, and to the real interest of the Colony, that the discord beginning between *New-York* and us should be encouraged. I wrote some time ago to Mr. *Colden* upon this subject, but he rather declined concerning himself in it. There is certainly a strong aversion, which nothing but the confederacy against *Great Britain* could have conquered. This has too much the appearance of *Machiavelian* policy; but it is justifiable, as it has the most obvious tendency to save the Colonies from ruining themselves, as well as distressing the Mother Country. If *Pennsylvania* could be brought to take part with *New-York*, I think the business would be done. I must beg the favour of you not to suffer this letter to come under any other than your own observation. I have the honour to be," &c. &c.

NORTHBOROUGH COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE TO GENERAL WARD.

Northborough, May 17, 1775.

SIR: We, the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Northborough*, have taken into our custody Mr. *Ebenezer Cutler*, late of *Groton*, but now of this Town, who, from his conduct, appears to us to be an avowed enemy to his Country. He has set at naught and despised all the Resolutions, &c. of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, and also utterly refuses to act in any defence of his now perishing Country whatever; and as he has, from his past conduct, ever since we have been struggling for the liberties of our Country, appeared in the eyes of the publick to be aiding and abetting in defeating the plans of the good people of this Province, and has been riding from one part of this Province to the other, and, in our opinion, for no good design, we think it highly necessary to send him to the Council of War, to know whether he may (as he deserves) have a pass to go into *Boston*. We also enclose the substance of two evidences concerning said *Cutler*. By order of the Committee of Correspondence:

GILLAM BASS, Clerk.

To the Hon. General *Artemas Ward*, Esq., or Council of War now sitting at *Cambridge*.

N. B. General *Ward*, we apprehend, is well acquainted with the character and conduct of said *Cutler*.

PORTSMOUTH COMMITTEE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Portsmouth, May 17, 1775.

SIR: A brig from *Biddeford*, in *England*, arrived this day, the master of which has just been with the Committee, and acquaints them that his orders are to take on board six masts, of about sixteen inches diameter.

We are informed that the ship lately built at *Casco Bay*, which arrived in the harbour this morning, is come with the intention to load masts, which are now ready for her. The opinion of the Congress touching the propriety of shipping the masts, is desired as soon as may be.

We have heard that part of the Troops from *England* arrived yesterday at *Boston*. I am, by order of the Committee, Sir, your most humble servant,

H. WENTWORTH, Chairman.

To the President of the Provincial Congress, at *Exeter*.



## NEWCASTLE (DELAWARE) COMMITTEE.

Newcastle, on Delaware, ss :

Whereas, the Committee chosen in the several Hundreds of the County of *Newcastle*, did, at their meeting on the third day of *May* instant, take "into consideration the present distressed and defenceless situation of the inhabitants of this County, and the unhappy circumstances of their brethren in the other Colonies;" and did therefore "resolve unanimously, that a sum of Money be immediately raised for establishing a fund for procuring and providing the necessary means for our and their protection and support;" and further, "that the sum of one shilling and six pence in the Pound, be collected from each taxable inhabitant in the County, according to the County rates, as well estates as those resident, for the purposes aforesaid," to be collected by the members of the said Committee :

And whereas the said Committee have found a difficulty in collecting the said Money: We, the subscribers, Justices of the Peace and Grand Jurymen for the County aforesaid, do hereby engage, under the solemn ties of virtue, honour, and love of our Country, that, in order to remedy the inconvenience which the Committee aforesaid have met with in the collection of the said Money, we and each of us will, at the Levy Court next to be held for this County, vote for, and to the utmost of our power promote the laying a Tax of one shilling and six pence in the Pound, upon the "taxables, as well estates as those resident," in this County, for the purposes aforesaid, in addition to the tax which may be necessary for the current expenses of the County; out of which additional tax all sums of money already, or which may hereafter be paid in compliance with the said Resolves of the Committee, are to be deducted, and credit given for them to the persons who have paid or may pay the same, respectively.

Witness our hands, this 18th day of *May*, 1775.

|                   |                                 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| GEORGE MONROE,    | JOHN JONES,                     |
| MORTON MORTON,    | JOHN EVANS,                     |
| WILLIAM HEMPHILL, | THOMAS COOCH,                   |
| THOMAS KEAN,      | DAVID FINNEY,                   |
| GEORGE EVANS,     | JAMES LATIMER,                  |
| WILLIAM ANDERSON, | R. CANTWELL,                    |
| JOHN JAMES,       | JOHN MALCOLM,                   |
| ROBERT KIRKWOOD,  | GEORGE CRAGHEAD,                |
| DAVID HOWELL,     | JOHN STAPLER,                   |
| JOHN HYATT,       | WILLIAM PATTERSON,              |
| JOHN TAYLOR,      | SAMUEL PATTERSON,               |
| WILLIAM READ,     | THOMAS MCKIM,                   |
| WILLIAM CLARK,    | <i>Grand Jurymen.</i>           |
|                   | JOHN MCKINLEY, <i>Chairman.</i> |

It being found quite impracticable to raise the sums of money that were necessary for the purposes aforementioned, in so short a time as the urgency required, in the usual legal ways, therefore the Committee were obliged to adopt the foregoing method, as appearing the most speedy, effectual, and equitable manner of raising the same; and it is hoped that all lovers of their Country will readily pay their several quotas to the Committee-men of their respective Hundreds, who have undertaken to collect the same without any fees or commissions, as the money is immediately wanted.

Each of the Committee of Correspondence are required to be diligent in collecting, as speedily as possible, what money has been subscribed and not paid towards the relief of our suffering brethren at *Boston*, and to apply to such as have not before contributed to their support, as their situation is at present most deplorable.

ARTHUR ST. CLAIR TO JOSEPH SHIPPEN, JUN.

Ligonier, May 18, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I yesterday received the enclosed letter from Mr. *Cavet*, with the contents of which I request you will make the Governour acquainted. You see *Hanna* and he are very uneasy, which is really not to be wondered at, as they have been now upwards of three months in confinement, for paying obedience to his Honour's Proclamation, and have not had a single line from any person about Government, or any directions how to conduct themselves. The Governour in these times must be occupied by objects of much greater magnitude; but I wish he could spare a

few minutes for their affairs, which is truly a business of the last consequence to them, threatening them with no less than absolute ruin.

We have an account that Lord *Dunmore* has been obliged to abandon his Government; it is the only piece of good news has reached us since the disputes with *Great Britain* took so serious a turn; but I doubt the truth of it.

The *Pittsburgh* Court is now sitting; whether they do business or not, I have not heard. The proposition for the relief of *Cavet* and *Hanna*, though I believe it practicable enough, I would do nothing in without the Governour's concurrence, as it might be attended with serious consequences.

Yesterday we had a County meeting, and have come to resolutions to arm and discipline, and have formed an Association, which I suppose you will soon see in the papers. God grant an end may be speedily put to any necessity for such proceedings. I doubt their utility, and am almost as much afraid of success in this contest, as of being vanquished. I am, with much respect, dear Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

AR. ST. CLAIR.

*Joseph Shippen, Junior, Philadelphia.*

## NEWARK (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the General Committee of Association for the Township of *Newark*, in *New-Jersey*, on *Thursday*, the 18th day of *May*, 1775:

The Committee taking into consideration the Resolutions of the Committees of *New-York* and other Provinces, relative to the suspension of all exportation to *Quebeck*, *Nova-Scotia*, *Georgia*, and *Newfoundland*, or any part of the Fishing Coasts and Fishing Islands; and highly approving the same, do resolve that it be recommended to the gentlemen Traders of this Town, that they stop all exportations to the said places; and also to our constituents in general, that they do not supply any person whatsoever with any kind of Exports, which they have reason to believe are designed for either of those places, nor any of the King's ships or boats with provisions clandestinely; nor in any manner whatsoever that may counteract any Resolutions that have been made by the Committee of *New-York*. By order of the Committee:

LEWIS OGDEN, *Chairman.*

## INSTRUCTIONS TO DELEGATES FROM NEWARK IN CONGRESS OF NEW-JERSEY.

At a meeting of the General Committee of Association held at *Newark*, the 18th day of *May*, 1775:

The following Instructions to *Isaac Ogden* and *Philip Van Cortlandt*, Esquires, Messrs. *Bethuel Pierson* and *Caleb Camp*, the Deputies elected to represent said Town in Provincial Congress, were unanimously agreed on:

GENTLEMEN: The great, the important crisis which will determine the fate of *America*, seems hastily approaching; a crisis in which not only you, the fond wives of your bosoms, the infants of your tenderest solicitude; but millions of your posterity yet unborn, and every thing that is near and dear to you, worthy your wish, or meriting your care, are deeply interested; a crisis which will decide whether this Continent shall be governed by the unlimited will of a Senate in which it has no voice; by a power without the right, over which it can have no influence or control; whether it shall be forever bound in wretched, relentless chains of slavery, or whether the glorious sun of constitutional liberty shall still enlighten this horizon, and permanently shine, unclouded with the tainted breath of despotism.

To you, gentlemen, is delegated by the inhabitants of this Town one of the most important trusts in their power, which nothing less than tyrant necessity could have urged them to grant, or you to accept; a necessity which, with hearts glowing with affection, overflowing with loyalty to our Sovereign, we unfeignedly lament.

We need not, we mean not, gentlemen, to wish you additional firmness in the common cause; your being chosen to this trust sufficiently approves your principles and steady regard to the duties, the great interests of your delegation; nor need we advise that you carry with you that spirit of



harmony, that firmness with moderation, which we are happy to say animates this part of the Province; and as we have the pleasure and reason to expect that the interests of the general weal, on constitutional ground, will be the constant line of your conduct; that you will keep this goal steadily in view; so we do not wish to bind you with an embarrassing chain of restrictions, much less do we presume to dictate measures to the Provincial Congress; but shall only lay before you some outlines of a plan which we desire you to propose to the wisdom of that Convention.

Money has been aptly called the sinews of war; so may it also the *anima* that enlivens, that braces and gives firmness to the nerves of our Constitution. In the alarming exigency rising before us, there will probably be occasion for a publick fund; and we could wish, as the whole Province is equally interested, that the burden should be also equal. We conceive, when the necessary sum is fixed by the Congress, that the present Quota Bill, by which the proportion of taxes in the several Counties for the support of Government, &c., has been ascertained, will be a just scale to regulate the present occasion; and perhaps the Assessors and Collectors in the several Townships may, in general, be proper persons to conduct the like business, leaving it in the option of such Towns as may incline to make a special choice of new officers for this purpose.

We consider it advisable that a certain number of men be immediately raised, disciplined, well accoutred with arms and ammunition, and prepared in every respect for an instant service.

That as men who go volunteers will be most likely to be hearty in the service, and the disagreeable measure of draughting from the Militia may thereby be prevented, a roll be opened in every Town where it can be advantageously, for the enlistment of Volunteers, to be prepared as above-mentioned, for every emergency; that the Congress appoint the commandant and all the field-officers, and that the General Committees of those Towns where any company or companies shall be raised, have the appointment of the Captains and subalterns; that one or more proper persons be empowered by the Congress to sign and affix a proper seal to the commissions, agreeable to such appointment; that the Volunteers, on their enlistment, subscribe certain articles, to oblige themselves, under certain penalties, (to be ascertained by the Congress, similar to the Mutiny Bill, if thought proper,) to be obedient to their officers, and to prevent desertion; that proper persons be appointed for a Treasurer of said fund, and for a Paymaster-General, giving the necessary security, &c.; that the pay for the officers and men be fixed by the Congress; and that the said Volunteers, from the day of their enlistment, be in discipline at least so much time as may amount to one day in a week; and also such further time, not exceeding — days in the whole, per week, as shall be judged expedient by the said General Committees; that sufficient arms and ammunition for such Volunteers as are unable to furnish themselves therewith, and provisions for emergent occasions, be provided; and that every Volunteer entrusted with the arms, &c., belonging to the Province, be obligated to return them to the Commanding Officer, when called for, except such as may be lost in the service, &c.; that magazines of powder and other necessary military stores be formed in such parts of the Province as shall be judged most advantageous for emergencies; that Commissioners be appointed to direct and regulate any contingent business which cannot be ascertained with precision by the Congress; that Muster-Masters be appointed to review the companies, and to take care that none but able-bodied men be continued on the rolls; nor any apprentice or servant enlisted, without his master's consent in writing; that a proper number of field-pieces be provided, and one or more Artillery Companies raised and disciplined. As exigencies may happen which may require a greater force than the number of Volunteers to be raised as aforesaid, that the Congress recommend it to the Militia Captains throughout the Province to procure such persons as are capable of teaching military discipline, to be paid out of the publick fund; and that their men be exercised at least — times per week; that it be recommended by the Congress to the several Towns or Counties throughout the Province, who have not already done it, to appoint General Committees to enter into and subscribe an Association of similar import to that

adopted by this County. We are, gentlemen, your humble servants. By order of the Committee:

LEWIS OGDEN, *Chairman.*

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

The Committee met *Thursday*, the 18th of *May*, 1775.  
Present:

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Low,           | Victor Bicker,      | Cornelius Clopper,  |
| P. V. B. Livingston, | John White,         | John Reade,         |
| Alex. McDougall,     | Theophilus Anthony, | John Van Cortlandt, |
| Thomas Randall,      | William Goforth,    | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| Leonard Lispenard,   | Comfort Sands,      | Peter Goelet,       |
| William Walton,      | Robert Benson,      | Thomas Marston,     |
| John Broome,         | William W. Gilbert, | Jacobus Lefferts,   |
| Joseph Hallett,      | John Berrian,       | Richard Sharpe,     |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,   | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | Hamilton Young,     |
| Nicholas Roosevelt,  | Edward Fleming,     | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| Nicholas Hoffman,    | John De Lancey,     | Benjamin Helme,     |
| Abraham Walton,      | Frederick Jay,      | Walter Franklin,    |
| Peter Van Schaack,   | William W. Ludlow,  | Evert Banker,       |
| Henry Remsen,        | John B. Moore,      | Robert Ray,         |
| Peter T. Curtenius,  | John Lasher,        | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Abraham Brasher,     | George Janeway,     | William Laight,     |
| Abraham P. Lott,     | James Beekman,      | John Lamb,          |
| Abraham Duryee,      | Samuel Verplanck,   | Anthony Van Dam,    |
| Joseph Totten,       | Richard Yates,      | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Thomas Ivers,        | Augustus Van Horne, | John Imlay,         |
| Hercules Mulligan,   | Gerret Kettleas,    | Oliver Templeton,   |
| John Anthony,        | Benjamin Kissam,    | Thomas Buchannan.   |

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Walton*, Colonel *Lispenard*, Colonel *Beekman*, Major *Van Dam*, Mr. *Brasher*, Mr. *Lasher*, Mr. *Fleming*, and Mr. *Curtenius*, be a Committee for instituting a Military Night Watch in this City, to consist of forty men, each with an officer to command them, and that they report the mode to this Committee with all convenient speed.

*Ordered*, That the following Letter be immediately despatched to his Honour the Governour of *Connecticut*, to wit:

New-York, May 18, 1775.

SIR: As we have great reason to expect the arrival of Troops from *Britain*, to be quartered in this Province, we thought it a necessary piece of precaution to ask of the Continental Congress a line of conduct for our inhabitants on that event. We have received their directions on that head, as appears by the enclosed. We have also been informed that our brethren of *Connecticut*, attentive to the common cause, and kindly tendering the safety of this City in its present defenceless state, are upon the point of marching a considerable body of Troops into it with intent to assist us in securing it against any attempt to reduce it to the condition of a garrison-town or place of arms. We have on this head to request your Honour, should those Troops be about to march, to direct their encampment on the Western frontiers of your Colony, if your Honour should think it expedient they should proceed so far, until some plan can be properly settled with our Provincial Congress, who are to meet on the 22d instant, so as to place their introduction, if necessary, on such a basis as will produce perfect concord and unanimity, and most effectually answer the valuable ends of so friendly a succour.

To His Honour *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esquire.

#### *Directions for a Military Watch in the City of NEW-YORK.*

*First.* That a guard be mounted every evening at eight o'clock, at the City-Hall, consisting of not less than forty men properly officered.

*Second.* That detachments be made from the said guard to patrol the streets every two hours, under the command of a non-commissioned officer, accompanied by a constable or other civil officer, who may be directed by a Magistrate to attend from nine o'clock in the evening until five o'clock in the morning.

*Third.* That they pay particular attention that no Provisions be exported from this City; and if any persons are discovered exporting Provisions contrary to the Resolves of this Committee, to take particular notice of them, and endeavour, by persuasion and other peaceable methods, to prevent it, and that they make a report thereof.

*Fourth.* That the patrols do not challenge persons, boats, &c., but watch their motions, if suspected, and by all means endeavour to prevent outrage on person or property, and report the perpetrators.



*Fifth.* That no unnecessary and wanton alarm be given to our fellow-citizens, either by firing of guns, beating of drums, or otherwise, in the night, but that all their operations be conducted with that manly prudence and discretion becoming citizens zealous to support their freedom without tumult and disorder.

*Sixth.* That the commanding officer of the guard dismiss his guard at five o'clock in the morning, and report in writing by ten o'clock, to the Chairman, Deputy, or Chairman *pro tempore*, all extraordinary occurrences which may have happened during the time of his being on duty, signed by himself.

ABM. BRASHER, EDWARD FLEMING,  
JOHN LASHER, ALEX. McDUGALL.

At a special meeting of the Committee, 19th of May 1775:

The Chairman produced a Letter delivered him by his Worship the Mayor, in answer to a Resolution of yesterday, requesting him to furnish Captain *Montague* with a copy of *Charles Murray's* Affidavit.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Kissam*, Mr. *Van Schaack*, Mr. *Helme*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Ritzma*, Mr. *Murray*, and Mr. *Smith*, be a Committee to inquire into the merits of Captain *Montague's* plea for having seized the Powder, &c., on board of Captain *Murray's* Vessel, and report their opinion thereon to the Committee at their next meeting.

At a meeting of the Committee, May 20, 1775. Present forty-six Members.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Van Dam*, Mr. *Burling*, Mr. *Totten*, and Mr. *Laight*, be a Committee to form an estimate of what Stores may be necessary to forward to *Albany*.

Mr. *Charles McEvers* exhibited a complaint in writing against Mr. *John Anderson*.

A Letter from the Continental Congress, dated May 18, 1775, enclosing a Resolve of that Board, was received and read.

Mr. *McDougall* reported the draft of a Letter to the Committee at *Albany*, which being approved of,

*Ordered*, That the same be forwarded.

COMMITTEE OF PALATINE DISTRICT, TRYON COUNTY, NEW-YORK, TO THE ALBANY COMMITTEE.

May 18, 1775.

We are so peculiarly circumstanced in this County, relating to the present struggle for *American* liberty, that we cannot longer defer laying the situation of this County before you. The District we represent has been foremost in avowing its attachment to liberty, and approving the method of opposition adopted in *America*, and are now signing an Association similar to what has been signed in other Counties in this Province, and we hope in a few days to have the pleasure to transmit it down for the press. The County being extensive, it takes a considerable time before the people who are favourable to the cause can be got to sign; for we have caused copies of the Association to be dispersed in divers parts of the County. This County has, for a series of years, been ruled by one family, the different branches of which are still strenuous in dissuading people from coming into Congressional measures, and even have, last week, at a numerous meeting of the *Mohawk* District, appeared with all their dependants armed to oppose the people considering of their grievances; their number being so large, and the people unarmed, struck terror into most of them, and they dispersed. We are informed that *Johnson-Hall* is fortifying by placing a parcel of swivel-guns round the same, and that Colonel *Johnson* has had parts of his regiment of Militia under arms yesterday, no doubt with a design to prevent the friends of liberty from publishing their attachment to the cause to the world. Besides which we are told that about one hundred and fifty Highlanders, (*Roman Catholics*), in and about *Johnstown*, are armed and ready to march upon the like occasion. We have been informed that Colonel *Johnson* has stopped two *New-Englanders*, and searched them, being, we suppose, suspicious that they came to solicit aid from us or the *Indians*, whom we dread most, there being a current report through the County that they are to be made use of in keeping us in awe.

We recommend it strongly and seriously to you to take it in your consideration, whether any powder and ammunition ought to be permitted to be sent up this way, unless it is done under the inspection of the Committee, and consigned to the Committee here, and for such particular shopkeepers as we in our next shall acquaint you of. We are determined to suffer none in our District to sell any but such as we approve of, and sign the Association. When any thing particular comes to our knowledge relating to the *Indians*, (whom we shall watch,) or any other thing interesting, we shall take the earliest opportunity in communicating the same to you. And as we are a young County, remote from the Metropolis, we beg you will give us all the intelligence in your power. We shall not be able to send down any Deputies to the Provincial Congress, as we cannot possibly obtain the sense of the County soon enough to make it worth our while to send any, but be assured we are not the less attached to *American* liberty. For we are determined, although few in number, to let the world see who are, and who are not such; and to wipe off the indelible disgrace brought on us by the Declaration signed by our Grand Jury and some of our Magistrates, who, in general, are considered by the majority of the County as enemies to their Country. In a word, gentlemen, it is our fixed resolution to support and carry into execution every thing recommended by the Continental Congress, and to be free or die.

COLONEL GUY JOHNSON TO THE COMMITTEE OF SCHENECTADY, NEW-YORK.

Guy Park, May 18, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have, for some days past, heard of many threats from the publick, that gives us reason to apprehend that the persons or properties of gentlemen of the first consideration, both with respect to station and property, would have been insulted in this County, and myself in particular, under colour of a gross and notorious falsehood, uttered by some worthless scoundrels, respecting my intentions as Superintendent of *Indian* Affairs. To gentlemen of sense and moderation, these malicious, ill-founded charges ought to be self-evidently false; my duty is to promote peace, and my office of the highest importance to the trade and frontiers. But as these reports are daily increasing, it becomes me, both as a subject and a man, to disavow them, and until I can find out and chastise the author, to assure the publick of their mistake, and to inform them that it has rendered it my duty for self-preservation so necessary, that I have taken precaution to give a very hot and disagreeable reception to any persons that shall attempt to invade my retreat; at the same time that I have no intention to disturb those who choose to permit me the honest exercise of my reason and duties of my office, and requesting that you will immediately cause this to be made publick to the *Albany* Committee, I remain, gentlemen, your very humble servant, G. JOHNSON.

AUTHENTICK ACCOUNT OF THE TAKING OF FORTRESSES AT TICONDEROGA AND CROWN POINT, BY A PARTY OF THE CONNECTICUT FORCES.

New-York, May 18, 1775.

Captain *Edward Mott* and Captain *Noah Phelps* set out from *Hartford* on *Saturday*, the twenty-ninth of *April*, in order to take possession of the fortress of *Ticonderoga*, and the dependencies thereunto belonging. They took with them from *Connecticut* sixteen men unarmed, and marched privately through the country till they came to *Pittsfield*, without discovering their design to any person, till they fell in company with Colonel *Ethan Allen*, Colonel *Easton*, and *John Brown*, Esq., who engaged to join themselves to said *Mott* and *Phelps*, and to raise men sufficient to take the place by surprise if possible. Accordingly the men were raised, and proceeded as directed by said *Mott* and *Phelps*, Colonel *Ethan Allen* commanding the soldiery. On *Tuesday* they surprised and took the fortress, making prisoners the commandant and his party. On *Wednesday* morning they possessed themselves of *Crown Point*; taking possession of the ordnance stores, consisting of upwards of two hundred pieces of cannon, three mortars, sundry howitzers, and fifty swivels, &c.



*Ethan Allen*, fearful of an attempt from Governour *Carleton* to retake the place, has written to the Committee of *Albany* for a supply of five hundred men and provisions; the Committee, however, not perceiving themselves competent to determine on a matter of so much importance, requested the advice of our General Committee, who referred them, and immediately despatched an express, to the Congress now sitting in *Philadelphia*.

ETHAN ALLEN TO THE MERCHANTS OF MONTREAL.

St. John's, May 18, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have the pleasure to acquaint you that Lakes *George* and *Champlain*, with the fortresses, artillery, &c., particularly the armed sloop of *George* the Third, with all water carriages of these Lakes, are now in possession of the Colonies. I expect the *English* Merchants, as well as all virtuous disposed gentlemen, will be in the interest of the Colonies. The advanced guard of the Army is now at *St. John's*, and desire immediately to have a personal intercourse with you. Your immediate assistance as to provisions, ammunition, and spirituous liquors, is wanted and forthwith expected, not as a donation, for I am empowered by the Colonies to purchase the same; and I desire you would forthwith, and without further notice, prepare for the use of the Army those articles to the amount of five hundred Pounds, and deliver the same to me at *St. John's*, or at least a part of it almost instantaneously, as the soldiers press on faster than provisions. I need not inform you that my directions from the Colonies are not to contend with, or any way injure or molest the *Canadians* or *Indians*; but, on the other hand, treat them with the greatest friendship and kindness. You will be pleased to communicate the same to them, and some of you immediately visit me at this place, while others are active in delivering the provisions.

I write in haste, and am, gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

To Mr. *James Morrison* and the Merchants that are friendly to the cause of liberty in *Montreal*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE,  
DATED MAY 18, 1775.

We hear from *Halifax* that the people have at last shewn they have spirit. It seems the agents for procuring forage for the expected regiment of Dragoons had taken, without the consent of the owner, and were shipping for *Boston*, a great quantity of hay, on which the people set fire to, and wholly destroyed it. And when that work was finished, they attempted the like by the King's Magazines, which they several times fired, but they were extinguished by the people from the ships-of-war lying there, who made a brisk fire on the people, and prevented them from effecting their design. The fugitives from *Boston* are gone for *Halifax*, but the people say no d——d Tories shall be allowed to breathe in their air, so that these devils can't find a resting place there, which was the only place on the Continent that they ever dared to hope they might stay in.

COLONEL STARK TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Medford, May 18, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: About the twenty-ninth of *April* last, a Committee sent from Provincial Congress of the Province of *New-Hampshire* to the Provincial Congress of the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, having discretionary instructions from said Congress, advised to raise a Regiment from the Province of *New-Hampshire* as soon as possible, under the Constitution and establishment of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, but to be deemed as part of the quota of men of the Province of *New-Hampshire*, and that *New-Hampshire* Congress would establish said measures. In consequence of which, a number of officers of the Province of *New-Hampshire* convened, and made choice of their field-officers for said Regiment, who have raised the same, fifty-four of whom are now present at *Medford*, exclusive of drummers and fifers, and the remainder are hourly expected; and as a great number of those already here (who expected, when they enlisted, to draw arms from the Provincial stocks) are destitute of the same, and cannot be furnished,

(as no arms are to be procured here at present,) must inevitably return from whence they came, unless they are supplied from some quarter speedily. I humbly pray that you would maturely consider our defenceless situation, and adopt some measure or measures whereby they may be equipped. In confidence of your immediate compliance with the above request, I am, in the Country's common cause, your most obedient and devoted humble servant,

JOHN STARK.

N. B. The gentleman who presents this to the Convention, can give you particular information as to our present situation.

ADDRESS OF THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR WENTWORTH.

May it please your Excellency:

Governour *Gage*, in a letter to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, dated 27th *January*, 1775, informed the *British* Ministry that your Excellency had applied to him for two Regiments of the *British* Troops, to be stationed at *Portsmouth*; and as it evidently appears, at this alarming period, that the *British* Troops are ministerial tools, sent to *America* to endeavour to enforce unconstitutional and tyrannical Acts of the *British* Parliament, by fire, sword, and famine, and as we humbly conceive it is your Excellency's duty, in your political capacity, to guard and defend the lives, liberty, and properties of the inhabitants of this Province, your Excellency's sending for Troops to destroy the lives, liberties, and properties you have solemnly engaged to defend and protect, conveys to our minds such shocking ideas, that we shall rejoice to find what is represented to be fact in said letter, to be farce. But as we have such information, duty to ourselves and constituents, obliges us humbly to desire your Excellency to give us such evidence as will enable us to know and inform our constituents what to expect.

We are, &c., &c.

CAROLINE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for the County of *Caroline*, on *Friday*, the nineteenth of *May*, 1775, the Committee having taken into their most serious consideration his Excellency Lord *Dunmore's* Letter, dated the twenty-fourth of *December* last, to Lord *Dartmouth*, His Majesty's Secretary of State for the *American* Department; also his Lordship's Proclamation, and a Letter wrote by a certain Captain *Montague* to the Honourable *Thomas Nelson, Esq.*, (which were severally published in the *Gazettes*,) think it their indispensable duty to remonstrate against the illiberal aspersions which are most injuriously thrown out against our constituents, as part of the community, and also to declare our abhorrence of the brutal disposition that dictated the menaces contained in the said *Montague's* Letter: Therefore, *Resolved*,

1st. That his Lordship's Letter, if founded on the information of others, fully evinces to us their unfriendly and inimical disposition towards this Country, and his wishes to perpetuate the unhappy dispute between *Great Britain* and *America*, which we so fervently and ardently desire to terminate on constitutional principles. We cannot forbear adverting to that part of his Lordship's Letter, where he asserts that armed Companies in some Counties are formed, and sworn to enforce the order of the Committees directly in open defiance of the legal prerogative of the Crown. Such proceedings as these, we are apprehensive, never had existence, or we should have had as early intelligence of them as his Lordship.

2d. That that part of his Lordship's Proclamation wherein he charges some persons with being disaffected to His Majesty's Government, and endeavouring to effect a change in it, under the appearance of defending their liberties, contains an accusation totally groundless, and cannot be meetly applied to the people of this Colony, who ever were, and in future wish to be, distinguished for their loyalty to our most gracious Sovereign, whom we sincerely pray may ever enjoy his reign in peace, happiness, and glory. We think ourselves extremely ill-treated by his Lordship, while we are aiming to preserve that liberty and freedom which the *God* of nature originally gave, and our ancestors have



handed down to us, to be charged with disaffection to His Majesty's Government. On a review of his Lordship's conduct, we cannot avoid suspecting his design in removing the gunpowder (more especially in the night) was rather to deprive this Colony of it, than to be used for suppressing any insurrection.

3d. That Captain *Montague's* threat of firing upon the defenceless Town of *York*, bespeaks such a base and diabolical disposition, that he ought to be condemned and despised by all men of spirit and humanity. We therefore recommend it to our constituents, not to show the said *Montague* any mark of civility or respect whatsoever.

SAMUEL HAWES, JR., Clerk.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF VIRGINIA.

Williamsburgh, May 19, 1775.

There are few attempts in life so unlikely to give universal satisfaction as those that are brought before the all-scrutinizing eye of the publick; for although a man be so fortunate as to please some, he may, on the other hand, offend many. And there are few men, possessed of a tolerable knowledge of men and manners, but what must be, on the least attentive consideration, assured of the truth of this thesis. How careful, then, ought that man to be, who makes his appearance in the publick papers, in knowing that he is embarked, if not in an unoffending, yet a righteous cause. Thus equipped, he may fearlessly pass the rock of criticism, if not with eclat, with that, at least, which affords more permanent felicity—the heartfelt commendation of a good conscience. These animadversions lead me to a few strictures on our truly great and worthy Governour's Proclamation of the sixth of this instant. I confess, in the first place, that it is with the most pungent sorrow I find that justice, and the great cause of *America's* inherent rights, make it indispensably necessary, in these unhappy days, that nothing should pass unnoticed that is not dignified by the sacred signature of truth, and which, through the malversation of bad and designing men, might have the baneful tendency of extending the unnatural breach between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, and bring on the additional displeasure of our gracious King. Of such a tendency appears our Governour's Proclamation of the above date, particularly aimed at *Patrick Henry*, Jun., Esquire, his Country's and *America's* unalterable and unappalled great advocate and friend. As most of the good people of this Country may have seen this unparalleled Proclamation, I shall not take up much of their or your time, in a very minute recital of it; suffice it to say, that the whole must appear a Ministerial trick, calculated to please some, to delude others, and, what is of more serious and alarming consequence, (similar to one of his other laudable efforts,\*) to prejudice and detract from the great *American* cause, by effecting a disunion amongst the friends of it, as the only possible means of obtaining success to Ministerial machinations. The degenerate tools of lawless power may applaud his Lordship's ingenuity, but the honest, virtuous, and upright sons of constitutional liberty will reprobate the want of that candour and nobleness of spirit, which can alone give effulgence to high birth or exalted station, and deprived of which, either the one or the other must, in the reflection of the virtuous mind, (to use the great *Mr. Pope's* words,) appear but as so much "leather or prunella." There are, however, representations of the conduct of the said *Mr. Henry*, and his deluded followers, (as his Lordship is pleased, fashionably, to call them,) so exceedingly inconsonant to my idea of the case, that his Lordship must pardon me if I should, for the sake of justice, attempt to set the matter in a different and less partial point of view. His Lordship observes, "That the said *Mr. Henry*, with a number of deluded followers, had taken up arms, chosen their officers, and, styling themselves an Independent Company, had marched out of their County, encamped, and put themselves into a posture of war, and had written letters, &c., to the great terror of all His Majesty's faithful subjects, and in open defiance of law and Government; and have committed other acts of violence, particularly in extorting from his Receiver-General the sum

of three hundred and thirty Pounds, under pretence of replacing the powder he (the Governour) thought proper to order from the Magazine;" whence, adds his Lordship, "it undeniably appears that there is no longer the least security for the life or property of any man." Would not strangers to this manœuvre of *Mr. Henry* be induced readily to believe, from this Proclamation of his Lordship, that his conduct in the affair of the powder was directly consistent with the greatest rectitude; and, on the contrary, that *Mr. Henry's* behaviour was, in the extreme, impolitical, disorderly, and base? But let such first recur to the many poor subterfuges that Ministerial vicegerents have lately been drove to, and then they will not be greatly astonished at the contents of his Lordship's Proclamation.

The powder which was removed from the Magazine in the City of *Williamsburgh*, under cover of the night, (a time most friendly and best adapted to dark and insidious designs,) appears clearly to have been, if not the permanent and exclusive property of this Colony, at least so intended for its direct emolument and protection, by an Act of Assembly, passed in the first year of King *George* the First's reign, entitled, "An Act for erecting a Magazine;" that his Lordship's removal of it on board one of His Majesty's armed vessels, just at that alarming and critical time, was, in my view, illegal, and a competent declaration of his hostile and inimical designs against this unhappy Country, and sufficient, of itself, to have roused the good people of it from that lethargick state of security into which the great appearance of his Lordship's friendship had lulled them; and farther, to have placed themselves in such a posture of defence as might enable them to guard against the impending blow which this step of his Lordship plainly told them was but too fast approaching. The inhabitants of *Williamsburgh*, justly alarmed and incensed at such behaviour from his Lordship, like men determined to support their constitutional rights and property in opposition to every act of violence under Heaven against them, take up arms, and are about to demand restitution of the powder, when they are dissuaded from such a step by gentlemen in whom great confidence is placed, who persuade them to lay down their arms, and return to their respective homes; assuring them at the same time, that every pacifick endeavour should be made in order to have the powder replaced in the Magazine. They then convened a common hall, and in a very respectful manner, address his Lordship on the impropriety of his conduct in the affair of the powder; entreating him at the same time to return it again to the Magazine, and thereby restore peace and order to the inhabitants of the Town. To which said address his Lordship was pleased to return a verbal answer, (being, it is said, peculiarly happy in expressing his sentiments with ease and propriety that way,) whereby it most evidently appears that his Lordship expressly avows the impropriety of his conduct in the removal of the powder, in promising, upon his "word and honour," that in case there should be an insurrection of the slaves, which he acknowledges there was cause to apprehend, he would then return the powder, on being allowed a half hour to do it in. The inconsistency of such an answer is so plain, that it needs no comment. In short, several gentlemen, who were dissatisfied with such an evasive, contradictory, and affrontive answer, wait on his Lordship in person, and entreat him, as the representative of His Majesty here, as the Chief Magistrate, and, above all, as a friend to peace and order, to return the powder, and thereby quiet the fears and apprehensions of the people, which he now positively refuses to do; assigning, as a reason for his strange and unwarrantable conduct, that the people of *Williamsburgh* had been in arms.

But attend to his subsequent conduct, and see if it accords with those pompous professions of regard for peace, order, and good government, and the happiness of the people (who are so unhappy as to be under his rule) which he would induce a belief are the grand objects of his care and study. Conscious that the people would no longer acquiesce in a behaviour in one moment so disingenuous and evasive, in another so disrespectful and irritating, he determined to fling off the mask, and bid defiance to their utmost efforts to regain the powder; and therefore immediately began to arm his menial servants, who were, by

\* See his Lordship's Letter to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, dated the twenty-fourth of December last.



their lord and master's example, taught to look upon and treat the good people of this Country with the greatest indignity and contempt. Add to all this, that we had just heard that many of our worthy and noble friends, the guardians and zealous supporters of our liberty, were on the black list of *American* victims, destined to sacrifice, in order to appease those sanguinary wretches in power; and that, farther, we had received the long-feared and melancholy news, that the sword was now drawn by the King's Troops against our brethren the *Bostonians*, who were then bleeding in the common cause. Thus unhappily circumstanced on all sides, what does Mr. *Henry* to deserve those inglorious epithets, which are, though obscurely, yet most certainly aimed principally at him, not only by his Lordship's candid and liberal Address to the Council, previous to the issuing of a former Proclamation, but by those also in exalted station, who, it was hoped from their affinity to our wrongs, and having received their birth here, would have entertained sentiments of a more generous and liberal kind, of those who are the produce of the same Country, and in loyalty and attachment to their gracious Sovereign, not an iota, I trust, inferior to them. I repeat, what does Mr. *Henry* (matters being thus situated) to deserve the censure of his countrymen? Why, like the vigilant guardian and protector of their constitutional rights and liberties, he was resolved, with proper assistance, by the force of arms, to effect a restitution of the powder, or an equivalent thereto, which had been, by low fraud and artifice, removed out of the Country's possession, and which he now was sorry to find pacifick measures were not likely to accomplish. This gentleman, therefore, by the advice and determination of the *Hanover* Committee, held at *Newcastle* the second instant, accompanied by many of his respectable and worthy countrymen, set out from *Newcastle* on their way to the capital, and were joined on their way down by several spirited gentlemen from different Counties. With what prudence and penetration Mr. *Henry* took his measures, and what they eventually produced, may be fully known by a reference to a publication of his conduct at large, in the proceedings of the Committee of *Hanover* County on the ninth instant; and, as the matter stands represented there, and which is incontrovertibly consistent with the real truth of the case, how then does his Lordship get his intelligence that this movement of Mr. *Henry* was to the great "terror of all His Majesty's faithful subjects?" From whence does he learn that Mr. *Henry* had committed "acts of violence?" Have any of those terrified "faithful subjects," on whom those acts of violence were committed, preferred their complaints before his Lordship, in order to obtain redress? Or are these words inserted only to heighten or aggravate this supposed guilty conduct of Mr. *Henry*, in the opinion of those who cannot be, in all probability, from the remoteness of their situation, furnished with an impartial and fair state of the case? The guilty, perhaps, might fear and tremble at an apprehension of the just vengeance of the incensed people, roused and provoked as they were by reiterated acts of oppression and tyranny; but whether the innocent *Americans* (of which, I thank Heaven, there is by far the greater majority) were terrified and frightened by this attempt of Mr. *Henry* to regain their property, I leave the candid part of mankind to determine, from the publication of the proceedings of the many Committees which have sat on this occasion, as may be seen in the papers subsequent to this step taken by Mr. *Henry*.

Thus much I have thought proper to lay before the publick, in vindication of the conduct of a gentleman who is now absent, and, as the advocate and steady friend of his Country, contending, I doubt not, for all that is precious and worth the preserving, to those who are by nature free, and who, by their laws and Constitution, have an indubitable right to remain so, in opposition to every power on earth to make them otherwise.

Had his Lordship, at this perplexed and unhappy juncture of affairs, steadily pursued that noble line of right which prudence and his duty had marked out to him; had he evinced from his actions, in accordance to his professions, that the happiness of the people which he ruled was his great object and care; had he, like a good, virtuous, and great man, stepped in as a mediator in this unnatural struggle between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, and attempted to close, rather than by disingenuous misrepresent-

ations, to widen the breach, I trust he would still have continued to receive that grateful tribute of applause which the people here have, on some late occasions, so cordially offered up to him. But from his late conduct, as held up to the world, what confidence can they place in him who has declared himself to be (and his actions manifest he is not in jest) their opposed and dangerous enemy? **BRUTUS.**

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MANOR OF CORTLANDT,  
NEW-YORK.

Manor of Cortlandt, May 19, 1775.

**GENTLEMEN:** The dangerous innovations and infringements attempted by certain mercenary Ministerial tools and infamous traitors (in this Manor) to their Country, who assume to themselves the name of loyalists, on the liberties of their fellow-subjects, have greatly alarmed the impartial friends of liberty herein. A fool, says an author, has great need of title; it teaches men to call him Count and Duke, and to forget his proper name of fool.

In a day when *American* pulse beats high for liberty; when it is the subject of almost every publick paper, as well as topick of discourse, it might justly have been expected that no *American* would be so hardy as to violate the rights of his fellow-subjects; and if any such monster should appear in this land of liberty, that there would not be wanting advocates for so glorious and important a cause, as to expose those of its members who are trampling on the sacred rights of the people.

I have waited with great impatience, expecting that some able hand would have undertaken the benevolent task to warn you to beware of the conduct of some of the basest villains that ever disgraced any society, and draw the attention of the inhabitants to its danger; but finding that although now some months are elapsed since the commencement of the measures of these traitors, &c., yet none has appeared to sound the friendly alarm to the very indolent inhabitants, I have attempted what I so ardently wished might have been done by some more able hand. While we are straining every nerve to baffle foreign attempts to enslave us, surely it must be very criminal in the descendants of *Britons*, who ought to love life and liberty alike, to be so assiduous in exerting themselves to enslave their fellow-subjects.

It may not be improper to inform you, gentlemen, of the springs and motives which induce these principal movers to forget their duty to *God*, their fellow-countrymen, and their posterity.

They, anxious to secure to themselves and their posterity power and authority, and to engross some offices or pensions from or under the Crown, have made a sacrifice of all publick virtue on the altar of self-interest. This desperate spirit it was that induced these traitors or mercenary hirelings to exert their influence to bring about the detestable measures proposed by a certain paper handed about here last winter, entitled "The Loyalists' Test." But, happily for this Manor, this very dangerous scheme was disconcerted by some lovers of loyalty and liberty. For the men who would make such inroads on the liberties of the people, as they were aiming at, to gratify their thirst for power, and give Administration a high idea of their influence in this Manor, would, from the same principle, exert every nerve of influence to carry any ministerial mandate into execution, at the expense of the liberties of their fellow-countrymen.

Can any judicious *American* son of liberty behold these traitors of their Country without the utmost abhorrence, by whose influence the more illiterate, and those who are unacquainted with the principles of the present dispute, are so besotted as to resign their liberties into the hands of the most ambitious and designing fellows, who are aiming to make a merit with the Ministry by enslaving their fellow-countrymen, and to aggrandise themselves and their posterity? Surely he cannot. If *Charles* the First deserved the axe, and *James* the Second the loss of his Kingdom, for changing the Constitution, and thereby trampling on the rights of their subjects, I leave you, my countrymen, to judge what punishment would be adequate to the crimes of these loyalists and their tools, who are aiming at the same by a sacrifice of all publick virtue, and the liberty of their Country.

AN INHABITANT.



COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES.  
Cambridge, May 19, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Benedict Arnold* having been authorized and empowered to raise and furnish a number of men, not exceeding four hundred, to proceed against and reduce the garrison at *Ticonderoga*, with its dependencies, has, we find, in consequence of said commission, been supplied with fifteen oxen, by Mr. *Thomas Wells Dickason*; and this Committee being informed by said *Dickason* that the Committee of Supplies wanted a certificate of said order and appointment, that they may with propriety discharge the order of said *Arnold* on the Committee of Safety, have handed this, presuming it may be sufficient to satisfy the Committee of Supplies of his (said *Arnold's*) appointment. We would observe that the above-mentioned cattle are at *Newport*. You will give such directions respecting them as to you in your wisdom shall seem meet. We are, &c.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.  
Crown Point, May 19, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: My last was of the 14th instant, by Mr. *Romans*, via *New-Haven*. I then acquainted you of the occasion of delay in not carrying your orders into execution. The afternoon of the same day, being joined by Captains *Brown* and *Oswald*, with fifty men, enlisted on the road, they having taken possession of a small schooner at *Skenesborough*, we immediately proceeded on our way for *St. John's*, and at eight o'clock, P. M., the 17th instant, arrived within thirty miles of *St. John's*; the weather proving calm, manned out two small batteaus with thirty-five men, and the next morning, at six o'clock, arrived at *St. John's*, surprised and took a sergeant and his party of twelve men, the King's sloop, of about seventy tons, with two brass six-pounders and seven men, without any loss on either side. The Captain was gone to *Montreal*, and hourly expected with a large detachment for *Ticonderoga*, a number of guns and carriages for the sloop, which was just fixed for sailing; add to this, there was a Captain of forty men at *Chamblée*, twelve miles distant from *St. John's*, who was expected there every minute with his party; so that it seemed to be a mere interposition of Providence that we arrived at so fortunate an hour. We took such stores on board as were valuable, and the wind proving favourable, in two hours after we arrived, weighed anchor for this place, with the sloop and four of the King's batteaus, having destroyed five others; so that there is not left a single batteau for the King's Troops, *Canadians*, or *Indians*, to cross the Lake in, if they have any such intention.

I must, in justice to Colonel *Allen*, observe that he left *Crown Point* soon after me for *St. John's*, with one hundred and fifty men, and on my return met him five leagues this side, and supplied him with provisions, his men being in a starving condition. He informed me of his intention of proceeding on to *St. John's* with eighty or one hundred men, and keeping possession there. It appeared to me a wild, impracticable scheme, and provided it could be carried into execution, of no consequence, so long as we are masters of the Lake, and of that I make no doubt, as I am determined to arm the sloop and schooner immediately.

I wrote you, gentlemen, in my former letters, that I should be extremely glad to be superseded in my command here, as I find it next to impossible to repair the old fort at *Ticonderoga*, and am not qualified to direct in building a new one. I am really of opinion it will be necessary to employ one thousand or fifteen hundred men here this summer, in which I have the pleasure of being joined in sentiment by Mr. *Romans*, who is esteemed an able engineer. I am making all possible provision for wheel-carriages to carry such cannon, &c. to *Albany* as can be spared here, and will be serviceable to our army at *Cambridge*.

I must refer you for particulars to the bearer, Captain *Jonathan Brown*, who has been very active and serviceable, and is a prudent, good officer; and I beg leave to observe I have had intimations given me, that some persons had determined to apply to you and the Provincial Congress, to injure me in your esteem, by misrepresenting matters of fact. I know of no other motive they can have,

only my refusing them commissions, for the very simple reason that I did not think them qualified. However, gentlemen, I have the satisfaction of imagining I am employed by gentlemen of so much candour, that my conduct will not be condemned until I have the opportunity of being heard. I am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most devoted and very humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.  
To the Committee of Safety, Cambridge.

P. S. Enclosed is a memorandum of such cannon, &c. as I intend sending to *Cambridge*, also of such as are here. By a return from *Montreal* to General *Gage*, I find there are seven hundred and seventeen men in *Canada*, of the Seventh and Twenty-Sixth Regiments, including seventy which we have taken prisoners.

A List of Cannon, &c., taken at Crown Point.

|                                            |                               |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 iron 24-pounders,                        | 33 6 and 9-pounders, useless, |
| 1 do. do. useless,                         | 7 9 and 12 do. do.            |
| 1 brass do. serviceable,                   | 2 long 6 do. good,            |
| 4 iron 18-pounders, not examined,          | 2 short 6 do. bad,            |
| but appear good,                           | 3 do. do. not examined,       |
| 14 iron 12-pounders, do.                   | 3 do. do. useless,            |
| 4 French do. useless,                      | 1 English 13-inch mortar,     |
| 8 12 and 18 do. not examined,              | 1 French do.                  |
| but appear good,                           | 2 do. 8-inch do.              |
| 7 long 9-pounders, double fortified, good, | 2 8-inch howitzers.           |
| 12 long 9-pounders, serviceable,           |                               |
| 2 do. do. mounted,                         | 111                           |

A List of Cannon, &c., taken at Ticonderoga.

|                            |                                  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3 18-pounders, good,       | 19 swivels, good,                |
| 2 French do. bad,          | 2 wall pieces, good,             |
| 2 12-pounders, good,       | 2 French 12-pounders, bad,       |
| 6 12 do. double fortified, | 1 13-inch mortar, and bed, good, |
| good,                      | 1 7 do. do. good,                |
| 2 12 do. useless,          | 1 7-inch howitzer, good,         |
| 12 9 do. good,             |                                  |
| 5 9 do. bad,               | 86                               |
| 18 6 do. bad,              | =                                |
| 9 4 do. good,              | 28 iron truck wheels,            |
| 1 6 do. good,              | 10 carriages, fit for use.       |

N. B. I shall send to *Cambridge* the 24-pounders, 12 and 6-pounders, howitzers, &c., as directed by Colonel *Gridley*. Four brass howitzers in the edge of the Lake, and covered with water, cannot be come at at present.

BENEDICT ARNOLD.  
Return of Ordnance Stores found at Ticonderoga.

| Species of Stores.                      | Quality.                                 | Quantity.                  |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mortars, iron, and iron beds, . . . . . | 13-inch<br>6½ do.<br>18 lbs.<br>13<br>12 | 1<br>4<br>1<br>12          |
| Iron ordnance, dismounted, . . . . .    | 9<br>6<br>4<br>½<br>Patareroes           | 14<br>6<br>23<br>29<br>3   |
| Brass do. do. . . . .                   | 3 lbs.                                   | 2                          |
| Petards, brass, . . . . .               | -                                        | 2                          |
| Portfires, . . . . .                    | -                                        | 42                         |
| Ladles with staves, copper, . . . . .   | 18 lbs.<br>12<br>6                       | 2<br>1<br>2                |
| Ladles without staves, . . . . .        | 6                                        | 12                         |
| Ladles for swivels, . . . . .           | ½                                        | 2                          |
| Lintstocks with corks, . . . . .        | -                                        | 9                          |
| Do. without, . . . . .                  | -                                        | 8                          |
| Slow match, . . . . .                   | -                                        | -                          |
| Round, . . . . .                        | 18 lbs.<br>12<br>9<br>11<br>4            | 100<br>550<br>240<br>1,430 |
|                                         | Fixed to wooden bolts, . . . . .         | 12<br>165                  |
|                                         | Quilted grape, . . . . .                 | 8 9-in. how.<br>68         |
|                                         | Ball, . . . . .                          | Lead, tons<br>9            |
|                                         | Quilted grape, . . . . .                 | Iron, lbs.<br>3,700        |
| Do. . . . .                             | 6 lbs.<br>100                            |                            |
| Powder, whole barrels, . . . . .        | Swivel                                   | 20                         |
| Shells, . . . . .                       | Damaged                                  | 28                         |
|                                         | Royal                                    | 6                          |
|                                         | Grenades                                 | 906                        |
| Fusees, fixed, . . . . .                | 13-inch                                  | 166                        |
|                                         | 8 do.                                    | 168                        |
|                                         | Royal                                    | 128                        |
|                                         | Cohorns                                  | 240                        |
| Flints, . . . . .                       | Sorts                                    | 30,000                     |
| Leaden aprons, . . . . .                | Sorts                                    | 27                         |
| Crow-bar, . . . . .                     | -                                        | 1                          |
| Some other articles of little note.     |                                          |                            |
| Engineers' stores, none.                |                                          |                            |

By me, B. ROMANS, Engineer.  
TICONDEROGA, May 13, 1775.



## GENERAL WARD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

May 19, 1775.

SIR: It appears to me absolutely necessary that the Regiments be immediately settled; the officers commissioned; the soldiers numbered and paid, agreeable to what has been proposed by the Congress—if we would save our Country. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

A. WARD.

J. Warren, Esq., President of the Congress at Watertown.

## JAMES RUSSELL TO JOSEPH WARREN.

Charlestown, May 19, 1775.

SIR: I yesterday, by Major Fuller, Mr. Whittemore, and Mr. Bliss, received a Resolve of the Congress appointing them a Committee to call on me to know whether I have any of the publick moneys in my hands. In answer thereto, I would desire you, Sir, to inform the Provincial Congress, that the light money for several years past since the increase of light-houses, and more especially since the obstructions of the last year upon our trade, has not been sufficient to defray the expense of said houses; and I have consequently been under a necessity to apply the money arising from the Impost for that purpose. Ever since I received the favours of my Country, in being chosen to the Impost Office, I have done all in my power in the discharge of my duty therein to their satisfaction. The means of procuring oil, by the unhappy and increasing troubles of our Country, appearing very uncertain and precarious, I have endeavoured to purchase as large a stock as I could; and as the Impost Bill expired the first of March last, the publick moneys I have in my hands will not be more than sufficient to enable me to pay for the oil contracted for to complete for the present year.

Your most humble servant, JAMES RUSSELL.

Joseph Warren, Esq., President Provincial Congress.

## ABIJAH BROWN TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Watertown, May 19, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your order I have removed the cannon under my care at Waltham, to the Town of Watertown, and have delivered them to the Committee of Correspondence for the same Town; and shall have my company in readiness to march to Cambridge to-morrow morning. I am, gentlemen, with much respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

ABIJAH BROWN.

To the Hon. the Committee of Safety, at Cambridge.

## PETITION OF BENJAMIN THOMPSON.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of BENJAMIN THOMPSON, Esq., of Concord, in the Province of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, humbly sheweth:

That on Monday, the 15th instant, your petitioner was taken up and confined in this Town, upon suspicion of being inimical to the liberties of this Country; and that in consequence of his being taken up, the Committee of Correspondence for the Town, after having given publick notice of the time and place of hearing, and desired all persons that could give evidence to attend, proceeded to an examination of the affair, agreeable to the recommendation of the Honourable Provincial Congress. But as no person appeared to lay any thing of consequence to his charge; and as the Committee were not pleased either to acquit or condemn him; and as his own personal safety, as well as the quiet and satisfaction of the publick, but more especially of the people of New-Hampshire, depends on his having an acquittance after the most publick, thorough, and impartial examination, your petitioner humbly prays that the Committee of Safety would be pleased to take the matter into consideration, and examine the same; and that

they would be pleased to give notice of the time and place of hearing, not only to the people of New-Hampshire, and others that are in the Army at Cambridge, or elsewhere, but also that the publick in general, and the inhabitants of the Town of Concord, in the Province of New-Hampshire, and the adjacent Towns in particular, be desired to attend or send in depositions of what they know relative to the affair. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.,

BENJ. THOMPSON.

Woburn, May 19, 1775.

## NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

May 19, 1775.—A Committee of Safety was appointed by the Congress, consisting of the following persons, viz: Honourable Matthew Thornton, Doctor Josiah Bartlett, Esquire, Captain William Whipple, Nathaniel Folsom, Esquire, and Ebenezer Thompson, Esquire.

May 23, 1775.—The Committee of Safety was empowered by vote of the Congress to recommend persons they think proper for Chaplains, Surgeons, and Surgeons' Mates, and also to procure proper forms for enlisting Soldiers.

May 24, 1775.—Israel Morey and Samuel Ashley, Esquires, Captain Josiah Moulton, and Reverend Samuel Webster, were added to the Committee of Safety; and said Committee was empowered to issue orders for enlisting men sufficient for one Regiment, in the same manner as is practised in the Massachusetts-Bay, and receive returns of men enlisted as is done there.

Accordingly, the same day the Committee gave orders to Winborn Adams of Durham, Winthrop Rowe of Kensington, Henry Elkins of Hampton, Samuel Gilman of Newmarket, Philip Tilton of Kingston, Benjamin Titcomb of Dover, Jonathan Wentworth of Somersworth, Jeremiah Clough of Canterbury, James Norris of Epping, and Zaccheus Clough of Poplin, to enlist each a Company; which orders, &c., were of the forms following:

"In Committee of Safety,  
"Exeter, . . . 1775. }

"To . . . . .  
"SIR: You are hereby empowered immediately to enlist a Company, to consist of sixty-two able-bodied and effective men, well accoutred, including Sergeants, as Soldiers in the New-Hampshire service, for the preservation of American liberty, and cause them to pass muster as soon as possible. . . . . Chairman."

"Exeter, . . . 1775.

"Whereas you have this day received orders for enlisting sixty-two Soldiers well accoutred, including Sergeants, for the New-Hampshire service, for the preservation of the liberties of America, you are hereby acquainted that the commission of a Captain in said service shall be made out for you as soon as you have completed the said enlistment, and you will also be allowed to nominate two Subalterns to serve under you, who will receive commissions accordingly, if the Committee shall approve of them.

"By order of the Committee of Safety:

". . . . . Chairman."

## The Enlistment.

"We, the subscribers, do hereby severally solemnly engage and enlist ourselves as Soldiers in the New-Hampshire service for the preservation of the liberties of America, from the day of our enlistment to the last day of December next, unless the service should admit of a discharge of a part or the whole sooner, which shall be at the discretion of the Committee of Safety, and we hereby promise to submit ourselves to all the orders and regulations of the Army, and faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as we shall receive from time to time from our Officers. . . . .

". . . . . 1775."

## NEW-HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

At a Convention of Deputies from the several Towns in the Province of New-Hampshire, met at Exeter, the 17th day of May, 1775, the following persons from the

Towns, Parishes, and places respectively annexed to the several names being returned to sit as Members in this Convention, took their seats accordingly, viz:

PORTSMOUTH.—Captain William Whipple, Captain Wil-



*liam Pearn, Samuel Cutts, Esquire, Samuel Sherburne, Captain Pierce Long.*  
 NEWINGTON.—*Richard Downing, Esquire, Samuel Faban.*  
 GREENLAND.—*Clement March, Esquire, Major William Weeks, Captain Nathan Johnson.*  
 HAMPTON.—*Captain Josiah Moulton, Josiah Moulton, 3d.*  
 EXETER.—*General Nathaniel Folsom, Colonel Nicholas Gilman, Colonel Enoch Poor.*  
 STRATHAM.—*Deacon Stephen Boardman, Samuel Lane, Esquire.*  
 SOUTHAMPTON.—*Benjamin Brown.*  
 RYE.—*Samuel Knowles, Nathan Goss.*  
 NEWCASTLE.—  
 NEWMARKET.—*Captain Jeremiah Folsom, Mr. Edward Parsons.*  
 CHESTER.—*Stephen Morse, Captain Robert Wilson.*  
 HAMPTON-FALLS.—*Colonel Meshech Weare, Reverend Pain Wingate.*  
 SEABROOK.—*Henry Robie.*  
 NORTHAMPTON.—*Doctor Levi Dearborn, David Masten, Captain Abraham Drake.*  
 KENSINGTON.—*Captain Ezekiel Worthen.*  
 EPPING.—*Rev. Josiah Stearns, David Lawrence, Esq.*  
 BRENTWOOD.—*Samuel Dudley, Esquire, William Morrill, Esquire.*  
 POPLIN.—*Stephen Sleeper.*  
 KINGSTON and HAWK.—*Josiah Bartlett, Esquire.*  
 EAST KINGSTON.—*Nathaniel Batchelder, Esquire, Major Jacob Gale.*  
 SANDOWN.—*Jethro Sanborn, Esquire.*  
 PEMBROKE.—*David Gillman.*  
 DEERFIELD.—*Reverend Timothy Upham.*  
 BOW.—*Benjamin Noyes.*  
 HAMPSTEAD.—*Jonathan Carlton.*  
 PLAISTOW.—*Major Joseph Welsh.*  
 ATKINSON.—*John Webster, Daniel Poor.*  
 NEWTOWN.—*Joseph Bartlett, Esquire.*  
 NEW-SALEM.—*Caleb Dusten.*  
 PELHAM.—*James Gibson.*  
 NOTTINGHAM.—*Major Joseph Cilley, Lieutenant Thomas Bartlett.*  
 EPSOM.—*John McClary, Esquire.*  
 RAYMOND.—*John Dudley, Esquire.*  
 CANDIA.—*Samuel Moore, Esquire.*  
 LONDONDERRY.—*Matthew Thornton, Esquire, Mr. James McGregor.*  
 CONCORD.—*Timothy Walker, Junior.*  
 CANTERBURY.—*Reverend Abel Forster, Captain Jeremiah Clough.*  
 CHICHESTER.—*Captain John Cram.*  
 DUNBARTON.—*Colonel W . . . . .*  
 LOUDON.—*Nathan Batchelder, Esquire.*  
 NORTHWOOD.—*Sherburne Blake.*  
 MEREDITH.—*Ebenezer Smith, Esquire.*  
 DURHAM.—*George Frost, Esquire, Ebenezer Thompson, Esquire.*  
 MADBURY.—*John Wingate.*  
 LEE.—*Joseph Sias, Esquire, Smith Emerson.*  
 SANBORTON.—*Daniel Sanborn, Esquire.*  
 MOULTONBOROUGH.—*Adam Brown.*  
 GILMANTON.—*Antepas Gilman.*  
 ROCHESTER.—*Deacon James Knowles, Colonel John McDuffee.*  
 WAKEFIELD.—*Nathaniel Balsh.*  
 DOVER.—*Capt. Shadrach Hodgdon, Capt. Stephen Evans.*  
 SOMERSWORTH.—*Ichabod Rawlings, Esquire, Captain James Garvin.*  
 LITCHFIELD.—*Captain John Parker.*  
 HENNIKER.—*Timothy Gibson.*  
 COCKBOURN.—*Captain Abijah Learned.*  
 DUNSTABLE.—*Jonathan Lovewell, Esquire, Joseph Ayers, Noah Lovewell.*  
 MERRIMACK.—*Jacob McGaw.*  
 BOSCAWEN.—*Captain Henry Gerrish.*  
 GOFFSTOWN.—*Moses Reille.*  
 NORTH-IPSWICH.—*Richard Stephen Farrar.*  
 AMHERST.—*Paul Dudley Sergeant, Moses Parsons.*  
 BEDFORD.—*James Martin.*  
 TEMPLE.—*Reverend Samuel Webster.*  
 DUNBARTON.—*Captain Caleb Page.*  
 HOPKINTON.—*Reverend Elijah Fletcher.*

BARRINGTON.—*Lieutenant Samuel Hayes.*  
 WINDHAM.—*Lieutenant John Dinsmore.*  
 WILTON.—*Jonathan Martin, Jacob Abbot.*  
 MASON.—*Amos Daken.*  
 WEARE.—*Samuel Page.*  
 NOTTINGHAM WEST.—*Captain Abraham Page.*  
 LYNDSEBOROUGH.—*Ep. Putnam.*  
 NEW-BOSTON.—*Thomas Wilson.*  
 HOLLIS.—*Colonel John Hale, Deacon Enoch Noyes, Samuel Hobart, Esquire.*  
 PETERBOROUGH.—*William Smith.*  
 PLYMOUTH, CAMPTON, RUMNEY, and NEWCHESTER.—*Abel Webster.*  
 LYME.—*Jonathan Child.*  
 COCKERMOUTH.—*Samuel Haselton.*  
 ORFORD.—*Israel Morey, Esquire, Nathaniel Rogers.*  
 HANOVER.—*John Wheelock.*  
 LEBANON.—*Nehemiah Eastabrook.*  
 THORNTON.—*Matthew Thornton, Esquire.*  
 PLAINFIELD.—*Francis Smith.*  
 WESTMORELAND.—*Joseph Willbore.*  
 FITZWILLIAM.—*Reverend Benjamin Bridgeham.*  
 SWANSEY.—*Samuel Hill.*  
 DUBLIN.—*Joseph Greenwood.*  
 KEENE and SURRY.—*Timothy Ellis.*  
 CLAREMONT.—*Oliver Ashley.*  
 CORNISH.—*Samuel Chase, Esquire.*  
 PACKERFIELD.—*Dr. Nathaniel Breed, Eleazer Twitchell.*  
 WALPOLE.—*Thomas Sparhawk.*  
 WINCHESTER.—*Samuel Ashley, Esquire.*  
 SALISBURY.—*Matthew Pettingill.*  
 CHARLESTOWN.—*William Haywood.*  
 HAVERHILL.—*Captain Ephraim Weston.*  
 PIERMONT.—*Captain Richard Young.*  
 LANDAFF.—*Captain Nathaniel Hovey.*

— Wednesday, May 17, 1775.

The Members being called over and seated, proceeded as follows:

*Voted*, That the Honourable *Matthew Thornton, Esq.*, be President.

*Voted*, That *Ebenezer Thompson, Esq.*, be Secretary.

*Voted*, That as *Ebenezer Thompson, Esquire*, the elected Secretary, is not present, *Samuel Cutts, Esquire*, be Secretary *pro tempore*.

At the desire of the Convention, the Reverend Mr. *Stearns* made a prayer.

*Voted*, That those Members who did not produce certificates be allowed to sit in Convention until the adjournment; and if they do not then produce them, to be excluded.

*Voted*, That the Reverend Mr. *Stearns*, Colonel *Folsom*, Mr. President, *George Frost, Esquire*, Mr. *Wheelock*, Mr. *Sparhawk*, and the Reverend Mr. *Webster*, be a Committee to draw up Rules to be observed by the Members of this Convention while sitting, and present them as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That the aforesaid Committee, together with Mr. *Whipple* and Mr. *Cutts*, be a Committee to report what they think necessary to be done about establishing a Post-Office.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock in the morning.

— Thursday, May 18, 1775, A. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the following Rules be adopted and observed by the Members of this Convention while sitting:

"1st. That no person speak without asking leave of, and addressing himself to the President.

"2. That no Member speak while another is speaking.

"3. That no Member should speak a second time upon a point, if another person who has not spoke before, should desire to speak.

"4. That no Member make a new motion upon a point, until that which is under consideration is determined.

"5. That there be silence among the other Members while any one is speaking.

"6. That no Member absent himself more than half an hour without permission from the President.

"7. That on any matter of importance under considera-



tion of this body, on the request of the Members of ten Towns, the determination thereof shall be put off to the next day of sitting.

"8. That no Member speak without standing up."

A Letter being received from *Hunking Wentworth*, Esquire, Chairman of a Committee at *Portsmouth*, the same was read and ordered to lay.

*Voted*, That a Post-Office shall be established at *Portsmouth*, and that *Samuel Penhallow*, Esquire, shall be Postmaster, and that he, together with the Members from *Portsmouth*, shall be a Committee to agree with a Post Rider or Riders.

*Voted*, That *John Hale*, Esquire, be empowered in behalf of this Convention to proceed immediately to the City of *Albany*, or any other place he thinks proper, for the purpose of procuring Fire-Arms and Gunpowder for the use of this Province; and as the scarcity of money and suddenness of the occasion hinders this Convention from supplying Colonel *Hale* with cash for the said purpose, if Colonel *Hale* can obtain credit for said articles, this Convention pledges their honour and faith to pay said money at the time agreed by Colonel *Hale* and the vender or venders of the same.

*Voted*, That a number of men be raised in this Province to join in the common cause of defending our just rights and liberties.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Bartlett*, Captain *Whipple*, Colonel *Folsom*, Mr. President, Reverend Mr. *Webster*, Reverend Mr. *Stearns*, Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, Captain *Page*, *Moses Parsons*, Mr. *Wheelock*, Mr. *Rollings*, Reverend Mr. *Farrar*, Mr. *Morey*, Mr. *Gregor*, and Colonel *Ashley*, be a Committee to prepare and bring into this Convention a plan of ways and means for furnishing Troops, &c.

*Voted*, That the Reverend Mr. *Wingate*, Reverend Mr. *Fletcher*, and Mr. *Samuel Sherburn*, be a Committee to prepare a draught to be sent to the several Towns in this Province, respecting disputes about Tories.

Adjourned till eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, May 19, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The President being necessarily absent,

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts*, Esquire, be President *pro tempore*.

A Petition of Major *Andrew McClary*, praying redress of sundry grievances; read and ordered to lay for consideration.

A Letter from Colonel *John Stark*, requesting a supply of Fire-Arms for the Soldiers under his command; read and ordered to be put under the consideration of the Committee of Ways and Means.

1. *Voted unanimously*, That the good and wholesome Laws of this Province be faithfully supported, and that all persons assist the Justices thereof in the due execution of their office.

2. That in these times of general distress, it is recommended to the inhabitants of this Province, that they encourage all Religious Worship, and that they, by all means, discountenance all manner of vice, and especially the profanation of the *Sabbath*, which is and has been a growing evil, and that all officers exert themselves for the above purpose.

3. That it is enjoined on all Planters and Farmers that they pay the strictest attention to Agriculture, that, with the blessings of kind Heaven, the sore calamities of famine may not be added to our present distress; and that to encourage the Woollen Manufactory, they kill no Lambs before the first of *August* next; likewise that they raise as much Flax as possible.

4. That as the Linen and Woollen goods will be much in demand, it is recommended that those who have abilities employ all persons who are acquainted with those manufactures; likewise, that extravagance and dissipation of every kind be discountenanced.

5. That encouragement be given for the making of Saltpetre, by granting a Bounty of One Shilling per pound for the first hundred weight; and that the said Bounty be continued as long as this Congress shall think proper.

6. That whereas many persons, who, through inadvertency, wilful malice, or immoderate heat, have thrown out many opprobrious expressions respecting the several Congresses, and the methods of security they have thought proper to adopt, and thereby have made themselves obnoxious to the inhabitants of this Province, it is therefore recommended that the Committees of the several Towns have a watchful eye over all such persons; and they shall be the proper persons only to take cognizance thereof, and that their result be final; and that proper complaint being made to either of the Committee, they make the most speedy and critical inquiry thereof, in order to prevent riots and mobs, and that they discountenance the same.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment,

The Convention being informed that a Committee from the Convention of the *Massachusetts-Bay* were waiting to deliver a message to this Convention,

*Voted*, That Mr. President, Colonel *Folsom*, Colonel *Bartlett*, Captain *Whipple*, Mr. *Cutts*, Mr. *Stearns*, and Captain *McDuffee*, be a Committee to wait on those gentlemen, and introduce them into the Convention, and further converse with them relative to their mission.

The Honourable *Joseph Gerrish*, Esquire, and Colonel *Ebenezer Sawyer*, a Committee from the *Massachusetts Congress*, were introduced and delivered a Letter to the President from the President of the Congress, together with a copy of an application by them made to the Continental Congress, both of which are on file.

*Voted*, That the Selectmen of the respective Towns where the persons enlisted under Colonel *Stark*, who are destitute of Fire-Arms, belong, be desired to procure the same and forward them to the persons so destitute, and if such Towns cannot furnish them, Colonel *Stark*, or any of the Officers under him, are desired to purchase the same, and upon a just account thereof being rendered to this Convention, it shall be allowed and paid. And Colonel *Stark* is desired, as soon as circumstances will permit, to transmit to this Convention what shall be done in consequence of this Vote; and every Soldier supplied as aforesaid is required to give a receipt for such Fire-Arm that he will, at his dismission from the service, return the same, or have the value thereof deducted out of his wages.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Enoch Poor*, Captain *Ezekiel Worthen*, and Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, be a Committee to fix immediately on Carriages fit for the field eight Cannon, out of such as they think most serviceable among those that may be found for that purpose.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, May 20, 1775, A. M.

Met according to adjournment, and came to the following Resolutions, viz:

Whereas by the late Acts of the *British Parliament*, and conduct of the Ministers in pursuance thereof, it appears very evident that a plan is laid and now pursuing to subjugate this and the other *American Colonies* to the most abject slavery, and the late hostilities committed by the *British Troops* in our sister Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, leaves us no doubt in determining that no other way is left us to preserve our most darling rights and inestimable privileges but by immediately defending them by arms. Reduced, therefore, by this most terrible necessity, this Convention, after the most solemn deliberations thereon, have,

1. *Resolved*, That it is necessary to raise immediately two thousand effective Men in this Province, including Officers and those of this Province already in the service, and that the time from their enlistment continue to the last day of *December*, unless the Committee of Safety should judge it proper that a part or the whole be discharged sooner.

2. That every Member pledge his honour and estate, in the name of his constituents, to pay their proportion of maintaining and paying the Officers and Soldiers of the above number while in their service.

3. That application be made immediately to the Continental Congress for their advice and assistance respecting means and ways to put the above plan into execution.

4. That the establishment of Officers and Soldiers shall be the same as in the *Massachusetts-Bay*.



5. That the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts within this Colony be desired to furnish the Soldiers, who shall enlist from their respective Towns and Districts, with good and sufficient Blankets, and render their accounts to the Committee of Supplies.

6. That if it should appear that the above number of men is not our full proportion with the other Governments, that this Convention will be ready to make a proper addition for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the persons who took away and secured for the use of this Government, a quantity of Gunpowder, from the Castle called *William and Mary*, in this Province.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Thornton*, Colonel *Bartlett*, Captain *Whipple*, Colonel *Folsom*, and *Ebenezer Thompson*, be a Committee of Safety, and that their Instructions be deferred until next week.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, *Samuel Cutts*, Esquire, *Ichabod Rawlings*, Esquire, Mr. *Timothy Walker*, Junior, Doctor *John Giddinge*, Mr. *Thomas Sparhawk*, and Colonel *John Hale*, be a Committee of Supplies, and that the giving them necessary Instructions be deferred until next week.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Nicholas Gilman* and Mr. *Poor* be a Committee to sell any quantity of Gunpowder, not exceeding four barrels, to such frontier Towns in this Province as they shall think most need it.

*Voted*, That the Reverend Mr. *Stearns*, the Reverend Mr. *Webster*, and Mr. *Josiah Moulton* the third, be a Committee to make a draught of a Letter in answer to one received from the Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, as also a Letter to the Continental Congress, and lay the same before this Convention as soon as may be.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, three o'clock in the afternoon.

Monday, May 22, 1775, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The President being absent,

*Voted*, That Colonel *Folsom* be President *pro tempore*.

The Secretary being absent,

*Voted*, That *Thomas Sparhawk* be Secretary *pro tempore*.

*Voted*, That *John Ackerman* be brought before this body for examination.

*Voted*, That the examination of *John Ackerman*, *Benjamin Hart*, and *John Pierce*, be referred to the Committees of *Portsmouth*, *Greenland*, and *Rye*, and that if they find any thing worthy of notice, they make report to this body as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That *John Ackerman* be committed to Jail, and there remain until to-morrow morning.

*Voted*, That Major *Samuel Hobart* and Mr. *Enoch Poor* be Muster Masters for the present, and that they repair to *Cambridge*, as soon as may be, and the places thereabouts in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and regularly muster all the men enlisted in the several Companies in the Regiment commanded by Colonel *John Stark*, and that no men be accepted but those who are able-bodied effective men; also to inquire if any other men are enlisted by any other person or persons, and muster them, if any there be, and receive such only as are good effective men, and inform the Officers by whom such men are enlisted, that they immediately repair to the Committee of Safety at *Exeter*, there to represent the matter and receive instructions.

*Voted*, That it be left discretionary with the Muster Masters, how long men that have already enlisted into the Province service unarmed, shall continue there; and that those gentlemen are desired to make inquiry where Provisions, Chirurgeon's Instruments, and Medicine can be procured, and upon what terms; also that they be desired to obtain the Rules of the several Committees of Safety and Supplies; and further to inform the Committee or Congress that there is a Post Office established at *Exeter*, and to know if their Post Rider, who comes to *Haverhill*, will proceed to the Post Office here; and report to the Convention as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That the two thousand men this body have agreed to raise be equally divided into three Regiments.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Fenton* be desired personally to appear and inform this body concerning the subject-matter of his Letter to the people of the County of *Grafton*.

Adjourned till to-morrow eight o'clock, A. M.

Tuesday, May 23, 1775, A. M.

*Voted*, That the Secretary prepare a List of the Delegates to keep a proper account of their daily attendance.

*Voted*, That there be a Post Office in *Exeter*.

*Voted*, That the Reverend Mr. *Farrar*, Mr. *Sparhawk*, and Mr. *Edward Parsons*, be added to the Committee for preparing a Letter to the Continental Congress.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Nathaniel Folsom* be appointed to take the general command of the men that may be raised, or are already raised in this Government, for this season.

*Voted*, That *Josiah Moulton*, 3d, be added to the Committee of Supplies.

*Voted*, That there be procured some suitable person to officiate as Chaplain to each Regiment in the service.

*Voted*, That there be a Surgeon and Surgeon's Mate procured for each Regiment.

*Voted*, That it be left to the Committee of Safety to recommend persons they think proper for Chaplains, Surgeons, and Surgeon's Mates.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety procure proper forms for enlisting Soldiers, &c.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Nicholas Gilman* be Treasurer and Receiver-General of this Colony, and that he, with two sufficient sureties, give bond to the Honourable *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., President of this Congress, or his successor in that office, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

*Voted*, That there be raised, levied, and paid by the inhabitants of this Province, in the same proportion as was last used in levying and proportioning the Taxes of this Province, the sum of Three Thousand Pounds, lawful money, and paid unto *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., of *Exeter*, as Treasurer appointed by this Convention, by the first day of *November* next.

*Voted*, That all Officers and Soldiers employed in the service shall be taxed as other persons are, according to their ability.

Adjourned till to-morrow, nine o'clock in the morning.

Wednesday, May 24, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety recommend three persons for Field-Officers in the Regiment now to be raised.

*Voted*, That it be recommended to the several Towns in this Government to encourage Manufactures in general, and that of Fire-Arms in particular.

*Voted*, That there be added to the Committee of Safety one from the County of *Hillsborough*, one from *Cheshire*, and one from *Grafton*.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Enoch Poor* be the first in command in the Second Regiment to be raised, under Colonel *Folsom*; Captain *John McDuffee* to be second, and Captain *Joseph Cilley* the third.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Cutts*, Mr. *Wheelock*, and Mr. *Walker*, be a Committee to examine into the state of our late Treasurer, Doctor *Giddinge's* Account.

*Voted*, That *Israel Morey*, Esq., be one of the Committee of Safety.

*Voted*, That Captain *Josiah Moulton* be one of the Committee of Safety.

*Voted*, That Mr. *James McGregory* be added to the Committee of Supplies.

*Voted*, That the same forms for enlisting men in the several parts, to be used here as in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, *mutatis mutandis*.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety be empowered to issue orders for enlisting men sufficient for one Regiment, in the same manner as is practised in the *Massachusetts-Bay*; and receive returns of men enlisted, in the same manner as there.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock in the morning.



Thursday, May 25, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Messrs. *Samuel Sherburn*, *Pierce Long*, *John Dudley*, Esq., be a Committee to bring in a draught empowering the Committee of Safety and Committee of Supplies to act in the recess of this Congress; and also to recommend to this body some suitable person for a Commissary.

*Voted*, That the Rev. Mr. *Farrar* and the Rev. Mr. *Stearns* be added to the above-mentioned Committee.

*Voted*, That *Moses Emerson*, Esq., be Commissary for the Army.

*Voted*, That the Congress sit by adjournment from day to day, till the return of the Committee from *Cambridge*.

Friday, May 26, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, The following Instructions to the Committee of Safety: That the Committee of Safety be empowered and directed, in the recess of the Congress, to take under their consideration all matters in which the welfare of the Province in the security of their rights shall be concerned, except the appointment of the Field-Officers, and take the utmost care that the publick sustain no damage; and that they act in the following manner:

1st. That they see to it that whatever plans have been determined upon by the Congress to be immediately carried into execution, which have not been entrusted to the management of any particular persons or Committee, shall be executed by such persons, and in such ways, as the Committee shall judge best.

2d. If any exigence not provided for by the Congress requires immediate attention—such as marching Troops raised to repel an invasion in any part, or directing the motions of the Militia within the Province, or without the Province, with their own consent for the same purpose; or make use of any special advantage for securing Military Stores, or securing any important Post, or preventing our enemies from securing advantageous Posts, or from obtaining Military Stores or Provisions—immediately they shall take the most prudent and effectual method to accomplish the above and similar purposes.

3d. That they be and hereby are empowered and directed to apply to the Committee of Supplies for the necessary Stores, Provisions, &c., for the effectual carrying the aforesaid Instructions into execution.

*Voted*, That a copy of Colonel *Fenton's* Letters which have been read in Congress; also, a copy of a Letter from the Congress to Colonel *Fenton*, be sent to the Towns of *Portsmouth*, *Greenland*, and *Rye*.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That a Company, not exceeding sixty men, in the Northwestern parts of this Colony, be forthwith enlisted, to be ready to act as occasion may require; that at present a small party of them, not exceeding ten men at a time, be employed to guard the passes and gain intelligence; and that those only who are in actual service shall be under pay; and that the enlisting and further directing them be referred to the Committee of Safety.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Supplies be empowered and directed to furnish the Commissary with whatever Military Stores and Provisions the Committee of Safety shall think necessary. And that they and each of them be empowered to take up such Stores, &c., on the faith of this Colony, on the best terms, and from such person or persons as they can procure them; and also that they, or the major part of them, be empowered to borrow, on the faith of this Colony, any sum not exceeding Ten Thousand Pounds, lawful money, as the Committee find necessary, to answer the directions from the Committee of Safety. And this Convention, for themselves and constituents, plight their faith and estates to said Committee of Supplies, as their bondmen to all intents and purposes, for the payment of whatever sum they hire or borrow in consequence of this Vote.

Adjourned to Wednesday, ten o'clock, A. M.

Wednesday, May 31, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the division of the two thousand men raised

and to be raised in this Colony, into Regiments and Companies, be referred to the Committee of Safety, for them to report their opinion to the Congress as soon as may be. Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee of Safety reported as their opinion, that the two thousand men be divided into three Regiments, and each Regiment into ten Companies, as equally as can conveniently be done.

*Voted*, That the foregoing Report be received, and that the Regiments and Companies be divided accordingly.

*Voted*, That the enlisting men in this Colony by persons belonging to any other, is a wrong measure, and ought to be discouraged.

A Petition being read, signed by twelve persons, praying that *James Read*, Esq., might not be commissioned in the Army, as he had, heretofore, shown himself inimical to the liberty of his Country; and no person appearing to prove or enforce the Petition, voted that it be dismissed.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Congress be given to the party who this day have removed sundry Cannon from the sea-coast in this Colony, to the Town of *Portsmouth*, and to Doctor *Hall Jackson* in particular, for assisting in the matter and bringing us the intelligence.

*Voted*, That Major *Hobart* be Muster-Master to muster Captain *Adams's* Company.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock.

Thursday, June 1, 1775.

*Voted*, That two Companies, as soon as they can be properly mustered and equipped, be sent to guard the sea-coast for the present.

*Voted*, That the two Companies first equipped and mustered, be sent to guard the sea-coast.

*Voted*, That there be three Field-Officers appointed for each Regiment, exclusive of the General Officers.

The complaint of *Joseph Reille* against Major *Hobart*, read and considered.

*Voted*, That the Petition or complaint be dismissed.

*Voted*, That Major *Hobart* be empowered to administer the same oath to Soldiers in the common service, as has been taken in the *Massachusetts* service.

*Voted*, That *James Reed*, Esq., be appointed Colonel of a Regiment.

*Voted*, That *Israel Gilman*, Esq., be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of Colonel *Reed's* Regiment.

*Voted*, That *Nathan Hale* be Major of the aforesaid Regiment.

Whereas in the course of the present disputes it may be necessary to import on the risk of the Colony a quantity of Military Stores:

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they hereby are empowered and directed to import or cause to be imported from any place whatever, such and so many Stores aforesaid, not exceeding the value of three thousand Pounds, lawful money, and the same to risk at their discretion, with or without making insurance on the vessels or cargoes which may be so employed, sent out, or imported.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety be empowered to give out Enlisting Orders to ten persons to enlist each a company of sixty-two Soldiers, including non-commissioned officers, to make a Regiment, to be under the command of Colonel *James Reed*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of *Portsmouth*, together with Captain *Ezekiel Worthen*, be desired to provide a number of Fascines; and also to procure proper Carriages for those Guns removed from *Jerry's Point*; and also such other materials as they may think necessary for erecting a Battery to hinder the passage of Ships up to the Town; and also that they endeavour, if it can be done with secrecy and safety, to get what Shot may be at the Fort at *Newcastle*; and that all those matters be done with the utmost secrecy the matter will allow of, and then determine upon some suitable place for a Battery, where the materials, when completed, may suddenly be removed to.

Whereas his Excellency the Governour of this Colony, in calling a General Assembly, to meet at *Portsmouth* in *February* last, required three new Towns that had never sent Members before to elect persons to represent them in said Assembly, and as said Assembly are to sit by adjourn-



ment on the 12th instant, this Congress are of opinion that the Governour's assuming the right of sending to such new Towns, as he thinks fit without concurrence of the other branches of the Legislature, is unconstitutional and subversive of the rights and privileges of the good people of this Colony, and the establishing such a precedent may leave room for some designing Governour to occasion a very partial representation of the people by sending to small Towns, and omitting large ones with many other evils:

*Therefore do resolve further,* That it is the opinion of Congress, that the persons called and elected as aforesaid, ought not to be allowed a seat in the House of Representatives of this Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, June 2, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted,* That the Committee of Supplies be desired to apply, and obtain the quantity and quality of the Powder brought from the Fort *William* and *Mary*, also take it into their possession, and lay the state of it before the Committee of Safety.

Adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment, three o'clock, P. M.

An Address to the inhabitants of this Colony, voted and is on file.

Saturday, June 3, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted,* An Address to the Congress of *New-York* respecting the Fort at *Ticonderoga*, and our sending Men upon the Frontiers, &c.

*Voted,* An Address to the Congress at *Watertown* respecting the same.

*Voted,* An Address to the Colony of *Connecticut* respecting the same.

*Voted,* An Address to the Continental Congress respecting the Fort at *Ticonderoga*, &c.

*Voted,* An Address to our Delegates, *John Sullivan* and *John Langdon*, Esquires, respecting the same.

Copies of all which on file.

*Voted,* That *John Stark* be the Colonel of the First Regiment.

*Voted,* That *Isaac Wyman* be Lieutenant-Colonel of the same Regiment.

*Voted,* That *Andrew McClary* be Major of the Third Regiment.

*Voted,* That *Thursday* fortnight be recommended as a day of Fasting and Prayer in this Colony.

*Voted,* That General *Folsom*, as Brigadier-General and first commander of the *New-Hampshire* Forces, under the Commander-in-Chief of the *New-England* Army, be allowed the same wages as a Brigadier-General shall receive in the *Massachusetts* service, both as General and commander of a Regiment, while in actual service, and that he have no particular Regiment of his own, but equally command all the *New-Hampshire* Forces; and that ten Companies of the Regiment, of sixty-two men each, now at *Medford*, in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, be the first or oldest Regiment.

Whereas, at the particular desire of the people on the western frontiers of this Colony, a vote was passed by this Congress the 26th instant, to raise a Company of sixty men, under such directions and restrictions as is therein expressed; and at their special request it is now thought necessary to alter that establishment, and augment the number:

*Therefore, voted,* That a Company of sixty men be raised of the inhabitants of said frontiers, to be commissioned by the Committee of Safety; and that they, and two Companies out of the two thousand men raised in this Colony, be stationed as soon as the Committee of Supplies procure Stores for them, by the Committee of Safety on said frontiers, and remain until further orders.

Monday, June 5, 1775.

Met according to adjournment, three o'clock, P. M.

But few Members present, adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Tuesday, June 6, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted,* That all Officers and Soldiers of the *New-Hampshire* Army, now raising for the defence and security of the rights and liberties of this and our sister Colonies in *America*, shall each and every of them (excepting the General Officers,) repeat and take the following oath, viz:

"I, A B, swear I will truly and faithfully serve in the *New-Hampshire* Troops to which I belong, for the defence and security of the estates, lives, and liberties of the good people of this and the sister Colonies of *America*, in opposition to ministerial tyranny by which they are or may be oppressed, and to all other enemies and opposers whatsoever; that I will adhere to the Rules and Regulations of said Army, observe and obey the General and other officers set over me, and disclose and make known to said officers all traitorous conspiracies, attempts, and designs whatsoever, which I shall know to be made against said Army, or any of the *English American* Colonies. So help me God."

*Voted,* To raise one Artillery Company, to be at *Portsmouth*.

*Voted,* That the Committee of Safety look out and commission the best men they can find, as officers of the said Artillery Company.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

Whereas a vote passed on the third instant, respecting General *Folsom's* wages, and that of ranking Colonel *Stark's* Regiment: *Voted,* That that part of said vote, which respects General *Folsom's* wages, be reconsidered; and instead thereof, voted that General *Folsom*, as chief commander of the *New-Hampshire* Forces, under the Commander-in-Chief of the *New-England* Forces, be allowed the wages of a Colonel of a Regiment, and such other allowances as this Convention may think proper hereafter.

*Voted,* That Captain *Elkins's* Company be for the present placed upon the sea-coast.

*Voted,* That the Proclamation for a Fast on the 22d instant be sent to the press, and from thence sent to all the Towns in the Colony.

*Voted,* That the Artillery Company consist of sixty-five men, including officers, to be at *Portsmouth*.

*Voted,* That the Committee of Safety appoint Muster Masters.

Adjourned till eight o'clock to-morrow.

Wednesday, June 7, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted,* That every transaction which this Convention thinks expedient should be kept as a profound secret, we do hereby solemnly promise and oblige ourselves strictly to conform to, and not communicate upon any pretence whatsoever, unless by leave of this Congress.

Adjourned till eight o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, June 8, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted,* An Address to the inhabitants of this Colony be sent to the press, respecting lenity by creditors to their debtors, &c.

Colonel *Hale* returned, got no Powder or Small-Arms, but gives us great encouragement that we shall have some soon from the Southern Colonies; and that Powder is made at *Philadelphia* in such quantities, that two hundred barrels is made in a day; and that Provisions are plenty and cheap in *Connecticut*, and that quantities are now transporting to *Cambridge*.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted,* That Captain *Page* and Colonel *Stark*, from *Dunbarton*, have a hearing before this Convention the second day of sitting, after adjournment, for any time longer than from *Saturday* to *Monday*.

*Voted,* That the sum of Fifty Pounds be paid by the Treasurer of this Colony to any inhabitant of said Colony who shall manufacture the largest quantity of Saltpetre, not less than one hundred weight, within one year from this



date: also the sum of six pence per pound for every pound above ten pound (excepting that person who receives the bounty of fifty Pounds) manufactured by any person within said Colony, in the said year, and that the Committee of Supplies be directed and empowered to examine any quantity offered, and to draw on the Treasurer agreeable to this Resolve, or some other Committee who shall be particularly empowered for this purpose.

Whereas a number of the Towns of this Colony have not yet paid into the hands of *George Jaffrey, Esq.*, their Province Tax:

*Resolved*, That the Constables and Collectors of said Towns be, and hereby are directed to pay said money into the hands of Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, Receiver-General for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, who is authorized to receive and give receipts for the same.

*Voted*, That Deacon *Samuel Books* be Postmaster for this Town.

Adjourned till eight o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, June 9, 1775.

*Voted*, That *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esquire, and Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, be a Committee to procure the plates, and see the Notes struck off. Adjourned to three o'clock.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General of this Colony, appointed by this Congress, be hereby empowered to give his notes of hand on the faith of the Colony, payable to the possessor, for the sum of Ten Thousand and Fifty Pounds, of the present currency, or lawful money, to be paid into the Treasury aforesaid by a Tax on the polls and estates of the inhabitants of this Colony, in the following manner, viz: four thousand Pounds to be paid by the twentieth *December*, which will be in the year of our Lord 1776, and six per cent. interest from the date; and the sum of three thousand Pounds the twentieth *December*, 1777, and three thousand and fifty Pounds the twentieth *December*, 1778. And the said notes shall be struck by copper-plate, to be engraved under the direction of this Congress for the several sums following, to complete said sum of Ten Thousand and Fifty Pounds, viz: Six thousand Pounds in Forty Shilling notes; three thousand Pounds in Twenty Shilling notes; nine hundred Pounds in Six Shilling notes, and one hundred and fifty Pounds in One Shilling notes; and the form of said notes to be in the following words, with such other devices as may be ordered by the Congress, viz:

"Colony of New-Hampshire, }  
No. . . June 20, 1775. }

"The possessor of this note shall be entitled to receive, out of the Treasury of this Colony, the sum of . . . . Shillings, lawful money, on the twentieth of *December*, 177-, with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum; and this note shall be received in all payments at the Treasury at any time after the date hereof, for the principal sum,

#### ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Anne Arundel County*, at *Pigg Point*, on *Saturday*, the twentieth of *May*, at the request of Mr. *David Weems, Jr.*; *Joseph Galloway, Esq.*, in the Chair. Present: Mr. *Thomas Tillard*, *Thomas Deale*, *Marmaduke Wyvill*, *Thomas Tongue*, *Robert Brown*, *William Tillard*, *Edward Tillard*, *Samuel Harrison*, and *John Stewart*.

Mr. *Weems* desired to know if he might procure some articles that he had occasion for, of any of the masters of ships, particularly an anchor and cable of Captain *David Carcaud*, of the Ship *Industry*.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that Mr. *Weems*, nor any other person, can, consistent with the letter and spirit of the Association of the Continental Congress, purchase or receive the same.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Carcaud* cannot sell, or in any manner dispose of, or land the aforesaid anchor and cable, or any rigging, sails, or other goods he may have on board

without interest, if so paid before the said twentieth day of *December*, A. D. 177-.

S. T.

N. G.

And the Treasurer or Committee who shall number the same, shall fill the blank left for time of payment in a number of bills sufficient to complete four thousand Pounds, with the figure 6, and number to complete three thousand Pounds with the figure 7, and the remainder with the figure 8. And the said Notes, when brought unto said Receiver-General and paid by him, shall, after the said time fixed for payment, be burnt to ashes in the presence of the Congress of this Colony.

|       |         |        |
|-------|---------|--------|
| 3,000 | 40s. is | £6,000 |
| 3,000 | 20s. is | 3,000  |
| 3,000 | 6s. is  | 900    |
| 3,000 | 1s. is  | 150    |

£10,050 lawful money.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow.

Saturday, June 10, 1775.

*Voted*, That all Bills of Credit on the faith of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, have a free currency in this Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

*Voted*, That the President of the Congress be empowered to sign any papers in the recess of the Congress, which it is necessary should be signed by him as President, and in particular the commissions to all officers appointed for the Army belonging to this Colony.

*Voted*, That one month's wages be paid to all the officers and soldiers in the pay of this Colony as soon as may be, and that prior thereto the Paymaster administer to each of the said officers and soldiers the oath appointed by this Congress.

*Voted*, That *George Frost, Esq.*, be one of the Committee with *Ebenezer Thompson, Esq.*, instead of Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, to procure the plate, see the money struck off, signed, and delivered to the Receiver-General.

This body having taken into consideration the great stagnation of Trade, and the difficulty to which their constituents are reduced by the unhappy dispute with *Great Britain*, as to the turning either their real or personal estates into cash, think it necessary to recommend for the present all possible lenity and forbearance in creditors towards those who may stand indebted to them, but that they avoid multiplying suits at law, and especially the carrying them to such length as the levying execution on real estates, which must, in this case, in our apprehension, be sold much below their real value. We most particularly recommend this lenity and forbearance in reference to such who have or may engage as officers and soldiers in the defence of the invaded rights and liberties of *America*; and we further recommend to debtors all possible care and endeavour to discharge to the utmost of their power all just demands upon them.

Adjourned to the twenty-seventh instant.

his ship, to any person within the Province of *Maryland*, or any part of *America*.

*Ordered*, That this be printed in the *Maryland Gazette*.  
J. STEWART, Clerk.

Newcastle, Delaware, May 20, 1775.

This day, agreeable to appointment, the Captains and Subaltern Officers of *Newcastle County* met at *Christiana Bridge* to choose Commanders, when the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

For the Upper Division.

*James McKinley, Esq.*, Colonel;  
*James Latimer, Esq.*, Lieutenant Colonel;  
*Thomas Duff, Esq.*, Major.

For the Lower Division.

*Thomas Gooch, Esq.*, Colonel;  
*Samuel Patterson, Lieutenant Colonel*;  
*Gunning Bedford, Major*.



## TO THE DELEGATES OF NEW-JERSEY IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read before Congress May 27, 1775.]

House of Assembly, New-Jersey, }  
May 20, 1775. }

His Excellency having laid before the House a copy of the Resolution of the honourable House of Commons of *Great Britain*, of the twentieth of *February*, 1775, containing a plan formed for the accommodation of the unhappy differences between our Parent State and the Colonies, which plan, under the present circumstances, this House could not comply with and adopt; and yet this House, being desirous of making use of all proper means to effect a reconciliation, do recommend it to their Delegates to lay the same plan before the Continental Congress for their consideration.

A true copy from the Journals:

RICHARD SMITH, *Clerk of Assembly*.

## COLONEL GUY JOHNSON TO THE MAGISTRATES AND OTHERS OF PALATINE, ETC., TRYON COUNTY, N. Y.

Guy Park, May 20, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have lately had repeated accounts that a body of *New-Englanders* or others were to come to seize and carry away my person, and attack our family, under colour of malicious insinuation that I intend to set the *Indians* upon the people. Men of sense and character know that my office is of the highest importance to promote peace amongst the *Six Nations*, and prevent their entering into any such dispute. This I effected last year when they were much vexed about the attack made upon the *Shawanese*, and I last winter appointed them to meet me this month, to receive the answer of the *Virginians*. And all men must allow, that if the *Indians* find their council fire disturbed, and their Superintendent insulted, they will take a dreadful revenge. It is therefore the duty of all people to prevent this, and to satisfy any who may have been imposed on, that their suspicions, and the allegations they have collected against me, are false and inconsistent with my character and office.

I recommend this to you as highly necessary at this time, as my regard for the interest of the Country, and self-preservation, has obliged me to fortify my house, and keep men armed for my defence, till these idle and ridiculous reports are removed. You may lay this letter before such as are interested in those matters. I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

G. JOHNSON.

To the Magistrates and others of *Palatine, Canajoharie*, and the Upper Districts.

## COLONEL GUY JOHNSON TO THE MAGISTRATES OF SCHENECTADY AND ALBANY.

Guy Park, May, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As the peace and happiness of the Country are objects that every good man should have at heart, I think it highly necessary to acquaint you, that for a few days I have been put to the great trouble and expense of fortifying my house, and keeping a large body of men for the defence of my person; and have received repeated accounts that either the *New-Englanders*, or some persons in or about the City of *Albany* or Town of *Schenectady*, are coming up, to a considerable number, to seize and imprison me on a ridiculous and malicious report that I intend to make the *Indians* destroy the inhabitants, or to that effect. The absurdity of this apprehension may easily be seen by men of sense; but as many credulous and ignorant persons may be led astray and inclined to believe it, and as they have already sent down accounts, examinations, &c., from busy people here, that I can fully prove to be totally devoid of all foundation, it is become the duty of all those who have authority or influence, to disabuse the publick, and prevent consequences which I foresee with very great concern, and most cordially wish may be timely prevented. Any differences in political ideas can never justify such extravagant opinions; and I little imagined that they should have gained belief amongst any order of people who know my character, station, and the large property I have in the country, and the duties of my office, which are to preserve tranquillity amongst the *Indians*, hear their grievances, &c.,

and prevent them from falling upon the trade and frontiers. These last were greatly threatened by the *Indians* on account of the disturbances last year between the *Virginians* and *Shawanese*; during which, my endeavours prevented the *Six Nations* from taking a part that would have sensibly affected the publick; and I appointed last fall that the *Six Nations* should come to me this month, in order to receive, amongst other things, final satisfaction concerning the lands said to be invaded by the *Virginians*, who have now sent me their answer. In the discharge of this duty, I likewise essentially serve the publick. But should I neglect myself, and be tamely made prisoner, it is clear to all who know any thing of *Indians*, they will not sit still and see their Council fire extinguished, and Superintendent driven from his duty, but will come upon the frontiers, in revenge, with a power sufficient to commit horrid devastation. It is therefore become as necessary to the publick, as to myself, that my person should be defended. But as the measures I am necessitated to take for that purpose may occasion the propagation of additional falsehoods, and may at last appear to the *Indians* in a light that is not for the benefit of the publick, I should heartily wish, gentlemen, that you could take such measures for removing these apprehensions, as may enable me to discharge my duties (which do not interfere with the publick) without the protection of armed men and the apprehension of insult; and as the publick are much interested in this, I must beg to have your answer as soon as possible. I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

G. JOHNSON.

To the Magistrates and Committee of *Schenectady*, and to the Mayor, Corporation, &c., of *Albany*; to be forwarded by the former.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF RHODE-ISLAND.

Providence, Rhode-Island, May 20, 1775.

Whereas the Ministry and Parliament of *Great Britain*, sacrificing the glory and happiness of their Sovereign, and the good of *Britain* and the Colonies, to their own ambitious and lucrative views, have entered into many arbitrary illegal resolutions, for depriving His Majesty's subjects in *America* of every security for the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property; and have sent, and are still sending, Troops and Ships-of-War into these Colonies, to enforce their tyrannical mandates, and have actually begun to shed the blood of the innocent people of these Colonies; in consequence whereof, this Assembly, at the session held on the twenty-second of *April* last, passed an Act for raising fifteen hundred men, as an Army of Observation, and to assist any of our sister Colonies:

And whereas the Honourable *Joseph Wanton*, Esquire, then Governour of this Colony, did enter a Protest against the said Act, conceived in such terms as highly to reflect upon the General Assembly, and upon the united opposition of all *America*, to the aforesaid tyrannical measures: And whereas the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esquire, hath neglected to issue a Proclamation for the due observation of *Thursday*, the eleventh of *May* instant, as a day of fasting and prayer, agreeable to an Act passed at the said session: And whereas the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esq., hath been elected to the office of Governour of this Colony for the present year, and been duly notified by this Assembly, notwithstanding which, he has not attended at this General Assembly, and taken the oath required by law: And whereas the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esquire, hath positively refused to sign the commissions for the officers appointed to command the Troops so ordered to be raised. By all which he hath manifested his intention to defeat the good people of these Colonies in their present glorious struggle to transmit inviolate to posterity those sacred rights they have received from their ancestors:

Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted, That the Deputy-Governour and Assistants be, and they are hereby forbid to administer the oath of office to the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esq., unless in free and open General Assembly, according to the unvaried practice of this Colony, and with the assent of such Assembly; that until the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esq., shall have taken the oath of office as aforesaid, it shall not be lawful for him to act as Governour of this Colony in any case whatever; and that every act done by him,



in the precedent capacity of Governour, shall be null and void in itself, and shall not operate as a warrant or discharge to any person acting by his order or under his authority.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That *Henry Ward, Esq.*, Secretary of the Colony, be and he is hereby directed and fully authorized and empowered to sign the commissions for all officers, civil and military, chosen by this Assembly, as well those going in the service aforesaid, as others; he receiving therefor, out of the general Treasury, two shillings and eight pence for each commission. And that such commission so signed, with the Colony seal affixed, shall be as full and effectual warrants to every and all such officers so chosen, for the faithful discharge of his and their duty, as if the same were signed by a Governour of this Colony, duly elected and engaged according to law; any law, custom, or usage, to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That his Honour the Deputy Governour be requested, and fully authorized and empowered, to call the General Assembly together upon any emergency, to meet at such time and place as he shall think most fit for the interest of the Colony.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF MASSACHUSETTS TO GENERAL  
PREBLE.

Cambridge, May 20, 1775.

SIR: This Committee received your favour of the 15th instant, touching the raising men for the service of this Colony, and note your just observations on the subject.

The Committee, after the Resolutions of the Congress for the establishing an Army of 13,600 men, thought the exigencies of the times, and the exposed situation of the several Towns near *Boston*, made it absolutely necessary that the Army should be immediately raised, and that for the facilitating of this important business, it was expedient orders should be issued to such men as are recommended as proper persons for such important trusts. Accordingly orders were issued to as many Colonels as were sufficient to complete said Army; but from the delay which appeared in the Army's being formed, by the slow progress made in the enlisting men, and the exposed situation of the Colony camp, by the going off of numbers from time to time, it was rendered necessary that further orders should be issued for completing the Army with all possible speed; and, in consequence of that determination, among others, Colonel *March* received orders for the enlisting of a Regiment for the service of this Colony, and, we understand, has made some considerable progress in enlisting men for said service. We are also informed by your Honour, that Colonel *Phinney* has received enlisting orders from you, and has engaged in the business of enlisting men to complete a Regiment. And we are further informed by your Honour, that it is impracticable that two Regiments should be raised in the County of *Cumberland*; and being told by Colonel *Phinney* that many of the men that would be raised in your County, could not be supplied by the Towns, from which they are enlisted, with fire-arms and blankets, this Committee, taking into consideration the exposed situation of your County, and the probability of the Army's being completed without drawing men from those parts of the Colony which are more immediately exposed, would recommend, Sir, that you would use your influence that a stop be put to the raising any men in your County, until it may be known by the various returns from the several Colonels authorized for the raising Regiments, whether it may be necessary to take any men from your County; and should this necessity take place, of raising a Regiment in your County, this Committee will endeavour to give you such early intelligence as may be necessary. The request of this Committee to your Honour, we flatter ourselves will not be conceived by you as carrying in it the least disrespect to Colonel *March* or Colonel *Phinney*, but solely from the probability of the Army's being complete, without taking men from those parts of the Colony which are more immediately exposed. We should be glad to see your Honour at Head-Quarters; hope your health will soon admit, and with you join in the hope of soon seeing a speedy end to the great difficulties this distressed Colony now labours under.

We are, Sir, with great respect, your Honour's humble servants.

LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO CONFER  
WITH THE CONGRESS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Exeter, May 20, 1775.

SIR: In obedience to the orders of the Congress, we have executed the commission entrusted us, and find the General disposed to concur in every measure that shall conduce to the publick good. Enclosed, Sir, is their Resolve of Congress. We can add no more than giving you account of their seizing a number of masts in *Portsmouth*, destined for the Navy. Their firmness, resolution, and unanimity, gives us great pleasure, and are, Sir, with the highest respect, your most obedient humble servants,

JOSEPH GERRISH,  
EBENEZER SAWYER.

To the President of the Congress of the *Massachusetts* Colony, if sitting, and if not, to the Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

In Provincial Convention at Exeter, }  
May 20, 1775. }

Whereas by the late Acts of the *British* Parliament, and conduct of the Ministers in pursuance thereof, it appears very evident that a plan is laid and now pursuing, to subjugate this and the other *American* Colonies to the most abject slavery; and the late hostilities committed by the *British* Troops in our sister Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, leaves us no doubt in determining that no other way is left us to preserve our most darling rights, and inestimable privileges, but by immediately defending them by arms. Reduced, therefore, by this most terrible necessity, this Convention, after the most solemn deliberations, have

*Resolved*, That it is necessary to raise immediately two thousand effective men in this Province, including officers, and those of this Province that are already in the service, and that the time of their enlistment continue to the last day of *December* next, unless the Committee of Safety should judge it proper that a part or the whole be discharged sooner.

That every member pledge his honour and estate in the name of his constituents, to pay their proportion for the maintenance and pay of the above officers and soldiers while in service.

That application be made immediately to the Continental Congress, for their advice and assistance respecting means and ways to put the above plan into execution.

That the establishment of the officers and soldiers shall be the same as in the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

*Agreed*, That the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts within this Colony, be desired to furnish the soldiers, who shall enlist from their respective Towns and Districts, with good and sufficient blankets, and render their account to the Committee of Supplies.

That if it should appear that the above number of men is not our full proportion with other Governments, that this Convention will make a proper addition for that purpose.

MATTHEW THORNTON, President.

REVEREND WILLIAM GORDON TO DOCTOR J. WARREN.

Jamaica Plains, May 20, 1775.

SIR: Shall be obliged to you would you stop any letters directed for me that may be brought by the post, and send them by the bearer, who will pay the postage. Should the Committee approve of sending me *Hutchinson's* loose letters, with the letter books, on *Monday*, will apply myself to sorting them according to date, reading them over, and notifying every thing that shall appear to me of importance to be laid before the publick. Your very humble servant, and brother in the same common cause,

WILLIAM GORDON.

LETTER FROM FOUR MOHAWKS TO THE ONEIDAS, TRANSLATED FROM THE MOHAWK INTO ENGLISH.

Written at Guy Johnson's, May, 1775.

This is your letter, you great ones or *Sachems*. *Guy Johnson* says he will be glad if you get this intelligence, you *Oneidas*, how it goes with him now, and he is now more certain concerning the intention of the *Boston* people. *Guy Johnson* is in great fear of being taken prisoner by the *Bor-*



tonians. We *Mohawks* are obliged to watch him constantly. Therefore we send you this intelligence that you shall know it, and *Guy Johnson* assures himself, and depends upon your coming to his assistance, and that you will without fail be of that opinion. He believes not that you will assent to let him suffer. We therefore expect you in a couple of days' time. So much at present. We send but so far as to you *Oncidas*, but afterward perhaps to all the other Nations. We conclude and expect that you will have concern about our ruler, *Guy Johnson*, because we are all united.

AREN KANNENZARON,  
JOHANNES TEGARIHOGE,  
DEYAGODEAGHNAWEAGH.

JOSEPH BRANT,  
*Guy Johnson's Interpreter.*

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF TRYON COUNTY, NEW-YORK, ON THE LETTER OF COLONEL GUY JOHNSON, OF MAY 20, AND THE LETTER FROM THE MOHAWKS.

In Committee, Tryon County, May 21, 1775.

1. That it is the opinion of this Committee that the *Indians* who signed the letter never would have presumed to write or send the same, if they had not been countenanced.

2. That as we have unanimously adopted the proceedings of the Grand Continental Congress, and mean virtuously to support the same, so we feel and commiserate the sufferings of our brethren in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the other Colonies in *America*, and that we mean never to submit to any arbitrary and oppressive acts of any power under Heaven, or to any illegal and unwarrantable action of any man or set of men.

3. That as the whole Continent has approved of the actions and proceeding of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and other of the Provinces of *New-England*, we do adopt and approve of the same. Wherefore we must and do consider that any fortification or armed force raised, to be made use of against them, as evidently designed to overawe and make us submit.

4. That Colonel *Johnson's* conduct in raising fortifications round his house, keeping a number of *Indians* and armed men constantly about him, and stopping and searching travellers upon the King's highway, and stopping our communication with *Albany*, is very alarming to this County, and is highly arbitrary, illegal, oppressive, and unwarrantable; and confirms us in our fears, that his design is to keep us in awe, and oblige us to submit to a state of slavery.

5. That as we abhor a state of slavery, we do join and unite together under all the ties of religion, honour, justice, and a love for our Country, never to become slaves, and to defend our freedom with our lives and fortunes.

COMMITTEE OF PALATINE DISTRICT, TRYON COUNTY, TO THE ALBANY COMMITTEE.

Upon the alarming news that expresses were gone to call down the Upper Nation of *Indians* to Colonel *Johnson's*, we caused ourselves to be convened this day, to take the state of this County into consideration; upon which we have determined to order the inhabitants of this District to provide themselves with sufficient arms and ammunition, and to be ready at a moment's warning. We are sorry to acquaint you that all communication with your County is entirely stopped by Colonel *Johnson*, who has five hundred men to guard his house, which he has fortified, under pretence that he is afraid of a visit of the *New-Englandmen*, as will appear by a copy of a letter we intercepted this morning. We have not fifty pounds of powder in our District, and it will be impossible for you to help us to any till the communication is opened, not a man being suffered to pass without being searched. To-morrow is to be a meeting of *Canajoharie* District, when we expect they will adopt congressional measures very heartily, and we purpose to have a meeting of the Committees of both Districts, and propose the question, whether we will not open the communication by force; if which question is determined in the affirmative, we shall despatch another express to you, acquainting you with the day, when we hope you will be on your way up with some ammunition.

We have just sent off an express to the *German Flats*, and *Kingsland* Districts, desiring them to unite with us and give us their assistance; which Districts, or at least a great majority of them, we are credibly informed, are very hearty in the present struggles for *American* liberty. We are, gentlemen, perhaps in a worse situation than any part of *America* is at present. We have an open enemy before our faces, and treacherous friends at our backs, for which reason we hope you will take our case into your immediate consideration, and give us an answer by the bearers, who go express by the way of *Schoharie*, as we dare not trust them any other way. They have orders to wait for an answer. We have reason to think that a great many of the *Indians* are not satisfied with Colonel *Johnson's* conduct, for which reason we have thought it would not be improper to send a couple of men, well acquainted with the *Indian* language, to dissuade them from coming down. And we think it would be of service to us if you could send two also, who are able to make the *Indians* sensible of the present dispute with the Mother Country and us. We have the pleasure to acquaint you, that we are very unanimous in our District, as well as in *Canajoharie*, and we are determined by no means to submit to the oppressive acts of Parliament, much less to Colonel *Johnson's* arbitrary conduct.

MAY 21, 1775.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED BOSTON, MAY 21, 1775.

You request my writing freely, which I must be cautious of, for reasons which will naturally occur to you. As to the inhabitants removing, they are suffered to go out under certain restrictions. This liberty was obtained after many town meetings, and several conferences between their Committee and General *Gage*. The terms mutually agreed to were, "that the inhabitants should deliver up all their arms to the Selectmen." This was generally done, though it took up some days. On this occasion the inhabitants were to have had liberty to remove out of Town, with their effects, and during this, to have free egress and regress. But mark the event: the arms being delivered, orders were issued by the General, that those who inclined to remove must give in their names to the Selectmen, to be by them returned to the Military Town Major, who was then to write a pass for the person or family applying, to go through the lines, or over the ferry; but all merchandise was forbid; after a while, all provisions were forbid; and now all merchandise, provisions, and medicine. Guards are appointed to examine all trunks, boxes, beds, and every thing else to be carried out; these have proceeded to such extremities, as to take from the poor people a single loaf of bread, and half pound of chocolate; so that no one is allowed to carry out a mouthful of provisions; but all is submitted to quietly. The anxiety indeed is so great to get out of Town, that even were we obliged to go naked, it would not hinder us. But there are so many obstructions thrown in the way, that I do not think those who are most anxious will be all out in less than two or three months—vastly different from what was expected, for the General at first proposed, unasked, to procure the Admiral's boats to assist the inhabitants in the transportation of their effects, which is not done, and there are but two ferry-boats allowed to cross. They have their designs in this, which you may easily guess at. We suffer much for want of fresh meat.

GENERAL WARD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, May 21, 1775.

The General requests the ordnance hereafter mentioned may be immediately procured and sent to Head-Quarters, viz: thirty twenty-four pounders—if the whole number cannot be obtained, the number be made up with eighteen pounders, double fortified; ten twelve-pounders; eighteen nine-pounders; and ordnance stores for the above cannon, viz: twenty-one thousand and six hundred pounds of powder, and eighty balls for each cannon; fifteen hundred stand of arms; twenty thousand pounds musket powder; forty thousand pound of lead; and also seventeen hundred pots.

J. WARD, Secretary.



## JAMES SULLIVAN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-Hampshire, May 21, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: This will be handed to you by Mr. Scammell who I have recommended as major of the County of York Regiment.

I trouble you early, to let you know that the Regiment in the County of Cumberland will have not more than one gun to three men, and expect to be armed by the Province. If the Colony does not intend to arm them, I apprehend that notice thereof should be immediately given to Colonel March. It may be thought best to bring no men from that part of the Colony. I am, with much veneration, your very humble servant, JAMES SULLIVAN.

To Joseph Warren, President of the Committee of Safety.

## THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Cambridge, May 21, 1775.

This Committee have often contemplated the mode of ascertaining the method of completing the several Regiments, and find no clear and explicit rule to their satisfaction, and therefore beg leave to suggest to the honourable Congress of this Colony whether a return from a muster-master, that such or such a Regiment had such a number of privates who had passed muster, would not be a good rule for ascertaining when a Regiment may be said to be full, and submit the consideration of the same to the honourable Congress. We are, &c.

## PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of a Special Committee for the County of Prince William, held at the house of Thomas Young, in the Town of Dumfries, on Monday, the 22d day of May, 1775. Present: Foushee Tebbs, Esquire, in the Chair. Messrs. William Grayson, Thos. Blackburn, Henry Lee, Andrew Leitch, Richard Graham, William Brent, John Brett, John McMillan, Henry Peyton, John Peyton, Hugh Brent, James Tripolett, Synaugh Helen, William Tebbs, Thomas Atwell, William Carr, Jesse Ewell, and Cuthbert Harrison.

A Proclamation by his Excellency Lord Dunmore, with the advice of His Majesty's Council, having appeared in the publick papers, charging a certain Patrick Henry, and his followers, with rebellious practices, for extorting from the Receiver-General the sum of three hundred and thirty Pounds, in satisfaction for the Powder his Lordship thought proper to remove from the publick Magazine in Williamsburgh;

This Committee having taken the said transaction into their serious consideration; and it appearing to them from the Address of the Corporation of the City of Williamsburgh, on the removal of the Powder, wherein a claim is made, as restitution is required, and no right in Government by his Excellency at that time alleged, which we conceive he would naturally and necessarily have done if any such had existed; and having also been informed from respectable authority, that assurance had been given to several gentlemen in Williamsburgh, by his Lordship, that if no disturbances were raised the Powder should be returned: for these and other reasons which might be given, they are of opinion that the Powder removed from the publick Magazine in Williamsburgh, did of right belong to this Colony.

This Committee being further of opinion that the late violent and hostile proceedings of His Majesty's Troops in the Massachusetts-Bay, in attempting to seize the military stores of that Colony, would have justified reprisals of a much greater magnitude:

Resolved, therefore, unanimously, That the thanks of this Committee are justly due to Captain Patrick Henry, and the Gentlemen Volunteers who attended him, for their proper and spirited conduct on that alarming occasion.

By order: EVAN WILLIAMS, Clerk.

## BUCKINGHAM COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

The Committee of the County of Buckingham desire it may be known to the inhabitants of the lower Counties,

that should any of them, in the impending struggle for our dearest rights, be driven from their habitations, that the people of Buckingham are disposed to give the most friendly reception to as many of the wives, children, and slaves of those their brethren, as their situations severally will permit; as also to join them with their whole strength to restore them to the peaceable and quiet enjoyment of their possessions.

Farther, that if any of their said brethren would choose, by way of precaution, to make settlements and cultivate grain in Buckingham, that, coming with recommendations from their County Committees, they may have lands assigned them, and continue on them as their own, until a cessation of the present troubles; also, that their stocks shall be equally welcome to the woods and fields of the said County, except such part only as may propagate the murrain, which, as endangering the common means of subsistence, may be equally dangerous to all parties. The Committee of Buckingham do not doubt but their sentiments upon the matter in question will be general throughout the interior Counties.

Published by order of the Committee, held at the Court-House, the 22d of May, 1775.

ROLFE ELDRIDGE, Clerk.

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of Middlesex, on Monday, the 17th of April, 1775:

A complaint was lodged against one Thomas Haddin, an inhabitant of said County, for refusing to sign the Continental Association, and reviling the same: Whereupon the Committee ordered him to be summoned to appear before them this 22d of May; and it plainly appearing that he had been summoned, but that he not only refused to appear, but expressed himself in terms of the highest contempt, both of the Association and Committee:

Resolved, therefore, That the said Thomas Haddin be held forth to the publick as an enemy to American liberty.

Ordered, That a copy of the above be sent to the Printers of the Virginia Gazette, and that they be requested to print the same.

LODOWICK JONES, Clerk to Committee.

## MEETING OF THE INHABITANTS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of Charles County, in Port-Tobacco Town, on Monday, the 22d day of May, 1775:

Captain GEORGE DENT, Chairman, and JOHN GWINN, Clerk.

Resolved unanimously, That George Dent, Samuel Hanson, William Smallwood, Josias Hawkins, Francis Ware, Joseph H. Harrison, Thomas Stone, Daniel Jenifer, Robert T. Hooe, John Dent, Samuel Love, Thomas Hanson Marshall, Philip R. Fendall, Samuel Hanson, of Samuel, William Harrison, and John H. Stone, be and are by this meeting appointed Deputies to represent this County in any General Convention to be held for this Province; and that any five or more of them have power and authority to act for and bind this County.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN GWINN, Clerk.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA TO HIS FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH, VIRGINIA, DATED MAY 22, 1775.

We know the plan of Ministry is to bring the Canadians and Indians down upon us; for this reason the Provincial Troops of Connecticut and Massachusetts have wisely taken, by a brave coup de main, possession of the forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point. In the former they got two hundred pieces of large cannon, some field-pieces, swivels, powder, &c. &c. The Congress have directed New-York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts, to remove these stores, &c., to the south end of Lake George, and take strong posts there, to intercept the communication and march of Canadian and Indian forces into these Colonies.



The taking of *Ticonderoga* last war cost *Great Britain* many thousand lives, and an immense expense; but now it has been taken from them, though strong and well garrisoned, by the bravery and enterprise of a few Provincials, and at a very small expense.

There never was a more total revolution at any place than at *New-York*. The Tories have been obliged to fly. The Province is arming; and the Governour dares not call his prostituted Assembly to receive Lord *North's* foolish plan. Two of the *Delanceys, Watts, Cooper, Rivington, Colonel Philips*, and the rest of the Tory leaders, are fled; some to *England*, and some to private places in the country, where they are not known. The Congress have advised the *Yorkers* to make provision for carrying their women and children into the country, and to remove their warlike stores before the arrival of the Troops there, whom they are not to suffer to encamp, or commit with impunity any hostilities against the people.

The latest and best accounts from *Boston* make the loss of Regulars, in killed and wounded and missing, one thousand men. The Provincial loss was trifling. Ten thousand men are now encamped before the Town, between which and the country there is no intercourse. General *Gage* refuses to let the people out; in consequence of which their distress presently must be grievous indeed. The besieging army keep the one besieged in constant alarm; so that it is said that they rest neither night nor day. Every day is expected to bring two thousand men more from *Ireland*, and seven Regiments to *New-York*, where the Tories had informed Ministry they would be well received. But now, behold, they come to a Country universally hostile, and in arms, to receive them. *Connecticut* has twelve thousand men in arms; the *Jerseys* a good many; and this Province at least eight thousand. There are two thousand in this City, well-armed and disciplined. In short, every Colony this way is well prepared for war, and appear to be secure against any force likely to be sent against them. It would seem as if the Southern Colonies were alone vulnerable at present, and this should be remedied as soon as possible.

It seems the bill for restraining the Trade of the Colonies is not to have force until a certain time after its arrival in *North America*; so that in this instance the whole power of the Legislature is given to Ministry; for it will depend on them when the Act shall arrive here, since they may send it when, or never, as they please.

We find, by the late accounts, that Ministry will be more puzzled than they imagine, to accomplish their detestable purposes against us. A gentleman of the strictest veracity writes, that the embarkment from *England* has been delayed, by the impossibility of getting seamen for the ships; but, he adds, let not this delay your vigorous efforts for defence. From *Ireland* we learn that the people there have interposed to prevent the embarkment; and that a contest has happened, in which several lives were lost on both sides.

The other day, General *Gage* hearing that all the Provincial Troops, except fifteen hundred, were retired to sign an Association prepared for them at some distance from the encampment, marched with his whole force out of *Boston*; but seeing the fifteen hundred Provincials drawn up in order for battle, and disliking their countenance, he returned within his lines.

A man-of-war's tender at *Rhode-Island* lately seized a vessel loaded with provisions for the Army at *Boston*; and the country people, in boats, attacked and took both the provisions, vessel, and tender, having wounded the Lieutenant of the man-of-war, and taken his men prisoners, whom they conveyed captives into the country. Thus you see our infant struggles on the water are not unsuccessful.

LETTER FROM THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE DELEGATES AT PHILADELPHIA, TO THE PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE OF THAT COLONY.

Philadelphia, May 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We take this early opportunity of informing you by Captain *Partridge*, that the Congress, upon hearing of the forts at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point* being seized by the people of *New-England*, to prevent General *Carleton*, with his *Canadians* and *Indians* taking

possession of them to annoy our frontiers; and finding, by about thirty *Indian* Chiefs now in *Philadelphia*, as well as by persons sent to sound the dispositions of all the several *Indian* Nations, that such a design is really on foot; and that General *Johnson*, the Superintendent for *Indian* affairs, has really endeavoured to persuade the *Indians* to enter into a war with us; and that many other steps have been taken by a bloody-minded and cruel Ministry, to induce those hereditary enemies of *America* to fall upon and butcher its inhabitants; we say, upon those things appearing to the Congress, they have ordered the above forts to be demolished, and the warlike stores to be removed, and another fort to be erected and maintained at the lower part of *Lake George*, if the Committee of *New-York* shall think it necessary, and to call upon all the *New-England* Governments to give assistance, if required by *New-York*. We earnestly entreat you, for the honour of the Province, if such a requisition be made, to give them every possible assistance to preserve our people from the incursions of a barbarous and savage enemy.

We are sorry, gentlemen, that honour will not permit us to give you the least information respecting our proceedings. We can only say that all the Colonies are firmly united, and are preparing for the worst. We hope that you will, in imitation of the other Colonies, proceed to choose your officers, and establish your Militia upon the new plan which has been adopted by every Colony upon the Continent. We shall bring with us Governour *Wentworth's* letters to Lord *Dartmouth*, for twelve months past, that you may judge whether he is your friend, as he pretends, or whether he is not rather your inveterate enemy.

Gentlemen, we are, with great respect, your most obedient servants,

JOHN SULLIVAN,  
JOHN LANGDON.

To the Provincial Committee of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. We earnestly entreat you to prevent our General Court from making any application to *Great Britain* for redress of grievances, as that would draw all *America* upon our Province, it being agreed that no one shall make terms without the advice and consent of the whole.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

The Committee met, by adjournment, Monday, 22d of May, 1775. Present:

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Low,           | Hamilton Young,     | Nicholas Hoffman,   |
| Henry Remsen,        | Gabriel H. Ludlow,  | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  |
| David Johnston,      | Evert Banker,       | Isaac Roosevelt,    |
| P. V. B. Livingston, | Joseph Totten,      | Peter Goelet,       |
| David Beekman,       | Cornelius Clopper,  | Lancaster Burling,  |
| Victor Bicker,       | Gerardus Duyckinck, | Robert Benson,      |
| John Broome,         | Benjamin Kissam,    | John Lamb,          |
| John Inlay,          | William Walton,     | Hercules Mulligan,  |
| Daniel Dunscomb,     | Abram. Brinkerhoff, | Theophilus Anthony  |
| Oliver Templeton,    | William Laight,     | Abraham Walton,     |
| John Anthony,        | James Beekman,      | Robert Ray,         |
| John B. Moore,       | John M. Scott,      | William W. Ludlow,  |
| Thomas Randall,      | Jacobus Lefferts,   | Petrus Byvanck,     |
| Jacobus Van Zandt,   | Benjamin Helme,     | William Denning,    |
| Thomas Smith,        | Anthony Van Dam,    | Abraham Duryee,     |
| Peter Van Schaack,   | Daniel Phenix,      | John Berrian,       |
| Gerret Ketletas,     | John Lasher,        | William Goforth,    |
| John De Lancey,      | Richard Yates,      | Thomas Buchannan,   |
| Joseph Hallett,      | Augustus Van Horne, | David Clarkson,     |
| Alex. McDougall,     | Francis Bassett,    | Edward Fleming,     |
| Frederick Jay,       | Thomas Marston,     | Comfort Sands,      |
| Jacob Van Voorhies,  | Samuel Verplanck,   | Peter T. Curtenius. |
| William W. Gilbert,  | Nicholas Bogart,    |                     |

Mr. *Laight*, from the Sub-Committee appointed to make an estimate of materials necessary to be forwarded to *Albany*, made a Report thereof.

Ordered, That the same be forwarded.

Mr. *McDougall*, seconded by Mr. *Lamb*, moved in the words following, viz:

That two members of this Committee be sent to the Deputies of the County of *Albany*, now in this City, to confer with them whether the County of *Albany* can furnish men to garrison *Ticonderoga*, till the Stores there are removed to the south side of *Lake George*, agreeable to a Resolution of the Continental Congress.

Mr. *De Lancey*, seconded by Mr. *Scott*, moved for an amendment of the above Motion, in the words following, viz: by leaving out all the latter part of the said Motion, from the words "be sent," and substituting in its room:



be desired to wait on the Provincial Convention, without delay, and lay before them the Recommendation of the Continental Congress relative to applying to the neighbouring Colonies for Forces.

And the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, as follows, viz:

*For the Amendment.*

Mr. Remsen,  
Mr. Johnston,  
Mr. D. Beekman,  
Mr. Dunscomb,  
Mr. Templeton,  
Mr. Moore,  
Mr. Randall,  
Mr. Smith,  
Mr. Van Schaack,  
Mr. Ketletas,  
Mr. De Lancey,  
Mr. Hallett,  
Mr. Young,  
Mr. G. H. Ludlow,  
Mr. Banker,  
Mr. Clopper,  
Mr. Duyckinck,  
Mr. Kissam,  
Mr. W. Walton,  
Mr. Laight,  
Mr. J. Beekman,  
Mr. Scott,

*Against the Amendment.*

Mr. Lefferts,  
Mr. Helme,  
Mr. Van Dam,  
Mr. Van Horne,  
Mr. Bassett,  
Mr. Bogart,  
Mr. Hoffman,  
Mr. G. W. Ludlow,  
Mr. J. Roosevelt,  
Mr. Goellet,  
Mr. Benson,  
Mr. T. Anthony,  
Mr. A. Walton,  
Mr. Ray,  
Mr. W. W. Ludlow,  
Mr. Byvanck,  
Mr. Duryee,  
Mr. Clarkson,  
Mr. Van Voorhies,  
Mr. Verplanck,  
Mr. Fleming,  
Mr. Curtenius.

Mr. Livingston,  
Mr. J. Broome,  
Mr. Imlay,  
Mr. Sands,  
Mr. F. Jay,  
Mr. Berrian,  
Mr. Goforth,  
Mr. J. Anthony,  
Mr. Lasher,  
Mr. Burling,  
Mr. Bicker,  
Mr. McDougall,  
Mr. Yates,  
Mr. Buchanan,  
Mr. Van Zandt,  
Mr. Lamb,  
Mr. Denning,  
Mr. T. Marston,  
Mr. Brinkerhoff,  
Mr. Phenix,  
Mr. Mulligan,  
Mr. Gilbert,  
Mr. Totten.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Berrian* and Mr. *Laight* be a Sub-Committee to wait on Mr. *Anderson*, to know whether he chooses to give any answer to Mr. *McEvers's* written application to this Committee, which was served upon him last *Sunday* morning.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Brinkerhoff*, *Ketletas*, *Sands*, *F. Jay*, *Bull*, and *Curtenius*, be a Committee to inquire what quantity of Blankets, Ravens Duck, Osnaburghs, *Russia* Sheeting, Tin Plates, and Coarse Cloths, are in this City, and to request the favour of the possessors not to part with them for a few days, until the Provincial Congress shall determine on the expediency of detaining them for our own use.

The Committee adjourned to *Monday*, 29th *May*, 1775.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, May 22, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: I am directed by the General Committee of Association for this City and County, to transmit to your Honour the enclosed authentick copy of a Resolution of the Continental Congress, received by express; and to inform your Honour, that in consequence thereof, we immediately shipped to *Albany* one hundred barrels of pork; and that a Select Committee has been appointed to purchase and forward, without delay, cordage, oakum, pitch gins, and every other necessary that may be wanted from hence, to carry into execution the aforesaid Resolution. We have also, by express, desired our brethren at *Albany* to give their aid and assistance. I have the honour to be, most respectfully, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

HENRY REMSEN, *Dep. Chairman*.

Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COMMONALTY OF ALBANY TO THE COMMITTEE FOR PALATINE DISTRICT, TRYON COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

Albany, May 22, 1775.

We this day received yours, without date, directed to the Magistrates and Committee of *Albany* and *Schenectady*, and to the Mayor, Corporation, &c., of *Albany*, wherein you write that you have received repeated accounts that either the *New-Englanders*, or some persons in or about this City or the Town of *Schenectady*, are coming up, to a considerable number, to seize and imprison you, on a ridiculous and malicious report that you intend to make the *Indians* destroy the inhabitants, or to that effect, and that you, in consequence thereof, have been put to the great trouble and expense of fortifying your house, and keeping a large body of men for the defence of your person, &c.

You proceed and say, that the absurdity of this apprehension may easily be seen by men of sense, but that as many credulous and ignorant persons may be led astray, and inclined to believe it, &c., it is become the duty of all those who have authority or influence to disabuse the pub-

lick, and prevent consequences which you foresee with very great concern.

We are very sorry to learn from you that any groundless reports should have arisen, and be propagated to your prejudice, considering your character, station, and the large property you have in the County. And we trust that you are so well acquainted with the nature and duties of your office, that you will pursue the dictates of an honest heart, and study the interest, peace, and welfare of your Country; in which case we presume you need not be apprehensive of any injury in your person or property. Neither can we learn nor conceive that there either is or has been any intention of taking you captive, or offering you any indignity whatever, either by the *New-England* people or any of the inhabitants of this City, or any one else; and we have but too much reason to think that these groundless reports have been raised and industriously propagated, in your own phraseology, by some busy people in your County, to rouse up the *Indians* from their peaceful habitations, and take up arms against such of our *American* brethren as are engaged on the part of *America* in the unhappy contest between *Great Britain* and her Colonies.

As it appears from your letter that you consider the station wherein you are placed, as Superintendent of *Indian* affairs, to be of the highest importance to the publick, we hope that you will use all possible means in your power to restore peace and tranquillity among the *Indians*, and assure them that the report propagated prejudicial to you or to them is totally groundless of any just foundation, and that nothing will afford His Majesty's subjects in general a greater satisfaction, than to be and continue with them on the strictest terms of peace and friendship.

ALBANY, NEW-YORK, COMMITTEE TO COL. GUY JOHNSON.

Committee Chamber, May 23, 1775.

SIR: Several letters have been handed to us, addressed to the Magistrates of *Schenectady* and Mayor and Corporation of *Albany*, some of which you requested to be communicated to us, whereby we, with great concern, observe you are much alarmed with apprehensions of evil intentions against your family, and self in particular, from a body of *New-Englanders* or people from those parts, so as to put you under the necessity of fortifying yourself for safety. From what cause these terrible ideas have sprung, we are entirely ignorant. If any real ones, you must be better acquainted with them than we are; however, we do assure you that the first and last knowledge of such designs have come to us from you, and of course must have originated somewhere near you. We are not ignorant of the importance of your office as Superintendent, and have been perfectly easy with respect to any suspicions of the *Indians* taking a part in the present dispute between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, knowing them to be a people of too much sagacity to engage with the whole Continent in a controversy that they can profit nothing by, and which would throw them into endless war and misery. As long as they are peaceable, they need not be under apprehensions of hostilities commencing against them.

We have been some time ago informed that there was to be a Congress at your house of the *Indians*, and hope such methods may be taken then as will give them a just sense of the nature of the present disturbances, and that they may govern themselves by such a line of conduct as will appease the minds of such persons in your County as may be uneasy on their account.

The information we have from time to time received, very lately from travellers passing by your house, has given us some pain, as we find the communication betwixt this and your County in a manner stopped, insomuch that no person is permitted to pass without undergoing a strict examination. These proceedings will, if not speedily stopped, raise the resentment of the people, we fear, and cause them to undertake such acts as will not be in the power of any authority to restrain. We would, therefore, be glad, and permit us to recommend it seriously to your attention, that you would leave the communication free, and disperse your guards, and not interfere with the meetings of the people, intended solely to concert measures for the preservation of their liberties, in conjunction with the other Counties of this and the rest of His Majesty's Colonies.



## MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
May 22, 1775. }

"Resolved, That the following Narrative of the excursion and ravages of the King's Troops, under the command of General Gage, on the nineteenth of April last, together with the Depositions taken by order of the Congress to support the truth of it, be sent to the press for publication.

SAMUEL FREEMAN, Secretary."

*A Narrative of the Excursion and Ravages of the King's Troops, under the command of General GAGE, on the nineteenth of APRIL, 1775; together with the Depositions taken by order of Congress to support the truth of it. Published by authority.*

On the nineteenth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, a day to be remembered by all Americans of the present generation, and which ought, and doubtless will be handed down to ages yet unborn, the Troops of Britain, unprovoked, shed the blood of sundry of the loyal American subjects of the British King in the field of Lexington. Early in the morning of said day, a detachment of the forces under the command of General Gage, stationed at Boston, attacked a small party of the inhabitants of Lexington and some other Towns adjacent, the detachment consisting of about nine hundred men, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Smith: the inhabitants of Lexington, and the other Towns were about one hundred, some with and some without fire-arms, who had collected upon information that the detachment had secretly marched from Boston on the preceding night, and landed on Phipps's farm in Cambridge, and were proceeding on their way with a brisk pace towards Concord, as the inhabitants supposed, to take or destroy a quantity of stores deposited there for the use of the Colony; sundry peaceable inhabitants having the same night been taken, held by force, and otherwise abused on the road, by some officers of General Gage's Army, which caused a just alarm, and a suspicion that some fatal design was immediately to be put in execution against them. This small party of the inhabitants was so far from being disposed to commit hostilities against the Troops of their Sovereign, that, unless attacked, they were determined to be peaceable spectators of this extraordinary movement; immediately on the approach of Colonel Smith with the detachment under his command, they dispersed; but the detachment, seeming to thirst for blood, wantonly rushed on, and first began the hostile scene by firing on this small party, by which they killed eight men on the spot, and wounded several others before any guns were fired upon the Troops by our men. Not contented with this effusion of blood, as if malice had occupied their whole souls, they continued the fire, until all of this small party who escaped the dismal carnage were out of the reach of their fire.

Colonel Smith, with the detachment, then proceeded to Concord, where a part of this detachment again made the first fire upon some of the inhabitants of Concord and the adjacent Towns, who were collected at a bridge upon this just alarm, and killed two of them, and wounded several others, before any of the Provincials there had done one hostile act. Then the Provincials, roused with zeal for the liberties of their Country, finding life and every thing dear and valuable at stake, assumed their native valour, and returned the fire, and the engagement on both sides began. Soon after, the British Troops retreated towards Charlestown, having first committed violence and waste on publick and private property, and on their retreat were joined by another detachment of General Gage's Troops, consisting of about a thousand men, under the command of Earl Percy, who continued the retreat. The engagement lasted through the day; and many were killed and wounded on each side, though the loss on the part of the British Troops far exceeded that of the Provincials.

The devastation committed by the British Troops on their retreat, the whole of the way from Concord to Charlestown, is almost beyond description; such as plundering and burning of dwelling-houses and other buildings, driving into the street women in child-bed; killing old men in their houses unarmed. Such scenes of desolation would be a reproach to the perpetrators, even if committed by the most barbarous Nations; how much more when done by

Britons famed for humanity and tenderness! and all this because these Colonies will not submit to the iron yoke of arbitrary power.

## DEPOSITIONS TAKEN BY ORDER OF THE CONGRESS.

[For Depositions No. 1. to No. 20. inclusive, see Folio 489-501.]

A paper having been printed in Boston, representing that one of the British Troops killed at the bridge at Concord, was scalped and the ears cut off from the head; supposed to be done in order to dishonour the Massachusetts people, and to make them appear to be savage and barbarous, the following deposition was taken, that the truth may be known.

[No. 21.]

Concord, May 11, 1775.

We, the subscribers, of lawful age, testify and say, that we buried the dead bodies of the King's Troops that were killed at the North Bridge in Concord, on the nineteenth day of April, 1775, where the action first began, and that neither of those persons were scalped, nor their ears cut off, as has been represented.

ZACHARIAH BROWN,  
THOMAS DAVIS, JR.

Zachariah Brown and Thomas Davis, Jr., personally appeared before me, and made oath to the above declaration.

DUNCAN INGRAHAM, Justice of the Peace.

[No. 22.]

Hannah Adams, wife of Deacon Joseph Adams, of the second Precinct in Cambridge, testifieth and saith, that on the nineteenth day of April last past, upon the return of the King's Troops from Concord, divers of them entered our house by bursting open the doors, and three of the soldiers broke into the room in which I then was laid on my bed, being scarcely able to walk from my bed to the fire, and not having been to my chamber door from my being delivered in child-birth to that time. One of said soldiers immediately opened my curtains with his bayonet fixed, and pointing the same to my breast. I immediately cried out, "for the Lord's sake don't kill me." He replied, "damn you." One that stood near, said, "we will not hurt the woman if she will go out of the house, but we will surely burn it." I immediately arose, threw a blanket over me, went out, and crawled into a corn-house near the door, with my infant in my arms, where I remained until they were gone. They immediately set the house on fire, in which I had left five children and no other person; but the fire was happily extinguished when the house was in the utmost danger of being utterly consumed.

HANNAH ADAMS.

MIDDLESEX, ss., CAMBRIDGE, Second Precinct, }  
May 17, 1775: }

Hannah Adams, the subscriber of the above deposition, personally appeared and made oath to the truth of the same. Before me,

JONA. HASTINGS, Justice of the Peace.

[No. 23.]

Cambridge, May 19, 1775.

We, Benjamin Cooper and Rachel Cooper, both of Cambridge aforesaid, and of lawful age, testify and say, that in the afternoon of the nineteenth day of April last, the King's Regular Troops, under the command of General Gage, upon their return from blood and slaughter which they had made at Lexington and Concord, fired more than one hundred bullets into the house where we dwell, through doors, windows, &c.; then a number of them entered the house where we and two aged gentlemen were, all unarmed. We escaped for our lives into the cellar; the two aged gentlemen were immediately most barbarously and inhumanly murdered by them, being stabbed through in many places, their heads mauled, skulls broke, and their brains beat out on the floor and walls of the house. And further saith not.

BENJAMIN COOPER,  
RACHEL COOPER.

MIDDLESEX, ss., May 19, 1775:

The above named Benjamin Cooper and Rachel Cooper appeared, and after due caution, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by them subscribed.

Before me,

JONAS DIX, Justice of the Peace.



RAVAGES OF THE KING'S TROOPS ON THE NINETEENTH  
OF APRIL, 1775.

The Committee appointed to estimate the damages done at *Cambridge*, *Lexington*, and *Concord*, by the King's Troops on the 19th day of *April*, 1775, having attended that service; beg leave to report :

That the devastation made by fire and robbery on said day, by said Troops, is as follows, viz :

The damage to the buildings in *Cambridge*, estimated according to the best skill and judgment of your Committee, after viewing the same, amounts to £76 5s. 6d.

The value of the goods and chattles that were destroyed or taken out of said houses, or near the same, by the estimation of those persons, (by their several accounts exhibited) on oath, who lost the same, amounts to £1036 6s. 3d.

The value of the goods and chattles that were destroyed or taken out of said houses, or near the same, by the estimation of those persons, by their several accounts exhibited, who left the same, but were not sworn to by reason of some being absent, or some other inconveniences that attended the same, amounts to - £72 6s. 10d.

Damage done to the meeting-house and school-house in the north-west precinct, in said *Cambridge*, estimated by your Committee, amounts to - - £0 13s. 4d.

Vessels, linen, and cash belonging to the church of said precinct, taken out of the house of *Joseph Adams*, deacon of said church, as by his account exhibited on oath, amounts to - - - £16 16s. 8d.

Total, £1202 8s. 7d.

Damages sustained in *LEXINGTON*, viz :

The following buildings destroyed by fire, with cash, utensils, and other moveables, either burnt in the same, or carried away, estimated by the owners of said premises, as by their accounts exhibited on oath, £891 8s. 6d.

Damage to other buildings in said Town, estimated as the buildings in *Cambridge*, amounts to £32 18s. 7d.

Damage (by robbing of said Troops) by sundry inhabitants, as by their several accounts on oath, £760 18s. 2d.

Damage sustained by other inhabitants, as their several accounts exhibited, but not on oath, for the reasons afore mentioned, amounts to - - - £74 4s. 2d.

Damage to meeting-house in said Town, £1 12s. 0d.

Total, £1761 1s. 5d.

Damage sustained in *CONCORD*, viz :

The buildings estimated as above, - £2 12s. 0d.

Damage sustained by sundry inhabitants in manner afore-said, under oath, amounts to - - £209 16s. 10d.

Damage by other inhabitants, not under oath, for reasons aforesaid, amounts to - - £59 1s. 9d.

Damage to sundry door-locks broke in His Majesty's Jail, in said Town, by account exhibited on oath, by the under keeper of said jail, amounts to £3 6s. 0d.

Total, £274 16s. 7d.

ABRAHAM FULLER, }  
ICHABOD GOODWIN, } Committee.  
OLIVER WHITNEY, }

SAMUEL BULLARD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF  
SAFETY.

Sherburn, May 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: A harmony between officers and privates was never more necessary to promote the general good than at this present period. Permit me for a moment to suggest to you, what appears to me in its consequences very detrimental to that unanimity hinted above. A sergeant and private soldier informed me this day, that Colonel *Jacob Miller*, of *Hollistown*, was likely to be discharged from his command in the Regiment. I must say, gentlemen, this information gave me great pain, when I consider him as a brave and resolute man, a good soldier, and a person who made no interest to obtain the command he held. He is universally esteemed by all who personally

know him, and was chosen agreeably to the direction of the Committee of Safety, as declared by Colonel *Pierce*, moderator of the corps of officers at the time of choice. Consider, gentlemen, the apparent consequences which are likely to ensue should Colonel *Miller* be discharged. I am credibly informed that three or four companies that are raised and are raising will refuse serving in the Regiment, and perhaps be the means of ruining the Regiment entirely. I thought it my duty to communicate these hints for the good of my Country, which I hope will be a sufficient apology for this address. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
SAMUEL BULLARD.

TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In Committee of Supplies, Watertown, }  
May 22, 1775. }

SIR: The letters which we have this day received from General *Ward*, through your Honourable Congress, carry with them such ungenerous treatment as this Committee could not conceive that it had merited. We, Sir, are conscious to ourselves of having discharged the heavy duty of our office to the utmost of our power with fidelity, and we think if your General has any consideration he must acknowledge it; nevertheless, after he knew that we had issued an advertisement for collecting the Colony Arms in the *Essex Gazette*, instead of assisting us in the matter, the Congress is troubled with the affair, as if their Committee was incapable of transacting such a trivial undertaking.

But what we think most hardly of is the affair of the plank. We received a memorandum, and ordered it to be provided immediately; the owner of the mills had not procured them yesterday, but engaged to have them in readiness by *Tuesday* morning, which we directed the boatman to apprise the General of. We shall, in justice to ourselves, expect an explanation of this matter, when the affairs of the Colony can be a little settled, from the General; and in the *interim* think it necessary to remove any unfair suggestions from the minds of the members of your Honourable Congress. Being, Sir, with respect, your humble servant,  
DAVID CHEEVER, per order.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, }  
May 22, 1775. }

SIR: This Committee having received from Captain *Benedict Arnold*, by letter of the 11th of *May*, instant, information respecting the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, and the situation of that fortress in many respects, beg leave to lay said letter before the Honourable Congress, that they may proceed thereon in such manner as to them in their wisdom shall seem meet. This Committee apprehend it to be out of their province in any respect whatever.

We are, with due respect, your Honours' obedient humble servants,  
J. PALMER, Chairman.

To the Honourable President of the Provincial Congress, now sitting at *Watertown*.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO BENEDICT ARNOLD.

Watertown, May 22, 1775.

SIR: This Congress have this day received your letter of the eleventh instant, informing the Committee of Safety of the reduction of the fort at *Ticonderoga*, with its dependencies which was laid before this Congress by said Committee. We applaud the conduct of the Troops, and esteem it a very valuable acquisition.

We thank you for your exertions in the cause, and considering the situation of this Colony at this time, having a formidable Army in the heart of it, whose motions must be constantly attended to, and as the affairs of that expedition began in the Colony of *Connecticut*, and the cause being common to us all, we have already wrote to the General Assembly of that Colony to take the whole matter respecting the same under their care and direction, until the advice of the Continental Congress can be had in that behalf, a copy of which letter we now enclose you.

We are, &c.



EARL OF DARTMOUTH TO GOVERNOUR TRYON.

Whitehall, May 23, 1775.

SIR: In a very short time after you embarked upon your return to your Government, the Petition to the King, the Memorial to the House of Lords, and the Representation to the House of Commons of the Assembly of *New-York*, upon the subject matter of the grievances they complain of, in various instances, of the exercise of the constitutional authority of Parliament, were received; and Mr. *Burke* having delivered to me the Petition to the King, I had the honour to present it to His Majesty, who was pleased to receive it with the most gracious expressions of regard, and attention to the humble request of his faithful subjects in *New-York*, who have on this occasion manifested a duty to His Majesty, and a regard for the authority of the Parent State, which, had they not in the Memorial to the House of Lords, and in the Representation to the House of Commons, been unfortunately blended with expressions containing claims which made it impossible for Parliament, consistent with its justice and dignity, to receive them, might have laid the foundation of that conciliation we have so long and so ardently wished for.

I will, however, still hope (and I am strengthened in that hope by private advices received to day from *Pennsylvania*) that the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 27th of *February* will remove all obstacles to the restoration of the publick tranquillity; and I am commanded by the King to say that nothing can give greater satisfaction to the Royal breast than to see us again a happy and united people.

Should such an event take place it will be, and ought in justice to be, attributed in great measure to the moderation and good disposition which has appeared in the Assembly of *New-York*; and whilst they continue firm, the body of people must soon be convinced how equally vain and improper it is to insist upon claims inconsistent with their dependance on the authority of Parliament, and that the only constitutional method of obtaining redress for any grievances they may have to complain of, is through the channel of their legal Representatives in Assembly. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant, DARTMOUTH.

Governour Tryon.

THE CRISIS, NO. XIII.

London, May, 1775.

Every *Englishman* must deplore the ill success, and abhor the unworthy treatment, which attended the two late conciliatory plans in relation to *America*. Pregnant with good sense, benevolence, and sound reason, they will do eternal honour to the wisdom, justice, policy, and humanity of the heads and hearts that formed them. How different was the plan of *North*! Crafty, mean, insidious, impolitick, irrational, shallow, and (like himself and coadjutors) beneath contempt. This was not treating with *America*, but insulting her; every step against her hitherto has been founded in the greatest inhumanity, the grossest ignorance, and the worst policy. I will proceed to prove my assertion, and defy the whole cabal of ministerial slaughtermen to confute me. I do not call upon the master butcher, because he can only be considered (after the part he has acted by asserting) an executive, and not as a rational master in this business.

First, then, for the humanity of these proceedings: let it be granted only, as it must, that the Crown stands in the same relation to *America* as a parent to her child, and my first assertion proves itself. Have any gentle, tender, sensible means been used to reconcile her? Have not her humble remonstrances, proposals, submissions, and supplications, been treated with contempt? Not suffered to lie on the table of a *British* House of Commons? Have they been deemed worthy of a thought by her pious Sovereign? Has she not been branded with the ignominious name of rebel by Act of Parliament, for no other reason, (I mean no true one,) than because she has wisely and calmly deliberated upon, remonstrated against, and steadily, but not tumultuously, resented the repeated injuries she has received?

As to riots by mobs, they are not to be imputed to her as treason and rebellion. *America*, as a Nation most unconstitutionally oppressed, has hitherto only deliberated

upon her sufferings. She has not acted. My Lords *Suffolk*, *Pomfret*, *Radnor*, *Apsley*, and *Sandwich*, they have not acted. It is as yet no treason, my Lords, to think, to advise, to fear, and to prepare. You cannot, you dare not move to annul, as you may wish, the statute of treasons in *America*. The *Americans* have as good a right to that as your Lordships. I mean, as yet, my Lords, because I am not quite satisfied that, even in the present smuggled and corrupt Parliament, the boldest and most venal prostitute durst make so dangerous a trial upon the patience and long sufferance of this Kingdom.

I will now inform your Lordships, that it is contrary to the Law of Nations to attempt the destruction even of the most inveterate enemy by famine, until he has been first solemnly summoned to submit. Have the *Americans* ever yet been (though, if men, they shortly will be) in arms? Have they yet had a prospect of any other terms than such as would make them slaves? Will they be weak enough to submit to such conditions? The preliminaries hitherto proposed have been founded in oppression, not in reason; they are fit for brutes, not men. The lenient, the compassionate *North*, has treated *America* like the assassin of an alley; with his knife at her throat, he has humanely left it at her choice to strip herself, for fear she should be stripped by him. Why have the Ministry had recourse at first to this inhuman scheme of famine? They fear the Army will relent, when they find they must wade through the blood of their own countrymen. Their present General (*Gage*) has, to his honour, declined the bloody task. Even a foreigner, to whom the same command was offered, has revolted at the thought. Is not this stratagem of starving freemen into slavery, the most inhuman, as well as the most cowardly of all others, especially when it is considered that all the remonstrances of these unhappy sufferers have been rejected? I should insult the reader's understanding by waiting for a reply. I therefore come to the next ingredient in the *American* persecution—ignorance.

I must first remark, that some of their wise Lordships were for having *Maryland* and *Virginia*, very remote inland countries, prohibited from the Fishery. Thus far have some of the great and sage counsellors of this Nation been ignorant even of the situation of that part of their fellow-creatures whom they wish to involve in the most dreadful of all calamities—famine. But the very scheme itself is impracticable; these wretched people cannot be totally destroyed, either by butchery or famine; their numbers are great and formidable; in such a vast extent of country their resources will be endless; they are not destitute of arms already, and they will be supplied with more in spite of our vigilant fleet. They have all the materials necessary for war in the bowels of their Country; they have artists, handicraftsmen, manufacturers, and mechanics of all sorts; cattle of all kinds; fruit of the earth in vast abundance; fine streams and rivers, though no doubt Administration, for the sake of consistency, will give strict orders, and pay highly for the poisoning of these; but that will not easily be effected; these people in general know the use of arms; they have perseverance, courage, resolution, and, above all, most prophetic Lord *Sandwich*! they have virtue, which can never be overcome. Should our Army strike and fall, the hatred, enmity, and revolt of *America*, is fixed forever; they never will submit to lick the tyrant hand which has once been raised against their liberties, their properties, and their lives. Under the above considerations, the present scheme of Government must seem impracticable; if so, or if, from rancour and resentment it has been viewed but partially, it is the grossest ignorance to pursue it. Should Heaven interpose on the side of justice, we shall perceive our error too late. But were our attempts by sword or famine sure of success, Government is only destroying its own vitals.

What, then, is the policy of this unnatural war? It is like the war between the belly and the other members; the whole State must feel its consequence. Shallow *North* told his House of Commons (for it is his) that the imports from the *American* Continent were inconsiderable. Now, my Lord, you ought to know (and in honour you should have declared) that the imports of that part of *America* into our Sugar Colonies, were the very life of them; neither planters nor negroes can subsist without them, particularly



in the prohibited, interdicted article of fish, which, when salted, is their general food. Your Lordship, by your war and your intended famine, has effectually starved and ruined all the passive and obedient Sugar Colonies, as well as your declared enemies in *America*. Thus a most valuable fishery, a considerable sugar trade, and thousands (perhaps millions) of innocent and brave lives will be sacrificed by a narrow-minded Ministry to wicked views and insatiable resentments, in the reign of a monarch born a *Briton*! An ancient *Pict*, or a wild *Indian*, savage in their natures, would blush and shudder at such proceedings. With the Colonies and trade the revenue must sink. If royal profusion and ministerial corruption were to sink likewise, it would be well; but they will still attempt to draw blood from the most impoverished veins. The commercial, the landed interest, the publick bank, at last, must feel the shock. Then, perhaps, when famine threatens at our own doors, the *British* lion will be roused. Then, for I will prophesy in my turn, comes a revolution, fatal to minions, pensioners, placemen, knaves, and tyrants; but happy for the Nation, if, from the ashes of all these pests, the rights of suffering and insulted *Englishmen* can be once more established. We shall find it to our cost in vain to send *English* soldiers; none but *Scotch* will do the business against *English* breasts. I am of opinion, let the wishes of the Ministry be what they will, that if every officer who goes upon this assassination were a *Burgoyne*, he would be disappointed of the blood he pants for, his command will be sinecure, and his victory a brave and virtuous desertion. All who deserved the name of soldiers, would throw down their arms, and embrace their gallant and happy countrymen. An *English* army will not, and a navy cannot destroy the liberties of *America*; the Ministry, who wish to deceive the Nation, are, as they frequently are, deceived themselves; they cannot execute their plan without extraordinary and successive, almost perpetual drafts of forces. Should the patient spirit of this Kingdom rise at such a time in arms, and *France* and *Spain* add to the horrors of a civil war, even in the midst of these calamities it will be some consolation, that the advisers, abettors, and detestable heads of these diabolical measures, cannot long escape the vengeance of an injured people.

WILLIAM HOOPER TO SAMUEL JOHN JOHNSTON, IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Philadelphia, May 23, 1775.

DEAR JOHNSTON: The close attention which I am compelled to pay to the business of the Congress, scarce gives me an opportunity to pay my duty to my friends. As we meet at nine A. M. and sit till four P. M., you will readily conceive that the little leisure we have is not sufficient for the common functions of life and exercise to keep us in health. While I am writing I encroach upon Congress hours, and if I could furnish you with any thing interesting it might be some apology for the transgression. But the strict secrecy which is enjoined upon the members, leaves us at large to communicate nothing worthy attention that happens within the walls of the State-House. Let it suffice, that the most perfect harmony subsists among the members.

The character of the *New-Yorkers* is no longer suspicious. They take a forward and an active share in the opposition; all ranks of people among them are embarked in the common cause, and are sacredly resolved to preserve the cargo or perish with the ship. The few Tories among them are silent; the cry of liberty is irresistible. The . . . , who are never happy except when dabbling in faction, have met a just reward for their misguided zeal, and have been compelled (six of them) to seek protection on board a King's ship. *Rivington* follows their fortunes, and his printing shop, which forged calumny and sedition for the whole Continent, is shut up. *New-York* must now become the seat of war. The taking of *Ticonderoga* will divert the attention of Government to that quarter, and the *New-Yorkers* will not long be suffered to be indifferent spectators of its operations. Believe me, I do not think they wish to be. Their City is filled with armed men, whom they have raised and disciplined, to be called into action when hostilities begun on the part of

Lord *North's* troops shall render it necessary. Government has sent them the *Asia*, man-of-war, we suppose to protect their trade, or rather to give spirit to the Tories; but that day is past; they are sunk, never to rise again.

This City has taken a deep share in the insurrection which is so generally diffused through the Continent. Men, women, and children feel the patriotick glow, and think every man in a state of reprobation beyond the power of heavenly mercy to forgive, who is not willing to meet death rather than concede a tittle of the Congress creed.

Quakerism has received a shock from which it will never recover. An attempt to restrain the other sects in their spirited conduct, has only shown the weakness of their efforts, and the insignificance of their numbers, when in competition with those who think and act differently from them. The Testimony, to their eternal dishonour, accompanied with the proceedings of the *New-York* Assembly, gave encouragement to Administration to adopt the present compulsory measures, which, at this hour, we all lament; for certain it is, till those got to hand, the plan prepared by the Administration was conciliatory.

If it should be thought expedient to raise troops in each Colony, and money of course must be supplied, from whence must it come in our Province? Would the Provincial Convention think it prudent to emit for that purpose, or are not the circumstances such as to leave no alternative to their choice? Whether this, or what, will be recommended, is still in suspense. This, however, is certain, that it will be necessary that a Convention should be held immediately upon the return of the Delegates. I would, therefore, advise Mr. *Harvey* to warn the several Counties immediately to elect Representatives to sit in Convention, and I would propose that each County should send ten at least. This is consistent with the *New-York* policy, which thereby has given strength to the cause, by interesting so many in the protection of it. Every man, let his property be ever so small, has still his rights to preserve, and claims a share in the publick consultation, which must eventually affect him. Such a step with us would be prudent. The spirit wants more in *North-Carolina*, I think; perhaps you may think ten too many.

*Hewes* sends you the newspapers. Pray make my compliments acceptable to every branch of your worthy family. Remember me affectionately to Mr. *Iredell*. I refer you to *James Charlston* for every thing which is not related in the newspapers. Only let me add to the members of the Committees, that a resolve has passed the Congress, and ordered to be published, that no vessel shall be suffered to load for *Newfoundland*, *St. John's*, or *Nova-Scotia*, to supply the *British* fisheries there, or any where else along the coast of *America*. This is much to be noticed; it is a just retaliation for restraining the *American* fishery.

*Hewes* orders me to Congress that he may have an opportunity to despatch his vessel; and as *Caswell* is indisposed I must obey, and thereby save your patience a further trial. I am your affectionate friend and obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM HOOPER.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, May 25, 1775.

Last Tuesday evening, May 23d, the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, escorted all the way from *Ruffin's* Ferry by a troop of thirty-six of the *Williamsburgh* Volunteers, and met a little way out of Town by the rest of the company, arrived safe at his house in this City, amidst the acclamations of the inhabitants, from the General Congress at *Philadelphia*; and next morning they presented him with the following Address, as a tender of their best services at this dangerous and alarming period:

To the Honourable PEYTON RANDOLPH, Esquire:

We, the members of the Volunteer Company in *Williamsburgh*, embodied to support the constitutional rights and liberties of *America*, are exceedingly alarmed to hear, from report, that the same malevolent demons from whom have originated all the evils of *America*, are now exerting their utmost treachery to ensnare your life and safety. The friends of liberty and mankind have never escaped the fury of arbitrary despots. No wonder, then, that you should be selected as a proper victim to be sacrificed to the malice of the present Administration.



Permit us, therefore, (attached to you by the noble ties of gratitude and fellow-citizens,) to entreat you in the warmest manner to be particularly attentive to your own safety, as you regard the interests of this Country. We now proffer to you our services, to be exerted at the expense of every thing a freeman ought to hold dear, as you may think most expedient, in the defence of your person and constitutional liberty, and will most cheerfully hazard our lives in the protection of one who has so often encountered every danger and difficulty in the service of his countrymen. May Heaven grant you long to live, the father of your Country and the friend to freedom and humanity.

To which he was pleased to return the following Answer:

GENTLEMEN: The affection you have expressed for me demands the warmest returns of gratitude. I feel very sensibly the happiness resulting from the kind attention of my worthy fellow-citizens to my security and welfare. Your apprehensions for my personal safety arise from reports which, I hope, have no foundation. Such unjust and arbitrary proceedings would bring on the authors of them the resentment and indignation of every honest man in the *British* Empire. I shall endeavour to deserve the esteem you have expressed on this occasion, and shall think it the greatest misfortune that can attend me if ever my future conduct should give you any reason to be displeased with the testimony you have now offered of your approbation.

#### WESTMORELAND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Westmoreland* County, held at the Court-House the 23d of *May*, 1775, present the Rev. *Thomas Smith*, Chairman, and fifteen other members of said Committee.

This Committee having taken into consideration the Address of the citizens of *Williamsburgh*, presented to his Excellency the Governour, on the 21st of *April* last, and his Excellency's verbal answer thereto, as also his Lordship's Speech to the Council, the 2d of *May*, and the Proclamation issued the next day, in consequence of the advice given him by a majority of the said Council, look upon themselves as indispensably bound to declare their sentiments thereon, as well to expose the inimical measures of men in high office, for a long time steadily pursued against the just rights of a loyal people, as to take off the odium they have endeavoured by some late proceedings to fix upon this Colony.

The seizing the powder, confessedly placed in the Magazine for the defence and protection of this Colony, by order of his Excellency the Governour, was a step by no means to be justified, even upon the supposition of its being lodged there from on board a man-of-war, as his Lordship has in his Proclamation asserted, although in his verbal answer to the Address of the citizens of *Williamsburgh*, he has tacitly acknowledged the powder to belong to the Country, by agreeing to deliver it up: that is, the same powder they demanded as the Country's; and we have been informed that the Country had powder in the Magazine, which cannot now be found there: We therefore consider the removing the powder privately, and when that part of the Country was, as his Lordship confesses, in a very critical situation, to be a part of that cruel and determined plan of wicked administration to enslave the Colonies, by first depriving them of the means of resistance, and do Resolve,

1st. That the dissatisfaction discovered by the people of this Country, and late commotions raised in some parts thereof, proceeded, not as his Lordship in his Proclamation has injuriously and inimically charged, from a disaffection to His Majesty's Government, or to a design of changing the form thereof, but from a well grounded alarm, occasioned altogether by the Governour's late conduct, which clearly evinced his steady pursuit of the above mentioned ministerial plan to enslave us.

2d. That so much of his Excellency's Proclamation which declares "the real grievances of the Colony can be only obtained by loyal and constitutional applications," is an insult to the understanding of mankind, inasmuch as it is notorious that this and the other Colonies upon the Continent have repeatedly heretofore made those applications, which have ever been treated with contumely, and as his Lordship, since the late unhappy differences between

*Great Britain* and the Colonies have subsisted, hath deprived us of the constitutional mode of application, by refusing to have an Assembly.

3d. That so far from endeavouring or desiring to subvert our ancient, and to erect a new form of Government, we will, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, support and defend it, as it existed and was exercised until the year 1763, and that his Lordship, by misrepresenting the good people of this Colony, as well in his letter to the *British* Minister as in his late Proclamation, has justly forfeited their confidence.

4th. That His Majesty's Council, who advised the Proclamation before-mentioned, have not acted as they were bound to do from their station in Government, which ought to have led them to be mediators between the first Magistrate and the people, rather than to join in fixing an unjust and cruel stigma on their fellow-subjects.

5th. That the thanks of this Committee are justly due to the Delegates of the late Continental Congress, and to the Delegates from this Colony particularly, for their prudent, wise, and active conduct, in asserting the liberties of *America*; and that the design of Government which, in some instances, we are informed, has already been carried into execution, to deprive them of all offices, civil and military, tends manifestly to disturb the minds of the people in general; and that we consider every person advising such a measure, or who shall accept of any office or preferment, of which any of the noble asserters of *American* liberty have been deprived, as an enemy to this Country.

Ordered, That the Clerk transmit a copy of the foregoing Resolutions to the Printer as soon as conveniently may be, in order that the same may be published in the *Gazette*.

JAMES DAVENPORT, Clerk Com'tee.

At a Committee held for *Westmoreland* County, *May* 23, 1775,

Resolved, That every Merchant or Factor who shall import *European* Goods into this County from any other Colony or District, shall, before he be permitted to sell such Goods, produce to the Chairman, or any one of the Committee, a certificate from the Committee of the Colony, County, or District from whence such Goods were purchased, of their having been imported agreeable to the terms of the Association of the Continental Congress.

JAMES DAVENPORT, Clerk.

#### TALBOT COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County, on the 23d of *May*, 1775, at the Court-House of the said County,

The Rev. Mr. JOHN GORDON, Chairman.

A Letter from the Committee of Observation in *Baltimore* Town, bearing date *May* 20, 1775, and signifying that the Ship *Johnston*, belonging to Mr. *Gildart*, of *Liverpool*, was loaded with Salt and Dry Goods, by the house of Messrs. *Ashton*, and bound to *Chesapeake Bay*, was read.

In consequence whereof, a deputation, consisting of eleven gentlemen, was appointed to wait on Mr. *James Braddock*, agent and store-keeper for Mr. *Gildart*, owner of the said Ship *Johnston*, to advise him of the information received, to request him to give a satisfactory account and state of all goods now in his hands, and not to assist or countenance, directly or indirectly, the landing of any goods from the said ship, or in any way to promote the sale thereof. On the whole, the deputation aforesaid had it in charge to require an answer from Mr. *Braddock*, as to the part he meant to act on this occasion, and whether he would comply with their requisition, and to report the same to the Committee on *Tuesday*, the 30th instant, on which day they agreed to meet, unless the deputation should think it necessary to call a Committee sooner, in which case they were requested to give publick notice.

On the 30th instant the Committee, as above, met according to appointment, when the deputation aforesaid appeared, and reported that they went to Mr. *Braddock*'s store, but not finding him at home, they left a copy of the letter from the Committee of *Baltimore* Town, together with a copy of the order of this Committee, to be delivered to him when he should return.

In consequence of this Mr. *Braddock* appeared before the Committee, and informed them "that he did expect



the Ship *Johnston* shortly to arrive in *Miles* River, but that he had no advice, nor had any reason to believe (except from the aforesaid letter from the *Baltimore* Town Committee) that the said ship would bring either Dry Goods or Salt."

Mr. *Braddock* did likewise, at the same time, voluntarily enter into the following engagement and promise: "That if the Ship *Johnston*, or any other vessel having on board any Goods or Merchandise prohibited by the *American* Association, shall come addressed to him, or to any other agent or factor for Mr. *Gildart*, he will, in such an event, neither directly nor indirectly receive, nor assist in landing, storing, or following the said Goods or Merchandise, but that, on the contrary, he will, immediately and forthwith, give notice of the arrival of the said ship or other vessel to the above mentioned deputation, or to some four of them, (who are appointed to go on board such ship or vessel, and to examine the papers, viz: the manifest, the cockets, and log-book,) and that he would give directions for the immediate return of any ship or vessel addressed to him, without breaking bulk."

Mr. *Braddock* delivered, at the same time, to the Committee an inventory of the Goods he has now on hand, with which they declared themselves satisfied for the present.

On the same day information being made to the Committee that Mr. *Brascup*, tavern-keeper at *Talbot* Court-House, had, on *Tuesday*, the 23d of *May*, served up a Lamb at his table, he was accordingly called before the Committee to give an account of his conduct; and upon his informing them that he had not purchased more than two or three Lambs, which he had been assured were yeaned before the first day of *January*, and on his promise that he would not, for the future, purchase any more Lambs without a certificate from the seller that they had been yeaned, either before the first day of *January* or after the first of *May*, the Committee were satisfied, and dismissed Mr. *Brascup*.

Ordered, That the above proceedings be published in the *Maryland Gazette*.

Signed by order of the Committee:

ROBERT WILSON, *Clerk pro tem*.

ROBERT HANNA AND OTHERS TO GOVERNOUR PENN.

Pittsburgh, May 23, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Shortly after our confinement here we wrote you in what manner we have been treated by the court of Fort *Dunmore*, as 'tis called, and also enclosed a list of actions brought against us for acting in our office, with the writs of adjournment from and to *Stanton*; but we have the greatest reason to believe it has not yet come to your hands, by reason of our receiving no answer. We have ever since remained, and now are in jail bounds, though often threatened with close confinement. We, with the assistance of one of our brethren now in the same state with us, (namely, *Thomas Scott*,) would inform your Honour as follows, viz: The said *Scott* was recognised on the thirteenth of *November* last past, to appear at the next court then to be holden at this place; notwithstanding the appearance was made accordingly, and no court held, yet the recognisance was continued; and since, the body of said *Scott* was arrested by armed force, with five writs, one at the suit of the King, and four civil processes, for acting by virtue of your Honour's commission of the peace; to which process the said *Scott* appeared here at court the sixteenth instant, and upon the said recognisance, was adjudged by the court to be bound in five hundred Pounds, with two sureties in two hundred and fifty Pounds each, to keep the peace, be of good behaviour, and in particular not to act as a Magistrate by any authority derived from *Pennsylvania*. On refusing to give such bail, on account of the latter clause in particular, though sufficient bail for the prison bounds was tendered, was ordered, and put into close jail with murderers and thieves, and there detained about one hour; but on a motion to the court, made by Mr. *Harvie*, was admitted to prison bounds bail.

In consequence of the disagreeable circumstances we now labour under, and more especially those of us who have families, we look upon it absolutely necessary to send the bearer hereof express, (who is ordered to wait your

answer,) praying your immediate instructions, whether we shall give the bail required by this court, break the bounds, or in what manner we shall be enlarged, or conduct ourselves to your Honour's satisfaction, and the interest of the Government, to which we are closely attached.

Sir, the unhappy situation to which this Country is at present reduced by the proceedings of the *Virginians*, has rendered it impossible for us to collect any sum of money whatever; and our ready cash being nearly exhausted in defence of the cause, lays us under the necessity of applying to your Honour for the sum of fifteen Pounds, which we were obliged to promise to said express for his services, which we hope you will order him paid before he leaves Town, and also enclose such other sums of money as you may think sufficient to defray the past expenses, and answer the present necessities of your Honour's most obliged and very humble servants,

ROBERT HANNA,  
JAMES CAVET,  
THOMAS SCOTT.

To the Honourable *John Penn*, Esq., Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, &c.

ROBERT HANNA AND OTHERS TO GOVERNOUR PENN.

Pittsburgh, May 23, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Messrs. *Hanna* and *Cavet*, who were apprehended and taken into custody the twenty-second of last *February*, as you have been already informed by despatches forwarded to you by them immediately for that purpose; and we are sorry to find that they have not as yet received any reply to their letters on that subject, although they are now upwards of three months confined to prison bounds at this place, to the great prejudice of their persons and families, by pretended authority from the Government of *Virginia*, which did, and still continues to tyrannize over this unhappy part of your Province, but more especially over us, who beg leave to address your Honour on this pressing occasion, for we are aimed at in a particular manner as the objects of their resentment, therefore are doomed to utter ruin and destruction, if they by any means can accomplish their aim. They are not satisfied with imprisoning our persons, (of which every one of us has participated in turn,) but insult and domineer over us as well in open court as every where else opportunity serves. They have procured a number of litigious law suits, entered against every one of us, for acting as Magistrates by authority from the Government of *Pennsylvania*, as well before, as since Lord *Dunmore* and his tools usurped the jurisdiction of this distressed part of the Province; the Militia continuing to kill our cattle and hogs, just as it suits them, without any questions asked of the owners, or satisfaction offered.

They likewise take upon themselves to determine our title to lands, as well between this and *Ligonier*, as beyond this place, by a jury of twelve men of their own choosing, without allowing the defendant the privilege of objecting to any of that number; notwithstanding Magistrates of their own appointment could be procured on the ground to testify some of these select men were the sworn enemies of the defendants.

This was actually the case with Mr. *Devereux Smith*, the third instant, when *Connolly* in the like manner dispossessed him of a tract of land some miles eastward of this place, and declared it should be the property of one *George Sly*; and, in six days afterwards, the Sheriff broke open Mr. *Smith's* door, and gave the said *Sly* possession. In short we are deemed and treated like degraded beings that are nowise entitled to the common right of mankind; and the very name of a *Pennsylvanian* is sufficient to render any man odious at this day now-a-days.

To conclude, we are worried out with repetitions of tyranny and oppression, and greatly injured in bodies, minds, and estates; in the meantime we are, with sincere attachments to your Honour's person and Government, your Honour's most humble and most devoted servants,

ROBERT HANNA, ÆNEAS MACKAY,  
JAMES CAVET, THOMAS SCOTT.  
DEVEREUX SMITH,

To *John Penn*, Esquire, Governour of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, &c.

P. S. As we find ourselves so deeply engaged in law-



suits, brought against us for acting as Magistrates, both before and since Lord *Dunmore* extended the jurisdiction this length, we were obliged to employ Mr. *John Harvie* to appear in our behalf in all the actions already brought on account of Government. We therefore humbly hope you will be pleased to honour a draft amounting to thirty Pounds, our money, drawn by us in favour of said *Harvie* on you; to be paid when it may come to hand, which will oblige us all.

NATHANIEL WALES, JUN., AND OTHERS, TO THE SPEAKER  
OF THE ASSEMBLY OF CONNECTICUT.

New-York, May 23, 1775.

SIR: We arrived in this city last evening, and have the satisfaction to inform you that the Committee of *New-York* have complied with the direction of the Continental Congress, as to furnishing our forces at *Ticonderoga* with provision.

The Provincial Convention of this Province are now sitting, but have not got through the business of examining certificates, &c.; we have not therefore as yet laid our appointment before them. We have had a personal conference with Mr. *Pierce*, an eminent *English* merchant of *Montreal*, express to the Continental Congress, with intelligence of a most interesting nature. He informs us that all the *French* officers of *Canada* are now in actual pay under General *Carleton*. That *St. Luke le Corne*, who was Superintendent of all the *Indians* in *Canada* while it was in the hands of the *French*, and is father-in-law of Mr. *Campbell*, who is Superintendent under His Majesty, has sent belts to Northern Tribes, as far up as the Falls of *St. Mary* and *Michilimackinack*, to engage them to take up arms against the *New-England* Colonies, but the event of that embassy is not yet known. That a similar application has been made to the tribes nearer to the frontiers of the *English* settlements, but with little success, as not more than forty *Indians* could be found that would engage in the measures; that the plan of operations in *Canada* is to procure the savages to join with the *Canadians* in hostilities against the rebels of *New-England*.

Mr. *Pierce* gives it as his opinion that the *Canadians*, viz: the plebeians, will not, but with the utmost reluctance, engage against the Colonists, but that the nobles are our bitter enemies. He also says that General *Carleton* was expected at *Montreal* in a day or two after he left that place, which was the eleventh *May* instant, and that he was to take up his residence there for this summer.

We are now about to take up lodgings in the heart of the City, where we shall have an opportunity of conversing with the citizens, and learn their true spirit. The Provincial Convention of *New-Jersey* meet this day; we propose to wait on them some time this week.

We can at present give you no just account of the state of the cause of liberty in this City, but hope, from the little information we have already had, that there will not be so general a defection as we apprehended.

We are, with due respect, your most obedient servants,  
NATHANIEL WALES, JR.,  
THADDEUS BURR,  
PIERPOINT EDWARDS.

To the Honourable *William Williams*, Esq., Speaker of  
the House of Assembly, *Connecticut*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TICONDEROGA TO A GENTLEMAN IN HARTFORD, CONN., DATED MAY 23, 1775.

I shall endeavour to give you a very concise journal of matters here since the twelfth instant.

May 11.—We set sail from *Skenesborough* in a schooner belonging to Major *Skene*, which we christened *Liberty*.

Sunday 13.—Arrived at *Ticonderoga*, from whence, after some preparations, we set sail for *Crown Point*.

Monday 14.—Contrary winds retarded our voyage, and the day drew to a close when we anchored at *Crown Point*.

Tuesday 15.—Contrary winds. Colonel *Arnold*, with thirty men, took the boat and proceeded on for *St. John's*, leaving to Captain *Sloan* the command of the vessel with the sailors, and to me the command of the soldiers on board. About twelve o'clock, while beating down, we espied a boat; sent out our coxswain to bring her in. It proved to be the *French* post from *Montreal*, with Ensign *Moland* on board. We examined the mail, and among other things, found an exact list of all the regular Troops in the Northern Department, amounting to upwards of seven hundred.

Wednesday 16.—A fair gale. We overtook Colonel *Arnold* in the boat, took him on board, and at night arrived within thirty miles of *St. John's*, when the wind fell and the vessel was becalmed. We immediately armed our two boats, manned them with thirty-five men, and determined, by dint of rowing, to fetch *St. John's*, and take the place and the King's sloop by surprise at break of day.

Thursday 17.—After rowing hard all night, we arrived within half a mile of the place at sunrise, sent a man to bring us information, and in a small creek, infested with numberless swarms of gnats and musketoes, waited with impatience for his return. The man returning, informed us they were unapprised of our coming, though they had heard of the taking of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*. We directly pushed for shore, and landed at about sixty rods distance from the barracks; the men had their arms, but upon our briskly marching up in their faces, they retired within the barracks, left their arms, and resigned themselves into our hands. We took fourteen prisoners, fourteen stands of arms, and some small stores. We also took the King's sloop, two fine brass field-pieces, and four boats. We destroyed five boats more, lest they should be made use of against us. Just at the completion of our business, a fine gale arose from the north; we directly hoisted sail, and returned in triumph. About six miles from *St. John's*, we met Colonel *Allen* with four boats and ninety men, who determined to proceed and maintain the ground. This scheme Colonel *Arnold* thought impracticable, as *Montreal* was near, with plenty of men, and every necessary for war. Nevertheless, Colonel *Allen* proceeded and encamped on the opposite side of the lake, or river, as it is there called; the next morning he was attacked by two hundred Regulars, and obliged to decamp and retreat.

Friday 18.—Returned again to *Crown Point*, from thence to *Ticonderoga*.

Saturday 19.—Encamped at *Ticonderoga*. Since that time nothing material has happened. It is Colonel *Arnold's* present design that the Sloop *Enterprise*, as she is called, and the Schooner *Liberty*, shall cruise on the Lake, and defend our frontiers, till men, provisions, and ammunition are furnished to carry on the war.

#### NEW-JERSEY PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Extracts from the Journal of Proceedings of the Provincial Congress of NEW-JERSEY, held at TRENTON on the 23d of MAY, 1775.

List of Deputies who attended:

BERGEN.—John Fell, John Demarest, Hendrick Kuyper, Abraham Van Boskirk, Edo Merselius.

ESSEX.—Henry Garritse, Michael Vreeland, Robert Drummond, John Berry, William P. Smith, John Stites, John Chetwood, Abraham Clark, Elias Boudinot, Isaac Ogden, Philip Van Cortlandt, Bethuel Peirson, Caleb Camp.

MIDDLESEX.—Nathaniel Heard, William Smith, John Dunn, John Lloyd, Azariah Dunham, John Schurman, John Wetherill, David Williamson, Jonathan Sergeant, Jonathan Baldwin, Jonathan Deare.

MORRIS.—William Winds, William De Hart, Jonathan Stiles, Peter Dickerson, Jacob Drake, Ellis Cook, Silas Condit.

SOMERSET.—Hendrick Fisher, John Roy, Peter Schenck, Abraham Van Neste, Enos Kelsey, Jonathan D. Sergeant, Frederick Frelinghuysen, William Paterson.

SUSSEX.—Archibald Stewart, Edward Dumont, William Maxwell, Ephraim Martin.

MONMOUTH.—Edward Taylor, Joseph Saltar, Robert



*Montgomery, John Holmes, John Covenhoven, Daniel Hendrickson, Nicholas Van Brunt.*

HUNTERDON.—*Samuel Tucker, John Mehelm, John Hart, John Stout, Jasper Smith, Thomas Lowry, Charles Stewart, Daniel Hunt, Ralph Hart, Jacob Jennings, Richard Stevens, John Stephens, Junior, Thomas Stout, Thomas Jones, John Basset.*

BURLINGTON.—*Joseph Borden, Isaac Pearson, Colin Campbell, Joseph Read, John Pope.*

GLOUCESTER.—*John Cooper, Elijah Clark, John Sparks.*

CUMBERLAND.—*Samuel Fithian, Jonathan Elmer, Thomas Ewing.*

SALEM.—*Andrew Sinnickson, Robert Johnson, Samuel Dick, Jacob Scoggin, James James.*

CAPE-MAY.—*Jesse Hand.*

Tuesday, May 23, 1775.

The Provincial Congress having been appointed to convene this day at *Trenton*, a large number of the Deputies accordingly assembled; and the day was spent in examining and comparing the Certificates of election of the several Members present.

Wednesday, May 24, 1775.

The Congress proceeded to the choice of a President, when *Hendrick Fisher*, Esquire, was duly elected; *Jonathan D. Sergeant*, Esquire, was chosen Secretary, and *William Paterson*, Esquire, and Mr. *Frederick Frelinghuysen*, his Assistants.

Inasmuch as the business on which this Congress are now assembled, and is likely to engage their deliberations, appears to be of the highest moment, and may, in the event, affect the lives and properties, the religion and liberties of their constituents, and of their remotest posterity, it unquestionably becomes the representative body of a Christian community to look up to that all-powerful Being, by whose providence all human events are guided, humbly imploring his divine favour, in presiding over and directing their present councils towards the re-establishment of order and harmony between *Great Britain* and her distressed Colonies; and that he would be graciously pleased to succeed the measures that may be devised as most conducive to these desirable ends: It is, therefore,

*Ordered*, That the President do wait upon the Ministers of the Gospel in this Town, and, in behalf of this Congress, request their alternate attendance and service every morning at eight o'clock, during the session, in order that the business of the day may be opened with prayer for the above purposes.

The President opened to the Congress the important occasion of their meeting; recommended the utmost deliberation in determining on the measures to be pursued in defending those inestimable rights and privileges to which, by our happy Constitution, the inhabitants of this Province are justly entitled; and that due care might be taken to support the established civil authority (so far as might consist with the preservation of their fundamental liberties) for the maintenance of good order and the undisturbed administration of justice.

The Congress then took into consideration the present unhappy contest between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, which they determined to be of such a nature, and had arrived to such a crisis, that this Convention had become absolutely necessary, in order to provide such ways and means for the security of the Province, as the exigencies of the times require; and, at the same time, declared that they had assembled with the profoundest veneration for the person and family of His sacred Majesty *George the Third*, firmly professing all due allegiance to his rightful authority and Government.

Whereas a majority of the several legislative Representatives of this Colony, in General Assembly convened at *Perth-Amboy*, in *January* last, was instructed and authorized by their constituents to elect and appoint Deputies to represent this Province in the Continental Congress now sitting in the City of *Philadelphia*: And whereas the said General Assembly accordingly did elect and appoint *Stephen Crane, James Kinsey, William Livingston, John De Hart, and Richard Smith*, Esquires, for that purpose: And whereas some of the Counties of this Colony omitted

so to instruct and authorize their said legislative Representatives, who, notwithstanding, cordially joined in the said election and appointment: This Congress do, therefore, heartily approve of the said *Stephen Crane, James Kinsey, William Livingston, John De Hart, and Richard Smith*, as Representatives of this Province in the said Continental Congress; and do also sincerely thank the House of Assembly for the laudable regard they have shown for the rights and liberties of the good people of this Province, in timely adopting the Continental Association, and resolving in favour of the Resolutions and Proceedings of the late Continental Congress.

And it is unanimously agreed and *Resolved*, That it will be most eligible for the inhabitants of each respective County in this Colony, whenever a Continental Congress shall be again necessary, to appoint and empower Deputies to meet in Provincial Congress, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent this Province in such Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That all Votes be taken from the Counties respectively, so that the Vote of each County be taken as one.

The Congress having considered the application of about two hundred of the inhabitants of the Township of *Shrewsbury*, in the County of *Monmouth*, calling themselves Associators of the said Township, do unanimously advise that the persons appointed by the said present Associators as their Committee, do immediately advertise a meeting of the inhabitants of the said Township of *Shrewsbury*, in order to choose a Committee of Observation for the said Township, and adopt the Association recommended by the Continental Congress; and after such choice and adoption, to elect Deputies, one or more, to represent them in this Congress. And that the persons who shall be so elected, by a majority of the inhabitants attending the said meeting of the Township, be received as members of this Congress. And in case of the refusal or neglect of the Township so to do, then this Congress do advise the said Committee of the present Associators to send a Deputy or Deputies for themselves to this Congress; and do direct the said Committee to make and certify their report to this Congress of what shall have been done in this behalf.

Thursday, May 25, 1775.

*Samuel Tucker*, Esquire, was elected Vice-President, by a plurality of votes.

The Congress resumed the consideration of a written Message to the Continental Congress, which, after certain amendments, was approved and ordered to be entered, and a copy to be made and signed by the President; which Message is in the words following, viz:

In Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, }  
Trenton, May 25, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: In the present very alarming crisis, we have been appointed by the several Counties of this Province as their Deputies, to meet in Provincial Congress.

We are accordingly now convened in this place, with dispositions the most heartily to concur, to the utmost of our abilities, in the common cause of *America*. Yet we think it not advisable to enter into any measures of consequence, until some general plan may be agreed upon and recommended by you.

In this first instance of such Assembly in the Colony, without any precedent among ourselves to direct us, and, at the same time, anxiously concerned to make our Provincial measures consistent with that plan which may be devised and recommended by the Continental Congress, we have judged it necessary to address ourselves to you, for such advice and assistance as you, in your wisdom, may think proper to favour us with. For this purpose we have deputed two of our members, *William P. Smith* and *Elias Boudinot*, Esquires, the bearers hereof, whom we recommend to the Congress, requesting you will furnish us, by them, with such directions concerning the line of conduct in which we ought to act, as will prevent any measures we may adopt from marring or obstructing the general views of the Congress, or disappointing your expectations.

Signed by order:

HENDRICK FISHER, President.

To the Members of the Continental Congress.



Friday, May 26, 1775.

The Continental Congress having resolved unanimously, "That all exportations to *Quebeck, Nova-Scotia*, the Island of *St. John's, Newfoundland, Georgia*, (except the Parish of *St. John's*) and to *East and West Florida*, immediately cease; and that no Provisions of any kind, or other necessaries, be furnished to the *British Fisheries* on the *American* coasts, until it be otherwise determined by the Congress:"

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Congress do earnestly recommend to the good people of this Province, that they do most religiously adhere to the said Resolution; and that the Secretary do publish this Resolve in one or more of the publick Newspapers.

The Committee appointed for opening a correspondence with the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, reported a draught of a Letter for that purpose; which was read, approved, and ordered to be entered, and a copy to be made out and signed by the President; which Letter was in the words following, viz:

GENTLEMEN: We, the Deputies appointed by the inhabitants of *New-Jersey* to meet in Provincial Congress, are now convened here, for the purpose of pursuing such measures as may be thought most expedient in the present unhappy situation to which the Colonies are reduced, and which the peculiar exigencies of the times may require. As nothing can tend more to ensure success to the steps which may, at this critical juncture, be adopted by the several Provinces, than a uniform plan of conduct, we conceived it necessary to look up to the Continental Congress for their advice and direction, which we have accordingly applied for, and hope soon to receive. We also think it of consequence that a correspondence should be established with you and our other sister Colonies, and a free communication be had, from time to time, of such measures as may be judged most conducive to the interest of the common cause; and we request to be favoured with such intelligence as may occur to you worthy of attention, and of which our situation may probably deprive us.

Monday, May 29, 1775.

*Pierpoint Edwards*, Esquire, one of a Committee from the Assembly of *Connecticut* to this Congress, attended with certain propositions and instructions, which were received and read, and ordered to be referred for further consideration.

Messrs. *Daniel Hendrickson* and *Nicholas Van Brunt*, from the Township of *Shrewsbury*, in the County of *Monmouth*, produced a certificate that the said Township had chosen a Committee of Observation pursuant to the directions of the Continental Congress, and that they had elected these gentlemen as Deputies to represent the said Township in this Congress. The said certificate was allowed and filed.

Tuesday, May 30, 1775.

*William P. Smith* and *Elias Boudinot*, Esquires, the Committee sent by this Congress with a Message to the Continental Congress, returned with a written Answer, importing that the Congress were not as yet prepared to give any advice on the state of this Province, and promising the same as soon as they should be prepared.

*Jonathan D. Sergeant*, Esquire, having resigned his office of Secretary to this Congress, *William Paterson*, Esquire, was chosen Secretary, and Mr. *Frederick Frelinghuysen* Deputy Secretary.

The Congress received a Letter from the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, in answer to theirs of the 26th instant, importing their readiness to establish a correspondence with us, and a free communication of such measures as may from time to time be judged conducive to promote the common cause.

Wednesday, May 31, 1775.

The Petition of *Robert Murray* and *John Murray*, setting forth their sincere contrition for violating the Continental Association, and their determined resolution for the future strictly to observe the same, &c., was read, and ordered a second reading.

The Petition of *Robert* and *John Murray* was read a

second time; and, being now considered, it was unanimously resolved, that the petitioners, having made the best satisfaction in their power for their former breach of the General Continental Agreement, and expressed their resolution strictly to adhere to the same in future, ought to be restored to the favourable regard of their Country; and the said *Robert* and *John Murray* are accordingly restored to all the civil and commercial privileges which they heretofore enjoyed in this Province.

Afternoon.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the form of an Association, which was reported in the morning; and, after certain amendments, approved the same, and ordered it to be entered, which is in the words following:

"We, the subscribers, freeholders and inhabitants of the Township of . . . ., in the County of . . . ., and Province of *New-Jersey*, having long viewed with concern the avowed design of the Ministry of *Great Britain* to raise a revenue in *America*; being deeply affected with the cruel hostilities already commenced in the *Massachusetts-Bay* for carrying that arbitrary design into execution; convinced that the preservation of the rights and privileges of *America* depends, under *God*, on the firm union of its inhabitants, do, with hearts abhorring slavery, and ardently wishing for a reconciliation with our Parent State, on constitutional principles, solemnly associate and resolve, under the sacred ties of virtue, honour, and love to our Country, that we will personally, and as far as our influence extends, endeavour to support and carry into execution whatever measures may be recommended by the Continental and our Provincial Congresses, for defending our Constitution, and preserving the same inviolate.

"We do also further associate and agree, as far as shall be consistent with the measures adopted for the preservation of *American* freedom, to support the Magistrates and other civil officers in the execution of their duty, agreeable to the laws of this Colony; and to observe the directions of our Committee, acting according to the Resolutions of the aforesaid Continental and Provincial Congresses; firmly determined, by all means in our power, to guard against those disorders and confusions to which the peculiar circumstances of the times may expose us."

*Resolved*, That copies of the above Association be immediately sent to the Committees of Observation or Correspondence in the several Counties in this Province, which have not already associated in a similar manner, in order that the same may be signed by the several inhabitants, accompanied with the following Letter, to be signed by the President:

GENTLEMEN: Anxiously desirous to promote, as far as possible, an union among the inhabitants of this Colony, we have thought proper to recommend to them the enclosed Association, which we desire may be immediately signed by the good people of your Township; that at a time when our most valuable privileges are invaded, we may, in a uniform manner, make our defence, and prevent the evils to which our unhappy situation exposes us.

Thursday, June 1, 1775.

The Committee appointed to prepare the draught of an answer to *Pierpoint Edwards*, Esquire, reported the same, which was read, approved, and ordered to be entered, and a copy thereof to be delivered, signed by the President; which is in the words following:

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, }  
June 1, 1775. }

*Pierpoint Edwards*, Esquire, from the Colony of *Connecticut*, having laid before this Congress sundry papers, containing, among other things, the appointment of a Committee by the House of Representatives of said Colony, for the purpose of procuring intelligence of the true state of this Province, giving information of the state of the said Colony of *Connecticut*, and for cultivating harmony and good correspondence with this Province; and this Congress having read and considered the same, take this method of expressing their highest satisfaction with the spirited conduct and proceedings of the said Colony of *Connecticut*, and do hereby request the said Mr. *Edwards* to assure the Honourable House of Representatives of that Colony, that



the Province of *New-Jersey* will most heartily co-operate with them in the general measures now pursuing for the common defence of the rights of *America*, and will, with great pleasure, cultivate that harmony and good correspondence with our brethren of *Connecticut*, which they so earnestly desire; that this Congress are now engaged in settling a plan for putting the Province in the best state of defence in their power, and are ready to pursue such other methods and directions as shall be recommended to them by the Continental Congress, from whom they are daily expecting advice for this purpose; and whenever any particular measure shall be finally settled and concluded upon by this Province, the House of Representatives of *Connecticut* shall have the earliest intelligence.

Friday, June 2, 1775.

A Letter from *Pierpoint Edwards*, Esquire, requesting copies of such of the Resolves and Proceedings of this Congress as respected the regulation of the Militia, the raising of men and money, &c., for the common defence of *America*, was received and read; to which the following answer was returned, viz:

SIR: The Congress received your polite letter of this morning, and are sorry that the Militia Bill and other matters now before them are not so far completed that they can comply with your request, in giving you extracts from them to take with you to the Honourable House of Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*. You may, however, be assured, that when the Congress rises, a copy of such proceedings as shall be necessary to be communicated, will be transmitted to the Speaker of your Honourable House. We are, &c.

Saturday, June 3, 1775, P. M.

The draught of a plan for regulating the Militia of this Colony, which was reported in the morning, was read a second time; and, after sundry amendments, was approved, and ordered to be entered; which is in the words following:

The Congress, taking into consideration the cruel and arbitrary measures adopted and pursued by the *British* Parliament and present Ministry for the purpose of subjugating the *American* Colonies to the most abject servitude; and being apprehensive that all pacifick measures for the redress of our grievances will prove ineffectual, do think it highly necessary that the inhabitants of this Province be forthwith properly armed and disciplined for defending the cause of *American* freedom. And further considering that, to answer this desirable end, it is requisite that such persons be entrusted with the command of the Militia as can be confided in by the people, and are truly zealous in support of our just rights and privileges, do recommend and advise that the good people of this Province henceforward strictly observe the following Rules and Regulations, until this Congress shall make further order therein:

1st. That one or more Companies, as the case may require, be immediately formed in each Township or Corporation; and, to this end, that the several Committees in this Province do, as soon as may be, acquaint themselves with the number of male inhabitants in their respective Districts, from the age of sixteen to fifty, who are capable of bearing arms, and thereupon form them into companies, consisting, as near as may be, of eighty men each; which companies so formed shall, each by itself, assemble and choose, by plurality of voices, four persons from among themselves, of sufficient substance and capacity, for its officers, namely, one Captain, two Lieutenants, and an Ensign.

2d. That the officers so chosen appoint for their respective companies fit persons to be sergeants, corporals, and drummers.

3d. That as soon as the companies are so formed, the officers of such a number of companies as shall by them be judged proper to form a Regiment, do assemble and choose one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, a Major, and an Adjutant, for each Regiment.

4th. That each Captain, as soon as elected, furnish himself with a Muster-Roll, after the form following, to be signed by every person under his command, viz:

"We, the subscribers, do voluntarily enlist ourselves in

the company of . . . . ., in the Township of . . . . ., in the County of . . . . ., under the command of Colonel . . . . ., (if a Colonel shall be chosen at the time of subscribing,) and do promise to obey our officers in such service as they shall appoint us, agreeable to the rules and orders of the Provincial Congress. Witness our hands, &c."

5th. That the persons so enlisted meet under the direction of their officers, in such manner, and at such times and places, as shall by them be judged necessary for their improvement in military discipline; and that each whole company do assemble at least once a month for the same purpose; and that a general muster or review of the whole Regiment be had as often, and at such times, as the Field Officers shall appoint.

6th. That each person enlisted be equipped as soon as possible with arms and ammunition, in such manner as by the Field Officers of such Regiment shall be directed.

7th. That due obedience be paid to the officers, and strict attention observed in learning the military exercise.

8th. That where Companies and Regiments are already formed, and officers chosen and appointed, the same be continued, provided that they do adopt such further rules and orders respecting the signing of a muster-roll, days of meeting and reviews, as are hereinbefore contained; and that where part only of the officers are already appointed and chosen, they do proceed to elect such other officers as remain yet to be chosen, in conformity to the rules herein contained.

The Congress taking into consideration the spirited exertions of the Counties of *Morris*, *Sussex*, and *Somerset*, in raising Minute-Men, do approve of and thank them for their zeal in the common cause, and will take the same into further consideration at their next meeting.

The draught of an Ordinance for raising a sum of money for the purpose therein mentioned, after sundry amendments, was approved, and ordered to be entered, in the words following:

Whereas it has become absolutely necessary, in the present dangerous and extraordinary state of publick affairs, in which the usual resources of Government appear to be insufficient for the safety of the people, and in which the good people of this Province have therefore thought proper to choose Deputies in this present Congress, that a fund be provided for the use of the Province, we, the said Deputies, being persuaded that every inhabitant is willing and desirous to contribute his proportion of money for so important a purpose, do, pursuant to the powers entrusted to us by the people, *Resolve and direct*, that the sum of Ten Thousand Pounds, proclamation money, be immediately apportioned and raised for the use aforesaid, the same to be apportioned, laid out and disposed of, in such manner as hereinafter is directed.

2. *And it is resolved and directed*, That the part and proportion of the said sum to be raised in the County of *Bergen* be six hundred and sixty-four Pounds eight Shillings; and that the part and proportion of *Essex* be seven hundred and forty-two Pounds eighteen Shillings; and that the part and proportion of *Middlesex* be eight hundred and seventy-two Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence; and that the part or proportion of *Somerset* be nine hundred and four Pounds two Shillings; and that the part or proportion of *Monmouth* be one thousand and sixty-nine Pounds two Shillings and eight Pence; and that the part or proportion of *Morris* be seven hundred and twenty-three Pounds eight Shillings; and that the part or proportion of *Sussex* be five hundred and ninety-three Pounds five Shillings and four Pence; and that the part or proportion of *Hunterdon* be one thousand three hundred and sixty-three Pounds sixteen Shillings and eight Pence; and that the part or proportion of *Burlington* be one thousand and seventy-one Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence; and that the part or proportion of *Gloucester* be seven hundred and sixty-three Pounds two Shillings and eight Pence; and that the part or proportion of *Salem* be six hundred and seventy-nine Pounds twelve Shillings; and that the part or proportion of *Cumberland* be three hundred and eighty-five Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence; and that the part or proportion of *Cape-May* be one hundred and sixty-six Pounds eighteen Shillings.

3. *And, in order that the said sum may be duly raised,*



*It is further resolved and directed*, That the same be apportioned by persons hereafter to be appointed by the Committees of the several Townships in this Colony, in which apportionment all certainties shall be rated one-fifth less than the sums they are respectively directed to be rated at by the fourth section of an Act of the General Assembly of this Colony, made and passed in the tenth year of the reign of his present Majesty, entitled "An Act to settle the quotas of the several Counties in this Colony for the levying Taxes;" and that all lands, horses, cattle, and other taxables, be valued as in the above-mentioned Act is directed; which said apportionment shall be made and delivered to the persons to be appointed by the several Committees in each Township, at or before the first day of August next ensuing.

*And it is further resolved and directed*, That the persons who shall be appointed for apportioning the same as aforesaid in the several Townships of each County, to that end do meet together on the first Monday in July next, at such place as by the laws of this Colony have been appointed for the Assessors to meet in for the like purpose; and then and there settle and divide to each Township within their County its quota of the sum hereinbefore directed to be raised in the County.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AT  
CAMBRIDGE.

(Per express.)

Crown Point, May 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: My last was of the 19th instant, by Captain Jonathan Brown. I then advised you of my taking possession of the King's sloop, &c.; and that, on the 18th instant, on my return from St. John's, Colonel E. Allen, with about eighty or one hundred men, passed me with intention of making a stand at St. John's; and not being able to dissuade him from so rash a purpose, I supplied them with provisions, &c. Yesterday he arrived at Ticonderoga, with his party, and says that on the evening of the 18th instant he arrived with his party at St. John's, and hearing of a detachment of men on the road from Montreal, laid in ambush for them; but his people being so much fatigued, (when the party were about one mile distant,) thought proper to retreat, and crossed the lake at St. John's, where they continued the night. At dawn next day they were, when asleep, saluted with a discharge of grape-shot from six field-pieces, and a discharge of small arms from about two hundred Regulars. They made a precipitate retreat, and left behind them three men. Immediately on this advice I proceeded here with the sloop and schooner, well armed as possible under our circumstances, and eighty men, which, with the party here before, makes near one hundred and fifty men, with whom I am determined to make a stand here to secure the cannon, it being impossible to remove them at present. I am in hourly expectation of two or three hundred men more; most of those here are enlisted. Colonel Allen's men are in general gone home.

As the Regulars have good information of our strength and movements, I am apprehensive of their paying us a visit, provided they can get batteaus from Montreal to St. John's. I shall make every possible preparation to give them a warm reception. I have commissioned Captain John Sloan in the sloop, and Captain Isaac Mathues in the schooner. I have wrote to New-York for a number of gunners and seamen to man the two vessels, being in great want of them. At present obliged to stay on board one of them myself.

As soon as a sufficient number of men arrives, I shall lose no time in carrying your orders into execution in regard to the cannon, &c. This morning, very luckily, an escort of provisions (five barrels of pork and thirty barrels of flour) arrived here as a present from Albany, under the care of Captain Elisha Phelps. The last barrel of our pork being aboach, I have ordered fifty barrels of pork and one hundred of flour from Albany, which I expect soon; prior to which I bought fifteen oxen and thirty barrels of flour, which is all the provisions purchased as yet. The people who have enlisted are promised the same bounty as is given in the Massachusetts-Bay. A sum of money will be requisite to carry matters into execution. I

4. *And it is further resolved and directed*, That the several Committees in each Township of the Colony shall appoint fit persons to collect the same, who, upon receiving the said apportionment, shall immediately collect and pay the same to such person or persons as the several Committees in each County may hereafter appoint; or, where there is no County Committee, to such person or persons as the several Township Committees shall jointly appoint.

5. *And it is further resolved and directed*, That after the part or proportion of each County shall have been apportioned and received by the County Collector, he shall and do pay the same, or any part or parts thereof, to the County Committee, or to their order, signed by their Chairman, by their vote, the same to be disposed of by them in such manner as they in their discretion shall think most proper to answer the said exigencies.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Fisher, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Daniel Hunt, Mr. Frelinghuysen, Mr. I. Pearson, Mr. Dunham, Mr. Schurman, Mr. John Hart, Mr. Borden, Mr. Deare, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Ralph Hart, and Mr. Heard, or any three of them, in conjunction with the President or Vice-President, be a Committee of Correspondence, with power to convene this Congress.

have one hundred and sixty Pounds, found in the sloop; but as it was the Captain's property, do not choose to make use of it at present. I have sent to Albany repeatedly for powder, and can get none; have only one hundred and fifty pounds here, which I brought from Concord. I beg you will order a quantity to be forwarded here immediately. I have wrote to Connecticut, but can have no dependance from that quarter, as it is very scarce there.

I hope some gentleman will soon be appointed in my room here, who is better able to serve the publick than I am. Interim, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To the Committee of Safety at Cambridge.

P. S. Since writing the above, one of Colonel Allen's party, who was taken prisoner at St. John's, has made his escape, and says, that on the 19th instant there were four hundred Regulars at St. John's, who expected to be joined by more men, and were making all possible preparation to cross the lake and retake Crown Point and Ticonderoga. I have sent expresses to Fort George and Skenesborough, to rally the Country. You may depend, gentlemen, these places will not be given up unless we are overpowered by numbers, or deserted by Providence, which has hitherto supported us.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, {  
May 23, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: There appears to be some considerable difficulty in the adjustment of General Ward's Regiment, so far as it respects the first that may have command under him in his Regiment. The circumstances we would beg leave to lay before your Honours: Colonel Joseph Henshaw came down Lieutenant-Colonel of a Minute Regiment, under General Ward, and still expects to hold his command under General Ward in said Regiment, upon the present establishment, as he was early applied to by the Committee for that purpose; Colonel Jonathan Ward came down Lieutenant-Colonel under General Ward, of the Standing Militia, and likewise expects to hold his command under General Ward, in the present establishment, having given out enlisting orders to the Captains in said Regiment. Seven Captains in said Regiment desire that Colonel Ward may be appointed, as appears by a certificate under their hands. This Committee have applied to General Ward to determine which of said Colonels should have the command, but he declines to act in the affair. We therefore thought it proper to make this short representation to your Honours, that you might, in your wisdom, put a speedy end to said controversy.

WILLIAM COOPER, Secretary.

To the Hon. Provincial Congress in Watertown.



## PETITION OF JOHN MERRILL.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress now at WATERTOWN: The Petition of the subscriber humbly sheweth:

That there is now at *Topsham* a company of able-bodied men, the number about sixty, who have mostly good effectual fire-arms, but they have very little, or most of them no powder, on which account they are supposed to be in great danger from the *Indians*, as well as other ways; this is therefore to pray your Honours to give some directions where may be had about fifty or sixty pounds of powder, for which the cash shall be paid by your very humble servant,

JOHN MERRILL.

Watertown, May 23, 1775.

## SELECTMEN OF WALTHAM TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AT CAMBRIDGE.

Waltham, May 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In obedience to a letter we received from you with respect to Mr. *Millicant*, we have made particular inquiry into Mrs. *Millicant's* passing to and repassing from *Boston*, and after the most critical inquiry, we find Mrs. *Millicant* went only once to *Boston*, to bring her little children out of *Boston*, which were at Mrs. *Newman's*, before the engagement; and from a particular inquiry into that affair, are persuaded she conveyed no intelligence to our enemies, that can be any ways detrimental to the important cause in which we are engaged; and from Mr. *Millicant's* known integrity, uprightness, and good conduct, since he has been with us, we cannot but suppose the information you received of Mr. *Millicant's* conveying intelligence to our enemies, was from a person either prejudiced against, or entirely unknown to him, and so suspected him to be our enemy, because he is on the half-pay list. However, we shall be on the watch, and very careful that no intelligence be conveyed to our enemies by Mr. *Millicant*, or any other person in this Town. We are, gentlemen, with due deference, your humble and obedient servants,

JONAS DIX,  
NATH. BRIDGE, } *Selectmen of*  
JOSIAH BROWN, } *Waltham.*  
JOHN CLARK,

## TEWKESBURY (MASS.) COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.

Tewkesbury, May 23, 1775.

Whereas Mr. *Timothy Brown*, of this Town, has been suspected of being an enemy to the liberties of *America*: We, the Committee of Inspection of said *Tewkesbury*, having heretofore taken the matter under our inspection, and had the said *Brown* upon examination before us, and found no proof of the late charges laid against him, we set up notifications desiring any person that had any thing to offer by way of evidence against the said *Brown's* character, to offer it to us; and again having met this day upon adjournment, and had the said *Brown* again upon examination, and still no further evidence against the said *Brown* appears, but he declares himself a friend to the liberties of his Country, and that he will use the utmost of his endeavours to defend the same; therefore we would inform the publick, that unless some absolute proof be brought against him, the said *Brown* ought not to be treated as an enemy, but as a friend to our just rights and liberties.

ISAAC KITTERIDGE, JACOB SHED,  
NATHANIEL HEYWOOD, ELDAH WORCESTER,  
DAVID BAYLEY, EZRA KENDALL,  
EB'ZER WHITTEMORE,

Committee of Inspection for Tewkesbury.

## NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS TO JOHN SULLIVAN AND JOHN LANGDON, ESQUIRES, AT PHILADELPHIA.

Exeter, May 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Although it is painful to us to have occasion to realize the necessity of deciding by the sword the present controversy with *Great Britain*, yet we trust you will know with satisfaction that, in the fullest representative body this Province ever had, it was unanimously voted to raise a body of men for the purposes of general defence. As we conclude you have been already sufficiently apprised of the hostile conduct of the Army under General *Gage*,

we can assure you that the whole Colony seems to be of one heart and one soul; so that even those who had been formerly inactive, are now soberly awake and active. The blood of their brethren has roused them.

We could have desired to consult a General Congress, if time had allowed, before we had taken such an important step as raising a military force. But the case seemed too plain to be doubted, and too urgent to be delayed. We have resolved to raise forthwith two thousand men. How shall we pay them, you are sensible, must now be one question.

We trust, as you know the state of the Colony, that you will enter into the full importance of the question. We desire you will do your utmost to forward some plan in which we may be able to discharge our engagements. We must, gentlemen, press you on this article. The little cash we ever had, is by one means or another almost entirely drained off. The most are ready to join, and are willing to expend one half, if they may preserve the other. Yet we seem to have no method left but borrowing, and we don't know that we can borrow, unless we issue a proper currency ourselves, or have a currency on a general plan, or can borrow in some of the other Colonies.

With regard to what is further necessary to regulate the general policy of the Colonies, you will find our situation and views, so far as we have formed any, in our enclosed letter to the Congress. You may rely upon it that if any general regulations of the Province are thought necessary or best, we shall be ready to receive the same, and govern ourselves accordingly.

Gentlemen, we commit ourselves and you, the honourable body of which you are members, and the cause of liberty and justice throughout *America* and the world, to the all-directing Mind, and subscribe, with much esteem, your most obedient servant.

To the Honourable John Sullivan and John Langdon, Esquires, Members for this Colony of *New-Hampshire* in the Continental Congress.

## THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Received and read before Congress June 2, 1775.]

Exeter, May 23, 1775.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: *British America* being entrusted to your wisdom, the proposal of those plans, by which, as by a pole star, it may steer in the tempest occasioned by the arrogant claims, the haughty threats, and unnatural attacks of the *British Ministry*, it is reasonable for you to expect, and for each Colony to choose, that whatever important step is taken by any of the Colonies, the consequence of which reaches the whole, you should receive the earliest authentick intelligence of the measure itself, together with the facts and motives leading to it, that it may be either diverted, forwarded, or ripened, so as to harmonize with whatever extensive plan the great Fountain of wisdom, and Friend of justice shall inspire the guardians of our common rights.

Long has *America* mourned to find those she wishes to revere, adopting one plan after another to strip her of the blessings of freedom, deaf to all her pleas for justice.

The counsels of *America*, united in that illustrious body, the late Continental Congress, we hoped, that, by denying ourselves, we should scatter the mists which hid the path of justice from the eye of *Britain*; but with pain we have learned that firmness is insolence, and that the most calm resolution to be free is treason in the new Ministerial language.

In spite of the gathering storm, we yet resolved, if possible, to avoid the last retreat of the injured—an appeal to God by the sword; but at length plain and pressing facts constrain us to believe that our enemies mean to deny us every other; though, to our view, the thought is shaded deep in horrors.

Not long since the alarm sounded through this Colony, that the insidious foe, though continually speaking of peace, had begun a scene of bloodshed and devastation on the lives and property of our brethren in the *Massachusetts*.

Listening only to calls of humanity, without waiting for consultations, with all the speed of common interest and friendship, we generally run to their aid; but we come to



be only witnesses, as yet, of the scenes of pillage and of slaughter, perpetrated by the sons of violence. The enemy were retreated. Our situation obliged us to return, not to neglect the cause, but that we might prosecute, by united and consistent counsels, with steady firmness.

As soon as convenience would allow, being directed by our brethren of this Colony to act for them in the present exigence, which seems not to allow time for consulting *America* at large, feeling for ourselves, our friends, and our Country, we have determined to exert our utmost efforts in defence of the common cause of *America*, and for the present have resolved to raise the number of two thousand men, (including officers,) to be employed as occasion shall require, under the regulation of this Convention, until we have the advice of the Continental Congress, to whose superintendence we choose to submit. We have, in consequence, engaged to provide for the pay of the above number, until the last day of *December* next.

We beg leave to suggest that this will, of course, introduce a vast expense. We will not conceal that the circulating cash in this Province is very small, in but a trifling proportion, as we suppose, to the necessary demand on this occasion. We ask the advice and assistance of the Congress with regard to the best method of carrying the above vote into execution. We desire to have the benefit of some general plan for bills of credit, or that we may act with the advice of the Congress in issuing such ourselves; or that we may be pointed to such other methods as shall appear just and equal, in apportioning the expense of the common cause.

Although we ardently wish that, if possible, a connection may yet be preserved between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, founded on the invariable principles of justice, and the general principles of the *British* Constitution, yet we are entirely disposed to respect, and willing to submit to any plan of further uniting the Colonies, for the purpose of common security and defence.

We will not conceal that many among us are disposed to conclude, that the voice of *God* and Nature, to us, since the late hostile design and conduct of *Great Britain*, is, that we are bound to look to our whole political affairs.

We have not yet largely and fully consulted with one another on this article, but have only acted with the single view of the plain necessity of certain steps to be taken, to secure us from the ruin which the *British* Ministry have prepared for us. We trust we shall keep this alone in view until we hear the united plan of the Colonies in the General Council, which we pray and trust may be under the influence of Heaven.

By order of the Convention of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

MATTHEW THORNTON, *President*.

To the Honourable Members of the Congress now sitting in the City of *Philadelphia*.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Province of New-Hampshire, in Provincial Convention, }  
Exeter, May 23, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: We acknowledge the honour of an interview with your Committee, the Honourable *Joseph Gerrish*, Esquire, and Colonel *Ebenezer Sawyer*, and the intelligence by them communicated to us; and, in way of reply, would inform you, that in consideration of the present alarming state of the Colonies in general, and your Province in particular, we have determined to raise, for the common defence and safety, two thousand men, including officers and those already employed in the publick service, belonging to this Province; to be raised and qualified as soon as may be, and more, if it shall appear to be our proportion, as soon as a proper estimate can be made. And in respect to such other matters as your Committee had in commission to us, we shall take them into our serious consideration; as they are matters of so great importance we cannot immediately determine respecting them, but would wait the advice and direction of the General Congress, to which we are about immediately to apply, as we find you have done. We would beg leave to assure you that the people of this Province appear to be heartily engaged in the common

cause, and at all hazards determined to stand by and support it, relying on Divine Providence for success.

By order of Convention:

MATTHEW THORNTON, *President*.

To the Honourable Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### COLONEL JOHN FENTON TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Portsmouth, N. H., May 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I this moment received your letter of the twenty-third instant. I do assure you, gentlemen, I mentioned the matter respecting the *Indians* coming down on our frontiers, in my letter to the people of the County of *Grafton*, as a matter of opinion only, nor have I the least clue or circumstance to guide me in these sentiments but mere opinion.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN FENTON.

P. S. I wrote that letter to the people of the County of *Grafton* out of absolute friendship and regard to the County.

Portsmouth, April 26, 1775.

To the People of the County of *GRAFTON*, from a real friend, who sincerely wishes their well doing:

For *God's* sake pay the closest attention to the sowing and planting your lands, and do as much of it as possible, not only for your own and families' subsistence, but to supply the wants of your fellow-men down country; for you may be assured that every kind of distress, in the provision way, is coming upon them.

Let nothing induce you to quit your farming business. Mind no reports; and do not think of coming down country to fight. There are enough without you; therefore your diligence in farming will much more serve your Country than coming to assist us. Much depends on the back settlements raising plenty of grain.

I am informed that should the people from the back settlements take up arms, a number of *Indians* and *Canadians* will fall upon them; but that if they remain quiet they will not. This I inform you of from the love I bear you, and give it you as a sincere friend should do.

JOHN FENTON.

Exeter, June 27, 1775.

Colonel *Fenton's* compliments to the President of the Congress, requests to know if it will be convenient to be called before them to-morrow morning; if so, he begs he may be informed, as his family are only waiting to know what is to become of him, before they quit this Province.

In Congress, Exeter, June 30, 1775.

Upon a full hearing of sundry complaints against Colonel *John Fenton*:

Voted, That the said Colonel *John Fenton* is an enemy to the liberties of *America*.

July 1, 1775.

Voted, That Captain *Josiah Moulton* be desired to take four men and an officer out of Captain *Elkins's* Company at *Hampton*, and convey Colonel *John Fenton* to Headquarters of the *New-Hampshire* Forces, and deliver him to General *Nathaniel Folsom*, there to be confined till further orders.

#### PETITION OF CAPTAIN DELAPLACE.

To the Honourable the General Assembly of the Governor and Company of the *ENGLISH* Colony of *CONNECTICUT*, in *NEW-ENGLAND*, in *AMERICA*, now convened at *HARTFORD*.

The memorial of *William Delaplace*, a Captain in His Majesty's Twenty-sixth Regiment, and commandant of the Fort and Garrison of *Ticonderoga*, in behalf of himself and the officers and soldiers under his command, beg leave to represent our difficult situation to your Honours, and petition for redress.

Your memorialist would represent, that on the morning of the tenth of *May* instant, the Garrison of the Fortress of *Ticonderoga*, in the Province of *New-York*, was surprised by a party of armed men under the command of one



*Ethan Allen*, consisting of about one hundred and fifty, who had taken such measures effectually to surprise the same, that very little resistance could be made, and to whom your memorialists were obliged to surrender as prisoners; and overpowered by a superiour force, were disarmed, and by said *Allen* ordered immediately to be sent to *Hartford*, in the Colony of *Connecticut*, where your memorialists now are detained as prisoners of war, consisting of officers, forty-seven private soldiers of His Majesty's Troops, besides women and children. That your memorialists being ignorant of any crime by them committed, whereby they should be thus taken and held, also are ignorant by what authority said *Allen* thus took them, or that they are thus detained in a strange country, and at a distance from the post assigned them; thus know not in what light they are considered by your Honours, consequently know not what part to act; would therefore ask your Honours' interposition and protection, and order that they be set at liberty, to return to the post from whence they were taken, or to join the Regiment to which they belong; or if they are considered in the light of prisoners of war, your Honours would be pleased to signify the same to them, and by whom they are detained, and that your Honours would afford us your favour and protection during the time we shall tarry in this Colony; and your memorialists shall ever pray.

WILLIAM DELAPLACE,  
Captain Commandant *Ticonderoga Fort*.

Hartford, May 24, 1775.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
May 24, 1775. }

*Friends and Fellow-Countrymen:*

With great satisfaction we bear publick testimony of your disposition to serve the glorious cause in which *America* is now engaged, evidenced by your readiness to supply on the credit of the Colony many necessary articles for the use of the Army, and in various other ways; by which you have given convincing proofs that you are heartily disposed to maintain the publick liberty. The cause, we have not the least doubt, if you continue to exert yourselves in conjunction with our sister Colonies, will finally prevail.

This Congress have opened a subscription for one hundred thousand Pounds, lawful money, for which the Receiver-General is directed to issue notes on interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, payable in *June*, 1777; and as it is of the utmost importance that the money be immediately obtained, that the publick credit may not suffer, we most earnestly recommend to such of you as have cash in your hands, which you can spare from the necessary supplies of your families, that you would lend the same to the Colony; by which you will put it in our power to carry into effect the measures undertaken for the salvation of the Country.

That the Army should be well supplied with every article necessary for the most effectual military operations, you must all be sensible, and that if we should fail herein it may prove ruinous and destructive to the community, whose safety (under *God*) depends upon their vigorous exertions.

As you have already, in many instances, nobly exerted yourselves, this Congress have not the smallest doubt but that you will with great cheerfulness crown all by furnishing as much cash as will be necessary for the good purposes aforementioned; especially when it is considered that there are now no ways of improving money in trade, and that there is the greatest probability the other Colonies will give a ready currency to the notes, which will render them in one respect at least on a better footing than any other notes heretofore issued in this Colony.

If you should furnish the money that is now needed you will perform a meritorious service for your Country, and prove yourselves sincerely attached to its interests. But if an undue caution should prevent your doing this essential service to the Colony, the total loss both of your liberties and that very property which you by retaining it affect to save, may be the unhappy consequence; it being past all controversy that the destruction of individuals must be involved in that of the publick.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE HON. ENOCH FREEMAN.

Falmouth, May 24, 1775.

You informed me that the last Provincial Congress did me the honour to choose me one of the Committee of Safety for the Province. You may acquaint that Committee that were my health and capacity equal to my inclination to serve the publick, I should cheerfully attend that service without delay; but at present I cannot possibly go up. Yet if I can be of any service to the common cause in the mean time, in these exposed parts of the Country, my utmost endeavours shall not be wanting, and as soon as I can find myself able, purpose to come up.

It would, perhaps, be convenient for the publick, that some person or persons here should be appointed, whose business it should be to execute the orders of the Congress and Committee of Safety, and to communicate back to them, from time to time, intelligence and occurrences that may affect the publick, without the trouble of getting a quorum of Committee and Selectmen together, who live at a distance, which often causes great delay; and my time is so often taken up in one publick affair and another, that I am obliged to neglect my own business to my great damage.

If the Congress should allow the Regiment raised here in this County to be stationed among us for our defence, it will be necessary that some body should have the care of them, besides their own officers, to employ them in such a manner as shall be most for the safety of the whole.

In this service I think I might be of as much or more service to the publick than if I were to go up to the Committee; and as the gentlemen there are more acquainted with the circumstances of that part of the Province than I am, I should be of the less advantage to them, and I presume I am more acquainted with this part of the Province, and, with their concurrence, may be of more service to the publick here, than there; for here new emergencies may and do often arise, which require immediate attention.

I heard to-day that lately there were a number of *Indians* up *Androscoggin River* consulting what side to take, but could not agree among themselves. 'Tis pity but somebody here should be employed to negotiate with them, or any other *Indians*, as opportunity should offer.

A man from *Deer Island*, near *Penobscot*, was here this afternoon, and gives a melancholy account of the distress the people are in that way, for want of bread, owing to the stoppage of trade. He heard that several children had died of hunger. What will become of them *God* only knows; we are not able to help them or ourselves. I don't know what can be done for them or us, without some vessel of superiour force to the tenders should be provided to bring bread-kind among us.

I just now heard that Colonel *John Cox* was taken on his passage to *New-York* with spars, and carried into *Boston*.

WORCESTER COUNTY (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

Worcester, May 24, 1775.

Whereas the meeting of the Convention of this County stands adjourned to the second *Tuesday* in *June* next, but as the honourable Provincial Congress have resolved that it will be expedient for the several Committees of Correspondence to render a true statement of the conduct of their respective Towns and Districts, on the fourth *Wednesday* of this instant, *May*, especially with regard to their outstanding Provincial rates: Agreeable thereto the Committees of Correspondence for the several Towns and Districts in this County, are hereby requested to meet at the Court-House in *Worcester*, on *Wednesday* next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon. Several matters of importance require a general attendance. Such Towns as have voted for a County Treasurer are desired to send in their votes to said Convention on said day.

WILLIAM YOUNG, *Chairman*.

Worcester, Massachusetts, May 24, 1775.

It having been thought highly expedient, at this exigency of our publick affairs, that every person among us who is known to be an enemy to the rights and privileges of this Country, and has been aiding or abetting to the cursed plans of a tyrannical ruler and an abandoned Min-



istry, should be disarmed, and rendered as incapable as possible of doing further material mischief to this distressed Province, the Tories in this Town were notified to appear with their arms and ammunition on *Monday* last. They accordingly appeared, and after surrendering their arms to the Committee of Correspondence, and being strictly ordered not to leave the Town or to meet together, without a permit, were dismissed.

#### WOBURN (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

Whereas the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Woburn*, authorized by the honourable Provincial Congress to examine into the principles and conduct of any person suspected of being inimical to the liberties of this Country, have examined Major *Benjamin Thompson*, of *Concord*, in the Province of *New-Hampshire*, being brought before them, suspected of being thus inimical. And whereas the said Committee have summoned certain evidences, who they supposed could give light into the matter, to attend, which evidence failed of so doing: This is therefore to inform all persons who are knowing to the said Major *Thompson's* conduct, that the Committee have adjourned to *Monday*, the 29th day of *May* next, at three o'clock, afternoon, at the meeting-house, where said evidence are desired to attend, as the Committee think themselves bound to dismiss and recommend the said *Thompson*, unless something more appears against him than what they have heard.

SAMUEL WYMAN, *Chairman*.

May 24, 1775.

#### COMMITTEES OF SAFETY OF PORTSMOUTH, GREENLAND, AND RYE.

At a meeting of the Committees of Safety of the Towns of *Portsmouth*, *Greenland*, and *Rye*, concerning the examination of one *John Ackerman*, upon a suspicion of the said *John Ackerman's* being inimical to the liberties and privileges of this Country, suspected to be giving and receiving intelligence from the *British* Troops, for which purposes of inquiry the said *Ackerman* was sent from the Provincial Congress in *Exeter*, to their Committees; and after a thorough examination of the said *Ackerman*, *Benjamin Hart* and *John Reise*, who were represented to them by said Congress as having sent the said *Ackerman* into the country: It appears to the said Committees that the said *Ackerman* was sent into the country as aforesaid for personal safety, to give intelligence of any armed men coming to *Portsmouth*, as the peculiar stations of some persons gave suspicion of some design against them, and that it was for no other end that the said *Ackerman* was sent, as appears from their particular examination upon oath, had before us, the said Committees, and they were accordingly dismissed.

By order of the Committee for *Portsmouth*:

H. WENTWORTH, *Chairman*.

By order of the Committee for *Greenland*:

JOHN HAVEN, *Chairman*.

By order of the Committee for *Rye*:

JOSEPH PARSONS, *Chairman*.

Portsmouth, N. H., May 24, 1775.

Portsmouth, May 23, 1775.

This certifies that the bearer, Mr. *John Folsom*, brought a prisoner, viz: *John Ackerman*, from the Provincial Congress at *Exeter*, before the Committee of Safety for the Town of *Portsmouth*, who ordered a guard to be kept on him till examination to-morrow, ten o'clock, A. M.

Committee Hall, *Tuesday*, 4 o'clock, P. M.

NEAL MCINTYRE, *Secretary*.

#### RICHMOND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, May 25, 1775.

In Committee, *Landon Carter*, Esquire, in the Chair. As His Majesty's Council have judged it proper to publish an admonitory address to the community at large, we should think ourselves wanting in respect to the deliberations of that honourable Board not to consider it with the strictest attention. We have done so accordingly; and as we find that the matter of the address is not only exceptionable, but are farther informed that it is industriously circu-

lated amongst the people, together with a proposition lately made in the House of Commons by *Lord North*, which covers the most insidious and dangerous views, under an artful guise of wisdom, humanity, and peace, we should be wanting in a much higher duty to ourselves and our constituents, should we fail to animadvert on both with freedom and decency. We cannot, then, think,

*First*. That the mild professions of regard for the prosperity and welfare of this Country, in the first part of the address, are consistent with the passionate expressions of detestation and abhorrence for that spirit in the people by which alone the liberties of this Country can be secured. We confess we are entire strangers to any licentious and ungovernable spirit prevailing. If the honourable gentlemen mean to brand the late commotions with these appellations, we are compelled to observe that no person can so unjustly and uncharitably construe them, unless he entirely turn aside from the violent and provoking measures which justify them; for it cannot be expected that the people should continue quiet when every violence is offered to their privileges and prosperity, or that they should tamely suffer the foundation of their Constitution to be overturned by a too scrupulous adherence to its form.

*Second*. That inviting and exhorting to mild and constitutional modes of application clearly implies, that they esteem our former proceedings in this respect violent and irregular. The justice of this charge we leave to be decided by the world, who are in possession, and who have given ample testimony in favour of the many suppliant, wise, and firm applications, which have been addressed to the several branches of the *British* Legislature.

*Third*. We allow all due weight to the pledges of their friendship, which the Honourable Council have among us; and we hope that their integrity may ever be an effectual antidote to the influence of that servile and baneful spirit which we are authorized (by the explicit declarations of many independent and respectable members of both Houses of Parliament) to say, prevail extensively in this age, with men in office.

With respect to the proposition of *Lord North*, above-mentioned, insultingly called, by ministerial tools, the *olive branch*, we are of the opinion that it offers no kind of redress (even if the Colonies should submit) of any one of the many grievances under which they now labour; for in the only instance in which a seeming redress is proposed, (that of taxation,) the Parliament of *Great Britain* is to settle the quantum to be raised by each Colony, and the application thereof, the Colonies determining only on the mode of levying. This by no means is relief to them, but in fact puts them in a worse situation than ever, as they thereby will fully acknowledge the absolute power of the *British* Parliament; and we are still to have the sword hung over our heads, ready to fall on such as shall in any instance disoblige the Minister, or refuse to obey his dictates. *Lord North* himself declared his intention was only to divide the Colonies, and thereby the more easily subdue them. The selecting out Governor *Pownall's* speech alone, approving the motion, when so many excellent speeches were made exposing the measure, and setting its treachery and absurdity in a clear and evident light, is a certain proof of the design of the King's officers here to mislead the good people of this Colony.

By order of the Committee:

LE ROY PEACHY, *Clerk*.

#### LANCASTER COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

The Committee of the County of *Lancaster*, on the 25th day of *May*, 1775, taking into consideration his Excellency *Lord Dunmore's* Address to the Council, and their recommendation and Proclamation issued in consequence thereof, hold they are necessarily bound to justify themselves and their constituents from such cruel imputations and assertions, and that such Proclamation must tend to excite a belief of an intention to change the Government, or raise convulsions in the state.

That the behaviour of some of the people in this Colony, alluded to, originated in a full assurance of the determined bloody plan to enslave the Colonies, manifested in various instances and ungracious encroachments, and more particularly and immediately in his Excellency's clandes-



tine removal of the powder from the publick Magazine of the Colony.

That his Excellency's ill-founded and injurious charge, to criminate the body of the people in this Colony, is hostile, and cannot be justified; therefore, he has forfeited the confidence of the inhabitants of this Country.

That those members of His Majesty's Council who recommended and assisted in such Proclamation, and also since gave their advice to the good people of this Country, prefaced with cruel and indecent allegations, manifestly implying seditious and rebellious actions, tending to raise bitter dissensions and animosities, acted without prudence, policy, moderation, or generosity; and we are most sensibly grieved, that those whose duty and high department should warm them to every mode of reconciliation, should not only countenance, but themselves become incendiaries to fix, by their publication, a stigma by such an unmerited stricture on their brethren and fellow sufferers.

That our application for redress of grievances so justly founded, so often and vainly repeated; our long sufferance and forbearance under such unfellow-feeling, unrelenting measures, and our ardent wishes and endeavours for a reconciliation, by the restitution of our just rights and privileges, as we enjoyed them in the year 1763, evinces our attachment to our once happy Constitution, and our allegiance to our gracious Sovereign.

We, in order to exculpate ourselves and our constituents from such heinous maledictions, and to convince the world of our upright intentions, pledge ourselves to support the Constitution, and His Majesty King *George* the Third, in all his just rights and prerogatives, with our lives and fortunes.

Published by order of the Committee.

#### TO THE PUBLICK.

Norfolk, Va., May 25, 1775.

The inhabitants of the Borough of *Norfolk*, in town-meeting assembled, being informed that Captain *Collins*, of the *Magdalen* armed schooner, is endeavouring to dispose of a sloop seized by him, lately belonging to *John Bowdoin*, Esquire, of the *Eastern Shore*; and being also further informed, that the said *Collins* has made application to some persons for the purchase of a pilot boat, probably with an intention to convert her into a tender, to distress the trade of this or some other Colony: The inhabitants of this Borough are therefore determined to give no encouragement to him, or any such men, nor purchase any of their prizes from them, nor in the least contribute to their emolument by bidding for the plunder of our countrymen; nor will we sell any pilot boat or any other vessel to them for their hostile purposes, nor in any respect have any kind of dealings with them. And the inhabitants of this Borough, assembled as aforesaid, do further resolve, to have no dealing with any person that, in spite of the ties of duty and attachment to his Country, shall counteract these our resolutions, by granting any assistance for the destruction of our rights and properties, or of any other of the good people of the confederated Colonies. And we invite all persons to accede to this resolution.

Test: **WILLIAM DAVIES, Secretary.**

#### TO THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA.

Williamsburgh, May 25, 1775.

Whilst we are almost involved in all the terrors of a civil war; whilst the injured genius of *America* cries aloud for justice; and whilst the only measures by which an accommodation can be procured meet with a most daring and unjust opposition from some of our most distinguished men, who should rather be the principal promoters of it: can I, without doing violence to reason, avoid exclaiming against the inhumanity of the action? Were they *Englishmen*, I should only say that they could not divest themselves of that partiality for their native Country, almost inherent in our nature, and of consequence had imbibed wrong principles; but for *Americans*, both born and brought up among us, to sell their Country for a smile, or some ministerial office, what language is sufficient to express the indignation, the contempt, which such conduct must naturally create in every virtuous breast. Alas! *Great Britain*, thy vices have even extended to *America*. So small

an isle is become insufficient to contain such innumerable pollutions. *Americans!* the torrent as yet is but small; only a few are involved in it; it must be soon stopped, or it will bear all before it with an impetuous sway. The warlike *Coriolanus*, after he had fought many great and memorable battles in the service of his Country, after he had opposed in *Carioli*, an extensive city, all its inhabitants, as valiantly as ever extravagant fiction represents *Hector* to have done in the *Grecian* camp; I say, after he had performed such meritorious actions for his Country, when he found himself treated contemptuously, and banished from the city for taking up arms against his Country in his own defence, has all his former glory sullied. In what light, then, must we look on our countrymen, who espouse the side of the infamous Ministry? The conclusion is obvious. Pity for the despicable wretches bids me cease to draw it. **VOLUNTARIUS.**

Kent-County upon Delaware, May 25, 1775.

The Militia Officers of above twenty Companies, chosen in the several Districts throughout said County, met together at *Dover*; and that the business of the day might be conducted with order and regularity, they chose Captain *John Haslet*, Chairman, and Lieutenant *Mark McCall*, Clerk.

The following Association was then drawn up, and unanimously approved and subscribed, viz:

"We, whose names are hereunto written, Military Officers, duly elected and chosen by the good people of the several Hundreds and Districts of the County of *Ken* upon *Delaware*, pursuant to the direction and recommendation of the Committee of Inspection for said County, do hereby jointly and severally, for ourselves and each of us, solemnly promise and engage, by the sacred ties of honour and love for our Country, that we and each of us will, to the utmost of our abilities, well and faithfully execute the important offices conferred upon us by our fellow-subjects, and in our military and every other capacity, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, defend the liberties and privileges of *America*, as well natural as constitutional, against all invaders, or such as may attempt any the least violation or infringement of them.

"And we do further, in manner aforesaid, promise and agree, that we, and each of us, will subject ourselves to such pains, penalties, military punishments, and disgrace, as Courts Martial, to be constituted from time to time of the officers of our own body, shall or may inflict on any of us offending against the rules of military discipline, or contravening, in word or deed, the true interest of *America*, or the spirit and principle of this Association."

The Convention next proceeded to divide the County into two Divisions, each division to contain one Regiment of men, and then chose the necessary Field-Officers for each Regiment, viz:

For the Upper Regiment.

The Honourable *Cesar Rodney*, Esq., Colonel;  
*Thomas Collins*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; and  
Mr. *French Battell*, Major.

For the Lower Regiment.

*John Haslet*, Esquire, Colonel;  
*William Rhodes*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; and  
Mr. *Robert Hodgson*, Major.

They then settled an uniform plan of their future conduct, with rules to be observed in every Company; and broke up in perfect harmony.

Published by order of the Convention:

**MARK MCCALL, Clerk.**

#### ARTHUR ST. CLAIR TO GOVERNOUR PENN.

Ligonier, May 25, 1775.

SIR: An express from *Pittsburgh*, with despatches for your Honour, having called here this morning, I embrace the opportunity to inform your Honour that a commission is come up from *Virginia* to collect the Colony duty on all peltries exported from that place, and that notice has been given to the traders there to conduct themselves accordingly. I think they will find some way to evade paying it, and those that are not yet come in, will cer-



tainly carry them past. 'Tis a shocking thing that people should be obliged to such shift, and the trade of the Province be destroyed, by the obstinacy and caprice of one man. I flatter myself, however, it will not be of long continuance. Lord *Dunmore's* seizing the magazine has raised such a ferment that he will not probably visit the frontiers soon, and by the prorogation of his Assembly, the invasion law, under which it seems the garrison of the fort was kept up, will expire; I think the ninth of next month is its period, and I am informed *Connolly* is preparing to decamp.

We have nothing but masters and Committees all over the country, and every thing seems to be running into the greatest confusion. If some conciliating plan is not adopted by the Congress, *America* has seen her golden days; they may return, but will be preceded by scenes of horror. An Association is formed in this County for defence of *American* liberty. I got a clause added, by which they bind themselves to assist the civil Magistrates in the execution of the laws they have been accustomed to be governed by.

*Hanna* and *Cavet* are still pressing me to do something for their relief, and are very desirous they should be brought off by force; their project was, that writs should be issued against them, and that the Sheriff should take a posse with him and bring them away, and make prisoners at the same time of their persecutors. I believe 'tis very practicable, but I gave them to know that without positive directions from your Honour I would advise no such step, and that I thought you would not direct any that might have a tendency to embroil the Provinces. However, it is no wonder that they are uneasy; they have been long confined, and must have suffered considerably by it.

Lord *Dunmore* has issued a Proclamation, disclaiming the proceedings of the Surveyors in taking entries of lands, and ordering them to return the money received for them, but has spared their names; but I have seen none of them; they were spirited away, it seems, as fast as they appeared.

If the Fort should be evacuated next month, pray, Sir, would it be proper to endeavour to get possession of it, or to raze it? That may possibly be done by themselves.

Mr. *Connolly* has sent out for some of the principal men of the *Indians* to come and receive the prisoners, and the *Pittsburgh* Committee have petitioned the General Congress to hold a treaty with the Western Tribes. I have the honour to be, Sir, your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,

ARTHUR ST. CLAIR.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, }  
May 25, 1775. }

To the Honourable the Governour and Company of the  
ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT:

BRETHREN: By a minute of the Grand Continental Congress, of the eighteenth of *May*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, a copy of which we do herewith transmit you, we are informed that *Ticonderoga* hath been taken by sundry inhabitants of the Northern Colonies; and from the minute aforesaid we are assured that this measure was for the common safety of the *American* Colonies.

In pursuance of the directions contained in that minute, we have given the necessary orders for removing the cannon and stores taken at that important fortress to the south end of Lake *George*, and for securing them there; and we have appointed Messrs. *John N. Bleeker*, *Henry I. Bogart*, *George Palmer*, *Dirk Swart*, and *Peter Lansing*, superintendents of this business.

There is no doubt but that our brethren of *Connecticut* will feel great reluctance at the idea of ordering any of their troops to march within the bounds of this Colony, for the purpose of defending the fort of *Ticonderoga* and the cannon and stores above-mentioned at Fort *George*. But we pray you to cast away all fears of offending us upon this occasion. We shall be happy to hear that you have placed a part of your forces in these posts, with intent to defend them, until they shall be relieved by troops from this Colony.

In further pursuance of the directions of the Grand Congress, we have ordered provisions to be conveyed to *Ticonderoga* and Lake *George*, and we shall continue to furnish such supplies as we shall deem necessary.

You will be pleased, gentlemen, to appoint trusty com-

manders over your forces destined for the purposes above-mentioned; and we do assure you of our willingness that they shall take the command at those places while garrisoned by your troops. We beg leave to assure you that in this and all other matters we will pay the highest attention to every recommendation of the Grand Continental Congress, and that we have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

By order of the Congress:

JOHN MCKESSON, }  
ROBERT BENSON, } *Secretaries*.

P. S. We pray you to use every effort to preserve and improve the present peaceable disposition of the *Canadians* and *Indians*, for which purpose we think it will be necessary to keep up the strictest vigilance to prevent any incursions from being made into the Province of *Quebeck*.

In Congress, Thursday, May 18, 1775.

Whereas, there is indubitable evidence that a design is formed by the *British* Ministry of making a cruel invasion from the Province of *Quebeck* upon these Colonies, for the purpose of destroying our lives and liberties, and some steps have actually been taken to carry the said design into execution: and whereas several inhabitants of the Northern Colonies, residing in the vicinity of *Ticonderoga*, immediately exposed to incursions, impelled by a just regard for the defence and preservation of themselves and their countrymen from such imminent danger and calamities, have taken possession of that post in which was lodged a quantity of cannon and military stores that would certainly have been used in the intended invasion of these Colonies: this Congress earnestly recommend it to the Committees of the Cities and Counties of *New-York* and *Albany*, immediately to cause the said cannon and stores to be removed from *Ticonderoga* to the south end of Lake *George*; and, if necessary, to apply to the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, and *Connecticut*, for such an additional body of forces as will be sufficient to establish a strong post at that place, effectually to secure the said cannon and stores, or so many of them, as it may be judged proper to keep there, and that an exact inventory be taken of all such cannon and stores, in order that they may be safely returned when the restoration of the former harmony between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, so ardently wished for by the latter, shall render it prudent and consistent with the overruling law of self-preservation.

A true copy from the Minutes:

CHARLES THOMPSON, *Secretary*.

New-York, May 20, 1775.—A true copy:

HENRY REMSEN, *Dep. Chairman*.

COLONEL SPENCER TO THE ASSEMBLY OF CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, May 25, 1775.

Colonel *Spencer* returns his hearty thanks to the Honourable General Assembly now sitting at *Hartford*, for the undeserved honours that have been conferred upon him from time to time, and particularly that he has had the honour for some time to command the Twelfth Regiment of Militia in this Colony. And he begs leave to assure your Honours that he always has been and still is ready to serve your Honours, according to his ability, in any place to which he has been appointed, so far as may be in his power; but as his late appointment in the Colony service forbids that attendance to the duty of a Colonel as aforesaid, as the circumstances of the times require, he humbly begs leave to lay down his said office of Colonel; and subscribes himself your Honours' most obedient and most humble servant,

JOSEPH SPENCER.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Hartford, May 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 17th instant, with the enclosed Resolve of the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*, was delivered to me by Colonel *Easton*, and communicated to the General Assembly, who have desired me to return their congratulations on the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, a fortress truly important, and to assure



you they entertain a proper sense of the merit of those officers and soldiers by whose bravery and good conduct it was achieved. As this advantage was gained by the united counsels and enterprise of a number of private gentlemen in your Province, *New-Hampshire, New-York*, and this Colony, prompted only by a zeal for the liberty of their Country, without publick authority, (to our knowledge,) and is of great and general importance to the United Colonies, it was thought best to take the advice of the Continental Congress upon the manner of treating it in future, both by the General Assembly of this Colony and the Committee of *New-York*, as well as by you. Despatches were accordingly sent to *Philadelphia*, and the intention of the Continental Congress thereupon hath been this day received by express, with a letter from the Committee of *New-York*, copies of which enclosed are herewith sent you. By them you will see the present custody of that fortress is committed to the Province of *New-York*, with the assistance of the *New-England* Colonies, if needed.

The General Assembly of this Colony behold your situation with concern, and a fixed resolution to contribute every thing in their power to your defence and preservation, and, as far as pertains to them, are willing and desirous you should have the benefit of such artillery as may be spared from the fortresses of *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*; but as they do not consider themselves as entitled to the command of those places, they cannot take upon themselves to give orders for the removal of the heavy cannon that may be spared without the concurrence of the other Colonies, in them.

The necessity of securing and maintaining the posts on the lakes for defence of the frontiers, becomes daily more evident from the iterated intelligence we receive of the plan formed by our enemies to distress us by inroads of *Canadians* and savages, from the Province of *Quebeck*, upon the adjacent settlements. The enclosed copy of a letter from our Delegates attending at *New-York*, to communicate measures with the Provincial Congress in that City, throws an additional light on this subject, and is thought worthy to be communicated to you; and whilst the designs of our enemies against us fill us with concern, we cannot omit to observe the smiles of Providence upon us in revealing their wicked plans, and hitherto prospering the attempts of the Colonies to frustrate them. With a humble reliance on the continuance of Divine favour and protection in a cause of the justice of which a doubt cannot be entertained, the General Assembly of this Colony are ready to co-operate with the other Colonies in every exertion for their common defence, and to contribute their proportion of men and other necessities for maintaining the posts on the frontiers, or defending or repelling invasions in any other quarter, agreeable to the advice of the Continental Congress. I am, gentlemen, in behalf of the General Assembly of this Colony, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

The Honourable Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts*.

GENERAL THOMAS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Roxbury Camp, May 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have had the honour of being informed by your Committee, that the Honourable Congress have made choice of me as Lieutenant-General of the *Massachusetts* Army, and desire to know whether I would accept that trust. I am sensible of the great importance of the office, and of my inability of discharging that duty; but since you have done me the honour of appointing me to that important office, shall accept of the same, and attend the Congress to-morrow. I am, gentlemen, with the most profound respect, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress.

LETTER FROM DOCTOR JOSEPH WARREN.

Watertown, May 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Upon my arrival here just this minute, I had the pleasure of being informed that our worthy friend Colonel *Arnold*, not having had the sole honour of reducing *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, determined upon an expedition against *St. John's*, in which he happily suc-

ceeded. The letters were directed to the Committee of Safety, but were supposed to be necessary to be laid before this Congress. I have not seen them yet, but you will have the particulars from the bearer.

I have also received a letter from the Congress at *New-Hampshire*, informing me of a resolve to raise forthwith two thousand men, and more if it should be necessary. The Troops, at least one Company of them, with a train of artillery from *Providence*, are in the upper end of *Roxbury*. To say the truth, I find my health much mended since this morning. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

J. WARREN.

P. S. You will be kind enough to communicate the contents of this letter to General *Room*, as I love to give pleasure to good men.

COMMITTEE OF MALDEN TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Malden, May 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: This may certify that Mr. *Ebenezer Pratt*, Mr. *John Nichols*, Mr. *John Barrett*, and Mr. *John Nichols, Jr.*, are persons who may be confided in, that they will not take any advantage of a pass which has been obtained for them from *Samuel Graves*, Vice-Admiral of the Blue, to the disadvantage of the common cause, in which we are all engaged, desiring, at the same time, that you will lay them under such restrictions, in every respect, as you shall judge necessary.

Signed by order and in the name of the Selectmen, the Committee of Correspondence and Inspection of the Town of *Malden*.

PETER THACHER,  
BENJAMIN BLANEY,  
ELISHA STORY.

Honourable Committee of Safety, sitting in *Cambridge*.

PETITION FROM THE INHABITANTS OF MACHIAS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Machias, May 25, 1775.

To the Honourable Congress of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

GENTLEMEN: With the highest satisfaction we now consider you as the guardians of this extensive and wealthy Province; and relying on your wisdom, the wisdom of the Continental Congress, the justice of our cause, and the tender mercy of our fathers' God, we promise ourselves, in due time, a happy deliverance from the iron chains of tyranny, which were forming for us, and from servitude equal to *Egyptian* bondage.

As a part, therefore, of your charge, we, the distressed inhabitants of *Machias*, beg leave to approach your presence, and to spread our grievances at your feet. We dare not say we are the foremost in supporting the glorious cause of *American* liberty; but this we can truly affirm, that we have done our utmost to encourage and strengthen the hand of all the advocates for *America* with whom we have been connected; that we have not even purchased any goods of those persons whom we suspected to be inimical to our Country, except when constrained by necessity; and that none on the Continent can more cheerfully risk all that is dear to them on earth, when called, in support of those precious privileges which God and our venerable ancestors, as a most invaluable legacy, have handed down to us. We must now inform your Honours, that the inhabitants of this place exceed one hundred families, some of which are very numerous, and that Divine Providence has cut off all our usual resources. A very severe drought last fall prevented our laying in sufficient stores; and had no vessels visited us in the winter, we must have suffered. Nor have we this spring been able to procure provisions sufficient for carrying on our business; our labourers are dismissed, some of our mills stand still, almost all vessels have forsaken us, our lumber lies by us in heaps, and, to complete our misfortunes, all our ports are to be shut up on the first of *July* next. We must add, we have no country behind us to lean upon, nor can we make an escape by flight; the wilderness is impervious, and vessels we have none. To you, therefore, honoured gentlemen, we humbly apply for relief; you are our last, our only resource; and permit us to say again, you are our guardians, and we rejoice and glory in being subject. Pardon our importunity. We cannot take a denial, for, under God, you are all our dependance; and if



you neglect us, we are ruined. Save, dear Sirs, one of your most flourishing settlements from famine and all its horrors. We ask not for charity; we ask for a supply to be put into the hands of Messrs. *Smith* and *Stillman*, or any other person or persons your wisdom may point out, who shall obligate themselves to pay the whole amount in lumber, the only staple of our country.

That *God* may long preserve you, and make you happily instrumental in his hand, in restoring all the sweets of peace and liberty to this much injured Country, and even to *Great Britain* herself, is the constant and fervent prayer of, gentlemen, your most humble petitioners.

|                     |                      |                     |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| John Longfellow,    | Bradbury Merrill,    | Stephen Young,      |
| Abraham Clark,      | Samuel Milberry,     | William Bodwin,     |
| James Flinn,        | John Waite,          | John Chaloner,      |
| Amos Boynton,       | Samuel Barnum,       | Benj. Gooch, Jr.,   |
| B. D. J. Underwood, | James Colbroth,      | Jonathan Brown,     |
| John Sinkler,       | Jonas Farnsworth,    | Joseph Clifford,    |
| William Chaloner,   | Eleazer Hathaway,    | Joseph Sealey, Jr., |
| William Albee,      | Ezekiel Foster,      | George Sealey,      |
| Daniel Hill,        | Solomon Littlefield, | John Chase,         |
| Nathan Longfellow,  | Jacob Libby,         | Ephraim Chase,      |
| James Lyon,         | Lodowick Holway,     | Beriah Rice,        |
| James Elliott,      | Micajah How,         | Israel Andrews.     |
| Timothy Young,      | Benjamin Gatchell,   |                     |

COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY  
TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, }  
County of Cumberland. }

To the Honourable the Representatives of the several  
Towns in said Colony, in General Congress assembled:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: We, the Committees of Correspondence of the several Towns in said County, beg leave to represent to your Honours the circumstances of this County in this day of struggle and danger. In the first place we confess our Towns have, in general, heretofore, been negligent in providing arms and ammunition according to law, until distress came upon us from our mother Country, and then were debarred from having them from thence where we were wont to purchase them; since which we have not been able to furnish ourselves. And in the next place we are in a distressed situation with respect to provision for our people to subsist upon till their new crops come in, owing, in part, to their last year's crops being cut short by the drought, and so many of our people not being farmers, but lumbering sailors, &c., together with the difficulty and danger there now is of getting any from the Southern Governments, owing to their carefulness to keep a sufficient supply for their own people in this day of expense, and the hazard of having it taken by the men-of-war and tenders, could we procure any of them; and where to fly for relief, but to your Honours, we know not. Notwithstanding these difficulties, we can with pleasure say that the people of this country almost universally are zealous in the cause of constitutional liberty, and have exerted themselves in complying with the recommendations of the Congresses, and particularly in raising a Regiment of hardy and spirited men for the service of the Colony, who have been exercising every day, as we understand, for some time past, and expected to be sent for to the Army; till lately we have the satisfaction to hear the Army is like to be complete without them. We would likewise represent to your Honours, that we are exposed to our enemies by sea and land; by sea, our sheep and cattle on the islands and shores are exposed to be ravaged by every little tender that may be sent to get fresh meat for their fleet and army; and by land, we may be alarmed by the inroads of our old enemies, the *Indians* and *French*, though we hope better things from them.

Wherefore we pray your Honours to take our plain and just representation into consideration, and, if possible, find out some way whereby we may be supplied with some arms, ammunition, and provisions, and that the Regiment enlisted here may be stationed among us, and subsisted at the charge of the publick, for our defence, until they shall be more wanted elsewhere, (in which case they will be ready to march on the first notice,) and while here, to be employed in such a manner as may be most for our safety and advantage, and that they may pass muster here by some person who may be appointed for that purpose. Your Honours' favourable answer to our request will much oblige

this County in whose behalf we are your Honours' most obedient humble servants,

JEDEDIAH PREBLE, *Chairman*.

THOMAS BARNARD TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR  
SALEM.

Salem, May 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: A suspicion of being inimical to those with whom we are connected in society, and whom we esteem and love, cannot but give severe pain to a generous mind.

Unhappily I have been viewed by my countrymen in a light so disagreeable. The Address which I signed to Governour *Hutchinson*, upon his leaving this Province, I signed with no party views; with no design whatever of injuring that Country, with the prosperity of which my dearest human interests are closely connected; but with strong hopes of promoting the lasting peace and welfare of my native land. But I own my fond expectations arising therefrom have been disappointed. The cause of *America* I look upon as capable of full defence by the voice of justice and the *British* Constitution, and shall be ever ready to support it in that way which the united wisdom of the Continent shall dictate.

Such are my sentiments, and upon the strength of them I would request of my countrymen to throw the veil of charity and forgiveness over any incautious action of mine, which may have led them to think unfavourably of me, and to grant me a place in their esteem, which I shall ever think myself happy in deserving.

THOMAS BARNARD, JR.

In Committee of Safety, Salem, May 25, 1775.

Resolved unanimously, That the foregoing declaration of the Reverend *Thomas Barnard, Jr.*, now laid before the Committee, is fully satisfactory, and we hope will remove any ill impressions that may have been made on the minds of the good people of this Province in consequence of his addressing Governour *Hutchinson*, and cause them to look upon him as a friend to his Country.

RICHARD DERBY, JR., *Chairman*.

Charlestown, S. C., May 26, 1775.

We are informed that the inhabitants of this Town lately presented a memorial to the General Committee, setting forth the dearth and alarming scarcity of grain; and that the Committee, after having made a full inquiry into the facts, have resolved that it is their opinion that no *Indian* corn should be exported from this Province, except by persons who may have plantations in *Georgia*, for their own immediate use upon such plantations; nor any rice, except to complete the lading of such vessels as had actually taken on board part of their intended cargoes of rice before the twenty-fourth instant, until the General Assembly, or the Provincial Congress, shall take the matter under their consideration, and come to some determination thereupon.

We are also informed that the General Committee having been applied to by Captain *Heslope*, of the Brigantine *Hannah*, lately arrived from *Liverpool* with about eight thousand bushels of salt, for permission to cast the said cargo of salt overboard into *Hog-Island* Creek, as if it was only common ballast, and not merchandise; after having duly considered every circumstance, and being fully satisfied that the said cargo was shipped at *Liverpool* as merchandise, with an intent to put the *American* Association at defiance, and putting the virtue of the inhabitants of this Colony to the test, have resolved that it was their opinion that the said cargo "ought to be forthwith sent back;" and we hear that Captain *Heslope*, finding too late the effects of his owner's folly and presumption, is preparing to return to *Liverpool* with their full cargo.

LOUDOUN COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Loudoun County, held at *Leesburgh* on Friday, May 26, 1775. Present: *Francis Peyton, Esq., Josias Clapham, Thomas Lewis, Anthony Russell, John Thomas, George Johnston, Thomas Shore,*



*James Lane, Jacob Reed, Leven Powell, William Smith, Robert Jamison, Hardage Lane, and John Lewis, gentlemen.*

The Committee, taking into consideration the conduct of the Governour relative to the powder which was, by his express orders, taken secretly out of the publick Magazine belonging to this Colony, in the night of the twentieth ult., and carried on board the *Magdaline Schooner*:

*Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That his Lordship, by this and other parts of his conduct which have lately transpired, has not only forfeited the confidence of the good people of this Colony, but that he may be justly esteemed an enemy to *America*; and that as well his excuse published in his Proclamation of the fourth instant, as his verbal answer to the Address presented him on that occasion by the City of *Williamsburgh*, are unsatisfactory and evasive, and reflect, in our opinion, great dishonour on the General Assembly and inhabitants of this Colony, as from the latter a suspicion may be easily deduced, that the Representatives of the people are not competent judges of the place wherein arms and ammunition, intended for the defence of the Colony, may be safely lodged, and that the inhabitants (unlike other subjects) cannot, in prudence, be trusted with the means necessary for their protection from insurrection, or even invasion; so in the former a very heavy charge is exhibited against the best men among us, of seducing their fellow-subjects from their duty and allegiance; a charge, we are confident, not founded in reality, and which, we believe, is construed out of the discharge of that duty which every good man is under, to point out to his weaker countrymen, in the day of publick trial, the part they should act, and explain, on constitutional principles, the nature of their allegiance, the ground of which we fervently pray may never be removed, whose force we desire may never with reason be relaxed, but yet may be subservient to considerations of superiour regard.

The Committee being informed by some of the officers who commanded the Troops of this County that marched on the above occasion, that the reason of their marching no farther than *Fredericksburgh* was, their having received repeated requests from the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esq., to return home, assuring them that the peaceable citizens of *Williamsburgh* were under no apprehensions of danger, either in their persons or properties; that the publick treasury and records were perfectly safe; and that there was no necessity for their proceeding any further; three of the other Delegates appointed to the Continental Congress, the only civil power we know of in this great struggle for liberty, being of the same opinion.

*Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That under such circumstances we approve the conduct of the said Officers and Troops.

*Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That we cordially approve the conduct of our countryman, Captain *Patrick Henry*, and the other volunteers of *Hanover County*, who marched under him, in making reprisals on the King's property for the trespass committed as aforesaid, and that we are determined to hazard all the blessings of this life rather than suffer the smallest injury offered to their persons or estates, on this account, to pass unrewarded with its equal punishment.

*Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That it be recommended to the Representatives of this County, as the opinion of this Committee, that they by no means agree to the reprisals, taken as aforesaid, being returned.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk transmit immediately a copy of the preceding Resolves to the Printers of the *Virginia* and *Pennsylvania* Gazettes, to be published.

By order of the Committee,

GEORGE JOHNSTON, Clerk.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, }  
May 26, 1775. }

BRETHREN: Having received a minute of the Grand Continental Congress, of which we send you a copy herewith, we wrote a letter to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, of which we also send you a copy.

We do not doubt of your ready concurrence in the mea-

sures recommended by that august body, in which we do entirely acquiesce.

We pray you to act on this occasion with prudence and expedition, especially as we have received intimation from our brethren in *Connecticut* that they cannot send a sufficient force for the purposes mentioned to them in our letter; and we beg leave to assure you that we are affectionately your friends and brethren in the generous cause of freedom.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, President.

To *Joseph Warren*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF ALBANY  
TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW-YORK.

[Read before Congress June 3, 1775.]

Albany Committee-Chamber, }  
May 26, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: We have received a letter from the *New-York* Committee, of the twentieth inst., enclosing the Resolution of the Continental Congress of the eighteenth instant. We have likewise received some material information from the north and westward, which we shall now lay before you. And first respecting our western intelligence. We are so much crowded with business and despatches from different quarters, that we cannot so copiously enlarge on every different subject as we could wish; we shall therefore only state the necessary facts to you, interspersed with such remarks as we conceive of consequence.

The first of our intelligence from the west was, that the *Indians* were exceedingly uneasy, and more of them daily coming in to Colonel *Johnson's* place at *Guy Park*, occasioned, as he alleges, by reason of a report in his neighbourhood, that the *New-England* people, with some others, intended seizing and taking him captive to *New-England*, and by this means extinguish the *Indian* council fire. And that this was to be done in consequence of another report that Colonel *Johnson* was setting up the *Indians* to destroy the inhabitants, &c.

Next we received a letter wrote by four *Mohawks* to the *Oneidas*, whereof we enclose you a copy, translated from the *Mohawk* into *English*, No. 2.

Next we received a letter from the Committee of *Palatine* District, in *Tryon* County, whereof we enclose you a copy, No. 3; our answer to which you have enclosed, No. 3, a.

Next, five persons from *Tryon* County here, who made oath of their being stopped in the road at Colonel *Johnson's* on the seventeenth instant; we enclose copy of the affidavit, No. 4.

On the same day we also received from the Committee of *Schenectady* a copy of Colonel *Johnson's* letter to them, dated the eighteenth, which you have enclosed, No. 5, and to which the *Schenectady* Committee wrote him an answer, whereof we have no copy.

Next we received copy of a letter from Colonel *Johnson* to the Magistrates and others of *Palatine, Canajoharie*, and the upper Districts, dated twentieth instant, which you have enclosed, No. 6; and of the answer to which we have no copy.

Next we received copy of another letter from Colonel *Johnson*, without a date, directed to the Magistrates, &c., of *Schenectady*, and the Mayor and Corporation, &c., of *Albany*, which you have enclosed, No. 7; whereupon we wrote him a letter, dated the twenty-third instant, copy whereof you have enclosed, No. 8., and one to the same effect was wrote to him, on the same subject, by the Corporation here.

Next we received copy of the speech of the *Mohawks*, interpreted by the Reverend Mr. *Kirkland*, on the twentieth instant, whereof you have a copy enclosed, No. 9; whereto we wrote an answer, dated twenty-third instant, and appointed two persons of our Committee, to wit, *Gilbert Marselis* and *Peter Schuyler*, to go to the *Mohawks*, with Mr. *Martin Lydias* as an interpreter; enclosed you have a copy thereof, No. 10.

Next we received a reply from the *Mohawks* to our answer, dated the twenty-fifth; a copy whereof you have enclosed, No. 11, wherein is contained the reply of the *Indians*, and the Sub-Committee's answer thereto.



We shall now proceed to communicate our northern intelligence, the substance of which you will fully collect from Col. *Arnold's* letter to us, dated twenty-second inst., whereof we enclose you a copy, No. 12. Second: Col. *Arnold's* letter to Captain *Noah Lee*, dated the twenty-third instant, whereof we enclose you a copy, No. 13. Third: We yesterday received the *Quebeck* mail opened, and sent to us by some of our people from above, and such letters as were already opened, were inspected by two of our members, who made an extract of such passages in them as respected their publick commotions, a copy of which extract we enclose you, No. 14.

We shall now take notice of the *New-York* Committee's letter to us, of the twentieth instant, enclosing the Resolution of the Continental Congress, from which we find that the reduction of *Ticonderoga* by our forces, is approved of, and recommending us to proceed with all possible despatch with a sufficient body of forces, &c., to the northward, to remove the cannon and stores from *Ticonderoga* to the south end of *Lake George*. We are now busy to raise two Companies, each Company composed of fifty men, in order to go upon said expedition, who we expect will be in readiness to march in two or three days. But, gentlemen, there are a number of very material difficulties that immediately arise. We have no ammunition; all the powder already gone up, with what we can possibly collect yet among us, will not amount to above two hundred and fifty pounds; and with so small a quantity it is impossible for us to do any thing of consequence, nor can we possibly conceive how the Provincial forces can maintain these northern posts, or withstand the attack of the *British* Troops from *Quebeck*, who are, from the best intelligence we can collect, preparing, as fast as possible, to come down, in order to take these places from us; an enterprise which, if by them undertaken and completed, will introduce our enemies into the very bowels of our Country. We beg of you, gentlemen, without delay, to take these important matters into your most serious and immediate consideration, and afford us the necessary assistance in this our distressed situation, and send us up, with all possible speed, a sufficient quantity of powder, without which nothing can possibly be done. We likewise stand in need of blankets, pitch, tar, oakum, nails, spikes, gin, ropes, camp-kettles, intrenching tools, &c., and some rice, oat-meal, and barley, &c.; also for the sloop and schooner, two mates, two gunners, two gunner's mates, two boatswains, and eighteen seamen, agreeable to Colonel *Arnold's* list, (copy enclosed,) No. 15, all which you'll be pleased to cause to be sent up to us with all possible despatch.

We would beg of you, likewise, to take into consideration some mode or plan for raising and paying our forces; the one which we have adopted here, *pro hac vice*, until you conclude upon a better one, we enclose you a copy of, No. 16.

We would mention another matter to you, which, in our humble opinion, requires your immediate consideration; that as the vessel from *St. John's* has lately been taken by our forces, and whereof the Continental Congress have had no intelligence, on the eighteenth instant, when they entered into the Resolution respecting *Ticonderoga*, and removing the stores and cannon from thence to *Lake George*, whether it would not be expedient to fortify the latter instead of the former, as *Ticonderoga* is by far the strongest and most important fortress.

We beg the favour of you that you will, immediately after your perusal of this our letter, and the papers herewith sent, be pleased to forward the same to the Continental Congress by the most speedy and eligible mode of conveyance.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee:

SAMUEL STRINGER, *Chairman pro tem.*

ETHAN ALLEN TO THE ASSEMBLY OF CONNECTICUT.

Crown Point, May 26, 1775.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I here communicate to you a copy of a letter I sent by Mr. *Winthrop Hoit* and Captain *Abraham Nimham*, a friendly *Stockbridge* Indian, to the several Tribes of *Indians* in *Canada*.

"Head-Quarters of the Army. Crown Point, {  
May 24, 1775. {"

"By advice of council of the officers, I recommend our trusty and well-beloved friend and brother, Captain *Abraham Nimham*, of *Stockbridge*, as our ambassador of peace to our good brother *Indians* of the four Tribes, viz: the *Hocnawagoes*, the *Swagaches*, the *Conesadaugans*, and the *Saint Fransawas*.

"*Loving brothers and friends*: I have to inform you that *George* the Third, King of *England*, has made war with the *English* Colonies in *America*, who have ever till now been his good subjects; and sent his army and killed some of your good friends and brothers at *Boston*, in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. Then your good brothers in that Province, and in all the Colonies of *English America*, made war with King *George*, and have begun to kill the men of his army, and have taken *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point* from him, and all the artillery, and also a great sloop which was at *St. John's*, and all the boats in the lake, and have raised, and are raising two great armies; one is destined for *Boston*, and the other for the fortresses and department of *Lake Champlain*, to fight the King's Troops that oppose the Colonies from *Canada*; and as King *George's* soldiers killed our brothers and friends in a time of peace, I hope, as *Indians* are good and honest men, you will not fight for King *George* against your friends in *America*, as they have done you no wrong, and desire to live with you as brothers. I was always a friend to *Indians*, and have hunted with them many times, and know how to shoot and ambush like *Indians*, and am a great hunter.

"I want to have your warriors come and see me, and help me fight the King's Regular Troops. You know they stand all along close together, rank and file, and my men fight so as *Indians* do, and I want your warriors to join with me and my warriors, like brothers, and ambush the Regulars: if you will, I will give you money, blankets, tomahawks, knives, paint, and any thing that there is in the army; just like brothers; and I will go with you into the woods to scout; and my men and your men will sleep together, and eat and drink together, and fight Regulars, because they first killed our brothers; and will fight against us; therefore I want our brother *Indians* to help us fight; for I know *Indians* are good warriors, and can fight well in the bush. You know it is good for my warriors and *Indians* too to kill the Regulars, because they first began to kill our brothers in this Country without cause.

"Ye know my warriors must fight, but if you our brother *Indians* do not fight on either side, we will still be friends and brothers; and you may come and hunt in our woods, and come with your canoes in the lake, and let us have venison at our forts on the lake, and have rum, bread, and what you want, and be like brothers.

"I have sent our friend, *Winthrop Hoit*, to treat with you on our behalf in friendship; you know him, for he has lived with you, and is your adopted son, and is a good man; Captain *Nimham*, of *Stockbridge*, and he will tell you about the whole matter more than I can write. I hope your warriors will come and see me. So I bid all my brother *Indians* farewell.

ETHAN ALLEN,

"Colonel of the *Green Mountain Boys*."

This, gentlemen, is a copy of the letter I have sent the *Indians*; I hope it may have a good effect. I thought it advisable that the Honourable Assembly should be informed of all our politicks. And am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

The Honourable General Assembly.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE  
OF SAFETY.

Crown Point, May 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: My last was of the 23d instant; I then advised you of the situation of matters here, since which there has been no material alteration. Very few men have arrived. We have fixed the sloop with six carriage and twelve swivel guns; the schooner with four carriage and eight swivels. Both vessels are in good order, and tolerably well manned. Eight gentlemen having arrived from *Hartford*, who are seamen, I have sent two ten-inch iron



mortars, and two eight-inch brass mortars, and two eight-inch howitzers, to *Ticonderoga*, to be forwarded to Fort *George*.

You may depend on my sending the cannon from this place as soon as possible. There are three thirteen-inch iron mortars here—beg to know what I shall do with them. I have received large donations of flour, pork, peas, &c., from *Albany*—near seventy barrels—and I am informed there is a large quantity on the road from that place, and a quantity supplied from *Connecticut*.

The advice I received from *Butterfield*, and communicated in the postscript of my last, of the 23d instant, proves to be premature. I have good intelligence from a batteau immediately from *St. John's*, which place she left on the 19th instant, that the Regulars were returned to *Chamblée*. I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To the Committee of Safety, *Cambridge*.

LETTER FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO THE  
NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, at Watertown, }  
May 26, 1775. }

“Resolved, That the following Letter be sent to the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, now sitting in that Colony.”

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed are copies of a letter from Colonel *Arnold*, and a list of military stores at *Ticonderoga*, &c. You cannot fail to observe that Mr. *Arnold*, for the defence of this Colony, is endeavouring that such ordnance as he judges can be spared from that quarter, should be transported to the army in this Colony. This step is taken in consequence of orders given by our Committee of Safety. Perhaps this may appear to you extraordinary, but we trust you will candidly overlook such a mistake (if it is one,) being made in the hurry and confusion of war; and we most solemnly declare to you, that this Congress, and the inhabitants of this Colony, are at the utmost remove from any disposition or design to make any the least infraction upon, or usurpation of the jurisdiction of any of our sister Colonies. And if any of those cannon, &c., taken at the Lake *Champlain*, should happen, through the exertions of enterprising spirits, to be brought within the allowed limits of this Colony, and come to our use, we shall hold ourselves accountable for them to the Representatives of the Continent; and whenever they shall inform us that they are more needed for the general defence at any other part of the Continent than in this Colony, we shall endeavour that they be removed thither with the utmost despatch. As to the expediency and policy of endeavouring to maintain those old fortresses near Lake *Champlain*, or abating them, and erecting others in some other places upon the same lake, or abandoning those posts, and bringing off all the ordnance and warlike stores in those posts, we conceive that the advice of the Continental Congress ought to be obtained, and we have therefore addressed them in the most pressing manner, being of opinion that the maintaining a post there is absolutely necessary for the defence of your, and all the *New-England* Colonies.

Gentlemen and brethren, could you have seen the horrid devastation and carnage in this Colony, committed by ministerial Troops, those sons of violence, who have got some footing in this Colony, the breach of a most solemn treaty with respect to the inhabitants of *Boston*, when they had surrendered their arms, and put themselves wholly in the power of a military commander, relying upon his faith, then pledged, that they should immediately depart the Town with their effects as stipulated, which was no sooner done than they were positively refused permission to carry out the most valuable part of those effects, but their persons detained under the most idle pretences, and suffered only to scatter from their prison a few in a day, hardly to be seen or noticed; we say, gentlemen, could you see and realize these scenes of distress, you could not refrain one moment from doing every thing in your power to prevent the like distress from happening to your metropolis, and availing yourselves of every article, which an enemy can improve with the least advantage to themselves, for effecting the like desolation, horrors, and insults on the inhabitants of your City and Colony, or which might enable you to

make the most effectual defence. Have you not, gentlemen, divers of those articles as it were under your hand? If you should delay securing them until they should be out of your power, and within a few days you should behold those very materials improved in murdering you, and yourselves perishing for the want of them, will not your chagrin and regret be intolerable? Brethren, pardon our importunity. It is our own case. Don't we daily behold Castle *William*, and realize the ample warlike provisions and apparatus therein, held by our enemies, to our infinite and inexpressible mortification? We wish to heaven that you may be timely admonished by the consequence of our delay.

JOSEPH HAWLEY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF  
SAFETY.

Watertown, May 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress have directed a Committee, of which I have the honour to be Chairman, to apply to you forthwith for copies of the commission, and every paper containing the appointment of Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, to a secret warlike enterprise to the westward; of the instructions given him by you; of your engagements to him in behalf of this Colony; and authority to raise a Regiment to be in the pay of this Colony, if any such authority was given him by you; his orders respecting the ordnance at *Ticonderoga*, and places on Lake *Champlain*; and every thing necessary to give the Congress a full understanding of the relation Colonel *Arnold* then stood, and now stands in to this Colony, and send them as soon as possible to us by Captain *Brown*. I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To the Committee of Safety.

BENJAMIN GREENLEAF TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Newburyport, May 26, 1775.

SIR: I yesterday received your letter of the 19th instant, informing me that the Provincial Congress had done me the honour of choosing me a member of the Committee of Safety, and that they requested my attendance without delay. I readily exert myself on every occasion that presents, as far as I am able, to promote such measures as have a tendency to relieve the Country from its present difficulties and embarrassments; but my ill state of health forbids my attending closely to business, and therefore disqualifies me to act in that department with advantage to the public or myself, for which reason I have to entreat the indulgence of the Congress while I ask to be excused from that service; assuring them I cannot be an indifferent observer of scenes that are now acting; but as I have hitherto attended to our public affairs as far as my health would permit, almost to the total neglect of my own personal concerns, I shall continue to do so, if my life is spared, until this land obtains a complete deliverance from the hands of tyranny and oppression; but then it must be in a sphere wherein I shall not be liable to so much confinement and solicitude as I must necessarily submit to as a member of that Committee. I am, with respect, Sir, your most humble servant,

B. GREENLEAF.

To Mr. *Freeman*, Secretary of the Provincial Congress.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CON-  
GRESS.

Cambridge, May 26, 1775.

The Committee of Safety beg leave to represent to your Honours the conduct of *Jonathan Brewer*, of *Waltham*. Said *Brewer* was recommended to this Committee as a suitable person to take orders to enlist a Regiment on the present establishment, and accordingly received ten sets of orders from this Committee for that purpose. Since that, various complaints have been made to us relative to his conduct. When he gave out his enlisting orders he made proclamation that he had received orders to enlist a Regiment of Rangers, and gave some of his Captains written orders accordingly, directly contrary to the orders he received from this Committee, and in that way drew off men from the companies and regiments, which occasioned great uneasiness and frequent complaints. He has, without any orders or directions, taken into his service two horses—one



belonging to Colonel *Jones*, the other to Colonel *Taylor*—and has kept them for several weeks past. He has also given a lease of part of Colonel *Jones's* real estate, without the least pretence of right, and taken security therefore in his own name.

Although this Committee were first induced to give the said *Brewer* enlisting orders for raising a Regiment, from the character they had of him as being courageous, and experienced in war, &c., they are now fully convinced, from the evidence they have since had of the low artifices and impositions he has made use of to obtain the small number of men he has returned, his seizing private property and converting it to his own use, in a manner that cannot by any means be justified, and which we fear will be improved by our inveterate enemies to the dishonour and detriment of this Colony, he is unworthy of confidence. Upon the whole, we apprehend he has not only disqualified himself for serving this Colony, as a Colonel of a Regiment, but ought immediately to be dealt with in such a manner as you in your wisdom shall think proper.

We are, &c.

THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Watertown, May 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We received your favour of the 23d instant, wherein you inform us of your determination to raise immediately two thousand men for the common defence of *America*.

It gives us the greatest pleasure and satisfaction to observe the present concordant temper and disposition so prevalent throughout the several Colonies, in support of their common rights. Such a remarkable unanimity, under the smiles of a kind Providence, can scarcely fail of succeeding to the utmost of our sanguine wishes. We trust, gentlemen, our cause is just and right; and that to submit to the vassalage and slavery of an unconscionable Administration, would not only be ignominious, but highly derogatory to the spirit and resentment of free and loyal *Americans*; and although the horrors and devastation of war are highly deprecated by us, yet pressing necessity urges to the utmost of our exertion, in the preservation of every thing dear to us, (even life itself,) by a resolute opposition to our unwearied and unnatural enemies. We therefore earnestly request you, gentlemen, to forward with all speed those Troops you are raising, to co-operate with us against the common enemy, hoping, under the Divine protection, to convince even the *British* Parliament of their unreasonable, rash, and inconsiderate proceedings against a most injured and cruelly oppressed people. We are, gentlemen, with sincere affection, your most obedient humble servants,

By order: JOSEPH WARREN, *Pres't pro tem*.

To the Hon. Congress of *New-Hampshire* Colony.

BENJAMIN BULLARD AND OTHERS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, May 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We, the subscribers, being highly dissatisfied with the alteration that is likely to take place respecting the field-officers in Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, as we took out enlisting orders under Colonel *John Nixon*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Jacob Miller*, and Major *Nathaniel Cudworth*, with the expectation that they were to be the established field-officers of the Regiment, especially as we were at the choice of said gentlemen, and knowing the choice to be fair and above board; and every gentleman present appeared to be pleased with the same; therefore, we think it a great grievance that, after they had been at the trouble of recruiting, and had almost filled up our respective companies before we had any notice of any design to make an alteration in the leaders of said Regiment. And further, that we were to come to a new choice with men that were not nominated with us, to be in our corps as Captains. And furthermore, that several Lieutenants should act in behalf of their Captains, they being not present; and one Lieutenant saying at the same time he had no thought of tarrying in the Army. All which we think to be sufficient reasons that the first choice stands fair, and the last the contrary. Therefore, as we are earnest to be in the service

in the defence of our Country, (if the last choice is established,) beg leave to have the privilege of joining in some other Regiment. And as in duty bound shall ever pray.

BENJ. BULLARD, *Captain*,  
JOHN LELAND, *Captain*,  
THOS. DRURY, *Captain*,  
THADDEUS RUSSELL, *Captain*.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

FREDERICK COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the thanks of this Committee be presented to the Reverend *Charles Minn Thruston* and Colonel *Isaac Zane*, who represented this County in the late Convention, from a just sensibility of a faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them.

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Committee do recommend to the Representatives of this County to use their influence in the ensuing session of Assembly, to procure adequate satisfaction to the officers and soldiers who bravely ventured their lives in defence of their Country, in the late expedition against the *Indians*; and also to those who advanced their property on the credit of the publick, for the support of the Army.

Whereas, it is expected that proposals will be made to the Assembly, on behalf of Administration, to levy a certain sum of money annually, disposable by Parliament: it is therefore earnestly recommended to our Representatives to oppose such proposal to the utmost of their abilities, and to express their determined resolution to reject any proposition whatever which may be offered, while an armed force remains on this Continent, for the purpose of compelling submission to Parliamentary mandates; and every requisition for levying money on their constituents, coming through any other channel than the official servants of the Crown, the use to which such moneys are to be applied being always expressed in such requisitions. And we would have it understood, as the sense of this Committee, that no measures with Administration, which may affect the liberties of *America*, ought to be agreed to on behalf of this Colony, without the concurrence of our sister Colonies.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the several arbitrary and illegal Proclamations lately issued by Lord *Dunmore*, his seizure of the Colony Powder, and his gross misrepresentations of the state of this Colony to the Ministry, render it highly necessary to regard with peculiar attention whatever comes through his hands.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk transmit a copy of the above to the publick Printer.

WILLIAM HETH, *Clerk*.

May 27, 1775.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's* County, at the house of *Richard Carnes*, in *Piscataway*, on *Saturday*, the 27th day of *May*, 1775, were present nineteen members.

*Thomas Bailly* failing to appear, according to former reference, with the evidence proposed from *Baltimore*, the Committee proceeded to consider the charges against him; and as it appeared from the said *Bailly's* own declaration, that he was informed at *Alexandria*, before he landed the Salt, that the ship-load of Salt which arrived at *Baltimore*, consigned to Doctor *John Stevenson*, was declared to be illegally imported, and ordered to be destroyed; they do resolve, that the said *Thomas Bailly* has committed a wilful violation of the Continental Association, by selling and landing the Salt imported in the *Sally*, Captain *Moate*.

The Committee being informed that Mr. *John Baynes*, of *Piscataway*, has killed a Lamb, contrary to the Resolve of the Provincial Convention, held at *Annapolis*, in *December* last, Messrs. *Luke Marbury* and *George Diggs* were sent to inform him that the Committee desired his immediate attendance. Mr. *Baynes* appeared, and being informed as above, acknowledged that he had killed a Lamb, and conceived that he had not thereby violated the Continental Association, which he purposed to adhere to, and thought it superiour to the Provincial Convention, which he conceived was only intended to carry the Resolves of the Continental Congress into execution.

*Resolved*, That the said Mr. *Baynes*, in killing the said Lamb, has violated the Resolve of the Provincial Conven-



tion; that such measures may be of mischievous consequence, as tending to create a disregard to publick regulations, formed for preserving the liberties of *America*.

Ordered, That a copy of these proceedings be signed by the Chairman, and sent to be published in the *Maryland Gazette*. By order of the Committee:

JOSIAS BEALL, *Chairman*.

ASSEMBLY OF CONNECTICUT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Hartford, May 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: You have doubtless received the advice of the Continental Congress, relative to the important fortress and pass of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*. We esteem it necessary to be guided by their opinion in every important transaction, and have great satisfaction in their approbation of the capture made of those posts; and their advice relating to removing the cannon, &c., to the south end of Lake *George*, and making a stand there, must probably be complied with, unless they, upon further consideration, shall alter their opinion, and advise to making the stand at one or both the aforesaid forts, which this House and Assembly judge to be much more expedient, on many obvious accounts, and have several days since signified their opinion to our Delegates at said Congress; and for these and other reasons, hope for their concurrence.

The bearer, Captain *Phelps*, who has been very active and useful in the captures, is just arrived with important advices from Colonel *Arnold*, of an expected attack speedily from Governour *Carleton*, and is charged with the same advices from Mr. *Arnold* to you. In consequence of them, and the imminent danger the people there are exposed to, our Assembly have just ordered five hundred pounds of our pittance of powder to be forthwith sent to them; and also four companies to march for their present relief, and have advised the *New-York* Provincial Congress of this step; and also are now despatching advice of the same to the Continental Congress; and also again setting forth the advantage of maintaining a post at *Ticonderoga* or *Crown Point*, and suggesting our wishes that they reconsider their advice. In the mean time you may be assured that we have no just claim to the acquisition or the command of them, as in the least degree to interfere with any measures you may think proper to adopt relating to them, and consider what we have done as a small and temporary relief.

I am, gentlemen, in the name and behalf of the House of Representatives, your most obedient and very humble servant. By order: WM. WILLIAMS, *Speaker*.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE AT CHELSEA, HOG ISLAND, ETC., IN MASSACHUSETTS.

On Saturday, May 27, 1775, a party of the *American* Army at *Cambridge*, to the number of between two and three hundred men, had orders to drive off the live stock from *Hog* and *Noddle* Islands, which lie near *Chelsea*, *Winnesimmet*, on the northeast side of *Boston* Harbour. From *Chelsea* to *Hog* Island, at low water, it is but about knee high, and from that to *Noddle's* Island about the same. The stock on the former belonging to Mr. *Oliver Wendell*, at *Boston*, and Mr. *Jonathan Jackson*, at *Newburyport*; that on *Noddle's* Island was owned by Mr. *Williams*, of *Boston*, who hires the island.

About eleven o'clock, A. M., between twenty and thirty men went from *Chelsea* to *Hog* Island, and from thence to *Noddle's* Island, to drive off the stock which was there, but were interrupted by a schooner and sloop despatched from the fleet in *Boston* Harbour, and forty Marines, who had been stationed on the island to protect the live stock. However, they sent off two fine *English* stallions, two colts, and three cows, killed fifteen horses, two colts, and three cows, burnt a large barn full of salt, hay, and an old farmhouse. By this time they were fired on from the schooner and sloop, and a large number of Marines in boats, sent from the several men-of-war; upon which they retreated to a ditch on the marsh, and kept themselves undiscovered till they had an opportunity to fire on the Marines, when they shot down two dead, and wounded two more, one of whom died soon after. They then retreated to *Hog* Island, where they were joined by the remainder of their party

from *Chelsea*, and drove off all the stock thereon, viz: between three and four hundred sheep and lambs, some cows, horses, &c. During this there were firings between the Provincials and the schooner, sloop, boats, and Marines, on the other island.

Having cleared *Hog* Island, the Provincials drew up on *Chelsea Neck*, and sent for a reinforcement of three hundred men and two pieces of cannon, (four-pounders,) which arrived about nine o'clock in the evening; soon after which General *Putnam* went down and hailed the schooner, and told the people that if they would submit they should have good quarters, which the schooner returned with two cannon shot; this was immediately answered with two cannon from the Provincials: upon this a very heavy fire ensued from both sides, which lasted till eleven o'clock at night, when the fire from the schooner ceased; the fire from the shore being so hot that her people were obliged to quit her and take to the boats, a great number of which had been sent from the ships to their assistance, and also a large reinforcement of Marines sent to *Noddle's* Island, with two twelve-pounders.

The schooner being thus left, drove ashore, where, about break-of-day, the Provincials carried some hay under her stern, and set her on fire, the sloop keeping up a small fire upon them; at which time a heavy cannonading was begun at *Noddle's* Island Hill, with the twelve-pounders, upon the Provincials; also General *Putnam* kept a heavy fire upon the sloop, which disabled her much, and killed many of her men, so that she was obliged to be towed off by the boats, when the firing ceased, except a few shot which were exchanged between the party at *Chelsea*, and the Marines on *Noddle's* Island. Thus ended this long action, without the loss of one Provincial, and only four wounded, one of whom was wounded by the bursting of his own gun, and another only lost his little finger. The loss of the enemy amounted to twenty killed, and fifty wounded. The Provincials took out of the schooner four double fortified four-pounders, twelve swivels, chief of her rigging and sails, many clothes, some money, &c., which the Sailors and Marines left behind, they having quitted in great haste.

COMPLAINT AGAINST LIEUT. COLONEL ABIJAH BROWN.

Waltham, May, 1775.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety now assembled at CAMBRIDGE, Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

Whereas a number of the inhabitants in and about *Waltham*, in the County of *Middlesex* and Province aforesaid, having a deep sense of their obligations to the Honourable Committee for their services, upon information given, look upon themselves in duty bound, to represent to them in this publick manner, the repeated and publick insults and abuses that the Honourable Committee and Congress are from day to day treated with by one *Abijah Brown*, who calls himself Lieutenant-Colonel, who, from time to time, and in different company, in the most publick manner upon the road, and in publick houses, where company of strangers or town's people are on any occasion assembled, taking such opportunity to declare, though in such profane language that we must be excused from repeating, viz: that the Congress had no power to do as they did; for all the power was and would be in the Army; and if the Congress behaved as they did, that within forty-eight hours the Army would turn upon the Congress, and they would settle matters as they pleased; that there would be nothing done but what would be done by the Army; and with respect to the General and Committee, that they had no more right or power to give their orders to remove the cannon and stores from *Waltham*, than one *John Stewart*, who is a poor unhappy man, that is *non compos mentis*; hereby representing the General and Committees as a set of idiots and lunatics, in order to lessen and bring into contempt the power and authority of the Province, at this very important day. This conduct, from one assuming rank in the Army, in and about Head-Quarters where the Army is, and his reasons for such conduct, we leave every one to judge for himself, &c.

We therefore would humbly pray that your Honours would be pleased to take into your consideration this very dangerous matter, before it is too late, and before the seeds



of discord and mutiny have taken too deep root, and take such steps to put an end to it, as well as to him, with regard to his being any way concerned in the Army, as your Honours in your wisdom shall see fit. *Abner Sanders, John Sanders, Jedediah White, Peter Ball, Eleazer Bradshaw, &c., of Waltham, and Captain Abijah Child, now in the Army, stand ready, upon any day that your Honours may appoint, to appear and give your Honours the fullest proofs of what is here set forth, though this is but in part.*

JONAS DIX,  
NATH'L BRIDGE, } *Selectmen of*  
JOSIAH BROWN, } *Waltham.*  
JOHN CLARK, }

#### COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, }  
May 27, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: This Committee having received information from sundry persons, Selectmen of the Town of *Waltham*, respecting the conduct of Major *Abijah Brown*, of said *Waltham*, informing that he, the said *Brown*, at sundry times and in sundry places, did utter many things disrespectful and reflecting on the conduct of said Provincial Congress, the several Committees, and upon the General of the Colony Army, this Committee, apprehending that any determination on this case is out of the department of this Committee, beg leave to refer this matter, with the evidences respecting the same, to your Honours, that you may be furnished with such light as may enable you to determine thereon, as to you in your wisdom shall seem meet. We are your Honours' most obedient humble servants,

BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman.*

To the Honourable Provincial Congress.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
May, 1775. }

The Committee appointed to examine into the complaint against Lieutenant-Colonel *Brown*, beg leave to make the following Report, viz:

That after a full hearing of the allegations and proofs for and against said *Brown*, on the complaint of some unknown persons, through the Selectmen of *Waltham*, to this honourable Congress, we are of sentiment that an unhappy controversy has existed in said Town, relating to publick affairs, in which said *Brown* has exerted himself very earnestly in favour of the cause of liberty, by which means he has disgusted several persons, who have since endeavoured therefor to censure and stigmatize him as being an officious, busy, and designing man; and, unhappily, it appears that Mr. *Brown* has associated in taverns indiscriminately with many persons, in discourse with whom he at some times inadvertently expressed himself, which he could not strictly justify himself in, and that it is evident those disaffected antagonists of Mr. *Brown* had taken the advantage of his halting purely from revenge; and the Committee adjudge, from the whole of the evidence for and against said *Brown*, that he is injuriously treated by the secret resentments of designing persons, and that he ought to be reinstated to the esteem and countenance of every friend to the liberties of this Country. Per order:

RICHARD PERKINS, *Chairman.*

#### THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress June 2, 1775.]

Watertown, May 27, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Enclosed are copies of a letter from Colonel *B. Arnold*, (dated *Crown Point, May 19th*,) and a list of military stores at *Ticonderoga, &c.* It seems that the step Colonel *Arnold* is taking in transporting into this Colony part of the ordnance taken at *Lake Champlain*, is in consequence of orders given him by our Committee of Safety; and if they had considered the proposal in a calmer season, perhaps they might have thought it would have been proper previously to have consulted our brethren of the Colony of *New-York*; certain it is, that this Colony is in the most pressing need of the ordnance which Colonel *Arnold* is transporting hither. On

this occasion, we beg leave most solemnly to assure your Honours that nothing can be more abhorrent to the temper and spirit of this Congress and the people of this Colony, than any attempt to usurp on the jurisdiction of any of our sister Colonies, which, upon a superficial consideration of this step, there may seem to be some appearance of. But we assure ourselves that such is the candour and generous sentiments of our brethren of *New-York*, as that we may rest secure that they will readily overlook this mistake, (if it is one,) committed in the haste of war, and which may be naturally attributed thereto. And if any of the cannon should arrive within the limits of this Colony we shall hold ourselves accountable for them to your Honours, or any succeeding Representatives of the Continent.

May it please your Honours, permit us to observe, that in our opinion nothing can be more obvious than the infinite importance to the safety of the inhabitants of the Colonies of *New-York, New-Hampshire*, and even *Connecticut*, than maintaining, holding, and effectually securing the post at *Ticonderoga*, or some spot near the southwest end of *Lake Champlain*; for if that post is abandoned, the whole of *Lake Champlain* will be commanded by the Government of *Canada*, and the command of that water will amazingly facilitate all such descents upon these Colonies, whether greater or less, which Administration shall see fit to order. But if that post should be held by the Colonies, all such attempts for the destruction of the Colonies, may be vastly obstructed, if not wholly defeated. We have, therefore, the most full confidence that your Honours will immediately take these matters into your most serious consideration, and make such order thereon as will appear most fit and reasonable, and most conducive to the general safety.

We would further humbly suggest that we stand in need of large quantities of gunpowder, and it is impossible to obtain that article from any quarter this way; we therefore most earnestly entreat your Honours that some effectual measures may be devised that we may be supplied with that most necessary means of defence; and we find that the deficiency of that article prevails in all the Colonies. We most earnestly press this matter, as the salvation of these Colonies depends so much thereon. We would not presume to dictate to your Honours, but would quere whether it would not be prudent to advertise all Nations of the opportunities they now have to dispose of that article in *America*, as the best market.

We have the strongest persuasion that the settled plan of the *British* Administration is to break the chain of union of the Colonies at *New-York*; and we are sure that the evidence of such design, and their machinations for that purpose, cannot escape your attention.

We confide in the wisdom and vigilance of your Honours to devise such measures as (under *God*) will effectually defeat a plan so fatal, and which, if effected, will be the destruction of all the Colonies. We are, with the greatest respect, yours, &c.

By order of the Provincial Congress:

JOSEPH WARREN, *Pres't pro tem.*

#### THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY OF CONNECTICUT.

Watertown, May 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed are copies of a letter from Colonel *Arnold*, dated *May 19, 1775*, and a list of military stores at *Ticonderoga, &c.* We wrote to you (of the 17th instant) relative to that fortress, &c., and were desirous that you would give such orders relative thereto as to you should seem meet; but we are of opinion that the advice of the Continental Congress should be had thereon as soon as may be, and also the particular advice of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, to each of whom we have wrote upon this matter. Those fortresses being within the jurisdiction of the Colony of *New-York*, we are of opinion that it is necessary to consult them upon a matter in which they are so greatly interested.

We have appointed and directed Colonel *Joseph Henshaw* to repair to you, and consult with you upon the affair of that fortress, the maintenance of which we think of the utmost importance to the security of *New-York* and the



*New-England Colonies.* His instructions will be laid before you, and we have no doubt you will take such measures relative thereto as will promote the general safety of these Colonies.

To the Honourable the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO COL. BENEDICT ARNOLD.

Watertown, May 27, 1775.

SIR: We have, this day, with pleasure, received your letter to the Committee of Safety, of the 19th instant, by Captain *Brown*, and return you our hearty thanks for your exertions in the publick cause, and fully agree with you that the interposition of *Providence*, in this and many other instances, is apparent, for which we have the greatest cause for thankfulness.

We are clearly of opinion that keeping *Ticonderoga* is a matter of great importance, and we make no doubt the honourable Continental Congress will take that affair immediately under their wise consideration, and give all necessary orders therefor, as we have addressed them most earnestly on the subject.

You inform us that you have had intimations that some persons were determined to apply, in order to injure your character. If any such applications should be made here, you may be assured we shall be so candid as not to suffer any impressions to your disadvantage, until you shall have opportunity to vindicate your conduct.

We enclose a Resolve of this Congress, appointing and directing Colonel *Joseph Henshaw* to repair to *Hartford*, and consult with the General Assembly there, upon this important matter, by which you will see the resolution this Congress has taken relative thereto.

We would just add, that the letter you refer to, of the 14th instant, by Colonel *Romans*, has not come to hand, so that no order can be taken thereon. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, *Ticonderoga*.

INSTRUCTIONS TO COLONEL HENSHAW, DELEGATE TO CONNECTICUT AND CROWN POINT.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
May 27, 1775. }

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Joseph Henshaw* be appointed and directed to repair to *Hartford*, and inquire whether provision is made by the General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut* for securing and maintaining the fortress at *Ticonderoga* and the adjacent posts; and if that Assembly has made provision for that purpose, the said Colonel *Henshaw* proceed directly to *Ticonderoga* and acquaint Colonel *Arnold* that it is the order of this Congress that he return, and render accounts of his expenses in that expedition, in order that he may be honourably discharged; but if Colonel *Henshaw* shall find that such provision is not made, and the General Assembly not sitting, that he proceed to *Ticonderoga*, and inform Colonel *Arnold* that it is the order of this Congress that he continue there, with such a number of forces as said Colonel *Henshaw* shall judge necessary, for the purpose. Nevertheless, if the said Colonel *Henshaw* shall find the General Assembly sitting, and have not made such provision, that he consult with them touching this important matter, and take their proposals, and immediately make report to the Congress of this Colony.

COLONEL HENSHAW TO DR. J. WARREN.

Watertown, May 28, 1775.

SIR: I cannot proceed on my journey to *Hartford* and *Crown Point* through want of the papers sent last evening to *Cambridge* by Mr. *Gill*, to be attested. Mr. *Gill* promised to bring me a horse and sulkey to proceed on as far as *Leicester*, where I shall take a horse of my own, there being none that may be obtained here. If he has not provided me with a horse and sulkey already, he knows where to do it, having your directions; therefore you will please to forward the papers, with a horse and sulkey, by Mr. *Gill*, when I shall instantly proceed. I am your most obedient servant,

JOS. HENSHAW.

MINUTES OF COLONEL JOSEPH HENSHAW'S JOURNEY TO CONNECTICUT.

May 28, 1775.—At noon set off from *Watertown* for *Hartford* and *Ticonderoga*.

Wednesday noon.—Arrived at *Hartford*; delivered the letter to the Governour and Council, with whom had a conference respecting the fortress at *Ticonderoga*, before dinner.

P. M.—Attended the House, with whom conferred on the same subject, and desired a conference by a Committee, which was granted, and a joint Committee of the Council and House appointed for that purpose; from whom I understood that intelligence had been received from the Continental Congress and *New-York*, which had been forwarded to the Provincial Congress since my departure, that the Continental Congress had recommended to *New-York* to maintain the fortress, and remove such cannon as may not be wanted, &c.; that *New-York* had requested *Connecticut* to provide for the safety of the post till *New-York* could take it on themselves; that in consequence thereof *Connecticut* had ordered one thousand men to *Ticonderoga*, under Colonel *Hinman*, with artificers, and five hundred pounds of powder, provisions, &c., and were about to send up an engineer; that four Companies were raising in *Albany* for the same purpose; that considering the intelligence received by our Congress since my departure, it was the unanimous opinion of the Committee it would be advisable to return immediately there before I proceeded to *Ticonderoga*, as it would not make more than two or three days difference, and it was probable the Congress would have some fresh instructions to furnish me with from said intelligence; that *Connecticut* expects we shall not draw off our forces, but leave them to co-operate with theirs for the defence of the post; that a Colonel and two Majors are appointed over the *Connecticut* forces, &c.

Thursday, June 1.—Waited till noon for Capt. *Brown*, who was to meet me at *Hartford*, and then proceed to *Ticonderoga*, but he not coming, I wrote to Colonel *Arnold*, and left the letter, with others, for Captain *Brown* to take on his arrival at *Hartford*, and proceed to *Ticonderoga*, when I set off for the Congress.

COLONEL HENSHAW TO COLONEL BENEDICT ARNOLD.

Hartford, May 31, 1775.

SIR: By Captain *Brown* I would advise you of my consulting the General Assembly of this Colony respecting the fortress at *Ticonderoga*. They have ordered Colonel *Hinman* to take the command there with one thousand men, and four Companies raising at *Albany*, artificers, &c., to repair and defend that post. It is expected you will continue with Colonel *Allen*, and put the place in the best posture of defence you are able, and guard against any surprise from the enemy till the succours arrive, and you receive further directions from the Congress. I should have proceeded from hence to *Ticonderoga*, but some events taking place since my departure from the Congress, makes it necessary for me to repair immediately thither.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH HENSHAW.

SELECTMEN OF PARTRIDGEFIELD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Partridgefield, May 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The Selectmen of the Town of *Partridgefield* having received a message from the Provincial Congress, dated at *Concord*, March 31, 1775, requiring the speedy payment of some money to *Henry Gardner*, Esq., of *Stow*, they immediately warned a town-meeting, and the inhabitants being assembled, and taking into consideration the present circumstances of the Town, they unanimously voted that, considering the present circumstances of the Town, they were not able to pay the tax required of them by the Provincial Congress; and also voted that the Town Clerk should write to the Congress, and give them some information concerning the present circumstances of the Town—a specimen of which is as follows, viz: This Town is but new, and but few people in it, and the generality of them are people of low fortunes; and it



is not long since we were at great expense (for us) in settling a Minister in the Town; and as our farms are mostly new, and our land not quick to produce a crop, we are obliged every year to buy a great part of our provision; and this year especially, as the blast and vermin destroyed a great part of our grain the last year. We have no Town stock of ammunition, nor do we know how to procure it, as all the money we can get must go to purchase the necessities of life. I am apt to think there is as many men gone and going from this Town in defence of the liberties and privileges of *America*, as from any Town in this Province, if not more, according to the number of people in this and the other Towns. And we should be as free with our money as with our men, if we had it, and could possibly spare it. The taxes which the Great and General Court of this Province was pleased to lay upon this Town, we petitioned to be relieved of, and not altogether without success. And we hope the Congress will be graciously pleased to excuse us for not complying with their requisitions, when it was not in our power to do it.

In the name and in behalf of the Town,  
NATHANIEL STOWELL, *Town Clerk*.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress, held at *Wartertown*.

CONDITION OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE, AS DELIVERED BY THEIR DELEGATES TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, MAY 27, 1775.

The Delegates from *New-Hampshire* beg leave to inform the Committee, that two of the principal Towns in that Colony, viz: *Portsmouth* and *Newcastle*, are situate on *Piscataqua* River, near the entrance of the harbour, and are much exposed to naval attacks; that those Towns are about five miles distance from each other, *Portsmouth*, the capital, lying farthest up the river, and not quite so much exposed as *Newcastle*, which lies at the entrance, defended only by a fort capable of mounting about thirty pieces of cannon, in the rampart; but the fortifications are extremely weak. That to defend the entrance of the harbour against a naval force, would be extremely difficult, if not impracticable; that batteries might be erected between those Towns, which, with booms, chains, &c., might possibly secure *Portsmouth* from such attack; that to defend the pass, and secure the retreat of the inhabitants, will require at least fifteen hundred men. But as they have a well-regulated Militia in that neighbourhood, which may suddenly be called together for that purpose, they are of opinion there will be no necessity of enlisting men at the Continental expense, especially as the Militia will readily agree to serve in turn for the defence of those places.

They beg leave further to inform the Committee, that there are sixteen Regiments of Foot, and two of Horse, in that Colony, the Foot amounting in the whole to upwards of sixteen thousand effective men, tolerably well provided with arms and ammunition; that the number of the Horse is uncertain, and those but ill provided; that great numbers of their Foot soldiers have been in actual service; and that out of those they are ready to raise and send to serve in *Massachusetts*, so many as the Committee shall choose to order; that the number of their inhabitants are very uncertain, as persons are continually emigrating from other Colonies, and settling in that more than in any other of the Northern Colonies; that the persons thus emigrating are extremely poor, for which reason the wealth of the Province bears no proportion to the number of inhabitants.

With respect to the amount of their Exports and Imports, no accurate account can be given, as the officers of the Customs have long since refused to suffer the books to be inspected.

RECANTATION OF EBENEZER LOVERIN.

Kensington, New-Hampshire, May 27, 1775.

Whereas I have offended the community in times past, by refusing to equip myself with arms and ammunition, and by my opposition to military orders, for which I am sorry: I hereby engage to equip myself according to orders, and be ready to take up arms in defence of my Country, in the present contest between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

EBENEZER LOVERIN.

GOVERNEUR MORRIS TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

New-York, May, 1775.

DEAR SIR: When I had the honour of your company and acquaintance at *Philadelphia*, you made it a request that I would exert my poor abilities in the honest endeavour to keep my fellow-citizens in the line of their duty, their interest, and honour. I freely made you the promise, and I did honestly and faithfully perform it.

I am informed that the Committee of this City have drawn up a representation of Mr. *Rivington's* case, for the animadversions of that respectable body of which you are a member. The consequence of this step will undoubtedly strike your mind; it is the giving a new power to the Congress. Our Association hath given them the Legislative, and this now tenders them the Judicial supremacy.

The power of Government, as of man, is to be collected from small instances; great affairs are more the objects of reflection and policy. Here both join. A mild and favourable sentence will conciliate the opinions of mankind; and what is the force of opinion, a gentleman who has made it his study to investigate the nature of Government, need not be told. I will not pretend to offer you any reasoning on this subject; because it will be tedious to repeat things which strike your mind at the first glance; but I can venture to assure you that a favourable sentence to this creature will be highly agreeable to most men here. The history of his conduct is simply this: His company, his acquaintances, his friends, were warm advocates for the power of Government; indifferently wise, his mind took a wrong bias from interest, deference for the sentiments of others, and opposition. A tool in prosperity, a cast-off in adversity, he solicits the assistance of that body which his press has aspersed. Magnanimity will dictate to that body the true line of conduct.

The liberty I take in writing to you, can only be excused by the intention I have to do good; this, I trust, will be a sufficient apology for, Sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

Gov. MORRIS.

*Richard Henry Lee, Esq., Philadelphia.*

RICHARD HENRY LEE TO GOVERNEUR MORRIS.

Philadelphia, May 28, 1775.

DEAR SIR: The friends of virtuous liberty in *New-York* have certainly effected a most important change in the political system of that flourishing City. I congratulate you, Sir, and your worthy associates, in this happy revolution. It is most certain that a profligate Ministry have greatly relied on the assistance of your fine fertile Province for carrying into execution their cruel system; a system by which existing millions, and millions yet unborn, are to be plunged into the abyss of slavery, and of consequence deprived of every distinction that marks the man from the beast. But happily for the cause of humanity, the Colonies are now united, and may bid defiance to tyranny and its infamous abettors.

You will see that Mr. *Rivington's* case is involved in all of a similar nature, which are to be determined on by the Colony Conventions where the offence is committed. I am sorry, for the honour of human nature, that this man should have so prostituted himself in support of a cause the most detestable that ever disgraced mankind. But he repents, and should be forgiven. It is not yet too late to exert his powers in defence of the liberty and just rights of a much injured Country.

I wish you happy, Sir, and I assure you that I am, with singular esteem, your friend and countryman,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL BENEDICT ARNOLD.

Cambridge, May 28, 1775.

The expedition to *Ticonderoga*, &c., requiring secrecy, the Congress of this Colony was not acquainted with the orders you received from this Committee. It gives us great pleasure to be informed by the express, Captain *Brown*, that the success you have met with is answerable to your spirit in the undertaking. We have now to acquaint you that the Congress have taken up this matter, and given the necessary directions respecting these acquisitions. It is,



then, Sir, become your duty, and is our requirement, that you conform yourself to such advice and orders as you shall from time to time receive from that body. We are, &c.

#### CHARLES COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

Information being made to some of the members of the Committee of this County, on *Monday*, the 29th of *May*, that certain persons had imported, and were privately selling goods in a daring and direct violation of the Continental Association, a meeting of the Committee was immediately called, and but few members attending, a general meeting was publicly requested this day, when a very full and respectable number attended at the Court-House, in *Port-Tobacco*, to make inquiry into this affair; and it was clearly and satisfactorily proved, that a certain *John Baillie*, who last *May* came a passenger in the Ship *Lady Margaret*, Captain *William Noble*, from *Scotland*, had brought sundry Dry Goods with him, which appeared, by the testimony of *Baillie* and *Patrick Graham*, living in *Port-Tobacco*, to have been put on board and landed without the consent or knowledge of the Captain, though *Baillie* swore that Captain *Noble* knew of his having goods on board the ship when he arrived in *Wicomico*. It also appeared that *Baillie*, when he put these goods on board the ship in *Scotland*, knew of the Continental Association, and that *Patrick Graham*, in a secret manner, did assist and aid him in taking them from on board the ship, and did privately take them into his house, and secretly sell a part thereof, for his own and *Baillie's* interest, to several people in this County, without letting them know the circumstances under which they were imported. Whereupon the Committee *Resolved*, That the said *John Baillie* and *Patrick Graham*, for their infamous conduct, ought to be publicly known and held up as foes to the rights of *British America*, and universally contemned as the enemies of *American* liberty; and that every person ought henceforth to break off all dealings with the said *John Baillie* and *Patrick Graham*; and as the ship which brought the goods had sailed, and there being no opportunity of shipping and sending them back to *Britain*, the Committee further

*Resolved*, That such of the goods as are unsold, or can be collected from the purchasers, shall be stored with and kept by Mr. *Zephaniah Turner*, until, and twelve months after a general importation is agreed on by the Continental Congress; and that, where any of the goods which may have been sold cannot be collected, the said *Graham* shall deposite the amount of the sales thereof, in cash, to be kept with the goods stored; the whole at the risk of the owners. Published by order of the Committee:

JOHN GWINN, Clerk.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

The Committee met by adjournment, 29th *May*, 1775.  
Present:

|                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Honry Remsen,       | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | Thomas Smith,       |
| Daniel Phenix,      | John Morton,        | Edward Fleming,     |
| Cornelius Clopper,  | William Seaton,     | William Walton,     |
| George Janeway,     | David Johnston,     | Abraham Brasher,    |
| John White,         | John Inlay,         | Cornelius P. Low,   |
| Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | Eleazer Miller,     | James Desbrosses,   |
| Robert Ray,         | John Broome,        | Francis Bassett,    |
| Evert Banker,       | Theophilus Anthony, | Gorret Ketletas,    |
| William Laight,     | John Lasher,        | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Benjamin Helme,     | John B. Moore,      | Anthony Van Dam,    |
| Petrus Byvanck,     | John Anthony,       | Abraham P. Lott,    |
| Alex. McDougall,    | John Berrian,       | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Comfort Sands,      | Peter Van Schaack,  | Hamilton Young,     |
| Nicholas Roosevelt, | Lancaster Burling,  | Abraham Duryee,     |
| Joseph Bull,        | William Goforth,    | Peter T. Curtenius, |
| John Reade,         | Hercules Mulligan,  | William W. Ludlow,  |
| Thomas Randall,     | Oliver Templeton,   | John Lamb,          |
| Nicholas Hoffman,   | Joseph Totten,      | David Beekman,      |
| Abraham Walton,     | John Van Cortlandt, | Jeremiah Platt.     |

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Seaton*, Mr. *Inlay*, Mr. *Berrian*, and Mr. *Phenix*, be a Sub-Committee to observe the conduct of the proprietors of goods imported in the *Snow Patty*, Captain *Sheppard*, from *Liverpool*, during her stay in this port, and to permit her being supplied with water and other necessaries for her departure, and also to procure two trusty persons, inhabitants of this City, to continue on board while she remains in this harbour; that they desire the Captain to depart from this port on or before *Thursday* morning next, wind and weather permitting; and

that he be further requested to make oath, that he will not discharge any part of his cargo in this Province, and that it be recommended to him to go back again agreeable to the directions of the late Continental Congress.

The Committee adjourned to *Monday*, 5th *June*, 1775.

New-York Committee Chamber, }  
May 29, 1775. }

Whereas, the publick service of the Colony may render large supplies of the following articles absolutely necessary, upon sudden emergencies, this Committee doth therefore recommend to all our fellow citizens, who are possessed of any *Osnaburghs*, *Ravens Duck*, brown *Russia* Sheetting, brown *Drilling*, striped and plain *Blankets*, eight-quarter green and spotted *Rugs*, coarse *Woollens*, barrellled *Beef*, barrellled *Pork*, or tin *Plates*, not to dispose of them until the Provincial Congress shall determine on the expediency of detaining them for our own use. And it is also recommended, that the owners of said articles make reports of the quantities that they have on hand, to the Chairman, Deputy-Chairman, or Secretary of this Committee, within six days from this date. By order of the Committee:

HENRY REMSEN, Deputy Chairman.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, }  
May 29, 1775. }

SIR: We have been honoured with the receipt of your favour of the 27th instant, containing information, and enclosing despatches relating to the important posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*. We are sorry to hear the imminent danger of the people at those posts, from a threatened attack from *Quebeck*, which might be attended with the loss of them before any resolve of the Continental Congress, for their preservation, could be carried into execution by our Colony.

Though therefore we agree, Sir, in opinion with your Assembly, that the said fortresses are properly under the direction of this Colony; yet we are satisfied that the pressing and urgent necessity of the case, and our present inability to take the command of those posts, fully justify the arrangements mentioned in your letter, to have been taken by your respectable body for their immediate defence.

We are, therefore, far from considering them as an invasion of this Colony, or an intermeddling with the service entrusted to it, as you may collect from our former letter on this subject; but rather esteem them as a most friendly interposition for the safety of our frontiers, and as the wise improvement of your early intelligence, and your state of readiness to provide against immediate danger. As in consequence of these arrangements, and the succours we may be able to supply till we are in a condition to take that direction of the above-mentioned fortresses, which their situation, and the determination of the Continental Congress have allotted to us, we shall attend to a proper supply of provisions for the posts. We beg leave at the same time to present you our unfeigned thanks for your most friendly and seasonable reinforcement, from the burden of which we shall, without loss of time, endeavour, in pursuance of further directions from the Continental Congress, to relieve our brethren of *Connecticut*; and should your stock of ammunition permit the increase of that supply which you have generously destined for that service, we shall exert ourselves in replacing it as soon as we shall have it in our power.

We are, with great respect, Sir, your Honour's, and the General Court's most obedient and humble servants.

By order of the Congress:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, President.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

#### J. TRUMBULL, JR., TO HIS BROTHER.

Hartford, May 29, 1775.

DEAR BROTHER: I have received your letter per *Bacon*. A little of politicks before I answer that. In consequence of our last letters from Colonel *Arnold*, (copies of which you will see before you have this,) we have sent off five



hundred pounds of powder for Colonel *Easton*, with two hundred Pounds in cash, and have given orders to four companies to march immediately to the relief and support of our people at *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, and have sent express to *New-York* and *Philadelphia* of our proceedings, that no jealousies may arise from our zeal and forwardness in this matter, which, without explanation, might seem to militate with a resolution of Continental Congress. Since these proceedings, have received a letter per express from *New-York* Provincial Convention, desiring our assistance for the support of those northern posts, until they can be in readiness to defend them with their own Troops, which, I understand, they are like to set on foot (this was without any knowledge of what we have done) for relief of *Crown Point*. They intimate their hopes that we will not be concerned lest they take umbrage at our doing any thing which we judge necessary for the general safety respecting those fortresses; seem very cordial, and we hear are well united. This intelligence I imagine will occasion our ordering Colonel *Hinman*, with his whole Regiment that way. The Deputy-Governour was consulting with the Governour on the necessity of sending more assistance to the support of our northern brethren, when Mr. *Brown* arrived with the above letter from *New-York*. Intelligence that way begins to brighten the prospect from that quarter. Our gentlemen give us accounts of their having full and free conferences with Committee of *New-York* Convention, and give us favourable report from th.m. However, must not please ourselves too much.

Our Assembly have agreed to a bounty of ten Pounds per hundred weight on saltpetre, and five Pounds per hundred weight on sulphur, for any quantity of either that may be procured and made within the Colony for one year. Have also agreed to a bounty of five Shillings each on all fire-arms made within the Colony, and one Shilling and Six Pence for each gun-lock so made, to continue till the 20th of *October* next, and have promised to take on Government account all the arms that can be made in this Colony and offered to them for sale, till the said 20th *October*. You will see by this we are not entirely wanting in our duty. Colonel *Parsons*, I believe, will soon come your way. He is very desirous of going to *Boston*; has the same ideas you have of being stationed on his own ground. I delivered your letter for Captain *Wadsworth*. He was gone to *Middletown*. You will receive no answer from him per this post, and I am unable to say what they have done; I believe they intend you shall purchase at least for all the Troops coming your way, which, I imagine, must be three thousand or upwards, though, in the present incertitude of events, there are not so many under orders for *Boston*. John *Mumford* has done wrong to raise in your mind such ideas as your letter intimates. The matter of purchasing beef is not yet adopted, and don't know if it will; also the method of paying. These matters you must leave till you see us. You will then, perhaps, understand our trim better than by writing. The pay table is composed of *William Pitkin*, *Thomas Seymour*, *Oliver Ellsworth*, and *Ezekiel Williams*, Esquires. Our caution and fears respecting *Ticonderoga*, &c., are fully removed. A Committee is appointed to take care of, and dispose of the officers, soldiers, &c., belonging to those posts who are prisoners; they are all here. *Albany* would not receive them. I don't imagine you will very soon see the Troops out of *Boston*. In what way can they make an impression upon your camp? They seem to be attended by some fatality in all their attempts hitherto; however, hope their ill success will not beget a security in our people. I was in hopes there would be but little business for sutlers.

I am glad to find per our letters from *New-York*, that their Congress do not construe the resolution of Grand Congress to intend an evacuation of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, but only a removal of such artillery, stores, &c., as necessary, to *Fort George*, and keep possession above. For this purpose it is they desire our assistance. We have been in great agitation lest they should immediately order an abandoning those forts. *New-York* have sent a Committee to superintend the removal, &c., with a number of men for the purpose, and materials, &c., for ship or sloop building on the lakes. The Provincial Congress of *New-York* seem much pleased with our delegation to them, so

also do the people of the City, &c. Mr. *Low* has failed of the presidentship, which is given to Mr. *Peter V. B. Livingston*, who, it is said, is a warm friend. They are also much pleased with a full and free representation of people, (for first time.) Their number consists of more than one hundred. Your affectionate brother.

J. TRUMBULL, JR.

#### NEW-MILFORD (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

The Committee of Observation for *New-Milford*, in the County of *Litchfield*, *Connecticut*, having duly notified *Zechariah Ferris*, *Joseph Ferris*, Jun., *James Osborne*, *Daniel Taylor*, *Nathaniel Taylor*, and *Hezekiah Stevens*, Jun., all of said *New-Milford*, to appear before said Committee this day, to give reason, if any they had, why they and each of them should not be advertised as foes to the rights of *British America*; and said *Zechariah Ferris*, *Joseph Ferris*, Jun., *James Osborne*, *Daniel Taylor*, and *Hezekiah Stevens*, Jun., having neglected to appear, and to give any satisfaction to said Committee; and said *Nathaniel Taylor* having appeared, and declared his opposition to the doings of the Continental Congress; and said Committee having fully deliberated upon, and finding each of the aforementioned persons obstinately fixed in their opposition to the doings of said Congress, and the now bleeding cause of *America*; thinks itself in duty bound to make this publication, that each of said persons may be universally neglected, and treated as incorrigible enemies to the rights of *British America*, according to the eleventh article of the Association, entered into by said Congress.

By order of the Committee:

SAMUEL CANFIELD, Committee Clerk.

Litchfield, May 29, 1775.

N. B. Five other persons being also notified to appear with the above, have made their retraction, and signed a compliance in full, with the doings of the Congress, to the acceptance of the Committee.

#### SELECTMEN OF NEW-HAVEN TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-Haven, May 29, 1775.

SIR: One of our number waits on your Honour with this, to inform the General Assembly, through the channel of your Honour, that we are now in possession of upwards of sixty cannon, nine, six, and three-pounders, for the use of the Colony, out of which a sufficient number may be made use of for the defence of this Town, if the honourable General Assembly think proper to order a battery built and carriages made for the guns, with suitable stores of powder and ball to be provided.

We refer you to Mr. *Ball* for the particulars of the manner of our being possessed of these cannon, which we think a great acquisition, and shall esteem ourselves happy to receive the directions of the honourable Assembly how they are to be disposed of. We are, with great respect, your most obedient servants,

JEREMIAH ATWATER, }  
ISAAC DOOLITTLE, } Selectmen.  
JAMES GILBERT, }

Honourable Jonathan Trumbull, Esq.

#### GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Hartford, May 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I am desired to enclose to you a copy of a letter from the Congress of *New-York* to this Assembly, dated 25th instant, which you will receive herewith per Mr. *Brown*, who is on his return from the Continental Congress. The contents of the above mentioned letter were immediately taken into consideration by this Assembly; in consequence whereof, they came into the following resolutions: That one thousand men, (including four hundred which we had before ordered,) under command of Colonel *Hinman*, should march as soon as possible to *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, for the support and defence of those fortresses. That they continue there until they are relieved by the Province of *New-York*, or are otherwise ordered by this Assembly. That Colonel *Hinman* take the command of our Troops on those stations. That the Troops be furnished with one pound of powder, and three pounds



of bullets to each soldier. That Colonel *Hinman* be ordered to keep up the strictest vigilance to prevent any hostile incursions from being made into the settlements of the Province of *Quebeck*, and that the Provincial Congresses of *New-York* and *Massachusetts-Bay* be advised of these measures, and the *New-York* Congress be requested to forward the necessary supplies for said Troops, and such other supplies of ammunition as they shall judge necessary. Advice of these resolutions is already sent forward to *New-York*, per Mr. *Colton*, your express to *Philadelphia*.

It is matter of doubt with us whether the above-mentioned detachment of Troops, ordered by this Colony, will be sufficient for the important purposes for which they are destined; but we recollect that Colonel *Arnold* is now on the spot, with a commission (as we understand) to raise a Regiment in the pay of your Province. We are not informed how far he has proceeded in that design. If he meets with success, we flatter ourselves that his Regiment, joined with the Troops we have sent, will be able to maintain their ground, and keep possession of those important posts.

We take the liberty to recommend to your consideration the furnishing such additional supply of powder from you as you shall think necessary, to be sent forwards for the support of those northern posts. I am very sorry to have it to say, that we are credibly informed there is not five hundred pounds of powder in the City of *New-York*; but at the same time are advised that means are taking to supply them with that very important article.

I am, with great truth and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

The Hon. Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY TO THE ALBANY COMMITTEE.

Hartford, May 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 27th instant, by express, came safe to hand; the contents have been duly considered, and in reply have the pleasure to acquaint you that we had before received the resolve of the Congress at *New-York*, with their request to send forward some forces to the northward, to keep those important posts until such time as they might be relieved by Troops from your Colony. We have accordingly ordered one thousand Troops, under command of Colonel *Hinman*, to march immediately to *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, furnished with one pound of powder and three pounds of ball, to each soldier, to continue there until relieved by the Province of *New-York*, or are otherwise ordered; also sent forward, under the care of Colonel *Easton*, of *Pittsfield*, five hundred weight of powder for those fortresses; and forwarded advice of our doings to the Provincial Congresses, both at *Massachusetts* and *New-York*, just before the receipt of your letter, which renders it unnecessary your express should go forward to the Congress at *Massachusetts-Bay*. Colonel *Hinman* is directed to exercise the greatest vigilance that no incursions be made into the Province of *Quebeck*, to disturb the inhabitants there. It is hoped that the Provincial Congress at *New-York* will forward the supplies of provisions, and whatever may be thought necessary; and that the people in your Province, who are under the best advantage from their situation, will spare no endeavours that may be beneficial to preserve peace and harmony with the *Indians*, and prevent their taking part against, but rather that they take part for, the security of the liberties of these Colonies, whereon their own happiness so much depends.

#### WILLIAM GILLELAND TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Near Crown Point, May 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As a lover of my liberty and my country, I beg leave to offer you my warmest congratulation on the success of His Majesty's arms, under the prudent and spirited conduct of Colonel *Arnold* and Mr. *Ethan Allen*, in reducing the important posts at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, and in seizing the armed sloop on this lake, and all the officers, soldiers, and military stores. These acquisitions I conceive to be highly advantageous to the *American* cause; and we all ardently hope that you, gentlemen, will order them to be sufficiently supported and defended; for which purpose I imagine that a thousand men (sailors,

engineers, and artillery-men, included) should be immediately stationed at *Ticonderoga*, *Crown Point*, and *Point Auferre*, and a sufficient number to man the sloop, the schooner, and the large and small boats now in our possession, and which at present gives us the mastery of the lake. *Point Auferre* is on the west side of this lake, seven miles south of the *Canada* line, whereon was built last summer a very strong stone and lime wall house, with strong ball-proof brick, sentry boxes at each corner, commanding every inch of ground about the house, having in them, and in a large dry cellar under the house, forty-four port-holes. This may, at a small expense, be made a very important post, by throwing up a breast-work, or by intrenching round the house, to be defended by a few pieces of cannon, whereby every naval irruption that may be attempted by the enemy, may be greatly obstructed, if not entirely frustrated; and we frontier inhabitants encouraged to remain on our flourishing settlements, without being alarmed at or exposed to the incursions of either the soldiery, the *Canadians*, or the *Indians*—the latter two of whom I must say, at present, have all the appearance of being neutrals, if not friends.

I must beg leave to observe to you, that there are now in these parts a very considerable number of men under the command of Mr. *Ethan Allen*, as brave as *Hercules*, and as good marksmen as can be found in *America*, who might prove immediately serviceable to the common cause, were they regularly embodied, and commanded by officers of their own choice, subordinate to whoever has or may be appointed commander-in-chief, or to the instructions of the Grand Congress. These men being excellent wood rangers, and particularly acquainted in the wilderness of *Lake Champlain*, would, in all likelihood, be more serviceable in these parts than treble their number of others not having these advantages, especially if left under the direction of their present enterprising and heroick commander, Mr. *Allen*.

I hope, gentlemen, you will pardon the freedom of this address, since it goes to you from one very much interested in the subject, having upwards of fifty families settled under his protection, on the most remote frontier of this Province, some of whom only ten miles south of the *Canada* line, the first settlement ever made under the *British* Government on *Lake Champlain*.

I have the honour to be, with the most profound respect, gentlemen, your most devoted and most obedient servant,

WILLIAM GILLELAND.

To the Hon. the Continental Congress.

New-York, May 29, 1775.

The martial spirit which prevails among the inhabitants of *Somerset* County, in *New-Jersey*, truly merits the attention of the publick. We have certain intelligence that they are forming themselves into companies, and daily exercising to become complete masters of the military discipline; and, particularly, that the Township of *Bridge-water*, in said County, met at *Raritan*, the 6th instant, and chose Mr. *Abraham Ten Eyck* Captain, under whose command eighty-five volunteers immediately enlisted, to be in readiness at an hour's warning to march for the assistance of any neighbouring Colony, on any emergency. Their pay and other necessities are provided by said Township. The other Counties and Townships, it is hoped, will follow their example, as it may be necessary to repel force by force, in order to secure our national rights and privileges.

#### ETHAN ALLEN TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress June 10, 1775.]

Crown Point, May 29, 1775.

WORTHY GENTLEMEN: An abstract of the minutes of Council from the Continental Congress, signed per Mr. *Charles Thomson*, Secretary, has just come to hand, and though it approves of the taking the fortresses on *Lake Champlain*, and the artillery, &c., I am nevertheless much surprised that your Honours should recommend it to us to remove the artillery to the south end of *Lake George*, and there to make a stand; the consequence of which must ruin the frontier settlements, which are extended at least one hundred miles to the northward from that place. Pro-



bably your Honours were not informed of those settlements, which consist of several thousand families, who are seated on that tract of country called the *New-Hampshire Grants*.

The misfortune and real injury to those inhabitants, by making the south end of Lake *George* the northernmost point of protection, will more fully appear from the following consideration, namely: It was at the special request and solicitation of the Governments of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, that those very inhabitants put their lives into the hand of their Governments, and made those valuable acquisitions for the Colonies. By doing it they have incensed Governor *Carleton* and all the ministerial party in *Canada* against them; and provided they should, after all their good service in behalf of their Country, be neglected and left exposed, they will be, of all men, the most consummately miserable.

The south promontory of Lake *Champlain* and Lake *George*, as to a southern direction, are near the same, and if we should give up the sovereignty of Lake *Champlain*, we may as well give up the whole. If the King's Troops should be again in possession of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, and command the lake, the *Indians* and *Canadians* will be much more inclined to join with them, and make incursions into the heart of our Country. But the Colonies are now in possession and actual command of the lake, having taken the armed sloop from *George* the Third, which was cruising in the lake, and also seized a schooner belonging to Major *Skene*, at *South-Bay*, and have armed and manned them both for the protection of our Country, and the Constitution and civil privileges and liberties thereof.

By a council of war held on board the sloop, the 27th instant, it was agreed to advance to the *Point Aulere*, with the sloop and schooner, and a number of armed boats well manned, and there make a stand, and act on the defensive, and by all means command the lake and defend the frontiers, and wait for the special directions of the honourable Continental Congress, and govern ourselves accordingly. We are now almost ready to sail to that station, which is about six miles this side of latitude forty-five degrees north. A small force, with the armed vessels, will at present command the lake, and secure the frontiers.

The *Canadians*, all except the noblesse, and also the *Indians*, appear at present to be very friendly to us; and it is my humble opinion, that the more vigorous the Colonies push the war against the King's Troops in *Canada*, the more friends we shall find in that country. Provided I had but five hundred men with me at *St. John's*, when we took the King's sloop, I would have advanced to *Montreal*. Nothing strengthens our friends in *Canada* equal to our prosperity in taking the sovereignty of Lake *Champlain*; and should the Colonies forthwith send an army of two or three thousand men, and attack *Montreal*, we should have little to fear from the *Canadians* or *Indians*, and would easily make a conquest of that place, and set up the standard of liberty in the extensive Province of *Quebeck*, whose limit was enlarged purely to subvert the liberties of *America*. Striking such a blow would intimidate the Tory party in *Canada*, the same as the commencement of the war at *Boston* intimidated the Tories in the Colonies. They are a set of gentlemen that will not be converted by reason, but are easily wrought upon by fear.

Advancing an army into *Canada* will be agreeable to our friends; and it is bad policy to fear the resentment of an enemy. If we lie easy, and in a supine state, and Governor *Carleton* exerts himself against us vigorously, as we know he will, and who, by a legal Constitution, can oblige our friends to assist him, he will, by slow degrees, discourage our friends, and encourage our enemies, and form those that are at present indifferent, into combinations against us. Therefore, the possible way to circumvent him and the scheme of the Ministry, is to nervously push an army into *Canada*. But if the wisdom of the Continent in Congress should view the proposed invasion of the King's Troops in *Canada* as premature or impolitic, nevertheless I humbly conceive, when your Honours come to the knowledge of the before-mentioned facts, you will at least establish some advantageous situation towards the northerly part of Lake *Champlain*, as a frontier, instead of the south promontory of Lake *George*.

There are many advantages in forming the frontier near the country of the enemy, as, first: it will be in our power to ravage and make inroads into the heart of the enemy's country, the same as they might easily do, were they in possession and command of Lake *Champlain*. This advantage will be of the utmost consequence, be it in the hands of which party it will. Though it is now in our hands, to give it up to them would be fatal to the interest of the Colonies, but more particularly to those who were instrumental in the achievement of the supremacy of that lake. But secondly: commanding the northerly part of the lake puts it in our power to work our policy with the *Canadians* and *Indians*. We have made considerable proficiency this way already. Sundry tribes have been to visit us, and have returned to their tribes to use their influence in our favour. We have just sent Captain *Abraham Nimham*, a *Stockbridge Indian*, as our ambassador of peace to the several tribes of *Indians* in *Canada*. He was accompanied with Mr. *Winthrop Hoit*, who has been a prisoner with the *Indians*, and understands their tongue. I do not imagine, provided we command Lake *Champlain*, there will be any need of a war with the *Canadians* or *Indians*.

Pray pardon me on account of any impertinency or inaccuracy in this composition, as it is but a rough draught, wrote in great haste, from your Honours' ever faithful, most obedient and humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

To the Continental Congress.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Crown Point, May 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your resolution of the 18th instant, and recommendation of measures to the City of *New-York* and *Albany*, in consequence of the taking possession of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, has this moment been delivered me, as commanding officer here, the purport of which induces me to believe the Committee of Safety of the *Massachusetts-Bay* have not informed you of my appointment, or instructions from them, which I have taken the liberty to enclose; and, in consequence, arrived in the neighbourhood of *Ticonderoga* the 9th instant, where I met one Colonel *Allen*, with about one hundred men, raised at the instance of some gentlemen from *Connecticut*, who agreed we should take a joint command of the Troops. The next morning, at four o'clock, we surprised the garrison and took them prisoners, the particulars of which you have doubtless heard. Some dispute arising between Colonel *Allen* and myself, prevented my carrying my orders into execution, until the 16th, when, being joined by fifty men of my own Regiment, and a small schooner taken at *Skenesborough*, which I immediately armed, and sailed for *St. John's*, in quest of the sloop. The 17th, being becalmed within ten leagues of *St. John's*, I manned out two small batteaus, with thirty-five men, and, after rowing all night, at six o'clock next morning landed at *St. John's*, and took a sergeant and his party of twelve men prisoners, the King's sloop, of seventy tons, mounted with two brass six-pounders, and seven men, and in two hours after left *St. John's*, having previously taken on board such stores, &c., as were valuable. Providence remarkably smiled on us, as a few hours' delay would have ruined our design, a party of one hundred and twenty men, with six pieces of cannon for the sloop, being on their march from *Montreal*, at only twenty miles distant; add to this a party of forty men on a march from *Chamblée*, twelve miles distant. Colonel *Allen* arrived at *St. John's* the same evening, with one hundred men, and being attacked the next morning by the Regulars, retreated, and left three men behind, two of which are since arrived.

I have armed the sloop with six carriage and twelve swivel-guns; the schooner with four carriages and eight swivels. I have sent to Lake *George* one brass twelve-pounder, six large brass and iron mortars and howitzers, and am making all possible preparation for transporting all the cannon here, and as many as can be spared at *Ticonderoga*, to Fort *George*.

I must beg leave to observe, gentlemen, that the report of *Ticonderoga's* being abandoned, have thrown the inhabitants here into the greatest consternation. There are about five hundred families to the northward of *Ticonderoga*, who, if it is evacuated, will be left at the mercy of the



King's Troops and *Indians*, and who have, part of them, joined the Army, and cannot now remain neuter, to whom a remove would be entire ruin, as they have large families and no dependence but a promising crop on the ground. I need not add to this, gentlemen, that *Ticonderoga* is the key of this extensive country, and if abandoned, leaves a very extensive frontier open to the ravages of the enemy, and to continual alarms, which will probably cost more than the expense of repairing and garrisoning it.

I esteemed it my duty, as a servant of the publick, to give you the foregoing hints, and hope the exigence of the times will be a sufficient apology for the liberty I have taken.

I have the honour to be, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD, Colonel, &c.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Crown Point, May 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I was equally surprised and alarmed this day, on receiving advice, via *Albany*, that the Continental Congress had recommended the removing all the cannon, stores, &c., at *Ticonderoga*, to *Fort George*, and evacuating *Ticonderoga* entirely, which being the only key of this country, leaves our very extensive frontiers open to the ravages of the enemy; and if put into execution, will be the entire ruin of five hundred families to the northward of *Ticonderoga*. I have wrote the Congress, and given my sentiments very freely, with your instructions to me, as I fancy they have had no intelligence of my appointment or orders.

Colonel *Allen* has entirely given up the command. I have one hundred and fifty men here, and expect in two or three weeks to have my Regiment complete, and believe they will be joined by a thousand men from *Connecticut* and *New-York*. I have sent to *Lake George* six large brass and iron mortars and howitzers, one brass and three iron twelve-pounders, and shall pursue your orders with all the despatch in my power. I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
May 29, 1775. }

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Yesterday, about three of the clock, P. M., this Congress received your Honour's most kind and friendly letter of the 25th instant, enclosing a resolution of the General Congress, of the 18th instant, relating to *Ticonderoga*, the order of the General Committee of Association of *New-York*, for executing the said resolution, and the letter from the *Connecticut* Delegates at *New-York*; each of which contain articles of intelligence very important and interesting to all the *New-England* Governments. But while we are consoled and rejoiced to find that the General Congress is attentive to the safety and general interests of the Colonies, we cannot conceal from the General Assembly of your Colony, that we should be to the last degree agitated, if we really supposed that the said resolution of the General Congress, touching *Ticonderoga* and said posts on *Lake Champlain*, was their *ultimatum*, and that they would not reconsider that resolution. But as we cannot suffer ourselves to doubt of their best intentions and great concern for the liberty and safety of all the Colonies, we assure ourselves, that upon better information, and knowledge more just, they will be fully convinced of the great impolicy of abandoning *Lake Champlain*, which we conceive they have in effect advised to, although we confess their expressions are not the clearest. But we are confirmed in our construction of the said resolution, by the order taken by the General Committee of *New-York* to execute the same.

May it please your Honour, permit us to acquaint you, that as soon as possible after we had received advice of the success of our people at *Crown Point* and *St. John's*, and the taking of the armed sloop on that lake, by Col. *Arnold's* letter, a copy whereof we have sent you by Col. *Henshaw*, we sent an express to *New-York* and to the General Congress, signifying to the General Congress and to the Con-

gress of *New-York*, in the strongest manner, our opinion of the absolute necessity and great advantages of maintaining the post of *Ticonderoga*. But as we conceived the reasons and grounds of such an opinion were obvious and generally known, we supposed that a detail of the arguments and proofs was altogether unnecessary. But upon seeing the resolution of the General Congress upon that important matter, we were much surprised and concerned; and in the little time we have had to deliberate on the subject, we have resolved to endeavour to suggest to your Honour and your Assembly the reasons which at present occur to us, which we apprehend make it evident that the maintaining that post is not only practicable, and, under God, in the power of the Colonies, but of inexpressible necessity, for the defence of the Colony of *New-York*, and all the *New-England* Colonies; and having enumerated those reasons as they occur, without consulting method or any orderly arrangement, to submit them to your Assembly, most importunately praying you, if your Honours approve them, that you will, with the greatest despatch, communicate them, with many more observations which your better knowledge of facts will suggest, to the General Congress; and, if you should judge it advisable, also to the Congress of *New-York*; conceiving that, in several respects, they would go from you with more advantage, not only to *New-York*, but also to the General Congress, than from us. It seems natural to compare the two stations proposed to be maintained, viz: *Ticonderoga* and *William Henry*, in the following manner, that is to say, with regard to the benefits and advantages of the two stations which will arise for the purposes of general defence and annoyance of the common enemy, and with regard to the feasibility of maintaining each place.

And, in the first place, as to the advantages of general defence resulting from a post at *Ticonderoga*, beyond those of *William Henry*; they are so great and many, that they cannot be enumerated in an ordinary letter. In the view of a post of observation, we beg leave to observe, that all movements from *Canada*, intended against *New-England* or *New-York*, by the way of *Lake Champlain*, whether by scalping parties or large bodies, whether in the winter or open seasons of the year, may almost certainly be discovered so seasonably as that the blow may be generally warded off; whereas, if the post at *William Henry* be only kept, it is probable that three-fourths of the attempts on the frontiers of *New-York* and *New-England*, by *Champlain*, will never be known until executed. As to enterprises by any large body by the way of *Champlain*, it is clear that they may be known much earlier from the former than the latter station; also, if it should become necessary and just that the United Colonies should annoy the inhabitants of *Canada*, and cause them to feel the grievousness of war on their borders, (as it most certainly will, in case they engage in the war upon us,) the two stations scarcely bear any comparison; for if we abandon the post at *Ticonderoga*, the enemy will infallibly seize it; and, in that case, what annoyance can we give *Canada* by the way of *Champlain*, by means of a fortified post at *William Henry*? If the enemy hold *Ticonderoga*, they will effectually command the whole of *Lake Champlain*. If the United Colonies hold it, they will so far command that lake, as, by the way of it, they will be able to make descents by small parties upon great part of the country of *Canada*, and infinitely distress them; but from *William Henry* none can be made without vast difficulty and risk. As to the advantages of subsisting and defending a garrison, and maintaining a post against the efforts of *Canada*, either at *Ticonderoga* or *Fort William Henry*, we conceive that they are much in favour of the former; for as to supplies of victuals for either a garrison or an army stationed at one place or the other, we conceive that, on the whole, they may be more easily and certainly afforded to *Ticonderoga* than *William Henry*. We suppose that what should be sent from posts on the westerly side of *Hudson's River*, may almost as easily be transported to *Ticonderoga* as to *William Henry*; and as to such supplies as would go from posts eastward of *Hudson's River*, they may be conveyed to the former place with much more facility than the latter. And as to the speed and certainty of marching succours for the relief of a garrison at one place or the other, in case of an attack, we suppose the advantages of *Ticonderoga* are vastly supe-



riour to those of *William Henry*; for we cannot forbear observing, that our brethren of *New-York* Government, settled on the westerly side of *Hudson's* River, have been always rather slow in warlike efforts; and if the succours must go from *Connecticut*, *Massachusetts*, *New-Hampshire*, or the northeasterly parts of *New-York* Governments, they may be mustered and marched much sooner to the former station than the latter. We have no doubt but, on a pressing emergency, a large body of men might be marched from the middle of the County of *Hampshire* to *Ticonderoga* in six days; but to gentlemen so well acquainted with the geography of the two places, we need not dwell on this part of the argument; and, in short, we have no idea of maintaining the one or the other of the two posts in time of war with *Canada*, but either by constantly keeping an army on the spot, or making a fort of sufficient strength for a garrison to hold out against an attack until an army could be marched from *New-York* or *New-England*, sufficient to raise the siege; the latter method we suppose most politic, and quite practicable with regard to *Ticonderoga*. But at the same time we beg leave just to hint, that a fortified station, on the easterly side of *South-Bay*, or *Lake Champlain*, opposite to *Ticonderoga* or *Crown Point*, or still farther on, affords great advantages for the maintaining of *Ticonderoga*, and defending the settlements on the easterly side of *Lake Champlain*; and there is artillery enough to spare to other places; and if we abandon the land between the *Lakes George* and *Champlain*, we shall give the enemy an opportunity to build at or near the points; and by that means we shall lose the whole of *Lake Champlain*, and the shipping we now have on that lake, by which we can command the whole of it, and keep the enemy at a distance of a hundred miles from our *English* settlements, near *Otter Creek*, &c.; but if that fortress should be maintained, we shall have those very settlements, with some aids from the old settlements, to support it, which will not be half the charge that it would be to maintain a sufficient number of soldiers so far from their homes. We have there about four or five hundred hardy men, with many families, who, if those grounds should be abandoned, will be driven from their settlements, and leave the *Massachusetts* and *New-Hampshire* people naked, without any barrier, and exposed to the *Canadians* and savages, who will have a place of retreat at the point, as they had almost the whole of the last war. By abandoning this ground, we give up an acquisition which cost immense sums of money, the loss of many lives, and five campaigns.

As to the expense of maintaining a fortress at *Ticonderoga*, this Colony will not fail to exert themselves to the utmost of their power.

We are under the greatest obligations to your Honour and the General Assembly, for the intelligence you have given us; and you may depend we shall not fail of conveying to you all important intelligence with the greatest despatch. The interpositions of Divine Providence, in favour of *America*, are very obvious, which demands our utmost thankfulness. Enclosed is a brief narrative of some of them. We are, &c.

THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
May 29, 1775. }

"Resolved, That the following Letter be immediately sent to the Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire*."

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed are copies of Governour *Trumbull's* letter to this Congress, enclosing a resolution of the Continental Congress, respecting the fortresses at *Ticonderoga*, *Crown Point*, &c., and the resolution of the General Committee of Association of *New-York* thereon, and a letter from the *Connecticut* Delegates, from *New-York*, to their Assembly.

The measure taken by the Continental Congress, if carried into execution, will, in our humble opinion, affect those Colonies east of *Hudson* River, in the highest degree. By that you will see that all the lands and waters between the south end of *Lake George* and *Crown Point*, together with all *Lake Champlain*, will be left open for *Canadians* and savages, if they should be so disposed, to ravage all that country east, and distress all our new settlements.

We have addressed the Continental Congress upon the necessity of keeping a fortress at or near *Ticonderoga*, and have also most pressingly desired the Colony of *Connecticut* to exert themselves to effect the maintaining such a fortress. We have also written to *New-York* upon the matter.

We now lay the same advice before you, that you may have opportunity to take such measures as you shall think proper. As your Colony is so deeply affected, you will, from a concern for that, and a general regard for the common safety, which you have at all times appeared to have, we trust, take the matter up, and, by decent and respectful addresses to the Continental Congress, endeavour to prevail with them to alter a measure so dangerous in its effects.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servants,  
JOS. WARREN, *Pres't pro tem.*

COMMITTEE OF SANDWICH TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Sandwich, May 29, 1775.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: In consequence of complaint made to the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Sandwich*, by Messrs. *Simcon Wing* and *Jesse Barlow*, we have thought it advisable to represent to your Honours the circumstances of their vessels being taken by Captain *Linsey*, of the *Falcon*, and retaken by a schooner from *Dartmouth*, under command of Captain *Egery*, and to beg some advice and order of the Congress may be passed concerning it. Mr. *Wing's* vessel, commanded by his son *Thomas*, has been plied as a wood boat to carry wood to *Nantucket* from *Sandwich*, for some years past, and it hath been the usual practice for them to settle with the Custom-House once a year, the officer of which always gave them their choice of paying twelve pence per trip, or the whole at the year's end: and this hath been, we find on examination, the common practice with other vessels that have followed the same business at the same place. Upon Captain *Wing's* returning from *Nantucket*, through the *Vineyard Sound*, the sloop was taken by a barge from said Captain *Linsey's* brig; an *Indian* fellow on board of *Wing's* vessel informed Captain *Lindsey* of said *Barlow's* vessel, which had run a cargo lately from the *West-Indies*, and was laden with provisions in *Buzzard's* Bay. Captain *Linsey* took possession of Captain *Wing's* vessel, putting fourteen men on board, to proceed up the bay and take *Jesse Barlow's* vessel, which they carried off. The master of this latter vessel was taken with *Wing*, being then on board as a passenger; so that both vessels, with all the crews, passengers, &c., were captured, and proceeded to the cove to Captain *Linsey*. Mr. *Barlow* made application to some people at *Dartmouth*, who went with a sloop, one half of which *Barlow* ventured, and retook both said vessels and men, with their arms, &c., and carried them into *Dartmouth*. Messrs. *Wing* and *Barlow* applied to the *Dartmouth* people, who took the vessels from them again. The people offered them their vessels upon *Wing's* paying them eight dollars and *Barlow's* paying ten dollars, with which they complied, and *Wing* paid the money; after which the *Dartmouth* people detained the vessels till the order of Congress could be known, and now refuse to deliver up the said vessels without *Wing* and *Barlow's* paying forty-five dollars, and giving bonds of a very extraordinary nature, to indemnify said *Dartmouth* people, &c. These are a true state of facts, as nearly as we, after examination of said *Wing* and *Barlow*, can ascertain; and the said *Wing* and *Barlow*, thinking they ought to have their vessels again without further difficulty, desire the Committee of Correspondence of this Town to lay the matter before you, and pray your orders, to which they profess their readiness to submit and acquiesce in.

We are your Honours' very humble servants, the Committee of *Sandwich*.

NATHANIEL FREEMAN, *per order.*

In Congress, Watertown, July 1, 1775.

The Committee appointed to take the Remonstrance from the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Sandwich* into consideration, have considered the same, and report as follows, viz:



That the people of the Town of *Dartmouth*, mentioned in said Remonstrance, who withhold said vessels from said *Wing* and *Barlow*, be notified to appear the second *Tuesday* of the next meeting of the House of Representatives, in *Watertown*, to give their reasons why they withhold the same, and that they be served with a copy of this Remonstrance, and that *Wing* and *Barlow* be notified to attend at the same time and place; which is humbly submitted.

Per order,

EZRA RICHMOND.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR MASSACHUSETTS.

Salem, May 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Stephen Higginson*, of this Town, arrived here yesterday from *London*. The answers he gave on his examination before the House of Commons, and which were some time since printed in the newspapers, have given umbrage to some persons in this place, (and we hear in *Marblehead* also,) who imagine those answers to be highly injurious to the Province, and given with an intention to distress it. He this day appeared before the Committee of Safety of this Town, and, upon exhibition of the facts, the Committee, to a man, were perfectly satisfied of his innocence and good intention relative to the matter complained of; but that every one might be made easy, as the Town were to meet this day, it was judged best to publish the whole to the inhabitants when assembled, which was done accordingly to a full meeting, and the Town thereupon expressed their satisfaction by a vote, from which only three or four dissented, but many did not vote at all; and since the meeting was dissolved we find that several remain dissatisfied, and desire the matter may be inquired into by the Provincial Committee of Safety; we have, therefore, advised Mr. *Higginson* to wait on you, that your decision may quiet the minds of the people here and through the Country. We have stated the facts above-mentioned as a necessary apology for troubling you about a matter so extremely obvious.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

RICH. DERBY, *Chm'n Com. of Safety*.

TIM. PICKERING, JUN., *Town Clerk*.

To the Provincial Committee of Safety.

COLONEL STARK TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Medford, May 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 26th instant I have received, and note the contents; and as to the fire-arms for the use of the Regiment under my command, the greatest part of those who were destitute when I wrote to you, are since furnished, and I am informed by the officers of the several Companies, that the remainder will be equipped very shortly; so I flatter myself that this difficulty (as to my Regiment) will be soon surmounted. Yet, as to the manner of procuring them, whether by the respective Towns to which they belong, or by individuals, I cannot at present inform you, as no account has yet come to hand. But I would still beg leave to entreat you to take some further notice of the Army. And, in the first place, consider that a great part of the Regiment or Army here, are destitute of blankets, and cannot be supplied by their Towns, and are very much exposed; some of whom, for the want thereof, are much indisposed, and thereby rendered unfit for duty. Secondly, that we are in very great want of money, and that neither officers nor soldiers can subsist much longer, without some, by any means. And this I am well assured of, (from daily complaints which are made to me,) that unless you, by some means, advance some money to the Army directly, (as there is no room in my mind to doubt that there is a very considerable sum in the Province belonging thereto,) they will certainly return, for they cannot nor will not continue. I would also recommend to your consideration the necessity of a sutler or sutlers for the benefit of the Army; and if it should be thought necessary that there should be such, and if one cannot be found in that Province who will undertake to supply the Army upon reasonable terms, I know of a gentleman in this Province that would gladly embrace the opportunity, if applied to. I would likewise be glad there might be a chest of medicine procured for the Regiment, and forwarded, as it is wanted very much, and also armourer's tools.

According to your request, I have transmitted to the Committee of Safety a regimental return of the men who have enlisted under me into the service of the Province of *New-Hampshire*, and who expect to be paid therefrom.

Your compliance with the above will greatly oblige your's in the common cause,

JOHN STARK.

COMMITTEE OF PORTSMOUTH, N. H., TO THE COMMITTEE OF NEWBURYPORT.

Portsmouth, May 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We had two provision vessels seized at the mouth of our harbour the last night, by the *Scarborough*, and upon application to Captain *Barclay* for their release, find he has positive orders from the Admiral to take possession of all vessels laden with provisions, salt, or molasses, and send them to *Boston*, and says further, those orders are circular through the Continent.

We give this earliest intelligence for your government, and also inform you that the *Canceaux*, a small ship, of six or eight guns, sails the first wind, to convoy the two vessels already seized to *Boston*, and are sorry to find ourselves unable to prevent it, as we have our harbour blocked up by a twenty-gun ship, and have no vessel of force able to retake them. One reason of our mentioning this circumstance, and sending an express this night with it, is, because we have just heard that you have an armed vessel in your port. We have ordered two small vessels to cruise off and on, and, if possible, give this intelligence to all vessels bound to this or any other port, and trust you will do the same. Your most obedient servants. By order of the Committee:

H. WENTWORTH, *Chairman*.

To the Committee of Correspondence of *Newburyport*.

Newburyport, May 30, 1775.

This letter was received this morning by the Committee of this Town; and as the Admiral's orders, herein mentioned, may affect every part of the Continent, we think it our duty to send it forward to the Committee of Safety for the Province, or to the Congress.

B. GREENLEAF, per order,

To the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts*.

Portsmouth, N. H., May 30, 1775.

This day about thirty or forty men from on board the *Scarborough*, man-of-war, now in this harbour, came on shore at *Fort William and Mary*, and tore down great part of the breast-work of said fort, and did other damage.

The day before this attempt, the *Scarborough* took two provision vessels, loaded with corn, pork, flour, rye, &c., coming in from *Long-Island*, which were for the relief of this place, as the inhabitants are in great want of provisions; and notwithstanding the most prudent application of the principal gentlemen of this Town, the Captain refused to release them. O shocking situation.

Upon this refusal it was apprehended the most violent outrages and tumults of the people would immediately follow this detention of their provisions, the consequences of which would be, most probably, very fatal to His Majesty's subjects, by bringing into the most imminent danger the lives and properties of his said subjects, which ought by all means to be prevented, if possible.

Upon this unwarrantable transaction, the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Towns were greatly alarmed, and, next morning, between five and six hundred men, in arms, went down to the battery, called *Jerry's Point*, and brought off eight cannon, twenty-four and thirty-two pounders, being the whole that were there, weighing four thousand eight hundred pounds each, and brought them up to this Town. While they were taking off the above cannon, the *Canceaux*, with a tender, set sail with the two provision vessels for *Boston*. The next day the Town was full of men from the country, in arms.

This uncommon exertion of arbitrary power immediately alarmed the inhabitants, and the Committee of Safety having met, a memorial was, by their approbation, presented to the Governour and Council, who took every prudent method in their power to pacify the people, and to obtain a release of the captures. His Excellency repaired on



board the *Scarborough*, and informed the Captain that the provisions were the property of some of the inhabitants, who had before contracted for the same; but the only answer he could obtain was, "that Admiral *Graves* and the General had forwarded orders to take every provision vessel that should be met with, on every station, and to send them forthwith to *Boston* for the supply of the Army and Navy." Captain *Barclay*, the commander of the *Scarborough*, informed two of the Committee at *Fort William and Mary*, that his orders were such that he must even take all vessels with salt or molasses, they being a species of provision, and send them to *Boston*.

TO GENERAL GAGE.

SIR: If you are not too busy in granting passes to the people of *Boston*, and in protecting the remains of your Army, I beg the favour of addressing you once more. You have lately risen above contempt. You have commenced hostilities between *Great Britain* and *America*, in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*. The heinousness and consequences of this crime would have raised even a sentinel into importance, and will serve, in spite of the natural insignificance of your character, to "damn" even General *Gage* "to everlasting fame."

Your attempt to prove that the Militia of *Massachusetts* fired first in the late engagement at *Lexington*, if successful, would add nothing to your cause. You acknowledge that you sent your Troops out of *Boston* to destroy a magazine of provisions and military stores at *Concord*. The invasion of property, among all Nations, is justly deemed a declaration of war. But, Sir, however contrary to your intention, your account of the matter has served to entail double infamy upon the memories of those ministerial Troops that fell in the battle, for it proves that they suffered not only as murderers, but as thieves. Publick justice quickened its steps, and their punishment trod upon the heels of their crimes. We congratulate ourselves upon the history which you have sent of that transaction to the Ministry. It will certainly add weight to the depositions transmitted by the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*; for even treachery itself, when it reads your account of the battle, will be forced to acknowledge that it was begun by your Troops, and that the ravages they committed flowed less from provocations than from the natural barbarity of their dispositions.

The reign of *George* the Third seems intended by Providence to establish the belief of the most miraculous parts of the Scriptures. It requires less faith to believe the miracle of *Joshua*, than that freemen will not fight in defence of their liberty. It requires less faith to believe that an *Egyptian* Army perished in the *Red Sea*, in pursuit of a people who had brought the greatest calamities upon their Country, than to believe that a few Regiments of *English* soldiers, three thousand miles from resources of all kinds, can subdue a Continent eighteen hundred in extent, crowded with inhabitants, all united to each other by the closest ties of interest and affection. You, too, Sir, have contributed your share towards confirming a historical fact in the Bible. We cease now to wonder that the soldiers who guarded our *Saviour's* sepulchre, swore that his disciples stole his body away while they slept. Your conduct shows that there is nothing repugnant to the folly of human nature in this story. Your letter to Governour *Trumbull* is a commentary upon that passage of Scripture, and serves to prove that soldiers are actuated by the same principles in all arbitrary Governments, and that their abilities do not equal their inclinations in contriving falsehoods.

Where now is the martial spirit of your Army? Where are those dogs of war who panted so eagerly for the blood of their countrymen? Alas! how are the mighty fallen! No wonder they trembled and fled at the sight of a few Companies of *American* Militia; for *English* courage can dwell only in the society of justice and humanity. The genius of *Britain* deserted her sons when she beheld them fighting under the banners of slavery. No successes against *America* can ever wipe away the stain they have brought upon the *British* arms; for should the Colonies at last be reduced, I will venture to predict that three hundred half disciplined *British* Troops will never chase two thousand well disciplined *Americans* twenty miles in six hours.

History is unfurnished with a character like yours. You are cruel without inhumanity, unjust without avarice, and artful without design. For Heaven's sake let experience teach you wisdom, and lead you to truth. Let not your talent for dissimulation prove your ruin. You have exercised it hitherto in such a manner as to serve none but your enemies, and injure none but your friends. One candid acknowledgment of the strength and union of the Colonies, and of the weakness of your Troops, in your letters to the Ministry, will immediately restore peace and union to *Britain* and the Colonies.

JUNIUS AMERICANUS.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

April 5, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety, at the house of Mr. *Taylor*, of *Concord*, on *Wednesday*, the 5th of *April*, 1775. Present:

Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., Colonel *Palmer*, Col. *Heath*, Capt. *White*, Mr. *Watson*, J. *Pigeon*, Mr. *Devens*.

Voted unanimously, That the Committee of Supplies do directly furnish this Committee with an exact account, in writing, of all the Provisions and Stores, and the places of their disposition.

Voted, That one piece of Cannon be sent to Colonel *Mitchell*, of *Bridgewater*.

April 14, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety, at *Concord*, at the house of Mr. *Taylor*, on *Saturday*, the 14th of *April*, 1775. Present:

The Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., Colonel *Heath*, Captain *White*, Mr. *Devens*, Colonel *Gardner*, Mr. *Watson*, Mr. *Palmer*.

Voted, That the Cannon now in the Town of *Concord* be immediately disposed of within said Town, as the Committee of Supplies may direct.

Voted, That the Cannon-powder, now at *Leicester*, be removed, one load at a time, to this Town, and made into cartridges, under the direction of the Committee of Supplies.

N. B. Mr. *Devens* acted as Clerk *pro tempore*. Colonel *Gardner* this day was chosen as one of the Committee of

Safety, instead of Deacon *Fisher*, who resigned, in consequence of the distance he lives.

April 17, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committees of Safety and Supplies, at Mr. *Taylor's* house, in *Concord*, on *Monday*, 17th *April*, 1775. Present:

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.—Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., Colonel *Heath*, Colonel *Palmer*, Captain *White*, Mr. *Devens*, Colonel *Gardner*, Mr. *Watson*, Colonel *Orne*, J. *Pigeon*.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES.—Colonel *Lee*, Mr. *Gill*, Mr. *Cheever*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Lincoln*.

Voted unanimously, That application be made to Captain *Hatch*, for captain of the Artillery Company for *Boston*; and if he refuses, to offer it to Mr. *Crafts*, and so on in order, as they stand in the Company. Also that Capt. *Robinson*, of *Dorchester*, be applied to as captain of the Company of *Dorchester*; and that Mr. *Newall*, of *Charlestown*, be applied to; that the Captain for the *Marblehead* Company be not appointed until the Members for *Marblehead* make inquiry and report. That Capt. *Timothy Bigelow* be applied to as captain of the *Worcester* Company, and that Mr. *Thomas Wait Foster*, of *Hadley*, be applied to as captain of the Company at *Hadley*.

Voted, That the two Four-Pounders now at *Concord* be mounted by the Committee of Supplies; and that Colonel *Barrett* be desired to raise an Artillery Company, to join the Army when raised, they to have no pay until they join the Army; and also that an Instructor, for the use of the cannon, be appointed, and to be put directly in pay.



*Voted unanimously*, That six Pounds, lawful money, per month, be for Captain's pay in the Artillery Companies; that the First and Second Lieutenants have four Pounds; the Lieutenant of fire-works to have three Pounds five Shillings; the Sergeants to have forty-two Shillings per month; the Corporals thirty-eight Shillings per month; the common men thirty-six Shillings per month; the Drummers and Fifers thirty-eight Shillings per month; also, that four Shillings per week be allowed for their board.

*Voted*, That when these Committees adjourn, it be to Mr. *Wetherby's*, at the *Black-Horse, Menotomy*, on *Wednesday*, ten o'clock.

*Voted*, That the four Six-Pounders be transported to *Groton*, and put under the care of Colonel *Prescott*.

*Voted*, That two seven-inch Brass Mortars be transported to *Acton*.

*Voted*, That the two Committees adjourn to Mr. *Wetherby's*, at *Menotomy*, ten o'clock.

April 18, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committees of Safety and Supplies, at Mr. *Wetherby's*, in *Menotomy*, on *Tuesday*, the 18th of *April*, 1775. Present:

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.—Colonel *Orne*, Colonel *Palmer*, Colonel *Heath*, Colonel *Gardner*, Mr. *Devens*, Mr. *Watson*, Captain *White*, J. Pigeon.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES.—David *Cheever*, Esq., Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Lee*, Colonel *Lincoln*.

*Voted*, That the two brass Two-Pounders, and two brass Three-Pounders, be under the care of the *Boston Company* of Artillery and Captain *Robinson*.

Newton, April 17, 1775.

Captain *Timothy Bigelow*:

SIR: The Committee desired me to write you, to desire the favour of your company next *Wednesday*, the nineteenth instant, at Mr. *Wetherby's*, at the *Black-Horse*, in *Menotomy*, on business of great importance.

Sir, your most humble servant, J. PIGEON, Clerk.

P. S. The Committee meets at ten o'clock.

*Voted*, That all the Ammunition be deposited in nine different Towns in this Province: that *Worcester* be one of them; that *Lancaster* be one, (N. B. Colonel *Whitcomb* is there;) that *Concord* be another; that *Groton* be another; that *Stoughtonham* be another; that *Stow* be another; that *Mendon* be another; that *Leicester* be another; that *Sudbury* be the other.

*Voted*, That part of the Provisions be removed from *Concord*, viz: Fifty barrels beef from thence to *Sudbury*, with Deacon *Plympton*; one hundred barrels flour to ditto, of which what is in the malt-house, in *Concord*, be part; twenty casks rice to ditto; fifteen hogsheads molasses to ditto; ten hogsheads rum to ditto; five hundred pounds candles to ditto.

*Voted*, That there be by the Committee of Supplies provided, six Ammunition Carts, one to be in each Town where a Company of Matrosses is fixed.

*Voted*, That one Company of Matrosses be stationed at *Worcester*; one ditto at *Concord*; one ditto at *Stoughtonham*; one ditto at *Stoughton*; one ditto at *Stow*; one ditto at *Lancaster*.

*Voted*, That thirty-three rounds of Round-Shot, thirty-three rounds of Grape-Shot, and thirty-three Canisters of Langrage, be provided and lodged with each of the twelve field-pieces belonging to the Province, together with one hundred Cartridges of Powder, one hundred and sixteen Tubes, one hundred Wads, together with all necessary materials.

*Voted*, That the Towns of *Worcester*, *Concord*, *Stow*, and *Lancaster*, be furnished with two iron Three-Pound Cannon each.

*Voted*, That four hundred and fifty Four-Pound Cannon Ball be carried from *Stoughtonham* to *Sudbury*.

*Voted*, That one ton of Grape-Shot be carried from *Stoughtonham* to *Sudbury*.

*Voted*, That one ton of Three-Pound Cannon Balls be carried from ditto to ditto.

*Voted*, That one half the Two-Pound Cannon Ball, now at *Stoughtonham*, exclusive of what is for the use of the Matrosses, be carried to *Sudbury*.

*Voted*, That the vote of the fourteenth instant, relating to the Powder being removed from *Leicester* to *Concord*, be reconsidered, and that the Clerk be directed to write to Colonel *Barrett* accordingly, and to desire he would not proceed in making it up into cartridges.

*Voted*, That one half the Musket-Cartridges be removed from *Stow* to *Groton*.

*Voted*, That the Musket-Balls, under the care of Col. *Barrett*, be buried under ground, in some safe place; that he be desired to do it, and let the Commissary only be informed thereof.

*Voted*, That the Spades, Pick-Axes, Bill-Hooks, Shovels, Axes, Hatchets, Crows, and Wheelbarrows, now at *Concord*, be divided, and one third remain in *Concord*, one third at *Sudbury*; and one third at *Stow*.

*Voted*, That five hundred Iron Pots be deposited at *Sudbury*, five hundred at *Concord*, and one thousand at *Worcester*.

*Voted*, That the two thousand Wooden Bowls be deposited as the pots and the spoons, in same manner.

*Voted*, That the fifteen thousand Canteens be deposited as the above.

*Voted*, That the Weights and Measures be put into the Commissary's hands.

*Voted*, That two Medicinal Chests still remain at *Concord*, at two different parts of the Town; three of said chests at *Sudbury*, in different parts of the Town; six ditto at *Groton*, *Mendon*, and *Stow*, two in each Town, and in different parts; two ditto in *Worcester*, one in each part of the Town; and two ditto at *Lancaster*; that sixteen hundred yards of *Russia Linen* be deposited in seven parts, with the Doctors' chests; that the eleven hundred Tents be deposited in equal parts in *Worcester*, *Lancaster*, *Groton*, *Stow*, *Mendon*, *Leicester*, and *Sudbury*.

*Voted*, That these Committees adjourn to nine o'clock instead of ten.

*Voted*, That the Papers belonging to the Committees be lodged with Mr. *Abraham Watson*.

Newton, April 19, 1775.

Colonel *Barrett*:

SIR: The Committee have directed me to inform you, that the cannon-powder which last *Saturday* you were desired to have removed from *Leicester*, one load at a time, and to make up into cartridges, they would not have you send for, unless you have already; but, if sent for, take care of it; but don't make it into cartridges.

I am, Sir, your humble servant, J. PIGEON, Clerk.

April 21, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety, *April 21st*, 1775, the following form of Enlistment was adopted:

"I, *A. B.*, do hereby solemnly engage and enlist myself as a Soldier in the *Massachusetts* service, from the day of my enlistment to the last day of *December* next, unless the service should admit of a discharge of a part or the whole sooner, which shall be at the discretion of the Committee of Safety; and I hereby promise to submit myself to all the orders and regulations of the Army, and faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as I shall receive from any superiour officer."

*Resolved*, That there be immediately enlisted, out of the *Massachusetts* Forces, eight thousand effective men, to be formed into Companies, to consist of a Captain, one Lieutenant, one Ensign, four Sergeants, one Fifer, one Drummer, and seventy rank and file; nine Companies to form a Regiment, to be commanded by a Colonel, Lieut. Colonel, and Major; each Regiment to be composed of men suitable for the service, which shall be determined by a Muster-Master or Muster-Masters, to be appointed for that purpose. Said officers and men to continue in the service of the Province for the space of seven months from the time of enlistment, unless the safety of the Province will admit of their being discharged sooner; the Army to be under proper rules and regulations.

*Voted*, That the Field-Pieces be removed from *Newburyport*, and deposited, for the present, into the hands of Captain *Dexter*, of *Malden*.

*Voted*, That a Courier be immediately despatched to *Stoughton*, to require the immediate attendance of Colonel



*Richard Gridley*, and his son *Scarborough Gridley*, upon this Committee.

*Voted*, That a Courier be sent to command the attendance of *David Mason*, now upon furlough at *Salem*.

*Voted*, That *Mr. Mason* be ordered to provide one Field-Piece with every implement necessary for action, and proceed forthwith to provide for the remainder, till the whole are in a thorough state of preparation, unless otherwise ordered; the Cannon to be provided for are eight three-pounders and three six-pounders.

*Voted*, That orders be given to Captain *Dexter* to conceal the Cannon committed to his care.

Which was accordingly done.

*Voted*, The Resolve above written be so far reconsidered, as that the Companies, rank and file, consist of fifty men each, and that no further obligation be required of those Companies who are adjudged to be firmly enlisted by their respective officers.

*Voted*, That an establishment be proposed for the Troops at an early day after the meeting of Congress.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Pigeon*, the Commissary-General, be directed to carry thirty-five barrels of Pork, and half a barrel of hog's fat; from the Town of *Salem* to the Town of *Cambridge*, by virtue of an order from *Mr. William Bond*.

*Voted*, That the General Officers be forthwith desired to make a return of such Officers and Soldiers as are already under sufficient engagements to serve in the *Massachusetts Army*.

*Voted*, That the General Officers be desired, with all possible speed, to give in a list of such Officers as they shall judge duly qualified to serve as Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, and Majors, for such a number of Regiments as shall, with the officers and soldiers already engaged, make up an army of eight thousand men.

*Voted*, That Major *Bigelow* be applied to, to furnish a Man and Horse to attend the Surgeons, and convey Medicines agreeable to their direction.

April 22, 1775.

*Voted*, That the Commissary-General be directed to have the Stores belonging to the Colony removed from all the sea-port Towns with all possible speed.

*Voted*, That Captain *Foster* be ordered to take the care of the Cannon and Intrenching Tools at *Mr. Richardson's Tavern*.

*Voted*, That the Commissary-General be directed to inspect the Intrenching Tools, and if any are out of order, to see them, with all possible speed, repaired.

April 24, 1775.

*Resolved*, That General *Ward* be desired immediately to direct all the Field-Officers of the Regiments of Minute-Men, now in *Cambridge*, to attend the Committee of Safety at their chamber, at *Mr. Steward Hastings's house*.

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of *Chelsea* and *Malden* be, and hereby are absolutely forbidden to fire upon, or otherwise injure any Seamen belonging to the Navy, under the command of Admiral *Graves*, unless fired upon by them, until the said inhabitants of *Chelsea* and *Malden* receive orders from this Committee, or the General of the Provincial Forces, to do so.

April 25, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the three Cannon now at *Marlborough*, be brought to the Town of *Waltham*, and mounted on the carriages prepared for them, till further orders.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Freeman*, of *Sandwich*, be directed to take such a number of Men as may be sufficient for the purpose, and secure the Whale and such other Boats at *Cape Cod*, as may be of use to this Colony.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Paul Dudley Sergeant*, of *New-Hampshire*, be desired forthwith to recommend ten persons belonging to the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, to receive beating orders for the enlistment of persons belonging to said Colony, until they are discharged by this Committee, or taken into the service of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Provincial Congress to reduce the Regiments so far as that the Companies consist of fifty-nine men, including officers, and also that they allow only two Lieutenants to a Company.

*Resolved*, That . . . . . be ordered, with the Troop of Horse under his command, to proceed forward as an escort to the honourable Members of the Continental Congress, on their way to *Philadelphia*, until they are met by an escort from the Colony of *Connecticut*.

April 26, 1775.

*Voted*, That an Express be sent off to General *Preble*, at *Falmouth*, desiring his attendance at *Cambridge*, as a general officer, or in his private capacity.

*Ordered*, That fifteen of the Prisoners at *Concord* be removed from thence to *Worcester Jail* immediately.

Upon a motion made, *Voted*, That the Secretary of this Committee be directed and empowered to sign any Papers or writings in behalf of this Committee.

*Voted*, That *Mr. Ephraim Jones*, Jail-keeper of *Worcester*, be directed to receive fifteen Prisoners from the Jail in *Concord*.

*Voted*, That this Committee recommend it to the Provincial Congress, that they make an establishment for such a number of Armourers as they may judge necessary for the Forces belonging to this Colony.

*Resolved*, That as many men as are not already enlisted, and incline to remain in the Army, immediately enlist, in order that it may be ascertained what number may be still necessary to be raised in each Town to complete the complement of Troops for this Colony, and to forward to each Town their remaining quota; and the men that may now enlist may be assured, that they shall have liberty to be under the command of such officer as may be appointed by the Committee of Safety, until the particular Regiment and Companies are completed; and the utmost care will be taken to make every soldier happy in being under good officers.

On the twenty-fourth of *April* it was resolved that the inhabitants of *Chelsea* and *Malden* be, and hereby are absolutely forbidden to fire upon or otherwise injure any Seamen belonging to the Navy, under the command of Admiral *Graves*, unless fired upon by them, until the said inhabitants of *Chelsea* and *Malden* receive orders from this Committee, or the General of the Provincial Forces, so to do:

*Resolved*, That the Resolve of the twenty-fourth instant, respecting the inhabitants of *Chelsea* and *Malden*, be reconsidered, and ordered that it be immediately remanded; also,

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of *Chelsea* and *Malden* be hereby desired to put themselves in the best state of defence, and exert the same in such manner, as, under their circumstances, their judgments may direct.

The following Warrant, for supplying an Express on the Colony service, was issued:

"To all Innkeepers, Taverners, and other persons whom it may concern:

"You are desired to furnish the bearer, *Mr. John Gill*, with all necessities upon his journey to, and return from *Rhode-Island*, as also with horses, if necessary, and to exhibit your accounts to the Committee of Safety for this Colony, he being an Express in the Colony service."

The following Certificate was given to Doctor *Bond*:

"In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, }  
"April 26, 1775. }

"Doctor *Nathaniel Bond*, of *Marblehead*, having been charged before this Committee with having acted an unfriendly part to this Colony, the said Committee appointed *Joseph Warren*, Esq., Colonel *Thos. Gardner*, and Lieut. Colonel *Joseph Palmer*, as a Court of Inquiry, to examine witnesses in the case, and hear and determine the same; and upon full inquiry into the case, they are clearly of opinion that said *Bond's* general behaviour has been friendly to *American* liberty; and though he may have discovered an imprudent degree of warmth in some instances, yet we do not find any proof of an inimical temper or disposition to this Country, and therefore recommend him to the esteem and friendship of his Country, that (as the error which occasioned his being brought before this Committee appears to have been altogether involuntary, and was such as several of our most firm friends were led into, by false rumours spread, of the transactions of the nineteenth instant) no impressions to the Doctor's disadvantage may remain on the minds of any person whatsoever.

"JOSEPH WARREN, Chairman."



April 27, 1775.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Derby* be directed, and he hereby is directed, to make for *Dublin*, or any good port in *Ireland*, and from thence to cross to *Scotland* or *England*, and hasten to *London*. This direction is, that so he may escape all cruisers that may be in the chops of the Channel to stop the communicating of the Provincial intelligence to the Agent.

*Voted*, That it is the sense of this Committee that it would promote the service, if two Majors be appointed to each of the general officers' Regiments, and that it be recommended accordingly to the Provincial Congress.

A Letter, dated twenty-sixth instant, was sent to the Colony of *Rhode-Island*; and another, of the same tenour, was sent to the Colony of *Connecticut*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *John Glover* take such effectual methods for the prevention of intelligence being carried on board the *Lively*, ship-of-war, Captain *Bishop*, commander, now lying in the harbour of *Marblehead*, or any other, as may have a tendency to injure the most important cause we are engaged in, and that he take such effectual methods for carrying this order into execution, as shall appear best calculated to effect this purpose.

April 28, 1775.

*Voted*, To recommend to the Colony Congress, now sitting in *Watertown*, and it is recommended accordingly, to make an establishment for Post-Riders between the *Massachusetts* Forces and the Town of *Worcester*.

Also that the said Congress take such order as they may think proper, to prevent any Town or District taking any notice of his Excellency General *Gage's* precepts for calling a General Assembly.

Doctor *Warren* was appointed to give the sentiments of this Committee on Lord *Dartmouth's* Circular Letter to the other Governments.

*Voted*, That Mr. President *Langdon* be, and he hereby is appointed Chaplain of the Army in *Cambridge*, *pro tem.*, and that he be furnished with a copy of this vote.

Major *Brown* was appointed to give such repairs to the Cannon at *Waltham*, as may be judged proper.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary-General be directed to provide Quarters for about one hundred and fifty men from *Connecticut*, under the command of Major *Brown*.

*Voted*, That it is the sense of this Committee that no Enlisting Orders be hereafter given out, unless a written order is received from the respective Colonels.

*Voted*, That for the future, no order go out, to any men that live in *New-York* Government, or any other Government, for the enlisting of men for the service of this Province.

*Ordered*, That the Cannon now in *Medford* be immediately brought to this Town, under the direction of Captain *Foster*.

*Voted*, That General *Thomas* be desired to distribute the Orders which he has received, some time since, for enlisting a Regiment, to such Captains as he thinks proper.

Mr. *Henderson Inches*, who left *Boston* this day, attended, and informed the Committee that the inhabitants of *Boston* had agreed with the General, to have liberty to leave *Boston* with their effects, provided that they lodged their Arms with the Selectmen of that Town, to be by them kept during the present dispute; and that agreeable to said agreement, the inhabitants had, on the yesterday, lodged seventeen hundred and seventy-eight Fire-Arms, six hundred and thirty-four Pistols, nine hundred and seventy-three Bayonets, and thirty-eight Blunderbusses, with their Selectmen.

*Voted*, That Doctor *Warren*, Colonel *Palmer*, and Mr. *Watson*, be a Sub-Committee, to take the state of *Boston* into consideration, and report as soon as may be.

April 29, 1775.

A Vote of Provincial Congress was read, respecting the removal of the inhabitants of *Boston*; whereupon Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Devens*, and Captain *White*, were appointed a Sub-Committee, to take the matter into consideration, and report as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That orders be sent into the neighbouring Towns, requiring one-half of the Militia to be immediately sent into *Roxbury* and *Cambridge*, as a re-enforcement to our

Army, and that the rest of the inhabitants hold themselves in readiness to march at a minute's warning; also,

*Voted*, That Mr. *Watson*, Captain *White*, and Colonel *Gardner*, be a Sub-Committee to report the Towns to be sent to, the destination of the re-enforcements, and the expresses to be despatched.

*Voted*, That the Secretary be directed to empower Expresses to press as many Horses as they may have occasion for.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Supplies, at *Watertown*, be directed to attend this Committee immediately, and that the Secretary write them accordingly.

Upon information that the supplies of Powder and Ball at *Watertown* were in the keeping of the Commissary-General,

*Voted*, That General *Ward* be desired to apply to the Commissary for such a quantity of said Stores as he may have occasion for.

*Voted*, That Dr. *Isaac Foster* be directed and empowered to remove all the sick and wounded, whose circumstances will admit of it, into the Hospital, and to supply proper beds and bedding, clothing, victuals, and furniture, with every other article that he shall judge proper for said Hospital, and that this be a sufficient order for him to draw on the Commissary for such articles as he can supply, and to draw orders on the Commissary for the payment of whatever expenses are necessary, for procuring the above-mentioned articles.

*Voted*, That the Secretary desire Messrs. *Halls*, printers, at *Salem*, to print three hundred Letters, to be sent to the several Towns in the Province.

Captain *Benedict Arnold*, with a Company, being arrived here from *Connecticut*,

*Ordered*, That the Commissary-General be directed to provide suitable Quarters for said Company.

Upon motion made, *Voted*, That orders be given to Gen. *Thomas* for seizing Governour *Hutchinson's* Papers.

A Letter from General *Thomas*, respecting some Companies of Minute-Men at *Dartmouth*, was read; whereupon,

*Voted*, That Colonel *Orne*, Colonel *Palmer*, and Colonel *Gardner*, be a Sub-Committee to consider and give directions relative to the General's request.

A Letter from Colonel *Hancock*, now at *Worcester*, was read; whereupon,

*Voted*, That four reams of Paper be immediately ordered to *Worcester* by Mr. *Barber*, for the use of Mr. *Thomas*, printer, he to be accountable.

Letter from *Medford* read; whereupon, *Voted*, That the Company now raised, hold themselves in readiness to march at a minute's warning; remaining in *Medford* till further orders.

The Sub-Committee on Gen. *Thomas's* Letter, reported, that it be ordered that Capt. *Nathaniel Richmond*, with any other Captain that can bring into the camp fifty-six men, including Sergeants, that will enlist into the service of this Colony, shall have the encouragement given by the Provincial Congress, and shall immediately enter into pay upon their enlistment. The critical situation of our publick affairs demand the utmost exertion of the friends of *America*, and should remissness now appear, the consequences may be fatal.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Watson* be desired to make inquiry with respect to the Colony Arms not in use, and that Captain *Gutteridge*, of the *Indian* Company, have such a number as is desired.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Gerrish* be desired to send Major *Dunbar*, now a prisoner at Head-Quarters, to *Woburn*, under a strong guard, and order him to be there kept in safe custody, till further orders from this Committee.

*Voted*, That Captain *Hill* and Company be furnished with Provisions at any tavern they see fit to call at, in conveying Major *Dunbar* to a place of safety, at the expense of the Province.

*Voted*, That Captain *Brown*, of *Watertown*, be desired, upon any advice of the Troops coming out, to order the Cannon to a place of safety, and that for that purpose he be empowered to press horses, cattle, &c.

April 30, 1775.

Captain *Benedict Arnold*, captain of a Company from *Connecticut*, attended, and reports, that there are at *Ticon-*



*deroga* eighty pieces of heavy cannon, twenty pieces brass cannon, from four to eighteen-pounders, and ten or twelve mortars; at *Skenesborough*, on the *South Bay*, three or four pieces of brass cannon; the Fort, in a ruinous condition, is supposed to have about forty or forty-five men, a number of small arms, and considerable stores. A sloop of seventy or eighty tons on the lake.

*Voted*, That an order be given to Major *Bigelow*, desiring him to have the Province Arms, either in *Worcester* or *Concord*, immediately brought to this Town.

*Voted*, That Mr. *John Chandler Williams* be directed to attend this Committee, that he may be employed as an Express.

*Voted*, That the Committee appointed yesterday, to consider the state of the Town of *Boston*, be now desired to sit, and form a plan for the liberation of the inhabitants.

The Sub-Committee, on the removal of the inhabitants from *Boston*, reported; which report was accepted, and Dr. *Warren*, Col. *Palmer*, and Col. *Orne*, were appointed to wait upon the Congress with the proposals.

*Voted*, That two Offices be opened to deliver permits for such persons as desire to enter *Boston* with their effects.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Samuel Gerrish* be appointed to the office of granting permits, at the house of Mr. *John Groaton*, of *Roxbury*.

*Voted*, That Colonel *William Henshaw* be appointed to the office of granting permits, at the sign of the Sun, in *Charlestown*.

The following Orders were delivered to Col. *Gerrish*:

"You are hereby empowered, agreeably to a vote of the Provincial Congress, to grant liberty that any of the inhabitants of this Colony, who may incline to go into *Boston* with their effects, fire-arms and ammunition excepted, have toleration for that purpose, and that they be protected from any injury or insult whatsoever in their removal to *Boston*. The following form of a permit is for your government, the blanks of which you are to fill up with the names, and number of the persons, viz:

"Permit *A. B.*, the bearer hereof, with his family, consisting of . . . persons, with his effects, fire-arms and ammunition excepted, to pass unmolested into the Town of *Boston*, between sunrise and sunset.

"By order of the Provincial Congress:

"JOSEPH WARREN, Clerk, pro tem."

*Voted*, That *Andrew Craigie* be appointed to take care of the Medical Stores, and to deliver them out as ordered by this Committee; and that the Secretary make out his commission accordingly.

*Voted*, That it be recommended by this Committee to the Council of War, that Mr. *Joseph Pierce Palmer* be appointed to the post of Quarter-Master General of the Army.

Whereas, proposals have been made by General *Gage*, to the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, for the removal of their persons and effects into the country, excepting their arms and ammunition:

*Resolved*, That any of the inhabitants of this Colony, who may incline to go into the Town of *Boston* with their effects, fire-arms and ammunition excepted, have toleration for that purpose, and that they be protected from any injury or insult whatsoever; this Resolve to be immediately published.

May 1, 1775.

*Voted*, That the Quarter-Master General be directed to clear that Chamber in *Stoughton College*, occupied by *S. Parsons*, for a Printing Office for Messrs. *Halls*.

Whereas, many of our brethren of the Colonies of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island* are now with us, to assist in this day of publick and general distress, in which we are all deeply concerned: and, whereas, our brethren of said Colonies have brought with them some of the Paper Currencies of their respective Colonies, which have not of late had a currency with us, and for want of which our common interest may greatly suffer:

*Resolved*, That said Paper Currencies shall, from and after the date hereof, be paid and received within this Colony, in all payments, to all intents and purposes, in the same proportion to silver as the same are paid and received within the respective Colonies by which the same have been issued.

*Resolved*, That Col. *Palmer* be a Committee to inquire into the matter, to find what Colonies have such Currencies, to alter the Resolve agreeably thereto, and to present the same to the honourable Congress for their consideration.

*Voted*, That the Reverend Mr. *Gordon* have free access to the Prisoners detained at *Worcester* and elsewhere, and that all civil Magistrates and others be aiding and assisting him in examining and taking depositions of them and others.

May 2, 1775.

Doctor *Warren*, Colonel *Palmer*, and Colonel *Gardner*, were appointed a Sub-Committee to confer with General *Ward*, relative to the proposal made by Colonel *Arnold*, of *Connecticut*, for an attempt upon *Ticonderoga*.

A number of Recantations, from the Town of *Marblehead*, having been laid before the Committee for their opinion as to the propriety of receiving them:

*Voted*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that said Recantations be received, and that the persons making them be made acquainted with the Proclamation lately issued by Congress, respecting those who may incline to get into *Boston*; and that it be recommended to the inhabitants of this Province that they be protected from all injuries or insults whatsoever, so long as they adhere to their several Recantations, now before this Committee, and continue to assist and abide by their Country, and the inhabitants of *Marblehead* in particular, in the important dispute between *Great Britain* and *America*.

*Voted*, That two Muster-Masters be appointed, one at the Camp in *Cambridge*, and one at the Camp in *Roxbury*.

*Voted*, That General *Thomas* be desired to give such orders respecting the Whale-Boats at *Falmouth*, and other parts southward, as he may judge proper.

*Voted*, That the *Massachusetts* Congress be desired to give an order upon the Treasurer for the immediate payment of one hundred Pounds, in cash; and also order two hundred pounds of Gunpowder, two hundred weight of Lead Balls, and one thousand Flints, and also ten Horses, to be delivered unto Captain *Benedict Arnold*, for the use of this Colony, upon a certain service approved of by the Council of War: said *Arnold* to be accountable for the same, to this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives of this Colony.

*Voted*, That two Companies be raised in *Braintree*, for the immediate defence of the sea-coast of said Town; the said Companies to be joined to such Regiment in future as they may be ordered to, should there be occasion, or discharged from service as soon as the publick good would admit of it; and that Colonel *Thayer* be furnished with two sets of enlisting papers for this purpose.

*Voted*, That General *Thomas* be, and he hereby is directed and empowered to stop the Trunks mentioned to be in Colonel *Taylor's* hands, until this Committee send some proper persons to examine their contents.

*Resolved*, That agreeably to a Vote of Congress, General *Thomas* be directed and empowered to appoint suitable persons to accompany such people into the country as may be permitted to bring their effects into *Boston*, upon the conditions mentioned in the Proclamations posted up, and that General *Thomas* give such general orders as he may judge the common safety requires.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Arnold*, appointed to a secret service, be desired to appoint two Field-Officers, Captains, &c., to be allowed the same pay during their continuance in service as is established for officers and privates of the same rank, who are ordered by the Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay* to be raised for the defence of the rights and liberties of *America*; the officers and privates to be dismissed by Colonel *Arnold*, or the Committee of Safety, whenever they shall think proper.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Supplies be desired to procure ten Horses for Colonel *Arnold*, to be employed on a special service.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Isaac Bradish*, Keeper of the Prison in *Cambridge*, be supplied with Provisions out of the Colony Stores, for the support of the Prisoners under his care, who have or may be committed by the orders of the Council of War, or this Committee.

The Quarter-Master General having informed that some persons unknown had made spoil of Liquors in the cellars



of General *Brattle*, and Mr. *Borland*, and others; whereupon,

*Voted*, That he be directed to take possession of those Liquors, and other Stores, immediately, in all the houses which are deserted, and that a particular account of such stores be taken, and they then be committed to the care of the Commissary-General.

May 3, 1775.

*Voted*, That two Companies be raised in the Towns of *Malden* and *Chelsea*, for the defence of the sea-coast of said Towns, the said Companies to be joined to such Regiments in future as they may be ordered to, should there be occasion, or discharged from service as soon as the publick good will admit of it.

*Voted*, That the Quarter-Master General be directed to pay the strictest attention, that the Household Furniture, of those persons who have taken refuge in the Town of *Boston*, may be properly secured, and disposed of in places of safety.

The following Orders were given Colonel *Arnold*, relative to an attempt upon *Ticonderoga*, viz:

To *Benedict Arnold*, Esquire, commander of a body of Troops on an expedition to subdue and take possession of the Fort of *Ticonderoga*:

SIR: Confiding in your judgment, fidelity, and valour, we do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you Colonel and Commander-in-Chief over a body of men, not exceeding four hundred, to proceed with all expedition to the Western parts of this and the neighbouring Colonies, where you are directed to enlist those men, and with them forthwith to march to the Fort at *Ticonderoga*, and use your best endeavours to reduce the same, taking possession of the cannon, mortars, stores, &c., upon the Lake; you are to bring back with you such of the cannon, mortars, stores, &c., as you shall judge may be serviceable to the Army here, leaving behind what may be necessary to secure that post, with a sufficient garrison; you are to procure suitable provisions and stores for the Army, and draw upon the Committee of Safety for the amount thereof, and to act in every exigence, according to your best skill and discretion, for the publick interest, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

BENJ. CHURCH, JUN., for Com. of Safety.

By order: WILLIAM COOPER, Secretary.

Cambridge, May 3, 1775.

*Moved and voted*, That the Vote passed the second of May, respecting the raising of two Companies in *Braintree*, be reconsidered, and that the copy of said Vote, together with the two Enlisting Papers, be ordered to be returned into the hands of said Committee of Safety;

And whereas, a Petition from the Towns of *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, hath this day been presented to this Committee, setting forth the exposed situation of those Towns, and praying for such relief and protection as may be thought proper: therefore,

*Voted*, That the Town of *Braintree* be hereby empowered to raise one Company, the Town of *Hingham* another Company, and the Town of *Weymouth* half of one Company, for the immediate defence of the sea-coasts of said Towns; the said Two Companies and a half to be joined to such Regiment in future as they may be ordered to, should there be occasion, or discharged from service on the last day of *December* next, or sooner, if the publick safety will admit of it, and that the Selectmen of said Towns be furnished with a copy of this Vote, and one set of Beating Orders, respectively.

May 4, 1775.

*Resolved*, as the opinion of this Committee, That the publick good of this Colony requires that Government in full form ought to be taken up immediately, and that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Congress now sitting at *Watertown*.

The Sub-Committee reported the draught of a Letter to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, requesting the speedy march of three or four thousand of their men; which was accepted, and ordered, that a fair copy be transmitted immediately.

*Voted*, That *William Cooper*, Junior, be appointed a Clerk to this Committee, in the room of Mr. *Palmer*, appointed Quarter-Master General; *Samuel Cooper* was added as an Assistant.

*Voted*, That a Chest of Medicines be removed from hence to *Roxbury*, under the care of General *Thomas*.

There having been eight Guns sent in for the use of the Colony, Colonel *Whitcomb* and General *Heath* were appointed to appraise the same, who reported as follows, viz:

|                  |                          |              |         |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------|
| One Gun taken of | Captain <i>How</i> ,     | appraised at | £2 00 0 |
| One “ “          | <i>Joel Brigham</i> ,    | “            | 2 00 0  |
| One “ “          | <i>John Baker</i> ,      | “            | 1 08 0  |
| One “ “          | <i>Aaron Agar</i> ,      | “            | 2 08 0  |
| One “ “          | <i>James Stone</i> ,     | “            | 1 04 0  |
| One “ “          | <i>Asa Fay</i> ,         | “            | 1 10 0  |
| One “ “          | <i>Aaron Fay</i> ,       | “            | 1 01 4  |
| One “ “          | <i>William Bethank</i> , | “            | 0 18 0  |
|                  |                          |              | £8 09 4 |

*Memorandum*.—Colonel *Jonathan Ward* gave a receipt for the above Guns, for which he made himself accountable, which receipt is entered in the Minute-Book.

A Letter was reported for the Inhabitants of *New-York*; which was accepted, and a copy of the same put on file.

Draught of a Letter to the Governour and Company of *Rhode-Island*, respecting the sending a number of Troops immediately, was reported; whereupon,

*Voted*, That the same be accepted, and transmitted by an express.

*Voted*, That a Sub-Committee may be appointed to wait upon the Council of War to recommend their giving orders for a return of the enlisted men, and that they will take order that such men as are enlisted, may be admitted to join the Camp with all expedition, that so such men as are far from home, and do not intend to enlist, may have leave to depart as soon as it can be done with safety to the Colony.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Gardner* be appointed to lay this Vote before the Council of War.

*Voted*, That it be recommended to the Council of War, that six Companies of each of the two Regiments to be raised in the County of *Plymouth*, be ordered to join the Army at *Roxbury*, as soon as they are completed; and that the four other Companies of each of said Regiments, which may be raised most contiguous to the sea-coast of said County, be retained for the immediate defence of said sea-coast, to be regulated by the Colonels of said Regiments, until further orders.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Palmer* and Colonel *Cushing* be appointed to lay the foregoing Vote before said Council.

Advice being received that a number of Transports with Troops are just arrived at *Boston* from *England*, Doctor *Church*, Colonel *Palmer*, and Mr. *Devens*, were appointed to confer with the Council of War upon the occasion.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Bricket* be desired to take possession of all the Arms and Ammunition that he shall find in Mr. *Borland's* house, and bring them to Head-Quarters.

May 7, 1775.

Whereas, it appears to this Committee, that great uneasiness may arise in the Army by the appointment of Surgeons who may not be agreeable to the Officers and Soldiers in their respective Regiments: therefore,

*Voted*, That it be recommended to the Congress to allow the Colonel of each Regiment to nominate the Surgeon for his Regiment; the said Surgeon to nominate his Mate; and, unless there is some material objection made against them, that they be accordingly appointed.

Mr. *George Babcock*, charged with the care of a House, having complained that certain persons had come to said House, and taken from thence considerable Furniture:

*Voted*, That this complaint be referred to Congress, and that Mr. *Cushing* be desired to accompany said *Babcock* there; and that the above Vote be sent to the Council of War for their approbation; which Vote being sent, it was approved of accordingly.

*Resolved*, That it be, and hereby is recommended to the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence for the



Town of *Sudbury*, that they use their utmost influence that the effects of Colonel *Ezra Taylor*, of that Town, be secured from any injury whatsoever.

Ordered, That the Selectmen and the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Chelsea*, be desired to take such effectual methods for the prevention of any Provisions being carried into the Town of *Boston*, as may be sufficient for that purpose.

May 9, 1775.

Moved and Voted, That the Congress be desired to direct their Secretary to furnish this Committee with copies of all such Resolves as have passed the Congress, any ways relative to the duty enjoined this Committee; and as the circumstances of this Colony are very different from what they were at their first appointment, the Committee would represent to the Congress that they apprehend it necessary that the whole of their duty may be comprised in a new commission.

The Council of War having determined that two thousand men are necessary to re-enforce the Army now at *Roxbury*, and that if possible the re-enforcement be brought into camp the ensuing night, this Committee took the vote of the Council of War into consideration: Whereupon,

Ordered, That the Commanding Officers of the Town of *Dorchester*, *Dedham*, *Newton*, *Watertown*, *Waltham*, *Roxbury*, *Milton*, *Braintree*, *Brookline*, and *Needham*, immediately muster one-half of the Militia, and all the Minutemen under their command, and march them forthwith to the Town of *Roxbury*, for the strengthening of the camp there.

A Firelock of Mr. *Borland's* was appraised by Colonel *Palmer* and Colonel *Orne*, at forty shillings, and delivered Colonel *Sergeant*, for which he is to be accountable.

A Vote passed, recommending it to the Provincial Congress, that a Court of Inquiry be appointed for the trial of accused persons.

Voted, That *Daniel Taylor*, of *Concord*, be desired to send down to *Cambridge* about sixty Oars for boats, from twelve to sixteen feet in length.

May 10, 1775.

Voted, That one Company of men be raised by the District of *Cohasset*, for the immediate defence of the sea-coast of said District, the said Company to be joined to such Regiment in future as they may be ordered to, should there be occasion, or discharged from service, as soon as the publick good will permit it.

Voted, That *Nathan Cushing*, Esq., be desired forthwith to engage four Armourers for the service of this Colony, and order them immediately to repair to the Town of *Cambridge*, with their tools and other matters necessary for that purpose.

Whereas, the Council of War are of opinion, that many Bateaus, Whale-boats, and other vessels, will immediately, or very soon be wanted in *Charles River*, and other places; and as there are not a sufficient number of such vessels to be now obtained; it is, therefore,

Resolved, That it would be of publick utility to have one or more Master Carpenters immediately engaged in that service; and that this Resolve be immediately sent to Congress for their consideration.

Mr. *Daniel Taylor*, of *Concord*, is empowered to impress a Carriage or Carriages for the bringing down Oars from that Town to *Cambridge*.

Voted, That Orders be issued to the Colonels of the several Regiments, to repair, with the men they have enlisted, to *Cambridge*, immediately.

The Provincial Congress having resolved that the General Officers be directed forthwith to call in all the Soldiers who are enlisted in the service of this Colony; and that they give immediate orders to all the enlisted Soldiers, and all others now in the camp at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, that they do not depart till the further orders of the Congress: Whereupon,

Voted, That the following Letter be immediately sent to the respective Colonels of the Army, viz:

Cambridge, May 10, 1775.

SIR: As we are meditating a blow against our restless enemies, we therefore enjoin you, as you would evidence your regard for your Country, forthwith, upon receipt of

this order, to repair to the Town of *Cambridge*, with the men enlisted under your command.\* We are, &c.

Voted, That the following Letter, signed by *Benjamin Church*, Junior, as Chairman of this Committee, be transmitted to *Joseph Warren*, Esq., President of the Congress, to be communicated, viz:

SIR: Conformable to order of Congress, the Committee of Safety, with the Council of War, have issued orders to the several Colonels, a copy of which we enclose you. Upon receiving the Return, those who have completed their Regiments will be commissioned, agreeably to the direction of Congress. Those who find it impracticable to fill their Companies, must be incorporated into other defective Regiments, which is the only plan the Committee find themselves able to suggest on this emergency; but should there finally be a deficiency, enlisting orders must be given to others. Yours, &c.

On a motion made and seconded, Ordered, That *William Goodwin* have orders to fetch a number of Boats from *Charlestown*, and likewise orders to press Teams for the same purpose.

Mr. *William Goodwin*, of *Charlestown*, was directed and empowered to take possession of a number of Boats now at *Charlestown*, and likewise to press Teams wherever they may be found, to convey said Boats to *Cambridge*, directing the owners of such Teams to transmit their accounts to this Committee.

Voted, That Mr. *Watson* be directed and empowered to remove to *Cambridge* the Boats now in *Menotomy River*, and to impress what Carriages may be necessary.

The Commanding Officers of the neighbouring Regiments were directed forthwith to repair to the Town of *Cambridge*, with the men enlisted under their command.

The following Orders, relative to furnishing one of the Expresses with Provisions, Horses, &c., were issued, viz:

"To all Innkeepers, Taverners, and other persons whom it may concern:

"You are desired to furnish the bearer, Mr. *John Chandler Williams*, with all necessaries upon his journey and return; as also with horses, if necessary, and to exhibit the accounts to the Committee of Safety for this Colony, as he is now upon the Country service."

May 11, 1775.

Voted, That Mr. *William Cooper*, Junior, be and he hereby is appointed a Clerk to Doctor *Warren*, President of the Congress.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, }  
May 11, 1775. }

Whereas, this Committee, as also the Council of War, is frequently interrupted in very important business, by hearing and determining matters relative to persons supposed enemies to this Country, under various circumstances, and other matters in which the publick good is affected, which obstructs proceedings: Therefore,

Resolved, That this Committee apprehend, that if the Provincial Congress of this Colony would erect a Court of Inquiry, to hear and determine all such cases as relate to persons apprehended and brought before them as enemies to *American* liberty, and other cases which concern the publick good, it would be of great publick advantage; and therefore,

Resolved, That this Vote be immediately transmitted to said Congress for their consideration.

WILLIAM COOPER, Secretary.

\* MAY 8, 1775.—An old Campaigner says, he knows by the movements, that there is a stroke meditated somewhere, likely to be to-night; he thinks, a feint at the *Neck* to divert, and a large body to take the ground on *Dorchester Neck*.

He advises to send a large body on *Dorchester Neck*, so as not to be discovered from the Town, every night, and have a strong body in *Roxbury*. If they should observe the Troops landing on *Dorchester Neck*, to have force sufficient to cut them off entirely. We in Town know nothing, nor are able to communicate, as the Tories and Troops are very vigilant.

MAY 10, 1775.—*Elijah Shaw* declares, that General *Gage's* officers have said in his hearing, that they shall soon come out; and that a soldier requested him to convey him into the country, for the Troops would soon make a push either towards *Dorchester Neck* or *Chelsea*; but he refused. Further declares that Earl *Percy* swears he will be revenged on some of our men; and further says that the Troops have robbed him of eleven cows, three calves, a yearling heifer, forty-eight sheep, sixty-one lambs, four hogs, and poultry, hay five tons, and almost all his furniture.



In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, May 11, 1775.

The Captains *William Goodridge* and *Charles De Bell* have applied to this Committee for assistance in Cash, to enable them to enlist two Companies from the western parts of this Colony, having liberty, as they say, from the General, for that purpose. We, thinking that the matter ought to be laid before the Provincial Congress, have referred it accordingly. We are, &c.

May 12, 1775.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Charles Miller* be, and he hereby is appointed Deputy Commissary to Mr. *Pigeon*, Commissary-General.

*Voted*, That orders be given to Mr. *Clark*, Boat-builder, that he give such repairs to the Boats as may be judged necessary.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Isaiah Thomas* have Sixty Reams of Printing Crown Paper, and Eight Reams of Printing Demy Paper, supplied him by the Committee of Supplies, they taking his obligation to be accountable to the Colony for the amount thereof.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Charles Miller* be, and he hereby is empowered and directed to impress any Horse he may have occasion for on the service of the Province.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Joseph Cranch* be, and he hereby is appointed one of the Armourers for the Colony Forces.

The following is the Report of a Joint Committee appointed by the Committee of Safety and the Council of War, for the purpose of reconnoitring the Highlands in *Cambridge* and *Charlestown*, viz:

We have carefully examined the lands, and their situation, in regard of annoying and preventing the enemy from passing into the country from *Boston*, and are of opinion that the Engineers be directed to cause a Breastwork to be raised near the bridge, by the *Red House*, at the head of the Creek, near the road from *Cambridge* to *Charlestown*, on the south side of said road; also, a Breastwork raised at the north side of the road, opposite to the said *Red House*, and run in the same line as the fence now stands, upon the declivity of the hill there; also, a Redoubt on the top of the hill, where the guard-house now stands, and three or four nine-pounders planted there; also, a strong Redoubt raised on *Bunker's Hill*, with cannon planted there, to annoy the enemy coming out of *Charlestown*, also, to annoy them going by water to *Medford*. When these are finished, we apprehend the country will be safe from all sallies of the enemy in that quarter. All which is humbly submitted.

BENJAMIN CHURCH,

Chairman of Sub-Committee from Committee of Safety.

WILLIAM HENSHAW,

Chairman of Sub-Committee from Council of War.

The Committee of Safety having taken the foregoing Report into consideration, apprehend the matter not to belong to them officially; and although they are persuaded the Highlands above-mentioned are important, yet, not being the proper judges what works are necessary to be constructed to make said posts tenable, are of opinion that the determination of this matter rests solely with the Council of War.

BENJAMIN CHURCH, JR., Chairman.

*Ordered*, That this Report be sent up to the Council of War.

The Council of War having sent in to this Committee, a proposal respecting the suspending the orders of Congress respecting the removal of the persons and effects of the Tories, and ordering the Crown Officers through the Continent to be apprehended:

*Resolved*, That the recommendation of the Council of War, respecting the seizure of the servants and friends of Government, improperly so called, and keeping them in custody until General *Gage* shall have complied with the condition proposed by him to the Town of *Boston*, and accepted by them, be referred to Congress, for their determination thereon.

*Voted*, That this Committee adjourn to Congress, upon matters of great importance.

May 13, 1775.

*Voted*, That Captain *Isaac Foster* be recommended to the Council of War, as a suitable person to carry such

Provisions into the Town of *Charlestown*, for the use of the inhabitants, as the General shall think proper to permit to be carried in.

*Voted*, That General *Thomas* be desired to deliver out Medicines to such persons as he shall think proper, for the use of the sick Soldiers at *Roxbury*, until the Surgeons for the respective Regiments are regularly appointed.

*Voted*, That the Provisions and Chest of Medicines belonging to *Madam Vassal*, now under the care of Colonel *Starks*, be stored as Colonel *Starks* may direct, till further orders; and that the other packages may pass into *Boston* or elsewhere.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary-General, or his Deputy be, and he hereby is directed to supply Captain *Rosseter* with Provisions for thirteen men for eight days, said men being discharged by recommendation of the Council of War, and order of this Committee.

Whereas the Committee are informed, that a number of men enlisted into the Colony Army, under Colonel *Jonathan Brewer*, are now posted at *Waltham*, and are receiving Provisions from the publick stores:

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer of the Colony Forces be desired to order said enlisted men at *Waltham*, immediately to repair to Head-Quarters; and in case of refusal, that orders be given for the prevention of their being supplied with Provisions of any kind from the publick Magazines.

One *Thomas Nicols*, a negro, brought before this Committee on account of his suspicious behaviour for some time past, having been examined:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Council of War to commit said negro, until there be further inquiry into his conduct.

Mr. *Solomon Shaw* was appointed one of the Armourers for the Army, and General *Thomas* was desired to accommodate him with a suitable place at *Roxbury*, for carrying on his business.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Isaac Bradish*, Keeper of the Jail in *Cambridge*, be directed and empowered to confine one *Thomas Nicols*, negro, till further orders.

May 14, 1775.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary-General supply with Provisions for six days, four men of Captain *Williams's* Company, and three men of Captain *Noble's* Company:—these men came down with Colonel *Patterson*, and are returning home, being dismissed.

*Voted*, That Capt. *John Currier* have one set of Beating Orders for Colonel *Fry's* Regiment; and in case it should not be consented to by the Colonel, he agrees to join that Regiment which shall be thought most convenient.

Mr. *Andrew Craigie*, Commissary of the Medicine, Stores, &c., was directed and empowered to impress Beds, Bedding, and other necessities for the sick, as they may be wanted, giving the owners a receipt for such articles as he may take for the purpose aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committee of Supplies to engage ninety-seven barrels of Tar, in the Sloop *Adventure*, *Samuel Foot* master, just arrived at *Salem* from *Virginia*, it being apprehended that the service of the Colony requires said Tar being secured.

A Vote of the Council of War, desiring a supply of Hoes and Brooms, was recommended to the Committee of Supplies by this Committee.

The following was sent to the gentlemen the Selectmen of the Town of *Lynn*:

Whereas *Josiah Martin* has, under guard, been brought before this Committee, to be inquired of touching his conduct respecting his appearing in favour of carrying into execution the tyrannical designs of Administration for the enslaving of this Province: Upon examination of the evidences produced,

*Resolved*, That the said *Martin's* conduct has, in some instances, been unfriendly to his Country; but that on his being charged with the same, he has promised, with his life and fortune, to stand for the defence of his Country; and that so long as he evidences this disposition by his conduct, and does not any more attempt to go into the Town of *Boston*, that he be received into the favour of his countrymen, and that no insult or injury be offered him or his property.



The following Resolve, relative to the live-stock on the islands, near *Boston*, passed this Committee, viz :

*Resolved*, As the opinion of this Committee, that all the live-stock be taken from *Noddle's Island*, *Hog Island*, and *Snake Island*, and from that part of *Chelsea* near the sea-coast, and be driven back. And that the execution of this business be committed to the Committee of Correspondence and Selectmen of the Towns of *Medford*, *Malden*, *Chelsea*, and *Lynn*, and that they be supplied with such a number of men as they shall need, from the Regiment now at *Medford*.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Palmer* and Colonel *Orne* be directed to apply to the Committee of Supplies, at *Watertown*, for a particular account of the Ordnance and Military Stores, and where the same are deposited, agreeably to the request of the Council of War.

*Voted*, That it is the opinion of this body, that all persons escaping from their imprisonment, in the Town of *Boston*, ought to be received and protected in the several Towns in this and the neighbouring Colonies, except such as are of principles inimical to the liberties of their Country, who are not to be received but on their first recanting their said principles, and making their peace with their countrymen to the satisfaction of the Selectmen, Committees of Inspection, &c., in the Town to which they shall apply : and that the wives and children of such persons who shall choose to remain in *Boston* with General *Gage*, may and ought to be treated with humanity and tenderness in the several Towns they may go to dwell in, during the present troubles, and by no means to suffer the least injury, or meet with the smallest mark of disrespect upon account of their said husbands or fathers.

The Council of War, having recommended that forty persons of the Regiment commanded by Colonel *Fellows* have liberty to return to their several homes :

*Resolved*, That they be dismissed accordingly, and that the Commissary-General be directed to supply said persons with six days' provisions, to serve them on their return home.

This Committee, having been informed by the Committee of Supplies that they had secured as much Naval Stores as Colonel *Gridley* of the Train had indented for :

*Voted*, That Captain *Foot* be permitted to deliver the cargo, (Naval Stores not excepted,) agreeably to the bills of lading he had signed for the same.

*Voted*, That Mr. *William Haskins* be, and he hereby is appointed first clerk to the Deputy Commissary-General.

The Council of War having recommended that Captain *Joseph Foster*, *Thomas Jenkins*, *James Lammans*, *John Rutherford*, *Jonathan March*, *J. Mensh*, *J. Simmins*, *J. Crost*, of Colonel *Porter's* Regiment, who are not enlisted, may be dismissed, they were accordingly dismissed, and had an order on the Commissary-General for four days' provisions each.

*Voted*, That *Matthew Clark* and five other persons, who are repairing the Boats brought to this Town, be supplied with Provisions while they are at work for the Colony.

— May 15, 1775.

The Sub-Committee, appointed to apply to the Committee of Supplies for a particular account of the Ordnance and Military Stores, reported, and handed into the Committee the following List, viz :

*A List of Military Stores under the care of Captain FOSTER, viz :*

At *Cambridge* ;—pick axes, 460 : hatchets, 23 : seven-inch shells, 298 : spades, 190 : pieces of cannon 24 : axes, 156 : boxes of grape shot, 41½ : hogsheads of flints containing 75,000, 2 : carpenter's tool chests, 2 : boxes of axes, 4 : 4 barrels 1 cask leaden balls : boxes of small arm cartridges, 18 : barrels of bomb fuses, 1 : barrels of matches, 1 : chests of tin cannisters, 2 : boxes of paper for cartridges, 1 : nine-pound ball, 607 : six-pound balls, 1123 : four-pound ditto, 200 : two-pound ditto, 800 : seven-inch shells, 298 : twenty-four pound ball, 122 : three-pound ditto, 620 : No. 1 and 2 paper cartridges for cannon boxes, 2 : one barrel containing four tube cannisters, 16 straps, 4 packs, 4 powder-horns, 5 skeins dry matches : 1 barrel of cannisters filled with langrage, but no cartridges affixed to them, for 6 pounders : 4 casks, marked, paper cartridges filled : 1 barrel, marked, 84 two-pound cartridges.

*Under the care of Colonel BARRETT and Captain HEYWOOD.*

Musket balls, 9,000 : grape shot, 1,600 : bar lead, 700 : musket cartridges, about 3,000 weight : 3 barrels of band-ages.

*More at CAMBRIDGE, under the care of Captain FOSTER.*

2 casks of tubes : 1 barrel, marked, 60 cases with flannel cartridges for three pair single fortified guns : 2 barrels containing case shot, part fuses and tubes : 1 barrel containing a number of paper cartridges not filled : 2 casks of cases with flannel cartridges, marked I. T. T.

Attest : ALEXANDER SHEPHERD, JUN.,  
By order of the Committee.

*Moved and Voted*, That the original list of Military Stores be handed in to the Council of War ; and it was handed in accordingly.

*Voted*, That the *Hampshire Companies*, now at *Medford*, if enlisted into this Colony's service, under Colonel *Stark* or Colonel *Sargeant*, and properly equipped, shall be provided with barracks ; those of them, if any, who are not, and do not choose to be enlisted, and are not equipped, are to be furnished with provisions for their return.

*Voted*, That Captain *John Walker of Worcester*, who came down to this Committee for liberty to go into *Boston*, upon the Proclamation issued by Congress, be apprehended, and confined as a prisoner of war, he being a half pay officer, and under the orders of General *Gage*, and so not included in said Proclamation.

Upon a motion made, the question was put, whether Colonel *Phipps* be permitted to have a Cow, Calf, and a load of Hay, go into the Town of *Boston* : passed in the negative.

*Voted*, That Captain *Naler Hatch*, with the *Malden Company*, be assigned to Colonel *Gardner's* Regiment ; but they are to remain in *Malden* until the special order of Colonel *Gardner* shall be received for their attendance elsewhere.

*Voted*, That nine *Indians*, of Colonel *Porter's* Regiment, have liberty to return home, and that the Commissary-General be directed to furnish them with six days' Provisions for that purpose, the same having been recommended by the Council of War.

Upon the application of Lady *Frankland*, \* *Voted*, that she have liberty to pass into *Boston* with the following goods and articles for her voyage, viz :

Six trunks ; 1 chest ; 3 beds and bedding ; 6 wethers ; 2 pigs ; 1 small keg of pickled tongues ; some hay ; 3 bags of corn ; and such other goods as she thinks proper.

The following permit was granted :

*To the Colony Guards :*

Permit Lady *Frankland* of *Hopkinton*, with her attendants, goods, and the provisions above mentioned, to pass to *Boston*, by express order of the Committee of Safety.

BENJAMIN CHURCH, JUN., *Chairman*.

Head-Quarters, May 15, 1775.

*Voted*, That the Letters and writings from *New-York*, via *New-London*, relative to the establishing a Post-Office and Riders, for the service of the Colony, be sent to the Congress.

*Voted*, That *John Tucker*, of Colonel *Porter's* Regiment, be dismissed from the service, and that he be furnished by the Commissary with seven days' Provisions.

*Voted*, That *Jonathan Blaisdel*, of *Amesbury*, be appointed an Armourer for the Army.

\* *HOPKINTON, May 15, 1775.*—Lady *Frankland* presents her compliments to Doctor *Warren*, begs leave to acquaint him, she has sent in a list of things necessary for her voyage to *England* ; begs he would use his interest with the Committee of Safety, that her request may be granted, which will lay Lady *F.* under a very great obligation to Doctor *Warren*, and on her return to *New-England*, if it is ever in her power, will return the obligation with thanks.

*HOPKINTON, May 15, 1775.*—Lady *Frankland* presents her compliments to the Committee of Safety, begs leave to acquaint them, that according to their request, she has sent in a list of things necessary for her intended voyage, which obtained Lady *F.* will esteem as a peculiar favour ; and begs she may have her pass for *Thursday*.

A list of things for Lady *Frankland* :—Six trunks ;—Six trunks ; three beds and bedding ; six wethers ; two pigs ; one small keg of pickled tongues ; some hay ; three bags of corn.



*Resolved*, That Mr. *Borland's* house be appropriated for the use of the Committee of Safety; and the Quarter-Master General is directed to provide Quarters for the Troops now lodged at said house.

*Voted*, That the Quarter-Master General be directed to remove as many of the three Companies now at Mr. *Borland's*, to the house of Doctor *Kneeland*, as the house can accommodate, and that the three Companies in Mr. *Vassal's* house be placed at Mr. *Foxcroft's* house, and that Mr. *Borland's* house be cleared and cleansed as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Honourable Congress, that the Records of the Probate Office for the County of *Middlesex*, supposed to be at Mr. *Danforth's* and Doctor *Kneeland's* houses, be removed to Doctor *Minot's*, at *Concord*, and, that the Records of the County, at Mr. *Foxcroft's* office, be removed to said *Minot's* house.

The following Certificate was delivered to Mr. *John Goddard*, viz:

"This is to certify, that Mr. *John Goddard* has been appointed by the joint Committees of Safety and Supplies as Wagon-Master to this Colony, to convey such articles of Stores from one part of this Colony to another as the publick exigencies shall require, under the direction of the Commissary-General and Ordnance Store Keeper, and that such other Wagoners or Drivers are to be employed, as he shall recommend for that purpose."

The following Permit was given to Captain *Walker*:

"Permit Captain *John Walker*, now on his parole of honour, to pass unmolested to his family at *Worcester*."

Mr. *John Goddard*, Wagon-Master, was directed and empowered, in case of emergency, to impress such Wagons and Cattle as shall be requisite for the publick service.

*Voted*, That the clearing Mr. *Borland's* and Mr. *Vassal's* houses be suspended till further orders.

*Voted*, That *Thomas Austin*, of *Charlestown*, be, and hereby is appointed an Armourer for the Army.

*Voted*, That the above Vote, appointing Mr. *Thomas Austin* one of the Armourer for the Army, be, and hereby is reconsidered.

May 16, 1775.

In a Letter from Colonel *James Barrett*, of this day, it is represented, that a prisoner now at *Worcester* is a Paper-maker, and that Mr. *James Boice*, of *Milton*, is in want of such a person in his Paper Manufactory; therefore,

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Barrett* be, and he hereby is directed and empowered, to remove said prisoner from *Worcester* to said *Boice's* Manufactory in *Milton*.

*Voted*, That Captain *Hill*, and four men, with four prisoners, have an order for Supplies on the Taverners and Innholders in the Towns they pass through.

Whereas, it is recommended by the Council of War, that fifty-four Whale-Boats be immediately provided for the use of this Colony:

*Resolved*, That a copy of said Vote of the Council of War be transmitted to the Committee of Supplies, and that they be desired to procure and place said Boats, agreeable to the recommendation of the Council of War.

*Voted*, That Captain *Butler* be desired to furnish those men of his own Company with Arms, who are destitute thereof.

By a Resolve of the Provincial Congress, the following is the establishment for ten Companies of Matrosses:

|                                 |    |      |     |            |
|---------------------------------|----|------|-----|------------|
| Captain, - - -                  | £6 | 10s. | 0d. | per month. |
| Captain-Lieutenant, - - -       | 5  | 10   | 0   | "          |
| First Lieutenant, - - -         | 4  | 10   | 0   | "          |
| Two Second Lieutenants, each, 3 | 12 | 0    | "   | "          |
| Sergeants, each, - - -          | 2  | 10   | 0   | "          |
| Corporals, each, - - -          | 2  | 6    | 0   | "          |
| Six Bombadiers, each, - - -     | 2  | 4    | 6   | "          |
| Six Gunners, each, - - -        | 2  | 4    | 0   | "          |
| Thirty-two Matrosses, each, 2   | 3  | 0    | "   | "          |

*Voted*, That Colonel *Gridley* have one set of Beating Orders, for a Company of Matrosses.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Azor Orne* have one of the College Arms, he giving a receipt for the same.

May 17, 1775.

Whereas, it is determined, in Council of War, that ten Swivels be immediately provided for the use of the Army, and delivered in Camp, at *Cambridge*:

*Resolved*, That a copy of the foregoing Vote be transmitted to the Committee of Supplies, and that they be desired to procure said Swivel-Guns accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the three pieces of Cannon, with the Stores, now at *Waltham*, be immediately removed to *Watertown*, near the bridge, by advice of the General; and that Mr. *Elbridge Gerry*, one of the Committee of Supplies, be desired and empowered to remove the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne*, Doctor *Church*, and Colonel *Palmer*, be a Committee to repair to the Provincial Congress, and request, that forthwith the duty of the Committee of Safety be precisely stated, and that said Committee be empowered by Congress to conduct in such manner as shall tend to the advantage of the Colony; and justify the conduct of said Committee, so far as their proceedings are correspondent with the trust reposed in them; and to inform the Congress, that until the path of their duty is clearly pointed out, they must be at a total loss how to conduct, so as to stand justified in their own minds, and in the minds of the people of this Colony.

Mr. *William Beman*, in Colonel *Fellows's* Regiment, is appointed by this Committee to act as an Armourer for the forces posted at *Roxbury*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Joseph Austin*, of *Charlestown*, be directed to attend upon the Committee of Safety, immediately.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Fellows* be directed to procure a Shop and Tools, and every material necessary for an armourer, at *Roxbury*, to work immediately in the Colony service.

*Voted*, That the Commissary deliver Mr. *Matthew Clark* sixty Oars, for the use of this Colony.

*Voted*, That the carrying any Hay into the Town of *Boston*, on account of *John Borland*, Esq., be suspended until further order from this Committee.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Stephen Hall* be appointed to inspect the College Walls, and see that they be kept in proper repair.

*Voted*, That the Selectmen of *Cambridge* be directed to supply General *Ward* with four half barrels of Powder, for the use of this Colony.

Whereas, General *Gage* has not kept his agreement with the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, but, notwithstanding his said agreement, has prevented, and even refused said inhabitants, with their effects, from moving into the country: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Congress, that they rescind their Resolution of the 30th ultimo, permitting the inhabitants of this Colony to remove, with their effects, into the Town of *Boston*, which Resolution was founded upon said agreement.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Orne* and Colonel *Palmer* be directed to attend the Congress, with the above Resolve.

*Resolved*, That in case of an alarm, this Committee will repair to *Coolidge's* Tavern, in *Watertown*.

Upon a motion made, *Voted*, That Captain *How* be directed to restore the six sets of Enlisting Papers, which he this day took out without the consent of the Committee, by a fraud practised upon the Chairman.

*Voted*, That application be made to his Excellency General *Ward*, that he would order *Edward How* under guard, until this Committee can have a full hearing of his case.

Whereas, one Mr. *Mellicant*, of *Waltham*, who is an officer in His Majesty's service, under half pay, is suspected, by means of his, said *Mellicant's*, wife having free access into and out of the Town of *Boston*, of communicating such intelligence to our enemies as may have a tendency to injure the important cause we are engaged in, and, in some degree, defeat the plans forming for the salvation of this Colony and Continent: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Waltham*, be, and hereby are directed and empowered to take such effectual methods for the preventing any intelligence going into the Town of *Boston*, by means of the abovesaid Mr. *Mellicant*, or any of his family, as to them, in their wisdom, shall seem meet.



Whereas, some of the Students of *Harvard College* are in possession of Arms and Bayonets belonging to the Colony, which were sent them for the purpose of their obtaining skill in military discipline :

*Voted*, That they be and hereby are desired to cause the same to be delivered, as soon as may be, to Mr. *William Hunt*, of this place ; and all other persons having in possession Arms or Military Stores, of any kind, belonging to the Colony as aforesaid, are also desired forthwith to deliver the same to the said Mr. *William Hunt*.

And whereas, the Surgeons of the *Massachusetts Forces* are in want of considerable quantities of Linen Rags, either coarse or fine :

*Voted*, That the female friends to *America*, in the neighbouring Counties, are hereby desired to send such quantities of Rags as they can spare, to the Selectmen of their respective Towns ; and the Selectmen are desired to cause the same to be delivered at *Cambridge*, to Commissary *Craigie*, at the Hospital ; and the expenses of transportation shall be paid by the Committee.

May 19, 1775.

*Voted*, That Captain *John Lane* have Enlisting Papers delivered him, for raising a Company of *Indians* at the Eastward.

The following Certificate was delivered Colonel *Gerrish* for the Provincial Congress :

"Colonel *Samuel Gerrish* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment is full, we recommend to the Congress that said Regiment be commissioned accordingly."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Newall* proceed to *Watertown*, and lodge the ten Swivel-Guns he has under his care, at *Edward Richardson's*, innholder, in said *Watertown*, it being recommended by General *Ward*.

The Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Northborough* having sent a certain *Ebenezer Cutler* to this Committee for trial, upon complaint of his being an enemy to this Country ; and this Committee not having authority to act in the case, as they apprehend, do refer the matter to Congress.

Col. *Ebenezer Learned* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment is full, it was recommended to the Congress that said Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

The following Letter of Directions to the several Colonels, was forwarded, viz :

SIR: The necessity of completing the Colony Army, and the suspicions entertained by some of the officers who have been engaged in recruiting men, oblige us to request your immediate Return to this Committee of the number of men enlisted in your Regiment, with the names of the Officers of said Regiment, as the Congress have urged for those Returns, that Commissions may be issued, and due subordination take place.

*Voted*, That Mr. *John Wood*, of *Roxbury*, be and hereby is appointed an Armourer for the Army.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Dike*, of *Bridgewater*, be and hereby is appointed an Armourer for the Army.

General *Thomas* was informed by Letter, that the Committee had appointed Messrs. *Beman*, *Shaw*, *Wood*, and *Dike*, as Armourers for the Forces posted at *Roxbury*, and was desired to acquaint the Committee if any further appointments were necessary.

*Voted*, That Doctor *Church* have an order for a Horse and Sulkey, and a single Horse, for his journey to *Philadelphia*, upon the Province account.

Whereas some persons have hinted that *Samuel Barrett*, Esquire, of *Boston*, has, in some instances, been unfriendly to his Country and the common cause of liberty, for which this Colony now suffers and bleeds ; and as such suggestions may have a tendency to injure him, we have inquired into the conduct of the said *Samuel Barrett*, Esq., during the unnatural contest between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, and from his acts and explicit declarations, we have reason to think that he is friendly to the rights and liberties of this his native Country, and we recommend him accordingly.

May 20, 1775.

*Voted*, That Captain *Edward How*, *Ebenezer Cutler*, and *Nicols*, a black fellow, now under guard, be sent up to

Congress for examination and trial, and Captain *White* is appointed to attend Congress with the above-named persons.

*Voted*, That the General be desired to furnish a Guard for the occasion.

*Voted*, That for the future no person having orders to impress Horses, shall impress the Horse of Deacon *Timothy Winn*, of *Woburn*, he and his horse being employed in the Colony service.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, as the contest now between *Great Britain* and the Colonies respects the liberties and privileges of the latter, which the Colonies are determined to maintain, that the admission of any persons as Soldiers into the Army now raising, but only such as are Freemen, will be inconsistent with the principles that are to be supported, and reflect dishonour on this Colony ; and that no Slaves be admitted into this Army upon any consideration whatever.

Colonel *Joseph Reed* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment is full, a Certificate was given him of the same ; and it was recommended to the honourable the Provincial Congress that his Regiment might be commissioned accordingly.

Colonel *Read* had thirteen sets of Regulations for the Army delivered him by order.

May 22, 1775.

Whereas it appears to this Committee that no immediate service renders it necessary that Riders should be kept in pay at present : Therefore,

*Voted*, That all such Riders as have been employed by this Committee be, from this day, discharged from said service.

May 23, 1775.

This Committee find themselves much at a loss for a rule by which to determine when a Regiment may be said to be full, and beg leave to suggest to the honourable Congress, whether a certificate from the Muster-Master, relative to the premises, will not be a good rule for ascertaining when a Regiment is complete ; and said Committee beg instructions in the matter.

BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman*.

Whereas, our enemies make frequent excursions to the Islands and Sea-Coasts, from whence they plunder Hay, Cattle, and Sheep, which not only greatly injures many individuals, but also the publick, and strengthens the hands of our enemies : Therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Honourable Congress to take some effectual measure to secure the stock on the Islands and Sea-Coasts, to prevent its falling into the hands of our enemies.

Whereas, this Committee have taken into their most serious consideration the state of the *New-England Army*, proposed to be raised for the defence and security of the lives, liberties, and property of the *Americans*, and find that the several Colonies have not, collectively, raised more than twenty-four thousand five hundred men, whereas thirty thousand were supposed to be necessary ; and the said Committee also find a considerable number of officers of Minute-men now at Head-Quarters, who, with their men, cannot find room for employment in the Army, upon the present establishment of this Colony ; and as our enemies have determined to distress us upon our Sea-Coasts, by taking our vessels, with provisions, salt, molasses, &c., as well as by plundering our Islands and Coasts of live stock, which will require a greater number of men to guard said coasts than was at first estimated ; and as said Army, or any part thereof, may be disbanded at any future time, when the publick safety will admit thereof ; and as the publick military spirit runs high : it is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the consideration of these premises be recommended to the honourable Congress ; and that Colonel *Palmer* be directed to attend said Congress with this Resolve, in order to know whether they will make any addition to the present establishment.

May 24, 1775.

*Voted*, That the Commissary-General be directed to supply *John Carter* and three others with Provisions, as Armourers and Coopers, now in the Province service.



Colonel *Scammon* having satisfied the Committee that his Regiment was nearly full, a Certificate was given him thereof; and it was recommended to the Provincial Congress that his Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

General *Thomas* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment was complete, a Certificate was given him thereof; and it was recommended to the Provincial Congress that his Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to Congress immediately to take such order respecting the removal of the Sheep and Hay from *Noddle's Island*, as they may judge proper, together with the stock on the adjacent islands.

*Voted*, That the Commissary-General be directed to supply twenty-five men of Captain *Sprague's* Company, who are stationed at *Chelsea*.

May 26, 1775.

The Congress having passed a Resolve, that the house of *John Vassal*, Esquire, be appropriated for the use of the Committee of Safety: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Quarter-Master General be directed to clear the said house immediately of the Soldiers now lodged there, that it may be improved for that purpose.

Colonels *Ward* and *Gardner* having satisfied this Committee that their Regiments were in good forwardness, a Certificate to that purpose was given them; and it was recommended to the honourable Provincial Congress that said Regiments be commissioned accordingly.

Colonels *Patterson* and *William Prescott* having satisfied this Committee that their respective Regiments are nearly full, a Certificate was given them of the same; and it was recommended to the Provincial Congress that said Regiments be commissioned accordingly.

Colonels *Cotton* and *Bridge* having satisfied this Committee that their respective Regiments are full, a Certificate was given them thereof; and it was recommended to the Provincial Congress that said Regiments be commissioned accordingly.

Colonels *Asa Whitcomb*, *Frye*, and *Doolittle*, having satisfied this Committee that their respective Regiments are nearly full, a Certificate was given them thereof; and it was recommended to the honourable the Provincial Congress that said Regiments be commissioned accordingly.

Colonel *Walker* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment was complete, a Certificate was given him thereof; and it was recommended to Congress that said Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

Colonel *Donaldson* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment is in good forwardness, a Certificate was given him thereof; and it was recommended to the honourable Congress that said Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

May 27, 1775.

Colonel *Mansfield* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment is in good forwardness, he had a Certificate thereof, and a recommendation to Congress that the Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

Mr. *Wesson*, keeper of *Thomas Oliver*, Esquire's, farm, had orders to secure any creatures that might be put into his enclosures by ill-disposed persons, and to inform the Committee thereof.

*Voted*, That agreeable to the recommendation of General *Ward*, *Jacob Rhodes*, of *Charlestown*, be empowered to impress such Cattle as may be necessary for the removal of two Boats from that Town to *Cambridge*.

*Joseph Smith*, keeper of *John Vassal*, Esquire's, farm, had orders to secure any creatures that might be put into his enclosures by ill-disposed persons, and to inform the Committee thereof.

May 28, 1775.

A number of Guns taken from some persons in *Grafton*, were appraised by a Sub-Committee appointed for that purpose, and delivered *Luke Drury*, for the use of his Company, and a receipt taken in the rough minutes, as, reference thereto being had, will particularly appear.

May 29, 1775.

A number of Letters taken from *Robert Temple*, Esq., by the Committee of Safety of *Cohasset*, were sent to this Committee for examination, and though the Committee think that the matter is not strictly within their commission, yet, considering that the present Congress must be dissolved this day, and the good and safety of this Colony may be affected by an immediate examination of said Letters: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the matter be immediately taken up by the Committee; and as Mr. *Temple* is now attending, that he be so directed respecting said Letters, as shall, after examination, appear necessary to promote the greatest good of this Colony.

*Voted*, That a Committee be chosen to draw up a Certificate for Mr. *Temple*, and an order for his receiving the goods taken from him.

The Committee, appointed for that purpose, reported a Certificate, which was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

"Whereas the Committee of Inspection of the District of *Cohasset*, have transmitted to us a number of Letters found in the possession of *Robert Temple*, Esq.; and this Committee having carefully inspected said Letters, and had the said Mr. *Temple* before them, and examined him, both with regard to his principles and conduct in the present controversy between *Great Britain* and the Colonies in *America*: And whereas, we think it the duty of this Committee, at the same time that we applaud the vigilance of the Committee of *Cohasset*, who have stopped those Letters, and that of the Town of *Plymouth*, who have sent two of their members with Mr. *Temple* to this Committee, to do justice to individuals; in consequence of which we *Resolve*, that it be recommended to the Committee at *Cohasset* to deliver Mr. *Temple* such articles of his as are now in their possession; and likewise that they, and all others, consider and treat him as a friend to the interest of this Country, and the rights of all *America*."

Colonel *Quincy*, of *Braintree*, having proposed to this Committee the erecting a small defensive work against the depredations of our enemies, upon the farms in his neighbourhood, they do refer the matter to the Council of War.

Colonel *Fellows* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment is full, he had a Certificate thereof, and a recommendation that said Regiment be commissioned accordingly, was given him for the honourable Congress.

It being expected that the present Congress will be dissolved this night, and hearing that one volume of copies of Mr. *Hutchinson's* Letters are in the hands of Captain *McLane*, at the upper Paper-Mills, in *Milton*, which volume may be of use to this Colony, if in the hands of the Provincial Congress: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Reverend Mr. *Gordon*, of *Roxbury*, be desired and empowered to receive from said Captain *McLane* all such copies as are in his hands, or in any other hands, and to be accountable to the present or some future Congress for the same.

May 30, 1775.

*Elisha Lettinwell* was directed to proceed with two Teams to *Chelsea*, and bring from thence the Cannon and other Stores saved from the Schooner which has been burned by our people, and to lodge said Stores in this Town.

#### MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

*Journal of the Proceedings of the Congress of the Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY; assembled at CONCORD, Saturday, APRIL 22, 1775.*

MR. RICHARD DEVENS, Chairman,  
MR. JOHN MURRAY, Clerk.

Mr. *Gerry* represented to Congress, that a Letter from Mr. *Quincy* to Mr. *Adams*, had been delivered to him,

with a desire that it might be opened by Congress in Mr. *Adams's* absence:

After some debate,

*Ordered*, That the Members present, belonging to the Committee on the state of the Province, retire, open, and peruse the said Letter, and report to Congress what parts they think proper.

The Committee retired, and desired that the whole be read in Congress;



Which being done,

Ordered, That the same be sent to Doctor *Warren*, to be used at his discretion.

Adjourned to *Watertown*, at four o'clock, P. M.

—  
Watertown, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Congress met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That Mr. *Watson* notify the Committee of Safety of the time and place of our adjournment, and request their attendance with whatever plans they may have in readiness for us; and also notify the absent members that are at *Cambridge*, and request their punctual attendance.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Mr. *Crane*, be a Committee to wait on the Selectmen for liberty of the Meeting-House during the session of Congress here.

They returned, and reported that the Selectmen readily granted their request.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Cushing*, Colonel *Barrett*, Captain *Stone*, Dr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Mr. *Freeman*, Mr. *Watson*, and Esquire *Dix*, be a Committee to take Depositions, *in perpetuum*, from which a full account of the transactions of the Troops under General *Gage*, in their route to and from *Concord*, &c., on *Wednesday* last, may be collected, to be sent to *England* by the first ship from *Salem*.

Adjourned to this place, to-morrow, at 7 o'clock, A. M.

—  
Sunday, April 23, 1775.

Congress met conformably to adjournment, and adjourned to the School-House.

Upon a Letter from General *Ward*, respecting the *New-Hampshire* Troops,

Resolved unanimously, That it is necessary for the defence of the Colony, that an army of Thirty Thousand Men be immediately raised and established.

Resolved, That Thirteen Thousand Six Hundred Men be raised immediately by this Province.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety be a Committee to bring in a plan for the establishment of the Officers and Soldiers necessary for the Army, to be raised at this time, and that they sit immediately.

Voted, That Colonel *Cushing*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Whitcomb*, and Mr. *Durant*, be added to the Committee of Safety.

Resolved, That Mr. *Sullivan* be a Committee to wait on the *New-Hampshire* Congress at *Exeter*, to inform them of our Resolutions, and request their concurrence; and that Major *Bliss* go to *Connecticut*, and Deacon *Rawson* to *Rhode-Island*, for the same purpose.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan* be a Committee to inform the Committee from the Congress of *New-Hampshire*, now waiting, of our Resolutions immediately.

Resolved, That Mr. *Murray*, Mr. *Gill*, and Captain *Stone*, be a Committee to draught a Letter to each of the Colonels, to be sent by the express.

Adjourned to this place, at two o'clock, P. M.

—  
Afternoon, 2 o'clock.

Congress met according to adjournment, and adjourned to the Meeting-House.

Being there met, the Committee reported a draught of a Letter to the Colonels, which was accepted, and ordered to be copied by Captain *Stone*.

Mr. *Gerry* read in his place a Letter from *Marblehead*, reporting that the *British* Man-of-War *Lively* was lying off the Harbour of that Town; representing that their means of defence were inadequate to repel attack; and asking direction and aid; upon which,

Resolved, That the matter subside until further information.

Doctor *Warren* read a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence of *Connecticut*:

Ordered, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Gill*, and Doctor *Taylor*, be a Committee to draught an Answer, and report immediately.

Ordered, That Colonel *Orne*, Major *Fuller* of *Newton*, and Major *Fuller* of *Middleton*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for a President *pro tempore*.

The Committee reported that the vote was full for Doctor *Warren*.

Colonel *Palmer* was chosen Secretary *pro tempore*.

The Committee reported a Resolve for the establishment of the Army; which being read, was referred for further consideration.

A report was made of a draught of an Answer to the Committee of *Connecticut*, which, after amendment, was accepted.

Voted, That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Narrative of the Massacre on *Wednesday* last.

Ordered, That Doctor *Church*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Mr. *Cushing*, be that Committee.

Resolved, That the Establishment of Forces, now immediately to be raised, for the recovery and preservation of our undoubted rights and liberties, be as follows, viz:

Per Month.

|                                              |        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|
| To each Colonel of a Regiment of 598 men,    | £15 00 |
| To one Lieutenant-Colonel of such Regiment,  | 12 00  |
| To a Major of such Regiment, - - - -         | 10 00  |
| For a Captain of 59 men, including officers, | 6 00   |
| For two Lieutenants for such Company, each   | 4 00   |
| For one Ensign for such Company, - - -       | 3 00   |
| For one Adjutant for such Regiment, - -      | 5 10   |
| For a Quarter-Master for such Regiment, -    | 3 00   |
| For one Chaplain for such Regiment, - -      | 6 00   |
| For one Chirurgeon for such Regiment, -      | 7 10   |
| For two Chirurgeon's Mates, each - - -       | 4 00   |
| For each Sergeant, - - - - -                 | 2 08   |
| For each Corporal, - - - - -                 | 2 04   |
| For each Drummer, - - - - -                  | 2 04   |
| For each Fifer, - - - - -                    | 2 04   |
| For each Private Soldier, - - - - -          | 2 00   |

Resolved, That besides the above, a Coat for a uniform be given to each of the Non-commissioned Officers and Privates, as soon as the state of the Province will admit of it; also,

Resolved, That the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts within this Colony be desired to furnish the Soldiers, who shall enlist from their respective Towns and Districts, with good and sufficient Blankets, and render their accounts to the Committee of Supplies, who are hereby directed to draw on the Colony Treasurer for payment of the same.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning, in this place.

—  
Watertown, Monday, April 24, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Reverend Mr. *Murray* was appointed President *pro tempore*, and *Ichabod Goodwin*, Secretary *pro tempore*. *Jonas Dix*, Esquire, was appointed Monitor.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gerry* give the Express going to the press, his orders for the Enlisting Papers.

Ordered, That the Enlisting Papers going to the press be authenticated by the Secretary *pro tempore*.

Resolved, That six hundred of these Papers be printed, and that the Congress Express wait for two hundred of them.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety or Committee of Supplies be empowered to impress Horses or Teams, and direct the owners of them to send their accounts to the Committee of Supplies; also, to empower other persons to impress on special occasions.

Resolved, That the Establishment of the Army be printed in Handbills, and that a copy of them be sent by the Express who is going for the Enlisting Papers; and that three hundred of them be printed immediately.

Moved, That a Member from each County be appointed to attend the Committee of Safety, and let them know the names of the Officers in said Counties, belonging to the Minute-Men, and such as are most suitable for Officers in the Army now raising.

Ordered, That Colonel *Lincoln* be appointed for the County of *Suffolk*;

Major *Fuller* for the County of *Essex*;

Colonel *Prescott* for the County of *Middlesex*;

Colonel *Pomeroy* for the County of *Hampshire*;

*Nathaniel Cushing*, Esq., for the County of *Plymouth*;



*Daniel Davis*, Esq., for the County of *Barnstable* ;  
*Colonel Dagget* for the County of *Bristol* ;  
*Ichabod Goodwin*, Esq., for the County of *York* ;  
*Joseph Mayhew*, Esq., for the County of *Dukes County* ;  
*Major Bigelow* for the County of *Worcester* ;  
*Mr. Samuel Freeman* for the County of *Cumberland* ;  
*Reverend Mr. John Murray* for the County of *Lincoln* ;  
*Colonel John Patterson* for the County of *Berkshire* ; and  
*Stephen Hussey*, Esq., for the County of *Nantucket*.

*Ordered*, That each of these Members attend the service according to their appointment, or write to the Committee.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller*, of *Middleton*, give a list of the names of these Members to the Committee of Safety.

*Resolved*, That when this Congress do adjourn, they adjourn to three o'clock this afternoon, and the Members are enjoined to attend punctually at that time.

Adjourned accordingly to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon, April 24, 1775.

Letters from *Hartford*, directed to the President of this Congress, laid on the table, ordered to be read, and, after reading them, were ordered to be immediately forwarded to the Committee of Safety, then sitting at *Cambridge*.

*Moved*, That a Committee be now appointed to examine the Records, and report such matters contained therein as may be made publick, and such as shall remain secret at present.

*Ordered*, That Major *Brooks*, Deacon *Fisher*, and Mr. *Freeman*, be a Committee for that purpose.

Congress adjourned to eight o'clock, next morning, at this place.

Tuesday, April 25, 1775, 8 o'clock, A. M.

Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer be inquired of respecting the state of the Treasury.

Answered by said Treasurer in a general way, that for the year 1773, it was supposed that about Twenty Thousand Pounds was due, and that he had received about Five Thousand Pounds.

*Moved*, That a Committee be appointed to bring in a Resolve how we may ascertain the number of Towns and Districts which are delinquent. Passed in the negative.

*Moved* for a reconsideration, and passed negatively.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Report of what they thought might be made publick of the Resolves, reported, that nothing relative to our proceedings with the *Indian Nations* be known, and that other matters be left at discretion with each Member.

*Moved*, That this matter subside for the present.

Leave of absence is granted *Jerathmiel Bowers*, Esquire, to return home.

Adjourned to, three o'clock, afternoon.

Afternoon.

The Letter from *Haverhill* committed.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gill*, Colonel *Gerrish*, and Major *Fuller*, of *Middleton*, be a Committee for that purpose, and to sit forthwith.

*Moved*, by the Committee of Safety, for two gentlemen as Engineers, and an Establishment for them.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gill*, *Jonas Dix*, Esq., and *Henry Gardner*, Esq., be a Committee for that purpose to bring in a Resolve.

*Ordered*, That a Resolve be submitted by the Committee of Safety, to reduce the Regiments.

*Moved*, That the Companies in each Regiment be reduced from one hundred men each, to fifty-nine men, including three officers—one Captain and two Subalterns; and passed unanimously in the affirmative.

*Moved*, That each Regiment be reduced to ten of these Companies; and passed in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne*, Colonel *Palmer*, and *Henry Gardner*, Esq., be a Committee for regulating the Regiments of the Army, and to sit forthwith.

A Letter from *Salem* was read, setting forth the expediency of the Depositions we are now taking being forwarded as fast as possible. The same was ordered to be

sent to the Committee for that purpose, at *Lexington*, immediately.

*Ordered*, That the Memorial from *Marblehead*, with the debate thereon, subside for the present.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letters from Messrs. *Nathaniel P. Sargeant*, Jr., Esq., and *Jonathan Webster*, reported, That the Congress write to the Town of *Haverhill*, acquaint them of the Letters received from said *Sargeant* and *Webster*, and let them know the important business of Congress requires the wisdom of the whole Province; and therefore desire, that in case those gentlemen cannot attend, they would elect other member or members to attend in their room; and that the Letter be directed to the Town Clerk.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
 April 25, 1775. }

SIR: The Congress have this day received a Letter from *Nathaniel Peaslee Sargeant* and *Jonathan Webster*, Esqrs., acquainting them that the late dreadful fire in *Haverhill*, together with some publick disturbances in said Town, make it necessary they should be at home at this time. The Congress apprehend, that the important business of the Colonies requires that every Town should now be represented; therefore desire, that if, in case neither said *Nathaniel P. Sargeant* or *Jonathan Webster*, Esqrs., can attend, that the Town would elect one or more members to attend in their room, that the wisdom of the whole Colony may be collected at our hour of need.

Adjourned to eight o'clock next day.

Wednesday, April 26, 1775, 8 o'clock, A. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President, Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Freeman*, *Henry Gardner*, Esq., and Colonel *Stone*, be a Committee to draught a Letter to our Agent in *Great Britain*.

*Ordered*, That *William Burbeck* be and he is hereby appointed an Engineer of the Forces now raising in this Colony for the defence of the rights and liberties of the *American Continent*; and that there be paid to the said *William Burbeck*, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, during his continuance in that service, at the rate of one hundred and fifty Pounds, lawful money, per annum. And it is further *Resolved*, That from and after the time when the said Troops shall be disbanded, during the life of the said *Burbeck*, there be paid to him, out of the Treasury, the sum of ninety-seven Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence, lawful money, annually.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gerrish*, Deacon *Fisher*, Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Batchelder*, and Captain *Brown*, be a Committee to take into consideration the Letter laid on the table by the Committee of Safety, from *James Sullivan*, Esq., and the Committee to sit forthwith.

*Ordered*, That the Letter drawn by the Committee, to send to Doctor *Franklin*, as Agent, be copied and authenticated by the President *pro tempore*.

The Depositions taken by the Committee for that purpose, laid on the table, and ordered to be read.

*Ordered*, That the Committee make Duplicates of the same, and Captain *Stone*, *Jonas Dix*, Esq., Colonel *Tyng*, Colonel *Dwight*, Captain *Whittemore*, Major *Fuller*, and Mr. *Freeman*, assist as scribes in that business.

Adjourned to three o'clock.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That the Letters and Papers just now received from *Rhode-Island*, by Doctor *Perkins*, be sent to the Committee of Safety now sitting in *Cambridge*, by him, and that he have leave to go home for a few days.

*Resolved*, That *Richard Gridley*, Esquire, be and he hereby is appointed Chief Engineer of the Forces now raising in this Colony for the defence of the rights and liberties of the *American Continent*; and that there be paid to the said *Richard Gridley*, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, during his continuance in that service, at the rate of one hundred and seventy Pounds, lawful money, per annum. And it is further *Resolved*, That from and after the time when the said Forces shall be dis-



banded, during the life of the said *Gridley*, there be paid to him out of the said Treasury, the sum of one hundred and twenty-three Pounds, lawful money, per annum.

*Ordered*, That the duplicates lay on the table till the Narrative comes in.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Freeman*, Doctor *Taylor*, Deacon *Cheever*, Doctor *Baylies*, and Colonel *Farley*, be a Committee to consider the state of the eastern parts of this Province at large in regard to supplying them with Ammunition, and to sit forthwith.

The Committee made the following Report, which was accepted :

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
April 26, 1775. }

Whereas, representation has been made to this Congress, that several of the Towns in the eastern parts of the Colony are deficient in such supply of ammunition, as is necessary they should, at this day, be furnished with, for the safety and defence of the Colony in general, and that part of it in particular; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they are hereby directed, forthwith to take some effectual measures to procure such a quantity of Powder and Ball as will appear to them to be necessary for the use of this Colony, under the present alarming situation of our publick affairs; and, in particular, that they immediately send to the Colonies of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island* for so much Powder as they shall think necessary, and when procured, to deliver so much of it to the order of the Selectmen of such deficient Towns, and in such quantities, as they may think will be proportional to the exigencies of each Town respectively, and to the safety and defence of the Colony in general; such Towns to pay for the supplies which they may receive of said Committee, according to the nett expense of procuring the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Cutts*, *Ichabod Goodwin*, and Deacon *Fisher*, be appointed to proportion the Powder that is recommended to be sold to the Towns of *York*, *Welles*, *Biddeford*, *Boothbay*, and *Sandford*, and to sit forthwith.

The Committee presented the following Report, which was accepted :

Whereas, the Towns of *York*, *Welles*, *Boothbay*, and *Biddeford*, have applied to this Congress, setting forth the dangerous situation they are in, being seaports, and thereby exposed to the ravages of the enemy, although but a small force should be sent to attack them by sea; and likewise showing that they have not ammunition sufficient wherewith to make defence, should they be thus attacked; and considering them, as they ought to be, part of the whole, and should they suffer, that the whole must be affected: therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be, and it hereby is recommended to the Selectmen of the Towns of *Marblehead*, *Salem*, and *Newburyport*, that they forthwith sell, out of their Town stock, four half barrels of Powder each, to said Towns of *York*, *Welles*, *Biddeford*, and *Boothbay*, to put the inhabitants thereof in some tolerable state of defence; and should the Towns of *Marblehead*, *Salem*, and *Newburyport*, be under the necessity of having the quantities which they have delivered to the said Towns of *York*, *Welles*, *Boothbay*, and *Biddeford*, replaced, in that case the Congress will give orders for the same as soon as may be. The Powder to be apportioned according to the number of inhabitants in the said Towns, as also to *Sandford*, said Town having made application for supplies of the same kind.

*Ordered*, That the Rev. *James Murray*, Major *Fuller*, and *Jonas Dix*, Esq., be a Committee to return the thanks of this Congress to the Reverend Ministers who have generously offered to supply the Army as Chaplains, each a month in rotation.

*Ordered*, That at three o'clock to-morrow, this Congress will take into consideration some effectual method of supplying the Treasury.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *How* have leave to return home, but is to return to his duty immediately.

*Ordered*, That the copies of the Order to the Honourable *Richard Derby*, Esq., for fitting out his Vessel for a Packet, be taken and authenticated by the President *pro tempore*.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable *Richard Derby*, Esq's,

Orders to the Treasury, be also authenticated by the President *pro tempore*.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Supplies, directed to draught the Letter to our Agent in *Great Britain*, be requested to send the same with the papers now preparing for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Holten*, Doctor *Baylies*, Captain *Whittemore*, Colonel *Dwight*, and Mr. *Kollock*, be a Committee to take the recommendation of the Committee of Safety into consideration, with respect to the Army now forming.

*Moved*, That when this Congress do adjourn, that they adjourn to seven o'clock to-morrow morning.

Adjourned accordingly.

—  
Thursday, April 27, 1775, }  
Seven o'clock, A. M. }

Met pursuant to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Goodman* inquire of the Committee of Safety, whether any provision is made for a Post or Posts, to ride from the Army to *Worcester*, agreeably to a request from the Selectmen of that Town; and also to procure a Writ for calling a General Assembly in *May* next, issued from General *Gage* for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary *pro tempore* take Extracts from the Minutes of the Resolves of this Congress, and authenticate the same, and deliver them to the men now in waiting from *York* and *Welles*, for the purpose of obtaining some Powder.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry* have leave to bring in a Resolve, with regard to the seaports in the County of *Essex*.

Whereupon Mr. *Gerry* offered the following :

Whereas, hostilities have been commenced in this Colony by *Great Britain*, and the sword may remain unsheathed for a considerable time :

*Resolved*, That it be, and it hereby is earnestly recommended to the Committees of the seaport Towns in the County of *Essex*, that they use their utmost endeavours to have all the effects of the inhabitants of their respective Towns removed as soon as possible; that the Congress highly approves of the conduct of said Towns, in wearing a pacifick appearance, until their effects shall be secured; that the Congress consider it as absolutely necessary for said inhabitants to be in readiness to go into the country on the shortest notice, and to avoid mixing with our enemies, as thereby their own lives will ever be in imminent danger, when the Colony and the Continent shall attack such enemies. And it is also recommended to them that their application to Congress for advice, and this Resolve in consequence thereof, be kept a secret, that their effects may be more easily removed.

*Ordered*, That three o'clock next *Tuesday* be assigned to take up the matter in the Resolve brought in by Mr. *Gerry*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President, Col. *Orne*, Doctor *Taylor*, Major *Fuller*, of *Middleton*, and Captain *Goodman*, be a Committee to confer with the Officers of the Army relative to the reduction of their pay.

Colonel *Dwight* was appointed to wait on the Committee of Safety, and acquaint them with the names of the Officers in the Regiments of Minute-Men in *Worcester* County.

Mr. *Hale* appointed to the same business, in the County of *Hampshire*.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Kingsbury*, Doctor *Holten*, and Deacon *Stone*, be appointed to inquire and endeavour to get an exact account of the men killed, and wounded, and murdered, in the late scene, on the nineteenth instant.

The Order of the Day was moved for, to take up the matter of supplying the Treasury.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed for that purpose, to consist of five, and to be chosen by written votes.

*Ordered*, That two be added to this Committee.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Holten*, Mr. *Bullen*, and Captain *Batchelder*, be appointed to sort and count the votes.

*Ordered*, That nine o'clock be assigned for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Patridge*, Captain *Greenleaf*, and



Doctor *Baker*, be appointed to consider the Petition from *Gorham*, and to sit forthwith.

Ordered, That Captain *Whitemore*, Mr. *Freeman*, and Doctor *Baylies*, assist as scribes the Committees, in taking fair copies of the Depositions in order for the Press, and to sit forthwith.

Ordered, That *Jonas Dix*, Esq., *William Stickney*, Esq., and Deacon *Stone*, be appointed to take true copies of the Depositions, and have them signed by the Deponents, and authenticated by the Justices and Notary Publick.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hubbart* have leave to go home a few days.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, April 28, 1775.

Met conformably to adjournment.

Ordered, That Mr. President, Col. *Gerrish*, Mr. *Gerry*, Doctor *Holten*, and Mr. *Gill*, be appointed to confer with the gentlemen from *New-Hampshire*, and are desired to lay the Letters just received from *New-York*, dated April nineteenth, before them.

Ordered, (at the desire of the Secretary *pro tempore*.) that he be excused from that service, after another is appointed in that place.

Accordingly Mr. *Samuel Freeman* was appointed to that office, *pro tempore*.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
April 28, 1775. }

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to confer with the Committee who this day arrived here from the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, have leave to report to this Congress a draught of a Letter, which they have prepared as an answer to one received from the Convention of the said Colony of *New-Hampshire*, dated twenty-sixth instant.

The said draught was accordingly reported, read, and unanimously accepted, and ordered to be authenticated by the President, and delivered to Colonel *Nathaniel Folsom*, Colonel *Josiah Bartlett*, and Major *Samuel Hobart*, Esq., the Committee from the said Convention of *New-Hampshire*, and is as follows, viz:

"GENTLEMEN: It is with pleasure we have received your letter, above mentioned, and by a Committee of this Congress, have had a conference with your respectable Committee.

"We find the fullest conviction in the minds of the inhabitants of our sister Colonies, as well as of this, that by their immediate and most vigorous exertions, there is the greatest prospect of establishing their liberties, and saving their Country, and that, without such exertions, all must be lost.

"It is the opinion of this Congress, as already communicated, that a powerful Army on our side must at once cut out such a work for a tyrannical Administration, as, under the great opposition which they meet with in *England*, they cannot accomplish, and that their system of despotism must soon be shaken to the foundation. But should they still pursue their sanguinary measures, that the Colonies will then be able to make a successful stand.

"We have the utmost confidence in your patriotick Colony, whose inhabitants have signalized themselves, in joining their brethren in this, and hope to see *New-Hampshire*, and every other Government which has been exposed to the corruption of a *British* Ministry, soon placed upon such a footing as will be best calculated to promote the true interest of the same, and to prevent, in future, such unhappy disputes as have taken place with the mother Country.

"We have just received an agreeable account of the conduct of our brethren in *New-York*, and have delivered a copy of the letter to your Committee.

"We sincerely thank you for your measures, taken in Convention at *Exeter*, and are fully persuaded that the Congress of your Colony, which is to meet on the seventeenth of *May*, will take such effectual steps as the present exigencies of publick affairs require, and the Continent of *America* must necessarily approve."

Ordered, That the Secretary authenticate a copy of a Letter this day received from Governour *Hopkins*, of *Rhode-Island*, and deliver the same to the above mentioned Committee from *New-Hampshire*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Dickerson*, Doctor *Holten*, and Colonel *Gerrish*, be a Committee to wait upon the Committee

from *New-Hampshire* to the Committee of Safety of this Colony, now sitting at *Cambridge*, to consult with them respecting the *New-Hampshire* Forces, now at *Cambridge*.

Ordered, That the President, Mr. *Gerry*, and Mr. *Gardner*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Letter this day received from the Honourable *Stephen Hopkins*, Esq., dated *Providence*, April 27, 1775.

Ordered, That Mr. *Crane*, Mr. *Grout*, and Mr. *Fisher*, be a Committee to take into consideration the expediency of establishing Post-Riders between the *Massachusetts* Forces and the Town of *Worcester*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Crane*, Mr. *Grout*, and Mr. *Fisher*, be a Committee to take into consideration the propriety of recommending to the several Towns and Districts in this Colony, that they take no notice of the Precepts lately issued by General *Gage*, for calling a General Assembly.

Ordered, That Major *Fuller*, of *Newton*, Mr. *Goodman*, Doctor *Taylor*, Doctor *Baylies*, and Major *Brooks*, be a Committee to prepare a form of a Commission for the several Officers of the Army now forming in this Province.

Adjourned to three o'clock this afternoon.

Afternoon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fisher*, Doctor *Taylor*, and *Benjamin Aiken*, Esq., be a Committee to prepare a draught of Rules and Regulations, to be in future observed by the several Members of this Congress.

The Committee appointed in the forenoon, to take into consideration a Letter received from the Honourable *Stephen Hopkins*, Esq., reported.

The Report was accepted, and ordered to lie on the table, for the present.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to introduce the Honourable Delegates from the Convention at *Exeter*, in *New-Hampshire*, to the Committee of Safety, apply to said Committee for an authentick account of what transactions have certainly taken place with respect to the liberation of our friends in *Boston*, and report as soon as may be.

Ordered, That Colonel *Dexter*, Major *Brooks*, Doctor *Taylor*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Captain *Greenleaf*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, empowering the Committee of Supplies to procure such Provisions, Military Stores, and other Stores, as they shall judge necessary for the Army now forming in this Colony, during its establishment.

It was Moved, That the sense of this Congress be taken, whether it would be expedient to reduce the Pay of the Field-Officers of the Army. After much debate, the question was put, and it passed in the affirmative, by a large majority; whereupon it was determined, that the Pay of the Chief Colonel be reduced from fifteen Pounds to twelve Pounds, and that the Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors be reduced in the same proportion.

Ordered, That Major *Fuller*, of *Newton*, Colonel *Dexter*, and Captain *Little*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for that purpose.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, April 29, 1775.

The Committee appointed to wait on the *New-Hampshire* Committee to the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, and to make inquiry respecting the liberation of the inhabitants of *Boston*, reported, that they had attended that business, and had brought from the Committee of Safety a number of papers, which contain the proceedings of the Town of *Boston* with General *Gage*, in respect to moving the inhabitants and their effects.

And that the Committee of Safety, having taken the substance of them into consideration, desired they might be returned to them, and that the Congress would not pass any resolve respecting them until they had come to some resolve concerning them; therefore,

Ordered, That the subject-matter of said Papers be referred to the consideration of the said Committee of Safety; they to make report to this Congress as soon as may be.

On a motion made, Ordered, That the day appointed for the first meeting of the County Committees, which was the first *Wednesday* in *May* next, be postponed to the fourth *Wednesday* in *May* next.

The Committee appointed to prepare a draught of Rules and Regulations to be observed by this Congress, reported;



the Rules were read, and severally accepted, and are as follow, viz :

"1. No Member shall speak out of his place, nor without standing up, and applying to the President for leave, and shall sit down as soon as he is done speaking.

"2. No Member, speaking by leave of the President, shall be interrupted by another, but by rising up to speak to order.

"3. No Member shall speak more than twice to one question, without first obtaining leave of Congress, nor more than once, until others have spoken that shall desire it.

"4. Whenever any Member shall have liberty from the President to make a motion, and such motion shall be seconded by another, the same shall be received and considered by the Congress, and not otherwise.

"5. No Member shall declare or question whether it be a Vote or not.

"6. No grant for Money, or other thing, shall be made, unless there be a time before assigned for that purpose.

"7. No Vote shall be reconsidered when a less number is present in Congress than there was when it passed.

"8. No Member shall nominate more than one person for a Committee, provided the person so nominated be chosen.

"9. No Member shall be obliged to be upon more than two Committees at a time, nor Chairman of more than one.

"10. That no Member be permitted to stand up, to the interruption of another, while such other Member is speaking."

*Ordered*, That the Monitors of this Congress be, and they are hereby directed to see that the foregoing Rules are observed by the several Members of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Letter and Resolve, prepared to be sent to the Honourable *Stephen Hopkins, Esq.*, of *Rhode-Island*, be recommitted for a suitable addition, and the Committee to sit forthwith.

*Ordered*, The Hon. Mr. *Dexter* be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, expressive of the Vote of this Congress for altering the first meeting of the County Committees.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve, empowering the Committee of Supplies to procure Provisions and Military Stores, reported; the Report was read and accepted, and is as follows :

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
"April 29, 1775. }

"*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they hereby are empowered to purchase every kind of Military Stores, Provisions, and all other supplies which they shall judge necessary for the use of the Forces of this Colony, during the establishment of an Army for its defence, or until it shall be otherwise ordered, by this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives, on the credit of the Colony, and draw for suitable sums from the Treasury for payment of the same. Also to deposite the said Stores in such places as they, in consultation with the Generals of the Colony, shall judge proper; and to deliver such and so many of said Stores to the Commissary-General, from time to time, as he shall judge needful to supply the Army. Likewise, said Committee of Supplies are hereby empowered to employ such and so many Assistants as they shall judge necessary, to be paid as aforesaid; said Committee of Supplies to be accountable, when called upon, for their doings to this, or some future Congress, or House of Representatives of this Colony."

The Committee appointed to prepare an addition to a Letter to the Honourable *Stephen Hopkins, Esquire*, reported; which addition was read and accepted.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve, with respect to reducing the Pay of the Field-Officers, reported the following; which was read and accepted, and ordered to be signed by the Secretary; and transmitted to the Committee of Safety:

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
"April 29, 1775. }

"Whereas, the reducing of the several Regiments to be raised in the Provincial service, from one thousand men in a Regiment to five hundred and ninety, makes the ser-

vice of the said Field-Officers of said Regiments less burdensome: therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the Pay of said Field-Officers be reduced one-fifth part from the first establishment, and that said Field-Officers' pay in said service of this Province to the last day of *December* next, unless dismissed before, shall be as follows, viz: A Colonel's pay twelve Pounds per month; a Lieut. Colonel's pay nine Pounds twelve Shillings per month; a Major's pay eight Pounds per month."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Rawson*, Doctor *Dunsmore*, and Colonel *Davis*, be a Committee to wait on the Committee of Safety, now sitting at *Cambridge*, to inform them of the deep concern this Congress feel on account of the state and situation of the Cannon, and desire information respecting the disposition of them, and that this Committee forthwith proceed on this business.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will now proceed to choose a Committee to consider some method of supplying the Treasury.

*Ordered*, That Esquire *Greenleaf*, and Mr. *Hall*, (in the room of Doctor *Holten* and Mr. *Batchelder*,) be of the Committee to count and sort the votes.

The absent Members ordered to be called in.

The Honourable Mr. *Dexter*, who was appointed to bring in a Resolve expressive of the Vote of this Congress for altering the first meeting of the County Committees, reported; which Report being read and amended, was accepted, and is as follows:

"Whereas, this Congress, on the twelfth day of this instant, *April*, appointed a Committee for each County, to receive from the Committees of Correspondence in such Counties a state of the conduct of the Towns and Districts with respect to their having executed the Continental and Provincial measures, for the preservation of this Country from slavery: And whereas the distressed circumstances of the Colony may probably render it very inconvenient that so great a number of Members should be absent from the Congress on the first *Wednesday* of *May* next, the day mentioned for their first meeting:

"Therefore, *Resolved*, That the first meeting of said Committees be postponed to the fourth *Wednesday* in said month, and it is recommended to the several Committees of Correspondence to render a true state of the conduct of their respective Towns and Districts, on the said fourth *Wednesday* of *May* accordingly, and especially with respect to their outstanding Province Rates; any thing contained in the former Resolve of this Congress, differing herefrom, notwithstanding."

*Ordered*, That the several County Committees be, and they hereby are, directed to inform the Committees of Correspondence of the several Counties of the purport of the foregoing Resolve.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary be, and he hereby is, directed to notify the Chairman of each of the said County Committees of the purport of the said Resolve.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for a Committee to consider on some method for supplying the Treasury, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

The Reverend Mr. *Murray*, Colonel *Dexter*, Colonel *Gerrish*, Mr. *Gill*, Mr. *Gerry*, Captain *Stone*, and Captain *Greenleaf*.

On a motion made by the Reverend Mr. *Murray* that he might be excused from serving on the above Committee, and having offered his reasons therefor, the question was put, whether he be excused, agreeably to his request, from serving on said Committee; and it passed in the affirmative.

The Congress then made choice of Doctor *Taylor* to serve on said Committee, in the room of Mr. *Murray*, who hath been excused.

In Provincial Congress, April 29, 1775.

The President having received a Letter from Messrs. *Nicholas Brown* and *Joseph Brown*, dated *Providence*, *April* 27, 1775, desiring that this Congress would observe secrecy in respect to the capture of their brother, *John Brown*, at *Newport*, on the 26th instant: And also another from the Honourable *Stephen Hopkins, Esquire*, dated *Providence*, *April* 27th, 1775, presented the same to this Congress; which being read,



*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Gerrish*, and Doctor *Taylor*, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to confer with the abovesaid *Joseph Brown*, who now waits the further advice of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That said Committee be, and they are hereby authorized to consider what is proper to be done, and make report forthwith.

The President likewise received a Letter from *Worcester*, enclosing one from *New-York*, dated *April 24, 1775*, which gave information of the arrival of a Packet there, with despatches for General *Gage*, and recommended that care be taken to intercept the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Grout* be directed to carry the Letter, last mentioned, to the Committee of Safety, now sitting at *Cambridge*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, seven o'clock.

Sunday, April 30, 1775.

The Committee appointed yesterday to wait on the Committee of Safety, reported that they had attended the business to which they were appointed, and brought from said Committee the following account:

"In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, }  
"April 29, 1775. }

"Agreeably to the order of the Provincial Congress, this Committee have inquired into the state and situation of the Cannon and Ordnance Stores, with the provision made for the Companies of Artillery, and beg leave to report as follows, viz:

"In *Cambridge*, six three-pounders complete, with ammunition, and one six-pounder.

"In *Watertown*, sixteen pieces of artillery, of different sizes. The said six-pounder and sixteen pieces will be taken out of the way, and the first mentioned six pieces will be used in a proper way of defence.

"Captain *Foster* is appointed to command one of the Companies of Artillery, and ordered to enlist said Company.

"Captain *William Lee*, of *Marblehead*, has been sent for to take the command of another, and several other persons have been sent for to take the command of other Companies.

JOSEPH WARREN, *Chairman*."

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Grout* be directed to request of the Committee of Safety a Report respecting the inhabitants of *Boston*.

A motion was made for an addition to the Committee of Safety, and after some debate, the matter was ordered to subside.

The Congress then adjourned to twelve o'clock this day.

The Congress met at twelve o'clock, and adjourned to half after one.

Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and adjourned to half after three.

At which time the Congress met again.

*Ordered*, That another express be immediately sent to the Committee of Safety to procure their result with respect to moving out the inhabitants of *Boston*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Mosely* be directed to repair forthwith to *Cambridge*, on this errand.

The President was then directed to write a short Letter to said Committee on this important purpose. The Letter is as follows:

"In Provincial Congress, April 30, 1775.

"SIR: I am directed to inform you, that it is with regret this Congress find themselves obliged to send to the Committee of Safety a third messenger, to request their immediate Report on the subject of the removal of the poor inhabitants of *Boston*.

"To wait for that Report the Congress have suspended all proceedings on that matter, and sat in almost impatient expectation, by several adjournments, since seven o'clock this morning. I am obliged to request your answer by this express, without loss of time, that the Congress may then see what it is their duty to conclude on. I have the honour to be, with great respect, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN MURRAY.

"To *Joseph Warren*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of Safety."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Dix*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Mr. *Bul-len*, be a Committee to inquire into the conduct of the several Towns relative to the prisoners of war.

*Ordered*, That the Resolve, relative to altering the time of meeting of the County Committees, be printed in the *Salem Gazette*, and in the *Massachusetts Spy*.

A Committee from the Committee of Safety offered to this Congress a Resolve respecting the liberation of the inhabitants of *Boston*, which being read, and amended, was accepted, and is as follows:

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, }  
April 30, 1775. }

"Whereas, an agreement has been made between General *Gage* and the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, for the removal of the persons and effects of such of the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* as may be so disposed, excepting their fire-arms and ammunition, into the country:

"Resolved, That any of the inhabitants of this Colony, who may incline to go into the Town of *Boston*, with their effects, fire-arms and ammunition excepted, have toleration for that purpose, and that they be protected from any injury and insult whatsoever, in their removal to *Boston*, and that this Resolve be immediately published."

"P. S. Officers appointed for giving permits for the above purpose are, one at the sign of the Sun, at *Charlestown*, and another at the house of Mr. *John Groaton*, Jun., at *Roxbury*."

*Ordered*, That attested copies of the foregoing Resolve be forthwith posted up at *Roxbury*, *Charlestown*, and *Cambridge*.

*Resolved*, That the Resolution of Congress, relative to the removal of the inhabitants of *Boston*, be authenticated, and sent to the Selectmen of *Boston*, immediately to be communicated to General *Gage*, and also be published in the *Worcester* and *Salem Papers*.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Bailey*, Mr. *Lothrop*, Mr. *Holmes*, and Colonel *Farley*, be a Committee to consider what steps are necessary to be taken, for the assisting the poor of *Boston* in moving out with their effects, to bring in a Resolve for that purpose, and to set forthwith.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, seven o'clock.

Monday, May 1, 1775.

The Committee who were appointed to consider what steps are necessary to be taken with respect to assisting the poor of *Boston* in moving out with their effects, reported; the Report was recommended for amendment, and Captain *Smith*, of *Granby*, Colonel *Mosely*, Captain *Goodridge*, and Major *Smith*, were added to the Committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Patridge*, Doctor *Baylies* and Mr. *Greenleaf*, be a Committee to inspect the Papers of this Congress, and consider what would be proper to furnish the Printer with for publication, and make report.

The Committee appointed to inspect the Papers of the Congress, reported several extracts of Letters for publication, which are ordered to be delivered to Mr. *Hall*, of *Salem*, for that purpose.

On a motion made, that the sense of the Congress be taken on this question, viz: Whether the Commissions to be given for the Officers of the Army, now forming in this Colony, shall be signed by the President of the Congress: the question was put, and it passed in the affirmative.

Congress then adjourned to three o'clock, this afternoon.

Afternoon.

A Letter brought from *Northampton*, by express, from Major *Hawley*, respecting the bearer of despatches from General *Gage*, was read.

On which, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Gerrish*, Esquire *Gardner* and Major *Gooding*, be a Committee to take the same into consideration, and report.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letter from Major *Hawley*, reported, that the most likely way of detecting the bearer of despatches for Governor *Gage*, was, to forward the said Letter by Major *Gooding*, to the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, that they may take order thereon.

Which Report was accepted, and the said Letter, together with two anonymous Letters from *London*, were ordered to be sent to the said Committee of Safety.







|                          |          |      |               |          |       |
|--------------------------|----------|------|---------------|----------|-------|
| Charlemont,              | persons, | 12   | Shrewsbury,   | persons, | 32    |
| Worthington,             | "        | 6    | Lunenburg,    | "        | 51    |
| Shutesbury,              | "        | 14   | Fitchburgh,   | "        | 19    |
| Chesterfield,            | "        | 22   | Uxbridge,     | "        | 36    |
| Southwick,               | "        | 19   | Harvard,      | "        | 50    |
| West-Springfield,        | "        | 72   | Dudley,       | "        | 32    |
| Ludlow,                  | "        | 10   | Bolton,       | "        | 48    |
|                          |          | 1069 | Upton,        | "        | 20    |
| <i>Worcester County.</i> |          |      | Sturbridge,   | "        | 45    |
| Worcester,               | persons, | 82   | Leominster,   | "        | 38    |
| Lancaster,               | "        | 103  | Hardwick,     | "        | 55    |
| Mendon,                  | "        | 99   | Holden,       | "        | 26    |
| Brookfield,              | "        | 99   | Weston,       | "        | 35    |
| Oxford,                  | "        | 35   | Douglass,     | "        | 22    |
| Charlton,                | "        | 35   | Grafton,      | "        | 38    |
| Sutton,                  | "        | 98   | Petersham,    | "        | 38    |
| Leicester,               | "        | 36   | Royalston,    | "        | 8     |
| Spencer,                 | "        | 31   | Westminster,  | "        | 31    |
| Paxton,                  | "        | 20   | Athol,        | "        | 20    |
| Rutland,                 | "        | 48   | Templeton,    | "        | 25    |
| Oakham,                  | "        | 14   | Princeton,    | "        | 24    |
| Hutchinson,              | "        | 42   | Ashburnham,   | "        | 12    |
| Hubbardston,             | "        | 9    | Winchendon,   | "        | 9     |
| New-Braintree,           | "        | 32   | Northbridge,  | "        | 13    |
| Southborough,            | "        | 36   |               |          | 1586  |
| Westborough,             | "        | 38   | Whole number, |          | 4903  |
| Northborough,            | "        | 25   |               |          | ===== |

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Patridge*, Mr. *Lothrop* and Doctor *Baylies*, be directed to assist the Secretary in copying the foregoing Report, &c.

The Committee appointed to confer with *William Read*, Esq., reported the following, (presented to them by *Wm. Read*, Esq., of *Lexington*, in behalf of *Joseph Loring*, *J. Loring*, Jun., *Widow Mulliken*, and *Joseph Pond*.) viz:

"*Joseph Loring*, *Joseph Loring*, Jun., *Widow Lydia Mulliken*, and *Joseph Pond*, had their houses, furniture, provisions, and all apparel, burnt by Gen. *Gage's* Troops in the late battle, whereby they are reduced to a state of abject poverty. *William Read*, Esquire, prays, in behalf of the above distressed inhabitants of *Lexington*, that they may have a present relief from the honourable Congress of one hundred and sixty pounds of Pork, in order to prevent their starving."

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they are hereby directed to deliver to said *William Read*, Esq., or to his order, for the use of the said *Joseph Loring*, *Joseph Loring*, Jun., *Widow Mulliken*, and *Joseph Pond*, one barrel of Pork.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hollock*, Colonel *How* and Captain *White*, be a Committee to consider what is proper to be done, with respect to furnishing the Army with some present necessities.

All the Committees were enjoined to sit.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, May 2, 1775.

*Resolved*, That another President be chosen *pro tem.*, and that he be chosen by nomination.

Colonel *Warren* was then nominated and chosen.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Patridge*, Doctor *Taylor* and Mr. *Dix*, be a Committee to wait on Colonel *Warren*, to inform him of said choice.

Colonel *Warren* accordingly attended, and after offering his reasons for excuse, *Moved*, that a Committee be appointed to wait on Doctor *Joseph Warren*, informing him of the absence of the Reverend Mr. *Murray*, who has lately officiated as President, and to know if he can now attend the Congress in that station. Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Dunsmore* be a Committee for that purpose; who accordingly waited upon Doctor *Warren*, and received the following reply:

"Cambridge, May 2, 1775.

"Doctor *Warren* presents his best respects to the honourable the Provincial Congress: informs them that he will obey their order, and attend his duty in Congress in the afternoon."

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gerrish*, Colonel *Warren*, Hon. Mr. *Dexter*, Mr. *Gill*, and Capt. *Brown*, of *Abington*, be

a Committee to consider the propriety of taking measures for securing the records of those Counties which are more immediately exposed in this day of danger.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Dexter*, Colonel *Warren*, and Mr. *Gill*, be a Committee to prepare a draught of a Letter to the Delegates of Congress, now in *Connecticut*, giving them instruction with respect to the arrival at this Colony of two gentlemen from the Assembly of *Connecticut*, with an address to General *Gage*, and a commission to treat with him respecting a cessation of hostilities, &c.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone*, of *Oakham*, *Deacon Rawson*, and Major *Fuller*, of *Newton*, be a Committee to draw up the form of an oath to be taken by the Officers and Soldiers of the Army, now forming in this Colony.

The Committee appointed to consider what might be proper to be done with respect to furnishing the Army with some present necessities, reported.

The Report was read, and ordered to lie on the table for the present.

A Letter from *Manchester*, to Doctor *Taylor*, respecting a computation of the Taxes paid by *Great Britain* and *America*, &c., was read: Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Webster*, *Deacon Cheever*, and Captain *Stone*, be a Committee to take the said Letter into consideration, and make report.

The Committee who were appointed to prepare a Letter to the Delegates of this Congress at *Connecticut*, reported; which Report being read, was unanimously accepted, and is as follows, viz:

"GENTLEMEN: Although this Congress entertain the highest opinion of the virtue and publick spirit of the Colony of *Connecticut*, and have not the smallest doubt of the attachment of the General Assembly of that Colony to the glorious cause of freedom, now threatened with total destruction by a corrupt Ministry; yet the arrival of two gentlemen, of the first character, from that Colony, with an address to General *Gage*, and a commission to treat with him on the subject of *American* grievances, and to propose, as we are informed, a cessation of hostilities, at a time when that gentleman can be considered in no other light than as an instrument in the hands, and under the absolute direction of Administration, to subjugate, and for that detestable purpose, to spread slaughter and destruction among His Majesty's loyal subjects; of his disposition to do which, he has recently given a flagrant proof in massacring a number of innocent people, who were in the peace of God and the King; and by other acts of injustice and cruelty, we cannot but be greatly alarmed for the consequences. Any interruptions of that happy union of the Colonies which has taken place, would prove of the most fatal tendency, and we cannot but view every kind of negotiation between any Colony and the chief instrument of ministerial vengeance here, as being likely to operate towards such an interruption. We apprehend that things are now reduced to such a state, that nothing but an immediate recourse to arms, and a steady and persevering exertion in military operations can possibly prevent our destruction, and that a recourse to any other method is, at best, nugatory and vain.

"Any proposals, either to Parliament, to the Ministry, or to their Agents here, made separately by a single Colony, may produce most tremendous events with regard to *America*; and we apprehend nothing could be more pleasing to our enemies than the making such proposals. We are so deeply impressed with the sense of the importance and absolute necessity of a thorough union of the Colonies, and particularly with respect to the raising and supporting an Army, to act with the utmost vigour at this alarming crisis; and so fearful of any measures taking place, whereby the common cause may be endangered, that we have unanimously concluded it necessary to suggest to you our fears respecting the effects of this embassy from *Connecticut* to *Gage*; and we expect you will make a proper representation of the sentiments of this Congress to their Assembly, in hopes that you will receive such an explanation of their motives, and such assurances of their intention immediately to co-operate with this Colony, as may remove every gloomy apprehension, and confirm us in that high estimation in which we have ever held the respectable Colony of *Connecticut*.



"P. S. If the Assembly is dissolved, it is expected that you will tarry to treat with the next Assembly.

"To *Jedediah Foster, Timothy Danielson, and John Bliss, Esquires.*"

On motion made,

*Ordered*, That at three o'clock this afternoon, this Congress do take into consideration the Precepts issued by General *Gage* for calling a General Assembly.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Goodman* be directed to take the charge of transmitting, forthwith, the Letter to the Delegates of this Colony, now in *Connecticut*.

*Ordered*, That a postscript be added to said Letter, instructing said Delegates that if their Assembly should be dissolved, they tarry there, to treat with the new Assembly.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

A Letter was presented to this Congress by Esquire *Aikin*, from Mr. *Lemuel Williams*, dated *Dartmouth, May 1st, 1775*, to said *Aikin*, which was read: Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Batchelder*, Esquire *Dix*, Colonel *Farley*, Mr. *Greenleaf*, and Mr. *Bent*, be a Committee to take the said Letter into consideration, and report as soon as may be, and that Esquire *Aikin* be desired to attend on said Committee.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the Precepts for calling a General Assembly, be referred to *Thursday* next, at ten o'clock, A. M.

*Ordered*, That *Deacon Cheever*, Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Gill*, Honourable Mr. *Dexter*, and the President, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, for the purpose of granting liberty to such persons in *Boston* as incline to send into the country for their effects, that so another obstacle may be removed to the liberating of the inhabitants of *Boston*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, President *Warren*, Hon. Mr. *Dexter*, Colonel *Warren*, and Colonel *Gerrish*, be a Committee to forward an express to the honourable Continental Congress, with authenticated copies of the Depositions and Address to the inhabitants of *Great Britain*, and Letter to Mr. *Franklin*, lately sent to *Great Britain*, per Captain *Derby*, of *Salem*; also, to send another original set of said papers by said express, to be forwarded by the vessel in the Southern Colonies, to *London*, and to report an application to be sent by said express to the Continental Congress.

Colonel *Learned* moved, that the sense of this Congress might be taken, whether the Regiment he is now raising, may be a Regiment of *Grenadiers*. The matter was ordered to subside.

A motion was made and seconded, that a Committee be appointed, to take into consideration the expediency of drafting a certain proportion of the Town's stock of Powder, &c., from such Towns as they shall think proper, for the present supply of the Army now establishing in this Colony. The matter was ordered to subside until the Congress had passed upon a Report for giving license to such persons in *Boston* as incline to send into the country for their effects; which Report was read, amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 2, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That such inhabitants of this Colony as have repaired to the Town of *Boston*, there to take up their residence, and have effects in the other Towns of this Government, be permitted, each of them, to send out a servant or other person, without arms, to put up and transport into the said Town of *Boston*, any such goods or effects, excepting arms and ammunition; and that the officers appointed for granting permits at *Roxbury* and *Charlestown*, be, and hereby are directed to provide a suitable attendant to each person so sent out, whose business it shall be to continue with him till he returns, and that permits, agreeable to the intention of this Resolve, be granted."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Freeman*, Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Lewis*, Colonel *Dwight*, and Esquire *Gardner*, be a Committee to consider what measures are proper to be taken

for liberating those persons who were taken prisoners by the Troops under the command of General *Gage*, on the 19th of *April*.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for supplying the Treasury, reported, as to the first step, and asked leave to sit again.\*

All the Committees were enjoined to sit.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, May 3, 1775.

*Ordered*, That *Deacon Cheever* be desired to make application to the Reverend Doctor *Cooper*, to request that he would officiate as Chaplain to this Congress during its session in this place.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Lothrop*, and Mr. *Paine*, be a Committee to forward the Proclamations for a Fast into the country as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That this last mentioned Order be reconsidered; and thereupon,

*Ordered*, That the Committee who were appointed at *Concord* for dispersing the Proclamations, be required to perform their duty with all possible expedition.

On the application from the Committee of Safety relative to supplying Col. *Arnold* with one hundred Pounds, and sundry Warlike Stores,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Greenleaf*, Mr. *Gill*, and Mr. *Partridge*, be a Committee to take said application into consideration, and report.

The Committee on the application from the Committee of Safety reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows:

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 3, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That the within request of the Committee of Safety be granted, and that the Committee of Supplies be, and they hereby are directed to furnish Colonel *Benedict Arnold* with ten Horses, two hundred pounds of Gunpowder, two hundred pounds of Lead Balls, and one thousand Flints, at the expense of the Colony; and that said Committee draw upon *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, Receiver-General, for one hundred Pounds, in favour of said *Arnold*, and take his receipt for the whole, said *Arnold* to be accountable therefor to this or some other Congress, or future House of Representatives."

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Warren*, Doctor *Holten*, Mr. *Dix*, Colonel *Farley*, and Doctor *Taylor*, be a Committee to ascertain the power of the Committees of Supplies and of Safety, and to see whether it be necessary that they be invested with other powers than they now have.

The Committee appointed to bring in the form of a Resolve, empowering the Treasurer to borrow a certain sum of Money, and the form of a Note to be by him given to the lender, &c., reported. The Report was amended, read, and accepted, and is as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is empowered and directed to borrow the sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, lawful money, and issue Colony securities for the same, payable with annual interest, at six per cent., *June 1st, 1777*; and that the Continental Congress be desired to recommend to the several Colonies to give a currency to such securities.

*Resolved*, That the Securities given by the Receiver-General for the Moneys borrowed by him, in pursuance of the foregoing Resolve, be in the form following, viz:

"No. . . . The . . . day of . . . . . A. D. 177 . . .

"Borrowed and received of A. B. the sum of . . . . . Pounds, lawful money, for the use and service of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*; and in behalf of said Colony, I do hereby promise and oblige myself and my successors in the office of Treasurer or Receiver-General, to repay to the said A. B., or to his order, on the first day of

\* The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for supplying the Treasury, beg leave to report, as the first step, that the Receiver General be empowered and directed to borrow the sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, and issue Colony securities in the form following, payable with annual interest, at six per cent., in the year 1777; and that when the subscription is filled up, the Continental Congress be desired to recommend it to the several Colonies, to give a currency to such securities in all payments whatsoever, and that a Resolve pass for that purpose. The Committee ask leave to sit again.

S. DEXTER, per order



June, 1777, the aforesaid sum of . . . . . Pounds, lawful money, in *Spanish* milled dollars, at six shillings each, or in the several species of coined silver and gold enumerated in an act for ascertaining the rates at which coined silver and gold, *English* half-pence and farthings, may pass within this Government, and according to the rates therein mentioned, with interest, to be paid annually, at six per cent.

A. B. }      Witness my hand,      H. G.  
C. D. } £  
E. F. }

The Committee on the Letter from Mr. *Lee* to Doctor *Taylor*, reported verbally, that a copy of said Letter be forwarded to our Members of the Continental Congress.

Upon a motion, the question was put, whether the above Report be accepted, and passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That in all orders for impressing Horses and Carriages, the Horses and Carriages of the Members of this Congress be excepted, and that a copy of this Resolve be sent to the Committee of Safety and Committee of Supplies.

*Ordered*, That at three o'clock this afternoon, the Congress will take into consideration the propriety of establishing pay for a Brigade Major.

*Ordered*, That at five o'clock this afternoon, the Congress will come to the choice of a Committee of three persons (by ballot) to procure a Copperplate for printing the Colony Notes, and to countersign them.

*Ordered*, That the Committee who reported a Resolve relative to borrowing Money, &c., bring in a Resolve that no note be given by the Receiver-General for a less sum than four Pounds.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve that no note be given by the Receiver-General for any sum less than four Pounds, reported; the Report was amended and accepted, and is as follows:

"Whereas, inconveniences may arise by the Receiver-General issuing notes for small sums:

"*Therefore, resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is, directed not to issue any notes for a less sum than four Pounds, lawful money."

The Report of the Committee appointed to take into consideration the advance pay to the Soldiers, was taken up and read, but as part of the Report is superseded by a Resolve in the morning:

"*Therefore, ordered*, That the Report be recommitted, and that part thereof which hath been superseded be left out, and that each Soldier be allowed twenty Shillings, lawful money, advance.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Parker*, Colonel *Howe*, and Colonel *Farley*, be a Committee to take into consideration the propriety of establishing pay for a Brigade Major.

The above Vote was reconsidered.

The Committee appointed to report the form of an Oath, reported; the Report was read, and recommitted.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller* and Captain *Brown*, of *Watertown*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for a Committee to procure a Copperplate for printing the Colony Notes, and to countersign them.

The Committee having attended that service, reported, that the Honourable *Samuel Dexter*, Esquire, Doctor *Joseph Warren*, and Mr. *Moses Gill*, were chosen.

Mr. *Cheever*, who was appointed to wait on the Reverend Doctor *Cooper*, and desire his attendance on this Congress to officiate as their Chaplain, reported, that he had attended the service assigned him, and that the state of the Doctor's affairs was such that he could not attend, according to the desire of the Congress.

The Committee appointed to report a Letter to the Continental Congress, reported; the Report was read and accepted, and ordered to be copied, and forwarded as soon as may be.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Davis* be desired to wait on the Reverend Mr. *Gordon*, and desire that he would attend on this Congress, and officiate as their Chaplain during their session in the Town of *Watertown*.

The Committee who were appointed to take under consideration the advance pay to the Soldiers, reported; the Report was recommitted, and Captain *Stone* and Doctor *Taylor* added to the Committee.

The Committee who were appointed to consider what measures are proper to be taken for liberating those persons who were taken prisoners by the Troops, under General *Gage*, on the nineteenth of *April*, reported a Resolve; which was read and accepted, and *Ordered*, that any Member who desires a copy may have one.\* The Resolve is as follows:

"In Provincial Congress, *Watertown*, }  
"May 3, 1775. }

"Whereas, a number of the inhabitants of this Colony were taken prisoners by the Troops, under the command of General *Gage*, on the nineteenth of *April* last, and are by him so held:

"*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Congress, that an application be sent to General *Gage*, signed by the wives or nearest relations of such prisoners, and the Selectmen of the Towns to which they respectively belong, desiring that he would discharge their friends from their said imprisonment; and they are empowered hereby to offer to send in to the General an equal number of his Troops, now in the hands of this people, who were taken prisoners on the aforesaid nineteenth of *April*, upon his liberating their friends as aforesaid."

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 4, 1775.

Colonel *Davis*, who was appointed to wait upon the Reverend Mr. *Gordon*, to desire that he would officiate as Chaplain to this Congress, reported that he had waited upon Mr. *Gordon*, and that Mr. *Gordon* informed him that he would attend accordingly.

The Committee who were appointed to take into consideration the advance pay to the Soldiers, again reported; which Report was read, amended, and accepted, and ordered to be authenticated, and sent forthwith to Head-Quarters. It is as follows:

"Whereas, the distressed state of this Colony, at this alarming crisis, calls for its utmost exertions that the Army now to be raised be forthwith completed:

"*Therefore, resolved*, That each non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier, who has or shall enlist himself into the service of this Colony, shall have twenty Shillings paid him out of the Receiver-General's Office, as an advance; and that the Commanding Officer of each Regiment, who shall be empowered to act as Muster-Master for his said Regiment, shall draw from the Receiver-General's Office the sum of twenty Shillings for each Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier in his said Regiment, and pay the same, according to the tenour of this Resolve, as soon as said men shall have enlisted themselves and be duly sworn, and give his bond (with sufficient surety) to the Receiver-General therefor; said bond to be discharged by a receipt produced by said Officer from each Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier, that he has received the same."

On application made to this Congress for an order on the Committee of Supplies for one barrel of Powder, for the use of the inhabitants of *Falmouth*, in *Casco-Bay*:

*Ordered*, That this matter be referred to the said Committee of Supplies; they to act thereon as they think best.

The Order of the Day moved for.

The absent Members were ordered to be called in.

On a motion made, that a Committee be appointed to bring in a Resolve containing a reconsideration of a Resolve passed by this Congress at *Concord*, the first of *April*

\* IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, WATERTOWN, MAY 3, 1775.

The Committee who were appointed by this Congress to consider what measures are proper to be taken for liberating those persons who were taken prisoners by the Troops under General *Gage*, on the nineteenth of *April*, beg leave to report, they are of opinion, that if an application were sent to General *Gage*, signed by the wives or nearest relations of such prisoners, and the Selectmen of the Towns to which they respectively belong, who are empowered hereby to offer to send in those names, it would be the most effectual method which could be taken for their release; but if such application should be unsuccessful, they think it would be highly expedient for this Congress to consent to an exchange of prisoners; further, to take such measures in assistance to the friends of those unhappy captives as, in their wisdom, they may think will be proper to be taken for that purpose.



last, giving it as their opinion, that "if Writs should be issued for calling a General Assembly, to be held on the last *Wednesday* of *May* next, that the several Towns in this Colony ought to obey such precepts," and to bring in a Resolve recommending to the several Towns and Districts in this Colony not to obey such precepts: after a long and serious debate, the question was put, and it passed in the affirmative. For the question 94; the whole number of the House 107.

Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Gerrish*, Doctor *Holten*, and Colonel *Mandell*, were accordingly appointed for this purpose.

Ordered, That Captain *Stone*, of *Framingham*, Mr. *Bent*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to examine the returns of the several Towns and Districts' stocks of Powder, and to bring in a Resolve recommending to such Towns as they think proper, which are not immediately exposed, to furnish the Towns of *Falmouth* and *Arundel* with one barrel of Powder each.

Adjourned to three o'clock, this afternoon.

Afternoon.

Resolved, That General *Putnam* and Colonel *Porter*, who were, with others of the Committee of Safety, appointed by the said Committee of Safety and the Council of War to lay some special matters before this Congress, be admitted into this House, and that Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Devens*, and Colonel *Gerrish*, be a Committee to introduce them.

The left hand front Pew was assigned them to sit in.

The absent Members were directed to attend.

The said Committee having accordingly attended this Congress, they informed the Congress, that the gentlemen delegated by the Assembly of *Connecticut*, to execute an embassy to General *Gage*, had come out of *Boston* with Letters from him to the Assembly of *Connecticut*, of which they thought it proper to inform this Congress, that they might take order thereon if they thought fit. Whereupon,

Ordered, That the President, Colonel *Warren*, Doctor *Holten*, Colonel *Gerrish*, Colonel *Palmer*, Doctor *Baylies*, Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Gardner*, Mr. *Patridge*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Mr. *Mills*, together with the Committee from the Committee of Safety and Council of War, be a Committee to hold a conference with the said Delegates from *Connecticut*, and to attend forthwith.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of the several Towns, relative to the prisoners of war, reported. Whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Wyman* apply to the Committee of Safety, desiring that they would take such measures with respect to the Colony Stores, and two Regular Officers, with their waiters, now at *Woburn*, as will remove the necessity of keeping so large a guard as is now placed there to guard the same.

The Committee appointed to confer with the *Connecticut* Delegates, reported, that they had conferred with them on the subject of their embassy, and of the Letter to their Assembly from General *Gage*; but that they thought it inconsistent with their honour, and the interest of the Colonies, to open it; but that they would use their influence when they returned, to have the contents of it communicated to this Colony.

Moved, That the Delegates from *Connecticut* be desired to attend this Congress.

After debate, the matter was ordered to subside.

Ordered, That the President, Colonel *Warren*, Colonel *Dwight*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Colonel *Holten*, be a Committee to return the compliments to the gentlemen from *Connecticut*, for their patient attendance to the inquiry made of them by this Congress, respecting their embassy to General *Gage*.

Moved, That the Resolve passed yesterday, respecting advance pay for the Soldiers, be reconsidered, so far as it respects Muster-Masters, and that two Muster-Masters be appointed by this Congress.

After debate, the matter was ordered to subside.

Ordered, That the President, Mr. *Gerry*, and Colonel *Warren*, be a Committee to prepare a Letter to the Assembly of *Connecticut*, respecting their late application to General *Gage*.

Ordered, That Captain *Stone*, Mr. *Mills*, Captain *Mc-*

*Cobb*, Doctor *Perkins*, Colonel *Grout*, and Mr. *Kollock*, be directed to copy the Depositions of the late hostile proceedings of General *Gage's* Troops, to be transmitted to *Connecticut*.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, May 5, 1775.

Ordered, That Deacon *Stickney* and Mr. *Webster* be added to the Committee who were appointed to examine the Returns, and Districts' stock of Powder, &c., May 4, A. M.

Ordered, That Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Batchelder*, and Doctor *Holten*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, relative to an obstruction to the removing the inhabitants of *Boston*, as expressed in a Letter to this Congress from the Selectmen of *Boston*, and other papers; and that said Resolve, when passed, together with the Resolve that passed this Congress the second instant, giving license to those persons in *Boston* who incline to send a servant out for their effects, be authenticated and transmitted to General *Ward*.

The Committee who were appointed to bring in two Resolves respecting General *Gage's* Writs for calling an Assembly, reported; both of which were read and accepted, and are as follows, viz:

Whereas, this Congress did, at their session at *Concord*, on the first day of *April* last, resolve, as their opinion, that if Writs be issued (in form as the law directs) for calling a General Assembly, to be held on the last *Wednesday* of *May* next, that such Writs should be obeyed, &c. And whereas, many reasons now prevail, to convince us that consequences of a dangerous nature would result from the operation of that Resolution: therefore,

Resolved, That the said Vote and Resolution be reconsidered, and it is hereby reconsidered and declared null and void.

Whereas, his Excellency General *Gage*, since his arrival in this Colony, hath conducted as an instrument in the hands of an arbitrary Ministry to enslave this people, and a detachment under his command have of late been ordered to the Town of *Concord*, to destroy the publick Stores deposited in that place for the use of the Colony: and whereas, by this clandestine and perfidious measure, a number of respectable inhabitants of the Colony, without any provocation, have been illegally, wantonly, and inhumanly slaughtered by the Troops: therefore,

Resolved, That the said General *Gage* hath, by these means, and many others utterly disqualified himself to serve this Colony as a Governour, and in every other capacity, and that no obedience ought, in future, to be paid by the several Towns and Districts in this Colony to his Writs for calling an Assembly, or to his Proclamations, or any other of his acts or doings; but that, on the other hand, he ought to be considered and guarded against as an unnatural and inveterate enemy to this Country.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gardner*, Colonel *Dwight*, and Colonel *Warren*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, recommending the several Towns and Districts in this Colony, to choose Delegates for a new Provincial Congress, to be held on the last *Wednesday* of the present month.

The Committee who were appointed to prepare the form of an Oath, to be taken by the Officers and Soldiers of the Army now raising in this Colony, reported; which Report was ordered for the present to subside.

The Committee who were this day appointed to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of removing an obstruction to the liberating the inhabitants of *Boston*, reported; which Report was ordered to be recommitted, and that Mr. *Gill* and Mr. *Patridge* be added to the Committee.

The Committee who were yesterday appointed to prepare a Letter to the Assembly of *Connecticut*, reported a Letter, which was read, amended, and accepted, and is as follows:

To the Honourable the Governour and Company of the Colony of CONNECTICUT:

GENTLEMEN: The Delegates appointed by your respectable Assembly, to treat with General *Gage* on the late unhappy events which have occurred in this Colony, have favoured us with a conference, and communicated the substance of their interview with him. We are greatly alarmed



at the unparalleled wickedness of our unnatural enemies, in endeavouring to persuade our sister Colony that the inhabitants of this first commenced hostilities; a suggestion which we cannot but think will appear absurd, when the great inequality of the *Lexington* Company, and detachment of Regular Troops which attacked them, is coolly considered. But to put this matter in the clearest light, we beg leave to enclose you the copies of depositions, taken by order of this Congress and despatched for *London*, containing the most incontestable evidence that the King's Troops first fired upon and killed several of the inhabitants of this Colony, before any injury was offered to them. We also enclose you the copies of an Address to the inhabitants of *Great Britain*, and of a letter to our Colony Agent, and think it expedient to suspend the publication of the address and letter, until they shall have had their effect in *England*.

The experience which we have had of General *Gage*, hath fully convinced us that but little dependance can be placed in his professions. Whilst he has been collecting his forces, fortifying our capital, and in every other respect preparing for war, we have been amused with his pretension to benevolence and kindness, evidently calculated to retard the measures which we were necessarily pursuing for self-defence. And we are constrained to declare, that should he be at any future time possessed of forces superiour to those raised for opposing him, we should, from his past conduct, have no hopes of escaping the heaviest vengeance which ministerial tyranny could devise, assisted by the most inveterate enemies to mankind in general, and of this their native Country in particular.

On the exertions of the Colonies and blessings of Heaven, we alone can depend for safety and support; and it is clearly the opinion of this Congress, that the establishment of a powerful army is the best and only measure left to bring the present disputes to a happy issue.

It is evidently the business of the General to subjugate these and the other Colonies; and we think there are the most convincing proofs, that, in order to effect it, he is constantly aiming to suspend their operations for defence until his re-enforcements shall arrive. But although we have been under great apprehensions with respect to the advantages which the conference of *Connecticut* with General *Gage* may give our enemies, yet we have the greatest confidence in the wisdom and vigilance of your respectable Assembly and Colony, as well as of our other sister Colonies, and have reason to hope, that while he fails in his intentions to lull and deceive this Continent, he can never accomplish his designs to conquer it.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Letter be fairly copied and authenticated, and committed to the care of Col. *Dwight*, together with the copy of the Depositions respecting the late hostile proceedings of General *Gage's* Troops, attested by the Secretary, to be delivered by Colonel *Dwight* to the Governour and Company of *Connecticut*, as soon as may be.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The Committee who were to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of removing an obstruction to the liberating the inhabitants of *Boston*, again reported; which Report being read and accepted, it was ordered that Mr. *Patridge* carry the same immediately to Mr. *Ward*. It is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That the following Letter be sent to General *Ward*, and a copy of the same to the Selectmen of *Boston*:

In Provincial Congress, May 5, 1775.

SIR: By the enclosed papers you will see that the liberation of our good friends in *Boston* is greatly obstructed; therefore, Sir, you are directed to examine into the matter, and give such orders as shall be effectual for the future; strictly to execute the resolutions of this Congress, respecting permits into the country, and protection of all persons thus permitted; and also communicate your doings hereon to the Selectmen of *Boston* with all possible despatch, that our friends may not be detained any longer; and also that you give directions to your officers, carefully to execute the resolves of Congress in all matters in which they are

to act, without any levity, or indecency of expression or behaviour.

To the Honourable *Artemas Ward*, Esquire.

P. S. The pass given by the Selectmen must be in strict conformity to the resolve of Congress, viz: That the bearer is sent out to put up and transport into the Town of *Boston*, the goods and effects of such persons as have repaired to *Boston*, there to take up their residence.

On a Petition from *Charles Glidden* and others, for a supply of Powder, &c.:

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Taylor* inform said *Glidden*, now in waiting, that this Congress would gladly comply with their request, did not the present exigencies of the Colony make it necessary that all their stock of Ammunition be retained in the Colony Magazine.

The Committee who were appointed to bring in a Resolve, recommending the choice of Delegates for a new Provincial Congress, reported the following, which was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas the term for which this present Congress was chosen, expires on the thirtieth instant, and the exigencies of our publick affairs render it absolutely necessary, for the safety of this Colony, that a new Congress be elected and convened, to consider of and transact the publick affairs thereof:

*Resolved*, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to the several Towns and Districts in this Colony, that they each of them do forthwith elect and depute as many Members as to them shall seem necessary and expedient, to represent them in a Provincial Congress, to be held at the meeting-house in *Watertown*, on the thirty-first day of *May* instant, to be chosen by such only as are qualified by law to vote for Representatives in the General Assembly, and to be continued by adjournment from day to day, as they shall see cause, until the expiration of six months from their being first convened on the thirty-first of this instant, *May*, and no longer, and consult, deliberate, and resolve upon such further measures as, under *God*, shall be effectual to save this people from impending ruin, and to secure those inestimable liberties derived to us from our ancestors, and which it is our duty to preserve for posterity.

*Ordered*, That this last mentioned Resolve, together with the Resolve passed in the forenoon, respecting General *Gage's* precepts, be printed in handbills, and that Major *Fuller*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Esquire *Dix*, be a Committee to get the same printed and dispersed to the several Towns and Districts in this Colony.

The gentlemen who were appointed Delegates for this Colony, to the Colony of *Connecticut*, reported, that they had attended the business to which they were appointed, and had brought a letter from the Speaker of the *Connecticut* Assembly, which they laid before this Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Vote which passed in Congress this day, respecting a Petition made by *Charles Glidden* and others, for Powder and Ball, be reconsidered, and that the Committee of Supplies be, and hereby are desired to furnish the said *Charles Glidden*, for the use of the subscribers to said Petition, one half barrel of Powder, and such a quantity of Lead as will be proper and proportional thereto.

*Resolved*, That the Assembly of *Connecticut* be supplied with the Rules and Regulations which have been recommended to be observed by the Army now raising in this Colony.

On a motion made by Captain *McCobb*, that some measures might be taken to preserve a number of large Masts, Plank, &c., now lying in *Kennebeck* River, and to prevent their being carried to *Halifax*, where they might be used to the injury of this Country:

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be referred to the Committee of Safety, and that Captain *McCobb* be desired to attend the said Committee, and give them all the information he can, relative thereto.

A Resolution of the Committee of Safety, giving it as their opinion, that Government in full form ought to be taken up immediately, was read: Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That the consideration of this matter be referred to *Tuesday* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.



Saturday, May 6, 1775.

Afternoon.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be, and they are hereby empowered to procure Powder, in such quantities as they shall think necessary, not only at *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, but at *New-York*, or any other Colony on the Continent.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sawyer*, Captain *Stone*, and Doctor *Taylor*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of appointing two Officers (one in each Camp) of the Colony Army, whose business it shall be to pass muster on the Soldiers, and draw for them, out of the Treasury, their half month's pay.

*Ordered*, That the President, Colonel *Dexter*, Colonel *Warren*, Doctor *Holten*, and Mr. *Mills*, be a Committee to take into consideration the Letter received yesterday from the Speaker of the General Assembly of *Connecticut*.

A form of a Pass, and Resolve thereon, brought in by Colonel *Warren*, was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

“ *To the Guards of the Colony Army :*

“ Pursuant to a Resolve of the Provincial Congress, you are hereby ordered to permit . . . . ., a Member of said Congress, to pass and repass, with his company, at all times. . . . ., *President pro tem*.

“ *May . . . , 1775.*”

*Resolved*, That the General Officer of the Army of this Colony be, and hereby is directed to give orders to his Officers to pay obedience to all Permits of the foregoing form, signed by the President of this Congress.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Dwight* proceed with the Letters and Depositions, as ordered by this Congress, with all possible speed, to *Hartford*, there to tarry (if, at his discretion, he thinks necessary) until he receives an answer to said Letter, and a copy of the Letter sent by General *Gage* to the Assembly at *Connecticut*; and to inform the said Assembly of the alteration made by this Congress in the pay of the Field-Officers of the Army now raising in this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Whiting*, Major *Fuller*, Colonel *Thurston*, Doctor *Taylor*, Colonel *Field*, Doctor *Sawyer*, and Colonel *Warren*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve containing a reconsideration of the Resolve passed yesterday, respecting the choice of Delegates for a new Congress, so far as to determine what Towns should send Members, and how many Members each Town and District ought to send.

This last Order was reconsidered : Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Rawson*, of *Mendon*, Colonel *Gardner*, Mr. *Thurston*, Esquire *Davis*, and Mr. *Sawyer*, be a Committee to take into consideration an equal representation of this Colony, and report thereon.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Thurston*, Esquire *Dix*, and Mr. *Lothrop*, be a Committee to take into consideration the form of an Establishment for the Train, and report a Resolve thereon.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for the appointment of Muster-Masters, reported.

*Resolved*, That three o'clock this afternoon be assigned for choosing two Muster-Masters, and that they be chosen by ballot.

Col. *Lincoln* brought in a Resolve empowering the Committee of Supplies to import Military Stores from such place, and in such manner and quantities, as they shall judge proper; which was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, in the course of the present disputes with *Great Britain*, it may be necessary to import, on the risk of the Colony, many kinds of Military and other Stores :

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they hereby are empowered and directed to import, or cause to be imported from any place whatever, such and so many Stores aforesaid, as they shall judge necessary for the defence of the Colony, and the same to risk at their discretion, with or without making insurance on the vessels and cargoes which may be so sent out or imported.

*Ordered*, That this Resolve be kept an absolute and entire secret by every Member of this Congress.

*Resolved*, That four o'clock this afternoon be assigned to consider if any method can be taken for settling the appointment of the Field-Officers.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

The Order of the Day was read.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Dix*, Mr. *Gill*, and Doctor *Sawyer*, be a Committee to sort and count the votes for two Muster-Masters; who reported, that General *John Whitcomb* and Colonel *Benjamin Lincoln* were unanimously chosen.

The Report of the Committee respecting the appointment of Muster-Masters, was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That General *John Whitcomb* and Colonel *Benjamin Lincoln* be, and hereby are appointed Muster-Masters in the *Massachusetts* Army, whose business it shall be to pass muster on every Soldier that shall be enlisted into said Army, and by no means to accept of any but such as are able-bodied effective men; and also examine if their Arms and Accoutrements are in proper order. And said Muster-Masters are hereby directed and empowered to receive from *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Receiver-General, or his successors in office, twenty Shillings, lawful money, for each and every Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier thus mustered and sworn, who shall appear with their Arms and Accoutrements; and shall give Bonds to said Receiver-General, with sufficient surety, for such Moneys drawn out of the Treasury; and shall forthwith pay out said sum of twenty Shillings as advance pay to each and every Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier; and on producing Receipts from them to said Receiver-General, said Bonds shall be cancelled.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the Pay of the Muster-Masters be referred to some future time.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Thurston* and Mr. *Sawyer* be a Committee to apply to the Committee of Safety for a list of all such persons to whom they have given encouragement to receive Commissions as Field-Officers of the Army now raising in this Colony; and they are directed to inquire of said Committee of Safety what Field-Officers they expect will be most likely to succeed in filling up their Regiments.

*Ordered*, That Esquire *Rawson*, Mr. *Patridge*, Major *Brooks*, Mr. *Webster*, Colonel *Mosely*, Mr. *Bliss*, and Captain *Stone*, be a Committee to inquire what number of Province Arms there are in the Province, and in what place; and in particular, that they apply to the Committee of Supplies to know what number of Fire-Arms they have procured, and how they have disposed of them.

The Committee who were appointed to consider the form of an Establishment for the Train, reported verbally, that the pay was, in their opinion, reasonable; but as to the number of Matrosses, they were not proper judges. The Establishment was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*An Establishment for the Company of Train, as fixed upon by the Committee of Safety.*

|                                     |            |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
|                                     | Per month. |
| 1 Captain, - - - - -                | £6 10      |
| 2 Lieutenants, each - - - - -       | 4 10       |
| 1 Lieutenant Fire-Worker, - - - - - | 3 10       |
| 4 Sergeants, each - - - - -         | 2 10       |
| 4 Corporals, each - - - - -         | 2 06       |
| 32 Matrosses, each - - - - -        | 2 03       |
| 1 Drummer, - - - - -                | 2 06       |
| 1 Fifer, - - - - -                  | 2 06       |

—

46 men, officers included, in each Company of Matrosses; a blanket and coat, as for rest of the Army.

WILLIAM COOPER, *Secretary*.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Sunday, May 7, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they are hereby empowered and directed to procure at *Connecticut*, *Rhode-Island*, *New-York*, or any other Colony on the Continent, such a number of Fire-Arms and Bayonets for the use of this Colony, as they shall think necessary.

The Committee appointed to make application to the Committee of Supplies, to know what number of Fire-Arms they had procured, reported verbally, that they had not procured any.

On an application made to this Congress by Captain *Benjamin Dunning*, of *Harpwell*, for Powder, this Congress passed the following Resolve, viz :

\*



Whereas the District of *Harpwell*, in the County of *Cumberland*, lies exposed to the ravages of the enemies, and is unprovided with a supply of Powder: therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Selectmen of the Town of *Haverhill*, that they deliver to Captain *Nehemiah Curtis* and Mr. *Benjamin Dunning*, for the use of the said District of *Harpwell*, one barrel of Powder, they paying for the same; which shall be replaced (if needed) as soon as the Colony Magazine can be supplied.

Adjourned to twelve o'clock this day.

Met at twelve o'clock, and adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

Met at four o'clock, and adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Monday, May 8, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lothrop*, Mr. *Patridge*, Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Whiting*, Captain *Stone*, Colonel *Howe*, Colonel *Mandell*, Colonel *Mosely*, Colonel *Pierce*, and Colonel *Thurston*, be a Committee to transcribe the Narrative of the proceedings of the King's Troops on the 19th ultimo, together with Depositions thereof accompanying, to be transmitted to Mr. *Thomas* for immediate publication.

A Letter from a number of the inhabitants of the Town of *Hopkinton*, was read: Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Church*, Colonel *Foster*, and Deacon *Rawson*, be a Committee to prepare an Answer to the Selectmen of that Town, giving the opinion of the Congress on the subject thereof.

The form of an Oath, to be administered to the Officers and Private Soldiers of the Army now raising in this Colony, was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That all Officers and Soldiers of the *Massachusetts* Army now raising for the defence and security of the rights and liberties of this and our sister Colonies in *America*, shall each and every of them, excepting only the General Officers, repeat and take the following Oath, viz:

"I, A. B, swear I will truly and faithfully serve in the *Massachusetts* Army, to which I belong, for the defence and security of the estates, lives, and liberties of the good people of this and the sister Colonies in *America*, in opposition to Ministerial tyranny, by which they are or may be oppressed, and to all other enemies and opposers whatsoever; that I will adhere to the Rules and Regulations of said Army, observe and obey the Generals and other Officers set over me, and disclose and make known to said Officers all traitorous conspiracies, attempts and designs whatsoever, which I shall know to be made against said Army, or any of the *English American* Colonies. So help me God."

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Warren*, Colonel *Gerrish*, and Colonel *Foster*, be a Committee to prepare the form of an Oath to be administered to the General Officers.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Warren*, Esquire *Dix*, and Colonel *Foster*, be a Committee to draw up a Resolve recommending to the Committees of Correspondence of the several Towns and Districts in this Colony, and to the Selectmen of Towns and Districts who have no such Committees, to take effectual care to discover all such persons in their respective Towns, who will not give them an assurance of their good intentions and regard to the interest of this Country; and also to recommend to the people of this Colony to take effectual measures to oblige all who are liable by law to appear in arms in the Militia, to appear when properly called upon by their Officers.

*Resolved*, That the Muster-Masters be and hereby are empowered and directed to administer the Oath to the Officers and Private Soldiers of the Army now raising in this Colony, agreeably to the form prescribed by this Congress.

The Committee who were appointed to prepare a Letter to the Selectmen of the Town of *Hopkinton*, reported the following; which was read and accepted, and ordered to be dated, signed, and delivered to the messenger in waiting:

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 7th instant was duly considered in Congress. We cannot but regret that any persons who have heretofore evidenced their attachment to the rights and liberties of their Country, should, in this day

of trial and hazard, be so far influenced by an inordinate attachment to their personal safety, or the security of their property, as to desert the common interest, and basely refuse to contribute of their wealth, or assist personally in that struggle which they are conscientiously led to approve. Nevertheless, gentlemen, such is the peculiar delicacy of our situation, that true policy suggests we should act with extreme caution respecting these fugitives. A violation of the natural right of an individual to remove his person and effects wherever he pleases, would ill become those who are contending for the inalienable right of every man to his own property, and to dispose of it as he pleases. We would likewise suggest, that should we restrain any inhabitant from conveying his goods to *Philadelphia*, our brethren there might justly arraign us of selfishness in such a transaction; and it would evidence such a distinction of interests in the two Colonies, as might have a tendency to disunite us, at a time when the safety of the whole must ultimately depend upon the firmest confederacy. We are aware of the mischiefs too general a removal might produce; but we have so much confidence in the disinterested virtue of our countrymen, as to indulge hopes that Mr. *Barrett's* example will not become infectious.

We highly approve the steady patriotism and manly jealousy of our brethren in *Hopkinton*, and are, gentlemen, with much esteem, yours, &c.

*Ordered*, That the President *pro tem.*, Doctor *Church*, Doctor *Taylor*, Doctor *Holten*, and Doctor *Dunsmore*, be a Committee to examine such persons as are or may be recommended for Surgeons for the Army now forming in this Colony.

*Resolved*, That the persons recommended by the Commanding Officers of the several Regiments, be appointed as Surgeons to their respective Regiments, provided they appear to be duly qualified, upon examination.

A Letter from the Committee of Correspondence in *Portsmouth*, dated May 6, was received by a messenger express.

The Messenger was admitted on the floor.

*Ordered*, That said Letter be committed for an answer, to Doctor *Church*, the President, and Captain *Foster*.

A Letter from General *Ward* was read: Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Danielson*, Doctor *Church*, Colonel *Foster*, Mr. *Bliss*, and Mr. *Rawson*, be a Committee to take the subject thereof into consideration, and report.

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. *Patridge*.

The Committee on the Letter from *Portsmouth*, in *New-Hampshire*, reported the following Answer; which was read and accepted, and ordered to be copied and sent.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress have considered the subject of your express; are surprised that a gentleman of the character you have mentioned, should have such just reason to complain of unmerited severity from any of our brethren in this Colony. From a regard to justice, as well as to your recommendation, gentlemen, we shall not fail to make immediate inquiry into this transaction; and if any outrage has been offered to innocent persons, the perpetrators, you may be assured, will be properly censured, and the sufferers meet with all that redress which it may be in the power of this Congress to obtain. Be assured, gentlemen, we shall be studious to maintain that character for humanity, which we would wish may ever be the characteristic of *Americans*; and cannot but applaud those generous and benevolent sentiments which influenced you in your application. We are, &c.

The Committee who were appointed to prepare the form of an Oath to be taken by the General Officers, reported; the consideration whereof was referred to some future time.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Mosely* and Major *Bliss* be, and are hereby empowered and directed to collect all the Province Arms which are in the County of *Hampshire*; and that Doctor *William Whiting* be empowered and directed to collect all the Province Arms which are in the County of *Berkshire*.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Trueman Wheeler*, of *Great Barrington*, be desired to assist Doctor *Whiting* in collect-



ing the Province Arms which are in the County of *Berkshire*.

Mr. *Sawyer* informed the Congress, that General *Whitcomb*, on account of his various avocations, could not accept the office of Muster-Master to which he has been appointed: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That this Congress will now proceed to the choice of another person, by ballot, in his room, and that Mr. *Sawyer*, Esquire *Dix*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to sort and count the votes.

On a Motion made, *Resolved*, That this last Resolve be reconsidered, and that to-morrow morning, eleven o'clock, be assigned for the choice of a Muster-Master, in the room of General *Whitcomb*, who declines that trust.

*Ordered*, That Major *Bliss*, Deacon *Whitney*, and Colonel *Patterson*, be a Committee to give notice to such Members of this Congress as are now at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, and other absent Members whom they can notify, that a matter of the greatest importance is to be taken into consideration at three o'clock to-morrow afternoon, and to direct their attendance at that time.

The Committee who were appointed to bring in a Resolve recommending the disarming certain persons in the Colony, reported; which Report was read, amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, there are divers persons now in this Colony, who have, by their conduct, discovered themselves to be enemies to the rights of mankind, and the interest of *America*: and whereas, our very peculiar situation renders it absolutely necessary, not only to discriminate them from those who have shewn a disposition to be friendly to their Country, but also to put it out of their power to join with the open and avowed enemies of *America*, in their endeavours to subjugate their countrymen to the full operations of the tyrannical system of the *British* Administration, and the ruin and destruction concerted by the *British* Parliament against these Colonies: therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be and hereby is recommended to the several Committees of Correspondence in the several Towns and Districts where such Committees reside, and to the Selectmen of such Towns and Districts as have not appointed them, to inquire into the principles and conduct of such suspected persons; and that they cause all such to be disarmed, who do not give them full and ample assurances, in which they can with safety confide, of their readiness to join their countrymen on all occasions in defence of the rights and liberties of *America*; and likewise that they take effectual steps to put it out of the power of such persons to obstruct, by any means whatever, the measures which shall be taken for the common defence; and it is also hereby recommended to the good people of this Colony, that they take effectual care to secure obedience to the several Resolves of Congress for the regulation of the Militia, and cause a due regard to be paid to the orders of the several Military Officers who have been elected by the suffrages of the several Companies and Regiments, agreeably to the Resolves of Congress.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller*, Doctor *Taylor* and Mr. *Webster*, be a Committee to get the Resolve last mentioned, printed and dispersed through the several Towns and Districts in this Colony.

*Ordered*, That the Committee who were appointed to take into consideration the subject-matter of the Letter from General *Ward*, now send a written Message (by the Messenger in waiting) to the General, informing him, that they are considering the same, and will make report as soon as possible.

*Ordered*, That said Committee sit forthwith.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Fisher* be added to said Committee, in the room of Mr. *Bliss*, who is going to *Cambridge* on other business of the Congress.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lothrop*, Doctor *Taylor* and Mr. *Webster*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, recommending to the inhabitants of this Province, to save their Straw.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Mosely*, Esquire *Davis*, Colonel *Walker*, Deacon *Hovey*, Mr. *Lewis*, Captain *McCobb*, and Major *Smith*, be a Committee to confer with the Committee of Safety with respect to settling the appointment of Field-Officers, and to sit forthwith.

Mr. *Gerry* (by leave of Congress) brought in a Resolve,

empowering the Committee of Supplies to furnish Commissaries with necessaries for the Army, &c.; which was recommitted.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from General *Ward*, reported an Answer thereto, which was amended and accepted, and is as follows:

"In Congress, Watertown, May 8, 1775.

"SIR: This Congress received your letter of this day, and the complaint enclosed, informing, that several persons, falsely pretending to have your order to search for fire-arms, have committed robbery on private property. We have taken the matter seriously into consideration, and are of opinion, that such criminals ought to meet with condign punishment.

"The persons suspected to be the offenders are, one *Saunders*, *Samuel Mallows*, *Jacob Whittemore*, *Edward Bugby*, and *Ebenezer Smith*, all of *Roxbury*, with two other persons, unknown; therefore, Sir, you are directed to apprehend the abovesaid persons, by a number of men under your command, and cause them to be carried before the Committee of Safety, who are hereby empowered and directed to examine them, touching their offence, and search for, and, if possible, to find the goods, and direct that they are immediately replaced from whence they were taken.

"And if on examination the said persons are found guilty of the said robbery; the Committee of Safety are hereby directed to imprison them till the further order of Congress."

*Ordered*, That the Committee just now appointed, to confer with the Committee of Safety respecting the appointment of Field-Officers, be instructed to inquire into the state of the Army at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*; and, if they find the numbers reduced, as is reported to this Congress, that they advise the Committee of Safety to send out immediately for re-enforcements.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the expediency of assuming Government, which was to have been entered upon to-morrow afternoon, be postponed to *Friday* next, at three o'clock, P. M.; and that the Committee who were just now appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety, be directed to give notice hereof to the several Members of this Congress, who are now at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, May 9, 1775, A. M.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to give publick notice of the Resolve lately passed by this Congress, for borrowing Money on the credit of the Colony, and assign certain time and place when he will attend that business.

The Congress granted permission to Colonel *Trumbull* to have a copy of the Resolve of this Congress relative to the inhabitants moving out of *Boston*.

*Henry Gardner*, Esq., Receiver-General, requested that this Congress would excuse him from serving any longer in that office.

The consideration thereof was ordered to subside for the present.

Mr. *Gerry* brought in again a Resolve respecting the supply of the Soldiers; which was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, it hath frequently happened that Sutlers, whilst permitted to supply Soldiers in the service of this Colony, have vended their goods at extravagant rates, and thereby, in a great measure, deprived the families of such Soldiers of the benefit of their wages:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they hereby are directed and empowered to purchase and supply the Commissary for the time being, with such Goods, Wares, and Merchandise as they shall at any time judge necessary for supplying the Colony Forces, and to draw on the publick Treasury therefor. And the Commissary aforesaid, as also his Deputies, who shall be accountable to him, are hereby directed and empowered to supply, at the first cost, the soldiers who shall belong to the Regiments in which they shall be stationed, with such articles as their respective Captains shall at any time order; and to keep and render to the Captains aforesaid, true and



exact accounts thereof at any time before the making up of the Muster Rolls: and the said Captains are hereby directed to give orders for such articles only as they judge necessary for their respective soldiers, not exceeding one half of the wages that shall at any time be due to them, and to cause the same to be deducted from their wages on making up the muster rolls.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Church*, the President, Colonel *Dexter*, Colonel *Warren*, and Mr. *Gerry*, be a Committee to prepare a spirited application to General *Gage*, respecting his treatment of the inhabitants of *Boston*.

*Ordered*, That the same gentlemen be a Committee to consider what provision shall be made for furnishing such enlisted Soldiers as are unprovided with Fire-Arms, with such effective Fire-Arms as are necessary for them to carry into the field.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Barrett*, Doctor *Holten*, and Colonel *Danielson*, be a Committee to take into consideration a printed false account of the late excursion of the King's Troops to *Concord*.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Farley*, Doctor *Holten*, and Colonel *Danielson*, be a Committee to sort and count the votes for a Muster-Master.

The Committee appointed to sort and count the votes for a Muster-Master, in the room of Colonel *John Whitcomb*, who declined accepting that trust, reported that Colonel *Asa Whitcomb* was chosen.

A motion was made and seconded, that a Committee be appointed to take into consideration, the expediency of restraining the people of this Colony from supplying the inhabitants of *Boston* with Provisions.

After debate, the question was put, and it passed in the negative.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

—  
Afternoon.

On a motion made, that the Resolve passed yesterday, assigning *Friday* next, three o'clock, P. M., for the consideration of the expediency of assuming Government, be reconsidered, and that an earlier day be assigned for that purpose:

The question was put, and it passed in the negative.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pickering* be added to the Committee appointed to take into consideration an equal representation of this Colony, in the room of Mr. *Rawson*, absent.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sawyer*, Colonel *Foster* and Mr. *Dix*, be a Committee to take into consideration the expediency of establishing Post-Offices and Riders in this Colony.

The Committee who were appointed to prepare a Remonstrance to General *Gage*, reported. The Report was ordered to lie on the table until the further orders of this Congress.

The same Committee, agreeably to their appointment, reported a Resolve relative to furnishing those enlisted Soldiers with Fire-Arms who are unequipped therewith; which, after debate, was ordered to be recommitted.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone*, of *Framingham*, be added to the Committee who was appointed to consider of some measures to be taken with respect to the County Records, in the room of Mr. *Brown*, of *Abington*, now absent.

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of establishing Post-Offices and Riders, in this Colony, reported; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be referred till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

The Committee appointed to consider the false account of the late excursion of the King's Troops, reported; which Report being read, amended, and completed, was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, a printed paper, said to be a circumstantial account of an attack which happened on the 19th of *April*, 1775, on His Majesty's Troops, by a number of the people of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, has been read in this Congress; which contains, among many falsehoods, the following paragraph, viz:

"When Captain *Parsons* returned with the three Companies over the bridge, [at *Concord*,] they observed three

soldiers on the ground, one of them scalped, his head much mangled, and his ears cut off, though not quite dead."

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Barrett* be, and hereby is directed to make strict inquiry of the persons who saw the three soldiers aforementioned lying at the said bridge, and also of those who buried them, and take their depositions, that so the truth or falsity of the aforesaid assertion may be ascertained.

The Committee appointed to consider of some method for furnishing those Soldiers with Fire-Arms who are not therewith equipped, again reported.

The Report was read, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, a few of the inhabitants of this Colony, who are enlisted into its service, are destitute of Fire-Arms and Bayonets, and other accoutrements: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts in this Colony be, and hereby are directed and empowered to examine into the state of the equipment of such inhabitants of their respective Towns and Districts as are, or may be enlisted into the service of this Colony; and where any are deficient in Arms or Accoutrements as aforesaid, it is recommended to the Selectmen to supply them out of the Town Stock; and in case of a deficiency there, to apply to such inhabitants of their respective Towns and Districts, as in their opinions can best spare their Arms or Accoutrements, and to borrow, or purchase the same for the use of said inhabitants so enlisted: and the Selectmen are also directed to take a bill from such persons as shall sell their Arms and Accoutrements in the name of this Colony, and receipts from the soldiers to whom they shall cause them to be delivered, and render the same to the Committee of Supplies for this Colony: and each soldier so supplied, shall pay for the use of such Arms and Accoutrements, out of his wages, the sum of six shillings; and if he does not return the said Arms and Accoutrements, there shall be deducted from his wages, at the time of making up the muster-roll, the full value of said Arms and Accoutrements, as appraised by the Selectmen, at the time of borrowing or purchasing the same. And it is strongly recommended to such inhabitants of the Colony as the Selectmen as aforesaid shall apply to for Arms and Accoutrements, that they supply the Colony with the same.

And as many Arms in this Colony which are now useless may, by small repairs, be rendered fit for service,

*Resolved*, That a sufficient number of Armourers, not exceeding twenty, be appointed by the Committee of Safety, to mend and repair such Arms as shall be brought to them by the Soldiers enlisted into the *Massachusetts Army*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Webster*, Major *Fuller*, and Mr. *Batchelder*, be a Committee to get this Resolve published and dispersed.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—  
Wednesday, May 10, 1775.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety upon the general state of the Army, be directed particularly to confer with them on the propriety of removing the whole or part of the Cannon and Stores now at *Cambridge*, further back into the country.

*Resolved*, That the General Officers be, and are hereby directed, forthwith, to call in all the Soldiers who are already enlisted in the service of this Colony; and that they give immediate orders to all the enlisted Soldiers, and all others now in the Camp at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, that they do not depart till the further orders of this Congress.

A Petition from the Committees of Correspondence and the Committees of Inspection for the Town of *Pownalborough*, was preferred by *Joseph Tinkham*.

*Ordered*, That this Petition lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the Resolve passed by this Congress the 23d ultimo, recommending to the Selectmen of the several Towns in this Colony to furnish each Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier with a Blanket, be fairly copied by the Secretary, and printed in a handbill, and sent to the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts in the Colony.

*Ordered*, That the Petition from *Pownalborough* just now read, be delivered to Mr. *Joseph Tinkham*, agreeably to his request.



*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lothrop*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Doctor *Holten*, be a Committee to take into consideration the proceedings of the Town of *Bristol*, presented to this Congress by Mr. *Thomas Bracket*, in behalf of said Town.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve, recommending to the inhabitants of this Colony to save their Straw, reported; which Report was read and accepted, and ordered to be copied and sent to the Printer of the *Cambridge* Newspaper, and to the Printer of the *Worcester* Newspaper for publication, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, it will be indispensably necessary that large quantities of Straw be provided for the use of the Army now forming for the defence and protection of this Colony: therefore,

*Resolved*, And it is hereby strongly recommended to all such inhabitants of this Colony as have or may have of that article by them, that (as they regard the lives and health of their brethren, who engage in the service above-said) they take immediate care the same be preserved for the purpose above mentioned.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Foster*, Mr. *Lothrop*, and Mr. *Pickering*, be a Committee to transcribe the Depositions taken by a Committee of this Congress, of the proceedings of the Troops, under command of General *Gage*, the 19th ultimo, and that they transmit them to Mr. *Hall*, at *Cambridge*, to be published in a pamphlet, and that said Committee agree with him for the expense of publication.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Barrett* attend the business to which he was yesterday appointed, of inquiring into the truth or falsity of a paragraph taken from a printed account of the action of the King's Troops on the 19th ultimo.

The Committee appointed to consider some measures for securing the County Records, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed for each County, on the 12th of *April* last, be instructed to take proper measures for securing the Records of the several Counties, where they are exposed.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

The Committee appointed to consider of the expediency of establishing Post-Offices, &c., reported.

The Report was recommitted, for the purpose of settling the rates of Postage, and taking into consideration some method of establishing Post-Offices. Mr. *Hall*, of *Medford*, and Mr. *Cross*, were added to the Committee; also, Mr. *Batchelder*, in the room of Mr. *Dix*.

*Resolved*, That the Resolve for accepting the establishment for the Train, which passed this Congress the 6th instant, be reconsidered; and that Colonel *Mandell*, Captain *Baker*, Doctor *Taylor*, Major *Perley*, and Colonel *Coffin*, be a Committee to take into consideration the propriety of establishing a Regiment of the Train; and that they sit forthwith.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Colonel *Foster*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, recommending to this Congress to establish a Court of Inquiry.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Richard Gridley* be and hereby is directed forthwith to recommend to the Committee of Safety, for Officers of the Train of Artillery, such persons as he thinks are qualified for that appointment.

On a complaint of the Selectmen of the Town of *Worcester*, against *Samuel Pain* and *William Campbell*, prisoners from that Town; *Ordered*, That said Prisoners be committed to the care of Captain *Brown*, or such persons as he shall appoint, to be kept in custody till the further orders of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to transcribe the Depositions of the late proceedings of the King's Troops, be directed to prepare a Narrative thereof, as an introduction to said Depositions; which are ordered to be printed.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

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Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gill*, Colonel *Warren*, Colonel *Gerrish*, Mr. *Dix*, and Doctor *Perkins*, be a Committee to inquire into the complaint made by the Selectmen of the Town of *Worcester* against *Samuel Pain* and *William Campbell*, and report to this Congress.

The consideration of the Remonstrance to General *Gage* was resumed, and the same was accepted, and ordered to be authenticated, and sent forward.

It is as follows, viz:

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 10, 1775.

"To his Excellency General *Gage* :

"SIR: This Congress have received frequent intelligence, that their brethren, the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, have to contend, in their removal therefrom, with numerous delays and embarrassments, contrary to the stipulation proposed and agreed to between your Excellency and the Selectmen of that Town.

"We think it our duty to remonstrate to your Excellency, that from the papers communicated to us by the said Selectmen, it appeared, that the inhabitants were promised, upon surrendering their arms, that they should be permitted to leave the Town, and carry with them their effects. The condition was immediately complied with on the part of the people; since which, though a number of days have elapsed, but a very small proportion of the inhabitants have been allowed to take the benefit of your covenant.

"We would not affront your Excellency by the most distant insinuation, that you intended to deceive and disarm the people by a cruel act of perfidy. A regard to your own character, as well as the fatal consequences which will necessarily result from the violation of your solemn treaties, must be sufficient reasons to deter a gentleman of your rank and station from so injurious a design. But your Excellency must be sensible, that a delay of justice is a denial of it, and extremely oppressive to the people now held in duress.

"This Congress, though not the original party in the treaty, have taken every step in their power to facilitate the measure; and, in the whole of their conduct, have endeavoured to evidence a disposition to act upon the principles of humanity and good faith; and still indulge hopes, that the confidence of the inhabitants of *Boston* in your Excellency's honour and faithfulness, is not misplaced, and that, notwithstanding any disagreeable occurrences, naturally resulting from the confused state of the Colony, which this Congress have discountenanced, and endeavoured to rectify, your Excellency will no longer suffer your treaty with a distressed people, who ought by no means to be effected thereby, to be further violated."

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the expediency of establishing a Regiment of the Train, reported. Part of the Establishment reported, was accepted; the consideration of the residue was referred to a future time.

*Resolved*, That the Resolve, which this Congress passed at *Concord*, the 13th ultimo, directing the Committee of Safety to engage a suitable number of persons for forming six Companies of the Train, be so far reconsidered, as that it be, and hereby is *Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be directed to engage a suitable number of persons, and form ten Companies of the Train for the artillery already provided by this Colony, to enter immediately on constant discipline, and be in readiness to enter the service of the Colony; and that said Committee be, and they are hereby empowered to draw on the publick Treasury, for said Companies, a suitable consideration for their services.

The Petition of *Timothy Langdon* was read, and ordered to lie on the table till some of the eastern Members should be present.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary be directed, pursuant to a request of the Committee of Safety, to furnish them with copies of all such Resolves as have passed the Congress, in any ways relative to the duty enjoined them.

The Secretary *pro tempore* represented to the Congress, that the multiplicity of the business of his office was such, as made it necessary that he should have some assistance. Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone*, of *Oakham*, assist him in that service.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the Army, and to settle the appointment of the Field-Officers, reported a Letter from Head-Quarters.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the complaint of the Selectmen of the Town of *Worcester* against *Samuel Pain* and *William Campbell*, reported; which Report



was accepted, and ordered to be transmitted and delivered to Captain *Jonas Hubbard* and Mr. *Edward Crafts*, who exhibited the above complaint, together with a printed Resolve of Congress, lately passed, for disarming the disaffected inhabitants of the Colony.

The Report is as follows, viz :

"The Committee appointed to hear the complaints exhibited by the Selectmen of *Worcester* against *William Campbell* and *Samuel Pain*, have attended that service; heard the parties, and beg leave to report: That we find the charges against them proved by depositions, and conceded by them; and that *William Campbell* has been guilty of leaving the Town of *Worcester* without a permit from the Selectmen, contrary to his own engagements.

"And that the said *Samuel Pain* has, in one instance, propagated reports with regard to our *Massachusetts* soldiers' rifling the house of Mr. *Bradish*, instead of the regular Army; and that those which were quartered in the colleges were lousy, and deserted in great numbers; which, however indiscreet, does not appear to us to be done with any bad design; and that he ought to be dismissed immediately; and that the said *Campbell* may be returned to the Town of *Worcester*, to be dealt with by the Committee of Correspondence of that Town, agreeably to a Resolve of this Congress, passed the 8th instant. The matter, however, we think, not important enough to be brought before this Congress."

The consideration of the Petition of *Timothy Langdon* was again resumed, and ordered to lie on the table.

Ordered, That Captain *McCobb*, Mr. *Lewis*, and Doctor *Perkins*, be a Committee to take into consideration the several applications made to this Congress from the eastern parts of the Province, for Arms and Ammunition.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Thursday, May 11, 1775, A. M.

The Petition of *James Cargill*, of *New-Castle*, committed to the Committee who were appointed to examine the applications to this Congress for Ammunition, &c.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the several applications to this Congress for a supply of Ammunition, &c., reported. The Report was recommitted, and the Committee directed to inspect the list of Returns of the Town's stock of Powder, &c., that it may be known whether this Congress can, with prudence, recommend to any Town which may be stocked therewith, to supply those Towns which are destitute.

Adjourned to twelve o'clock, this day.

Noon.

Congress met agreeably to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider the several applications made to this Congress for Ammunition, and to inspect the list of Returns, &c. reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, the Towns of *Falmouth* and *Arundel*, and the District of *Cape Elizabeth*, being seaport places, and much exposed to the rage of our enemies, and not having a sufficient quantity of Gunpowder to defend themselves in case of any long attack; and the Town of *Andover* being well stocked with Gunpowder, and not so much exposed: therefore,

Resolved, And it is hereby recommended to the Selectmen of the Town of *Andover*, that they deliver to Mr. *Joseph McLellan*, of *Falmouth*, two half barrels of Gunpowder for the use of the Town of *Falmouth*; also, deliver to Mr. *Zebulon Trickey*, of *Cape Elizabeth*, one half barrel of Gunpowder for the use of said *Cape Elizabeth*; also, deliver to Mr. *John Hovey*, of *Arundel*, two half barrels of Gunpowder for the use of said *Arundel*; they paying them for said Powder, which shall be replaced, if needed, as soon as the Colony Magazine can be supplied.

Whereas, the Towns of *Brunswick*, *Pownalborough*, *Bristol*, and *Newcastle*, being seaport places, in the eastern parts of this Colony, and much exposed to the rage and incursions of our unnatural enemies, and not having a sufficient quantity of Gunpowder to defend themselves, in case of any attack; and the Towns of *Marlborough*, *Sudbury*, and *Framingham*, being well stocked with Gunpowder, and not so much exposed: therefore,

Resolved, And it is hereby recommended to the Selectmen of the above mentioned several Towns, that they deliver, as follows, viz: The Selectmen of *Sudbury*, one half barrel of Gunpowder to *Nathaniel Larrabee*, for the use of *Brunswick*; the Selectmen of *Marlborough*, two half barrels of Gunpowder—one to *Joseph Tinkham*, for the use of *Pownalborough*, the other to Lieutenant *John Farley*, for the use of *Newcastle*; the Selectmen of *Framingham*, one half barrel of Gunpowder to *Thomas Bracket*, for the use of *Bristol*; they paying them for said Powder, which shall be replaced, if needed, as soon as the Colony Magazine can be supplied.

Ordered, That each person, now in waiting, who has made application to this Congress for Powder, be served with a copy thereof.

Information being made to this Congress, that two Men-of-War, with Troops, had sailed from *Boston* to *New-York*, with a design, as it is supposed, of frustrating a design of the inhabitants of that Colony and *Connecticut*, to secure the Arms and Ammunition now in the fort at *New-York*:

Ordered, That Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Warren*, and Col. *Lincoln*, be a Committee to prepare a Letter to the Committee of Correspondence of *New-York*, informing them of the sailing of said Men-of-War, and inserting such articles therein, as will put the people upon their guard against any attempt that may be made against them by said Ships.

Ordered, That this Committee prepare said Letter, and forward it forthwith, without waiting to report to this Congress; said Committee laying before this Congress, as soon as may be, a copy of said Letter.

Adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met at four o'clock, according to adjournment, and adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, May 12, 1775.

Moved, That a Committee be appointed, to consider the expediency of recommending to the Selectmen of the several Towns in the Colony, to furnish such as may enlist in their respective Towns with necessaries for their march to Head-Quarters.

The question was put, and it passed in the negative.

Ordered, That Captain *Stone*, Colonel *Warren*, and Mr. *Sullivan*, be a Committee to take into consideration an extract of a Letter from the Honourable *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, of *Falmouth*, to *Samuel Freeman*.

Ordered, That Captain *Stone*, Colonel *Warren*, and Mr. *Sullivan*, above mentioned, be a Committee to take into consideration the expediency of taking measures for raising a company or two of *Indians*.

Resolved, That to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, be, and is now assigned for the purpose of choosing some person to preach a sermon to the Congress on the 31st *May* instant.

Resolved, That all persons who have the care of any Prisoners detained at *Concord*, *Lexington*, or elsewhere, be and hereby are directed to give the Rev. Mr. *Gordon* free access to them, whenever he shall desire it; and it is recommended to all civil Magistrates and others, to be aiding and assisting him in examining and taking Depositions of them and others, without exception.

Ordered, That the establishment for a Train of Artillery be recommended.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan* be added to the Committee appointed for revising the commissions of the Committee of Safety and Committee of Supplies, in the room of Doctor *Holten*, absent.

Resolved, That the several Committees be enjoined to sit, and that this Congress be adjourned to this afternoon, three o'clock.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to consider measures for establishing Post-Offices and Post-Riders, reported. After some debate, the matter was ordered to subside for the present.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

The absent Members were ordered to be called in.



It was then moved, that the sense of the Congress be taken on this question, viz: Whether there is now existing in this Colony a necessity of taking up and exercising the powers of Civil Government in all its parts?

After some debate, it was

*Resolved*, That this Congress will now form itself into a Committee of the Whole House, for consideration of the question in debate.

The Committee having considered thereon, the President, on a motion made, resumed the chair.

The Committee then, by the Honourable *Joseph Warren*, Esquire, their chairman, reported: "That a Committee be raised, for the purpose of reporting to the Congress an application to the Continental Congress, for obtaining their recommendation for this Colony to take up and exercise Civil Government as soon as may be, and that the Committee be directed to ground the application on the necessity of the case;" which Report being read, was accepted, by a very large majority: Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That the President, Doctor *Church*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Danielson*, and Colonel *Lincoln*, be a Committee to prepare an application agreeable to said Report.

A Letter from Colonel *Quincy*, of *Braintree*, to the President, was read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That General *Ward* be, and hereby is directed to order four respectable Officers to escort the President of this Congress to Colonel *Quincy*, at *Braintree*, to-morrow morning.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller*, Mr. *Goodwin*, and Deacon *Whitney*, be a Committee to estimate the damages done at *Concord*, *Lexington*, and *Cambridge*, by the King's Troops on the 19th ultimo, so far as respects private property only.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Mr. *Lewis*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Letter from the Honourable *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, dated May 10, 1775, to his son, Mr. *Samuel Freeman*.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the Report of the Committee who were appointed to bring in a Resolve respecting the establishment of Post-Offices and Post-Riders, be resumed to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

*Resolved*, That the Establishment for a Train of Artillery, which has been accepted by this Congress, be reconsidered, and that the following Report for such an establishment be accepted, viz:

*Resolved*, That the following Establishment be made for ten Companies of Matrosses:

|                              |   |   |                        |
|------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| Captain,                     | - | - | £6 10s. 0d. per month. |
| Captain-Lieutenant,          | - | - | 5 10 0 "               |
| First-Lieutenant,            | - | - | 4 10 0 "               |
| Two Second-Lieutenants, each | - | - | 3 12 0 "               |
| Sergeants, each              | - | - | 2 10 0 "               |
| Corporals, each              | - | - | 2 06 0 "               |
| Six Bombardiers, each        | - | - | 2 04 6 "               |
| Six Gunners, each            | - | - | 2 04 0 "               |
| Thirty-two Matrosses, each   | - | - | 2 03 0 "               |

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, May 13, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of *Topsham*, in the County of *Lincoln*, respecting their being supplied with Powder, was read; and

*Ordered*, That the same be committed to Captain *McCobb*, Mr. *Lewis*, and Doctor *Taylor*.

The Order of the Day, respecting the further consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve respecting the establishing Post-Offices, &c., was taken up, and the blanks for Postmasters being filled up, ordered to subside till the Report on the Letter from the Honourable *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, was read.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a Letter from the Hon. *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, dated May 10th, reported; and, after a long debate thereon, was ordered to be recommitted for amendment.

*Moved*, That a Committee be appointed to count and sort the votes for a Committee to be chosen, by ballot, to appoint Post-Riders. Time assigned for that purpose, three o'clock, P. M.

The Order of the Day was moved for, to choose a gentleman to preach the sermon on the 31st May.

*Moved*, That a Committee be chosen to count and sort the votes. Colonel *Warren*, Captain *Jennison*, and Major *Bliss*, were chosen.

The Committee chosen to count and sort the votes, reported that the Rev. Dr. *Langdon* was chosen.

*Moved*, That a Committee of three persons be appointed, to wait on the Rev. Dr. *Langdon*, and acquaint him that this Congress have made choice of him to preach a sermon to the Congress of this Colony on the 31st instant, and desire his compliance therewith. Colonel *Gerrish*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Doctor *Sawyer*, were chosen accordingly.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Resolve, respecting the taking a third set of the Depositions relative to the battle of *Lexington*, reported; which Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That *William Read*, *William Stickney*, *Thaddeus Mason*, *Jonathan Hastings*, *Jonathan Cummins*, *Josiah Johnson*, *Duncan Ingraham*, *Jonas Dix*, and *Simmon Tufts*, Esquires, be, and they hereby are required to take a third set of the Depositions relative to the battle of *Lexington*, similar to the two sets already by them taken; and they are empowered to summon, or cause to be summoned, such inhabitants of this Colony as they shall think proper, to attend them at any time and place in this country which they shall direct, for the purposes mentioned; and all such persons as shall be summoned by the Justices aforesaid, are hereby directed punctually to obey their summons.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pitts*, Mr. *Gill*, and Mr. *Sawyer*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Letter from Mr. *John Peck*, respecting his confinement, to the Selectmen of *Boston*, and the said Selectmen's Letter to this Congress on the same subject.

The Committee reported their amendment of the Report on the Honourable *Enoch Freeman's* Letter. Referred to the afternoon.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Report of the Committee respecting the Honourable *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire's Letter, was taken up, amended, and accepted.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of *Topsham*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, the Town of *Topsham*, being a seaport place, in the eastern part of the Colony, and much exposed to the rage and incursions of our unnatural enemies, and not having a sufficient quantity of Gunpowder to defend themselves in case of an attack, and the Town of *Wrentham* being well stocked with that article: therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be and hereby is recommended to the Selectmen of the above-said Town of *Wrentham*, to deliver one half barrel of Gunpowder to Mr. *Prince Rose*, for the use of the Town of *Topsham*, he paying them for said Powder, which shall be replaced, if needed, as soon as the Colony Magazine can be supplied.

*Resolved*, That the Order of the Day, on the subject of Post-Riders, be now taken up; when Captain *Jonathan Brown*, *Jonas Dix*, Esq., and Deacon *Cheever*, were chosen a Committee to count and sort the votes for a Committee to establish Post-Riders; which Committee was chosen, and the blanks in the Resolve, respecting Post-Offices, being filled up with said Committee's names, the Resolve was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, As the opinion of this Congress, that Post-Riders be immediately established, to go from *Cambridge*, and to ride the following roads, viz: To *Georgetown*, in the County of *Lincoln*; to *Haverhill*; to *Providence*; to *Woodstock*, by *Worcester*; and from *Worcester* to *Great Barrington*, by *Springfield*; and to *Falmouth*, in the County of *Barnstable*. And that Post-Offices be kept as followeth, viz: one at *Cambridge*; one at *Salem*; one at *Ipswich*; one at *Haverhill*; one at *Newburyport*; one at *Kennebunk*, or *Welles*; one at *Sandwich*; one at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*; one at *Georgetown*, County of *Lincoln*; one at *Worcester*; one at *Spring-*



field; one at *Great Barrington*; one at *Plymouth*; and one at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Barnstable*.

And it is further resolved, That Mr. *James Winthrop* be appointed Postmaster for the Town of *Cambridge*; Mr. *Edward Morris*, for *Salem*; Mr. *James Foster*, for *Ipswich*; Mr. *Simeon Greenough*, for *Haverhill*; Mr. *Bulkeley Emerson*, for *Newburyport*; Captain *Nathaniel Kimball*, for *Kennebunk*; Mr. *Samuel Freeman*, for *Falmouth*, in *Cumberland*; Mr. *John Wood*, for *Georgetown*; Mr. *Isaiah Thomas*, for *Worcester*; Mr. *Moses Church*, for *Springfield*; Doctor *William Whiting*, for *Great Barrington*; Mr. *Joseph Nye*, third, for *Sandwich*; *William Watson*, Esquire, for *Plymouth*; and Mr. *Moses Swift*, for *Falmouth*, in *Barnstable*.

And that Captain *Jonathan Brown*, *Jonas Dix*, Esq., and *David Cheever*, Esquire, be a Committee to give directions for the setting off and returning of the Posts in their several routes, and to appoint the number of Riders, and to agree with them. And to agree also with the Postmasters for their services. And that the Rates of and Duties for Postage of Letters, &c., be as follows, viz:

|                                        |           |          |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| For any distance not exceeding         | 60 miles, | 0s. 5½d. |
| Upwards of 60 miles, and not exceeding | 100       | 0 8      |
| Upwards 100                            | 200       | 0 10½    |
| Upwards 200                            | 300       | 1 1      |
| Upwards 300                            | 400       | 1 4      |
| Upwards 400                            | 500       | 1 6½     |
| Upwards 500                            | 600       | 1 9      |
| Upwards 600                            | 700       | 2 0      |
| Upwards 700                            | 800       | 2 2½     |
| Upwards 800                            | 900       | 2 5      |
| Upwards 900                            | 1,000     | 2 8      |

The above rates to be paid in lawful money of this Colony.

The above Rates are for the Postage of a Single Letter. They are to be doubled for all Double Letters; trebled for all Treble Letters; and for every ounce weight four times as much to be charged as for a Single Letter; and that the Postmasters be accountable to the aforesaid Committee for what they shall receive. And that the foregoing Rules and Orders continue until the Continental Congress, or the Congress, or future House of Representatives of this Colony, shall make some further order relative to the same.

The Committee appointed to draw a Resolve respecting a Court of Inquiry, reported; and,

Ordered, That *Monday*, at three o'clock in the afternoon, be assigned for taking the same into consideration.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Sunday, May 14, 1775.

Met, and adjourned to twelve o'clock.

At twelve o'clock met, and adjourned to three o'clock.

At three o'clock met again.

Moved, That a Committee be appointed to apply to the Committee of Safety for a list of such persons as they have given Listing Orders to, that this Congress may commission such as they think proper without delay.

Resolved, That the further consideration of this matter be referred until to-morrow morning.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Monday, May 15, 1775, A. M.

Resolved, That four o'clock, in the afternoon of this day, be assigned for making choice of two persons, Members of this Congress, to attend the Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire*, on *Wednesday* next.

The Order of the Day was moved for, and read.

Resolved, That *David Cheever*, Esquire, for reasons by him offered, be excused from serving in the business to which he was appointed by a Resolve of this Congress, passed the twelfth instant, for establishing Post Offices and Post-Riders; and that Mr. *William Greenleaf*, *Joseph Greenleaf*, Esquire, and Mr. *John Pitts*, be added to the Committee therein appointed.

Resolved, That five o'clock, this afternoon, be assigned for the choice of a person to serve on the Committee of Supplies, in the room of Colonel *Lee*, deceased.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to prepare an application to the Continental Congress, be directed to

insert a clause therein, desiring that the said Congress would take some measures for directing and regulating the *American Forces*.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Introduction to the Depositions relating to the late affair at *Lexington*, reported. The same was recommitted, for the purpose of examining it, to find if the Narrative contained in the said Introduction be supported by the Depositions, and to add such other Depositions as may be procured.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fisher*, Colonel *Field*, and Mr. *Bullen*, be a Committee to examine the Letters of Governor *Hutchinson*, lately discovered, and report to this Congress such Letters and Extracts as they think it will be proper to publish.

Ordered, That Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Sawyer*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to take into consideration the subject of a Letter, read in Congress, from *William Watson*, Esquire, to Colonel *Warren* and Mr. *Lothrop*.

Colonel *Barrett*, who was appointed to take a Deposition at *Concord*, reported; the Deposition reported was ordered to be committed to the Committee who were appointed to prepare an Introduction to the Depositions.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration Extracts of a Letter from the Honourable *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, reported a Letter to the Eastern Tribes of *Indians*; which was accepted, and ordered to be authenticated, and sent to Mr. *John Lane*, to be communicated to them.

The Committee appointed to consider a Letter from *William Watson*, Esquire, of *Plymouth*, reported the following Resolve; which was accepted, and ordered to be printed, and dispersed to the several Towns in the Colony, and is as follows, viz:

"Whereas, some of the inhabitants of this Colony, and most of them such as have been inimical to the Constitution and interest of the same, are now (after having united themselves with our enemies in reducing us to the distresses and difficulties we are labouring under) taking steps to remove themselves and effects out of this Colony into the Government of *Nova-Scotia* and elsewhere, in order to avoid their proportion of the burdens necessarily incurred for our defence: to prevent which, it is

"Resolved, That no person be, from this time, permitted to move his Goods and Effects out of this Colony, unless he shall obtain the permission of the Committee of Correspondence of the Town he belongs to, or (if no such Committee be there appointed) of the Selectmen, or the majority of them, under their hands, for that purpose, but by the leave of this or some future Congress. And the several Committees of Correspondence, or Selectmen, where there are no such Committees, are hereby directed to be very vigilant in observing the motions of all such persons whom they may have reason to suspect, and to see that this Resolve be carried into full execution."

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to consider the Extracts of a Letter from the Honourable *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, reported a Resolve respecting an Embassy to *Canada*; which being read, and amended, was accepted, (and a copy ordered to be authenticated and sent to the Selectmen of *Falmouth*,) and is as follows, viz:

"Whereas, it is absolutely necessary for the interest and safety of this Colony, in its present unhappy situation, that the most certain intelligence from *Canada* of the designs and manœuvres of the inhabitants of that Colony should be obtained as speedily as possible: And whereas, the Selectmen of the Town of *Falmouth* having been alarmed by reports, which had prevailed in the eastern parts of the Colony, that the *Canadians* would soon attack them on their frontiers, and thereby bring not only themselves, but the whole Colony, into a still more deplorable situation: and judging it of the utmost importance, that the truth or falsity of such reports should be known without delay, have employed Mr. *Jabez Matthews* and Mr. *David Dinsmore* to go across the woods to *Quebeck*, in order to observe the motions of the people there, and, as far as possible, to gain a knowledge of their intentions:

"Therefore, resolved, That this Congress do approve of the care and attention of the Selectmen of *Falmouth* to the general interest of the Colony.



"And it is hereby recommended to the said Selectmen, that they transmit the intelligence that they may receive by them, together with the expenses of the said Embassy, to this, or some future Congress of this Colony, with all convenient speed, that the account of their expenses may be adjusted and allowed out of the Treasury of the Colony."

The Order of the Day was moved for.

The Report of the Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for establishing a Court of Inquiry, was read; and is as follows, viz:

"Whereas, it appears to this Congress that a want of a due and regular execution of Justice in this Colony has encouraged divers wicked and disorderly persons not only to commit outrages and trespasses upon private property and private persons, but also to make the most daring attacks upon the Constitution, and to unite in their endeavours to disturb the peace and destroy the happiness and security of their Country: and whereas, this Congress conceive it to be their indispensable duty to take effectual measures to restrain all disorders and promote the peace and happiness of this Colony, by the execution of Justice in criminal matters: therefore,

"Resolved, That a Court of Inquiry be immediately erected, consisting of seven persons, to be chosen by this Congress, whose duty it shall be to hear all complaints against any person or persons for treason against the Constitution of their Country, or other breaches of the publick peace and security, and to determine and make up judgment thereon, according to the laws of this Province, and those of reason and equity: no judgments to be made up or punishments inflicted in consequence of them, unless in such cases where five of the Judges so appointed were agreed; any three of said Judges to have power, upon complaint made, to cause any person or persons complained of to be imprisoned until the said Court can be convened to hear the same, or for any further orders of Congress which may be thought necessary; five of said Judges to be a quorum, and to be vested with the full powers of the Court, and to meet and sit in such place or places as they shall agree on.

"Resolved, That . . . . . be, and they hereby are appointed as Judges of the said Court of Inquiry, to execute the trust agreeably to the above Resolve."

After debate, the question was put, whether said Report be accepted? And it passed in the negative.

Ordered, That the Committee who reported a Letter to the Eastern Tribes of Indians, be directed to prepare instructions to Mr. John Lane, who is appointed to communicate the Letter to them, and enlist a Company of them in the service of the Colony.

Ordered, That Mr. Gill, Mr. Bliss, and Mr. How, be a Committee to sort and count the votes for two persons, Members of this Congress, to repair to the Congress of the Province of New-Hampshire.

The Committee last mentioned, reported, that the Honourable Joseph Gerrish, Esq., and Colonel Ebenezer Sawyer, were chosen.

Ordered, That Colonel Dexter, Colonel Warren, and Colonel Foster, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for supplying the Soldiers with two Twenty Shilling Bills each, for a month's advance pay, and they are directed to draw up a form for said Bills, and employ an Engraver to prepare a plate for engraving the same without delay; and

Resolved, That to-morrow morning, ten o'clock, be assigned for the consideration of the Report of said Committee thereon.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to prepare an application to the Continental Congress, sit forthwith.

Ordered, That Mr. Gill, Mr. Bliss, and Mr. How, be a Committee to sort and count the votes for a Member of the Committee of Supplies, in the room of Colonel Lee, deceased.

The Committee last mentioned, reported that Mr. John Pitts was chosen.

Ordered, That Colonel Barrett, Esquire Rawson, and Mr. Webster, be a Committee to take into consideration a Petition to this Congress from Mr. Boice and Mr. McLean, of Milton.

Ordered, That Mr. Lothrop, Colonel Warren, and Mr. Jennison, be a Committee to draw up some instructions to the Delegates appointed to go to the Congress of New-Hampshire.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, May 16, 1775, A. M.

Ordered, That Doctor Taylor, Mr. Greenleaf, and Captain Dix, be a Committee to apply to the Committee of Safety for a list of such persons as they have given Listing Orders to, and, in particular, a list of such as have completed, or nearly completed their respective Regiments, and, as far as can be speedily obtained, the number of men each Officer has enlisted, that this Congress may commission such persons as they think proper, without delay.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of Messrs. Boice and McLean, reported. A long debate was had thereon, and it was finally determined that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

Ordered, That Mr. Sullivan, Captain Stone, Colonel Farley, Major Brooks, and Doctor Rawson, be a Committee to take into consideration a verbal information of the capture of three Vessels, by a King's Cutter, at Dartmouth, and the retaking two of them, and fifteen Marines, prisoners.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Henry Gardner, Esq., having renewed his request that this Congress would excuse him from serving the Colony in the office of Receiver-General:

Resolved, That the determination of this matter be referred until to-morrow morning, ten o'clock; and if Mr. Gardner should then insist on being excused, that then the Congress will proceed to the choice of some other person to supply his place.

The Committee appointed to prepare an application to the Continental Congress, reported the following, which was read, paragraph by paragraph, and accepted, viz:

Resolved, That Doctor Church be ordered to go immediately to Philadelphia, and deliver to the President of the honourable American Congress, there now sitting, the following application, to be by him communicated to the Members thereof. And the said Church is also directed to confer with the said Congress, respecting such other matters as may be necessary to the defence of this Colony, and particularly the state of the Army therein. [See Folio 620.]

The Committee appointed to prepare Instructions to the Delegates who are going to New-Hampshire, reported the following, which was accepted, viz:

Resolved, That the Honourable Joseph Gerrish, Esquire, and Colonel Ebenezer Sawyer, who are, by this Congress, chosen a Committee to wait on the Delegates of the Colony of New-Hampshire, are hereby empowered and directed to take such methods, and make such application to the said Congress, as shall, in the judgment of said Committee, appear most conducive to the union of the Colonies, and the most direct way to induce said Congress of New-Hampshire to raise their proportion of men to defend the Colonies.

And it is also Resolved, That the said Committee be furnished with a copy of the application of this Congress to the Honourable Members of the Continental Congress, which the said Committee is directed to deliver to the President of the Congress of that Colony, and to do all that they can to procure the approbation of that Colony to our assuming Government, and to communicate to said Congress such of the proceedings of this Congress as they shall think conducive to the good of the whole.

Ordered, That the said Delegates be furnished with a copy of the Establishment for the Massachusetts Army, Rules and Regulations for the same, and form of the Oath for the Officers and Soldiers.

A Letter from Col. Thomas Legate, dated Cambridge, 16th May, 1775, was read, and committed to Col. Foster, Mr. Parker, and Mr. Bliss.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for supplying the Soldiers with two Twenty Shilling Bills, for a month's advance pay, again reported.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

Ordered, That Colonel Foster, Major Bliss, and Mr. Bent, be a Committee to sort and count the votes for a



Member of this Congress to go to *Philadelphia*, with the application of this Congress to the Continental Congress.

The Committee reported that Doctor *Benjamin Church* was chosen.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letter from Colonel *Legate*, reported; which Report, being read and amended, was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, it is of the utmost importance that the men who shall be enlisted into the Artillery Company should be well qualified for that employment; and it being impossible to enlist the men for the Artillery at large in the Colony so soon as the service requires: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Officers of the Artillery be allowed to enlist the men from the several Regiments already engaged, when the men are willing to engage in that service, until the whole Artillery establishment shall be completed. Always provided, that such enlistments shall be no prejudice or hindrance to the Officers with whom such men are already enlisted, in entitling them to their respective commissions, and that not more than four men be taken from any one Company. And the Officers of the Train of Artillery are directed to use their endeavours to enlist as many (who are not under any previous engagement in the Army) as they can speedily; and the Officers from whose Regiment or Company any person is enlisted into the Train of Artillery, are also directed to fill up their said Regiment or Company with all convenient speed, by enlisting other Soldiers in the place of those enlisted into the Train of Artillery.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Pitts*, Doctor *Taylor*, the President, and Mr. *Batchelder*, be a Committee, to consider what measures it would be expedient to take, relative to the prisoners in *Boston*, and the inhabitants which are there kept in duress.

The Committee appointed to apply to the Committee of Safety for a list of Officers, &c., reported verbally, that they had no other list than what they had before sent to the Congress; that they had received no returns, and knew not how many had enlisted, or whether any Regiments were completed.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Barrett*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Mr. *Fuller*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Petition from the inhabitants of *Canaan* and *Norridgewock*, on *Kennebeck* River, and report.

The Committee who were appointed to consider the information from *Dartmouth*, reported. The Report was recommitted for further examination and inquiry into the affair.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Freeman* and Doctor *Holten* be added to the Committee appointed to examine *Hutchinson's* Letters.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Wednesday, May 17, 1775.

A Letter from *Edward Mott* to this Congress, dated 11th May, 1775, giving an account of the taking of the Fortress at *Ticonderoga*, was read, together with a Letter from *Ethan Allen*. Also an application from Col. *Easton* and others; whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Foster*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Doctor *Holten*, be a Committee to introduce Colonel *Easton* to this House, to give a narrative of that transaction, and that each Member have liberty to ask him any questions.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President, Doctor *Taylor*, Colonel *Foster*, Doctor *Holten*, and Mr. *Cross*, be a Committee to take the same into consideration and report.

A Resolve from the Committee of Safety, relative to the seizing the servants and friends to Government, (improperly so called,) was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That three o'clock, P. M., be assigned for the purpose of considering the expediency of making out a Commission to General *Ward*.

The Congress appointed two other Monitors, viz: Mr. *John Hale* and Captain *Woodbridge Brown*.

The Resolve and form of an Oath to be taken by the General Officers, were read, amended, and accepted, and are as follow, viz:

*Resolved*, That the General Officers of the *Massachusetts* Army, now raising for the defence and security of the rights and liberties of this, and our sister Colonies in *America*, shall, each and every of them, repeat, take, and sub-

scribe the following Oath, to be administered by . . . , viz:

"I, *A. B.*, do solemnly swear, that, as a General Officer in the *Massachusetts* Army, I will well and faithfully execute the office of a General, to which I have been appointed, according to my best abilities, in defence and for the security of the estates, lives, and liberties, of the good people of this, and the sister Colonies in *America*, in opposition to Ministerial tyranny, by which they are, or may be oppressed, and to all other enemies and opposers whatsoever. That I will adhere to the Rules and Regulations of said Army, established by the Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, observe and obey the Resolutions and Orders which are, or shall be passed by said Congress, or any future Congress, or House of Representatives, or legislative body of said Colony, and such Committees as shall be by them authorized for that purpose; and that I will disclose and make known to the authority aforesaid, all traitorous conspiracies, attempts, and designs whatsoever, which I shall know to be made, or have reason to suspect are making, against the Army, or any of the *English American* Colonies."

*Ordered*, That *Jonas Dix*, Esq., be directed to take Depositions, relative to the destruction of private property by the King's Troops, on the nineteenth ultimo, and their driving women in child-bed out of their houses, and killing old men unarmed.

*Henry Gardner*, Esq., informed the House that he was willing to continue to serve this Colony in the office of Receiver-General.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Kollock*, Deacon *Nichols*, and Mr. *Rawson*, be a Committee to consider what steps are proper to be taken for the relief of such of the inhabitants of *Boston* as come over to *Charlestown*, who are not able to take care of themselves.

The Committee appointed to consider the account of taking the Fortress of *Ticonderoga*, reported the following Resolve, and Letter to the Assembly of *Connecticut*, which were accepted, and the Letter ordered to be authenticated and sent forward:

GENTLEMEN: We have the happiness of presenting our congratulations to you on the reduction of that important fortress, *Ticonderoga*. We applaud the conduct of both the officers and soldiers, and are of opinion, that the advantageous situation of that fortress makes it highly expedient that it should be repaired, and properly garrisoned. In the mean time, as we suppose that there is no necessity for keeping all the cannon there, we should be extremely glad if all the battery cannon, especially brass cannon, which can be spared from that place, or procured from *Crown Point*, (which we hope by this time is in the hands of our friends,) may be forwarded this way, with all possible expedition, as we have here to contend with an Army furnished with as fine a train of artillery as ever was seen in *America*. And we are in extreme want of a sufficient number of cannon to fortify those important passes, without which we can neither annoy General *Gage*, if it should become necessary, nor defend ourselves against him.

We therefore must most earnestly recommend this very important matter to your immediate consideration; and we would suggest it, as our opinion, that the appointing Colonel *Arnold* to take charge of them, and bring them down, with all possible haste, may be a means of settling any disputes which may have arisen between him and some other officers, which we are always desirous to avoid, and more especially at a time when our common danger ought to unite us in the strongest bonds of unity and affection.

We are, gentlemen, &c.

This Congress having received authentick intelligence that the Fort at *Ticonderoga* is surrendered into the hands of Colonel *Ethan Allen* and others, together with the Artillery and Artillery Stores, Ammunition, &c., thereunto belonging, for the benefit of these Colonies, occasioned by the intrepid valour of a number of men under the command of the said Colonel *Allen*, Colonel *Easton* of the *Massachusetts*, and others; and by the advice and direction of the Committee for that expedition, the said Colonel *Allen* is to remain in possession of the same and its dependencies, until further order:

*Resolved*, That this Congress do highly approve of the same; and the General Assembly of the Colony of *Con-*



*necticut* are hereby desired to give directions relative to garrisoning and maintaining the same, for the future, until the advice of the Continental Congress can be had in that behalf.

And as this Colony is in want of some Battering Cannon for their defence immediately, it is further *Resolved*, That the President of this Congress be desired to write to the General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*, desiring that they would give order for the immediate removal of some of these Cannon to this Colony, for the purpose aforesaid.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition from the inhabitants of *Canaan* and *Norridgewock*, reported.

The question being put, Whether the Report shall be accepted? it passed in the negative.

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Foster*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Captain *Farley*, be a Committee to prepare a Commission for General *Ward*.

The Committee appointed to consider of the verbal information from *Dartmouth*, reported verbally, "That the inhabitants of *Dartmouth* be advised to conduct themselves (with respect to the prisoners they have taken) agreeably to the direction of the Committee of Inspection for that Town."

After a long debate, it was moved that the consideration of this matter should subside.

And the question being put, it passed in the affirmative.

And the matter accordingly subsided.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary be directed to inform the gentlemen from *Dartmouth*, of the determination of the Congress, respecting the information from *Dartmouth*, and the reason thereof.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to revise the Commission of the Committee of Safety, sit forthwith, and report as soon as may be. That Mr. *Sullivan* be excused, and that Colonel *Foster* and Deacon *Fisher* be added to this Committee.

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Church* be allowed one Servant to attend him in his journey to *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That the Letters relative to taking the Fortress of *Ticonderoga*, be delivered to the Committee of Safety.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to prepare an Establishment for Post-Offices, &c., be directed to bring in a Resolve, for the purpose of empowering the Committee, who were appointed to agree with the Post-Riders, &c., to take Bonds of the Postmasters, and appoint oaths to be taken by the Postmasters and Post-Riders; and that Colonel *Foster* be excused, and Captain *Stone* and Mr. *Greenleaf* be added to the Committee.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 18, 1775, A. M.

The Committee who were appointed to revise the Resolves respecting the Committee of Safety, reported:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That three o'clock, in the afternoon, be assigned for the choice of a Committee of Safety, to consist of thirteen Members, and for the further consideration of said Report.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Rawson*, Mr. *Bullen*, and Colonel *Farley*, be a Committee to consider the practicability of employing Chaplains for the Army out of the number of Clergy of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Gardner*, and Mr. *Sullivan* be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, recommending it to the inhabitants of this Colony not to choose any person to represent them in Congress, who has a Commission in the Army.

The Committee made the following Report; which was read:

In Provincial Congress, May 18, 1775.

Whereas, in all free States, the sword should be subservient to, and under the control of the civil powers of Government; from whence arises the impropriety of the Officers of the Army of this Colony being members of the Congress to be held therein: and whereas, it is absolutely

necessary that every Officer of the Army aforesaid constantly attend his duty therein:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to the several Towns in this Colony that they do not return to the next Congress, to be held here, any Officer of the Army, as a member of said Congress.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller*, of *Middleton*, Mr. *Whittemore*, and Mr. *Bliss*, be a Committee to wait upon the Honourable *James Russell*, Esq., Impost-Master, to know if he has any Publick Moneys, now in his hands.

*Ordered*, That the President, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Colonel *Warren*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, recommending to the inhabitants of this Colony to make no purchases, nor receive any conveyances of Estates, from the Mandamus Counsellors, or other inveterate enemies to the rights of this Country, and that they have no dealings of any kind with such persons.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gardner*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Mr. *Kollock*, be a Committee to consider and inquire into the subject-matter of a Resolve of the Committee of Safety respecting Lady *Frankland*.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Foster*, Doctor *Holten*, Mr. *Bragdon* and Captain *Batchelder*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Falmouth*, and such parts of a Letter from the Honourable *Enoch Freeman*, Esq. to the Secretary, as he may communicate.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Brown*, Mr. *Bayley*, and Captain *Baker*, be a Committee to sort and count the votes for a Committee of Safety.

The Committee appointed to count and sort the votes for a Committee of Safety, reported that the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

|                                   |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Hon. <i>John Hancock</i> , Esq.,  | Capt. <i>Benjamin White</i> , |
| Doctor <i>Joseph Warren</i> ,     | Col. <i>Joseph Palmer</i> ,   |
| Doctor <i>Benjamin Church</i> ,   | Mr. <i>Richard Devens</i> ,   |
| Mr. <i>Abraham Watson</i> ,       | Mr. <i>John Pigeon</i> ,      |
| Colonel <i>Azor Orne</i> ,        | Hon. <i>Benj. Greenleaf</i> , |
| Mr. <i>Nathan Cushing</i> ,       | Doct. <i>Samuel Holten</i> .  |
| Hon. <i>Enoch Freeman</i> , Esq., |                               |

The Report was recommitted for filling up the blanks.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Kollock*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Colonel *Davis*, be a Committee to inquire where the Treasurer may procure Money for the Muster-Masters, to supply the Soldiers with advance pay.

The Committee who were appointed to consider the Resolve of the Committee of Safety respecting Lady *Frankland*, reported as follows:

The Committee appointed to consider the Resolution of the Committee of Safety, respecting the removal of Lady *Frankland*, with her effects, from *Hopkinton* to *Boston*, have attended to that service, and ask leave to report facts as the Committee find them, viz:

That Mrs. *Frankland* hath with her now going into *Boston*, four horses, two chaises, one phaeton, six oxen, two carts, five sheep, one swine, about four hundred of hay, two barrels and one hamper filled with bottled wine, one keg of tongues, six trunks and several small boxes, containing chiefly men and women's wearing apparel, sheeting and other linens, three beds, with their furniture; one gun, one pistol, and one sword, one flask, with a small quantity of powder and lead; about ten bushels of *Indian* corn, and one canister, with a small quantity of tea.

As a number of people at or near the place where the above articles are confined, appear to be greatly irritated at Mrs. *Frankland's* proceeding to *Boston*, the Committee think it their duty to report facts. Which is submitted.

Per order:

HENRY GARDNER.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Craft* be and hereby is directed forthwith to attend this Congress.

Mr. *Craft* accordingly attended; and having heard the allegations against him, and having made his defence, withdrew.

The Congress then *Resolved*, That he should be gently admonished by the President, and be assured that the



Congress were determined to preserve their dignity and power over the Military.

Mr. *Craft* was again called in, and the President politely admonished him, agreeably to the Resolve of Congress.

*Resolved*, That Lady *Frankland* be permitted to go into *Boston* with the following articles, viz: seven trunks; all the beds, and furniture to them; all the boxes and crates; a basket of chickens, and a bag of corn; two barrels and a hamper; two horses and two chaises, and all the articles in the chaise, excepting arms and ammunition; one phæton, some tongues, hams and veal, and sundry small bundles.

Which articles having been examined by a Committee from this Congress, she is permitted to have them carried in without any further examination.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, May 19, 1775.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Bond* be and hereby is directed to appoint a Guard of six men to escort Lady *Frankland* to *Boston*, with such of her effects as this Congress have permitted her to carry with her; and Colonel *Bond* is directed to wait on General *Thomas* with a copy of the Resolves of this Congress respecting Lady *Frankland*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Ezekiel Hall*, of this Town, be recommended to the Generals of our Colony Army, in order to have such aid as they can afford him in going into or out of *Boston*, or sending some suitable person there, which appears to be necessary, in order to save some of his valuable effects, which there is reason to fear were exposed by the late fire.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Warren* wait on General *Ward*, directing him to attend this Congress forthwith, to receive his Commission; and also on the Committee of Safety, for a list of such Colonels and other Officers as they shall report to be prepared for receiving their Commissions.

A Letter from the Committee of Correspondence of *Connecticut*, was read, respecting the taking of *Ticonderoga*: Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry* prepare an answer thereto, informing them what steps this Congress have taken relative to that affair.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Perkins* and Captain *Baker* be added to the Committee who were appointed to inquire where the Treasurer can borrow money.

*Resolved*, That all persons who may have any Goods or Chattels belonging to Lady *Frankland*, now in their custody, which are not mentioned in the Resolve of this Congress for allowing her, with certain effects, to go into *Boston*, be and hereby are directed to permit her to send them to *Hopkinton*, or dispose of them in any way agreeable to her, not inconsistent with the Resolves of this Congress.

The Committee appointed to consider what steps may be taken for the relief of such of the inhabitants of *Boston* as come over to *Charlestown*, &c., reported: Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Cheever*, Colonel *Davis*, and Captain *E. Withington*, be a Committee to bring in a list of names of persons to fill up the blank in said Report.

Mr. *Gerry* reported an Answer to a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence of *Connecticut*, which was accepted.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Holten*, Mr. *Whittemore*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to take into consideration the Representation made to this Congress by Colonel *Warren*, by desire of General *Ward*, of the necessity there is that the Army should be immediately supplied with Iron Pots, as well as an additional stock of Powder; as also for providing a House for the abode of *Joseph Trumbull*, Esquire, of *Connecticut*, and another for the Chairman and the other Members of the Committee of Safety.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Representation made to this Congress by Colonel *Warren*, by desire of General *Ward*, made the following Report:

That they applied to the Committee of Supplies respecting the want of Iron Pots for the use of the Army; and also of an additional stock of Powder, and received for answer, that Mr. *Gerry* would wait upon the Congress this

afternoon, and inform them respecting the same. And said Committee beg leave further to report; as their opinion, that a Resolve be brought in empowering *Joseph Trumbull*, Esquire, of *Connecticut*, to use and improve the house of *John Borland*, Esquire, late of *Cambridge*, until further orders of this Congress, or some future Congress, or House of Representatives; and also a Resolve empowering the Committee of Safety to use and improve the house of *John Vassall*, Esquire, late of *Cambridge*, until further orders of this Congress, or some future Congress, or House of Representatives; said houses to be improved as above expressed, as soon as General *Ward* shall provide for the soldiers in said houses in some other places.

The Report of the Committee for revising the Commissions of the Committee of Safety, after being read, paragraph by paragraph, was amended and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, the former Congresses of this Colony have chosen, and by divers Resolutions have empowered, *John Hancock*, Esquire, Doctor *Joseph Warren*, Doctor *Benjamin Church*, Captain *Benjamin White*, Colonel *Joseph Palmer*, Mr. *Richard Devens*, Mr. *Abraham Watson, Jr.*, Mr. *John Pigeon*, Colonel *Azor Orne*, *Nathan Cushing*, Esq., Colonel *William Heath*, Colonel *Thomas Gardner*, Colonel *Asa Whitcomb*, Mr. *Edward Durant*, and Mr. *James Sullivan*, to be a Committee of Safety; and by virtue of the authority of that office, on certain occasions, to cause to be assembled the Militia of this Colony, for the defence of the inhabitants thereof; and which Committee of Safety are, by the Resolutions of said Congresses, empowered to do several other acts for the service of the Colony, as by the Journals and Records of said Congresses appears:

It is *Resolved*, That whatever the said Committee of Safety, or any of them, have done pursuant to the said Resolutions of said Congress, shall be held good and valid, and that the said inhabitants of said Colony shall be held thereby, as well according to the true intent and meaning of said Resolutions, as according to the strict letter thereof.

And whereas, there appears to be still a deficiency of power in said Committee, considering the particular exigencies of the Colony, and it being necessary to have their Commission as concise and explicit as possible, which can be done only by consolidating the powers intended by the several Resolutions of this as well as the former Congresses, to be given them; it is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That all and every Resolution now in force respecting the said Committee of Safety, shall be and hereby are repealed, revoked, and rendered null and void.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, Doctor *Joseph Warren*, Doctor *Benjamin Church*, Captain *Benjamin White*, Colonel *Joseph Palmer*, Mr. *Richard Devens*, Mr. *Abraham Watson*, Mr. *John Pigeon*, Colonel *Azor Orne*, Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquire, Mr. *Nathan Cushing*, Doctor *Samuel Holten*, and Honourable *Enoch Freeman*, Esq., be a Committee of Safety for this Colony hereafter, until some further order of this or some future Congress or House of Representatives of this Colony shall revoke their or either of their appointment.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the said Committee of Safety shall be, and hereby are empowered, when they shall think it necessary, in defence of the lives and properties of the inhabitants of this Colony, to assemble such and so many of the Militia thereof, and them to dispose and place where, and detain so long, as the said Committee of Safety shall judge necessary, and to discharge said Militia when the safety of this Colony will admit of it; and the Officers of the said Militia are hereby enjoined to pay strict obedience to the orders and directions of the said Committee of Safety.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the said Committee of Safety shall be, and hereby are empowered to direct the Army of this Colony to be stationed where the said Committee of Safety shall judge most conducive to the defence and service of the Colony; and the General, and other Officers of the Army, are required to render strict obedience to such orders of said Committee; provided always, that it shall be in the power of this, or any future Congress, to control any order of the said Committee of Safety, respecting this or any other matter.



And whereas, the former Committee of Safety were, by a Resolve of this Congress, empowered to nominate persons to this Congress to be commissioned to be officers in the Army now establishing for the defence of this Colony; and said Committee having already given orders to a number of persons to enlist men for that purpose:

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety now appointed proceed in that matter, that such officers, where the Regiments are completed, may be commissioned by this Congress; and if any Regiment should be nearly completed, and the officers thereof ready to be commissioned, agreeably to the Resolve of this Congress, during the time between the dissolution of this Congress and the meeting of the next, the said Committee shall have power to fill up and deliver out Commissions to them; and blank Commissions, signed by the President of this Congress, and attested by the Secretary, shall be delivered to the said Committee for this purpose.

And it is also *Resolved*, That any five of the said Committee be a quorum, with full power to transact any business which the Committee, by the Resolves above, are empowered and vested with authority to do.

*Ordered*, That Letters be sent to the Honourable Benjamin Greenleaf, Esquire, and the Hon. Enoch Freeman, Esquire, informing them of their being chosen Members of the Committee of Safety, and requesting their attendance as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That Mr. John Pigeon be, and he hereby is appointed and empowered as a Commissary for the Army of this Province, to draw from the Magazines which are or may be provided for that purpose, such Provisions and other stores, as from time to time he shall find necessary for the Army; and he is further empowered to recommend to the Congress such persons as shall be necessary, and as he shall think qualified, to serve as Deputy Commissaries; and said Deputy Commissaries, when confirmed by the Congress for the time being, shall have full power to act in said office, and are to be accountable to the Commissary for their doings; also, said Commissary is empowered to contract with and employ such other persons to assist him in executing his office, as shall be by him found necessary; and his contracts for necessities to supply the Army during the late confused state of the Colony, shall be allowed; and the Committee of Supplies are hereby directed to examine, and if they find them reasonable, considering the exigencies of the times, to draw on the Treasury for payment of the same.

The form of a Commission for General Ward was read, amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

"The Congress of the Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY to the Honourable ARTEMAS WARD, Esquire, greeting:

"We, reposing especial trust and confidence in your courage and good conduct, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, the said Artemas Ward, to be General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces raised by the Congress aforesaid, for the defence of this and the other American Colonies. You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a General, in leading, ordering, and exercising the said Forces in arms, both inferior Officers and Soldiers, and to keep them in good order and discipline; and they are hereby commanded to obey you as their General; and you are yourself to observe and follow such orders and instructions as you shall, from time to time, receive from this or any future Congress, or House of Representatives of this Colony, or the Committee of Safety, so far as the said Committee is empowered, by their commission, to order and instruct you for the defence of this and the other Colonies, and to demean yourself according to the military rules and discipline, established by Congress in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. By order of the Congress:

" . . . . . President pro tem.

" . . . . . the . . . . . of . . . . . A. D. 1775.

" . . . . . Secretary pro tem."

*Ordered*, That Colonel Foster, Captain Stone, and Mr. Webster, be a Committee to get the Depositions and Narrative of the late excursion of the King's Troops to

Concord, printed in a pamphlet, on the best terms they can; and that they forward one pamphlet to each Town and District in the Colony.

*Resolved*, That there be a blank left in the Commissions to be given the Officers of the several Regiments of the Colony Army, for the rank of the Regiment, and that . . . . . be a Committee to settle the ranks of the Regiments, when the Regiments are completed.

*Resolved*, That the same Committee be directed to bring in a Resolve, settling the rank or number of the Regiments, according to the rank or age of the Counties from whence the majority of the Regiments shall come.

*Resolved*, That the rank of the Regiments, where there are more than one in each County, be according to the rank which those Regiments formerly sustained in the old arrangement, from which they are taken, provided that can be ascertained; and where that cannot be determined, the rank to be determined by lot.

*Resolved*, That the Commissions be all of one date, and that the rank of the Officers be determined by this Congress, or by a Committee from this Congress at some future time.

*Resolved*, That Colonel Samuel Gerrish have a Commission for a Colonel in the Army, and that the oath be administered to him by Mr. Gardner, the Receiver-General; also, that Commissions, as Captains, issue for Richard Dodge, Jacob Gerrish, and William Rogers; Commissions to bear date the 19th May.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, May 20, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Colonel Foster, Doctor Holten, and Major Brooks, be a Committee to confer with Mr. Revere, respecting his proposal for an alteration in the value of the Colony Notes, which have been ordered to be struck off.

*Ordered*, That Colonel Thurston, Esquire Aikin, and Mr. Crane, be a Committee to take into consideration a Petition from a number of the inhabitants of Deer Island.

The Committee appointed to consider the case of the prisoners in Boston, and the inhabitants which are there kept in duress, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas this Congress did, on the 30th of April last past, pass a Resolve for permitting such inhabitants of the Colony to remove into Boston, "with their effects, fire-arms and ammunition excepted," as should incline thereto; it being in consequence of General Gage's promise to the inhabitants of Boston, that upon resigning their arms and ammunition they should have liberty to remove from said Town with their effects: And whereas but a small proportion of the said inhabitants of Boston have been hitherto permitted to leave the Town, and those only to bring their clothing and household furniture, they being constrained to leave their provisions and all their other effects: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That General Ward be, and he hereby is directed to order the Guards in future not to suffer any provisions or effects, excepting furniture and clothing, to be carried into the Town of Boston, so long as the said General Gage shall suffer the persons or effects of the inhabitants of said Town, contrary to his plighted faith, to be restrained.

The Committee appointed to confer with Mr. Revere, brought in the following Resolves, which were accepted, and the Secretary directed to erase from the Minutes the Resolve which passed this Congress for issuing Colony Notes of ten Shillings each:

Whereas this Congress did, on the fourth day of this instant, May, pass a Resolve in the following form, viz:

*Resolved*, That each Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier, who has or shall enlist himself into the service of this Colony, shall have twenty Shillings paid him out of the Receiver-General's office, as advance pay, and that the Commanding Officer of each Regiment, who shall be, and hereby is empowered to act as Muster-Master to his said Regiment, shall draw from the Receiver-General's office the sum of twenty Shillings for each Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier in his said Regiment, and pay the same, according to the tenor of this Resolve, as soon as said men have enlisted themselves, and been duly sworn, and give his Bond, with sufficient sureties, to the Receiver-



General therefor; said Bond to be discharged by a receipt produced by said Officer from each Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier, that he has received the same.

And whereas this Congress have, by a subsequent Resolve, superseded the appointment of the Muster-Masters aforementioned, and directed that Colonel *Benjamin Lincoln* and Colonel *Asa Whitcomb*, be appointed Muster-Masters in the *Massachusetts Army*, whose business it shall be to pass muster on every Soldier that should be enlisted into the said Army, and by no means to accept of any but such as are able-bodied and effective men, and also to examine their Arms and Accoutrements, &c., that they are in proper order; and said Muster-Masters are thereby directed and empowered to receive from *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, Receiver-General, twenty Shillings, lawful money, for each and every Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier then mustered and sworn, and as shall appear with their Arms, &c., and shall give Bond to said Receiver-General, with sufficient sureties for such moneys drawn out of the Treasury, and shall forthwith pay out said sum of twenty Shillings advance pay, to each and every Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier, and on producing receipts from them to said Receiver-General, said Bonds shall be cancelled: And whereas it is found that sufficient ready cash cannot be obtained so soon as it will be needed for the purpose aforesaid: therefore,

*Resolved*, That each Non-commissioned Officer and Private Soldier aforesaid, (if he will accept the same,) shall, instead of twenty Shillings advance pay, upon the muster aforesaid, receive forty Shillings advance pay in three Notes, on interest from the Receiver-General, to be paid in one year from the date of said Notes; and that for all such sums as the said Col. *Lincoln* and Col. *Whitcomb* shall receive of the Receiver-General in Notes as aforesaid, they give Bonds, and that such Bonds be discharged by receipts, as in and by the last mentioned Resolve is directed.

*Ordered*, That the President, Major *Hawley*, General *Whitcomb*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Palmer*, Colonel *Lincoln*, and Colonel *Foster*, be a Committee to consider what measures are proper to be taken, for organizing the *Massachusetts Army* in the most effectual and ready manner.

*Resolved*, That for the payment of advance pay to the *Massachusetts Army*, there be issued by the Receiver-General, on the credit of this Colony, a sum not exceeding Twenty-Six Thousand Pounds, lawful money, in Notes of the following denominations, viz: of Twenty Shillings, of Eighteen, Sixteen, Fifteen, Fourteen, Twelve, Ten, Nine, and of Six Shillings; to be four thousand three hundred and thirty-three of each denomination, and no more; and to be of the form following, viz:

#### COLONY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

No.

May 25, 1775.

The possessor of this Note shall be entitled to receive, out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of . . . . . Shillings, lawful money, on the twenty-fifth day of *May, Anno Domini 1776*, with interest, at the rate of six per cent. per annum. And this Note shall be received in all payments at the Treasury, at any time after the date hereof, for the principal sum, without interest, if so paid before the said 25th day of *May, Anno Domini 1776*.

Receiver-General.

Which Notes shall be received in all payments in this Colony; and no discount or abatement shall be made thereon in any payment, trade, or exchange whatsoever.

The Committee appointed to consider the practicability of providing Chaplains for the Army, reported.

The Report was read, and recommitted.

The Petition of *Benjamin Thompson* to the Committee of Safety, was read, and ordered to subside.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider the practicability of providing Chaplains, was again read, accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, it is necessary that Chaplains should be appointed in the *Massachusetts Army*, under the command of the Honourable *Artemas Ward*, Esquire, which, if appoint-

ed on the establishment made by this Colony, will greatly enhance the Colony debt:

And whereas, it has been represented to this Congress, that several Ministers of the Religious Assemblies within this Colony have expressed their willingness to attend the Army aforesaid in the capacity of Chaplains, as they may be directed by this Congress: therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to the Ministers of the several Religious Assemblies within this Colony, that, with the leave of their several Congregations, they attend said Army in their several Towns, to the number of thirteen at one time, during the time the Army shall be encamped; and that they make known their Resolutions to the Congress thereon, or to the Committee of Safety, as soon as may be.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the President be desired to deliver to General *Ward* the Commission prepared for him by this Congress, as General and Commander-in-Chief of the *Massachusetts Forces*.

*Ordered*, That Major *Brooks*, Colonel *Mitchell*, Esquire *Rawson*, Esquire *Dix*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to examine the prisoner at the door, brought from Head-Quarters, and report some order to be taken thereon.

The President communicated to Congress the request of the Selectmen of *Boston*, that the Congress would permit Mr. *Hall* to carry two loads of Hay into *Boston*, one for himself and one for another person, (Lieutenant-Governour *Oliver* :) Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That the messenger in waiting be dismissed.

*Resolved*, That only the Colonels of each Regiment should attend this Congress to receive their Commissions, unless they should be indisposed, or otherwise necessarily prevented; in which case the next Field-Officer may apply for his Commission, and Commissions for the inferior Officers in his Regiment.

The Honourable Mr. *Dexter* having, by order of Congress, administered the Oath to General *Ward*, his Commission was delivered to him by the President.

The following Commissions were likewise delivered, viz:

To *Thomas Cogswell* and *John Wood*, Captains, under command of Colonel *Gerrish*.

*Ephraim Doolittle*, Colonel; *Ebenezer Learned*, Colonel; *Joseph Reed*, Colonel; *James Bricket*, Lieutenant-Colonel, under Colonel *James Fry*; *Calvin Smith*, Major, under Colonel *Joseph Read*.

*Danforth Keys*, Lieutenant-Colonel, *Jonathan Holman*, Major, under Colonel *Ebenezer Learned*.

*Ebenezer Clap*, Lieutenant-Colonel, under Colonel *Joseph Read*.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the Captains of Col. *Fry's* Regiment, agreeably to a list exhibited.

*Resolved*, That nine o'clock next *Tuesday* morning, be assigned for taking into consideration the expediency of giving Lieutenants' Commissions to the Subaltern Officers.

*Resolved*, That three o'clock next *Tuesday* afternoon, be assigned to consider a Motion made by Colonel *Doolittle*, for appointing a Muster-Master for the enlisted Companies at *Northfield*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Brown* and Esquire *Dix* be a Committee to procure a Guard over the prisoners from Head-Quarters; and that the Guard who conducted them from thence be now released.

Adjourned until to-morrow afternoon, at four o'clock.

Sunday, May 21, 1775.

Met at four o'clock, and adjourned until to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, May 22, 1775.

The Committee on the Petition from the inhabitants of *Deer Island*, reported as follows, viz:

The Committee on the Petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Deer Island*, so called, in the County of *Lincoln*, beg leave to report: That they have made inquiry of the bearer of the Petition, Major *Low*, and find that the people there are greatly in want of provisions, and ought to be relieved; but whether it will be best to remove them from the Island, or to supply them with one hundred and fifty bushels of Corn, one hundred bushels of Potatoes, two barrels of Pork, twenty Cod-lines, with leads and hooks, and a small quantity of Salt, we submit to the Congress.



*Ordered*, That the consideration of this Report be deferred until there is a fuller House.

The Committee appointed to consider what measures should be adopted in relation to the Estates of persons unfriendly to the Country, reported the following Resolve, which was accepted, and ordered to be published in the Newspapers printed in *Cambridge* and *Salem*:

Whereas a number of men, some of whom have, in times past, by the good people of this Province, been raised to the highest places of honour and trust, have become inimical to this Colony; and merely on principles of avarice, have, in conjunction with the late Governour *Hutchinson*, been trying to reduce all *America* to the most abject state of slavery; and, as well to avoid the just indignation of the people as to pursue their diabolical plans, have fled to *Boston* and other places for refuge: therefore,

*Resolved*, That those persons, among whom are the Mandamus Counsellors, are guilty of such atrocious and unnatural crimes against their Country, that every friend to mankind ought to forsake and detest them, until they shall evidence a sincere repentance, by actions worthy of men and christians; and that no person within this Colony shall take any Deed, Lease, or Conveyance whatever, of the Lands, Houses, or Estates of such persons. And it is hereby recommended to the Committee of Inspection, in every Town in this Colony, to see this Resolve fully enforced, unless in such cases as the Congress shall otherwise direct.

A Letter was received from General *Ward*, recommending that the Ordnance, Arms, and Ammunition mentioned in the following List, be immediately procured and sent to Head-Quarters, for the supply of the Army of *Massachusetts*, viz:

Thirty Twenty-Four-Pounders, and if that number of Cannon cannot be obtained, that the weight of metal be made up with Eighteen-Pounders, double fortified; ten Twelve-Pounders; eighteen Nine-Pounders; twenty-one thousand six hundred pounds of Powder, and eighty Balls for each gun; one thousand five hundred Stands of Arms; twenty thousand pounds of Musket Powder; forty thousand pounds of Lead; seventeen hundred Iron Pots.

This Congress having requested the Reverend Doctor *Langdon* to deliver a Sermon before the next *Massachusetts* Congress, at their meeting in this place on the last *Wednesday* of this month, and he having signified that he will comply with such request:

*Resolved*, That it is the desire of this Congress, that the Reverend Ministers of the Gospel in this Colony would assemble at that time, agreeable to their ancient custom, and hold a Convention as usual, if they think proper, as, in the opinion of this Congress, the cause of religion, and the political interest of this Colony, may be served by such meeting.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary cause the foregoing Resolution to be published in the Newspapers as soon as may be.

A Letter was received from the Committee of Safety, enclosing a communication from Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, giving information of the surrender of *Ticonderoga*.

*Ordered*, That the following Letter to Colonel *Arnold*, reported by a Committee, be accepted, signed by the Secretary, and forwarded in the name and behalf of this Congress, as soon as may be. [See the Letter, Folio 676.]

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Hale*, and Mr. *Kollock*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Letter communicated this day by the President from the Honourable *James Russell*, Commissioner of Imposts, dated *Charlestown*, May 19; and, in particular, to inquire into Mr. *Russell's* right of making the contract therein mentioned, and the circumstances of it, and report as soon as may be.

Tuesday, May 23, 1775.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from *Brownfield*, reported, that they find by the bearer of the Letter that the inhabitants have some Arms, Powder, &c., and are not in danger, except from *Indians*, who are friendly at present; and the state of our affairs calls for such large supplies, that the consideration of their request be deferred till the sitting of the next Congress.

The Report was accepted, and Mr. *Israel Hobart* was

directed to inform the bearer of the Letter of the action of Congress thereon.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve respecting the depredations of the *British* Troops on the Islands and Sea-Coasts, reported as follows:

Whereas, the Troops and Forces under the command of General *Gage* and Admiral *Graves* are frequently plundering and making depredations on the Islands and Sea-Coasts of this Province, from whence they plunder or purchase Hay, Cattle, Sheep, and many other things, to the injury not only of individuals, but also to the great damage of the publick, and thus strengthen the hands of our enemies: therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Towns and Districts on the Sea-Coasts of this Colony, and to all those persons living on the several Islands on said Coasts, that they remove their Hay, Cattle, Sheep, &c., that are exposed to those ravages, and cannot be sufficiently guarded, so far into the country as to be out of the way of those implacable enemies to this people; also, that it be recommended to the Committees of Correspondence in each Town and District, and to the Selectmen, where no such Committee is chosen, that they take effectual care that this Resolve be immediately and strictly put into execution; and that all persons who refuse to comply with the foregoing Resolve shall be held as incorrigible enemies to the rights and liberties of this Country.

This Report being read and amended,

*Ordered*, That the further consideration thereof be referred to the next Provincial Congress.

Whereas *Edward How* hath been brought before this Congress, and charged with crimes committed in the camp; and as this Congress do adjudge the Head-Quarters of the Army to be the most suitable and proper place to try the said *Edward How*, and determine what is adequate to his demerits: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said *Edward How* be sent under a guard to Head-Quarters, and that he be there dealt with as the nature of his offence doth require.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Brown* be directed to see that the said *How* is sent to Head-Quarters with a copy of the foregoing Resolve.

Whereas *Thomas Nicols*, a negro man, hath been brought before this Congress, and there being no evidence to prove any matters or things alleged against him: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said *Thomas* be sent to the Town or District where he belongs, and that the Committee of Correspondence, or Selectmen of said Town or District, take such care of the said *Thomas*, that he may be dealt with as they, in their judgment, shall think proper.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Kingsbury* be directed to appoint some persons to conduct the above-mentioned negro to *Natick*, agreeably to the foregoing Resolve.

The Committee appointed to consider what further measures are necessary to be taken for the organization of the Army, presented their Report; which was read, accepted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed on the twentieth *May* current, to consider what further orders are necessary to be taken and passed, that the Army now raising by this Province for the necessary defence thereof may be effectually officered and organized, have attended that service, and beg leave to report, that they are humbly of opinion that, for the end aforesaid, it is necessary that, over and above the General already appointed for said Army, and commissioned by Congress, the following Officers (not yet ordered by Congress) should be chosen and commissioned, to wit: one Lieutenant-General, two Major-Generals, four Brigadier-Generals, two Adjutant-Generals, and two Quarter-Master-Generals; and that this Congress, before they shall rise, and as soon as shall be convenient, proceed to choose and commission such Lieutenant-General; but that the choice of the rest of the Officers above specified, should be referred to the beginning of the first session of the next Congress. And they beg leave to subjoin, as their opinion, that it will be proper that such Brigadier-Generals should be chosen, and taken of and from among the Colonels who may be commissioned by Congress.

All which is humbly submitted by your Committee, who ask leave to sit again. JOSEPH HAWLEY, per order.



Wednesday, May 24, 1775.

*Ebenezer Cutler*,\* of *Northborough*, having been brought before this Congress on complaint of sundry persons, for uttering sundry expressions against the liberties of the good people of this Colony, and the same having been inquired of by a Committee, who reported, among other matters, that all the expressions of which he is accused were uttered some time ago; and that the said *Ebenezer* had requested that he might have the same privilege of going into the Town of *Boston*, without his effects, as other persons have, by the order of Congress :

The Report was accepted, and it was thereupon *Resolved*, That he have liberty for so doing.

Mr. *Gerry*, from the Committee to consider the propriety of appointing some additional Armourers, reported as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be empowered and directed to appoint such and so many Armourers, in addition to those already appointed, as may be wanted by the Army of this Colony, not exceeding fifteen, including those already appointed; and that the said Armourers, as also those already appointed by the Committee of Safety, shall each receive four Pounds per month, and be entitled to billeting as Soldiers, they providing their own tools; and the said Armourers are hereby directed to keep true accounts of the expense of repairing the Fire-Arms of such Soldiers whose Fire-Arms are repaired in order to qualify them to pass muster. And the Committee of Supplies be, and hereby are empowered and directed to discharge such as are, or may hereafter be appointed, when they shall think it for the interest of the Colony so to do."

The Report being read, and amended,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Whittemore*, Captain *Dwight*, and Mr. *Kollock*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the appointment of a number of Armourers as aforesaid, and for the establishment of their Pay.

It being made to appear to this Congress that the major part of the Committee appointed to effect the Removal of the Poor of the Town of *Boston* to the place to which they are destined, are removed out of the Towns of *Charlestown* and *Roxbury*, to which they belonged :

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Isaac Foster*, *Nathaniel Gorham*, *Edward Goodwin*, *John Frothingham*, *Joseph Hopkins*, Colonel *Joseph Williams*, Mr. *Nathaniel Patten*, Major *Nathaniel Ruggles*, Mr. *Noah Parsons*, Deacon *William Gridley*, *Lewis Fay*, and *James Bradish*, Jun., or any three of them, (being present,) be a Committee for all the purposes and with all the powers to which the said Committee were appointed.

And it being also made to appear that said Committee cannot proceed unless further provision be made in that behalf :

Therefore *Resolved*, That said Committee, or any three

\* WATERTOWN, May 22, 1775.

The Committee appointed to examine the case of *Ebenezer Cutler*, do find, by full proof, that said *Cutler* has proved himself very inimical to his Country, by speaking many things very disrespectful of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, and acting against their resolves; and by saying he would assist *Gage*; calling such, damned fools who signed the Town Covenant, or Non-consumption Agreement; saying, the Acts of the Parliament were just and righteous, (meaning those which tended to take away our liberties;) and many other ways has manifested his enmity to this Country, for which he, said *Cutler*, deserves severe punishment; but he pleading the Resolve of this Congress to tolerate such of the inhabitants of this Colony as were so minded to go into *Boston*, are humbly of the opinion he, said *Ebenezer Cutler*, have the privilege of said Resolve. All which we submit to the Congress.

Not accepted.

EDWARD MITCHELL, Chairman.

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, WATERTOWN, May 23, 1775.

Whereas *Ebenezer Cutler*, of *Northborough*, hath been brought before this Congress, charged with endeavouring to subvert the Constitution, and by words, from time to time, for many months past, in various places, stirring up the people to assist in the execution of the late Acts of Parliament, encouraging the people not to submit to the measures proposed by the Continental and Provincial Congresses for extricating these Colonies out of the difficulties brought upon them by the measures of the *British* Administration; which charges, with others of the like nature, being proved to be true, this Congress do adjudge the said *Ebenezer Cutler* to be an implacable enemy to the liberties of his Country: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said *Ebenezer* be committed to close confinement in the common Jail at . . . . ., until the further order of this or a future Congress; and the keeper of said Jail is hereby directed to receive and detain him accordingly, and . . . . . is hereby directed to see that this Resolve be carried into execution.

Not accepted.

of them, shall have full power to procure, upon the credit of this Colony, in the most frugal manner, as much Provision as they shall find necessary to support those poor persons to the places of their destination; and the said Committee are further empowered to procure Teams to carry such persons and their effects to those places; and if such Teams cannot be hired, to impress them for that service; and all the charges arising by the measures before directed shall be paid out of the Donations to the Poor of said Town of *Boston*, now in the hands of the Committee who were appointed to receive and dispose thereof; and if that should be insufficient, the remainder shall be paid by this Colony. And the Committee hereby appointed to the service aforesaid, are hereby directed to lay before the next Congress an account of the charges arising in pursuance of the above commission, that whatever shall appear to be reasonable and just may be liquidated and allowed.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Joseph Cushing*, Mr. *Ellis*, and Mr. *Crane*, be a Committee to fill up and deliver to the Colonels of each Regiment the Commissions for the Officers of their respective Regiments, when said Committee shall be notified by the Secretary of this Congress that the Congress have approved of the persons to be commissioned; and that blank Commissions be put in the hands of said Committee, properly authenticated, for that purpose; and that when said Commissions are filled up, they be delivered by said Committee to the Colonel, on his applying for the same, he engaging he will not deliver such Commissions to the respective Officers until they shall have taken the oath appointed to be taken by them by order of this Congress; and that *William Holden*, Esq., be appointed to administer the oath to the Officers stationed at *Roxbury*, and *James Prescott*, Esquire, be appointed to administer the oath to the Officers stationed at *Cambridge*.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the Inhabitants of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, relative to an issue of Notes by said Colony, reported. The Address was read, and accepted.

Thursday, May 25, 1775.

The Committee ordered to inspect the several Towns and Districts' stocks of Powder, and consider what Towns are well stocked, and what proportion they could spare for the publick service, have attended that business, and beg leave to report the following proportion, viz :

|                          |          |                         |                          |            |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| <i>Suffolk County.</i>   |          | Weston,                 | barrels,                 | 1          |
| <i>Roxbury</i> ,         | barrels, | 3                       | <i>Westford</i> ,        | " 0½       |
| <i>Medfield</i> ,        | "        | 1                       | <i>Groton</i> ,          | " 1        |
| <i>Wrentham</i> ,        | "        | 4                       | <i>Townsend</i> ,        | " 0½       |
| <i>Stoughton</i> ,       | "        | 2                       | <i>Dracut</i> ,          | " 1        |
| <i>Medway</i> ,          | "        | 1                       | <i>Stow</i> ,            | " 0½       |
| <i>Walpole</i> ,         | "        | 1                       |                          |            |
| <i>Essex County.</i>     |          | <i>Plymouth County.</i> |                          |            |
| <i>Marblehead</i> ,      | barrels, | 3                       | <i>Bridgewater</i> ,     | barrels, 4 |
| <i>Newburyport</i> ,     | "        | 3                       | <i>Middleborough</i> ,   | " 1        |
| <i>Newbury</i> ,         | "        | 1                       | <i>Worcester County.</i> |            |
| <i>Andover</i> ,         | "        | 2                       | <i>Worcester</i> ,       | barrels, 1 |
| <i>Haverhill</i> ,       | "        | 2                       | <i>Lancaster</i> ,       | " 1        |
| <i>Bradford</i> ,        | "        | 0½                      | <i>Mendon</i> ,          | " 2½       |
| <i>Boxford</i> ,         | "        | 0½                      | <i>Brookfield</i> ,      | " 3        |
| <i>Middlesex County.</i> |          |                         | <i>Oxford</i> ,          | " 1½       |
| <i>Cambridge</i> ,       | barrels, | 3                       | <i>Charlton</i> ,        | " 0½       |
| <i>Charlestown</i> ,     | "        | 3¾                      | <i>Sutton</i> ,          | " 2½       |
| <i>Marlborough</i> ,     | "        | 3                       | <i>Leicester</i> ,       | " 1        |
| <i>Framingham</i> ,      | "        | 2                       | <i>Westborough</i> ,     | " 1½       |
| <i>Littleton</i> ,       | "        | 0½                      | <i>Shrewsbury</i> ,      | " 2½       |
| <i>Chelmsford</i> ,      | "        | 1½                      | <i>Lunenburg</i> ,       | " 1        |
| <i>Sudbury</i> ,         | "        | 2                       | <i>Bolton</i> ,          | " 1        |
| Total,                   |          |                         |                          | 68½        |

DANIEL THURSTON, per order.

Upon the foregoing Report,  
*Ordered*, That the Committee who brought in said Report be directed to bring in a Resolve in conformity thereto, and that it be inserted in the Resolve that the Towns shall be respectively paid for what Powder is drawn from their several Towns stock, or have it replaced; and that



each Town be notified of the quantity respectively to be taken from its stock.

SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Sec'y pro tem.*

The Committee reported a Resolve, as directed; which was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

"*Resolved*, That there be draughted out of the Town stocks of Powder, from each respective Town before named, the quantity of Powder affixed to the name of the Town, for the use of the Army, in the defence of the Colony, and that it be replaced as soon as the state of the Colony Magazine will admit of it, or otherwise paid for in money; and that the Selectmen of each Town be forthwith served with an account of the draught made on their Town, and that they immediately deliver it to the Committee of Supplies, or their order.

The Committee of Safety having represented to this Congress that considerable difficulty exists in the adjustment of General *Ward's* Regiment, in consequence of the pretensions of Colonel *Joseph Henshaw* and Colonel *Jonathan Ward* to the post of Lieutenant-Colonel in said Regiment, it was *Ordered*, That said representation, as also the Memorial of Colonel *Henshaw*, setting forth his claims to said post, be referred to a Committee. The Committee having considered the matter, reported a Resolve; which was accepted, and is as follows:

*Resolved*, as the opinion of this Congress, That Colonel *Ward* is best entitled to receive the Commission as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment, which right was disputed by Lieutenant-Colonel *Henshaw*.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Dexter* be desired to attend his duty on the Committee for countersigning the Treasurer's Notes immediately.

Mr. *Dexter* transmitted the following Letter to the Congress, which was read:

Dedham, May 25, 1775, P. M.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I was under a necessity to come home last evening. Had I been at Congress to-day, and been as unwell as I am at present, I should have very poorly performed my duty respecting the Notes. I found myself so indisposed this morning that I ventured to conclude to tarry till to-morrow morning at home. I am inclined to attend the business, and, sick or well, will endeavour to be early at *Watertown* for that purpose.

With much regard, I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,  
S. DEXTER.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of several persons at *Roxbury*, reported verbally, That it is the opinion of the Committee that the said Petition be sent to General *Thomas*, and that he be directed to inquire into the causes of the complaint therein contained, and take proper measures for their redress.

The Report was accepted.

The Committee to whom was referred an application from the Officers of the Army respecting absconding Soldiers, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas application hath been made to this Congress, by some of the Officers of the Army, that some effectual method may be taken for the speedy return of absconding Soldiers, or such as shall tarry beyond the time limited by furlough:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be, and it hereby is recommended to the Committees of Correspondence in the several Towns and Districts in this Colony, or to the Selectmen, where no such Committees are appointed, that they take effectual care that such absconding or delinquent Soldiers be immediately sent back to their respective Regiments.

Friday, May 26, 1775.

The Honourable *Joseph Hawley*, from the Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, now sitting in that Colony, reported; the Letter was accepted, and ordered to be forwarded. [See *Folio* 715.]

The Committee to whom was referred the Letter of the Honourable *James Russell*, reported the following Resolve, which was accepted:

*Resolved*, That the Honourable *James Russell*, Esq., be, and he hereby is directed, immediately to call in all the

publick Moneys committed to his care as Impost Officer, and pay the same to *Henry Gardner*, Esq., the Receiver-General of this Province.

It having been represented to this Congress, that it would be agreeable to the inhabitants of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, that the Post-Rider on the road from *Cambridge* to *Haverhill* should extend his route to the Town of *Exeter*, to meet the Post-Rider from *Portsmouth* to that place, and a Post-Office having been appointed at *Exeter* by the inhabitants of *New-Hampshire*:

*Resolved*, That the route of the Post-Rider from *Cambridge* be extended to said *Exeter*, so long as it shall be found to be expedient; or until the *Massachusetts* or *New-Hampshire* Congress, or future House of Representatives, shall otherwise order.

Whereas it appears to this Congress, that although divers able-bodied and effective men who have enlisted into the *Massachusetts* Army, are either not furnished with Arms and Accoutrements, or with such only as are insufficient for use, yet that it will be for the publick service that such men be accepted: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Resolve of this Congress passed the 6th instant, be so far reconsidered, that the Muster-Masters be, and they hereby are directed to accept of all such able-bodied and effective men, and muster them accordingly, any thing contained in the aforementioned Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding; and the several Muster-Masters be, and hereby are directed to make a return to this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives, of the names of such Soldiers as shall be found deficient in Arms and Accoutrements, and also of the names of the Towns to which they shall belong respectively.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be sent to each Muster-Master.

Upon a representation of the Committee of Safety that Mr. *Jonathan Brewer*, of *Waltham*, has, contrary to the orders of the said Committee, undertaken to enlist a Company of *Rangers*, has made use of artifices and impositions to obtain said enlistments; and that he has also seized and retained possession of horses and certain real estate, the private property of various individuals, and converted the same to his own use, whereby he has disqualified himself for the command of a Regiment; it was

*Ordered*, That the matter be referred to Dr. *Perkins*, Mr. *Kollock*, and Mr. *Bent*.

The Committee appointed to consider of the charges alleged against Mr. *Jonathan Brewer*, by the honourable Committee of Safety, having attended that service, beg leave to report the defence of said *Brewer*, viz: That he, the said *Brewer*, absolutely denies the charge of seducing men belonging to other corps to enlist in his Regiment, or any of the Companies thereof. As to the taking the horses of Colonels *Jones* and *Taylor*, he acknowledges his thus doing, and thinks himself justified therein, by furthering the service of the Province in which he was engaged; that he had used them some time past in that way, and on *Saturday* last past had returned *Jones's* horse.

He also owns the leasing part of said *Jones's* estate, and taking security, which security, he says, was in the keeping of one Captain *Butler*; that he had proceeded in the affair merely from a principle of saving the improvement of one Mr. *Jennison*, (whose lands were contiguous to those of said *Jones*,) and which were exposed, by a neglect of said *Jones* in keeping up sufficient fences. Said *Jennison* (as *Brewer* says) supposing if he would thus dispose of the above leased land to him, he could fence and improve it without molestation. And that the Committee can proceed no further, unless they are enabled, by hearing the full of the evidence supposed to support the complaint.

Per order: RICHARD PERKINS, *Chairman*.

Monday, May 29, 1775.

The Committee to whom were referred the Papers relating to *Jonathan Brewer*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That the Papers respecting *Jonathan Brewer* be transmitted by the Secretary to the Committee of Safety, to be by them acted upon in such a manner as they think fit, so far as to determine on the expediency of recommending, or not recommending him, to this Congress, as an Officer of the Army now raising in this Colony.



## RETURN OF COLONEL READ'S REGIMENT, MAY 18, 1775.

*Joseph Read*, Colonel; *Ebenezer Clapp*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Calvin Smith*, Major; *Hezekiah Chapman*, Chaplain; *John Holden*, Adjutant; *William Jennison*, Quartermaster; *Levi Willard*, Surgeon; *Joseph Adams*, Surgeon's Mate.

| Captains.        | Lieutenants.     | Ensigns.          |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Oliver Pond,     | W. Messenger,    | Elias Bacon.      |
| Samuel Payson,   | Royal Kollock,   | Enoch Hewens.     |
| Andrew Peters,   | Levi Aldrich,    | William Daling.   |
| William Briggs,  | Simeon Leach,    | Jed. Southworth.  |
| Seth Bullard,    | Thomas Potter,   | Ezekiel Plympton. |
| Samuel Warren,   | Joseph Cody,     | Geo. Whipple.     |
| David Bacheller, | Benjamin Farrer, | Robert Taft.      |
| Samuel Cobb,     | Japheth Daniels, | Amos Ellis.       |
| Moses Knap,      | Nehemiah White,  | Benjamin Capron.  |
| Edward Seagrove, | Job Knapp,       | Peter Taft.       |

Officers, 30; Men, 564; Total, 594.

Watertown, May 24, 1775.

Received the Commissions for the officers above-mentioned.

JOSEPH READ, Colonel.

## GENERAL WARD'S REGIMENT.

*Jonathan Ward*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Edward Barnes*, Major; *Timothy Bigelow*, Second Major; *James Hart*, Adjutant; *William Boyd*, Quartermaster.

| Captains.       | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.         |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Josiah Fay,     | .....             | .....            |
| Seth Washburn,  | Joseph Livermore, | Lowning Lincoln. |
| Job Cushing,    | Ezra Beaman,      | Asa Rice.        |
| Daniel Barnes,  | William Morse,    | Paul Brigham.    |
| James Miller,   | Abel Perry,       | Aaron Abby.      |
| Luke Drury,     | Asaph Sherman,    | Jonas Brown.     |
| Jonas Hubbard,  | John Smith,       | William Gales.   |
| Samuel Wood,    | Timothy Brigham,  | Thomas Seaver.   |
| Moses Wheelock, | Thomas Bond,      | Obadiah Mann.    |

Total, Officers and Privates, 440.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 23, 1775.

Resolved, That Commissions be given out to General Ward's Regiment, agreeable to the above List.

SAML. FREEMAN, Secretary pro tem.

## COLONEL LEARNED'S REGIMENT.

*J. Danforth Keys*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jonathan Hollman*, Major; — *Bannister*, Adjutant.

| Captains.        | Lieutenants.     | Ensigns.          |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Peter Harwood,   | Asa Danforth,    | Benjamin Pollard. |
| Adam Martin,     | Abel Mason,      | Benjamin Felton.  |
| John Granger,    | Matthew Gray,    | Stephen Gorham.   |
| Joel Greene,     | David Prouty,    | Thomas Fish.      |
| Samuel Billings, | Barnabas Sears,  | John Howard.      |
| Wm. Campbell,    | Reuben Davis,    | William Polly.    |
| Arthur Doggett,  | Jonathan Caroll, | .....             |
| Nathaniel Healy, | Salem Town,      | .....             |
| Samuel Curtis,   | Samuel Learned,  | .....             |
| Isaac Bolster,   | John Hasleton,   | .....             |

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 23, 1775.

Resolved, That Commissions be given to the Officers of Col. Learned's Regiment, agreeable to the above list.

## COLONEL WALKER'S REGIMENT, MAY 23, 1775.

*Timothy Walker*, Colonel; *Nathaniel Leonard*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Abel Mitchell*, Major; *Mason Shaw*, Adjutant; *Daniel Park*, Surgeon; *Jacob Fuller*, Quartermaster.

| Captains.          | Lieutenants.     | Ensigns.         |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| John Perry,        | John Paine,      | James Bucklin.   |
| Silas Cobb,        | Isaac Smith,     | Isaac Fisher.    |
| Macy Williams,     | Samuel Lane,     | John Cook.       |
| Caleb Richardson,  | Enoch Robinson,  | Solomon Stanley. |
| Oliver Soaper,     | Simeon Cobb,     | Thomas Williams. |
| Saml. Tubbs, Jun., | John Shaw,       | Joel Stubbs.     |
| Samuel Bliss,      | Aaron Walker,    | Joseph Allen.    |
| Francis Liscomb,   | Matthew Randall, | Seth Pratt.      |
| Peter Pitts,       | Zebedee Raidean, | Henry Briggs.    |
| John King,         | Noah Hall,       | Abm. Hathaway.   |

Total, Officers and Privates, 562.

In Provincial Congress, May 24, 1775.

Ordered, That the Officers of Colonel Walker's Regiment be commissioned, agreeable to the foregoing list.

SAML. FREEMAN, Secretary.

## COLONEL SCAMMON'S REGIMENT, MAY 23, 1775.

*Johnson Molton*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *David Wood*, Major; *George Madison*, Adjutant; *Samuel Nasson*, Quartermaster.

| Captains.          | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.          |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Philip Hubbard,    | Jedediah Goodwin, | James Roberts.    |
| Jesse Dormon,      | Daniel Merrill,   | Joseph Pettingil. |
| Joshua Bragdon,    | Morgan Lues,      | Moses Sweet.      |
| Samuel Darby,      | James Donnell,    | Joshua Frafton.   |
| Jeremiah Hill,     | Samuel Merrill,   | Peter Page.       |
| Tobias Farrell,    | Thomas Cattes,    | Parker Foster.    |
| Ebenezer Sullivan, | Thomas Butler,    | Nathan Lord.      |
| Jonathan Nowell,   | Thomas Nowell,    | Edward Low.       |
| Samuel Sawyer,     | William Cupont,   | Jer. Littlefield. |
| Samuel Lather,     | William Furnell,  | William Frost.    |

Total rank and file, 512.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 2, 1775.

Ordered, That Commissions be given to the Officers of Colonel Scammon's Regiment, (except those Captains who have already received their commissions,) agreeable to the above list.

SAML. FREEMAN, Secretary.

## COLONEL PRESCOTT'S REGIMENT, MAY 25, 1775.

*William Prescott*, Colonel; *John Robinson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Henry Wood*, Major; *William Green*, Adjutant.

| Captains.      | Captains.       | Captains.       |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Henry Farwell, | Asa Lawrence,   | Abijah Wyman,   |
| Hugh Maxwell,  | Elpt. Dinsmore, | Timo. Woodward, |
| John Nutting,  | Samuel Patch,   | Joseph Moor.    |
| Joshua Parker, | Oliver Parker,  |                 |

Total, Officers and Soldiers, 483.

WM. GREEN, Adjutant.

In Provincial Congress, May 26, 1775.

Ordered, That Commissions be given to Colonel William Prescott's Regiment, agreeable to the above list.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 22, 1775.

It is recommended to the honourable the Provincial Congress, that *Samuel Patch*, in Colonel William Prescott's Regiment, be commissioned as a Captain; and *Zachary Walker* and *Joshua Brown*, as Lieutenants in said Company.

WM. COOPER, Secretary.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 23, 1775.

It is recommended to the honourable the Provincial Congress, that the following Officers in Colonel Prescott's Regiment be commissioned, viz:

*Ebenezer Spalding* First Lieutenant, *Thomas Rogers* Second Lieutenant, in Captain Parker's Company.  
*John Williams* First Lieutenant, *Thomas Spalding* Second Lieutenant, in Captain Lawrence's Company.  
*Benjamin Ball* Second Lieutenant, in Captain Farwell's Company.  
*John Mosher* Second Lieutenant, in Captain Nutting's Company.  
*Thomas Cummings* Second Lieutenant, in Captain Wyman's Company.  
*Joseph Baker* Second Lieutenant, in Captain Gilbert's Company.

WILLIAM COOPER, Secretary.

In Provincial Congress, June 25, 1775.

Ordered, That Commissions be delivered to the above Officers.

Attest: SAML. FREEMAN, Secretary.

## COLONEL COTTON'S REGIMENT, STATIONED IN ROXBURY.

Staff Officers.—*Dr. William Thomas*, Surgeon; *John Thomas*, Surgeon's Mate; *John Cotton*, Junior, Quartermaster; *Joshua Thomas*, Adjutant.



| Captains.        | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.         |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Thomas Mayhew,   | Nathaniel Lewis,  | Benjamin Warren. |
| Earl Clap,       | Isaac Pope,       | Charles Church.  |
| John Bradford,   | Jesse Sturtefant, | Thomas Sampson.  |
| John Brigham,    | Edward Sparrow,   | Nehemiah Cobb.   |
| Joshua Benson,   | Wm. Thompson,     | James Smith.     |
| Isaac Wood,      | Abiel Townshend,  | Foxwell Thomas.  |
| Peleg Wadsworth, | Seth Drew,        | Joseph Sampson.  |
| Amos Wade,       | Archelaus Cole,   | Lemuel Wood.     |
| Jno. Bradford,   | Andrew Sampson,   | Judah Allen.     |
| Edw. Hammond,    | Timothy Ruggles,  | Nathan Sears.    |

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 26, 1775.  
*Resolved*, That Commissions be delivered the Officers of Colonel *Cotton's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary pro tem.*

In Provincial Congress, May 27, 1775.  
*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to *Ichabod Alden*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Ebenezer Sprout*, Junior, Major, of Colonel *Theophilus Cotton's* Regiment.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary pro tem.*

COLONEL FRY'S REGIMENT, MAY 26, 1775.  
*James Fry*, Colonel; *James Brickett*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Poor*, Major; *Daniel Hardy*, Adjutant; *Thomas Kitteridge*, Surgeon; *Benjamin Foster*, Quartermaster; *Benjamin Varnum*, Surgeon's Mate.

| Captains.          | Lieutenants.       | Ensigns.           |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Thomas Poor,       | { Benj. Farnham,   | { Cyrus Marble.    |
|                    | { Samuel Johnson,  |                    |
| Benjamin Ames,     | David Chandler,    | Isaac Abbot.       |
| John Davis,        | Nathaniel Herrick, | Eliphalet Bodwill. |
| William Pearly,    | John Robinson,     | Benjamin Pearly.   |
| Nathaniel Gage,    | Thomas Stickney,   | Eliphalet Hardy.   |
| James Sawyer,      | Timothy Johnson,   | Nathaniel Eaton.   |
| Jonathan Evans,    | John Merritt,      | Reuben Evans.      |
| John Courier,      | Wells Chasse,      | . . . . Reed.      |
| Jonas Richardson,  | . . . . Fox,       | . . . . .          |
| William Hudson,    | Ballard Foller,    | . . . . .          |
| Whole number, 556. |                    |                    |

In Provincial Congress, June 8, 1775.  
*Ordered*, That a Commission be delivered to *Thomas Poor*, Esquire, as Major of the Regiment of Colonel *Fry*.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary.*

COLONEL PATTERSON'S REGIMENT.  
*Field Officers.*—*John Patterson*, Colonel; *Seth Read*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jeremiah Cady*, Major.  
Staff Officers not returned.

| Captains.         | Lieutenants.     | Ensigns.         |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Samuel Shelton,   | John Bacon,      | Nahum Powers.    |
| William Wyman,    | Samuel Chapin,   | Enos Parker.     |
| Joseph Moss,      | William Boudin,  | . . . . .        |
| Samuel Sloan,     | Zebediah Sabins, | . . . . .        |
| Charles Dibbell,  | Simeon Smith,    | Peter White.     |
| William Goodrich, | David Pixley,    | . . . . .        |
| David Noble,      | Joseph Willche,  | Josiah Wright.   |
| Thomas Williams,  | Orange Stoddard, | . . . . Ashley.  |
| Nathan Watkins,   | William Clark,   | Samuel Wilcocks. |
| Total, 496.       |                  |                  |

In Provincial Congress, May 27, 1775.  
*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers of Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary.*

GENERAL JOHN THOMAS'S REGIMENT.  
*John Bayley*, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Mitchell*, *John Jacobs*, Majors; *Lemuel Cushing*, Surgeon; *Gad Hitchcock*, Surgeon's Mate; *Luther Bayley*, Adjutant; *Adam Bayley*, Quartermaster.

| Captains.          | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.           |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| James Allen,       | Jacob Allen,      | Perez Warren.      |
| Amos Turner,       | Prince Studon,    | Joshua Barstow.    |
| Saml. Stockbridge, | Atwood Motte,     | Caleb Nicholson.   |
| Nathl. Winslow,    | Joshua Jacobs,    | Nathl. Chitonson.  |
| Fred. Chamberlain, | John Turner, Jr., | John Seavill.      |
| Eleazer Hamblin,   | Amos Shaw,        | Increase Robinson. |

| Captains.       | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.         |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| William Read,   | Samuel Brown,     | Solomon Shaw.    |
| Josiah Hayden,  | Zachariah Gurney, | Joseph Cole, Jr. |
| Daniel Lothrop, | Ephraim Jackson,  | Abner Howard.    |
| Elisha Crooker, | . . . . .         | Jacob Rogers.    |

Total, Officers and Privates, 596.  
—  
COLONEL BRIDGE'S REGIMENT.  
*Moses Parker*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Brooks*, Major; *Joseph Fox*, Adjutant.

| Captains.        | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.        |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| John Stickney,   | Elijah Danforth,  | John Levis.     |
| John Batchelder, | Eben. Damon,      | James Bancroft. |
| Peter Coburn,    | Josiah Foster,    | Eben. Varnum.   |
| Benjamin Walker, | John Flint,       | Eben. Fitch.    |
| Eben. Bancroft,  | Nathaniel Holman, | Samuel Brown.   |
| John Ford,       | Isaac Parker,     | Jonas Parker.   |

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 27, 1775.  
*Ordered*, That Commissions be given to the Officers of Colonel *Bridge's* Regiment, agreeable to the above named list.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary pro tem.*

—  
COLONEL MANSFIELD'S REGIMENT.

| Captains.         | Lieutenants.       | Ensigns.           |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Ezra Newell,      | Zadock Buffington, | John Reese.        |
| Enoch Putnam,     | John Dodge,        | Benjamin Craft.    |
| Ebenezer Francis, | James Bancroft,    | James Matthews.    |
| Asa Prince,       | John Upton,        | Simeon Tufts.      |
| Benjamin Kimball, | Job Whipple,       | Benjamin Gardner.  |
| Thomas Barnes,    | Nathaniel Cleaves, | Joseph Herrick.    |
| Adn. Richardson,  | Francis Fox,       | Frederick Breed.   |
| John Low,         | Stephen Wilkins,   | Archel. Batchelor. |
| Gideon Foster,    | Bill. Porter,      | Harfail White.     |
| Nathan Brown,     | Ephraim Emerson,   | . . . . Downing.   |

In Provincial Congress, May 27, 1775.  
*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the Captains of Colonel *Mansfield's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary pro tem.*

In Provincial Congress, June 7, 1775.  
*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers, Lieutenants, and Ensigns of Col. *Mansfield's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary pro tem.*

—  
COLONEL DANIELSON'S REGIMENT, MAY 27, 1775.  
*Timothy Danielson*, Colonel; *William Shepherd*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *David Leonard*, Major; *William Toogood*, Adjutant; *William Young*, Quartermaster; *David Shepard*, Surgeon.

| Captains.          | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.        |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Sylvanus Walker,   | Esau Coburn,      | . . . . .       |
| Enos Chapin,       | Samuel Flower,    | Luke Day.       |
| Joseph Thompson,   | Caleb Keep,       | John Carpenter. |
| Warham Parks,      | J. Shepperd, Jr., | Richard Falley. |
| Libbeus Ball,      | Samuel Bancroft,  | Levy Dunham.    |
| Paul Langdon,      | Daniel Cadwell,   | . . . . .       |
| Gideon Burst,      | . . . . .         | . . . . .       |
| John Farguison,    | David Hambleton,  | . . . . .       |
| Jonathan Bardwell, | William Gillmore, | Moses How.      |

In Provincial Congress, May 27, 1775.  
*Ordered*, That Commissions be given to Col. *Timothy Danielson's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary pro tem.*

—  
COLONEL FELLOWS'S REGIMENT, MAY 31, 1775.  
*Field Officers.*—*John Fellows*, Colonel; *Nathan Eager*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Benjamin Tupper*, Major.

| Captains.       | Lieutenants.    | Ensigns.          |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| William King,   | Samuel Brewer,  | Gamaliel Whiting. |
| Jonathan Allen, | Oliver Lyman,   | Jonathan Stearns. |
| Israel Chapin,  | Perez Bardwell, | William Watson.   |
| William Baron,  | John Hubbard,   | Michael Loomis.   |



| Captains.        | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.          |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Moses Soul,      | Noah Allen,       | Solomon Deming.   |
| Robert Webster,  | Christ. Banister, | Everton Bostwick. |
| Ebr. Pomeroy,    | . . . . Wallis,   | Daniel Kirkland.  |
| Abel Thayer,     | Joseph Warner,    | . . . . .         |
| Ebenezer Webber, | S. Bartlett,      | Samuel Allen.     |
| Simeon Hazelton, | George Blake,     | . . . . .         |

Total Officers and Soldiers, 548.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 7, 1775.

Ordered, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers of Colonel *Fellows's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary*.

COLONEL THOMAS GARDNER'S REGIMENT.

*William Bond*, Lieut. Colonel; *Michael Jackson*, Major.

| Captains.      | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.          |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Thomas Downy,  | William Maynard,  | Joseph Muier.     |
| Phineas Cook,  | Josiah Warren,    | Aaron Richardson. |
| Nathan Fuller, | Nathan Smith,     | John George.      |
| Isaac Hall,    | Caleb Brooks,     | Samuel Cutter.    |
| Josiah Harris, | Bartholomew Trow, | Thomas Miller.    |
| Abner Craft,   | Josiah Swan,      | John Child.       |
| Abijah Child,  | Solomon Bowman,   | Jedediah Thayer.  |
| Benjamin Lock, | Ebenezer Brattle, | Stephen Frost.    |
| Moses Draper,  | . . . . .         | . . . . .         |
| Nailor Hatch,  | . . . . .         | . . . . .         |

The Committee of Safety hereby certify the honourable Congress, that they approve the above named Officers, and recommend it to the honourable Congress, that they be commissioned accordingly.

WILLIAM COOPER, *Secretary*.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 2, 1775.

Ordered, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers of Colonel *Gardner's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.  
SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary*.

COLONEL ASA WHITCOMB'S REGIMENT, JUNE 3, 1775.

| Captains.        | Lieutenants.     | Ensigns.         |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| John Fuller,     | Ebenezer Bridge, | Jared Smith.     |
| Eph. Richardson, | Seth Hayward,    | Ephraim Boynton. |
| James Burt,      | Ebenezer Woods,  | Jabez Keep.      |
| David Wilder,    | Jonathan Quits,  | Timothy Boutall. |
| Andrew Haskell,  | John Kindrick,   | Jonathan Sawyer. |
| Robert Langley,  | Sylvanus Smith,  | Ephraim Smith.   |
| Agrippa Wells,   | Jacob Poole,     | Ezekiel Foster.  |
| Jonathan Davis,  | Elisha Fallum,   | John Meed.       |
| Abner Cranston,  | John Wyman,      | Benjamin West.   |
| Edmond Bemis,    | John Hore,       | David Foster.    |

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 9, 1775.

We recommend to the honourable the Provincial Congress, that the within Officers, belonging to Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, may be commissioned, if the Congress have no objection.  
BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman*.

In Congress, June 10, 1775.

Resolved, That the gentlemen above named be commissioned.  
JAS. WARREN.

Cambridge, June 30, 1775.

A list of the Staff Officers and Commissioned Officers, in Col. *Asa Whitcomb's* Regiment, not commissioned.

Staff.—*Jeremiah Gage*, Adjutant; *Jeremiah Laughton*, Quartermaster; *William Dunsmore*, Doctor.

*Samuel West*, Second Lieutenant in Captain *Abner Cranston's* Company, in the place of him that was killed at the fight at *Charlestown*.

N. B. I have a full Regiment, exclusive of *Benjamin Hastings*, who has fifty-three in his Company; and he has done duty with me, and declines joining any other Regiment; and I desire that the Officers of that Company, viz: *Benjamin Hastings*, Captain; *Jonathan Haughton*, Lieutenant; *Jonathan Meriam*, Second Lieutenant, may be commissioned, and join my Regiment.

ASA WHITCOMB.

Camp No. 2, Cambridge, June 30, 1775.

This may certify, that we, the subscribers, being chosen Officers of a Minute Company, in *Bolton*, have taken orders to raise a Company in the present Army; and having fifty-three able-bodied, effective men, fit for service, in our Company, and having done duty in Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment from our first taking out orders, we desire that we may be commissioned under the above said Colonel, which was the expectation of the Company.

BENJAMIN HASTINGS, *Captain*.  
JONATHAN HAUGHTON, *Lieutenant*.  
JONATHAN MERIAM, *Second Lieutenant*.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 30, 1775.

It is recommended to the honourable the Provincial Congress, that *Samuel West*, above named, be commissioned as Second Lieutenant, in Captain *Abner Cranston's* Company, in Colonel *Asa Whitcomb's* Regiment.

WILLIAM COOPER, *Secretary*.

COLONEL DOOLITTLE'S REGIMENT, JUNE 12, 1775.

| Captains.      | Lieutenants.     | Ensigns.        |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Joel Fletcher, | John Wheeler,    | Jonas Proctor.  |
| Adam Wheeler,  | Elijah Stearns,  | Adam Maynard.   |
| John Holman,   | John Bowkin,     | David Poor.     |
| John Jones,    | Samuel Thompson, | . . . . .       |
| Robert Oliver, | Thomas Grover,   | Abraham Pennel. |
| Abel Wilder,   | Jonas Allen,     | Daniel Pike.    |

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 12, 1775.

The within mentioned Captains and Subalterns in Col. *Doolittle's* Regiment are recommended to be commissioned.  
BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman*.

In Provincial Congress, June 12, 1775.

Ordered, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers of Col. *Doolittle's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.  
SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary*.

COLONEL WOODBRIDGE'S REGIMENT, JUNE 16, 1775.

*Abijah Brown*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Stacy*, Major.

| Captains.         | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.      |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Reubn. Dickinson, | Zaccheus Croaker, | Dal. Shay.    |
| Noadiah Leonard,  | Zariah Smith,     | Samuel Gould. |
| Stephen Pearl,    | Aaron Rowley,     | Abner Pease.  |
| David Cowden,     | . . . . .         | . . . . .     |
| John Cows,        | . . . . .         | . . . . .     |
| Ichabod Dexter,   | Tho. Goodenough,  | John Mayo.    |
| John King,        | . . . . .         | . . . . .     |
| Seth Murray,      | . . . . .         | Total, 363.   |

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 21, 1775.

Colonel *Woodbridge* having satisfied this Committee that the above eight Companies are in good forwardness, it is recommended to the honourable Congress that said Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman*.

In Provincial Congress, June 21, 1775.

Ordered, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers of Col. *Woodbridge's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.  
SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary*.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, July 3, 1775.

It is recommended to the honourable the Provincial Congress, that *Asa Barnes* be commissioned as a Captain in Col. *Woodbridge's* Regiment, *Caleb Smith* as Lieutenant in said Company, *Timothy Read* as Second Lieutenant; also *William Smith* as Third Lieutenant, and *Oliver Wagget* as Second Lieutenant in Captain *King's* Company, of said *Woodbridge's* Regiment.

WILLIAM COOPER, *Secretary*.

COLONEL JOHN GLOVER'S REGIMENT, JUNE 15, 1775.

| Captains.       | Lieutenants.    | Ensigns.         |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| William Lee,    | John Glover,    | Edward Archbald. |
| William Curtis, | Robert Harris,  | Thomas Courts.   |
| William Bacon,  | William Mills,  | Suard Lee.       |
| Thomas Grant,   | William Bubier, | Ebenezer Graves. |



| Captains.        | Lieutenants.     | Ensigns.          |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Joel Smith,      | John Bray,       | Joshua Orne.      |
| Nich. Broughton, | John Stacey,     | J. Devereaux, Jr. |
| William Bleeker, | Nathaniel Clark, | Nathaniel Pearce. |
| John Merritt,    | Joshua Prentice, | Robert Nimblett.  |
| John Selmon,     | Isaac Collyer,   | Edward Holman.    |
| Francis Simonds, | William Russell, | George Lignerass. |

Total number of men, 505.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 22, 1775.

The above Officers being approved of by this Committee, are recommended to the honourable Congress to be commissioned.

N. CUSHING, per order.

Ordered, That the Officers in the above list be commissioned, except Captain *William Lee*, his Lieutenant, and Ensign.

SAM. FREEMAN, Secretary.

COLONEL NIXON'S REGIMENT.

| Captains.      | Lieutenants.     | Ensigns.     |
|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Thomas Drury,  | William Maynard, | James Muier. |
| Samuel McCobb, | Benjamin Patten, | John Briggs. |

JOHN NIXON, Colonel.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 16, 1775.

The above Officers are approved of, and recommended to the honourable Congress to be commissioned.

BENJAMIN WHITE, Chairman.

Ordered, That Commissions be delivered out to the above named Officers, in Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment.

Attest : SAM. FREEMAN, Secretary.

Ordered, That Commissions be delivered to the following Officers in Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, viz: *Ebenezer Winship*, Captain; *William Warren*, Lieutenant; *Richard Buckminster*, Ensign.

SAM. FREEMAN, Secretary.

COLONEL JONATHAN BREWER'S REGIMENT.

*William Buckminster*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Nathan. Cudworth*, Major.

| Captains.         | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.          |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Isaac Gray,       | Thos. Willington, | Wilson.           |
| Edward Blake,     | Abm. Tuckeman,    | John Ermes.       |
| John Black,       | Benjamin Gates,   | John Patrick.     |
| Daniel Whiting,   | Obadiah Dewey,    | .....             |
| Thaddeus Russell, | Nathl. Maynard,   | Nathaniel Reeves. |
| Aaron Haynes,     | Elisha Brewer,    | .....             |
| Benjamin Bullard, | Aaron Gardiner,   | .....             |
| Joseph Stebbins,  | .....             | .....             |

Total number of men, 371. J. BREWER, Colonel.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 17, 1775.

Colonel *Jonathan Brewer* having satisfied this Committee that there are three hundred and twenty-one men in the eight Companies mentioned above, it is recommended to the honourable Provincial Congress that said *Brewer's* Regiment may be commissioned accordingly.

WM. COOPER, Secretary.

Ordered, That a Commission be delivered to each of the Officers within named, except Capt. *Joseph Stebbins*, who has but twenty-one men in his Company.

SAM. FREEMAN, Secretary.

COLONEL ROBINSON'S REGIMENT.

| Captains.     | Captains.      | Captains.       |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| William Bent, | Job Cushing,   | John Vinton,    |
| Silas Wild,   | Jotham Loring, | Peter Procrit,  |
| Elijah Vose,  | James Lincoln, | Truant Brantry. |
| Jacob Gould,  | Seth Turner,   |                 |

Total, rank and file, 466.

COLONEL DAVID BREWER'S REGIMENT, JUNE 17, 1775.

*Rufus Putnam*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Nathaniel Danielson*, Major; *Thomas Weeks*, Adjutant; *Ebenezer Washburn*, Quartermaster.

| Captains.          | Lieutenants.      | Ensigns.          |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Amos Waldrige,     | Ithiel Mungar,    | James Blodgett.   |
| Peter Ingersoll,   | Silas Goodrich,   | Thomas Burnham.   |
| Levi Rounsevall,   | Henry Rice,       | Lemuel Taber.     |
| Malcomb Henry,     | John Gray,        | David Lackett.    |
| Jonathan Danforth, | Joseph McNall,    | Lewis Boen.       |
| Isaac Colton,      | John Wright,      | Nathl. Alexander. |
| Jona. Bardwell,    | William Gillmore, | Moses Howe.       |
| Abiathar Angel,    | Isaac Warren,     | Simeon Learned.   |
| John Packard,      | David Brewer,     | Jonathan Allen.   |

DAVID BREWER, Colonel.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 17, 1775.

These certify the Honourable Congress, that Colonel *David Brewer* has satisfied this Committee that there are in the nine Companies mentioned near five hundred men. It is therefore recommended to Congress that said *Brewer's* Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

WM. COOPER, Secretary.

Ordered, That Commissions be delivered to the several Officers above mentioned.

SAM. FREEMAN, Secretary.

COLONEL GERRISH'S REGIMENT, JUNE 22, 1775.

*Loammi Baldwin*, Lieut. Colonel; *James Wessen*, Major; *Christian Febiger*, Adjutant; *Michael Farley*, Quartermaster; *David Jones*, Surgeon.

| Captains.        | Lieutenants.       | Ensigns.        |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Richard Dodge,   | Robert Dodge,      | Paul Dodge.     |
| Barnabas Dodge,  | Matthew Fairfield, | Joseph Knight.  |
| Thomas Cogswell, | Moses Danton,      | Amos Cogswell.  |
| Timothy Corey,   | Thos. Cummings,    | Jonas Johnson.  |
| Samuel Sprague,  | Joseph Cheever,    | William Oliver. |
| John Baker, Jr., | Joseph Pettingill, | Mark Cressy.    |
| Thomas Mighill,  | Thomas Pike,       | .....           |

SAMUEL GERRISH, Colonel.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 22, 1775.

It is recommended to the honourable Congress that the above mentioned Officers in Colonel *Gerrish's* Regiment, not already commissioned, may now receive their Commissions.

WILLIAM COOPER, Secretary.

COLONEL MOSES LITTLE'S REGIMENT, JUNE 26, 1775.

*Isaac Smith*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Collins*, Major.

| Captains.         | First Lieutenants. | Second Lieutenants. |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Jacob Gerrish,    | Silas Adams,       | Thomas Brown.       |
| Nathaniel Warner, | John Burman,       | Daniel Collins.     |
| Nathaniel Wade,   | Joseph Wedkins,    | Aaron Parker.       |
| Abraham Dodge,    | Ebenezer Low,      | James Lord.         |
| John Baker,       | Caleb Thompson,    | Daniel Draper.      |
| Ezra Lunt,        | Moses Kent,        | N. Montgomery.      |
| Benjamin Perkins, | James Whittemore,  | William Stickney.   |
| Gideon Parker,    | Joseph Everly,     | Moses Trask.        |
| Joseph Robey,     | Shubael Gorham,    | Enoch Parsons.      |
| Timothy Brinard,  | Paul Lunt,         | Amos Atkinson.      |

Total number of men, 582.

In Committee of Safety, June 26, 1775.

This Committee recommend to the honourable the Provincial Congress that the above named Officers, in Colonel *Little's* Regiment, may be commissioned.

WM. COOPER, Secretary.

Ordered, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers of Colonel *Little's* Regiment, agreeable to the above list.

Attest : SAM. FREEMAN, Secretary.

Cambridge Camp, June 30, 1775.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress at WATERTOWN :

Mr. *Stephen Jenkins* and Mr. *Thomas Hodgkins* are recommended, the former for Adjutant, and the latter for Quartermaster, in the Regiment of which I have the command, and the honourable Congress are prayed to appoint those gentlemen to said offices accordingly.

MOSES LITTLE, Colonel.

Accepted and passed.



MEETING OF FREEHOLDERS OF RICHMOND COUNTY,  
NEW-YORK.

At a meeting of the Freeholders of the County of *Richmond*, at *Richmond Town*, in the said County, on the first day of *May*, in the year of our *Lord* 1775, agreeable to a publick notice of such meeting:

BENJAMIN SEAMAN, Esquire, *Chairman*,  
PAUL MICHEAU, *Clerk*.

The Freeholders of the said County, taking into consideration the distressed and alarming state of the Colonies, and the necessity of a Provincial Congress, did unanimously elect and appoint Messrs. *Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner*, and *Richard Lawrence*, or the major part of them, to represent the said County of *Richmond* at the next Provincial Congress intended to be held in the City of *New-York* on the 22d day of *May* instant.

Signed by order of the said Freeholders:

PAUL MICHEAU, *Clerk of County of Richmond*.

RICHMOND (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE OF  
NEW-YORK.

Richmond County, May 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 28th ultimo we received, and, agreeable to your request, convened the Freeholders of the County of *Richmond* yesterday, to consider of the alarming and dangerous situation the Province is in, being fully persuaded that no time should be lost, as every hour threatens us with inevitable ruin. The necessity of the case requires we should unite in forming a Provincial Congress, and appoint Deputies without delay. The said Freeholders were unanimously of opinion, that the present exigency of affairs required their adopting the measures recommended by your Committee, and appointed us, the subscribers, for that purpose, who will give our attendance accordingly.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

PAUL MICHEAU, RICHARD CONNER,  
JOHN JOURNEY, RICHARD LAWRENCE.  
AARON CORTELYOU,

To Mr. *Isaac Low*, Chairman of the Committee of *New-York*.

## MEETING OF INHABITANTS OF ORANGETOWN, NEW-YORK.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of *Orangetown*, in the County of *Orange*, at the house of Mr. *Yeast Mabie*, in the said Town, on *Wednesday*, the third day of *May*, A. D. 1775:

JACOB CONKLIN, Esquire, *Chairman*,  
DR. THOMAS OUTWATER, *Clerk*.

Resolved, *nem. con.*, That Colonel *Abraham Lent* and *John Haring*, Esquire, be the Deputies for this Town, to represent us at the Provincial Congress proposed to be held in the City of *New-York* on the 22d day of this instant, and that we will abide by and observe such measures as the said Congress shall, from time to time, direct or commend. By order of the meeting:

JACOB CONKLIN, *Chairman*.  
THOMAS OUTWATER, *Clerk*.

## MEETING OF COMMITTEES OF SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

At a meeting of the several Committees of Correspondence from the different Towns in the County of *Suffolk*, at the County Hall, the 5th of *May*, 1775:

WILLIAM SMITH, *Chairman*.

The letter from the Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence of *New-York*, recommending to this County to choose Deputies to meet Deputies from all the Counties in this Province in General Congress, in the City of *New-York*, on *Monday*, 22d of *May* instant, being read,

Voted, *nem. con.*, That Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Honmedieu, Thomas Wickham*, and *James Havens*, or any three of them, be Deputies for this County, who are hereby fully empowered to meet the Deputies from the other Counties in this Province, in Provincial Congress, in

*New-York* or elsewhere, on the 22d day of this instant, to deliberate upon, and, from time to time, to direct such measures as shall be expedient for our common safety, and the preservation of our rights and privileges; the said Deputies to act for one year, unless peace and harmony between the Colonies and *Great Britain* be sooner restored, or other persons chosen in their stead.

Signed by order of the Committee:

WM. SMITH, *Chairman*.

SUFFOLK COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE  
OF BROOKHAVEN.

County Hall, May 5, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We beg leave to inform you that the Committees from the several Towns in this County, here met, have chosen seven persons to represent this County at the Provincial Congress, to be held at *New-York* the 22d of this instant, and should be glad of your concurrence therein. The Association Agreement, so generally entered into in *New-York* by all parties, is herewith sent to you, hoping you will sign the same, and take such measures as you judge proper to let the inhabitants of your Town have an opportunity to sign. If your Town approve of our choice, you will signify it to one of the Deputies, and if you think proper to choose a Deputy, it will be very agreeable to this Committee. By order of the Committee:

WM. SMITH, *Chairman*.

To Captain *Nathan Woodhull, Richard Woodhull, Jonathan Thompson, John Woodhull, Selah Strong, Thomas Helmes*, Esquires, Major *Benjamin Floyd*, and Mr. *Samuel Thompson*, of *Brookhaven*.

## WESTCHESTER COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

We, who are this day appointed as a Committee for the County of *Westchester*, do certify that *Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, Robert Graham, and William Paulding*, were chosen to be the Deputies from this County to the Provincial Convention of the Province of *New-York*.

Witness our hands, the eighth day of *May*, in the year of our *Lord* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

GILBERT DRAKE, *Chairman*.

|                   |                    |                  |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| David Dan,        | Jona. G. Tompkins, | Thomas Thomas,   |
| James Harner,     | Jona. G. Graham,   | George Comb,     |
| Micah Townsend,   | Jonathan Platt,    | Samuel Drake,    |
| Lewis Morris,     | Gilbert Thom,      | Michael Hays,    |
| Samuel Crawford,  | James Varian,      | Benoni Platt,    |
| F. Van Cortlandt, | Robert Bloomer,    | Samuel Haviland, |
| Benjamin Lyon,    | William Miller,    | Joshua Ferris,   |
| Miles Oakley,     |                    |                  |

MEETING OF THE FREEHOLDERS OF GOSHEN PRECINCT,  
NEW-YORK.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Precinct of *Goshen*, in the County of *Orange*, and Colony of *New-York*, assembled at the house of Mr. *Isaac Nicoll*, Inn-holder, in the Town of *Goshen*, on *Wednesday*, the 10th day of *May*, 1775:

PETER CLOWES, *Chairman*.

Resolved, *unanimously*, That as the present critical situation of affairs makes it necessary for a Provincial Congress to be held, that *Michael Jackson, Peter Clowes, Benjamin Tusten*, and *William Allison*, or any two of them, do attend therein at the City of *New-York*, on the 22d day of this instant, *May*, as Delegates for this Precinct. By order of the meeting:

BALTH. DE HEART, *Clerk*.

## MEETING OF COMMITTEES OF ULSTER COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

At a meeting of the Committees of the several Towns and Precincts in the County of *Ulster*, elected and appointed to meet in Provincial Convention, at the City of *New-York*, on the 22d day of *May* instant, or at such other time and place as may be agreed on, held at *New-Paltz*, at the house of Mrs. *Ann Dubois*, in the County aforesaid, the 11th day of *May*, 1775, the following per-



sons appeared as Committees for the different Towns and Precincts, viz :

**KINGSTON.**—*Abraham Van Keuren, Johannes Snyder, Esquire, Egbert Dumond, Esquire, Oke Sudam, Jacobus Van Goesbeck.*

**AWSEY.**—*Adrian Wynkoop, Esquire, Captain John Van Deusen, Matthew Ten Eyck, Charles De Witt, Esq.*

**MARBLETOWN.**—*Matthew Cantine, Levi Pawling, John Cantine, David Bevier, Cornelius E. Wynkoop, Esq's.*

**ROCHESTER.**—*Andries De Witt, Esq., Jacob Hornbeck, Esq., Johannes Schoonmaker, Joachim Schoonmaker, Jacobus Van Wagenon, Andries Bevier.*

**WALLKILL.**—*William Wilkin, Francis Byrns.*

**NEW-WINDSOR.**—*Captain James M. Claghry, John Nicolson, Esquire, Colonel James Clinton.*

**NEWBURGH.**—*Col. Jonathan Hasbrouck, John Robinson, Benjamin Birdsell.*

**NEW-MARLBOROUGH.**—*Lewis Du Bois, Benjamin Carpenter, Esq., Joseph Morey.*

**NEW-PALTZ.**—*Jacob Hasbrouck, Joseph Hasbrouck, Johannes A. Hardenbergh, Andries Lafever, Esquire, Abraham Donaldson, Esquire.*

**SHAWANGUNK.**—*Jacobus Bruyn, Johan. Jansen, Matthew Rea, Benj. Smedes, Esquires, Capt. Thomas Jansen, Jr., Major Johannes Hardenbergh, Dirck Roosa.*

**HANOVER.**—*Dr. Charles Clinton, Alexander Trimble, Arthur Parks, William Jackson, Abimael Young.*

*Charles De Witt, Esquire, being unanimously chosen and appointed Chairman, the business of the day was opened, when Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh, Colonel James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Esquire, Dr. Charles Clinton, Christopher Tappen, John Nicolson, and Jacob Hornbeck, Esquires, were nominated, and unanimously chosen and appointed Deputies for the said County, to serve in Provincial Convention, at the City of New-York, on the 22d day of May instant, or at such other time and place as may be agreed on, in order to adopt and endeavour to carry into execution whatever measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved upon by our Provincial Convention, for the purpose of preserving our Constitution, and opposing the execution of the several arbitrary and oppressive acts of the British Parliament, until a reconciliation between Great Britain and America, on constitutional principles, can be obtained; with such further power to declare the sense of this County relative to the grievances and oppressions under which His Majesty's American subjects now groan, and to consult such measures as may tend to the preservation of the rights and liberties of America. And the Deputies hereby appointed are instructed (when met in Provincial Convention) to move that a day be set apart for publick fasting and prayer throughout the Colony, to implore Divine aid in restoring a happy reconciliation between the Mother Country and her American Colonies.*

*Ordered, That the proceedings of this day be signed by the Chairman, and that the same be published in the New-York Journal.* CH. DE WITT, Chairman.

To Col. Johannes Hardenbergh, Col. James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Esq., Dr. Charles Clinton, Christopher Tappen, John Nicolson, and Jacob Hornbeck, Esq's.

#### MEETING OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee in the Townships of *White-Creek, Camden, Adingtown, Manchester, Dorset, Rupert, Pollett, and Wells*, in the County of *Charlotte*, Province of *New-York*, for choosing two Delegates to meet at the Convention at *New-York*, the 22d instant: Be it known, that *John Williams* and *William Marsh* were elected for the purpose above mentioned, as witness our hands, this 12th day of *May*, 1775.

Signed by the Committee:

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| HAMILTON McCALLISTER, | JONA. WILLARD,  |
| JOHN WILLIAMS,        | SMITH SMITH,    |
| WILLIAM MARSH,        | CALEB SMITH,    |
| JOSHUA CONKEY,        | JOS. MCCracken, |
| NATHAN HAWLEY,        | JOHN BATIS,     |
| SAMUEL ROSE,          | JAMES HEARD,    |
| JOHN NESBETT,         | CEPHAS KENT.    |

#### MEETING OF FREEHOLDERS OF HAVERSTRAW (NEW-YORK) PRECINCT.

Whereas, it is proposed that a Provincial Convention of Deputies, from the different Cities and Counties in this Province, should meet in the City of *New-York*, on the 22d day of this instant, in order to deliberate and direct such measures as may be thought necessary for the preservation of our rights and liberties, we, the freeholders and inhabitants of the Precinct of *Haverstraw*, in the County of *Orange*, being met, do unanimously choose *John Coe* and *David Pye* as Deputies to represent the said Precinct, and do authorize and empower the said *John Coe* and *David Pye* to represent the said Precinct in the said Convention, and to act, transact, and direct all such measures as shall be thought necessary for the purposes aforesaid. By order of the said meeting:

JOHANNES ISA BLANVELT, Moderator.

May 12, 1775.

#### MAMICOTING COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

May 13, 1775.

The inhabitants of the Precinct of *Mamicotung* met together, and chose a Committee; likewise they all signed the Association, and are determined to stand by the same. And whereas we were destitute of militia officers hitherto, the following officers were chosen, viz: *Jacob Rutson De Witt*, Captain; *Abraham Cuddeback*, Junior, First Lieutenant; *Robert Cook*, Second Lieutenant; *Samuel King*, Ensign. We, the Committee, do think it proper to send you the account of our proceedings. Although *Benjamin Depuy*, Esquire, of our Precinct, joined the County Committee, yet it was before we were formed into a Committee.

Whereas, we are a frontier Company, if an *Indian* war should happen to break out, difficulties may arise by the officers lacking authority: we therefore petition the gentlemen of the Congress that the nominated officers may be authorized to act as in commission. And whereas, there are several poor men in our Precinct, who are able and willing to fight for their rights and liberty, and not capable of providing themselves either with arms or ammunition: we, therefore, further petition that you, gentlemen, will take it into consideration, and provide for such poor people; and you will oblige your humble petitioners. By order of the Committee:

JOHN YOUNG, Chairman.

To the Chairman of the Provincial Congress, convened in the City of *New-York*.

#### MEETING OF THE INHABITANTS OF CORNWALL (NEW-YORK) PRECINCT.

Blooming Grove, May 15, 1775.

At a meeting of the Freeholders of the Precinct of *Cornwall*, in *Orange* County, held at the house of *John Brewster*, on the 15th of *May*, 1775, convened agreeably to advertisement: After choosing *Jesse Woodhull*, Esq., Moderator, and *Thomas Moffat*, Clerk, a letter was then read, signed by *Isaac Low*, Chairman of the Committee of *New-York*, recommending the choosing of Deputies in the several Counties in this Province, to represent them in Provincial Congress on the 22d instant. The meeting then proceeded deliberately, and chose *Israel Seely*, *Jesse Woodhull*, Esquire, and *Jeremiah Clark*, (or any one of them,) Deputies for this Precinct for the purposes aforesaid, as part of the representation of the County of *Orange*.

JESSE WOODHULL, Chairman.

#### COMMITTEE OF DUTCHESS COUNTY TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

We, the subscribers, do hereby certify, that at a County meeting, in consequence of notifications for that purpose, held at *Poughkeepsie*, on *Tuesday*, the 16th *May*, 1775, *Dirck Brinkerhoff*, *Anthony Hoffman*, *Zephaniah Platt*, *Richard Montgomery*, *Ephraim Paine*, *Gilbert Livingston*, and *Jonathan Landon*, Esquires, and Messrs. *Gysbert Schenck*, *Melancthon Smith*, and *Nathaniel Sackett*, were, by a majority of voices, elected Deputies for the term of six months, to represent the County of *Dutchess*



in the Provincial Convention to be held at the City of *New-York*, on the 22d instant.

ROSSELL HOPKINS, ANANIAS COOPER,  
BEV. ROBINSON, JACOB SWARTWOUT,  
JAMES SMITH, JONATHAN LEWIS,  
ABRAHAM BOCKER, EGBERT BENSON.  
CORNELIUS HUMPHREY,

#### VOTE OF FIRST COMPANY IN BROOKHAVEN, NEW-YORK.

Brookhaven, May 17, 1775.

Whereas, the Committees of the several Towns within the County of *Suffolk* met at the County-Hall on the 5th of *May*, 1775; and whereas *Brookhaven* was not represented by a Committee at said meeting, the several Committees thought fit to write a letter to the inhabitants of said *Brookhaven*, signifying their desire that they should unite with the other Towns in choosing a Deputy to unite with the seven Deputies which they had chosen to represent this County at the Provincial Congress, to be held at *New-York*, on the 22d day of this instant:

Now we, the residents within the limits of the First Company of Militia of said Town, do, in conjunction with the other Companies in said Township, choose *Selah Strong*, Esquire, as one of the Deputies to represent said County. In witness whereof we have hereunto signed our names.

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| NATHAN WOODHULL,    | THOMAS SMITH,        |
| JONATHAN THOMPSON,  | ALEX. HAWKINS,       |
| NATHANIEL ROE,      | DAVID HAWKINS,       |
| RICHARD WOODHULL,   | SIMEON HAWKINS,      |
| SAMUEL THOMPSON,    | ALEX. HAWKINS, JUN., |
| SELAH STRONG, JUN., | JACOB HAWKINS,       |
| CALEB BREWSTER,     | EDMUND SMITH,        |
| NATH'L ROE, JUN.,   | SAMUEL DAVIS,        |
| PHILIP ROE,         | JOSEPH HAWKINS,      |
| JOHN ROE,           | ISAAC DAVIS.         |

#### VOTE OF SECOND COMPANY IN BROOKHAVEN, NEW-YORK.

Brookhaven, May 17, 1775.

There being met the Second Company of the above-said Town, whereof *Ebenezer Miller* is Captain, and were desired that all such as were willing to be represented in the Provincial Convention, to be held at *New-York*, the 22d of this month, would manifest it by setting their votes or names to this paper. *Selah Strong*, Esquire, being the man chosen to represent us.

|                        |                       |                        |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Capt. Ebenezer Miller, | Joshua Davis,         | Richard Davis,         |
| Lieut. Woodhull,       | Samuel Philips, Jun., | Jeffry Woodhull,       |
| Ensign Davis,          | William Philips,      | Chapman Davis,         |
| Noah Hallock,          | Israel Davis,         | Noah Hallock, Jun.,    |
| David Davis,           | Andrew Miller,        | Joseph Brown, Jun.,    |
| Merrit Smith Woodhull, | Henry Woodhull,       | Mica Skidmore,         |
| Joseph Philips,        | James Woodhull,       | Ryneer Vanhoosen,      |
| Timothy Norton, Jun.,  | Gilbert Woodhull,     | Justis Jno. Woodhull,  |
| Azel Jarritt,          | Jacob Eaton,          | Joseph Brown,          |
| Edmond Robinson,       | Fortunatus Taylor,    | Thomas Robinson,       |
| Daniel Bales,          | Josiah Hallock,       | Dr. Theophil. Philips, |
| Martin Brown,          | Spiser Davis,         | Thomas Balis,          |
| Elisha Davis,          | Josiah Woodhull,      | Rosel Hubberd,         |
| Silas Davis,           | William Miller,       | Joseph Davis,          |
| Timothy Davis,         | Gilbert Davis,        |                        |

The above names signed in the presence of us:

WISSELL SILL, Clerk,  
EBENEZER MILLER,  
JOSEPH BROWN.

#### VOTE OF THIRD COMPANY IN BROOKHAVEN, NEW-YORK.

Brookhaven, May 17, 1775.

There were called together the Third Company, commanded by Captain *Nathan Rose*.

The question being put, whether they were for appointing a Deputy in this Town to join the other Deputies of this County, to meet the Provincial Convention, to be held the twenty-second of this instant *May*, in *New-York*, to consult the general good of this Colony; passed in the affirmative *nemine contradicente*.

Then the question was put, whether *Selah Strong*, Esq., should be the man to represent this Town, in joining with the other Deputies of this County, in Provincial Convention, to be held in *New-York*, the twenty-second of this

instant? Passed, without one dissenting voice, in the affirmative, to which they have affixed their names.

|                    |                      |                     |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Capt. Nathan Rose, | William Baker,       | Daniel Jones,       |
| Lieut. Thos. Rose, | Benaiah Hubbard,     | Francis Barto, Jr.  |
| John Marvin,       | Samuel Dayton,       | John Smith,         |
| Jehiel Weed,       | Richard Hulse,       | Stephen Satterly,   |
| Matthew Woodruff,  | Joseph Terry,        | Nathaniel Brewster, |
| Thaddeus Cole,     | Jeffery Brewster,    | Isaac Robbins,      |
| Jedediah Marvin,   | Robert Hawkins,      | Mordecai Homan, Jr. |
| Ephraim Smith,     | Ebe'zer Homans, Jr., | Ananias Smith,      |
| Thomas Avery,      | Nathaniel Finck,     | Micajah Lane,       |
| Jesse Rose,        | Mord. Homan, 3d.     | Ezekiel Homan,      |
| Isaac Woodruff,    | Matthew Marvin,      | Daniel Rose,        |
| Ezekiel Hedges,    | Reynold Finck,       | Mordecai Homan,     |
| Isaiah Moger,      | Joseph Homan,        | Nathaniel Smith,    |
| Ebenezer Homan,    | Jonah Tucker,        | Joseph Sweazy.      |
| Nathan Rose, Jun., | Matthew Beale,       |                     |

We, the underwritten persons, were present when the above and within persons subscribed their names, and were freeholders and inhabitants within the Town of *Brookhaven*.

WILLIAM SMITH,  
NATH'L WOODHULL,  
JOSIAH SMITH.

#### VOTE OF FOURTH COMPANY IN BROOKHAVEN, NEW-YORK.

Brookhaven, May 16, 1775.

Met the Fourth Company of *Brookhaven*, whereof *David Mulford* is Captain, and were desired to manifest, by their votes, whether they were desirous to be represented in the Provincial Convention, to be held at *New-York*, the twenty-second of this instant, P. M.; then, who should represent them.

*Voted*, That *Selah Strong*, Esq., be the person to represent them. Passed without contradiction, to which we have subscribed our names.

|                      |                      |                     |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| W. Brewster, Lieut.  | Daniel Roe,          | William Swezey,     |
| E. Davis, Qu'master. | Jonathan Johnes,     | Gillum Davis,       |
| C. Moger, Ensign.    | Job Mulford,         | Selah Brown,        |
| J. Howel, Sergeant.  | Ludly Clarke,        | Goldsmith Davis,    |
| N. Norton, Serg't.   | William Still,       | Zopher Davis,       |
| D. Mulford, Clerk.   | William Gerrard, Jr. | John Leek,          |
| James Overton,       | Nehemiah Hulse,      | William Clark, Jr., |
| Benjamin Woodhull,   | Daniel Swezey,       | Daniel Davis, Jr.,  |
| Mordecai Homan,      | Isaac Swezey,        | Ebenezer Dayton,    |
| Stephen Randal,      | John Turner,         | Abel Swezey,        |
| John Albeen,         | Nathaniel Overton,   | James Swezey,       |
| Isaac Smith,         | John Arnold,         | Francis Hallit,     |
| Jonathan Benjamin,   | Jonathan Jones,      | Messenger Overton,  |
| Palmer Overton,      | Daniel Petty,        | Isaac Davis,        |
| Benjamin Gerrard,    | Gershom Brown,       | Timothy Wood,       |
| William Davis,       | Brewster Terry,      | Wm Brewster, Jr.,   |
| William Edwards,     | Nathan Davis,        | James Sell,         |
| James Moger,         | James Orsborn,       | Benjamin Petty,     |
| Samuel Tallmadge,    | Justus Overton,      | Christopher Swezey, |
| Bennet Dayton,       | Paul Hulse,          | Enos Bishop,        |
| James Tucker,        | Wm. Clarke, Sen.,    | Eleazer Bellows,    |
| Luke Pritchard,      | Joseph Seward, Jun., | Samuel Satterly,    |
| Gershom Terry,       | Arthur Moger,        | James Swezey, Jr.   |
| Joseph Garrard,      | Joseph Terry,        |                     |

Those of the contrary mind:

J. Homan, Sergeant. David Overton, Zach. Hawkins, Jr.,  
Nath. Longbottom, Timothy Lane.

The above dissenters professed to be nothing against or for the vote, but stand as neutrals.

*Note*.—The whole of the names in both lists were put down at their desire, in presence of us,

EBENEZER DAYTON,  
JOHN WOODHULL,  
WILLIAM SMITH.

#### AN ADDRESS FROM JAMES RIVINGTON TO THE HONOURABLE DELEGATES AT THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Whereas the subscriber, by the freedom of his publications during the present unhappy disputes between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, has brought upon himself much publick displeasure and resentment, in consequence of which his life has been endangered, his property invaded, and a regard to his personal safety requires him still to be absent from his family and business; and whereas it has been ordered by the Committee of Correspondence for the City of *New-York*, that a report of the state of his case should be made to the Continental Congress, that the manner of his future treatment may be submitted to their direction; he thinks himself happy in having at last for his judges, gentlemen of eminent rank and distinction in the Colonies, from whose enlarged and liberal sentiments, he flatters himself that he can receive no other than an equitable sentence, unbiased by popular clamour and resentment. He humbly



presumes that the very respectable gentlemen of the Congress now sitting at *Philadelphia*, will permit him to declare, and, as a man of honour and veracity, he can and does solemnly declare, that however wrong and mistaken he may have been in his opinions, he has always meant honestly and openly to do his duty as a servant of the publick. Accordingly his conduct, as a printer, has always been conformable to the ideas which he entertained of *English* liberty, warranted by the practice of all printers in *Great Britain* and *Ireland* for a century past, under every Administration; authorized, as he conceives, by the laws of *England*, and countenanced by the declarations of the late Congress. He declares that his press has been always open and free to all parties, and for the truth of this fact appeals to his publications, among which are to be reckoned all the pamphlets, and many of the best pieces that have been written in this and the neighbouring Colonies in favour of the *American* claims. However, having found that the inhabitants of the Colonies were not satisfied with this plan of conduct, a few weeks ago he published in his paper a short apology, in which he assured the publick that he would be cautious, for the future, of giving any further offence. To this declaration he resolves to adhere, and he cannot but hope for the patronage of the publick so long as his conduct shall be found to correspond with it. It is his wish and ambition to be an useful member of society. Although an *Englishman* by birth, he is an *American* by choice, and he is desirous of devoting his life, in the business of his profession, to the service of the Country he has adopted for his own. He lately employed no less than sixteen workmen, at near one thousand Pounds annually; and his consumption of printing paper, the manufacture of *Pennsylvania*, *New-York*, *Connecticut*, and the *Massachusetts-Bay*, has amounted nearly to that sum. His extensive foreign correspondence, his large acquaintance in *Europe* and *America*, and the manner of his education, are circumstances which, he conceives, have not improperly qualified him for the station in which he wishes to continue, and in which he will exert every endeavour to be useful. He therefore humbly submits his case to the consideration of the honourable gentlemen now assembled in the Continental Congress, and begs that their determination may be such as will secure him, especially as it is the only thing that can effectually secure him in the safety of his person, the enjoyment of his property, and the uninterrupted prosecution of his business.

JAMES RIVINGTON.

May 20, 1775.

#### TOWN MEETING IN BROOKLYN, NEW-YORK.

Brooklyn, Kings County, Nassau Island, May 20, 1775.

At a general Town Meeting, regularly warned, the Magistrates and Freeholders met, and voted *Jeremiah Remsen*, Esq., into the Chair, and *Leffert Lefferts*, Esq., Clerk.

Taking into our serious consideration the expediency and propriety of concurring with the freeholders and freemen of the City and County of *New-York*, and the other Counties, Townships, and Precincts, within this Province, for holding, continuing, and maintaining a Provincial Congress of Deputies, chosen out of the whole Province, to advise, consider, consult, watch over, protect, and defend, at this very alarming crisis, all our civil and religious rights, liberties, and privileges, according to their collective prudence:

After duly weighing and considering the unjust plunder and inhuman carnage committed on the property and persons of our brethren in the *Massachusetts*, who, with the other *New-England* Colonies, are now deemed, by the Mother Country, to be in a state of actual rebellion, by which declaration *England* hath put it beyond their own power to treat with *New-England*, or to propose or receive any terms of reconciliation, until those Colonies will submit as, or shall become a conquered Country; the first effort to effect which was by military and naval force; the next attempt is to bring a famine (a dreadful engine of war) amongst them, by depriving them of both their natural and acquired right of fishing—natural by their situation, acquired by their joint exertions to acquire the sovereignty of those fisheries: Further, contemplating the very unhappy situation to which the powers at home, by oppressive measures, have driven all the other Protestant Provinces, (in which we are included,) we have all evils in their power

to fear, as they have already declared all the Provinces aiders and abettors of rebellion: It remains only with the infallibility and omnipotency of Parliament, to determine how the Crown of *England* can propose to, or accept of any conditions of accommodations from any of these Protestant Provinces: Therefore,

1st. *Resolved*, That *Henry Williams* and *Jeremiah Remsen*, Esquires, be now elected, chosen, and deputed by us, and in our behalf, Deputies for this Township, to meet and associate with all the Deputies of the Cities, Counties, Townships, and Precincts, within this Province of *New-York*, in a Provincial Convention, intended to be holden in the City of *New-York* on *Monday* next, the twenty-second day of this present instant, *May*, and so to continue to meet from time to time, and at all times, according to the adjournments of the said Provincial Convention, and then and there to consider, consult, agree, determine, act, and do all prudential and necessary business accordingly.

2d. *Resolved*, That we, confiding in the wisdom and equity of said Convention, collectively, do consent, agree, and conclude to observe, abide by and fulfil, all necessary and warrantable acts, associations, orders, and directions, as the said Provincial Congress shall, in their prudence, require, direct, and enjoin.

Signed by order of the Town Meeting:

LEFFERT LEFFERTS, Clerk.

#### COMMITTEE FROM CONNECTICUT TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, Friday Morning, nine o'clock, }  
May 21, 1775. }

SIR: As we are much indisposed, think it most prudent to set out for *Connecticut*, and shall leave this City at two o'clock this afternoon. If the Convention have any commands to the Governour and Company of that Colony, we shall be proud of the honour of executing them. Mr. *Edwards* will go afterwards to *New-Jersey*, and, on his way to *Connecticut*, will wait on the Convention of this Province for further intelligence, and will give them such information as lies in his power.

We are, Sir, your most obedient humble servants,

NATHANIEL WALES,  
THADDEUS BURR.

The Honourable *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq.

#### MEETING OF COMMITTEES FOR KINGS COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

Flatbush, May 22, 1775.

At a meeting held this twenty-second day of *May*, of the several Deputies of the different Townships in *Kings* County, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent the County of *Kings* in Provincial Congress, now held in the City of *New-York*, agreeable to said meeting, they have and hereby do appoint *Richard Stilwell*, *Theodorus Polhemus*, *John Lefferts*, *Nicholas Covenhoven*, *Johannes E. Lott*, *John Van Der Bilt*, *Henry Williams*, and *Jeremiah Remsen*, Esquires, Delegates, or any three of them, to represent and fully to act in behalf of the before mentioned County, in Provincial Congress before named, now held in the City of *New-York*.

ABRAHAM E. LOTT, Secretary.

#### MEETING OF FREEHOLDERS AT JAMAICA, NEW-YORK.

At a meeting of a number of the Freeholders of *Queens* County, at *Jamaica*, on the 22d day of *May* inst., pursuant to publick notice thereof given, I certify that the following persons, to wit: Col. *Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Daniel Rapelye*, Esq., *Zebulon Williams*, Esquire, *Samuel Townsend*, Esq., *Joseph French*, Esq., *Joseph Robinson*, *Nathaniel Tom*, *Thomas Hicks*, Esq., and Captain *Richard Thorne*, were unanimously chosen and elected Deputies for the said County, to meet in Provincial Congress with the Deputies from the other Counties within this Province. Given under my hand this 22d day of *May*, 1775.

DANL. KISSAM, Chairman.

Vote of the Town of *JAMAICA*, in *QUEENS* County, *NEW-YORK*, on the expediency of choosing a Deputy; pre-



sented to the Provincial Congress on the 21st day of APRIL, 1775.—[See Folio 356.]

No Committee—No Deputy.

Adam Lawrence,  
Johannes Polherthus,  
Joseph Oldfield,  
Tunis Bargin,  
Charles Arding,  
John Lamberson,  
John Smith,  
John Troup,  
Powel Amberman,  
Johannes Lott,  
Johannes Suedeker,  
Joseph Goldor,  
Abraham Ditus,  
Jecooniah Valentine,  
William Cornell,  
Isaac Amberman,  
Lucas Eldord,  
Stephen Lott,  
William Welling,  
Nich. Van Ausdell,  
Lucas Bergen,  
John Wiggins,  
Obadiah Mills,  
Aury Ramson,  
John Williamson,  
Cornelius Bennet,  
Nicholas Jones,  
Saml Doughty,  
Daniel Ramson,  
John Forster,  
Thomas Betts,  
John Bennet,

John Doughty,  
Nathaniel Higby,  
Richard Betts, Capt.  
Tunis Covert,  
Nicholas Lamberson,  
Simeon Lamberson,  
William Pettet,  
Johan. Williamson,  
Obadiah Hinckman,  
Jacob Bargin,  
Nicholas Ludlam,  
Bernardus Ryder,  
Philip Platt,  
Nathaniel Mills, Jr.,  
Johannes Elderd,  
Peter Noorstrout,  
Garret Noorstrout,  
Garret Durland, Jr.,  
Garret Durland, Sr.,  
Jacob Lott,  
Nathl. Townsend,  
Garret Snedeker,  
Derrick Bargin,  
Stephen Clements,  
A. Van Noorstrout,  
Nathaniel Mills, Sr.,  
Matthias Lamberson,  
George Rierson,  
John Ramson,  
Stephen Higby,  
John Ramson, Sen.,

A. Van Noorstrout,  
Daniel Lawrence,  
George Dunbar,  
Henry Higby,  
Benjamin Doughty,  
William Watts,  
John Watts,  
William Golden,  
Timothy Cornell,  
John Van Leew,  
Jabesh Woodruff,  
Joseph Van Brunt,  
John Rowlan,  
Hope Mills,  
Benj. Whitehead,  
Nehemiah Carpenter,  
Hendrick Emmens,  
R. Ramson, Jamaica,  
John Bargin,  
Dow Ditus,  
Evert Van Wickley,  
William Thatford,  
Anthony Ramson,  
John Noorstrout,  
Garret Lotting,  
Ludlam Smith,  
Samuel Forster,  
Isaac Leffert,  
Rueloff Duryee,  
Johannes Polhermus,  
J. French, Esq.—94.

For a Deputy.

Captain Rutgers,  
John Skidmore,  
Robert Hinckman,  
Waters Smith,  
William Ludlam,  
Abraham Kettletas,  
Jonas Fredrick,  
William Steed,  
John Mills,  
Isaac Bayley,  
Increase Carpenter,  
John Cockle,  
Isaac Hendrickson,  
John Innes, Sen.,  
Elias Bayley,  
Aaron Hendrickson,  
Robert Denton,  
John Smith,  
Jacob Wright,  
Nicholas Smith, Sr.,  
William Messenger,  
Nicholas Everitt,  
Peter Smith,  
John Brimmer,  
Daniel Tuthill,  
H. Hendrickson, Sr.,  
Daniel Everitt,  
John Brush,  
Isaac Roads,

John Roads,  
Jonah Roads,  
A. Hendrickson,  
Whited Skidmore,  
Christopher Ryder,  
Amos Denton,  
Samuel Skidmore,  
Noah Smith,  
Daniel Bayley,  
Wait Smith,  
John Thurston,  
Hope Roads,  
Samuel Messenger,  
John J. Skidmore,  
Jacques Johnson,  
Nehemiah Everitt,  
Increase Carpenter,  
Joseph Higby,  
Andrew Oackly,  
Moses Higby,  
Jacob Forster,  
Daniel Ludlam,  
Saml. Higby, cooper,  
H. Hendrickson, Jr.,  
Cornelius Losee,  
Daniel Smith,  
Samuel Higby, Jr.,  
Jonathan Thurston,

Nathaniel Smith,  
Ephraim Marston,  
J. Hendrickson, Jr.,  
Othniel Smith,  
Samuel Smith,  
William Creed,  
Nehemiah Carpenter,  
John Skidmore, Jr.,  
Thomas Denton,  
Benjamin Everitt,  
John Van Leew,  
Benjamin Creed,  
Isaac Mills,  
Nicholas Smith, Jr.,  
Benj. Hinckman,  
David Lamberson,  
Nathaniel Box,  
William Creed, Jr.,  
Ephraim Bayley,  
Obadiah Smith,  
Jacob Carpenter,  
Nehemiah Carpenter,  
Joshua Carpenter,  
Richard Roads,  
John Messenger,  
Joseph Robinson,  
Thomas Wiggins,  
Jacob Duryee.—85.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE ALBANY COMMITTEE.

Ticonderoga, May 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I take the liberty to advise you that, on the 13th instant, having proceeded from this place to *St. John's*, with a party of my Regiment, of thirty-five men, I surprised and took prisoners a sergeant and his party of twelve men, the King's sloop, of seventy tons and seven men, mounted with two brass six-pounders, and in two hours after weighed anchor with the sloop, &c., and proceeded for this place. Six leagues this side of *St. John's*, met one Colonel *Allen*, with a party of near one hundred men, who were determined to proceed to *St. John's*, and make a stand there. Not being able to dissuade them from their rash design, I supplied them with provisions. They then proceeded to *St. John's*, and the next morning were attacked by about two hundred Regulars, with six field-pieces, and were obliged to make a precipitate retreat, with the loss of three men killed or taken. The party arrived here last evening.

I am now fixing the sloop with six carriages and ten swivels; the schooner with four carriages and six swivels, and am determined to proceed to *Crown Point*, and make a stand there, in order to secure the cannon, near one hundred pieces, at that place. We are in great want of a number of seamen, gunners, carpenters, &c., for both vessels. Our safety, in a great measure, depends on them, (the vessels,) as they will be able to command the lake, if properly manned. Enclosed is a list of men wanted immediately, which I beg the favour of you, gentlemen, to ship and send

up here without loss of time, furnishing them with such things as you judge necessary. I have judicious able commanders for both vessels, and want only mates, gunners, marines, &c. Annexed is the wages I propose giving, but must refer that to your direction; and any sums you are kind enough to advance for the above purpose, I will give a draft for on the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, being fully empowered for that purpose. We have only one hundred and fifty pounds of good powder for both vessels, and one hundred men. I have wrote repeatedly to *Albany* for powder, and must once more entreat you, gentlemen, if not forwarded, to send me as soon as possible ten or twelve hundred weight of powder. If the seamen, &c., are not to be procured at *Albany*, I beg the favour of you to forward this letter to the Committee of Safety at *New-York*, and you will much oblige, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD,  
Commander at *Ticonderoga*.

To the Committee of Safety at *Albany*.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE ASSEMBLY OF CONNECTICUT.

Crown Point, May 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: My last was of the 19th instant, per Captain *Oswald*. I then advised you of my taking possession of the King's sloop, &c., at *St. John's*, and that, on the 18th instant, I met Colonel *Allen*, with eighty or one hundred men, who were proceeding to *St. John's*, with intention to make a stand there; and not being able to dissuade them from their rash purpose, I supplied them with provisions, &c. Yesterday he returned to *Ticonderoga*, with his party, and says, that on the evening of the 18th he arrived at *St. John's*, and hearing of a detachment of men on the road from *Montreal*, lay in ambush for them; but his party being so much fatigued, when the detachment were at about two miles distance, he thought proper to retreat, and crossed the lake at *St. John's*, where they continued the night, and at dawn of day were saluted with a discharge of grape-shot from six field-pieces, and a discharge of small arms from about two hundred Regulars. They made a precipitate retreat, and left three men behind. Immediately on this intelligence I proceeded for this place with the sloop and schooner, as well armed as possible under our circumstances, and eighty men, which, with the party here before, makes near one hundred and fifty men, with whom I am determined to make a stand here to secure the cannon, &c. As the Regulars have got advice of our strength and movements, I am apprehensive of their paying us a visit, provided they can get batteaus from *Montreal* to *St. John's*. I shall make every possible preparation to give them a warm reception. We have plenty of ball of every kind, but have no more than one hundred and fifty pounds of powder here. I have wrote repeatedly to *Albany* for powder, and can get none. I must entreat you, gentlemen, to send me four or five hundred weight as soon as possible. Out of twenty-six barrels found here there is not one pound good.

I am, with great esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

The Hon. General Assembly of *Connecticut*.

P. S. This will be delivered you, gentlemen, by Captain *Phelps*, who has been very serviceable here, whom I must refer you to for particulars. Must beg leave to observe, I think it highly necessary for *Connecticut* to send here immediately fifteen hundred men at least, with good arms, ammunition, &c.

GENTLEMEN: Since writing the above, one of Colonel *Allen's* party, taken at *St. John's*, made his escape on the 19th instant, and says there were then four hundred Regulars at *St. John's*, making all possible preparation to cross the lake, and expected to be joined by a number of *Indians*, with a design of retaking these places, &c. I have sent to alarm the country for fifty miles below *Skenesborough*, and fifty miles below *Fort George*, towards *Albany*. The men from that distance will be sufficient for the present, if we are well supplied with powder. We are making all possible preparation, and I hope, with the smiles of Providence, to keep our ground, if not overpowered by numbers. I am, gentlemen, yours, &c.,

B. ARNOLD.



## BENEDICT ARNOLD TO CAPTAIN NOAH LEE.

Crown Point, May 23, 1775.

SIR: I am this minute advised by one of Colonel *Allen's* party, who was taken prisoner and made his escape from *St. John's* on the 18th instant, that there were then arrived at that place four hundred Regulars, and more expected, besides the *Indians*, who were repairing the boats, with a design to cross the lake, and, if possible, to retake *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*. It is my hearty desire that every man within fifty miles of *Skenesborough*, who can be of service, would immediately repair to *Ticonderoga* or *Crown Point*, and bring all the powder that can be found, and as many spades, pick-axes, and hoes, as they have. Let this letter be forwarded down the country, that they may send up provisions to supply the families of the upper Towns, who are obliged to come forward this way. Let them bring all the good arms they have.

BENEDICT ARNOLD, *Commander-in-Chief.*Captain *Noah Lee*.

P. S. We have only one hundred and fifty men here and at *Ticonderoga*.

## ALBANY COMMITTEE TO THE COMMITTEE OF PALATINE DISTRICT.

Committee-Chamber, Albany, May 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We received yours of the 21st instant, and can assure you that we sympathise with you in your distressed and distracted situation; but at the same time must rejoice to find you so warmly engaged amidst the opposition you meet with, in the grand plan of operation generally, nay almost universally adopted through the Colonies, for the preservation of our liberty, and security of our property. Enclosed you have a copy of a letter we have sent to Colonel *Guy Johnson*. We have sent also a Committee to join a Committee from *Schenectady* to wait upon him to know the reasons of his military preparations, and the source from whence those apprehensions he has from an assault from the *New-England* people arose; an answer to the speech of the *Indian* speech, (a copy of which you have enclosed,) and an interpreter to translate it for him, and to make the *Indians* sensible of the nature of the dispute between the Mother Country and the Colonies.

You complain of a scarcity of ammunition amongst you. We are very sorry that though there was a free communication between you and us, we have it not in our power at present to afford you any assistance in that particular, as the *New-England* people have carried off almost every pound of powder that can be spared, though we understand that the Committee of *Schenectady* have some; but be assured that we will afford you every assistance that is in our power to give, and shall rejoice to walk hand in hand with you in every thing that shall tend to your particular advantage in so critical a situation, and promote the grand the general cause, which thousands of our neighbouring brethren are strenuously supporting, at the expense of their lives and estates. We cannot at present advise you to force a direct communication between you and us, as it may be attended with bad consequences, and perhaps it may be effected without such a risk as you must run in the attempt.

We have heard, several weeks ago, that Colonel *Guy Johnson* had appointed last winter to have a general Congress with the *Indians* this spring. We have wrote a letter to the Reverend *Samuel Kirkland*, missionary among the *Oneida Indians*, to use his influence with them to maintain peace and harmony with the white people.

A Speech of the *Mohawks* to the Magistrates and Committee of the Town of *Schenectady*, and Mayor, Corporation, and Committee of the City of *Albany*, &c., delivered by *Little Abraham*:

BROTHERS: Our present situation is very disagreeable and alarming, what we never expected; therefore desire to know what is designed by the reports that are spread amongst us. We hear that companies and troops are coming from one quarter to another, to molest us; particularly, that a large body are hourly expected from *New-England* to apprehend and take away by violence our Superintendent

and extinguish our council fire; for what reason we know not.

*Brothers*: We desire you would inform us, if you know of any such design on foot, whether by the *New-England* people, or in your vicinity, and not deceive us in this matter, for the consequence will be important and extensive.

*Brothers*: We shall support and defend our Superintendent, and not see our council fire extinguished. We have no inclination or purpose of interfering in the dispute between *Old England* and *Boston*; the white people may settle their own quarrels between themselves; we shall never meddle in those matters, or be the aggressors, if we are let alone. We have, for a long time, lived in great peace with one another, and we wish ever to continue so; but should our Superintendent be taken from us, we dread the consequences; the whole Confederacy would resent it, and all their allies; and as reports now are, we should not know where to find our enemies; the innocent might fall with the guilty. We are so desirous of maintaining peace, that we are unwilling the *Six Nations* should know the bad reports spread amongst us, and threats given out.

*Brothers*: We desire you will satisfy us as to your knowledge of the foundation of these reports, and what your news is, and not deceive us in a matter of so much importance.

ABRAHAM, *Chief.*

[Interpreted by *Samuel Kirkland*, Missionary, May 20, 1775.]

An Answer to a Speech of *Little Abraham*, a *Mohawk*, to the Magistrates and Committee of the Town of *Schenectady*, and Mayor, Corporation, and Committee of the City of *Albany*:

BROTHERS: We are sorry that any reports spread amongst you should alarm you or make you uneasy. We know of no troops or companies coming from any quarter to molest you, or to apprehend and take away by violence your Superintendent, or extinguish your council fire. We have not heard, nor do we know, the *New-England* people ever intended to molest you or your Superintendent; nor do we believe it; for they are our friends, and they are your friends, and will do neither of us injury.

*Brothers*: We cannot, however, pass over in silence what probably may have given rise to such reports. We understand that two persons passing on their own business, were detained by your Superintendent, they being *New-England* men, which is against our laws; perhaps this may have occasioned the report.

*Brothers*: We are extremely well satisfied to learn that you have no inclination or purpose to interfere in the dispute between *Old England* and *America*, for you must not understand that it is with *Boston* alone; it is between *Old England* and all her Colonies; the people here are oppressed by *Old England*, and she sends over Troops among us to destroy us; this is the reason our people are all in alarm to defend themselves. They intend no hostilities against you; do you continue peaceable, and you need apprehend no danger; it is a dispute wherein you have nothing to do; don't you disturb any of our people, and depend upon it they will leave you in peace.

*Brothers*: As we have always lived in strict friendship, so we mean to continue to live in peace, not only with our brethren, the *Mohawks*, but all the *Six Nations*, for which reason we desire our brethren to give ear to no reports that may prevail. You can at any time satisfy yourselves more fully, if you choose to send down to us one or more of your Nation, any of whom we shall always be glad to see, to talk with them on these affairs.

Answer of the *Mohawks* to the Speech of the Magistrates, &c., of *Albany* and *Schenectady*.

Guy Park, May 25, 1775.

Present: *Gysbert Marselis*, *Peter P. Schuyler*, *John Visser*, *John Roseboom*, *Chris. Yates*, of the Committee, Colonel *Johnson*, Superintendent, Colonel *Daniel Claus*, *William Allen*, Esquire, of *Philadelphia*, with several other gentlemen.

*Abraham*, Chief of the *Mohawks*, Speaker.

BROTHERS: We are glad to meet you here at this our fire-place, where we meet to transact business. You are



our old friends, and we heard you came now to answer our speech. We have attended to your answer, and now acquaint you that the reports we had rendered it necessary to send you such a speech, to prevent the dangerous consequences that might ensue.

We are extremely glad to hear your speech, which is very peaceable, and it gives us pleasure, because we would not willingly quarrel with a people with whom we have been so long at peace; and this must have happened, if the news we heard had been true; for we have but one head, and that is Colonel *Johnson*, our Superintendent. We heard that there were designs against him, and we must protect him; we cannot do without him; so that if there are no designs against him, we shall be easy in our minds; for though we have long heard of disputes between the *English* and the people here, we do not think proper to interfere.

You all know that during Sir *William Johnson's* lifetime, and since, we have been peaceably disposed; but we were greatly alarmed at the report of a design against Colonel *Johnson*; for he is our property, and we shall not part with him. We desire you will hearken to us, and that you will believe we speak our minds. We likewise hope you are sincere. But one thing alarms us much, and we hope it is not true. There was a report that you have stopped some powder; you know we get this and other things from our Superintendent; and we are hunters, and must have powder. If we lived as you do, it would not have been so great a loss; but we must have ammunition, and if it is stopped, we shall have reason to doubt your sincerity, and to suspect that you do not regard us or our words. We have both given fair assurances, and hope no doubt remains between us, otherwise it might be bad. We are pleased to hear you say that you are willing to communicate freely with us; this we like, and this is the place where we do business; we will at all times listen to whoever you send here, in the presence of our Superintendent. This is the truth, brothers, and agreeable to the customs of our ancestors, which we shall follow.

The gentlemen of the Committee, after retiring for some little time, returned and gave the following Answer:

**BROTHERS:** We are very glad to hear you speak, and hear you confirm the old friendship of our forefathers, which we intend to abide by, and thank you for the same.

**Brothers:** The reports you have heard of in regard to the powder, we also hope to be false, and assure you that we shall acquaint, on our return, our old and wise men about the same, and do our endeavours to prevent any such things for the future; and you may depend upon it, that whenever we have any business with you, that we shall apply here at your council fire, where we hope to meet you in the presence of your Superintendent; and that we shall always keep the communication free and open as is usual.

To which the *Mohawk* answered:

**BROTHERS:** We are glad both our speeches are so agreeable, and hope that you are not surprised to hear us say we cannot spare Colonel *Johnson*; for besides his being our Superintendent, the love we have for the memory of Sir *William Johnson*, and the obligations the whole *Six Nations* are under to him, must make us regard and protect every branch of his family, whom we include in our speech.

We now find there have been several false reports on both sides; we hope that concerning the powder is one of them; we shall therefore explain the same truly to the rest of our Confederacy, and we expect that you will, on your part, explain the truth immediately to all the white people east and west, as we mean to do the same among the *Indians*.

COMMITTEE FROM CONNECTICUT TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.  
New-York, May 24, 1775.

**SIR:** The House of Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut* have appointed us a Committee on their behalf to wait on the "Provincial Convention of this Province, in order to procure intelligence of the measures that may be adopted by said Convention, respecting the common cause of the *British Colonies*; to communicate

a true state of the measures taken by said Colony; and to cultivate the friendship and harmony which subsists between this Province and that Colony:" we therefore take the liberty, through you, to communicate the business of our appointment to the Provincial Convention of this Province, and to inform them that we are at Mrs. *Blau's*, opposite the *Exchange*, and should esteem it a favour to be furnished from time to time with accounts of the steps taken by the Convention, "that respect the general cause of the *British Colonies*;" and that we are ready, on our part, "to communicate a true state of the measures adopted by the Colony of *Connecticut*," and to use all means in our power "to cultivate and improve the friendship subsisting between this Province and said Colony."

We are, Sir, your most obedient humble servants,  
NATHANIEL WALES,  
THADDEUS BURR,  
PIERPONT EDWARDS.

*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.  
Philadelphia, May 26, 1775.

**SIR:** I enclose you the Resolves of the Continental Congress respecting the measures they conceive more immediately necessary for the defence and safety of your City and Province, and which, it is expected, will be carried into execution with all possible despatch, and with as much secrecy, as to the particular operations intended, as the nature of the service will possibly admit of.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,  
JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the President of the Provincial Congress *New-York*.

In Congress, May 25, 1775.

**Resolved**, That a Post be immediately taken and fortified at or near *King's Bridge*, in the Colony of *New-York*; that the ground be chosen with a particular view to prevent the communication between the City of *New-York* and the country from being interrupted by land.

2. **Resolved**, That a Post be also taken in the Highlands on each side of *Hudson's River*, and Batteries erected in such manner as will most effectually prevent any vessels passing, that may be sent to harass the inhabitants on the border of said river; and that experienced persons be immediately sent to examine said river, in order to discover where it will be most advisable and proper to obstruct the navigation.

3. That the Militia of *New-York* be armed and trained, and in constant readiness to act at a moment's warning, and that a number of men be immediately embodied and kept in that City, and so disposed of as to give protection to the inhabitants in case any insult should be offered by the Troops that may land there, and to prevent any attempts that may be made to gain possession of the City, and interrupt its intercourse with the country.

4. That it be left to the Provincial Congress of *New-York* to determine the number of men sufficient to occupy the several Posts above mentioned, and also that already recommended to be taken at or near *Lake George*, as well as to guard the City, provided the whole do not exceed the number of three thousand men, to be commanded by such officers as shall be thereunto appointed by the Provincial Congress, and to be governed by such rules and regulations as shall be established by said Congress, until further order is taken by this Congress; provided also, that if the said Provincial Congress should be of opinion that the number proposed will not be sufficient for the several services above recommended, that the said Congress report their sentiments upon this subject to this Congress as soon as may be.

5. That it be recommended to the said Provincial Congress, that, in raising those forces, they allow no bounties or clothing, and that their pay shall not exceed the establishment of the *New-England Colonies*.

6. That it be further recommended to the Provincial Congress aforesaid, that the Troops be enlisted to serve until the last day of *December* next, unless this Congress shall direct that they be sooner disbanded.

7. That it be recommended to the Congress aforesaid to persevere the more vigorously in preparing for their



defence, as it is very uncertain whether the earnest endeavours of the Congress to accommodate the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, by conciliatory measures, will be successful.

A true copy from the minutes :

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

CONGRESS OF NEW-JERSEY TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, New-Jersey, Trenton, }  
May 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We, the Deputies appointed by the inhabitants of this Province, to meet in Provincial Congress, are now convened here for the purpose of pursuing such measures as may be thought expedient in the present unhappy situation to which the Colonies are reduced, and which the peculiar exigencies of the times may require. As nothing can tend more to ensure success to the steps that may at this critical juncture be adopted by the several Provinces, than a uniform plan of conduct, we conceived it necessary to look up to the Continental Congress for their advice and direction, which we have accordingly applied for, and hope soon to receive. We also think of consequence, that a correspondence should be established with you, and our other sister Colonies, and a free communication be had from time to time of such measures as may be judged most conducive to the interest of the common cause; and request that we may be favoured with such intelligence as may occur to you worthy of attention, and of which our situation may probably deprive us.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

HENDRICK FISHER, *President*.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

SAMUEL TUDER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of NEW-YORK.

The Petition of SAMUEL TUDER, Captain, and the other Officers of the Independent Company of Artillery in the City of NEW-YORK, humbly sheweth:

That they have made considerable progress in forming, training and exercising the said company; and flatter themselves that, if properly supplied, they may, at this critical period prove of signal service to the Province. There are no carriages for even such cannon as they have pitched on to use until brass field-pieces be provided. Quite destitute of ammunition, and the necessary apparatus, they cannot exert themselves with that effect for the defence of the Colony, which they are emulous of contributing to. They therefore pray you will take the matter into consideration, and grant such relief in the premises as you in your wisdom shall think fit.

SAMUEL TUDER,

In behalf of the Independent Company of Artillery.

New-York, May 26, 1775.

LETTER FROM THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THEIR DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

New-York, May 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Upon considering the present state of these Colonies, it naturally occurred to this Congress that an uncommon levy of money will soon be necessary for Continental service, and that therefore an universal paper currency may probably become the subject of consideration in your respectable body. To this scheme it may naturally be objected, that it will be imprudent in one Colony to interpose its credit for the others. On the other hand, it is clearly impossible to raise any sum adequate to the service, by tax; and the necessary intercourse of expenditures throughout the Colonies will be obstructed by separate emissions on the respective credits of the several Colonies, which cannot, in their nature, gain universal circulation. We have this important subject under serious deliberation, and are still at a loss for the best expedient most effectually to answer the purpose. We have therefore appointed a Committee of our body to give it their closest attention, and to report their opinion to us with all possible despatch; the result of which and our final resolution thereon, we shall communicate to you without loss of time. In the mean time, should this matter be now in contemplation in the Continental Congress, we earnestly

request that its determination may be so postponed as to furnish an opportunity of acquainting you with our more mature sentiments on this most important point.

We beg leave, through our Delegates, to inform the grand representative body of the Continent, that we have, in the best manner in our power, executed their order to the Committee of *New-York* and *Albany*, respecting the Post at *Ticonderoga*, and for further satisfaction, inclose copies of our proceedings on that subject.

We are, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servants.

EXTRACTS OF INTERCEPTED LETTERS, ENCLOSED IN A LETTER FROM THE ALBANY COMMITTEE TO PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW-YORK, DATED MAY 26, 1775.

*Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant GEORGE CUPBARGE, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, to Mr. CUPBARGE, at BELLEVILLE, in IRELAND, dated at MONTREAL, 1st of MAY, 1775.*

"I am apt to think our Regiment will be sent very soon to serve against the rebellious *New-Englanders*."

*Extract of a Letter from RANDLE MEREDITH, dated MONTREAL, 2d MAY, 1775, to Mr. JOHN ROWE, Merchant in BOSTON.*

"I am sorry to find the Government intend to put their detestable measures in execution. God only knows the event. I feel for your situation, but yet have some faint hopes a plan of reconciliation may be adopted before blood is spilt. The *English* in this country are in a deplorable situation, being deprived of all their liberties and privileges, and are afraid to speak or act relative to publick affairs. Our brethren below must pity us, and our only hopes are, that if Providence ordains that they succeed in their just demands, they will then exert themselves to obtain redress for us, our wills being good, but dare not act, being few in number, and our little attempts have been treated with disdain by the tools of power at home."

*An anonymous Letter to Mr. GOMUS, at BOSTON, dated CALDWELL PLACE, 26th APRIL, 1775.*

"There is a passage, that the Governour's Commission was read on *Monday*, and that he has power to raise a *Canadian* Regiment, and send it where he pleases."

*Extract of a Letter dated QUEBECK, APRIL 27th, 1775, from JOHN McCORD to Lieutenant JAMES PETTEGREW, of the Tenth Regiment.*

"We are impatient for the Packet; there are rumours here of bad news; have heavy fears for our friends at *Boston* on both sides the question. I pray God to grant peace on almost any terms. The blood of *British* subjects is very precious; would gladly hope a method will still be found out to prevent the spilling of any."

ABRAHAM LOTT TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Mr. Lott having received an order from the Purser of His Majesty's Ship *Asia* to supply the said ship with sundry provisions, takes the liberty herewith to hand the same, and to request the favour, that the Honourable Congress will be pleased to signify their opinion, whether the order shall be complied with, and whether he shall be at liberty to supply the said ship with such other provisions as she may from time to time have occasion for, for her own use, during her stay in this Colony.

City of New-York, May 27, 1775.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Hartford, May 27, A. D. 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The General Assembly of this Colony, now sitting in this place, having received intelligence of the imminent danger of the people at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, by reason of a threatened attack from the Province of *Quebeck*, in a letter from Colonel *Arnold*, who, at present, commands there, of the 23d instant, a copy of which we send you enclosed, which may deprive the Colonies of those important posts, before the resolve of the Continental Congress respecting them could be car-



ried into execution in your Province; have, from the pressing and urgent necessity of the case, given orders that five hundred pounds of powder should be sent there, and that four companies of one hundred men each should march immediately for support and defence of the men there, and for the security and defence of the artillery and stores there, until they may be removed and secured agreeable to the resolve of the Continental Congress, or until relieved by your Province.

This Assembly acquiesce in the resolve of Congress, that puts the said fortresses under the direction of the Province of *New-York*; and in the steps they have now taken, would by no means be considered as invading the Province, or intermeddling with the service entrusted to the Province of *New-York*; but, as they first had the intelligence of their danger, and had Troops ready which might be spared for the present, they thought it their duty to provide against the present danger until you might be advised of their situation, and take such measures as your wisdom and prudence shall suggest for their safety and defence.

I am, in behalf of the General Assembly of *Connecticut*, with great truth and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

The Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Hartford, May 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 25th instant, *May*, came safe per Mr. *Brown*. This Assembly have entered into the consideration of its contents, and have come into the following resolutions in consequence thereof:

That one thousand men, (including those four companies which were before sent forward,) under command of Colonel *Benjamin Hinman*, march as soon as possible to *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, for the support and defence of those fortresses; and that they there continue till they are relieved by the Province of *New-York*, or are otherwise ordered by this Assembly. That Colonel *Hinman* take the command of our troops destined to those stations. That the troops be furnished with one pound of powder and three pounds of bullets to each soldier. That Colonel *Hinman* be ordered to keep up the strictest vigilance to prevent any hostile incursion from being made into the settlements of the Province of *Quebeck*; and that the Provincial Congresses of *New-York* and *Massachusetts-Bay* be advised of these measures, and the *New-York* Congress be requested to forward the necessary supplies for said troops, and such further supplies of ammunition as they shall judge necessary.

The above transactions will manifest the readiness with which this Assembly have complied with your desires. I am, with great truth and regard, in behalf of the Governor and Company of *Connecticut*, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, May 29, 1775.

*Memorandum of Men, &c., wanted for the ensuing summer, viz:* 1200 men, including *B. Arnold's* Regiment of 400 men: 100 men of the train of artillery: 10 caulkers: 25 ship-carpenters: 2 gun-smiths: 2 surgeons, and their mates: 20 men for ten teams: 20 masons and blacksmiths: 25 house-carpenters—the latter may doubtless be found among the privates who enlist, except the master workmen: 100 tents, with proper equipage: 600 hatchets: 100 narrow axes: 50 broad axes: 50 pickaxes: 200 spades: 200 wooden shovels, shod: 50 hoes: 100 camp kettles: 200 wooden canteens: arms, blankets, &c., for the men.

I observe the Committee of *New-York* intend forwarding a number of articles, for which reason I have omitted them.

*Sundry necessaries for transporting the Cannon over Lake GEORGE, viz:*

To be built on Lake *George*, 2 flat-bottom boats, forty feet long, twelve wide, and four deep, with strong knees, well timbered, and of four-inch oak plank—these may be built at *Sparden's*, where there is timber and a saw

mill handy: 1 flat-bottom boat, of same size and construction, to go between *Ticonderoga* and the Landing, or Lake *Champlain*: 4 gins, the triangles fifteen feet long—the wood may be procured here: 8 falls for the gins, of three and a half inch white rope, made of the best hemp: 1 coil two and a half inch rope, 1 coil two inch rope, 1 coil one and a half inch rope, 100 fathoms each: 4 pieces raven duck: 10 barrels pitch: 4 barrels tar: 500 pounds oakum: 40 pounds sewing twine: 10 dozen sail and roll rope needles: 1 dozen palms: 3 seines, thirty fathoms long, capped twelve feet and arms six feet deep, made of large twine, the meshes one and a half inches wide, which will probably supply the Army with fish, as they are very plenty and good: 1 barrel twenty penny nails: 1 barrel ten penny nails: 1 barrel four penny nails: 2 dozen nail hammers, with other necessary tools for the house and ship carpenters—iron may be supplied from *Skenesborough*; steel will be wanted—4 pair strong wheels, wanted between Lakes *George* and *Champlain*, that will carry three tons weight: 4 pair strong wheels wanted at Fort *George*.

N. B. Common cart wheels will answer (if good) for most of the small cannon: there will probably be wanted at Fort *George*, 10 good teams of four yoke of oxen each, to bring up provisions, &c., and take such cannon and mortars to *Albany* as may be wanted by our Army at *New-York* or *Cambridge*: 8 yoke of good oxen will be wanted at *Ticonderoga*—these may probably be procured in the neighbourhood, of which Colonel *Webb* may inform himself.

BENEDICT ARNOLD,

Colonel and Command't at *Ticonderoga*, &c.

Secretary of State's Office, Whitehall, May 30, 1775.

A report having been spread, and an account having been printed and published, of a skirmish between some of the people in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* and a detachment of his Majesty's troops, it is proper to inform the publick, that no advices have as yet been received in the *American* Department of any such event.

There is reason to believe that there are despatches from General *Gage* on board the *Sukey*, Captain *Brown*, which, though she sailed four days before the vessel that brought the printed accounts, is not yet arrived.\*

LETTER FROM ARTHUR LEE.

London, Tuesday, May 30, 1775.

As a doubt of the authenticity of the account from *Sallem*, touching an engagement between the King's Troops and the Provincials in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, may arise

\* LONDON, June 1, 1775.—The publick are requested to attend one moment to the conduct of Ministry, and they will forever detest their duplicity. A massacre is attempted by the King's mercenaries in *America*; the peaceable inhabitants of the Town of *Concord* are wantonly fired on, and many are inhumanly murdered. Ministry, unable to contest the proofs adduced in confirmation of this infamous transaction, caused the foregoing paragraph to be inserted in the *Gazette*.

To what does this shuffling State production amount? Is the *American* massacre less true because no accounts of it have been received at the Secretary's Office? Is this a time to talk of departments, when human blood, when the blood of our brethren is poured out like water by a detachment of his Majesty's troops? Are we to pay attention to trivial formalities, when the sword is drawn, and the hands of the King's troops are uplifted to cut the throats of our brethren? Is this a time to talk of the routine of office? If the news received, of a detachment of his Majesty's troops having glutted themselves with blood, if this news is untrue, why do Ministry not contradict it? And, if it be true, what have they to say? Shall we adopt their language, and call a bloody massacre a trifling skirmish? Or are we not to believe that either massacre or skirmish hath happened, because the *American* Department hath not as yet received those advices from General *Gage* which are on board the *Sukey*? The matter of fact is, that Ministry are so confounded at the arrival of the news, that it will require some time before they can furnish up their account of the matter. Bronzed as they are, and now all over besprinkled with the blood of our brethren, it still requires some time before facts can be falsified, or the truth wholly explained away. The *Court Gazette* may talk of advices on board the *Sukey*, (which will never arrive,) but there are better advices which have arrived, wherein it is incontestably proved that the King's troops have pillaged the houses, set fire to the stores, and slaughtered the inhabitants of the Town of *Concord*. That a detachment of his Majesty's regular troops, after a commission of these crimes, should be forced to run away and shelter under the guns of a man-of-war, was rather an unfortunate circumstance. If a wish remains to be accomplished, it is, that in case a similar massacre should be attempted, an *English* man-of-war may not be disgraced by affording protection to a banditti who are enlisted into his Majesty's service for other purposes than that of butchering his subjects.



from a paragraph in the *Gazette* of this evening, I desire to inform all those who wish to see the original affidavits which confirm that account, that they are deposited at the Mansion House, with the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, for their inspection.

ARTHUR LEE,  
Agent for the House of Representatives of the  
Massachusetts-Bay.

JAMES EASTON TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, AND COUNCIL OF WAR, IN CAMBRIDGE AND WATERTOWN, MASS.

Pittsfield, May 30, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: When I arrived express from *Ticonderoga* to the honourable Provincial Congress and Committee of Safety at *Watertown* and *Cambridge*, I represented to those two honourable Boards that the reduction of that important fortress had took its rise in the General Court of the Colony of *Connecticut*, as it was also mentioned in the letter from Captain *Mott* to those two honourable Boards aforesaid; upon which the Congress passed a resolve, and the President of the Congress was ordered to write to the said General Assembly, desiring them to garrison and fortify those late acquisitions, and also to bring down some of the cannon to our head quarters at *Cambridge*. When I arrived at the Assembly and delivered the letter to the Governour, his Honour told me that the Assembly had not, as an Assembly, taken the matter up, but that it had its origin in private persons belonging to the Assembly. However, it was immediately attended to, and a Committee of both Houses was appointed to take the matter under consideration, and did so, but did not report till Captain *Mott* came from the Continental Congress with the approbation of that honourable body in the taking and maintaining the fortress aforesaid. The Council have detained me till farther intelligence can be had from the Congress at *New-York*, and Mr. *Shephard* is sent in my stead. I am, however, sent on my way with all haste for *Ticonderoga*, without receiving said intelligence, on account of the great danger that fortress is in of being besieged in a short time. By order of the aforesaid Assembly, I have sent forward five hundred pounds of powder under a proper guard, and shall this day hasten after it with all expedition.

I expect no provision from *Connecticut* will be made for me and the men that were with me from this Province at the taking of said fort, which were about fifty, and about one hundred who have gone as a re-enforcement, except the paying them till about this time. Though *Connecticut* will raise men, and assist in the defence of that fortress, yet they expect that our Congress will properly officer and organize the men they send, and also pay them.

It is agreed on all hands the fortress must be maintained, as it is of infinite importance to the general cause. I have no doubt but very violent attempts will soon be made to wrest it out of our hands. As I have about one hundred and fifty men now at that fort, and shall be able to fill up a Regiment in a few days' time, I would just hint to your Honours, that I should be willing to serve my Country in the capacity I stand in at home, as head of a Regiment on this northern expedition. Should you see fit to gratify me with the command of a Regiment for the fortifying and garrisoning said fortress, you may depend on my most faithful exertions to defend it to the last extremity, against the whole weight of *Canada*, and most punctual observance of all your orders. And I shall be ready to make such farther acquisitions as shall be in my power, consistent with wisdom and prudence, for the safety of what are already made, that you in your wisdom shall direct.

As to other regimental officers, Capt. *Israel Dickenson* and *John Brown*, Esq., have distinguished themselves very highly, both in council and action, and in my humble opinion are well qualified to command in the field. In a word, gentlemen, what is now wanted is, that you put that fortress into the best posture of defence, in conjunction with *Connecticut*; that you properly officer one or more Regiments, as there must be order and command in all armies; that you nominate a Commander-in-Chief, and forward pay with all expedition. I hope to receive an answer to this without any unnecessary delay. Should you see fit to appoint a Chaplain to attend us, I recommend to you the Reverend

*Thomas Allen*, of this place, as a suitable person, who is well known to General *Pomeroy*. I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JAMES EASTON.

To the honourable Provincial Congress at *Watertown*, and the honourable Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*.

N. B. It is necessary that provisions for the Troops be provided immediately, and also a number of military laws lately made by the Congress.

J. E.

NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, May 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We received your favour of the 26th inst., and have the pleasure of informing you that the manner in which you have executed your trust was very acceptable to the Congress, to whom we communicated it. We shall pay a particular attention to what you say on the subject of a paper currency, since we are well apprized both of its difficulty and importance; and we wish you to be speedy in your determinations upon it, as it may throw some light upon the subject that we may otherwise want. You see by the order of the Congress heretofore sent you, that they have trusted to your prudence the appointment of officers. As we have the pleasure to hear that the principal people in every County have stepped forth on this important occasion, we make no doubt that they will continue the same conduct, and not refuse to accept those commands which we imagine you will see the propriety of placing in no other hands, both on account of the influence they will have among yourselves, and the effect it may probably have in *England*. If, gentlemen, there is any thing that you may think serviceable to you, either on the subject of the above resolves, or any other, you will oblige us by a free communication of your thoughts upon the same, to which, you may be persuaded, we will pay the greatest deference. We would just hint, that if there are any Counties in which no Committees have been chosen, as we are informed there are, that it would be proper to recommend that they be immediately elected, as the numbers interested will give strength to the cause. We observe that *Tryon* County has not sent Deputies to your Convention, and would submit it to your consideration, whether it would not be proper to send them a message, suggesting the inconvenience attending such conduct, and the necessity it will lay you under of breaking off all connexion with them.

We should be glad to have a particular account from you of any measures that you may have taken to establish *Port Beder*. And are, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient humble servants,

JAS. DUANE, LEWIS MORRIS,  
JOHN ALSOP, ROBT. LIVINGSTON, JUN.  
GEO. CLINTON, PHIL. LIVINGSTON.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE ALBANY COMMITTEE.

Hartford, May 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 27th inst., by express, came safe to hand; the contents have been duly considered, and in reply have the pleasure to acquaint you that we had before received the resolve of the Congress of *New-York*, with their request to send forward some forces to the northward, to keep those important posts, until such time as they might be relieved by Troops from your Colony. We have accordingly ordered one thousand Troops, under command of Colonel *Hinman*, to march immediately to *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, furnished with one pound of powder and three pounds of ball to each soldier, to continue there until relieved by the Province of *New-York*, or are otherwise ordered; also, sent forward, under the care of Colonel *Easton*, of *Pittsfield*, five hundred weight of powder for those fortresses, and forwarded advice of our doings to the Provincial Congresses, both at *Massachusetts* and *New-York*, just before the receipt of your letter, which renders it unnecessary your express should go forward to the Congress at *Massachusetts-Bay*. Colonel *Hinman* is directed to exercise the greatest vigilance that no incursions be made into the Province of *Quebeck*, to disturb the inhabitants there. It is hoped that the Provincial Congress at *New-York* will forward supplies of provi-



sions, and whatever may be thought necessary; and that the people in your Province, who are under the best advantage, from their situation, will spare no endeavours that may be beneficial to preserve peace and harmony with the *Indians*, and prevent their taking part against us, but rather that they take part for the security of the liberties of these Colonies, whereon their own happiness so much depends.

I am, with great truth and regard, in behalf of the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, gentlemen, your obedient and humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Sam'l Stringer, Esq., Chairman of Committee at Albany.

JONATHAN PARSONS, JUN., TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

St. John's, Newfoundland, May 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As liberty is the blessing, and ought to be the care of all men, I need no other apology for this letter, than to acquaint you I am an *American*, of *Newburyport*, *New-England*. On my arrival here, the 19th instant, from the *Mediterranean*, I was informed of the care you had taken with regard to the exportation of bread and flour to this Island, especially in the instance of Capt. *Taverner*, commander of a ship belonging to *Isaac* and *Benjamin Lester*, of *Pool*, in *England*, and loaded by *T. Beach*, of *New-York*; which *Lesters* are noted enemies to *American* liberty, as appears by the petition of the Town of *Pool* for an exclusive right to the fishery on the Banks of *Newfoundland*, &c., of which petition I am informed they were the principal promoters, the contents of which you have undoubtedly seen. I am able to inform you that, notwithstanding your care relative to said ship, she arrived the 24th instant at *Trinity*, in this Island; and the necessities of the people here for bread and flour are so great, that I doubt not you will have numbers of vessels on your coast, under various pretexts, to get bread and flour to supply them. They are now at their wits end to find means to acquire the necessities of life; yet such is their inveterate enmity against the *Americans*, that they cannot help breathing out their malice at every opportunity, where their interest is not immediately affected. Last *Saturday* a schooner arrived here, belonging to *Salem*, in *New-England*, from a fishing voyage; the merchants immediately sent the crier through the Town, to notify a meeting at seven that evening, which was adjourned to *Sunday*, to consult on the matter. It seems they were in hopes to get some hold of her from some Acts of Parliament relative to the regulation of the fishery in this Island, but finding their expectations fail them, that they could not get her seized, nor prevent an entry, they mustered their forces, seized upon and sent her to sea; and what is more surprising to me is, (if I am rightly informed,) that upon a promise of indemnification, they obtained an order from the Judge of the Admiralty for this extraordinary procedure, and that after her being admitted to a legal entry in the Custom-House.

This, gentlemen, is the breath they breathe, and this conduct is but the overflowing of that inveterate enmity they have imbibed at the *Americans*, for their defending that Constitution by which the throne is established, and the rights of the people secured; I say the overflowing, because they cannot live without you, and are under the greatest obligations to keep their enmity smothered as much as possible. If they are denied bread and flour from the Southern *American* Governments, the *Newfoundland* fishery must break up. *Canada* is too uncertain to depend on for any supplies; that Country, with which I am acquainted, is mostly low, and altogether clay land. If the season is good, they generally have great crops; but if they have too much or too little rain, they must have supplies from abroad, or starve themselves: this the people here are sensible of, and are trying all methods they can to obtain present supplies from the Southern Governments, as they have no intelligence how *Canada* may be stocked at present. Would it not be surprising to see men breathing out slaughter and death at the *Americans*, petitioning the Continental Congress to supply them with bread and flour; and pleading their not joining with the *Pool* men in the petition abovementioned, as a reason why the prayer of their petition should be granted? Yet such I expect will be the case, if the *Canada* market fails them, and the Governments to the southward are vigilant to watch the motions

of those vessels which make excursions to obtain bread and flour by delusive evasions, many of which I expect will soon make the experiment. However, gentlemen, though I have already been drawn to a greater length than I at first intended, I must, in faithfulness to several gentlemen, beg your indulgence a little longer. Messrs. *Robert* and *Benjamin Jenkins* have at all times publicly declared their fixed determination to do nothing to the prejudice of the *American* cause. Mr. *Robert Bulley* is also our steadfast friend, and I doubt not but we have many more in this Town and Island; but as I never saw this Island till a few days past, I cannot give you their names.

I am, gentlemen, with sentiments of esteem, your and our Country's friend and humble servant,

JONATHAN PARSONS, JUN.

To the Committee of Safety for the City of *New-York*.

P. S. If you judge the above representation deserves your attention, I would gladly contribute to remove the difficulty you must labour under, by not being able to place any confidence in the testimony of a stranger; must, therefore, in that case, beg the favour of your writing a letter, directed to the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquire, at *Newburyport*, *New-England*, to be communicated to the Committee of Safety for that place, whose joint testimony will doubtless set my character in its true light. Any use may be made of the above which may tend to promote the publick good. Yours, as above,

J. PARSONS, JUN.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR SALEM.

Salem, May 30, 1775.

Whereas, we the subscribers, did some time since sign an Address to Governour *Hutchinson*, which though prompted to by the best intentions, has, nevertheless, given great offence to our Country; we do now declare that we were so far from designing by that action to show our acquiescence in those acts of Parliament so universally and justly odious to all *America*, that, on the contrary, we hoped we might in that way contribute to their repeal, though now, to our sorrow, we find ourselves mistaken. And we do now further declare, that we never intended the offence which this Address has occasioned; that if we had foreseen such an event we should never have signed it; as it always has been, and now is, our wish to live in harmony with our neighbours, and our serious determination to promote, to the utmost of our power, the liberty, the welfare, and happiness of our Country, which is inseparably connected with our own.

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| JOHN NUTTING,     | FRANCIS CABOT,     |
| N. GOODALE,       | N. SPARHAWK,       |
| ANDREW DALGLEISH, | NATHANIEL DABNEY,  |
| THOMAS BARNARD,   | WILLIAM PICKMAN,   |
| E. A. HOLYOKE,    | C. GAYTON PICKMAN, |
| WILLIAM PYNCHON,  | JOHN TURNER.       |
| EBENEZER PUTNAM,  |                    |

In Committee of Safety, Salem, May 30, 1775.

The declaration, of which the above is a copy, being presented and read, it was voted unanimously that the same was satisfactory, and that the said gentlemen ought to be received and treated as real friends to this Country.

By order of the Committee:

RICHARD DERBY, JUN., Chairman.

JOSHUA UPHAM TO THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE OF THE TOWN OF BROOKFIELD.

May 20, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Having been informed by one of your body that my attendance was expected at this time, in order that you inquire, under a late resolve of the Provincial Congress, into my political principles and conduct; in compliance with your request I now make my appearance; and as written are much less liable to be misconceived, misapplied, and misrepresented, than parole declarations, I have chosen to declare myself in that way.

It is indeed a great misfortune at any time, but more especially at this, to be deemed an enemy to one's Country. I not only deny the charge, but abhor the character. I shall not, however, pretend that I have in general approved



of the measures pursued by the Colonies to obtain redress of grievances, nor do I arrogantly set up my own private judgment against the publick judgment of my Country, as infallibly right: I can truly say that I shall rejoice at the salvation of the Country, even though the same be obtained by the very measures which have appeared to me to be improper, and not likely to be successful. But to inquire freely into the propriety of every publick measure, (provided the same, when established, be not resisted,) I have ever held as an inalienable right, and what, in a great measure, constitutes the freedom of an *Englishman*.

I have ever deemed it the duty, as well as wisdom of the individuals of every community, to submit and conform to the sense and opinion of the majority of the members of that community; always reserving to themselves, and saving entire and inviolate, the rights of conscience, private judgment, and freedom of speech. Therefore I have not resisted such measures as have been approved of by the majority of the people, whether agreeable to my private judgment or not. Upon the same principles I now declare, that I mean and intend to submit to what I find to be the sense and resolution of the majority of my countrymen, and expect to bear an equal share and proportion of such publick charge and expense as shall be deemed by such majority necessary to extricate this Country out of its present alarming and critical situation; nor is there any thing I hold so dear, in comparison of my Country's good, that I would not risk in its defence—even life itself, if necessary.

Therefore, as submission, or allegiance and protection, are reciprocal duties and obligations, which ought ever to subsist and take place with equal and mutual force between rulers and those over whom they are appointed to rule, I must expect, and shall depend upon it, that I am to be protected and secured in my person, family, and property, from all violent attacks upon either; which protection and security, so far as it is within your power to afford me, I now ask, and doubt not but I shall obtain the same; which concludes me, gentlemen, your most respectful friend and fellow-countrymen,

JOSHUA UPHAM.

In Committee of Correspondence, Brookfield, }  
May 30, 1775. }

The foregoing declaration being read and considered, and vote asked of said Committee, and also of a number of the inhabitants of the Town then present, whether said declaration be satisfactory; it passed in the affirmative *nemine contradicente*.

By order, JOSHUA DODGE, *Chairman*.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEE OF SUDBURY.

Cambridge, May 30, 1775.

This Committee have taken into their consideration the conduct of *Ezra Taylor, Esq.*, in going into the Town of *Boston*, and tarrying there a considerable time, since the important nineteenth of *April* last; and after examining him as to his conduct, have dismissed him, and verbally advised him to remain in the Town of *Sudbury*, as what we judged best for him and the publick. Gentlemen, your good sense will easily suggest your duty. We are, &c.

SELECTMEN OF HOPKINTON TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.  
May 30, 1775.

To the Honourable the Delegates of the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Congress assembled:

Whereas there has been a false alarm this day spread here in this part of the Province, whereby the people have been called off from their labour, and much loss and expense incurred; and judging that unless such things can be prevented, husbandry will entirely be neglected: Wherefore this Town have chosen a Committee of Safety, to consist of five persons, whose names are as follow, viz: *Gilbert Dench, Samuel Park, Ebenezer Clafstin, Samuel Hayden, and Jonathan Hull*, who are to determine when it is necessary for the people of this Town to march on any alarm; and hereby desire that the first intelligence may be conveyed to one of them. We also desire that you

would be so kind to the Province as to appoint some certain criterion, or signal, by which a true alarm may be distinguished from a false one. If by this we are able to suggest any thing for the good of the Province, we are happy, and are, with great respect and devotion, gentlemen, your humble servants,

JOHN HOLMES, }  
SAMUEL PARK, } *Selectmen of*  
GILBERT DENCH, } *Hopkinton.*

COMMITTEE FOR MANCHESTER TO THE COMMITTEE FOR CHEBACCO.

Manchester, May 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: A letter has been just received from *Cambridge* by express, from General *Ward* to the Committee for *Salem*, of which we subjoin a copy. As no particulars appear, we think it prudent to notify you thereabout, and inform you that there are eight tenders cruising around us, six of which are gone to *Salem*, their decks filled with boats, &c. We desire you to forward the report to *Ipswich*, as it is uncertain where the mischief will fall.

By order of the Committee of Correspondence for *Manchester*.

The following is a copy of the General's Letter:

"Head-Quarters, Cambridge, May 29, 1775.

"SIR: By information just received from *Boston*, I apprehend the enemy intend to make an attack some where this night; therefore would have your people in readiness to act on the shortest notice if there should be occasion.

"I am, &c., ARTEMAS WARD."

Captain *Marston* sent the above to the Committee for *Chebacco*, about half past ten o'clock.

Ipswich, May 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I received the within intelligence about one of the clock this day, and thought proper to let you know what I have received. JOHN BAKER, *Colonel*.

To the Committee of Correspondence in *Newburyport*.

Newburyport, May 30, 1775, half past four o'clock.

GENTLEMEN: Having just received the above information from *Ipswich* by express, we forward it to you without delay.

Per order of the Committee: B. GREENLEAF.

To the Committee of Correspondence of *Hampton*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MAY 31, 1775.

I cannot let Captain *Hazlewood* depart without sketching a few lines to you. You will find by the papers that we have received an account from *Salem* of the defeat of Colonel *Smith*, and the precipitate retreat of Lord *Percy*, by the animated resistance of the brave *Bostonians*. This intelligence, so contrary to the expectations of Government, who have daily announced the *Americans* cowards, has panick-struck Administration and their tory dependants, and has exhilarated the spirits of the sons of *America* in this metropolis, and the friends to freedom, in the most exalted manner. It is impossible to describe the shame and vexation which are visibly depicted in the countenances of *North* and his tyrannical abettors. They are constrained to acknowledge that the Regulars began the attack, and equally forced to admit the intrepidity of our countrymen; but what alarms them most is the expectation of hourly receiving advice of the whole of General *Gage's* Army being cut off, or meanly sheltering themselves on board the men-of-war, or in the castle. God grant their total extirpation! Government has not yet received any despatches from the General; she has craved a suspension of animadversions on the news, until she can refute, or is compelled to authenticate it. In the mean time stocks have had a shock, and the people every where denounce vengeance against *Bute*, *Mansfield*, *North*, *Sandwich*, and their ignominious adherents. I impatiently wait the next intelligence, as I have no doubt we shall hear of farther significant manifestations of *American* prowess, founded on that principle which God and their right will inspire them with.



## MECKLENBURGH (NORTH-CAROLINA) RESOLUTIONS.\*

Charlottetown, Mecklenburgh County, May 31, 1775.

This day the Committee of this County met, and passed the following Resolves:

Whereas by an Address presented to His Majesty by both Houses of Parliament in *February* last, the *American Colonies* are declared to be in a state of actual rebellion; we conceive that all Laws and Commissions confirmed by, or derived from the authority of the King or Parliament, are annulled and vacated, and the former civil Constitution of these Colonies for the present wholly suspended. To provide in some degree for the exigencies of this County, in the present alarming period, we deem it proper and necessary to pass the following Resolves, viz:

I. That all Commissions, civil and military, heretofore

\* THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BY THE CITIZENS OF MECKLENBURGH COUNTY, NORTH-CAROLINA, ON THE TWENTIETH DAY OF MAY, 1775, WITH ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS; PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNOUR, UNDER THE AUTHORITY AND DIRECTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

Report and Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, at the session of 1830-31, upon which this publication is predicated.

The Committee to whom it was referred to examine, collate, and arrange in proper order such parts of the Journals of the Provincial Assemblies of *North-Carolina* as relate to the Declaration of *American Independence*; also such documents as relate to the Declaration of Independence made by the patriotick men of *Mecklenburgh* in *May*, 1775; and also such measures as relate to the same cause, adopted by the freemen of *Cumberland County*, previous to the fourth of *July*, 1776, in order to the publication and distribution of such documents, having performed the duty assigned them, respectfully report:

That upon an attentive examination of the Journals of the Provincial Assembly of *North-Carolina*, which met at *Halifax* in the month of *April*, 1776, the Committee are of opinion, that no selection could be made from the said Journal to answer the purpose of the House. But as every thing relating to that period must be interesting to those who value the blessing of national independence, the Committee recommend that the whole of the Journal be printed, and receive the same extended distribution which the Resolution of the House contemplates for the proceedings in *Mecklenburgh* and *Cumberland*. This course is deemed by the Committee the more proper, because the Journal is now out of print, and it is highly probable that the copy in the possession of the Committee is the only one now extant.

Your Committee have also examined, collated, and arranged all the documents which have been accessible to them, touching the Declaration of Independence by the citizens of *Mecklenburgh*, and the proceedings of the freemen of *Cumberland*.

By the publication of these papers it will be fully verified, that as early as the month of *May*, 1775, a portion of the people of *North-Carolina*, sensible that their wrongs could no longer be borne, without sacrificing both safety and honour; and that redress, so often sought, so patiently waited for, and so cruelly delayed, was no longer to be expected, did, by a publick and solemn act, declare the dissolution of the ties which bound them to the Crown and people of *Great Britain*, and did establish an independent, though temporary Government, for their own control and direction.

This first claim of independence evinces such high sentiments of valour and patriotism, that we cannot, and ought not lightly to esteem the honour of having made it. The fact of the Declaration should be announced, its language should be published and perpetuated, and the names of the gallant Representatives of *Mecklenburgh*, with whom it originated, should be preserved from an oblivion which, should it involve them, would as much dishonour us, as injure them. If the thought of independence did not first occur to them, to them, at least, belongs the proud distinction of having first given language to the thought; and it should be known, and, fortunately, it can still be conclusively established, that the Revolution received its first impulse towards independence, however feeble that impulse might have been, in *North-Carolina*. The Committee are aware that this assertion has elsewhere been received with doubt, and at times met with denial; and it is, therefore, believed to be more strongly incumbent upon the House to usher to the world the *Mecklenburgh* Declaration, accompanied with such testimonials of its genuineness, as shall silence incredulity, and with such care for its general diffusion, as shall forever secure it from being forgotten. And in recounting the causes, the origin, and the progress of our revolutionary struggle, till its final issue in acknowledged independence, whatever the brilliant achievements of other States may have been, let it never be forgotten, that at a period of darkness and oppression, without concert with others, without assurances of support from any quarter, a few gallant *North-Carolinians*, all fear of consequences lost in a sense of their Country's wrongs, relying, under Heaven, solely upon themselves, nobly dared to assert, and resolved to maintain that independence, of which, whoever might have thought, none had then spoken; and thus earned for themselves, and for their fellow-citizens of *North-Carolina*, the honour of giving birth to the first Declaration of Independence.

The Committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the following Resolutions.

All of which is submitted.

THOMAS G. POLK, Chairman.  
JOHN BRAGG,  
EVAN ALEXANDER,  
LOUIS D. HENRY,  
ALEX. MCNEILL.

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governour be directed to cause to be published in pamphlet form the above Report, and the accompanying documents, in the manner and order following, viz: After the Report, first, the *Mecklenburgh* Declaration, with the Names of the Delegates composing the meeting; second, the Certificates, testifying to the circumstances attending the Declaration; third, the Proceedings

granted by the Crown, to be exercised in these Colonies, are null and void, and the Constitution of each particular Colony wholly suspended.

II. That the Provincial Congress of each Province, under the direction of the great Continental Congress, is invested with all legislative and executive powers within their respective Provinces, and that no other legislative or executive power does, or can exist, at this time, in any of these Colonies.

III. As all former laws are now suspended in this Province, and the Congress have not provided others, we judge it necessary, for the better preservation of good order, to form certain rules and regulations for the internal government of this County, until laws shall be provided for us by the Congress.

of the *Cumberland Association*; and that he be further directed to have reprinted in like manner, separate and distinct from the above, the accompanying Journal of the Provincial Assembly, held at *Halifax* in one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

Resolved, further, That after publication, the Governour be instructed to distribute said documents as follows, to wit: Twenty copies of each to the Library of the State; to each of the Libraries at the University, ten copies; to the Library of the Congress of the United States, ten copies; and one copy to each of the Executives of the several States of the Union.

## DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

May 20, 1775.—Names of the Delegates present.

|                       |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Col. Thomas Polk,     | Hezekiah J. Balch,    | James Harris,        |
| Ephraim Brevard,      | John Phifer,          | William Kennon,      |
| John Ford,            | Henry Downs,          | William Graham,      |
| Richard Barry,        | Ezra Alexander,       | John Queary,         |
| Abraham Alexander,    | Zacheus Wilson, Sen., | Robert Irwin,        |
| J. McKnitt Alexander, | Waightstill Avery,    | John Flenniken,      |
| Hezekiah Alexander,   | Benjamin Patton,      | David Reese,         |
| Adam Alexander,       | Matthew McClure,      | Richard Harris, Sen. |
| Charles Alexander,    | Neil Morrison,        |                      |

Abraham Alexander was appointed Chairman, and John McKnitt Alexander Clerk. The following Resolutions were offered, viz:

1. Resolved, That whosoever directly or indirectly abetted, or in any way, form or manner, countenanced the unchartered and dangerous invasion of our rights, as claimed by *Great Britain*, is an enemy to this Country, to *America*, and to the inherent and inalienable rights of man.

2. Resolved, That we, the citizens of *Mecklenburgh County*, do hereby dissolve the political bands which have connected us to the Mother Country, and hereby absolve ourselves from all allegiance to the *British Crown*, and abjure all political connection, contract, or association with that Nation, who have wantonly trampled on our rights and liberties, and inhumanly shed the blood of *American* patriots at *Lexington*.

3. Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people; are, and of right ought to be, a sovereign and self-governing Association, under the control of no power other than that of our God and the general government of the Congress; to the maintenance of which independence, we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes, and our most sacred honour.

4. Resolved, That as we now acknowledge the existence and control of no law or legal officer, civil or military, within this County, we do hereby ordain and adopt as a rule of life, all, each and every of our former laws; wherein, nevertheless, the Crown of *Great Britain* never can be considered as holding rights, privileges, immunities, or authority therein.

5. Resolved, That it is further decreed, that all, each, and every military officer in this County, is hereby reinstated in his former command and authority, he acting conformably to these regulations. And that every Member present, of this delegation, shall henceforth be a civil officer, viz: a Justice of the Peace, in the character of a "Committee-man," to issue process, hear and determine all matters of controversy, according to said adopted laws, and to preserve peace, union and harmony in said County; and to use every exertion to spread the love of country and fire of freedom throughout *America*, until a more general and organized Government be established in this Province.

After discussing the foregoing Resolves, and arranging by-laws and regulations for the government of a Standing Committee of Publick Safety, who were selected from these Delegates, the whole proceedings were unanimously adopted and signed. A Select Committee was then appointed to draw a more full and definite statement of grievances, and a more formal declaration of independence. The Delegation then adjourned about two o'clock, A. M., May 20.

A.

FROM THE RALEIGH REGISTER OF APRIL 30, 1819.

It is not probably known to many of our readers, that the citizens of *Mecklenburgh County*, in this State, made a Declaration of Independence more than a year before Congress made theirs. The following document on the subject has lately come to the hands of the Editor from unquestionable authority, and is published that it may go down to posterity.

NORTH-CAROLINA, MECKLENBURGH COUNTY, May 20, 1775.

In the spring of 1775, the leading characters of *Mecklenburgh County*, stimulated by that enthusiastic patriotism which elevates the mind above considerations of individual aggrandizement, and scorning to shelter themselves from the impending storm, by submission to lawless power, &c., &c., held several detached meetings, in each of which the individual sentiments were, "that the cause of *Bos-*



iv. That the inhabitants of this County do meet on a certain day appointed by this Committee, and having formed themselves into nine Companies, viz: eight in the County, and one in the Town of *Charlotte*, do choose a Colonel and other military officers, who shall hold and exercise their several powers by virtue of this choice, and independent of the Crown of *Great Britain* and former Constitution of this Province.

\* \* \* \* \*

[Then follows a number of Resolves, for the preservation of peace, and the administration of justice; in order to which, proper persons are to be chosen, empowered to hear and determine all matters of controversy, or in cases of felony, to commit persons convicted, to close confinement; and to answer all the purposes of regular Govern-

ment was the cause of all; that their destinies were indissolubly connected with those of their Eastern fellow-citizens; and that they must either submit to all the impositions which an unprincipled, and to them an unrepresented, Parliament might impose; or support their brethren who were doomed to sustain the first shock of that power, which, if successful there, would ultimately overwhelm all in the common calamity." Conformably to these principles, Colonel *Thomas Polk*, through solicitation, issued an order to each Captain's Company in the County of *Mecklenburgh*, (then comprising the present County of *Cabarrus*,) directing each Militia Company to elect two persons, and delegate to them ample power to devise ways and means to aid and assist their suffering brethren in *Boaton*, and also generally to adopt measures to extricate themselves from the impending storm, and to secure unimpaired their inalienable rights, privileges, and liberties, from the dominant grasp of *British* imposition and tyranny.

In conformity to said order, on the nineteenth of *May*, 1775, the said Delegation met in *Charlotte*, vested with unlimited powers; at which time official news, by express, arrived of the battle of *Lexington* on that day of the preceding month. Every Delegate felt the value and importance of the prize, and the awful and solemn crisis which had arrived; every bosom swelled with indignation at the malice, inveteracy, and insatiable revenge, developed in the late attack at *Lexington*. The universal sentiment was: let us not flatter ourselves that popular harangues or resolves, that popular vapour will avert the storm, or vanquish our common enemy; let us deliberate; let us calculate the issue—the probable result; and then let us act with energy, as brethren leagued to preserve our property, our lives, and, what is still more endearing, the liberties of *America*. *Abraham Alexander* was then elected Chairman, and *John McKnitt Alexander* Clerk. After a free and full discussion of the various objects for which the Delegation had been convened, it was unanimously ordained:

1. Resolved, That whoever directly or indirectly abetted, or in any way, form, or manner, countenanced the unchartered and dangerous invasion of our rights, as claimed by *Great Britain*, is an enemy to this Country, to *America*, and to the inherent and inalienable rights of man.

2. Resolved, That we, the citizens of *Mecklenburgh* County, do hereby dissolve the political bands which have connected us to the Mother Country, and hereby absolve ourselves from all allegiance to the *British* Crown, and abjure all political connection, contract, or association with that Nation, who have wantonly trampled on our rights and liberties, and inhumanly shed the innocent blood of *American* patriots at *Lexington*.

3. Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people; are, and of right ought to be, a sovereign and self-governing Association, under the control of no power other than that of our God and the general government of the Congress; to the maintenance of which independence, we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes, and our most sacred honour.

4. Resolved, That as we now acknowledge the existence and control of no law or legal officer, civil or military, within this County, we do hereby ordain and adopt, as a rule of life, all, each and every of our former laws; wherein, nevertheless, the Crown of *Great Britain* never can be considered as holding rights, privileges, immunities, or authority therein.

5. Resolved, That it is also further decreed, that all, each, and every military officer in this County, is hereby reinstated to his former command and authority, he acting conformably to these regulations. And that every Member present of this Delegation shall henceforth be a civil officer, viz: a Justice of the Peace, in the character of a "Committee-man," to issue process, hear and determine all matters of controversy, according to said adopted laws, and to preserve peace, and union, and harmony, in said County; and to use every exertion to spread the love of country and fire of freedom throughout *America*, until a more general and organized Government be established in this Province.

A number of by-laws were also added, merely to protect the Association from confusion, and to regulate their general conduct as citizens. After sitting in the Court-House all night, neither sleepy, hungry, nor fatigued, and after discussing every paragraph, they were all passed, sanctioned, and decreed, *unanimously*, about two o'clock, A. M., *May* 20. In a few days, a deputation of said Delegation convened, when Captain *James Jack*, of *Charlotte*, was deputed as express to the Congress at *Philadelphia*, with a copy of said Resolves and Proceedings, together with a Letter addressed to our three Representatives there, viz: *Richard Caswell*, *William Hooper*, and *Joseph Hughes*, under express injunction, personally, and through the State representation, to use all possible means to have said proceedings sanctioned and approved by the General Congress. On the return of Captain *Jack*, the Delegation learned that their proceedings were individually approved by the Members of Congress, but that it was deemed premature to lay them before the House. A joint letter from said three Members of Congress was also received, complimentary of the

ment, till that shall be settled by the Grand Congress. Provision is likewise made for the collection of Taxes, to be paid into the hands of Committees; appointment of collectors, removable at the pleasure of their constituents, and to indemnify them for the money paid to the Committee.]

The 16th Resolve is,

xvi. That whatever person shall hereafter receive a Commission from the Crown, or attempt to exercise any such Commission heretofore received, shall be deemed an enemy to his Country; and upon information to the Captain of the Company in which he resides, the Company shall cause him to be apprehended, and upon proof of the fact, committed to safe custody, till the next sitting of the Committee, who shall deal with him as prudence shall direct.

zeal in the common cause, and recommending perseverance, order, and energy.

The subsequent harmony, unanimity, and exertion in the cause of liberty and independence, evidently resulting from these regulations, and the continued exertion of said Delegation, apparently tranquillized this section of the State, and met with the concurrence and high approbation of the Council of Safety, who held their sessions at *Newbern* and *Wilmington*, alternately, and who confirmed the nomination and acts of the Delegation in their official capacity.

From this Delegation originated the Court of Inquiry of this County, who constituted and held their first session in *Charlotte*—they then held their meetings regularly at *Charlotte*, at Colonel *James Harris's*, and at Colonel *Phifer's*, alternately, one week at each place. It was a Civil Court founded on military process. Before this judicature, all suspicious persons were made to appear, who were formally tried and banished, or continued under guard. Its jurisdiction was as unlimited as toryism, and it decrees as final as the confidence and patriotism of the County. Several were arrested and brought before them from *Lincoln*, *Rowan*, and the adjacent Counties.

[The foregoing is a true copy of the papers on the above subject, left in my hands by *John McKnitt Alexander*, deceased. I find it mentioned on file, that the original book was burned, *April*, 1800; that a copy of the proceedings was sent to *Hugh Williamson*, in *New-York*, then writing a history of *North-Carolina*, and that a copy was sent to General *W. R. Davie*. J. McKNITT.]

B.

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA, *Mecklenburgh* County:

I, *Samuel Henderson*, do hereby certify, that the paper annexed was obtained by me from Major *William Davie*, in its present situation, soon after the death of his father, General *William R. Davie*, and given to Doctor *Joseph McKnitt* by me. In searching for some particular paper, I came across this, and knowing the handwriting of *John McKnitt Alexander*, took it up and examined it. Major *Davie* said to me (when asked how it became torn) his sisters had torn it, not knowing what it was. Given under my hand, this 25th of *November*, 1830. SAM. HENDERSON.

[Note.—To this certificate of Doctor *Henderson* is annexed the copy of the paper A, originally deposited by *John McKnitt Alexander* in the hands of General *Davie*, whose name seems to have been mistaken by Mr. *Jefferson* for that of Governor *Caswell*. This paper is somewhat torn, but is entirely legible, and constitutes the "solemn and positive proof of authenticity" which Mr. *Jefferson* required, and which would doubtless have been satisfactory, had it been submitted to him.]

C.

CAPTAIN JACK'S CERTIFICATE.

Having seen in the newspapers some pieces respecting the Declaration of Independence by the people of *Mecklenburgh* County, in the State of *North-Carolina*, in *May*, 1775, and being solicited to state what I know of that transaction, I would observe, that for some time previous to, and at the time those Resolutions were agreed upon, I resided in the Town of *Charlotte*, *Mecklenburgh* County; was privy to a number of meetings of some of the most influential and leading characters of that County on the subject, before the final adoption of the Resolutions, and at the time they were adopted. Among those who appeared to take the lead, may be mentioned *Hezekiah Alexander*, who generally acted as Chairman, *John McKnitt Alexander*, as Secretary, *Abraham Alexander*, *Adam Alexander*, Major *John Davidson*, Major, afterwards General *William Davidson*, Colonel *Thomas Polk*, *Ezekiel Polk*, Doctor *Ephraim Brevard*, *Samuel Martin*, *Duncan Ochletree*, *William Willson*, *Robert Irvin*.

When the Resolutions were finally agreed on, they were publicly proclaimed from the Court-House door in the Town of *Charlotte*, and received with every demonstration of joy by the inhabitants.

I was then solicited to be the bearer of the proceedings to Congress. I set out the following month, say *June*, and in passing through *Salisbury*, the General Court was sitting; at the request of the Court I handed a copy of the Resolutions to Colonel *Kennon*, an attorney, and they were read aloud in open Court. Major *William Davidson*, and Mr. *Avery*, an attorney, called on me at my lodgings the evening after, and observed, they had heard of but one person, (a Mr. *Beard*,) but approved of them.

I then proceeded on to *Philadelphia*, and delivered the *Mecklenburgh* Declaration of Independence, of *May*, 1775, to *Richard Caswell* and *William Hooper*, the Delegates to Congress from the State of *North-Carolina*.

I am now in the eighty-eighth year of my age, residing in the County of *Elbert*, in the State of *Georgia*. I was in the Revolutionary War, from the commencement to the close.

I would further observe, that the Reverend *Francis Cummins*, a Presbyterian Clergyman, of *Greene* County, in this State, was a student in the Town of *Charlotte* at the time of the adoption of the Resolutions, and is as well, or perhaps better acquainted with the proceedings at that time, than any man now living.

Colonel *William Polk*, of *Raleigh*, in *North-Carolina*, was living with his father, *Thomas*, in *Charlotte*, at the time I have been speak-



## CHESTER COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Chester, May 31, 1775.

Whereas it appears very necessary, in order to avert the evils and calamities which threaten our devoted Country, to embody ourselves and make all the military preparations in our power; and it appears absolutely impossible to carry this laudable design into execution, without observing the greatest order, harmony, and concord, not only under the laws of civil Government, but also while under arms and on actual duty. We, therefore, unanimously recommend the following Association to be entered into by the good people of this County:

"We, the subscribers, do most solemnly resolve, promise, and engage, under the sacred ties of honour, virtue

ing of, and although then too young to be forward in the business, yet the leading circumstances I have related cannot have escaped his recollection.

JAMES JACK.

Signed this 7th of December, 1819, in presence of

JOE WESTON, C. C. O.,  
JAMES OLIVER, Attorney-at-Law.

C 2.

NORTH-CAROLINA, Cabarrus County, November 29, 1830:

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify, that we have frequently heard William S. Alexander, deceased, say that he, the said William S. Alexander, was at Philadelphia on mercantile business, in the early part of the summer of 1775, say in June; and that on the day General Washington left Philadelphia to take the command of the Northern Army, he, the said William S. Alexander, met with Captain James Jack, who informed him, the said William S. Alexander, that he, the said James Jack, was there as the agent or bearer of the Declaration of Independence made in Charlotte, on the twentieth day of May, seventeen hundred and seventy-five, by the citizens of Mecklenburgh, then including Cabarrus, with instructions to present the same to the Delegates from North-Carolina, and by them to be laid before Congress, and which he said he had done; in which Declaration the aforesaid citizens of Mecklenburgh renounced their allegiance to the Crown of Great Britain, and set up a Government for themselves, under the title of The Committee of Safety. Given under our hands the date above written.

ALPHONSO ALEXANDER,  
AMOS ALEXANDER,  
J. MCKNITT.

D.

LEXINGTON, Georgia, November 16, 1819.

DEAR SIR: The bearer, the Honourable Thomas W. Cobb, has suggested to me that you had a desire to know something particularly of the proceedings of the citizens of Mecklenburgh County, in North-Carolina, about the beginning of our Revolutionary War.

Previous to my becoming more particular, I will suppose you remember the Regulation business, which took its rise in or before the year 1770, and issued and ended in a battle between the Regulators and Governor Tryon, in the spring of 1771. Some of the Regulators were killed, and the whole dispersed. The Regulators' conduct was a "*rudis indigestaque moles*," as Ovid says about the beginning of creation; but the embryotick principles of the Revolution were in their temper and views. They wanted strength, consistency, a Congress, and a Washington at their head. Tryon sent his officers and minions through the State, and imposed the oath of allegiance upon the people, even as far up as Mecklenburgh County. In the year 1775, after our Revolution began, the principal characters of Mecklenburgh County met on two sundry days, in Queen's Museum, in Charlotte, to digest Articles for a State Constitution, in anticipation that the Province would proceed to do so. In this business, the leading characters were, the Reverend Hezekiah James Bulch, a graduate of Princeton College, an elegant scholar, Waigststill Avery, Esquire, attorney-at-law, Hezekiah and John McKnitt Alexander, Esquires, Colonel Thos. Polk, &c., &c.

Many men, and young men, (myself one,) before Magistrates, abjured allegiance to George the Third, or any other foreign Power. At length, in the same year, 1775, I think, at least positively before July 4, 1776, the males generally of that County met on a certain day in Charlotte, and from the head of the Court-House stairs proclaimed Independence on English Government, by their herald, Colonel Thomas Polk. I was present, and saw and heard it, and as a young man, and then a student in Queen's Museum, was an agent in these things. I did not then take and keep the dates, and cannot, as to date, be so particular as I could wish. Captain James Jack, then of Charlotte, but now of Elbert County in Georgia, was sent with the account of these proceedings to Congress, then in Philadelphia, and brought back to the County the thanks of Congress for their zeal, and the advice of Congress to be a little more patient, until Congress should take the measures thought to be best.

I would suppose, Sir, that some minutes of these things must be found among the records of the first Congress, that would perfectly settle their dates. I am perfectly sure, being present at the whole of them, they were before our National Declaration of Independence.

Honourable Sir, if the above few things can afford you any gratification, it will add to the happiness of your friend and humble servant,

FRANCIS CUMMINS.

Hon. Nathaniel Macon.

E.

VESUVIUS FURNACE, October 4, 1830.

DEAR SIR: Agreeably to your request, I will give you the details of the Mecklenburgh Declaration of Independence, on the 20th of May 1775, as well as I can recollect after a lapse of fifty-five years. I was then a lad about half grown, was present on that occasion, (a looker on.)

During the winter and spring preceding that event, several popular meetings of the people were held in Charlotte, two of which I attend.

and love to our Country, that we will use our utmost endeavours to learn the military exercise, and promote harmony and unanimity in our respective Companies; that we will strictly adhere to the rules of decency during duty; that we will pay a due regard to our Officers; that we will, when called upon, support with our utmost abilities the civil Magistrate in the execution of the laws for the good of our Country; and that we will at all times be in readiness to defend the lives, liberties, and properties of ourselves and fellow-countrymen against all attempts to deprive us of them."

Information being lodged with this Committee that William Moore, Esq., has expressed himself in terms inimical to the liberties of America, and derogatory to the Conti-

ed; papers were read, grievances stated, and publick measures discussed. As printing was not then common in the South, the papers were mostly manuscript; one or more of which was from the pen of the Reverend Doctor Reese, then of Mecklenburgh, which met with general approbation, and copies of it circulated. It is to be regretted that those and other papers published at that period, and the journal of their proceedings are lost. They would show much of the spirit and tone of thinking, which prepared them for the measures they afterwards adopted.

On the 20th of May, 1775, besides the two persons elected from each Militia company, (usually called Committee-men,) a much larger number of citizens attended in Charlotte than at any former meeting, perhaps half the men in the County. The news of the battle of Lexington, the 19th of April preceding, had arrived. There appeared among the people much excitement. The Committee were organized in the Court-House, by appointing Abraham Alexander, Esq., Chairman and John McKnitt Alexander, Esquire, Clerk or Secretary to the meeting.

After reading a number of papers as usual, and much animated discussion, the question was taken, and they resolved to declare themselves independent. One among other reasons offered, that the King or Ministry had, by proclamation or some edict, declared the Colonies out of the protection of the British Crown; they ought, therefore, to declare themselves out of his protection, and resolve on independence. That their proceedings might be in due form, a Sub-Committee, consisting of Doctor Ephraim Brevard, a Mr. Kennon, an attorney, and a third person, whom I do not recollect, were appointed to draft their Declaration. They retired from the Court-House for some time, but the Committee continued in session in it. One circumstance occurred I distinctly remember: a member of the Committee, who had said but little before, addressed the Chairman, as follows: "If you resolve on independence, how shall we all be absolved from the obligations of the oath we took to be true to King George the Third, about four years ago, after the Regulation battle, when we were sworn, whole Militia companies together. I should be glad to know how gentlemen can clear their consciences after taking that oath." This speech produced confusion. The Chairman could scarcely preserve order, so many wished to reply. There appeared great indignation and contempt at the speech of the member. Some said it was nonsense; others, that allegiance and protection were reciprocal; when protection was withdrawn allegiance ceased; that the oath was only binding while the King protected us in the enjoyment of our rights and liberties, as they existed at the time it was taken, which he had not done, but now declared us out of his protection, therefore was not binding. Any man who would interpret it otherwise, was a fool. By way of illustration, (pointing to a green tree near the Court-House) stated, if he was sworn to do any thing as long as the leaves continued on that tree, it was so long binding; but when the leaves fell, he was discharged from its obligation. This was said to be certainly applicable in the present case. Out of respect for a worthy citizen, long since deceased, and his respectable connexions, I forbear to mention names; for, though he was a friend to the cause, a suspicion rested on him in the publick mind for some time after.

The Sub-Committee appointed to draft the Resolutions, returned, and Doctor Ephraim Brevard read their report, as near as I can recollect, in the very words we have since seen them several times in print. It was unanimously adopted; and shortly after, it was moved and seconded to have proclamation made, and the people collected, that the proceedings be read at the Court-House door, in order that all might hear them. It was done, and they were received with enthusiasm. It was then proposed by some one aloud, to give three cheers and throw up their hats. It was immediately adopted, and the hats thrown. Several of them lit on the Court-House roof; the owners had some difficulty to reclaim them.

The foregoing is all from personal knowledge. I understood afterwards, that Captain James Jack, then of Charlotte, undertook, on the request of the Committee, to carry a copy of their proceedings to Congress, which then sat in Philadelphia; and on his way, at Salisbury, the time of Court, Mr. Kennon, who was one of the Committee who assisted in drawing the Declaration, prevailed on Captain Jack to get his papers, and have them read publicly; which was done, and the proceedings met with general approbation. But two of the lawyers, John Dunn and a Mr. Booth, dissented, and asserted they were treasonable, and endeavoured to have Captain Jack detained. He drew his pistols, and threatened to kill the first man who would interrupt him, and passed on. The news of this reached Charlotte in a short time after, and the Executive of the Committee, whom they had invested with suitable powers, ordered a party of ten or twelve armed horsemen to bring said lawyers from Salisbury; when they were brought, and the case investigated before the Committee. Dunn, on giving security and making fair promises, was permitted to return, and Booth was sentenced to go to Camden, in South-Carolina, out of the sphere of his influence. My brother, George Graham, and the late Colonel John Carruth, were of the party that went to Salisbury; and it is distinctly remembered that when in Charlotte they came home at night, in order to provide for their trip to Camden; and that they and two others of the party took Booth to that place. This was the first mili-



mental Congress; and as a special Committee is now appointed to examine into the affair, the publick are desired to suspend their judgment until Mr. Moore has had an opportunity either to exculpate himself from the charge, or make proper acknowledgment to his Country.

By order of the Committee:

FRANCIS JOHNSON, *Secretary*.

TO LORD SANDWICH.

Philadelphia, May 31, 1775.

MY LORD: I congratulate your Lordship on an instance of *American* cowardice, which your Lordship had so prophetically foretold.\* The instance I allude to is to be found

tary expedition from *Mecklenburgh* in the Revolutionary War, and believed to be the first any where to the South. Yours, respectfully,  
J. GRAHAM.

Dr. Joseph McKitt. Alexander, *Mecklenburgh, N. C.*

F.

EXTRACT FROM THE MEMOIR OF THE LATE REV. HUMPHREY HUNTER.

Orders were presently issued by Colonel *Thomas Polk*, to the several Militia companies, that two men, selected from each Corps, should meet at the Court-House on the 19th of May, 1775, in order to consult with each other upon such measures as might be thought best to be pursued. Accordingly, on said day a far larger number than two out of each company were present. There was some difficulty in choosing the Commissioners. To have chosen all thought to be worthy, would have rendered the meeting too numerous. The following were selected, and styled Delegates, and are here given, according to my best recollection, as they were placed on roll: *Abram Alexander*, Senior, *Thomas Polk*, *Richard Harris*, Senior, *Adam Alexander*, *Richard Barry*, *John McKitt Alexander*, *Neil Morrison*, *Hezekiah Alexander*, *Hezekiah J. Balch*, *Zacheus Wilson*, *John Phifer*, *James Harris*, *William Kennon*, *John Ford*, *Henry Downs*, *Ezra Alexander*, *William Graham*, *John Queary*, *Charles Alexander*, *Waitstill Avery*, *Ephraim Brevard*, *Benjamin Patton*, *Matthew McClure*, *Robert Irwin*, *John Flenniken*, and *David Reese*.

*Abram Alexander* was nominated, and unanimously voted to the Chair. *John McKitt Alexander* and *Ephraim Brevard* were chosen Secretaries. The Chair being occupied, and the Clerks seated, the House was called to order, and proceeded to business. Then a full, a free, and dispassionate discussion obtained, on the various subjects for which the delegation had been convened, and the following Resolutions were unanimously ordained:

1st. *Resolved*, That whosoever directly or indirectly abetted, or in any way, form, or manner, countenanced the unchartered and dangerous invasion of our rights, as claimed by *Great Britain*, is an enemy to this Country, to *America*, and to the inherent and inalienable rights of man.

2d. *Resolved*, That we, the citizens of *Mecklenburgh County*, do hereby dissolve the political bands which have connected us to the Mother Country, and hereby absolve ourselves from all allegiance to the *British Crown*, and abjure all political connexion, contract, or association, with that Nation, who have wantonly trampled on our rights and liberties, and inhumanly shed the blood of *American* patriots at *Lexington*.

3d. *Resolved*, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people; are, and of right ought to be, a sovereign and self-governing Association, under the control of no power other than that of our God and the general government of the Congress; to the maintenance of which independence, we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes, and our most sacred honour.

4th. *Resolved*, That as we now acknowledge the existence and control of no law or legal officer, civil or military, within this County, we do hereby ordain and adopt, as a rule of life, all, each and every of our former laws, wherein, nevertheless, the Crown of *Great Britain* never can be considered as holding rights, privileges, immunities, or authority therein.

5th. *Resolved*, That it is further decreed, that all, each and every military officer in this County, is hereby reinstated in his former command and authority, he acting conformably to these Regulations. And that every member present, of this Delegation, shall henceforth be a civil officer, viz: a Justice of the Peace, in the character of a "Committee-man," to issue process, hear and determine all matters of controversy, according to said adopted laws, and to preserve peace, union, and harmony in said County; and to use every exertion to spread the love of country and fire of freedom throughout *America*, until a more general and organized Government be established in this Province.

Those Resolves having been concurred in, by-laws and regulations for the government of a Standing Committee of Public Safety were enacted and acknowledged. Then a Select Committee was appointed, to report on the ensuing day a full and definite statement of grievances, together with a more correct and formal draught of the Declaration of Independence. The proceedings having been thus arranged, and somewhat in readiness for promulgation, the Delegation then adjourned until to-morrow, at twelve o'clock.

The 20th of May, at twelve o'clock, the Delegation, as above, had convened. The Select Committee were also present, and reported agreeably to instructions, viz: a statement of grievances, and formal draught of the Declaration of Independence, written by *Ephraim Brevard*, Chairman of said Committee, and read by him to the Delegation. The Resolves, By-Laws, and Regulations, were read by *John McKitt Alexander*. It was then announced from the Chair, Are you all agreed? There was not a dissenting voice. Finally, the whole proceedings were read distinctly and audibly at the Court-House door, by Colonel *Thomas Polk*, to a large, respectable, and approving assemblage of citizens who were present, and gave sanction to the business of the day. A copy of all those transactions were then drawn off, and given in charge to Captain *James Jack*, then of *Charlotte*, that he should present them to Congress, then in session in *Philadelphia*.

On that memorable day I was twenty years and fourteen days of age,

\* March 16, 1775. See Vol. I. 1681.

in General *Gage's* circumstantial account, or narrative of the attack or battle at *Lexington* and *Concord*, in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in which he gives a clear and impartial account of the barbarity of the *Americans*, as well as that of their cowardice. I make no doubt but the *Yankees* will pretend not to believe it, especially the barbarity, which is not quite so clear; but as to the cowardice, it is so incontestably proved, that they themselves will not undertake to deny, if they do not own it. The General, in this sensible and masterly performance, says a man had advanced from the Provincials assembled at *Lexington*, and attempted to shoot the Regulars by snapping his gun, which flashed in the pan; and that on the attack of the Troops at *Concord* bridge, after some of them had fallen, and they

a very deeply interested spectator, recollecting the dire hand of oppression that had driven me from my native clime, now pursuing me in this happy asylum, and seeking to bind again in the fetters of bondage.

On the return of Captain *Jack*, he reported that Congress, individually, manifested their entire approbation of the conduct of the *Mecklenburgh* citizens, but deemed it premature to lay them officially before the House.

Note.—The foregoing extract is copied from a manuscript account of the Revolutionary War in the South, addressed by the writer to a friend, who had requested historical information upon this subject. Mr. Hunter was in the battle of *Camden*, and has given an interesting narrative of the circumstances connected with the death of *Baron De Kalb*. The manuscript gives the biography of the writer, from which it appears he was a native of *Ireland*, and born on the 14th of May, 1755, and at an early age emigrated from his native land to the Province of *North-Carolina*.

Additional Papers.—From the RALEIGH REGISTER, FEBRUARY 18, 1820.

MECKLENBURGH DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

When this Declaration was first published in April last, some doubts were expressed in the Eastern papers as to its authenticity, (none of the Histories of the Revolution having noticed the circumstance.) Colonel *William Polk*, of this City, (who, though a mere youth at the time, was present at the meeting which made the Declaration, and whose father being Colonel of the County, appears to have acted a conspicuous part on the occasion,) observing this, assured us of the correctness of the facts generally, though he thought there were errors as to the name of the Secretary, &c. and said that he should probably be able to correct these, and throw some further light on the subject, by inquiries amongst some of his old friends in *Mecklenburgh County*. He has accordingly made inquiries, and communicated to us the following Documents as the result, which, we presume, will do away all doubts on the subject.

CERTIFICATE.

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA, *Mecklenburgh County*:

At the request of Colonel *William Polk*, of *Raleigh*, made to Major-General *George Graham*, soliciting him to procure all the information that could be obtained at this late period, of the transactions which took place in the County of *Mecklenburgh*, in the year 1775, as it respected the people of that County having declared Independence; of the time when the Declaration was made; who were the principal movers and leaders, and the members who composed the body of Patriots who made the Declaration, and signed the same:

We, the undersigned citizens of the said County, and of the several ages set forth opposite to each of our names, do certify, and on our honour declare, that we were present in the Town of *Charlotte*, in the said County of *Mecklenburgh*, on the 19th day of May, 1775, when two persons elected from each Captain's Company in said County, appeared as Delegates, to take into consideration the state of the Country, and to adopt such measures as to them seemed best, to secure their lives, liberty, and property, from the storm which was gathering, and had burst upon their fellow-citizens to the Eastward, by a *British Army*, under the authority of the *British King* and Parliament.

The order for the election of Delegates was given by Colonel *Thomas Polk*, the commanding officer of the Militia of the County, with a request that their powers should be ample, touching any measure that should be proposed.

We do further certify and declare, that to the best of our recollection and belief, the delegation was complete from every company, and that the meeting took place in the Court-House, about 12 o'clock on the said 19th day of May, 1775, when *Abram Alexander* was chosen Chairman, and Doctor *Ephraim Brevard* Secretary. That the Delegates continued in session until in the night of that day; that on the 20th they again met, when a Committee, under the direction of the Delegates, had formed several Resolves, which were read, and which went to declare themselves, and the people of *Mecklenburgh County*, free and independent of the King and Parliament of *Great Britain*—and that, from that day thenceforth, all allegiance and political relation was absolved between the good people of *Mecklenburgh*, and the King of *Great Britain*; which Declaration was signed by every member of the Delegation, under the shouts and huzzas of a very large assembly of the people of the County, who had come to know the issue of the meeting. We further believe, that the Declaration of Independence was drawn up by the Secretary, Doctor *Ephraim Brevard*, and that it was conceived and brought about through the instrumentality and popularity of Colonel *Thomas Polk*, *Abram Alexander*, *John McKitt Alexander*, *Adam Alexander*, *Ephraim Brevard*, *John Phifer*, and *Hezekiah Alexander*, with some others.

We do further certify and declare, that in a few days after the Delegates adjourned, Captain *James Jack*, of the Town of *Charlotte*, was engaged to carry the Resolves to the President of Congress, and to our Representatives—one copy for each; and that his expenses were paid by a voluntary subscription. And we do know that Captain *Jack* executed the trust, and returned with answers, both from the President and our Delegates in Congress, expressive of their entire approbation of the course that had been adopted, recommending a continuance in the same; and that the time would soon be, when the whole Continent would follow our example.

We further certify and declare, that the measures which were adopted at the time before mentioned, had a general influence on the people of this County to unite them in the cause of liberty and the Country, at that time; that the same unanimity and patriotism continued unimpaired to the close of the war; and that the Resolutions had considerable effect in harmonizing the people in two or three adjoining Counties.

That a Committee of Safety for the County were elected, who were clothed with civil and military power, and under their authority sev-



began their retreat, they observed soldiers dead on the ground, one of them scalped and his ears cut off, though not quite dead; from which it is very clear that one or more of the Provincials had the cowardice to go in amongst the Regular Troops, and cut off the ears of a soldier that had fallen, though not quite dead.

This, my Lord, may seem no less odd than true, for it is fully proved; for unless the soldier's ears had been cut off whilst among the body of Regulars, they could not possibly have known it, as they do not pretend, nor the Provincials believe, that they ever regained any ground they had re-

eral disaffected persons in *Rowan* and *Tryon* (now *Lincoln* County) were sent for, examined, and conveyed (after it was satisfactorily proven they were inimical) to *Camden*, in *South Carolina*, for safekeeping.

We do further certify, that the acts passed by the Committee of Safety, were received as the civil law of the land in many cases, and that Courts of Justice for the decision of controversies between the people were held, and we have no recollection that dissatisfaction existed in any instance with regard to the judgments of said Courts.

We are not, at this late period, able to give the names of all the Delegation who formed the Declaration of Independence; but can safely declare as to the following persons being of the number, viz: *Thomas Polk, Abraham Alexander, John M-Knutt Alexander, Adam Alexander, Ephraim Brevard, John Phifer, Hezekiah James Balsh, Benjamin Patton, Hezekiah Alexander, Richard Barry, William Graham, Matthew McClure, Robert Irwin, Zacheus Wilson, Neil Morrison, John Flenniken, John Queary, Ezra Alexander.*

In testimony of all and every part herein set forth, we have hereunto set our hands.

GEO. GRAHAM, aged 61, near 62.  
WM. HUTCHINSON, 68.  
JONAS CLARK, 61.  
ROBERT ROBINSON, 68.

FROM JOHN SIMESON TO COLONEL WILLIAM POLK.

"PROVIDENCE, January 20, 1820.

"DEAR SIR: After considerable delay, occasioned partly to obtain what information I could, in addition to my own knowledge of the facts in relation to our Declaration of Independence, and partly by a precarious, feeble old age, I now write to you in answer to yours of the 24th ult.

"I have conversed with many of my old friends and others, and all agree in the point, but few can state the particulars; for although our County is renowned for general intelligence, we have still some that don't read the publick prints. You know, in the language of the day, every Province had its Congress, and *Mecklenburgh* had its County Congress, as legally chosen as any other, and assumed an attitude until then without a precedent; but, alas! those worthies who conceived and executed that bold measure, are no more; and one reason why so little new light can be thrown on an old truth, may be this—and I appeal to yourself for the correctness of the remark—we, who are now called Revolutionary men, were then thoughtless, precipitate youths; we cared not who conceived the bold act, our business was to adopt and support it. Yourself, sir, in your eighteenth year and on the spot, your worthy father, the most popular and influential character in the County, and yet you cannot state much from recollection. Your father, as commanding officer of the County, issued orders to the Captains to appoint two men from each company to represent them in the Committee. It was done. *Neill Morrison, John Flenniken*, from this Company; *Charles Alexander, John M-Knutt Alexander, Hezekiah Alexander, Abraham Alexander, Esq., John Phifer, David Reese, Adam Alexander, Dickey Barry, John Queary*, with others, whose names I cannot obtain. As to the names of those who drew up the Declaration, I am inclined to think *Doctor Brevard* was the principal, from his known talents in composition. It was, however, in substance and form, like that great national act agreed on thirteen months after. Ours was towards the close of *May, 1775*. In addition to what I have said, the same Committee appointed three men to secure all the military stores for the County's use—*Thomas Polk, John Phifer, and Joseph Kennedy*. I was under arms near the head of the line, near *Colonel Polk*, and heard him distinctly read a long string of grievances, the declaration, and military order above. I likewise heard *Colonel Polk* have two warm disputes with two men of the County, who said the measures were rash and unnecessary. He was applauded and they silenced. I was then in my 22d year, an enemy to usurpation and tyranny of every kind, with a retentive memory, and fond of liberty, that had a doubt arisen in my mind that the act would be controverted, proof would not have been wanting; but I comfort myself that none but the self-important peace-party and blue-lights of the East, will have the assurance to oppose it any further. The biographer of *Patrick Henry*, (Mr. Wirt) says he first suggested independence in the *Virginia* Convention; but it is known they did not reduce it to action—so that it will pass for nothing. The Courts likewise acted independently. I myself heard a dispute take place on the bench, and an acting Magistrate was actually taken and sent to prison by an order of the Chairman.

"Thus, Sir, have I thrown together all that I can at this time. I am too blind to write fair, and too old to write much sense—but if my deposition before the Supreme Court of the United States would add more weight to a truth so well known here, it should be at the service of my fellow-citizens of the County and State generally.

"I am, Sir, your friend and humble servant,

"JOHN SIMESON, SEN."

"P. S. I will give you a short anecdote. An aged man near me, on being asked if he knew any think of this affair, replied, "Och, aye, TAM POLK declared independence lung before any body else." This old man is 81."

CERTIFICATE OF ISAAC ALEXANDER.

I hereby certify that I was present in *Charlotte* on the 19th and 20th days of *May, 1775*, when a regular deputation from all the Captains' companies of Militia in the County of *Mecklenburgh*, to wit: *Colonel Thomas Polk, Adam Alexander, Lieutenant-Colonel Abram Alexander, John M-Knutt Alexander, Hezekiah Alexander, Ephraim Brevard* and a number of others, who met to consult and take measures for the peace

and tranquillity of the citizens of said County, and who appointed *Abraham Alexander* their Chairman, and *Doctor Ephraim Brevard* Secretary; who, after due consultation, declared themselves absolved from their allegiance to the King of *Great Britain*, and drew up a declaration of their independence, which was unanimously adopted; and employed *Captain James Jack* to carry copies thereof to Congress, who accordingly went. These are a part of the transactions that took place at that time, as far as my recollection serves me.

ISAAC ALEXANDER.

October 8, 1830.

CERTIFICATE OF SAMUEL WILSON.

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA, *Mecklenburgh* County:

I do hereby certify, that in *May, 1775*, a Committee of Delegation from the different Militia Companies in this County, met in *Charlotte*; and after consulting together, they publickly declared their independence on *Great Britain*, and on her Government. This was done before a large collection of people, who highly approved of it. I was then and there present, and heard it read from the Court-House door. Certified by me.

SAM'L WILSON.

CERTIFICATE OF JOHN DAVIDSON.

BEAVER DAM, October 5, 1830.

DEAR SIR: I received your note of the 25th of last month, requiring information relative to the *Mecklenburgh* Declaration of Independence. As I am, perhaps, the only person living who, as a member of that Convention, and being far advanced in years, and not having my mind frequently directed to that circumstance for some years, I can give you but a very succinct history of that transaction. There were two men chosen from each Captain's company, to meet in *Charlotte*, to take the subject into consideration. *John M-Knutt Alexander* and myself were chosen from one company; and many other members were there that I now recollect, whose names I deem unnecessary to mention. When the members met, and were perfectly organized for business, a motion was made to declare ourselves independent of the Crown of *Great Britain*, which was carried by a large majority. *Doctor Ephraim Brevard* was then appointed to give us a sketch of the Declaration of Independence, which he did. *James Jack* was appointed to take it on to the *American* Congress, then sitting in *Philadelphia*, with particular instructions to deliver it to the *North-Carolina* Delegation in Congress, (*Hooper and Caswell*.) When *Jack* returned, he stated that the Declaration was presented to Congress, and the reply was, that they highly esteemed the patriotism of the citizens of *Mecklenburgh*; but they thought the measure too premature.

I am confident that the Declaration of Independence by the people of *Mecklenburgh* was made publick at least twelve months before that of the Congress of the United States.

I do certify that the foregoing statement, relative to the *Mecklenburgh* Independence, is correct, and which I am willing to be qualified to, should it be required. Yours respectfully,

JOHN DAVIDSON.

DR. J. M. ALEXANDER.

LETTER FROM J. G. M. RAMSEY.

MECKLENBURGH, T. October 1, 1830.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 21st ultimo was duly received. In answer I have only to say, that little is in my possession on the subject alluded to which you have not already seen. Subjoined are the certificates of two gentlemen of this County, whose respectability and veracity are attested by their acquaintances here, as well as by the accompanying testimonials of the Magistrates in whose neighbourhood they reside. With this you will also receive extracts from letters on the same subject from gentlemen well known to you, and to the Country at large.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.

J. G. M. RAMSEY.

CERTIFICATE OF JAMES JOHNSON.

I, *James Johnson*, now of *Knox* County, *Tennessee*, but formerly of *Mecklenburgh* County, *North-Carolina*, do hereby certify, that to the best of my recollection, in the month of *May, 1775*, there were several meetings in *Charlotte* concerning the impending war. Being young, I was not called on to take an active part in the same; but one thing I do positively remember, that she (*Mecklenburgh* County) did meet and hold a Convention, declared independence, and sent a man to *Philadelphia* with the proceedings. And I do further certify, that I am well acquainted with several of the men who formed or constituted said Convention, viz: *John M-Knutt Alexander, Hezekiah Alexander, Abraham Alexander, Adam Alexander, Robert Irwin, Neill Morrison, John Flenniken, John Queary.*

Certified by me this 11th day of *October, 1827.*

JAMES JOHNSON, in my seventy third year.

CERTIFICATE OF ELIJAH JOHNSON AND JAMES WILHITE.

We, *Elijah Johnson* and *James Wilhite*, acting Justices of the Peace for the County of *Knox*, do certify, that we have been a long time well acquainted with *Samuel Montgomery* and *James Johnson*, both residents of *Knox* County; and that they are entitled to full credit, and any statement they may make to implicit confidence.

Given under our hands and seals this 4th day of *October, 1830.*

ELIJAH JOHNSON, (seal.)

JAMES WILHITE, (seal.)

Justices of the Peace for *Knox* County.

Note.—Mr. *Montgomery's* certificate does not purport to state the facts as having come under his own personal observation. It is therefore omitted in this publication.



already here in command of General *Gage*, (who have shown so much bravery as to suffer a single cowardly *American* or two, to enter into the Army and cut off the ears of a soldier that had fallen in battle,) will be sufficient to frighten all the inhabitants out of *America*, whereby your Lordship, and the rest of the junto, will have an opportunity of amply serving your faithful friends, in the glorious cause of despotism and arbitrary power, by granting to them the lands and estates of these refugees. In doing which, I should not forget to remind your Lordship to remember your faithful, humble servant,  
AN EXPECTANT.

COLONEL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO GEORGE WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ENGLAND.

Philadelphia, May 31, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Before this letter will come to hand, you must undoubtedly have received an account of the engagement in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, between the Ministerial Troops (for we do not, nor can we yet prevail upon ourselves to call them the King's Troops) and the Provincials of that Government. But as you may not have heard how that affair began, I enclose you the several affidavits which were taken after the action.

General *Gage* acknowledges that the detachment under Lieutenant-Colonel *Smith* was sent out to destroy private property; or, in other words, to destroy a magazine, which self-preservation obliged the inhabitants to establish. And he also confesses, in effect at least, that his men made a very precipitate retreat from *Concord*, notwithstanding the re-enforcement under Lord *Percy*; the last of which may serve to convince Lord *Sandwich*, and others of the same sentiment, that the *Americans* will fight for their liberties and property, however pusillanimous in his Lordship's eyes they may appear in other respects.

From the best accounts I have been able to collect of that affair, indeed from every one, I believe the fact, stripped of all colouring, to be plainly this: that if the retreat had not been as precipitate as it was, (and *God* knows it could not well have been more so,) the Ministerial Troops must have surrendered or been totally cut off; for they had not arrived in *Charlestown*, under cover of their ships, half an hour, before a powerful body of men from *Marblehead* and *Salem* was at their heels, and must, if they had happened to be up one hour sooner, inevitably have intercepted their retreat to *Charlestown*. Unhappy it is, though, to reflect that a brother's sword has been sheathed in a brother's breast, and that the once happy and peaceful plains of *America* are either to be drenched with blood, or inhabited by slaves. Sad alternative! But can a virtuous man hesitate in his choice?

I am, with sincere regard and affectionate compliments to Mrs. *Fairfax*, dear Sir, yours, &c.

WORCESTER (MASSACHUSETTS) CONVENTION.

May 31, 1775.

The Convention met according to adjournment, at the Court-House in *Worcester*.

Mr. *William Young* was elected Chairman *pro tempore*, and *Jeduthan Baldwin* Clerk *pro tempore*.

Voted, That the Rev. Mr. *Chaplain* be desired to open this Convention with prayer.

Voted, To pass over counting the votes for County Treasurer.

Voted, That Colonel *Hezekiah Ward*, Mr. *Padleford*, and Mr. *Joshua Bigelow*, be a Committee to draw up a Remonstrance to the Provincial Congress, that no man be allowed to have a seat therein who does not vote away his own money for publick purposes, in common with the other members, and with his constituents.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the subject of allowing those who are inimical to the Country, to exercise the right of voting in Town meetings.

Resolved, That the erecting of a Paper-Mill in this County would be of great publick advantage; and if any person or persons will undertake the erecting of such Mill, and the manufacture of Paper, that it be recommended to the people of the County to encourage the undertaking by generous contributions and subscriptions.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

REPRESENTATION OF ROBERT TEMPLE TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Plymouth, May 31, 1775.

I, *Robert Temple*, of *Ten Hills*, near *Charlestown*, *New-England*, do declare, that I have received no injury to my property, nor have I been under any apprehensions of danger to either my person or property from the Troops that are under the command of General *Ward*; but it is a fact that I have been so threatened, searched for, attacked by the name of tory, an enemy to this Country, and treated in such a manner, that not only my own judgment, but that of my friends, and of almost the whole of the Town where I lived, made it necessary or prudent for me to fly from my home. I am confident that this is owing to the wickedness of a few, very few, who have prejudiced some short-sighted people against me, who live too far from my abode to be acquainted with my proper character. I am confirmed in this opinion from the kind protection that my wife and family have received, and continue to receive from General *Ward*, as well as from the sentiments which the Committee of Safety have been pleased to entertain of me.

R. TEMPLE.

STEPHEN NYE TO NATHANIEL FREEMAN.

Sandwich, May 31, 1775.

SIR: I would give you a relation of Captain *Linsey's* proceeding at the islands since your going from here. On *Sunday* he received a re-enforcement by a schooner from *Boston*, and proceeded from thence to the west end of the island, where they took off about two hundred sheep, chiefly from *Tucker's Island*, which belonged to *John Wing*; from thence they came down to the cove, and ordered the sheep there to be yarded, which was accordingly done, but it being near night they concluded to leave them in the yard till morning. They rudely insulted, abused, and threatened the people for their backwardness in assisting them. In the night, word was brought off to *Falmouth* of the above proceeding, by *Nye*, who went immediately back to take care of his family, on which a number of men, well equipped, immediately went on the island. Before their arrival at the cove the sheep were turned out of the yard into the woods. The people from the ship had been on shore, and on finding the sheep were gone, were still more enraged, and took all the arms they could find, six calves and the hogs, and carried them off. When the people from *Falmouth* got to the cove, which was before day, they placed themselves in the bushes, and lay undiscovered. In the morning the boat came on shore with the doctor, boatswain, &c., whom they might have taken had they not expected the captain ashore soon; however, the boat soon went back without going to the house, and both vessels immediately weighed anchor and went down to *Holmes's Hole*, where they lay last night at anchor. Captain *Bassett* is now on the island, with about fifty men, and will tarry to guard the stock until we have the advice of the Congress what method is best to take. By the best account, there is not less than four thousand sheep, and between two and three hundred horned cattle, and a number of horses, on the Island of *Naushan*, and perhaps nigh as many on the other islands. It is generally judged that fifty or sixty men, placed on the island at *Tarpaulin Cove*, would guard the above stock. It is certainly impracticable to bring it off; and it must most certainly either be destroyed where it is, or fall into the hands of our enemies; which is best, the Congress must judge. Their determination we should be glad of as soon as possible, for we fear the men now there will be impatient to come off unless they are put under pay. Captain *Bassett* is perhaps the best officer that can be placed there; his courage and conduct have been heretofore well approved, and he is moreover well acquainted with the ground on the island, which must certainly be of great advantage. There went a number of men from this town, some of whom are, we conclude, now on the island. We hope the Congress will let us have their advice and determination as soon as possible, and pray that in all their determinations they will be counselled by the Supreme Counsellor; and are, Sir, your humble servants,  
STEPHEN NYE.

To Colonel *Nathaniel Freeman*, to be communicated to Congress.



## SELECTMEN OF SCARBOROUGH TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

*To the Honourable Representatives in Congress assembled, the 31st of MAY, 1775:*

*The Selectmen of the Town of SCARBOROUGH, for and in behalf of said Town, humbly sheweth:*

That the said Town of *Scarborough* thought themselves not able to support the charge of a Member in said Congress at present, said Town having no money to pay any tax whatever. Our lumber was our chief trade in this Town; that being done, we are in great distress for want of money and provisions. Our crops are very short the last year, and under present circumstances, little or no supplies brought from the Southern Colonies, makes it distressing.

But we doubt not of your Honours' great wisdom in consulting the good of the whole Colony; and though this Town has no Representative in Congress, we look upon ourselves in duty bound to conform to the Resolves of the honourable Congress, and shall ever be willing to exert ourselves to the utmost to support good government and defend our just rights and privileges. We have only to add our prayers that *God* may bless and prosper your counsels, and in the end confirm to us that liberty which our forefathers came into these regions to enjoy.

We beg leave to subscribe ourselves, as in duty bound, your obedient humble servants,

REUBEN FOGG, }  
PETER LIBBEE, } *Selectmen.*  
JOSHUA FABYAN, }

## SELECTMEN OF EDGARTOWN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

*To the Honourable the Members of the Provincial Congress to be held at WATERTOWN, on the 31st day of MAY instant:*

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to the recommendation of the late honourable Provincial Congress, we have caused the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of *Edgartown*, qualified by law to vote for Representatives in the General Assembly, to meet, in order to elect and depute a Member or Members to represent them in a Provincial Congress to be held at *Watertown*, on the said 31st day of *May* instant, but did not elect or depute any Member or Members for the purpose aforesaid; because it was thought inexpedient, on account of the peculiar situation and circumstances of this small and much exposed Town; being situated on an Island, the communication to the main land not only difficult but dangerous, and frequently surrounded by armed vessels, by reason of the advantageous situation, and convenient harbour suitable for their reception; by reason whereof, a man-of-war is for the most part stationed here, to the great detriment and terour of the inhabitants, and apprehensive that in case they publicly manifest any great degree of forwardness, with regard to the publick's unhappy affairs of this Province, that some fatal consequence may ensue, being thus exposed. We are fully convinced that the inhabitants of this place have a most sincere regard for the Congress, and mean to follow and pursue their recommendations from time to time cheerfully with punctuality, consistent with their safety under their situation. We are therefore led to think that the situation of this people at this time deserves much pity and some indulgence. All which is humbly submitted in behalf of said Town of *Edgartown*.

THOMAS COOKE, }  
EBENEZER SMITH, } *Selectmen.*

## PETITION OF INHABITANTS OF BERWICK TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

*To the Honourable the Delegates of the Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY in Provincial Congress at WATERTOWN convened:*

*The Petition of the Inhabitants and Freeholders of BERWICK, in the County of YORK, in town-meeting convened, humbly sheweth:*

That the harbours of *York* and *Kittery*, within the said County, lie entirely open to our now known enemies, and the lives and properties of the inhabitants thereof and the

neighbouring Towns along the sea-coast exposed to the ravages and depredations of the enemy.

And that the remaining part of the inhabitants of this and the remaining Towns labour under the disagreeable situation (for want of arms and ammunition) of being incapable to defend themselves, wives, and children, and properties, should a descent be made by the King's Troops on this coast, which your Petitioners have the greatest reason to fear will inevitably be the event.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray this honourable House, in their great wisdom, to take the premises into serious consideration, and that they would be pleased to despatch one or more of the Companies now in the service of this Colony, in order to assist in guarding and defending this coast, or enable them, by raising more Troops for the Colony service, in some measure to guard and defend themselves. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c., &c. By order of the Town:

NAHUM MARSHALL, *Town Clerk.*

Berwick, May 31, 1775.

## SELECTMEN OF BEDFORD TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

*To the Honourable Provincial Congress convened at WATERTOWN, May 31, 1775:*

GENTLEMEN: We have received the Resolve of the late Provincial Congress, signifying the necessity of a new Congress, and recommending to us that we elect one or more Members to represent us therein, which hath been laid before our Town, at a general meeting called for that purpose; but as the Town is small, and hath of late been visited with sickness and death, as well as the general calamities of our times, and apprehending it not necessary to multiply the number of Members, we hope to be excused, as we did not obtain a major vote of the Town to send one. Notwithstanding, we do highly approve of, and are well sensible of the expediency of such a Congress at this important crisis, and will freely comply with all the wise and salutary measures thereof relative to us.

So, wishing Divine influence and blessings on your endeavours for the peace and safety of this Province, at this alarming day, we subscribe ourselves yours, &c.

In the name and by order of the Selectmen of *Bedford*:  
STEPHEN DAVIS, *Town Clerk.*

## LETTER FROM THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS TO GENERAL WARD.

Exeter, May 31, 1775.

SIR: In order to commission the Officers belonging to the *New-Hampshire* Regiments, the Congress have thought it absolutely necessary that Colonel *Stark* should appear before them; therefore should take it as a favour, that you grant him leave for that purpose.

To his Excellency General *Ward*.

## NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS TO COLONEL STARK.

Exeter, May 31, 1775.

SIR: As some difficulties have arisen in settling the Regiment under your command, the Congress, as you will see by the enclosed vote, have thought proper that you should immediately, without loss of time, repair to this Town, to receive their orders, and give a more particular account of the state of the Troops under your care.

To Colonel *John Stark*, Esq.

## PORTSMOUTH COMMITTEE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Portsmouth, May 31, 1775.

SIR: We beg leave to inform you that this day eight pieces of cannon were removed from *Jersey Point* to this Town, and that threats are thrown out by the Captain of the man-of-war, that in case he hears of any preparation of rafts, or any other means being used to annoy him, he shall come up with his ship to fire upon the Town. We would submit it to the wisdom of the Congress, whether these guns should not be immediately placed in some convenient battery to prevent this mischief, and whether a Committee should not be forthwith employed for this purpose. The guns are six twenty-four and two thirty-two-pounders.



And it is absolutely necessary that we be provided with ammunition and carriages, &c., to save them, of which we are entirely destitute.

I am, by order of the Committee, your most humble servant,  
H. WENTWORTH, *Chairman*.

To *Matthew Thornton, Esq.*, President of the Congress at *Exeter*.

MESHECH WEARE TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

To the Provincial Congress for the Province of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, convened at *Exeter*, MAY 31, 1775:

GENTLEMEN: As you have now under your consideration the important affair of raising Troops, and appointing them to proper stations, as well for the safety and defence of this Province, as for promoting the common cause at this critical and alarming season, we doubt not but you will kindly receive intimations from any number of persons of things which appear to them of great importance; we therefore beg leave to represent, from frequent alarms we have had, and from authentick advice from General *Ward*, that a number of armed cutters are sailed from *Boston*, for what design is unknown. We apprehend it to be absolutely necessary that a proper proportion of the Troops to be raised in this Province be immediately assigned for the defence of our sea-coasts; and permit us to suggest, that if a proper number of Troops for this purpose were ordered to be raised in the Towns near the sea-coasts, it would greatly facilitate the raising the men immediately, and be a great help for procuring immediate supplies, and we can conceive will be much more service to the common cause than sending our men elsewhere. It will also be a great discouragement to men enlisting to be sent to a distance, at the same time that they leave their friends and substance exposed by their absence, when they themselves might be more advantageously employed for their defence.

We therefore pray that a proper quota of men may be assigned, and Officers for enlisting them, for this service, as soon as may be, which we submit to your wisdom and determination.

MESHECH WEARE.

To the President of the Provincial Congress.

At the request of many persons who represented to me that the general mind of the people in the Towns near the sea-coast, is as above represented, and that much uneasiness is in their minds until some provision be made for their defence, I subscribe, on their behalf, to save the time of collecting a great number of subscribers.

M. W.

WINBORN ADAMS TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

GENTLEMEN: By a message from *Portsmouth*, I am desired to go there to-morrow with my Company, to assist in endeavouring to destroy the men-of-war in our harbour. As my Company were enlisted under your direction, I think it my duty to wait your order on any movement, therefore have sent the bearer, and desire your direction in this affair, which I shall endeavour to obey. And am, with great respect, your very humble servant,

WINBORN ADAMS.

To the Honourable the Provincial Committee of Safety at *Exeter*.

P. S. The plan proposed to execute the aforesaid affair I have not heard in particular, only that it was thought the deck might be commanded with small arms from the shore, while she was set on fire by rafts sent down by water.

CHARLES JOHNSON TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

To the Provincial Congress convened at *Exeter*:

GENTLEMEN: We hereby inform you that we sent a scouting party towards *Canada*, which party returned on *Saturday* last, by whom we have the following information:

They give us to understand that, by the best information that could be got, there is a body of *Indians* now lying on the west side of the Lake *Champlain*, nearly opposite to the mouth of *Onion River*. What the particular number

of them is, we cannot certainly determine; but by the best information, not less than four or five hundred. And furthermore, that the day before the scouting party left the mouth of *Onion River*, they were informed there were ten canoes of *Indians* from *Canada*, who joined said party. And, moreover, that Governour *Carleton*, of *Quebeck*, is enlisting men in *Canada*; and also, he has sent to those tribes of *Indians* whom General *Montcalm* had with him at the reduction of *Fort William* and *Henry*. The same party give account of the taking *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point* by our parties of the Southern Government.

Now, gentlemen, as to the situation of these parts. How near the borders of the enemy we are, every one knows who is acquainted with the boundaries of our own Province. As to the position of defence, we are in difficult circumstances; we are in want of both arms and ammunition. There is but very little, or none worth mentioning, perhaps not one pound of powder to twenty men, according to calculation, and not the one-half of our men have arms. Now, gentlemen, we have all reason to suspect, and really look upon ourselves in imminent danger of the enemy, and at this time in no capacity for a defence, for want of arms and ammunition. And, moreover, we have not a sufficient number of men to defend these our frontiers, without some assistance from the lower Towns, which assistance, gentlemen, we humbly conceive should necessarily be here, in order to act upon the first alarm.

We, gentlemen, refer the matter to your mature consideration, whether it is not necessary to give us assistance, that we may be ready in case of invasion. We have, gentlemen, a number of men in these parts of the Country who have not any real estate, who will certainly leave us, unless some assistance be given; and who are ready to assist, and stand by our cause with their lives, provided encouragement be given them.

If, gentlemen, you shall think it necessary to raise forces to defend this our Province, if you will give orders in what manner assistance shall be procured, please to inform us as expeditiously as the nature of things will allow. There is no doubt of enlisting numbers, without distressing or much interfering with the lower Towns near the sea-coasts, provided we have the platform to act upon.

We are, gentlemen, with all due respect, your humble servants.

In behalf: CHAS. JOHNSTON,

Clerk to the Committee of the Northern Regiment in the County of *Grafton*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED AT WATERTOWN, DATED LONDON, JUNE 1, 1775.

The intelligence by Captain *Derby*, of the defeat of General *Gage's* men under Lord *Percy*, by the *Americans*, on the 19th of *April* last, has given very general pleasure here, as the newspapers will testify. 'Tis not with certainty that one can speak of the disposition of people in *England* with respect to the contest with *America*; though we are clear that the friends of *America* increase every day, particularly since the above intelligence.

It is believed the Ministers have not as yet formed any plans in consequence of the action of *April* 19th. They are in total confusion and consternation, and wait for General *Gage's* despatches by the *Sukey*, Captain *Brown*. The talk of the day is, that more troops and ships are to be sent immediately; but this, it is thought, cannot be done without calling the Parliament to raise more money. If it should be attempted, much disturbance may be expected in *England*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN NEW-YORK, DATED LONDON, JUNE 1, 1775.

It is my indispensable duty to inform my countrymen on your side the water of whatever resolutions are formed on this side injurious to your sacred rights, that you may be timely on your guard to defeat the pernicious attempts of that implacable and tyrannical Administration. My intelligence is founded on the best information, and therefore full credence ought to be paid to it.

On the arrival of the news of the defeat and retreat of the detachments under Lord *Percy* and Colonel *Smith*, this great city was agitated to its centre. The friends to



*America* rejoiced at the noble victory of the *Bostonians*, and its enemies were abashed at their courage. The news flew rapidly, and soon caught the ear of an unwise and deluded King. Administration were alarmed at the unexpected success of the Provincials, and were at a loss what lies to fabricate which would destroy the force of the qualifications which accompanied the intelligence. Runners were sent to every part of the City, who were authorized to deny the authenticity of the facts; and so distressed was Government, that they officially requested a suspension of belief, until despatches were received from General *Gage*. No advice is received yet from that quarter. In the mean time frequent ministerial councils were held without any conclusive determinations until yesterday, when His Majesty presided at one of them. The King, after having heard the news read, asked what mode should be pursued to support the dignity of the Nation, retrieve the honour of the *British* arms, and annihilate the *American* opposition? Lord *North* replied, that there were thirty thousand Troops in *Quebeck* and *Canada*, ready to march to *Boston* for General *Gage's* relief; that more men-of-war should be sent out, and that the Admiral should have positive orders to seize provision vessels for the due supply of the Navy and Army. He observed, that from the natural formation of the entrance into *Boston*, with the precautions taken by the General, there was no apprehension of any attack, for in fact it could not be stormed. Upon this futile opinion, instructions were immediately despatched to *Gage*, to order the regulars from *Quebeck*, and to march the militia of *Canada*, as well as to obtain the necessary supply of provisions by seizing the *American* vessels at sea, or in the harbours. To facilitate this accursed plan, the General is to assure the officers of the King's determination to promote them; and to stimulate the soldiers to acts of butchery, their pay is to be increased, to which purpose fifty thousand Pounds were sent off last night to *Boston*.

The General has positive orders to destroy the magazines, to spike the cannon, to order the riot act to be read, and to set up the King's standard immediately. What infatuation possesses this Nation! You and I, who know the strength of *America* and the consolidated union of its inhabitants, must laugh at their threats, and despise their shallow schemes. But whilst they are forming this impracticable plan of extracting thirty thousand Troops from *Canada*, they dread the arrival of the Packet; because, however they would dupe the credulous inhabitants of *England* with fallacious contradictions of the facts announced, they cannot help believing that General *Gage* and his Army are even now either cut off, or ignominiously constrained to retreat into the castle, or on board the men-of-war.

Such also is the terror of Administration, that they have despatched some of the nobility and gentry throughout *England* to contradict the *Boston* news, in order to quiet the landed gentlemen, cajole the manufacturing cities, and prevent the dreaded effects on the stocks. But alas! these are temporary, ineffectual expedients; for the next *American* intelligence will arouse the supine landed and manufacturing interest, and a vital stab will be given to the funds. This Nation has passed her meridian splendour. *America*, by her virtue and her numbers, will permanently establish her rights, and be the blessed means of extirpation of this most flagitious Ministry, and of establishing the *British* throne in wisdom and clemency.

This evening some of the principal Common Councilmen meet, to revive and effectually equip the military of *London*, which consists of eight thousand men, in order to co-operate with the *Americans* in forcing a relinquishment of the present infernal politicks, and in supporting constitutional liberty throughout the *British* Dominions.

W. JONES TO THE COMMITTEE OF DONATIONS, BOSTON,  
MASSACHUSETTS.

Savannah, June 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Although the inhabitants of *Georgia* have unfortunately drawn on themselves the censure of her sister Colonies, by not adopting those measures which the wisdom of the General Congress have pointed out for the preservation of the liberties of *America*; yet, we flatter ourselves you will believe there are many among us who

sincerely espouse the great cause contended for by you; and who ardently wish that the noble stand you have made in defence of these rights, to which, as men and *British* subjects we are entitled, may be crowned with success. The distresses our brethren must unavoidably experience by enforcement of the late acts of a cruel and vindictive Ministry, deeply affect us. The unhappy division amongst us has hitherto prevented our contributing to their support; but have now the pleasure to transmit you, by the *Juliana*, Captain *Stringham*, bound to *New-York*, a small contribution of sixty-three barrels of rice, and one hundred and twenty-two Pounds sterling, in specie, under the care of *John Eaton Le Conte, Esq.*, which we desire you will please to appropriate towards the relief of those who have lately left the Town of *Boston*. We hope soon to be enabled by our friends who reside at a distance from *Savannah*, to send you a further token of our regard for you, and those whose misfortunes must increase with the oppressive measures now pursued by Administration against *America*.

I have the honour to be, on behalf of the contributors, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

W. JONES.

To the gentlemen of the Committee for receiving Donations for the relief of the distressed inhabitants of *Boston*.

INDEPENDENT COMPANY OF ALBEMARLE TO THE WILLIAMSBURGH VOLUNTEERS.

Charlottesville, Virginia, June 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The first Company of Independents for the County of *Albemarle* are highly pleased with the resolves of the gentlemen volunteers in *Williamsburgh*, and have been truly alarmed at the late arbitrary proceedings carried on in that city. We think that every apostate to the *American* cause should be properly stigmatized. We coincide with you in opinion, that the landing any armed force in this Colony, will not only be a dangerous attack, but a sufficient cause to justify us, with our countrymen, in any opposition; and we are determined, at all events, to act on that occasion as men of spirit ought to do in defence of their natural rights and country's cause.

With great respect, we remain, gentlemen, your humble servants,

CHARLES LEWIS, Captain.  
GEORGE GILMER, }  
JOHN MARKS, } Lieutenants.

TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Easton, June 1, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: An ancient, and accounted a long-headed man, in these parts, has dropped some hints devising a scheme of reconciliation between the Mother Country and the Colonies, which I think worthy of consideration; and I am persuaded your zeal for a reconciliation is such, that you will lend an ear to healing propositions, let them come from what quarter they may; otherwise, you would be unworthy of the eminence of character you possess for republican candour of sentiment.

He observed, "suppose the Congress were to offer as much to the Crown as all the duties amount to by a proper estimate;" meaning such duties as we agree they have a right to lay, as regulations of trade, and that exempt from all impositions by the Crown, called *running*, which might easily be assessed on each Province, by having recourse to their books of entry, and making, at the same time, an allowance for what are run, which is thought to be as much again; and besides this, to offer a number of forces, well disciplined, in case of requisition, as was the case in the last two wars; so many hundred or thousand from each Province, according to its importance, and ship, pay, and victual and clothe the same, or some, or all, as Congress judges best; and the same to continue for a certain season, or during an expedition, as was the case in the attack in the last war, on *Carthagera* and *Havana*. At least, the most strenuous endeavours ought to be made, in some way or other, to effect an accommodation, considering what lamentable confusion and distress must attend the quarrel, if it continues any length of time; and the idea of aiming at independence at present, affords the most frightful of all



prospects, whilst the Mother Country has such power on the ocean. Your unknown friend and humble servant,

PHILOPATRIA.

P. S. I had like to have forgotten the venerable sage would have insisted that all the obnoxious Acts of Parliament should be repealed at the same time that the above offers should be made; the one to be made the inseparable condition of repealing the other; and in the space of ten, fifteen, or twenty years, an additional quantity of troops and money might be offered, in case of pressing requisitions from home, according as the Colonies flourish, and trade increases; but still the mode of raising, as well as the quantity, to be wholly left in the power of the Colonial Assemblies. And to confess the truth, the within letter, on account of your reputed eloquence in the Congress, I direct to you, as it is the more likely you will thereby have more influence on that august assembly, though you are under no obligation, but may still pursue your opinions.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THEIR DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress June 3, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress at New-York, June 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We this morning received despatches from *Albany*, *Watertown*, and *Hartford*, which contains, as you will observe, very important intelligence. We think it our duty, through you, to lay it before the Continental Congress; and for that purpose have prepared copies of the several papers which were received as aforesaid. We shall make no comments on them, being convinced that your own good understanding and knowledge of the state of these Colonies will render any such attempt useless.

Our business proceeds with great heaviness, for want of the sinews of war, which we have not, neither have we any powder. Money we cannot have, until we receive the directions of your body, as you will easily believe. Besides this, we would be extremely happy to know that your body had taken into their serious consideration the several circumstances of the associated Colonies; and that they, in their wisdom, had assigned the several quotas of men and money to each. This information will guide our deliberations to a proper object, for the want of which our present attention is distracted, by the uncertainty of what shall be determined with respect to this Colony.

We have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servants.

By order of the Congress:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

To the *New-York* Delegates at the Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN SPARDING TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

To the Honourable the President and Members of the Provincial Congress now assembled at NEW-YORK:

The Memorial of JOHN SPARDING, living at TICONDEROGA LANDING, the north end of Lake GEORGE, June 1, 1775, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist has, for upwards of six years past, been at a great expense in providing boats and carriages for the ease and convenience of persons travelling this way with their baggage and effects, over the lake and carrying place, at an easy rate; likewise providing bateaus on Lake Champlain, for the convenience of gentlemen and others travelling to Canada. The unhappy differences now subsisting between the Colonies and the Mother Country, have put a stop to any business your memorialist was formerly engaged in. Your memorialist has, ever since the tenth day of May, (the day on which the fort at Ticonderoga was taken,) assisted with his boats, men, &c., in transporting the troops, with their baggage and provisions, over Lake George and the carrying place, upon no other security than a verbal agreement with Colonel Arnold, for twenty shillings, currency, per day, for a perryaure capable of crossing the lake with seventy men, besides a quantity of provision, and a batteau for carrying expresses; and when there was not a sufficient loading for the perryaure, to have the privilege of conveying such private property as might offer, of which your memorialist is at present de-

prived; your memorialist having likewise carted the greatest part of the baggage and provisions over the carrying place, the whole amount of which, to this day, is near seventeen Pounds. And as the gentlemen appointed here have this day intimated to your memorialist that his teams are not to be any more employed, they having brought teams over the lake for said service; your memorialist, therefore, trusting in the known justice and humanity of the gentlemen in New-York, who scorn to let any individual suffer, which must inevitably be the case of your memorialist, unless your goodness prevents it, by confirming the agreement made by Colonel Arnold: your memorialist therefore humbly hopes, as he has done his utmost endeavour for the good of the common cause, and is disabled at present from providing for his family, you will take the same into consideration. And your memorialist will ever pray.

J. SPARDING.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN NEW-YORK, FROM A GENTLEMAN IN THE PROVINCIAL CAMP, DATED JUNE 1, 1775.

When our people were engaged in taking the stock, &c., from *Noddle* and *Hog* Islands, the King's Troops made an attack upon them. On *Hog* Island the combat began about five o'clock in the afternoon, and continued almost incessantly till midnight. The attack was made with cannon, swivels, and small arms, from an armed schooner, sloop, and eight or ten barges, upon our people, who had small arms only, but were very advantageously posted by Colonel Putnam, who got to them just in season to station and command them properly. He placed them in a ditch, up to their waists in water, and covered by the bank to their necks. The schooner, sloop, and boats, full of men, came within twelve or fifteen rods of them, and gave our people a fine opportunity to place their shot well. About midnight the fire ceased a little, and our people retreated to the main land, where they were soon after joined by Captain Foster, with two field-pieces, which were planted on the way of *Winnesimit* ferry. At daylight the combat was renewed; as the schooner passed the ferryway, she was briskly attacked by our people with the field-pieces and small arms, which soon clearing her deck, she drifted on shore, where our people set fire to her, and she blew up, notwithstanding the utmost endeavours of the people in the boats, &c., to tow her off and save her from destruction. In this they exposed themselves much to our fire, and suffered greatly. When they found the schooner was lost, they with difficulty rowed off the sloop, much disabled, and retired to their den; and thus ended the combat at about seven o'clock in the morning. In the afternoon (Sunday) our people got out of the wreck twelve four-pounders, six swivels, and every thing else that was valuable, without molestation. They afterwards removed or destroyed from both the islands all the stock, &c., viz: about five or six hundred sheep, thirty horses, about as many cattle, a large quantity of hay, and burned all the barns and houses.

All this was done in sight, and as we may say under the noses of the whole fleet and army at *Boston*, without molestation. The killed of the enemy, (viz: General Gage's crew of enemies to the English Constitution,) they themselves allow to be more than one hundred, besides wounded; others, who have good opportunity to know, say their killed and wounded exceed three hundred; and I believe they have suffered as much as in their precipitate flight from *Lexington*, on the memorable 19th of April. Our killed, none; wounded, three. Heaven apparently and most evidently fights for us, covers our heads in the day of battle, and shields our people from the assaults of our common enemies. What thanks can speak our gratitude.

These interpositions, and our determined resolutions, may perhaps make our haughty enemies glad to quit their unjust possessions, for a cooler and more calm retreat in some distant quarter of the globe, and leave us peaceably to enjoy those rights and liberties which God in our nature has given us as our inalienable right, and which they are most unjustly endeavouring to wrest from us by violence.

The men-of-war's cruisers are out, with orders to take all vessels with provisions, or any kind of *West-India* goods. Two men-of-war lying in *Portsmouth* River, have



taken two corn sloops bound in there to supply the necessities of the place, and were about sending them to *Boston*. Governour *Wentworth* went on board to solicit their discharge, and represented the necessity of the Town, but without effect. This proceeding has so exasperated the people, that not a single Tory is left in the Province, and some of the most bigoted have quitted the cause, declared for the people, and join them in their most spirited measures, &c.

An important expedition was on foot, but as we have received no news of its success, we fear it has miscarried.

DECLARATION OF ALEXANDER WALKER.

Salem, June 1, 1775.

Whereas I, the subscriber, did some time since sign an Address to Governour *Hutchinson*, which has given just cause of resentment to this Town and Country; I do now declare, that at the same time of signing said Address, I did suppose it might serve the Colonies, but am convinced of my error, and am sorry for the offence I have given; and stand ready as any other, as far as in me lies, to support the rights and liberties of this Country.

ALEXANDER WALKER.

In Committee of Safety, June 3, 1775.

The foregoing Declaration being presented and read, voted unanimously that the same is satisfactory.

Attest: R. DERBY, JUN., *Chairman*.

TO THE AMERICANS.

Salem, Massachusetts, June 1, 1775.

We are now called by the providence of *God* to fight for those precious liberties which were handed down to us by our heroic and venerable ancestors. Our present circumstances are unhappy, but our prospect is great and glorious. *God* hath in a signal manner favoured our righteous cause, covered our heads in the day of battle, miraculously given us the victory over our enemies, and shewn us his salvation. So very remarkably hath Heaven appeared on our side, that I hope our murderous enemies will no longer dare to oppose what *God* approves.

We greatly lament that we are driven by tyranny to shed human blood. It would give us infinitely greater pleasure to make our enemies free and happy, than to triumph in victory. As a testimony of this disposition, we have given freedom to the soldiers who were well inclined, that we have taken in the late engagement. And it is our ardent wish and prayer to *Almighty God*, that these Colonies may be enabled to give freedom and happiness to our oppressed land and Nation, without injury to any person, and the once happy union between *Britons* and *Americans* be restored, and both forever live together as brethren.

AN AMERICAN.

REV. SAMUEL LANGDON TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

June 1, 1775.

SIR: We, the Pastors of the Congregational Churches of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in our present annual Convention, gratefully beg leave to express the sense we have of the regard shown by the honourable Provincial Congress to us, and the encouragement they have been pleased to afford to our assembling as a body this day. Deeply impressed with sympathy for the distresses of our much injured and oppressed Country, we are not a little relieved in beholding the Representatives of this people, chosen by their free and unbiased suffrages, now met to concert measures for their relief and defence, in whose wisdom and integrity, under the smiles of Divine Providence, we cannot but express our entire confidence. As it has been found necessary to raise an Army for our safety, and our brave countrymen have so willingly offered themselves to this hazardous service, we are not insensible of the vast burden that their necessary maintenance must devolve upon the people. We therefore cannot forbear, upon this occasion, to offer our service to the publick, and to signify our readiness, with the consent of our several congregations, to officiate, by rotation, as Chaplains to the Army.

We devoutly commend the Congress, and our brethren in arms, to the guidance and protection of that Providence,

which, from the first settlement of this Country, has so remarkably appeared for the preservation of its civil and religious rights.

SAM'L LANGDON, *Moderator*.

To the Honourable *Joseph Warren*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, &c.

At the Convention of the Ministers of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, June 1, 1775:

The Convention, taking into consideration the method of furnishing the Army with Chaplains, agreeably to the offer they have made to the honourable Congress, think it most expedient that a sufficient number of persons should be chosen out of their members by the Officers of the Army, to officiate statedly, rather than by quick rotation in that character; and the Convention depend that the parochial duties of those Ministers who shall serve in the Army, will be performed by their brethren in the vicinity.

A true copy. Test: AMOS ADAMS, *Scribe*.

SELECTMEN OF LUNENBURGH TO DOCTOR JOHN TAYLOR.

Lunenburg, June 1, 1775.

SIR: We have received the resolve of the Provincial Congress, that there be draughted out of the town stock of powder from *Lunenburg*, two half barrels for the use of the Army. Now, Sir, we here represent the circumstances, the greater part of which you have a knowledge of. You may remember that the Town granted twenty-five Pounds to supply the town stock of ammunition, but by reason of the scarcity of powder we have never obtained it; and at the time of the alarm at *Concord*, we were obliged to open the town stock to furnish those that marched on that occasion, (which was upwards of one hundred men,) and if we should take out the two half barrels, we should not have above thirty pounds of powder left in the town stock. Now, Sir, we desire to know if the Congress, under these circumstances, will excuse us from taking out the two half barrels, and if not, we are ready to comply with the resolve. Please to write to us as soon as may be; in the mean time we remain yours, &c.

By order of the Selectmen, GEORGE KIMBALL,  
*Town Clerk*.

To Dr. *John Taylor*, Member of Congress.

N. B. If you know of any powder to be sold, please to inform us.

PETITION OF WILLIAM TALMAN AND OTHERS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Dartmouth, June 1, 1775.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress now sitting at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of us the subscribers humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners have, at great expense, fitted out some vessels for whaling voyages, and one or two with lumber for the *West Indies*, some of which are now ready for the sea, and being advised thereto by the Committee of Correspondence of this Town, and not being restricted therefrom by the Continental or Provincial Congress, the advice or directions of which we determine to abide by in this affair; notwithstanding which some people manifest an uneasiness that we should send our vessels to sea, and will not be satisfied unless we have the advice of the honourable the Provincial Congress, now sitting, thereon, which will quiet the minds of the people, and give them and us satisfaction relative to said matter. Therefore, your petitioners pray your advice and direction thereon; and as in duty bound shall ever pray.

|                  |                   |                      |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| William Talman,  | Isaac Howland,    | Lemuel Williams,     |
| G. Church,       | John Alden,       | Joseph Russell, Jr., |
| John Williams,   | Joseph Russell,   | Barnabas Russell,    |
| Leonard Jarvis,  | David Shepherd,   | Seth Russell,        |
| John Howland,    | William Claghorn, | Patrick Maxfield,    |
| Zadock Maxfield, | Abraham Smith,    | Daniel Smith,        |
| Uriah Ray, Jr.,  |                   |                      |

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Watertown, June 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We send you enclosed a copy of a letter from Colonel *Arnold*, commander of the Troops at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, together with a copy of a letter



from the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the Colony of *Connecticut*, by which you will be acquainted with the present situation of those fortresses, and the measures necessary to be taken for serving and defending so valuable acquisitions. You will doubtless agree with us in sentiment, that it is a matter of the greatest importance that those places remain in our possession, in order to secure our frontiers from the depredations of our enemies, if they should attempt to attack us from that quarter, of which there appears to be great danger. It was the agreement of this Colony that four hundred men, and one hundred Pounds of money, should be raised for the reduction of the place, and it is our determination to contribute our full proportion towards securing the acquisition.

By the letter from the Speaker of the House of Representatives for *Connecticut*, you will find that that Colony have voted to send immediately to their assistance four companies and five hundred weight of powder, and we suppose that the Troops are upon their march there.

And we most earnestly request that you would continue your endeavours, likewise, for the speedy and effectual security of the aforementioned places, which, considering the importance of the affair, and the ready disposition which you have discovered for the defence of the common cause, leaves us no room to doubt of your compliance therewith.

JOSEPH WARREN, *President*.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire*.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO ASSEMBLY OF CONNECTICUT.

Watertown, June 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 27th ultimo. We fully concur in opinion with you, that maintaining a post at *Ticonderoga* or *Crown Point*, is of the utmost importance; therefore take particular satisfaction that you have, on this subject, so early and repeatedly expressed your minds to the Continental Congress.

By private intelligence, of the 29th ultimo, sent to Captain *Joseph Trumbull*, we are informed that the Provincial Congress of *New-York* do not understand the resolve of the Continental Congress, concerning said fortresses, to extend so far as wholly to disseminate them; but so far only as to supply any fortifications that may be built at the south end of *Lake George*. Which resolve, in this sense of it, they are with despatch executing; therefore, in our present distressing situation, we have postponed sending further assistance to Captain *Arnold*, especially since *New-York* have not requested it.

To the Hon. *William Williams*, Speaker of the House of Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

GOVERNOUR OF CONNECTICUT TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Hartford, June 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the twenty-ninth of *May*, per *Sheppard*, is received, and observe your agitation occasioned by the resolution of the General Congress touching *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*. It was looked on in the same light here, and hath been repeatedly mentioned to the Delegates from *Connecticut*, that removing from *Ticonderoga* to the south end of *Lake George* would expose great part of the frontiers to invasion and distress, and a fort at the latter scarcely tenable. The expressions of the resolution are not clear. The Provincial Congress at *New-York* take them to mean no more than the removing the supernumerary cannon and stores from those two fortresses to the south end of *Lake George*, but not to leave or abandon those two important posts. Mine of the 29th of *May*, per Mr. *Brown*, informs what hath been resolved here, which is fully approved by the Provincial Congress at *New-York*. They express their concern to keep and maintain "the important posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*." We have received intelligence from *Albany* of the readiness of that City and County to afford their utmost assistance for securing those important posts for the common defence of our rights and liberties. Our General Assembly was closed last evening. I shall be attentive to your intelligence, and will communicate to you all that

appears important that shall come first to my knowledge. Please to direct for me at *Lebanon*. I congratulate you on the union and increasing harmony of these *North-American* Colonies, and the wonderful concurrence and coincidence of counsels among them. May our hearts be united in humble thankfulness therefor. I am, with great truth and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

JOSEPH KELLY TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety and Gentlemen of the Congress, now sitting at *EXETER*, in and for the Province of *NEW-HAMPSHIRE*:

The Petition of *JOSEPH KELLY*, of *NOTTINGHAM-WEST*, in said Province, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner has, by orders from the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, raised a number of men for the preservation of the liberties of *America*, and has been at some considerable expense in providing arms and fitting them for said service; some of which men are now at *Medford*, some at *Cambridge*, and the others wait for orders when and where to march. That your petitioner verily thought he was serving *God* and his Country in so doing; notwithstanding, Major *Hubbert* told your petitioner we were not looked upon as friends by this Congress, for no other reason, that your petitioner knows of, than only because the soldiers at *Cambridge* refused to be mustered by said *Hubbert*, as they said they well knew him to be an enemy to the common cause; which your petitioner had no other hand in than to persuade the soldiers to be easy and not to treat the said *Hubbert* ill, and to tell him the minds of the people, and prevent any disorder in the camp. Your petitioner prays the men may be taken into the service of this Province, and put under some officers who they shall agree cheerfully to go under, or that they may not be restrained of their liberty of joining with any other Province, when they are willing to serve their Country to the utmost of their power in the common cause; which is the prayer of, gentlemen, your hearty and sincere well-wisher,

June 1, 1775.

JOSEPH KELLY.

Philadelphia, June 2, 1775.

The spirit of opposition to the arbitrary and tyrannical acts of the Ministry and Parliament of *Britain*, hath diffused itself so universally throughout this Province, that the people, even to its most extended frontiers, are indefatigable in training themselves to military discipline. The aged, as well as the young, daily march out under the banners of liberty, and discover a determined resolution to maintain her cause even until death. In the Town of *Reading*, in *Berks* County, *Pennsylvania*, there had been some time past three Companies formed, and very forward in their exercise; since, however, we are well informed a fourth Company have associated under the name of the Old Man's Company. It consists of about eighty *Germans*, of the age of forty and upwards. Many of them have been in the military service in *Germany*. The person who, at their first assembling, led them to the field, is ninety-seven years of age; has been forty years in the regular service, and in seventeen pitched battles; and the drummer is eighty-four. In lieu of a cockade, they wear in their hats a black crape, as expressive of their sorrow for the mournful events which have occasioned them, at their late time of life, to take arms against our brethren, in order to preserve that liberty which they left their native Country to enjoy. A correspondent, who lately saw them perform their exercise for several hours, says, they discovered such a sober firmness in their countenances, and such vigour and address in handling their arms and performing their evolutions, as filled him with the highest respect and esteem for this truly venerable band.

COMMITTEE OF TRYON COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

June 2, 1775.

PALATINE DISTRICT.—*Christopher P. Yates, John Frey, Andrew Fink, Andrew Reeber, Peter Waggoner, Daniel McDougall, Jacob Klock, George Ecker, Jr., Har-*



*manus Van Slyck, Christopher W. Fox, Anthony Van Veghten.*

CANAJOHARIE DISTRICT.—*Nicholas Herkimer, Ebenezer Cox, William Seeber, John Moore, Samuel Campbell, Samuel Clyde, Thomas Henry, John Pickard.*

KINGSLAND AND GERMAN FLATTS DISTRICTS.—*Edward Wall, William Petry, John Petry, Augustine Hess, Frederick Orendorf, George Wentz, Michael Ittig, Frederick Fox, George Herkimer, Duncan McDougall, Frederick Helmer, John Frink.*

MOHAWK DISTRICT.—*John Morlett, John Bliven, Abraham Van Horne, Adam Fonda, Frederick Fisher, Sampson Simmons, William Schuyler, Volkert Veeder, James McMaster, Daniel Lane.—42.*

*Christopher P. Yates* was chosen Chairman.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE OF TRYON COUNTY, NEW-YORK, TO COL. GUY JOHNSON.

According to the example of the Counties in this and the neighbouring Colonies, the people of the District we represent have met in a peaceable manner to consider of the present dispute with the Mother Country and the Colonies, signed a General Association, and appointed us a Committee to meet in order to consult the common safety of our rights and liberties, which are infringed in a most enormous manner, by enforcing oppressive and unconstitutional Acts of the *British* Parliament, by an armed force in the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Was it any longer a doubt that we are oppressed by the Mother Country, and that it is the avowed design of the Ministers to enslave us, we might, perhaps, be induced to use argument to point out in what particulars we conceive that it is the birthright of *English* subjects to be exempted from all taxes, except those which are laid on them by their Representatives, and think we have a right, not only by the laws and Constitution of *England*, to meet for the purpose we have done. Which meeting we probably would have postponed awhile, had there been the least kind of probability that the Petition of the General Assembly would have been noticed more than the united petition of almost the whole Continent of *America*, by their Delegates in Congress; which, so far from being anywise complied with, was treated with superlative contempt by the Ministry, and fresh oppressions were, and are, daily heaped upon us. Upon which principles, principles which are undeniable, we have been appointed to consult methods to contribute what little lies in our power to save our devoted Country from ruin and devastation; which, with the assistance of Divine Providence, it is our fixed and determined resolution to do; and, if called upon, we shall be foremost in sharing the toil and danger of the field. We consider *New-England* suffering in the common cause, and commiserate their distressed situation; and we should be wanting in our duty to our Country and to ourselves, if we were any longer backward in announcing our determination to the world.

We know that some of the members of this Committee have been charged with compelling people to come into the measures which we have adopted, and with drinking treasonable toasts. But as we are convinced that these reports are false and malicious, spread by our enemies with the sole intent to lessen us in the esteem of the world, and as we are conscious of being guilty of no crime, and of having barely done our duty; we are entirely unconcerned as to any thing that is said of us, or can be done with us. We should, however, be careless of our character, did we not wish to detect the despicable wretch who could be so base as to charge us with things which we never have entertained the most distant thoughts of. We are not ignorant of the very great importance of your office, as Superintendent of the *Indians*, and, therefore, it is no more our duty than inclination to protect you in the discharge of the duty of your proper province, and we meet you with pleasure, in behalf of ourselves and our constituents, to thank you for meeting the *Indians* in the upper parts of the County, which may be the means of easing the people of the remainder of their fears on this account, and prevent the *Indians* committing irregularities on their way down to

*Guy-Park*. And we beg of you to use your endeavours with the *Indians* to dissuade them from interfering in the dispute with the Mother Country and the Colonies. We cannot think that, as you and your family possess very large estates in this County, you are unfavourable to *American* freedom, although you may differ with us in the mode of obtaining a redress of grievances. Permit us further to observe, that we cannot pass over in silence the interruption which the people of the *Mohawk* District met in their meeting; which, we are informed, was conducted in a peaceable manner; and the inhuman treatment of a man whose only crime was being faithful to his employers, and refusing to give an account of the receipt of certain papers to persons who had not the least colour of right to demand any thing of that kind. We assure you, that we are much concerned about it, as two important rights of *English* subjects are thereby infringed, to wit: a right to meet, and to obtain all the intelligence in their power.

TO MR. JOHN HOLT.

New-York, June 2, 1775.

SIR: We have seen with that satisfaction which we believe every *British* Constitutionist must feel at beholding your name on the Address which you printed against unlawful Standing Armies. You have done right; for the abettors of despotism cannot legally prosecute, though they may censure and dislike you for your honest boldness in conveying, through the channel of your press, the instruction which was much wanted concerning deserters.

That in the Colonies no soldier can be lawfully detained against his will, or punished in any case by military officers, under colour of any act of the *British* Parliament only; that now all soldiers are under the sole protection of the civil power of such of the *British* Colonies where they may be respectively stationed; and that whether the soldiers choose to remain in or desert from the King's service, it is highly criminal and absurd in us not to protect them in their civil rights against the oppression of their tyrannical masters, or the usurpations of unlawful courts-martial. All these, Sir, are self-evident truths. And yet our citizens were alarmed on *Saturday* last, by a party of soldiers who sallied out of our barracks, seized a deserter in the street, and forcibly dragged him to their hold, where, it is said, the officer who received him swore the deserter should be "shot or whipped to death." A quiet application (too quiet, doubtless) was made to one of the officers; for, the deserter is still detained, and may be very soon transported elsewhere. Not long ago a deputation of four men from a *Connecticut* detachment, which did not stay here, was very differently received at the same barracks by an officer of the same corps. A deserter was peremptorily demanded there, and the officer immediately delivered him to the deputation. Shall we behave with less spirit than our neighbours? Must we be reduced to call on them for assistance?

The audacious attack on the person of the deserter, violently taken by the soldiery on *Saturday* last, was certainly intended to keep as long as possible in their state of delusion, the soldiery, who begin to doubt the local force of the abominable edict, under pretence of which many of their comrades have been most iniquitously "shot or whipped to death!" And shall destruction be the lot of men who would avoid shedding the blood of their brethren, our own blood, and fly to us for protection against that unnatural command? God forbid!

As military men cannot now exercise over the soldiers stationed in this Colony any lawful authority independent of our own established courts of judicature, we think it very necessary to inform you, that many of our fellow-citizens, ancient sons of liberty, as well as ourselves, expect that some orthodox casuist amongst your readers will speedily determine, and without evasion, whether or not to apprehend deserters in defiance of our laws, be out of the line of that peaceable behaviour which the Continental Congress lately fixed as the criterion of our future operations respecting the Regulars who are permitted to remain in our barracks; and if yea, what must be done for the safety of those who have been apprehended, and for our own?

A CLUB OF CONGRESSIONISTS.



NO STANDING ARMY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES; OR, AN ADDRESS TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE COLONY OF NEW-YORK AGAINST UNLAWFUL STANDING ARMIES.

"Resolved, *nemine contradicente*, That the keeping a Standing Army in these Colonies, in times of peace, without the consent of the Legislature of the Colony in which such Army is kept, is against law."—*Proclamation of the Continental Congress.*

*Brethren, Friends, and Countrymen:*

The sanguinary schemes of the present Administration have been sealed with the approbation of the late ministerial Parliament. Every vessel that came to this or the neighbouring ports, since the proceedings of our late Congress were published in *London*, brought us fresh intelligence of the hostile measures resolved on against us. More regiments are to be sent over, some of which will be stationed in this metropolis and in *New-Jersey*, to support the King's friends, to intimidate and divide us, to be a check on the Southern Colonies, and, if judged practicable, to prevent their relieving our suffering brethren of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

These particulars, and many more, have, doubtless, come to the knowledge of that body, commonly styled our Representatives; and yet, amongst the objects of real complaint, resolved as such by that Assembly, in their late catalogue of grievances, we do not read any of the ruinous consequences of an act of Parliament, which was solely machinated to extort the submission of all the *British* Colonies to every parliamentary, or, what is synonymous, to every ministerial mandate, though ever so ruinous. But it may be predicted that, sooner or later, this act will have the intended effect, should its not appearing to press upon us in a direct manner render us so inattentive, or so very selfish as to suffer its continuing to be enforced with impunity.

This introduction must point out to you, that the act, or rather edict here alluded to, is that which was made for extending to all the *British* Colonies on this Continent the acts of Parliament relating to mutiny and desertion in *Great Britain*, as likewise to maintain the discipline of His Majesty's Army, so styled, instead of its true descriptive name, the *British*, or National Army—an impropriety of the greatest importance to a free people, justly jealous of their honour, and conscious of their real dignity! But, to the manifest danger of the national liberty, this is little attended to by military men; too many of whom, from a field-marshal to a drummer, mistake the true sense of that phraseology, which, when at first used, was meant but as a complaint, and appeared, as it really was, perfectly harmless, before our Kings kept a Standing Army. Erroneous notions on this head are now big with ruin, it being not unfrequent to find in the military order a commissioned, as well as a non-commissioned varlet, ignorant enough to believe that he eats the King's bread, and is bound, for that very reason, implicitly to obey any command he receives from his superiours, who eat the same bread! As men of this stamp never inquire with whose bread the King himself is fed, it is judged very necessary, at this critical juncture, to awaken the attention and sensibility of many men of liberal principles, who serve in the *British* Army and Navy, some of whom inadvertently mention the King, and even address him, as their master.

The enemies to our Constitution, well knowing the fatal effects of the illusion which this old prejudice never fails to produce in the minds of the vulgar, surreptitiously provided themselves with the Extension Edict, before (though not long before) the late Parliament issued their inquisitorial sentences against the people of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. That edict demonstrates to you by what means the Ministry have determined to conduct their conspiracy against our liberty. Surely, this is a grievance of the first magnitude.

The *American* newspapers have informed you since that time, that Courts-Martial have dared to decree various punishments, which have been inflicted on soldiers in *America*; but, though such Courts-Martial acted under colour of that same illegal edict, we do not learn that any of their members, or the deluded victims that became their accomplices by executing the felonious sentences, have been indicted for their respective crimes! Nay, have not such

unlawful Courts-Martial been suffered in our metropolis to exercise the same illegal authority?

About the beginning of the last war, an Administration, which had formed no design against our liberty, acted on very different principles, to prevent the mutiny and desertion of the *British* forces in *North America*. The Minister sent circular directions to most of the *American* Governors, for procuring temporary acts, which, as they manifestly tended to the welfare and safety of the whole *British* Empire, were cheerfully granted. The Legislatures to which such applications were made, extended to their respective territories the acts of Parliament for punishing mutiny and desertion, &c. Those acts afterwards received the Royal assent; but the legal force of every such temporary act has long since expired. They were granted with the same caution that acts of a similar nature pass in *Great Britain*, where the Lords and Commons know, that the national liberty might be easily destroyed should they declare acts of such importance, perpetual. The Legislature can give no lawful authority to such acts of perpetual duration, any more than they can lawfully surrender the liberties of the people. These have, in reserve, an inalienable right to ratify, or annual every act of their delegates to legislative assemblies.

The fair proceedings of the Administration above mentioned, are of publick notoriety. They not only prove, in the most authentick manner, that Administration then believed the *British* Parliament had no right to bind us in all cases whatsoever, but that the King and his Ministers were solicitous to demonstrate the uprightness of their intentions—that they would not violate any of our constitutional rights, by attempting to bind us in any case whatsoever, without our legal consent.

The *anti-British* junto, being sensible the legal expiration of those temporary acts of the Colonies was an invincible obstacle to their projects of depredation, so artfully conducted themselves in, and out of Parliament, that their dark designs were not suspected. For this reason, the patriotick minority, who did not think that more regiments were intended to be sent over to *America*, made little or no opposition to the Extension Edict. This shows you, my brethren, how cautious you ought to be of your friends themselves. They may be sincere, but they do not feel!

Let us see now what our late venerable Congress did for us—they who felt with us the innumerable evils that are inseparable from a Standing Army not dependant on ourselves. Their ninth resolve expressly declares, that to keep such Army is unlawful, and consequently proclaims the nullity of the Extension Edict, in the comprehensive words which are prefixed to this address, although the consequence which results from the truth contained in them, being founded on the self-evident principles of universal jurisprudence, that respectable authority might have been omitted here, without the least danger. This consequence is acknowledged by the uniform proceedings of every civilized Country relative to distributive justice, as well as in the judgment of every person who is not in a state of insanity. Whatever is done any where against law, cannot be supported there, by law. It is a mere nullity.

We have often been astonished at the superlative effrontery of ministerial hirelings; and yet, it is improbable any caviller of that tribe will be so irreverent and scurrilous as to urge, that the ninth resolve of the Congress does not affect the extension edict. However, should you meet with that wretch, read to him, and intrench yourselves within the tenth resolve in their Bill of Rights, from which the following quotation is inserted here, to support the ninth resolve, and several other parts of this address, to wit:

"All and each of which," that is to say, the rights mentioned in the nine preceding resolves, "the aforesaid Deputies, in behalf of themselves and their constituents, do claim, demand, and insist on, as their indubitable rights and liberties, which cannot be legally taken from them, altered, or abridged by any power whatever, without their own consent, by their Representatives, in their several Provincial Legislatures.

"In the course of our inquiry we find many infringements and violations of the foregoing rights, which, from an ardent desire that harmony and a mutual intercourse of



affection and interest may be restored, we pass over for the present, and proceed to state such acts and measures as have been adopted since the last war, which demonstrate a system formed to enslave *America*."

Now, can a fair reasoner assert that, notwithstanding the declared illegality of the infringements alluded to in the preceding quotation, the declaration implies, that the Congress admitted the legal operation of any such act, till it should be repealed? That it is to be so understood, though the whole of the proceedings shows that it is feared there will be a civil war, unless they be repealed? Though the repeal be solicited, not to annul such acts, (they being all illegal, and every one of them, whether enumerated or not, being consequently null and void,) but "to restore harmony," that is, to prevent that civil war which is justly feared, unless the violences which have been already committed to enforce those unlawful, illegal, and null acts, be discontinued?

If those men who, solemnly appealing to *God* and the equity of mankind for the justice of our cause, declared to you and the other members of the *British* Nation that "to keep a Standing Army in these Colonies without our consent, is against law," had justified the least suspicion of their admitting that it was not against law to punish, without our consent, mutiny and desertion in such unlawful Standing Army: Believe me, my dear, devoted countrymen, the most iniquitous Administration that can be conceived, the present Administration itself, never would wish to obstruct their proceedings.

The Extension Act is unlawful, illegal, and null, being made to support the discipline of an unlawful Standing Army: and should a Standing Army be made lawful in any Colony, (which *God* avert,) the Extension Act would, nevertheless, remain unlawful, illegal, and null in that Colony, until the Legislature should have given it their local lawfulness, legality, and therefore existence. But you have no reason to fear this; for self-preservation will effectually prevent the most abandoned traitor from making a motion of that tendency in any *American* legislative assembly, against the safety of a people protected by the *British* Constitution.

Regardless of every principle of justice and policy, the *British* Parliament are trying against our liberty experiments which, if hazarded against the people under their immediate legislative authority, would infallibly involve *Great Britain* in a civil war, and might produce another revolution there. The King is vested with the supreme command of all the forces of the Nation, wherever they may be stationed; but he has no legal coercive authority any where over the soldiers or sailors, otherwise than by local laws, made from time to time, to that effect. And, as the safety of every constitutional right depends on the limitation of that authority, the other branches of the Legislature grant him but temporary acts, for maintaining the discipline of the army and navy, by coercive laws, and for restraining or enlarging the power of Courts-Martial in both these departments, within the limits of that Legislature by which they are granted.

The limited duration of those laws being as short as it appears, from occasional circumstances, to be consistent with the publick safety, the treasonable designs of Administration may be counteracted with more facility than if such laws were perpetual. After the legal expiration of those acts, the King's lawful authority over the national forces expiring of course, can he punish, or detain any body in that service, since Courts-Martial are abolished by law, as they now are in the *British* Colonies? And if the King would attempt to retain them in his own service, how could he accomplish it before he had usurped an arbitrary power over the purses of the people? Could he satisfy capricious demands, which would increase in proportion to the knowledge that every man in his army and navy would have of the embarrassments of their master? No! for those salutary limitations are solely intended to preserve inviolate our rights of opening or shutting up our purses, as we think fit. They have till now prevented such usurpations, which, to exercise with safety, is the ultimate end of every other usurpation that ever was exercised by any tyrant in the world. It was but to attain that end the selfish Parliament of *Great Britain* have so flagitiously exceeded the limits of lawful power.

If you admit, as lawful, the extension illegally decreed by a ministerial Parliament, and machinated but as a provisional edict to insure the success of measures resolved on, relatively to the proscription of the *Bostonians*, and other proscriptions *in petto*; if you only tolerate its illegal operation any longer, the King will not experience those difficulties which would thwart his arbitrary projects in *Great Britain*, were his usurpations to begin there. His Parliament might pay us the compliment of renewing the extension and other temporary acts of their own sole legislation, for the sole purpose of raising a revenue to lighten their own burdens, which luxury and corruption have already prodigiously increased, and which your tameness will increase to a degree which it is now beyond the power of calculators to ascertain. But you may rest assured that, in a very short time, Administration will sport with your liberties, and, soon after, with those of the whole *British* Empire. The opprobrious and degrading denomination of Province, which now is but an innocent and unmeant misapplication of a foreign word adopted in our language, will significantly describe the real state of every *British* Colony, and, indeed, of every Shire in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*. Never forget that about two years ago a crowned miscreant compelled the states of *Sweden*, the Parliament of that Country, to release him from his coronation oath! His success may tempt others to commit the same sacrilege.

Our enemies are now terrified at the superiority of strength which the justice of our cause gives us over them in the present contest. They will be amazed at the effect of their flimsy artifices, if, by tolerating the extension edict, we stupidly subject ourselves to a set of men upon whom we can have no check; who, having exempted themselves and their tools from the power of our tribunals, will drag before theirs, such of us who may indicate the least inclination to a better change. Then, our disguised friends, and our open foes, united in the *British* Parliament, will, with iron hands and unfeeling hearts, "bind us in all cases whatsoever." We shall be in the condition of the *Swedes*, *French*, *Spaniards*, and most other Nations, where, now and then, an honest man may regret the loss of his natural rights, but where an attempt to recover them would be next to madness.

It will be a melancholy reflection to us, perhaps for many years, that no strictures have yet been tendered respecting the destructive tendency of the extension edict. It is expected that the tried patriotism of our ablest writers will inspire them to hold it up to publick view in its most minute circumstances. The silence now complained of dismays our friends, and secretly elates our enemies on the other side of the water; it may, in some measure, exculpate the Magistrates and Grand-Juries, who have not yet brought to justice any of the persons who are liable to be prosecuted in their respective districts for crimes committed there, under the unlawful sanction of Parliamentary edicts.

But, every such edict, or illegal act of Parliament, being void and null in law, respecting its operation amongst us, it clearly follows, that all the robberies and burglaries committed by Custom-House Officers and others, under colour of several edicts of a similar nullity; that all the murders and violences perpetrated under the directions of illegal Courts-Martial; that the oppression of the soldiers, who now are legally under the sole protection of the civil power of the *British* Colonies on this Continent, where they are unlawfully stationed by a despotick Administration; and that the enormities which Custom-House Officers, and illegal Courts of Admiralty or Vice-Admiralty, or which the deluded soldiery in the ministerial service, have already committed, or may hereafter commit, shall be wholly chargeable to the pusillanimous, or treasonable connivance of the Colonists themselves, if such crimes remain unnoticed by those whose sworn, and therefore whose indispensable duty it is, to bring them to light and trial.

O my countrymen, will you cease to incur the contempt of the world? Will you no longer continue the jest of your enemies? Listen no more to trembling delinquents, who artfully whisper to you, that your Courts of Justice would quash such indictments. For *God's* sake, do justice to the understanding and integrity of your Judges. Consider, and you will clearly see, that were they as corrupt as we know them to be otherwise, they



would not dare, at this juncture, to betray their iniquitous partiality. Nay, the most profligate member of our Assembly, though he could depend on the concurrence of a majority of the same corrupt principles, would not dare now to abuse representation so far as to move for a bill tending to screen, directly or indirectly, under the illusory declaration of your assent, manifested by them only, any of the obnoxious acts which the late Congress reprobated, as demonstratory of "a system formed to enslave *America*."

Timid well-wishers to their Country may object, that our zeal will be frustrated by an unprincipled Governour; that, not daring with a high hand to impede the prosecution of criminals, protected by himself, he will stretch prerogative even to the pardon of irremissible crimes, none of which are more so than those by which our sacred Constitution is endangered. But, may not the well known fate of a *Porteus* check traitors, by convincing them that they cannot always shelter themselves under the wings of prerogative? And should this prove ineffectual, our holy religion teaches us, that no worldly consideration ought to deter the just from doing his duty. Our Committees, and, what is much safer, Colonial Conventions, vested with discretionary powers, will, at last, baffle the arts of ministerial tools, and work our political salvation.

If there be amongst us a conscientious lawyer, he certainly will point out to the officers of the unlawful Standing Army, stationed in the *British* Colonies, the imminent danger they run by detaining soldiers in *North America*, under the illegal extension edict. As to pettifoggers, we know they are seduced by the prospect of a plentiful harvest, and that self-interest, not justice, determines them to act, whatever side they undertake to defend. If the Minister do not value these enough to retain them in his service for supporting the unlawful acts, they will of course rejoice at the almost innumerable actions of a civil nature which may be grounded on the local nullity of Parliamentary edicts, and commenced by soldiers for unjust detention, loss of time, and unpaid labour; or for various trespasses, unjustifiable before tribunals which follow the *British* system of law.

All injuries sustained by any person in this Colony, in consequence of the same unlawful sanction, may be redressed, and the same offences will be prevented for the future, if we have but sense and firmness enough to apply as we should, and where we should. It is never too late to do our duty. Let us trust the event to the omnipotent Ruler of the universe, and He will reward our perseverance.

If, through ignorance or inattention, any of you ever gave a verdict in contradiction to the fundamentals of justice; if he admitted the force of any act of Parliament to which your own Colonial laws have given no such force, that man must be very unhappy whenever he reflects on the injustice he has occasioned; but he is guiltless—he deserves compassion. It is far different with jurymen, who knew the local nullity of acts of Parliament, and by their verdicts authorized their illegal operation. Those jurymen, and the judges who designedly suffered it—who have suppressed the warnings and instructions which they ought to have given, and strengthened with their eloquence—have been bribed. Whether hope, fear, avarice, or any other worldly motive influences such judges and jurymen—they have been bribed. They stand guilty before *God* and man, of wilful and corrupt perjury.

Do not believe, my dear countrymen, that, infatuated as the junto may be, they hope that the Continental Association can be dissolved by the external, the seeming defection of any Colony, were it even ours, which is nearly central, and the most liable to such suspicions. A Governour may bribe the majority of an Assembly, who fancy that they represent a people not virtuous enough to exercise their rights of choosing their representatives and elective officers by ballot. Illegal warrants may be issued, and remain unquashed for a considerable time, to bewilder the bulk of the people with the innumerable doubts which, it is evident, will arise from the untried illegality of those proceedings; to intimidate and oppress, till the bench determine the question; and, in the mean while, to deter the injured from prosecuting such daring conspirators.

He may bribe a few trading justices, and seduce other sons of corruption and power, who hold, or expect to hold

magistracy or other offices during pleasure, and are as much afraid of Colonial Conventions as the Minister is of Continental Congresses. But he cannot bribe the body of the people, in whom, originally and finally, lies the sovereign power, represented for their benefit only by one single person.

All the Colonies, nay, the internal force of any single Colony, can punish a few venal officers for abusing the authority with which they are entrusted by their superiours, who are themselves subordinate to another superiour, likewise entrusted by, and (as glorious experience shows) accountable, as well as every one of his dependants, to the people at large, whether they meet in one single spot, or in their respective Districts. The patriotick spirit of the *American Britons* cannot be subdued. They will exercise their constitutional right to hold Conventions for their safety; a right which cannot be questioned, without openly denying the legal title of the *Hanoverian* line of our Kings to the *British* Crown. Therefore, my dear countrymen, do not basely relinquish that sacred right, when you ought to exercise it. You know that, should you be oppressed by a wicked knot of traitors, you will be delivered by your happier neighbours as soon as their assistance is required.

The arch fiend to our Constitution knows all this. The Colonies which delegated members to the late Congress, have already appalled him, that insolent, cruel, and cowardly wretch, who, a year ago, declared by his wicked trumpet, that he would not relent "till he saw you prostrate at his feet!" Your Congress made him stoop to proposals, which he well knows you will reject with disdain. He means but to divide and betray you, whom he despairs to subjugate by force. However, he will send more Troops, more indeed than he thinks it is prudent now to divulge. But it is not solely in that re-enforcement he confides. Will you believe it, my dear devoted countrymen, it is in his opinion of your folly. I shall reveal to you his grand secret—the only resource left him to extort your compliance.

Now that the vices of the Nation have reduced to a state of impotence the small portion of virtue which still remains in the *British* Parliament, he hopes that a superstitious reverence for that body, degenerate as it is, will continue to betray you into absurdities, and an inconsistent passiveness. He still hopes that your inattention to the extension edict will enable him at last to defeat your united forces. Your supineness justifies him in believing, and persuading his associates, that you will always tolerate the operation of that destructive edict, which is sufficient in itself to put all the others in force.

Can we, without feeling the severest stings of self-reproach, reflect on the many crimes which, since the extension act was quietly enforced, our inattention has emboldened Custom-House Officers and other sons of tyranny to commit? Oh! had criminal prosecutions been instituted in that Country where the first felony or the first degradation of human nature was committed, in defiance of our laws, and under the usurped authority of Courts-Martial, or rather, immediately after their first unwarrantable sentence was known! had soldiers been duly protected against their tyrannical masters, robberies and murders might have been prevented; our brethren at *Boston* could not be dragooned; we might long ago have defied the combinations of the parricidal junto, whose aim is to destroy our Constitution! We should no longer fear their dethroning our King, and fixing his crown on the head of a race of tyrants whom a patriotick Parliament justly proscribed about ninety years ago, as irreconcilable foes to the natural rights of the *British* Nation! With truth and security we might tell the arch fiend, "What do you think of venal Parliaments now?"

Since no sophistry can delude an incorrupted *American* jury; since the joint efforts of the ministerial hirelings cannot, without our connivance, hold up before the eyes of the soldiers the veil which hides from them the knowledge of their civil rights, let us instruct those deluded victims; let us openly protect them against their oppressors. If we adopt this pacifick mode of resistance, which no political casuist who has subscribed to the Revolution creed can disapprove, the Minister may send over as many Regiments as he pleases; the intended instruments of our ruin will



but add to our strength and prosperity. As soon as they know it is against law to detain them in the Army, the ministerial army, there will be no obstacle to their desertion. Then, but not before, sycophants, paid to calumniate and betray the *British* Colonies, will in vain attempt to persuade the instructed and less credulous soldiers that we shall deliver them up to facilitate our reconciliation with the *British* Parliament, who will not hear of any proposal of accommodation, unless this, their *sine qua non* condition, be first complied with. If we adopt this generous measure, we shall enjoy the purest pleasure that can affect freemen—that of rescuing our fellow-creatures, our brethren, from disgraceful bondage. And if experience can teach us wisdom, we shall so cautiously grant temporary acts for preventing mutiny and desertion, should ever the safety of the *British* Empire make it again necessary to grant such acts, that the abominable project of reducing us into a state of slavery, by the means of a Standing Army, cannot enter the head of any future Minister.

The virtuous part of the *British* Officers themselves impatiently wait for this manifestation of our prudence. They will secretly rejoice, as *Britons*, at the mutiny and desertion of whole battalions, whatever they may do in their publick character to the contrary. And General *Gage*, whom his weakness and incapacity recommended to a perfidious Administration, who emulously extol his abilities, though they would not have employed him if a sensible man, of an established military reputation, had accepted the dishonourable command; that General, whom they have decorated but as a bound victim, may be brought to justice, and answer for the many crimes which his thirst of power inspired him to perpetrate, or patronize, as the most acceptable offerings which could propitiate to him his tutelar Deity at *St. James's*.

It is not yet too late to pursue this plan of philanthropy and self-defence; but we must exert ourselves with activity and constancy. If we lose time, the soldiers, not knowing the local nullity of an edict made for the purpose of detaining them against law, on an unnatural service which they abhor, will be afraid of being treacherously delivered up, in case they desert. They will not cease to be awed by illegal Courts-Martial, though if they were properly instructed they would not fear, but despise, the authority usurped by those Courts; and the soldiers who have been injured by them, or by any military officer, would obtain legal redress, should they make proper application.

If we suffer them to be misled by a sacrilegious interpretation of their military oath, from which they are released as soon as the Army is kept against law; if we scandalously forsake them, in vain shall we cry out to them in the strain of the *Roman* Patriot,

Whither, oh! whither do you madly run?  
'Tis not that *Britons*, with avenging flame,  
Might burn the rival of the *British* name;  
But that the *Stuarts* should their vows enjoy,  
And *George*, with impious hand, himself destroy!

When they are ordered to butcher us, and destroy our habitations, then they will not listen to us; self-preservation, and even revenge, must impel them to imbrue their hands in our blood, and our destruction or slavery, attended with the curses of posterity, may be the fatal consequences of our infatuation, in neglecting to seize an opportunity to vanquish our enemies without shedding the blood of our friends.

AN ANTI-DESPOT.

ROBERT AND JOHN MURRAY TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 2, 1775.

SIR: Herewith you have a memorial to the Congress now assembled, together with a copy of the papers laid before the Continental Congress. We should take it as a favour, if you would lay the whole before the gentlemen as soon as possible. Your compliance will much oblige your humble servants,

ROBERT & JOHN MURRAY.

P. V. B. Livingston, Esq., President of the Congress.

Memorial of ROBERT MURRAY and JOHN MURRAY to the Honourable the Provincial Congress of New-York.

GENTLEMEN: The annexed papers are copies of what we laid before the honourable Continental Congress, in

consideration of which they came to the following Resolution:

"In Congress, May 27, 1775.

"Upon motion, the Memorial of *Robert Murray* and *John Murray*, desiring to be restored to their former situation, with respect to their commercial privileges, was taken into consideration, and after some time spent thereon,

"Resolved, That where any person hath been, or shall be, adjudged by a Committee to have violated the Continental Association, and such offender shall satisfy the Convention of the Colony where the offence was or shall be committed, or the Committee of the Parish of *St. John's*, in the Colony of *Georgia*, if the offence be committed there, of his contrition for his offence, and sincere resolution to conform to the Association for the future, the said Convention or Committee of the Parish of *St. John's* aforesaid, may settle the terms upon which he may be restored to the favour and forgiveness of the publick, and that the terms be published.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

From the foregoing it appears, that to procure restoration to publick favour, we have no tribunal but yours to appeal to. The annexed papers exhibit a full state of our case, which we humbly submit to your consideration, not doubting but that in your wisdom you will afford us such relief as will be consistent with humanity and the publick good.

ROBERT MURRAY,  
JOHN MURRAY.

June 2, 1775.

MEMORIAL OF ROBERT AND JOHN MURRAY TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress now sitting at PHILADELPHIA:

The Memorial of ROBERT MURRAY and JOHN MURRAY, of the City of New-York, Merchants, humbly sheweth:

That the memorialists being owners of the ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, and expecting she would be in *London* by the time their orders could arrive there, did, on the 7th of *September* last, by a letter to *Philip Sansom*, direct him to put certain articles on board the said ship, on account of the memorialists, together with what freight he could procure for her, and to despatch her immediately for *New-York*, as may appear by an extract of the letter hereunto annexed, marked No. 1.

That the memorialists, so far from entertaining any design to counteract the measures recommended by the late Continental Congress, did, as soon as they were informed thereof, countermand the above-mentioned orders, except as to such goods as might, in consequence thereof, have actually become the property of the memorialists and their partner, the said *Philip Sansom*; for the truth of which they beg leave to refer to the annexed extract of a letter to the said *Philip Sansom*, dated the 5th of *October*, 1774, marked No. 2.

That in pursuance of the above directions, there were shipped on board the *Beulah*, (a vessel belonging to the memorialists) at *London*, sundry goods, on account of the memorialists and their partner, with which goods the said vessel sailed for *New-York* on the 5th or 6th day of *December* last, and arrived there the 16th or 17th of *February* following.

That on the arrival of the said vessel and cargo, which happened after the time limited by the Congress for the continuance of our importations, the memorialists having no intention to land their goods contrary to the terms of the Association, would have cheerfully submitted to what they conceived to be the spirit and design thereof, and were therefore willing, and did offer to unload their cargo and ship it in another bottom, under the inspection of some of the Committee here, and to send it to some place not within the restriction imposed by the Congress; and the memorialists beg leave to refer to the annexed copy of their letter, sent to the Committee upon this subject, marked No. 3, containing more at large their proposal, and the reasons on which it was founded.

The memorialists beg leave further to observe, that they did verily believe their construction of this part of the



Association was consistent with the spirit and design thereof; and had the Committee here been of that opinion, such a mode of compliance would have greatly alleviated the loss of the memorialists, as they might, in that case, have shipped their cargo away in a small vessel, instead of sending it in a vessel not above one-third full.

That, reduced, as they thought, to an unnecessary hardship, and chagrined with the disappointment, the memorialists rashly formed the design of secretly landing some small part of the cargo, and were so imprudent as to carry the same into execution. That before a discovery was made thereof, and at a time when the memorialists had great reason to suppose the place where the goods were deposited would not be discovered, to wit: the 13th of *March* last, they made a declaration of the fact, and offered to give the Committee a full account of the particulars, on oath, which they accordingly did on the 15th of the same month, when all the goods landed had been delivered up to the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, and the disposition thereof submitted entirely to the directions of the Committees at *New-York*; all which particulars will more fully appear from *Holt's New-York Journal*, of the 23d *March*, hereunto also annexed, to which the memorialists refer.

The memorialists having proceeded thus far, and manifested their intention to satisfy the publick in any reasonable way that could be expected, as well as to express their contrition for the hasty and imprudent measure they had taken; and to prevent their future commercial intercourse with others from becoming the means of other infractions of the Association, the memorialists did shut up their store, discontinue all trade, shut up their own goods under the seals of certain persons here, transfer their commission business to others, and give up their wharf as free for the use of the navigation of this City, until they should be relieved in the premises by the interposition of the Congress. As vouchers of these facts, the memorialists refer to the annexed printed publications, marked No. 5 and No. 6.

The foregoing is a true state of the facts relative to this unhappy affair in which the memorialists are involved; and as their commercial concerns were large and extensive, at least amounting to £50,000 per annum, this total dereliction of business has become an immense loss to them; and if unrelieved, cannot but terminate in their ruin.

That Mr. *Philip Sansom*, their partner, who has been distinguished for his warm attachment to *American* liberty, though not concerned in the indiscreet step taken by the memorialists, is yet involved in all its fatal consequences. That besides the weight of distress and sufferings to which the memorialists themselves have been exposed, not only from their great losses, but the resentment of an incensed people, their present situation must be attended with a train of evils to the innocent who are connected with them in business; their creditors must suffer; those who depended on their large commercial business for bread, are turned out of employ, and the publick deprived of the advantages which necessarily flow from a continuance of their trade and commerce.

That the memorialists presume the *American* Congress, from the great and important ends of the Convention, will move only on publick principles, and therefore think it improper to address their tender and benevolent feelings, not doubting but every generous and humane sentiment towards the memorialists, which is consistent with the publick good, will have their due influence in a determination of this subject, in which the memorialists are so deeply interested.

Permit them, then, to hope that this august and respectable body, from a consideration of the conduct of the memorialists in this affair; from their utmost endeavours to atone, in some measure, for their indiscretion; from the great and complicated distress they have already sustained; from the circumstance that the innocent are deeply involved in their sufferings; and that a continuation of their sufferings can only perpetuate their calamities, without advancing the important ends of publick safety, will, in their wisdom, reinstate the memorialists in their former situation, with respect to their commercial privileges.

ROBT. MURRAY,  
JOHN MURRAY.

## No. 1.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO PHILIP SANSOM, DATED NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 7, 1774.

As we expect the *Dutchess* will be with you by the time this reaches thy hands, we have thought it most prudent to order out some bulky articles, such as we apprehend will pay a good freight, in consequence of which, we have now enclosed thee a list of such articles as we would have thee send out in her immediately, with what freight offers.

## No. 2.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO PHILIP SANSOM, DATED OCTOBER 5, 1774.

The foregoing is a copy of our last, per the *Thetis*, to the contents of which refer you. She sailed the 2d current, since which we find it to be the sense of the Congress, that all orders that are gone may be suspended or countermanded; in consequence of which, we desire that all our orders sent may be countermanded, except such as are already become our property. Those we would have you ship immediately, by the first vessel for this port, giving the preference to one of our own, if there.

## No. 3.

February 20, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We being sole owners of the Ship *Beulah*, from *London*, do propose, (with your approbation,) that the ship be regularly entered at the Custom-House; in which case we pledge to you our word and honour, that no part of the goods shall be landed in this Province; but the same shall be forthwith reshipped and sent off in some other bottom. If it shall be thought more satisfactory, we consent that any number of your body be on board the ship while here, to see that the above engagement is strictly observed.

This proposition, we think, must appear reasonable, as being not inconsistent with the resolution of the Congress; and therefore we are led to hope it will meet not only with your approbation, but that of the inhabitants of this City in general. The Congress having been silent as to what bottom the goods shall be returned in, probably meant to expose the owners of the ship and cargo to as little inconvenience as possible, by leaving that matter to their discretion, which, from the terms in which their resolve is expressed, seems evidently to be the case. Their words are: "If any goods, wares, or merchandises, shall be imported after the first day of *February*, the same ought forthwith to be sent back again without breaking any of the packages thereof." This, we conceive, manifestly declares that the goods, (which are the object of this resolve,) are to be imported after the first day of *February*; but as there cannot be a legal importation without an entry at the Custom-House, it follows that such entry is presupposed and implied in their resolution; and the more especially, as they direct that the packages shall be sent back unopened; for, as opening the packages without an entry, would make the ship liable to a seizure, the Congress could hardly have thought such rash conduct in the owners to be probable; and, therefore, from this prohibitory clause, they must have considered the goods as in a situation in which the packages might be lawfully opened, which plainly includes the idea of a previous entry at the Custom-House. By permitting, therefore, such entry under the guards proposed, we think that not only the letter, but the spirit and intention of the resolution of the Congress will be fully complied with.

It has, and probably may again be insisted on against this construction of the resolve, that the first article of the Association prohibits the importation of goods from *Great Britain*, &c., after the first day of *December*; and therefore, that it must be absurd to suppose the Congress could intend an importation after the first day of *February*, in the sense we contend for, as it would imply a contradiction. Whatever force there may appear to be in this argument at first view, it is entirely taken off by the explanatory clause in the tenth article, which declares, that in case any merchant, trader, or other persons, shall import any goods after the first day of *December*, and before the first day of *February*, the same ought forthwith, at the election of the owner, to be either reshipped or delivered up to the Committee



of the County, &c. That an importation, in the proper and legal sense of the word, is here meant, cannot admit of a doubt, since neither of the alternatives imposed on the owner, of reshipping or delivering the goods to the Committee, can possibly take place without an actual unloading of the cargo, for which purpose an entry was absolutely necessary, and therefore must have been intended by the Congress.

As to the objection that proper evidences cannot be given to the neighbouring Colonies, that the goods are sent back unless they go in the same bottom, we think it must be effectually removed, by having the matter transacted under the inspection of some of the Committee, in the way we propose. Besides, we cannot help observing, that the grand object of the Congress seems to have been the sending the goods back; and as it must be immaterial in what vessel they are carried, this may well account for their leaving that circumstance to the discretion of the owner. And as we are disposed to comply not only with the express words of the Congress, but likewise with the very spirit thereof, we shall therefore think ourselves ill used, if we are obliged to carry the goods back in the same bottom, which will be laying a very heavy burthen on, that we and many more believe was not intended by the Congress.

We have no objection to your publishing this letter, as we are free the publick should have an opportunity of judging thereof. We may further inform you, that the proprietors of the goods are quite free that they be reshipped in the manner here proposed.

MURRAY, SANSOM, & Co.,  
WM. M. BUSSELL.

JOHN LAMB TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As I embarked very early in the cause of liberty, and have ever defended the rights of *America* by every means in my power, so I am still actuated, both by principle and inclination, to exert myself to the utmost of my abilities, in preserving the freedom of my country; and as it is highly probable that troops will soon be raised in this Colony, I take the liberty to tender you my best services. Should you think me worthy your confidence, I flatter myself that my future conduct will evince it has not been placed on an improper object. At the same time, I must beg leave to observe, that I should incline to serve in the Artillery department, having made that branch of military science more particularly my study.

I am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,  
JOHN LAMB.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*.

ETHAN ALLEN TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Crown Point, June 2, 1775.

RESPECTABLE GENTLEMEN: Before this time you have undoubtedly received intelligence not only of the taking the fortified places on Lake *Champlain*, but also the armed sloop and boats therein, and the taking possession of a schooner, (the property of Major *Skene*,) which we have armed and manned, and of the conversion of them, with a large train of artillery, to the defence of the liberty and constitutional rights of *America*. You have likewise been undoubtedly informed that the expedition was undertaken at the special encouragement and request of a number of respectable gentlemen in the Colony of *Connecticut*. The pork forwarded to subsist the Army by your Honours' direction, evinces your approbation of the procedure; and as it was a private expedition, and common fame reports that there are a number of overgrown Tories in the Province, your Honours will the readier excuse me in not first taking your advice in the matter, lest the enterprises might have been prevented by their treachery. It is here reported that some of them have been lately savingly converted, and that others have lost their influence. If, in those achievements, there be any thing honorary, the subjects of your Government, viz: the *New-Hampshire* settlers, are justly entitled to a large share, as they had a great majority of numbers of the soldiery, as well as the command in making those acquisitions; and as your Honours' justify and ap-

prove the same, I desire and expect your Honours already have, or soon will lay before the Grand Continental Congress, the great disadvantage it must inevitably be to the Colonies to evacuate Lake *Champlain*, and give up to the enemies of our Country those invaluable acquisitions, the key of either *Canada* or of our Country, according as which party holds the same in possession and makes a proper improvement of it. The key is ours as yet, and provided the Colonies would suddenly push an Army of two or three thousand men into *Canada*, they might make a conquest of all that would oppose them in the extensive Province of *Quebeck*, except a re-enforcement from *England* should prevent it. Such a diversion would weaken General *Gage* or insure us of *Canada*. I wish to God *America* would, at this critical juncture, exert herself agreeable to the indignity offered her by a tyrannical Ministry. She might rise on eagles' wings, and mount up to glory, freedom, and immortal honour, if she did but know and exert her strength. Fame is now hovering over her head. A vast continent must now sink to slavery, poverty, horror, and bondage, or rise to unconquerable freedom, immense wealth, inexpressible felicity, and immortal fame.

I will lay my life on it, that with fifteen hundred men and a proper train of artillery, I will take *Montreal*. Provided I could thus be furnished, and if an Army could command the field, it would be no insuperable difficulty to take *Quebeck*. This object should be pursued, though it should take ten thousand men to accomplish the end proposed; for *England* cannot spare but a certain number of her Troops. Nay, she has but a small number that are disciplined, and it is as long as it is broad; the more that are sent to *Quebeck*, the less they can send to *Boston*, or any other part of the continent. And there will be this unspeakable advantage in directing the war into *Canada*, that, instead of turning the *Canadians* and *Indians* against us, (as is wrongly suggested by many,) it would unavoidably attach and connect them to our interest. Our friends in *Canada* can never help us till we first help them, except in a passive or inactive manner. There are now about seven hundred regular Troops in *Canada*. I have lately had sundry conferences with the *Indians*; they are very friendly. Captain *Abraham Ninham*, a *Stockbridge Indian*, and Mr. *Winthrop Hoyt*, who has sundry years lived with the *Caughnawagoes* in the capacity of a prisoner, and was made an adopted son to a motherly squaw of that tribe, have both been gone ten days to treat with the *Indians*, as our ambassadors of peace and friendship. I expect, in a few weeks, to hear from them. By them I sent a friendly letter to the *Indians*, which Mr. *Hoyt* can explain to them in *Indian*. The thing that so unites the temper of the *Indians* to us, is our taking the sovereignty of Lake *Champlain*. They have wit enough to make a good bargain, and stand by the strongest side. Much the same may be said of the *Canadians*. They have no personal controversy with us, but act on political principles. If we evacuate Lake *Champlain* and retire to Lake *George*, Governour *Carleton* can by intrigue, and will not fail to draw them into his interest. If we hold the supremacy, we shall do the same, for cunning and power are but the same thing, be it exercised by either *Carleton* or us; but cunning without power can hold no equal contest with that which is armed with it.

It may be thought that to push an Army into *Canada* would be too premature and imprudent. If so, I propose to make a stand at the *Isle-au-Noix*, which the *French* fortified by intrenchment the last war, and greatly fatigued our large Army to take it; it is about fifteen miles this side *St. John's*, and is an island in the river, on which a small artillery placed would command it. An establishment of a frontier so far north, would not only better secure our own frontier, but put it into our power better to work our policy with the *Canadians* and *Indians*; or, if need be, to make incursions into the territory of *Canada*; the same as they could into our Country, provided they had the sovereignty of Lake *Champlain*, and had erected head quarters at or near *Skenesborough*. Our only having it in our power thus to make incursions into *Canada*, might probably be the very reason why it would be unnecessary so to do, even if the *Canadians* should prove more refractory than I think for. Lastly, with submission, I would propose to your Honours to raise a small regiment of Rangers, which I could easily do, and that mostly in the Counties of *Albany* and *Char-*



*lotte*, provided your Honours should think it expedient to grant commissions, and thus regulate and put the same under pay. Probably your Honours may think this an impertinent proposal; it is truly the first favour I ever asked of the Government, and if it be granted, I shall be zealously ambitious to conduct for the best good of my Country and the honour of the Government.

I subscribe myself, gentlemen, with due respect, your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

P. S. In the narrative contained in the enclosed was too materially omitted the valour and intrepidity of Colonel *James Easton*, and forty-six veteran soldiers from the *Massachusetts-Bay*, who assisted in taking of *Ticonderoga*. Colonel *Easton* is just returned from the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to this place, and expects he will soon have the command of a Regiment from that Province. Yours, &c.

E. A.

ADDRESS OF THE NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS TO THE INHABITANTS OF QUEBECK.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 2, 1775.

*Friends and Countrymen:*

The Parent of the universe has divided this earth among the children of men, and drawn out the line of their habitations. The great *God* having ordained that all our joys and sorrows here below should proceed from the effect of human actions upon human beings, our situation has drawn together this great bond of natural dependance, and enabled us to deal out injuries and kindness to each other. We consider you as our friends, and we feel for you the affection of brothers.

The great question between *Britain* and her Colonies is, whether they are subjects, or whether they are slaves. The rights delivered down to us from our forefathers, the venerable laws of our Country, have subjected our own property to our own disposal, nor hath any earthly power a right to take it away. Mankind ought to be governed by the dictates of justice, not by the hand of oppression. The peaceable enjoyment of what we yet call our own, and that liberty which confers on every man the right of adoring his *God* in the manner which he humbly thinks most agreeable to the Divine nature—these are the objects of all our labours and all our cares. Ministerial tyranny hath endeavoured, throughout all these Colonies, to rend from us the dearest rights of humanity; and in the defence of those rights some persons have taken certain forts in this Colony, which are near your frontiers. We have heard that others have made an attack upon the post of *St. John's*, an attempt without our counsel or participation. And although we have taken measures for the defence of our own fortresses, yet our only intention is to prevent any hostile incursions upon us by the troops of your Province. Confident that the enemies of our King and his people will take every opportunity to excite jealousies and discord amongst us, we beseech you not to be imposed on by their artifices, but call to your remembrance the complicated horrors of a barbarous war. Avoid those measures which must plunge us both into distress, and instead of consenting to become miserable slaves, generously dare to participate with your fellow-subjects in the sweets of that security which is the glorious lot of freedom. We are, with sincere affection, your brethren and friends.

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

To the Inhabitants of the Province of *Quebeck*.

GENERAL GREENE TO JACOB GREENE, ESQ.

Rhode-Island Camp, June 2, 1775.

I arrived in camp on *Saturday* last, and found it in great commotion. A few days longer in the state of excitement in which I found our Troops, would have proved fatal to our campaign. The want of government, and of a certainty of supplies, had thrown every thing into disorder. Several Companies had clubbed their muskets in order to march home. I have made several regulations for introducing order and composing their murmurs; but it is very difficult to limit people who have had so much latitude, without throwing them into disorder. The Commissaries

had been beaten off at my arrival, and were about returning home the next day. I believe there never was a person more welcome, who was so little deserving, as myself. I wish you would forward Colonel *Varnum's* Regiment; he will be a welcome guest in camp. I expect much from his and his troops' example.

WILLIAM LITHGOW TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress now assembled at WATERTOWN, &c., the humble Petition of WILLIAM LITHGOW shews to your Honours:

That he is an inhabitant of *Georgetown*, on *Kennebeck* River, and comes in behalf and at the request of said Town, to let your Honours know that we are in daily expectation of being plundered by cutters or armed vessels, and thus exposed to our enemy's insults; therefore humbly pray that your Honours would grant us one or two barrels or half barrels of powder, or such a quantity as in your wisdom may seem meet, as our town stock of powder, upon due examination, is found not to exceed thirty pounds. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

WM. LITHGOW.

Watertown, June 2, 1775.

COL. RICHARD GRIDLEY TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, June 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I am very sensible you are engaged in a multiplicity of business of consequence, but I shall think myself blameable in my duty if I do not urge, in the strongest terms, the necessity there is of providing an establishment for an ordnance store-keeper, conductors, and clerks, to take care to keep accounts of the stores as they receive them and deliver them, and also to make an establishment for a company of artificers to make beds for mortars, and carriages for guns, and platforms, and mending wheelbarrows, and keeping tools in repair, &c.

The want of such establishments hinders greatly the progress of the works, which I think is of great importance, and beg you will please to use your interest with the Congress, that such establishments be made immediately, if you think proper.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your most obedient servant,  
RICHARD GRIDLEY.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 2, 1775.

The above not being within the department of this Committee, they refer the same to the honourable Congress of the Colony.

BENJ. WHITE, *Chairman*.

NATHANIEL SHAW TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

New-England, June 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Mr. *John Stale*, applied to me for a quantity of powder for the use of your Province, but am sorry to inform you that article is very scarce in this Colony, and not to be purchased. What I have imported is on Government account, and by letters from *New-York* I have lately received, it is not to be had in that Province, neither in *Rhode-Island*. I expect a large quantity, but from its not arriving, I begin to suspect that either the cruisers in the channel, or the negotiation between *Great Britain* and the States, has prevented it. If I should have a larger quantity arrive than should be wanted in this Colony on Government account, I will give you the offer of it; but at the same time I would recommend to you that you make no dependance on having any from me.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

NATH'L SHAW, JR.

To *Matthew Thornton*, President of the Provincial Convention of *New-Hampshire*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS TO THEIR DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Exeter, June 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed we send you an address to your Congress, relating to their order for the demolition of the fort at *Ticonderoga*. The taking that garrison by the Colonists, and hopes of keeping it, have very much encouraged the frontiers of this and the neighbouring Colonies. The



continual accounts received from *Canada*, by scouts sent from our frontiers, and otherwise, keep them under the most terrible apprehensions of being ravaged by the *Canadians* and *Indians*. The late determination of your Congress has much increased it, as the destroying that fortress leaves such an opening to the excursions of our enemies. We desire your vigilance in a critical review of that matter.

Our circumstances appear daily more and more alarming. The men-of-war stop all provision vessels coming into our harbour, and send them to *Boston*; and the Captain of the *Scarborough* has shewn his orders to a Committee who waited upon him, to stop all provisions, salt, molasses, &c., coming to us. Since which several hundred armed men, in the day time, went down to the entrance of our harbour, in open sight of the men-of-war, and brought from a point of land there a number of large cannon, and deposited them at *Portsmouth* for the present, where preparations are making for mounting and fitting them for action. A number of men are now making a battery on *Kittery Point*; and if we had a sufficiency of ammunition, should hope soon to be able to command our harbour.

We would desire you, if any arms or gunpowder can be procured in the Southern Governments, to procure them, if possible, on such terms as you can make, with which the Colony will endeavour punctually to comply. The difficulty of land-carriage we would surmount, as the want thereof must exclude every other difficulty. We have wrote to you on the pressing occasion we have for a paper currency, or some other, to answer our urgent necessity; and still must desire that you do all in your power that some plan be formed, or directions given us by your Congress for that purpose.

Enclosed we send you a copy of a vote of Council, relative to stopping provisions, &c. We would have you endeavour to keep a constant correspondence with the Congress or Committee of Safety, at *Exeter*, and inform us of every thing you think essential.

In behalf of the Provincial Congress:

MATTHEW THORNTON, *President*.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress, June 21, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress, *Exeter*, }  
June 2, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: A late order of your very respectable Congress, for the demolition of the fortress at *Ticonderoga*, and removal of the artillery from thence, has very much damped the expectation of the people in this Colony, arising from the security our frontiers hoped to receive by the check the *Canadians* and savages might receive in any incursions on us, by a good garrison there. We are heartily disposed to, and shall readily obey all the orders and directions you give us; and on this occasion would not presume to complain or dictate, but most humbly to suggest, that all the land and waters between the south end of Lake *George* and *Crown Point*, together with all Lake *Champlain*, will be left open for *Canadians* and savages (if they should be disposed, which we very much fear) to ravage all the country east. Our new settlements, extended on *Connecticut* River for a hundred miles, are very defenceless in every respect, and under terrible apprehensions, from the accounts of the warlike preparations making in *Canada* against the Colony.

The reasons which directed your order in this matter, we are unacquainted with, but would wish a review thereof; and if you should then think it best that the former order be countermanded, we hope it will be a service to the common cause; otherwise, shall concur in your determination of that as well as all other matters that concern the welfare of *America*.

In behalf of the Provincial Congress aforesaid, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

MATTHEW THORNTON, *President*.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

#### CONGRESS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

*Exeter*, New-Hampshire, June 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by the Provincial Congress now convened in this Town, to advise you that the Reso-

lution of the Continental Congress, respecting the demolition of the fortress at *Ticonderoga*, is just come to hand; that we have taken the same into consideration, and as we esteem that fortress to be at a place truly important to the welfare of all these Northern Colonies in general, and to this Colony in particular, the thoughts of its demolition casts a damp on the spirits of our people, as we apprehend our western frontiers will be thereby greatly exposed to the depredations of the *Canadians* and *Indians*, if (as we have reason to fear) they should incline to annoy us. And not being acquainted with the reasons for passing that order, we have thought it our duty to entreat that respectable body again to take that matter into their consideration, And, if they shall think proper, to order that the said fortress may be kept in possession of the Colonies; and we would earnestly entreat your concurrence with us in said request. At the same time you may be assured that no Colony on this Continent is, or can be more determined than we are, to abide by the determination of that respectable body.

In behalf of the Provincial Congress aforesaid, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

MATTHEW THORNTON, *President*.

To the President of the Congress at *New-York*.

P. S. By an enclosed Resolve of this body, you will find we are providing against any attempt from *Canada* on our adjacent frontier. We earnestly desire your approbation of this measure, and concurrence with it, by adding such numbers of troops from your Colony, as in your wisdom and concern for the general good, you may think proper.

M. T.

#### COMMITTEE OF PORTSMOUTH TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

*Portsmouth*, June 2, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: On the preservation of the peace and good order of this Town, is the only security that this Committee have, whereby they expect to carry into execution any measures which the Provincial Congress may resolve upon; therefore find ourselves necessitated to desire you would be pleased to regulate all future movements of any bodies of armed men from one Town to another, as many inconveniences and losses to the publick are sustained thereby, especially at this time, when so many idle and false reports are spread, by which the good people of this Province are alarmed, and assemble together for the defence of the grand cause in which we are all embarked. We are fearful our enemies will improve every opportunity to increase these alarms, and make them so familiar to us as to put us off our guard, and then may strike some fatal blow.

We find this Town labours under many difficulties peculiar to seaports, and which our friends in the country are free from. The stagnation of trade, and the return of our shipping, increases the number of our people, who, for want of employment, readily fall into disorders, and when numbers are once collected, it is very difficult to persuade them to disperse, until they exceed the bounds of reason. We have great reason to believe that our invaders are endeavouring to promote alarms to harass the country, and to prevent our agriculture, by calling off and diverting our attention from that great, and, at this time, particularly necessary duty.

Any resolves Congress may pass upon our request, it is desired that copies of the same be sent to every Committee in every Town, besides being published in the publick prints, as it is necessary it should be known in the most publick manner, and as soon as possible. We submit our request to your wisdom, wishing you Divine assistance in your consultations for the publick weal.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

H. WENTWORTH, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable Congress at *Exeter*.

#### SOUTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

*Charlestown*, Saturday, June 3, 1775.

Resolved, That this Congress do earnestly recommend to all their constituents, the promotion of union and harmony by all means in their power. That to this purpose



all those things be avoided which tend to promote disaffection between the people, utterly discountenancing all national reflections, and engaging to be watchful and diligent that the laws for the peace and good order of the Colony be observed inviolate as far as may be.

—  
Wednesday, June 7, 1775.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolve be printed, and made publick.

A true copy from the Minutes:

PETER TIMOTHY, *Secretary*.

—  
ASSOCIATION

*Unanimously agreed to in the Provincial Congress of South-Carolina, on SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1775.*

The actual commencement of hostilities against this Continent, by the *British Troops*, in the bloody scene on the 19th of *April* last, near *Boston*; the increase of arbitrary impositions from a wicked and despotick Ministry; and the dread of instigated insurrections in the Colonies, are causes sufficient to drive an oppressed people to the use of arms. We, therefore, the subscribers, inhabitants of *South-Carolina*, holding ourselves bound by that most sacred of all obligations—the duty of good citizens towards an injured Country; and thoroughly convinced that, under our present distressed circumstances, we shall be justified before *God* and man in resisting force by force, do unite ourselves under every tie of religion and honour, and associate as a band in her defence, against every foe; hereby solemnly engaging, that whenever our Continental or Provincial Councils shall decree it necessary, we will go forth and be ready to sacrifice our lives and fortunes to secure her freedom and safety. This obligation to continue in full force until a reconciliation shall take place between *Great Britain* and *America*, upon constitutional principles; an event which we most ardently desire. And we will hold all those persons inimical to the liberty of the Colonies, who shall refuse to subscribe to this Association.

Subscribed by every member present, on the fourth day of *June*, 1775.

Certified by HENRY LAURENS, *President*.

—  
NORFOLK (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

Committee-Chamber, Norfolk, June 3, 1775.

Present: Mr. Chairman and twenty Members.

The Committee being informed that the Ship *Molly*, Captain *Mitcheson*, has lately arrived from *Great Britain*, laden with a large quantity of goods from Messrs. *Eilbeck*, *Ross*, and Company; and the circumstances of the importation appearing very suspicious, and inducing this Committee to believe there was an intention thereby to counteract the Association:

*Resolved, therefore*, That agreeably to the Association, the said ship ought, on or before *Tuesday* morning next, to return directly back with the said goods; and that a copy of the invoice ought to be delivered to the Sub-Committee which this Committee shall appoint; and that a Certificate, properly authenticated, that the said goods have been actually relanded in *Great Britain*, ought also to be produced to this Committee by the said *Eilbeck*, *Ross*, and Company, as soon as the said Certificate can be produced and transmitted to their hands.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolution be published.

WILLIAM DAVIES, *Secretary*.

—  
Committee Chamber, June 4, 1775.

Present: Mr. Chairman and twenty-two Members.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That it be published at the same time with the Resolution of yesterday, that Mr. *Ross* and Mr. *Eilbeck* did this day wait on this Committee, and produced their invoice of goods shipped on board the *Molly*; and that it did not appear to this Committee that the said goods were shipped by order of the said *Ross* or *Eilbeck*, but on their account, by Mr. *Chambers*, of *Whitehaven*.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM DAVIES, *Secretary*.

NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your several letters, and communicated such of your papers to the Congress as were intended for their inspection. Your plan for raising money we are much pleased with, though we have some doubt of its being adopted; however, as the reasons on which it is founded appear to us to be conclusive, we shall use our endeavour to carry it through. Till the success is known, you will, we dare say, see a propriety in keeping the whole secret. We observe with pleasure the attention of our Colony to *Indian* affairs, as they are really of the highest importance. Should you conceive the interposition of the Congress necessary, you will let us know the mode in which you think it will be most effectual.

You inquire whether the direction relative to the Militia of *New-York* was intended to extend farther than that City and County. In answer to this we must inform you, that it was the design of the Congress that the whole Province should be well armed and disciplined.

We wish to hear that you have received some supply of powder, as we fear that none is to be purchased here, the people conceiving they have not a sufficient stock for their own defence. We believe, however, that *Connecticut* will take care to supply their Troops at *Ticonderoga* with that article, as the command of that post is for the present vested in their officers, owing to your repeated declaration of your inability to furnish the arms and ammunition necessary for its defence.

We think it an object of great consequence to know in whom you would wish to vest the command of the Continental Army in our Province, which is to be maintained at the general charge, and hope you will not be at a loss to fix on men among yourselves who may be entrusted with that important charge. As General Officers will, in all probability, be shortly appointed by this Congress, your express should return immediately, with a warm recommendation of those persons in our Province who you think may safely be trusted with the first and second commands, as Major and Brigadier Generals. If possible let us have an answer to this by *Tuesday* morning, drawn up in such a manner that, if necessary, it may be offered to the Congress, with the reasons on which such choice is founded. We know of nothing farther that may require your attention, unless it be to recommend a profound secrecy with respect to any advice we may offer, particularly on the subject of this letter, though we conceive that your own prudence will render any such recommendation unnecessary. If you wish for any other directions, pray be speedy and explicit in your application.

We remain, with great respect, your most obedient humble servants,

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| JAMES DUANE,           | FRANCIS LEWIS, |
| R. R. LIVINGSTON, JR., | WILLIAM FLOYD, |
| PHILIP SCHUYLER,       | SIMON BOERUM,  |
| JOHN ALSOP,            | HENRY WISNER.  |

To the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*.

—  
NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, *Monday*, 3d of *June*, 1775. Present:

|                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Henry Remsen,       | James Desbrosses,   | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  |
| George Janeway,     | Cornelius P. Low,   | John Morton,        |
| Frederick Jay,      | Petrus Byvanck,     | William Goforth,    |
| Evert Banker,       | William Denning,    | Oliver Templeton,   |
| Robert Ray,         | John Imlay,         | James Beekman,      |
| Nicholas Roosevelt, | Peter T. Curtenius, | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Abm. Brinkerhoff,   | Thomas Ivers,       | Lancaster Burling,  |
| Cornelius Clopper,  | John Anthony,       | Francis Bassett,    |
| Abraham Duryee,     | Thomas Randall,     | William Laight,     |
| Alex. McDougall,    | John Lamb,          | John Lasher,        |
| Edward Fleming,     | William W. Ludlow,  | Abraham P. Lott,    |
| Joseph Bull,        | John Berrian,       | William W. Gilbert. |
| Comfort Sands,      |                     |                     |

A Letter, dated *New-York*, 3d *June*, 1775, from Mr. *George Folliott*, received and read; in which he declines representing this City and County in Provincial Congress.

Mr. *Lamb*, seconded by Mr. *Denning*, moved in the words following, viz: as Mr. *George Folliott* has declined serving as a member of the Provincial Congress, and of this Committee, I move that this Committee do proceed



to the nomination to serve in his stead, both in the Provincial Congress and in this Committee.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Isaac Sears* be nominated by this Committee for the approbation of the freeholders and freemen of this City and County, to represent them in Provincial Congress in the room of Mr. *George Folliott*, who declines serving. And that Mr. *William Bedlow* and Mr. *John Woodward*, be also nominated as members of this Committee instead of the said Mr. *Folliott*, and of Mr. *Samuel Jones*, who never has attended.

*Ordered*, That a poll be opened at the City-Hall, on *Thursday*, the 8th instant, at nine o'clock in the morning, to elect the above persons, or such others as may be approved of for the above purposes.

At which time the Freeholders and Freemen are requested to attend. The poll will be under the inspection of Messrs. *R. Ray* and *Evert Banker*, and the Vestrymen of the *North Ward*.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR COLDEN.

*By the Honourable CADWALLADER COLDEN, Esquire, His Majesty's Lieutenant-Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of NEW-YORK, and the Territories depending thereon in AMERICA:*

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to the seventh day of *June* instant: I have thought fit, for His Majesty's service, to prorogue, and I do, by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council, farther prorogue the said General Assembly to the fifth day of *July* next; of which all His Majesty's subjects concerned therein are required to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, at Fort *George*, in the City of *New-York*, the third day of *June*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the sixteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* the Third, by the Grace of *God*, of *Great-Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

CADWALLADER COLDEN.

By his Honour's command,

SAMUEL BAYARD, JUN., *D. Secretary.*

God save the King.

JAMES RIVINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Friday Morning, 10 o'clock.

SIR: Having been just now informed that my case has been referred to the judgment of the gentlemen of the Provincial Congress of this City, and that it may probably be considered by them this morning, I have been employed the little time allowed me, to copy and enclose the letter from the gentlemen of the *New-York* Committee, and my own address to the Delegates in the Continental Congress, and added a newspaper, in which is inserted my address to the publick, that the gentlemen of the very respectable Board over which you have the honour to preside, may be acquainted with the whole proceedings in the matter.

Your continuance of my suit, and your friendly mediation on this occasion, will everlastingly oblige, Sir, your most obedient servant,

JAMES RIVINGTON.

COMMITTEE OF NEW-YORK TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

GENTLEMEN: The agitation of this Town respecting Mr. *Rivington*, as a printer, has given this Committee much concern. Some of the warm friends of liberty seem not to be fully satisfied that his former offences, as they were against the whole Continent, are within our authority; and we are concerned that nothing less than a determination of the General Congress will give full satisfaction on that head, much less secure him in his person and property. We have therefore resolved to refer his case to your respectable body, and would beg leave strongly to urge it as a subject of their consideration. We have adopted temporary expedients; but as they are merely temporary in effect, as far as concerns him, we beg the direction of that body, whose determination we doubt not will be a law

to the Continent. His transgressions are known to your whole body. He has subscribed our Association, and we know not that he has since his subscription done any thing contrary to its true intent and meaning. Those expedients we have gone into to preserve present peace and good order will appear from the enclosed. We pray the directions of the Congress on this matter, and are, &c.

Providence, Rhode-Island, June 3, 1775.

The Committee of this Town have appointed a person to act as Postmaster here, as also a Post-Rider under the direction and control of said Committee, until the Legislature of this Colony, or the Continental Congress, shall be pleased to make other regulations and appointments.

A number of the inhabitants of *Plymouth* went a few days ago to *Nantucket*, in whale-boats, and took from thence eight hundred barrels of flour, the property of a merchant at *Dartmouth*, and which is supposed was intended to be smuggled into *Boston*, for supplying the Ministerial Army.

Last week the company of the train of Artillery lately raised here, all well accoutred, with four excellent field-pieces, marched to join the *American* Army near *Boston*; they made a very military appearance, and are, without exception, as complete a body of men as any in the King's Dominions. The other companies raised here, and in the adjacent Towns, as also several from the south Counties, all able-bodied men, and well armed, have marched to the *American* camp. Several companies of the *Connecticut* forces have also passed through this Town, to join their brethren.

Twelve pieces of battering cannon, eighteen and twenty-four pounders, with a quantity of ordnance stores, were sent from hence to the *American* camp a few days since.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO HENRY GARDNER.

Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 3, 1775.

SIR: For the absolute necessity of paying the Colony forces immediately, (having been duly considered by this Congress, and not being able to make necessary payment to prevent the Troops from returning home without your being present,) you are therefore directed, upon the receipt of this order, immediately to repair to this place, and make the utmost despatch in completing the signing of the Bills wanted for the above purpose.

Signed by order of the Congress:

SAML. FREEMAN, *Secretary.*

To *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Receiver-General.

P. S. The Congress is just informed that a gentleman at *Salem* has five hundred Pounds, which he is willing to lend the Province, which would be of the greatest importance, to pay immediately to the soldiers, and might prevent the greatest mischiefs.

COMMITTEE OF ARUNDEL TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

To the Honourable Congress of the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in NEW-ENGLAND, now sitting: The Committee of the Town of ARUNDEL, in said Province, sendeth greeting:

Whereas, a sloop belonging to the said Town of *ArunDEL*, about three weeks ago sailed out of this harbour, and disposed of her cargo at *Plymouth*, and having received her effects, upon her return was seized and carried into *Boston*, and there detained by General *Gage* for some time, and her effects taken into his custody, for which he paid near the prime cost. After which a proposal was made to the master of said sloop by the officers of the Troops to enlist into the Governour's service, with a promise of a large reward for his service therein. The master being now under confinement, and knowing of no means of obtaining his liberty, now thought this proposal the only way to make his escape, and obtain his liberty, and therefore complied with the same, and accordingly received orders to sail immediately for *Annapolis*, to bring a quantity of hay and other stores for the use of the Troops in *Boston*. A number of the King's arms, with cartridges, were put on



board, and two young men (one named *Josiah Jones* and the other *Jonathan Hicks*) were put on board, one or both of whom as supercargo in the above employment, with a packet of letters, orders, and other papers. The master then being prepared to go out, sailed directly for this port, and arrived in this harbour the 2d instant, with the persons, letters, &c., as above mentioned, who were immediately carried before the Committee of this Town, and after examination of both, it was agreed by the Committee, and they have accordingly sent the persons and papers under guard to this honourable Provincial Congress now sitting, for examination, and to be dealt with as they in their united wisdom shall think just. The master and mate of said sloop we have hereby sent, by whom an account of the whole affair will be given.

BENJ. DURRELL, JONATHAN STONE,  
JAMES BURNHAM, JOHN HOVEY,  
THOS. WISWALL,  
Committee of the Town of Arundel.

Arundel, June 3, 1775.

Watertown, June 9, 1775.

I, the subscriber, being of lawful age, do testify that, being in a coasting sloop belonging to *Arundel*, and on my return from *Plymouth*, was taken by a cutter belonging to Admiral *Graves's* squadron, in *Boston*, and carried into that port, and there detained several days; and being solicited by Admiral *Graves's* Secretary to enter into His Majesty's service, and knowing no other way wherein I could possibly make my escape but by entering into said service, to go to *Windsor*, in *Nova-Scotia*, for hay and other things; and having one *Josiah Jones* put on board as factor, and being ready to sail, I desired of the Captain of our convoy leave to sail, but he told me I must not sail till to-morrow, at ten o'clock, as there were a number of other vessels in the same employ, and should all sail together. I then desired leave of Mr. *Jones* to haul off into the road, and obtained leave. It being dark, I got consent of our factor, Mr. *Jones*, to sail; I therefore embraced the opportunity, and immediately sailed for *Arundel*, where I arrived in about twenty-four hours, and delivered up Mr. *Jones*, and one *Jonathan Hicks*, who was introduced on board my sloop by Mr. *Jones*, but for what purpose I cannot tell. And further saith, that Mr. *Jones* desired me to oil and clean the fire-arms that were put on board to defend ourselves, as he said the rebels might attack us on our passage.

SAMUEL SMITH.

Mr. *Ephraim Perkins*:

Boston, May 30, 1775.

SIR: You will immediately proceed with the Sloop *Molly*, under your command, to *Windsor*, in the Bay of *Funda*, and receive such orders as Mr. *Jones* will give you respecting your cargo, making every despatch that is possible, taking care to touch at no other harbour unless it be absolutely necessary.

JOS. GOLDTHWAIT, for  
WM. SHERRIFF,  
Deputy Quartermaster General.

Boston, May 30, 1775.

MR. JONES: You will proceed to *Windsor*, in *Nova-Scotia*, with the Sloop *Polly*, *Ephraim Perkins* master, and, immediately upon your arrival there, you will apply to Messrs. *Day* and *Scott* for a cargo, as specified in the letter herewith transmitted to them; and in case they should not be there when you arrive, you will immediately hire an express and forward the letter to them at *Halifax*. And I trust in your diligence in receiving the cargo, and making every despatch in your power on your return to this port. And you are further to observe, that you are not, upon your return, to put into any harbour upon the eastern coast, without being forced to by absolute necessity.

Sir, I am your most obedient servant,

WM. SHERRIFF, Dep. Q. M. General.

Boston, May 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Mr. *Josiah Jones*, with the Sloop *Polly*, *Ephraim Perkins* master, is chartered for *Windsor*, in *Nova-Scotia*, in order to receive from you hay and oats. I am therefore to desire you will use every endeavour to despatch him as soon as possible, agreeable

to my letter, wrote you via *Halifax*, the 29th instant. Please to forward the enclosed by express to *Annapolis*.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

WM. SHERRIFF.

To Messrs. *Day* and *Scott*, at *Windsor*, *Nova-Scotia*.

Boston, May 29, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I have received your obliging favour, and return you many thanks for the trouble you have taken, and readiness you have shown, in giving your assistance, so necessary at present, for the good of the service. The hay will be most acceptable, and I am in hopes Captain *Perkins's* vessel has taken a part on board, as he promised me she should return immediately, and I will send you another one as soon as possible. I shall want three or four thousand tons of hay, and I wish, with all my heart, poor *Annapolis* could furnish it; but all it can furnish I will take; and if they are industrious they may get a great deal of money for their vegetables, poultry, butter, eggs, &c., &c., and may come directly into this port without any expense whatever, and will be sure to find every encouragement and assistance that can be given them. On the other hand, if they give themselves airs, and follow the cursed example of these madmen, they will easily consider how readily Government can chastise them, and they may rely upon it they will, and that immediately too. But I hope they will consider their interest better, and make all the money they can; they never will have a fairer opportunity.

I have wrote to Messrs. *Day* and *Scott*, at *Halifax*, respecting tonnage, and have desired them to consult with you about the quantity that may be procured at *Annapolis*, as they are to furnish the remainder from *Windsor* and that neighbourhood.

Procure hay-screws, and at any rate, and the whole should be carried to a particular place most convenient for that purpose, as also for shipping of it. You have not advised me in what manner I am to make you remittances for expenses to be incurred in the above service, therefore shall expect it per next. We are in the same situation as when I wrote you last, except the addition of twelve hundred Troops, lately arrived from *England*, three Regiments of Horse, and eight other Regiments are hourly expected, when I hope you will hear better accounts from us. I am hurried to death, therefore have only time to add my compliments to all friends, and to wish you every happiness, being truly, dear Sir, your faithful and obedient servant,

WM. SHERRIFF.

Thomas Williams, Esquire, Storekeeper of Ordnance at *Annapolis Royal*.

P. S. If you can add to the quantity of old hay, pray do, and don't mind the expense.

W. S.

LOAMMI BALDWIN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Cambridge, June 3, 1775.

His Excellency General *Ward*, having been pleased to approve of a proposal made for taking some surveys of the ground between us and our enemies, and as some mathematical instruments are wanting to enable us to complete the same, this is, therefore, humbly to desire that the honourable Provincial Congress would grant leave for such instruments as are wanting for said purpose to be taken out of the apparatus belonging to *Harvard College*, to be returned as soon as said surveys shall be finished.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

LOAMMI BALDWIN.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, Exeter, June 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Having undoubted intelligence of the attempts of the *British Ministry* to engage the *Canadians* and savages in their interest in the present controversy with *America*, and of actual movements in *Canada* in consequence thereof, we have thought it necessary that measures should be immediately taken to defend and quiet the minds of the people more especially exposed in the frontiers, and accordingly have resolved to send a number of Troops as soon as may



be; three companies, for the present, to be employed where, and in such manner as may best answer that important end. We thought it expedient to give you the earliest intelligence of what we have done in this way, earnestly praying, and nothing doubting, but that you will concur in such measures as in your wisdom you shall judge reasonable and necessary for the defence and safety of the back settlements, for whom both you and we must very sensibly feel.

We furthermore think it suitable just to suggest, that we have some apprehension lest our military manœuvres on the frontiers should raise a jealousy in the minds of the *Canadians*, and awaken their fears of direct intentions of hostilities against them. We should give them the most positive assurance upon this head, that we desire nothing more than our own security, and that it is our most hearty wish to remain on steady terms of friendship with them. And in order to the more regular, harmonious, and effectual prosecution of the important object aforesaid, as also other valuable purposes that we conceive it may answer, we would humbly move for a conference by a Committee, with a Committee from you, at such time and place as you shall please to appoint, and to consider of an address to be forwarded to the *Canadians*, and put it in the power of this Congress to join with you, and, if it might be, the other *New-England* Colonies and *New-York*, that this negotiation might answer the most effectual purpose.

By order of Congress, I am your most obedient humble servant,  
MATTHEW THORNTON, *President*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON TO HIS FRIEND IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED JUNE 4, 1775.

From business you naturally expect I should descend to news and politicks. Of the former we should have had a dearth, had it not been for the arrival of Captain *Darby* with the account of the *Lexington* affair, which has greatly agitated the people and confounded the Ministry, who fain would suppress the account, or disbelieve it; but notwithstanding we are without despatches from General *Gage*, it has full credit with many, and friends are daily added to the *American* cause. Even *Hutchinson* is become a convert. I hope he will live to make amends for all the harsh things he has said and wrote against *America*.

The virtue and spirit of your City is highly spoken of, and your strict adherence to the rules of the Congress does you honour. The duplicity of *New-York* will ever render them suspected. The many and repeated assurances given to the Ministry by their quondam leaders, will justify a suspicion, which the conduct of some of the merchants and traders confirms, that they would adopt any means to break through or elude the Association.

One avenue, indeed, seems to have been unguarded by the Congress, through which they may attempt to break the Association with impunity, and that is, by importing goods and manufactures from the Island of *Guernsey*, where large quantities of goods, suitable to the *American* consumption, have been landed. Now, as a friend to *America*, I would fain hold forth to the publick view every secret attempt to frustrate and destroy your present Association, which I consider as your grand bulwark. I would recommend it to the sons of liberty in *New-York*, to be watchful and circumspect of all arrivals from that quarter, as goods or manufactures imported from thence are as much *English* as those manufactured in *Great Britain* itself, to which it is so contiguous. To guard against such attempts you may, if you think proper, communicate my fears to the real friends of *America* and all congressional measures.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Anne Arundel* County and City of *Annapolis*, on the fourth day of *June*, 1775, in the said City,

Mr. CHARLES WALLACE, *Chairman*.

A charge having been made on oath, before the Committee, that *Thomas Chipchase*, of this City, butcher, on the twenty-third day of *May* last, had killed several Lambs, he was ordered to attend. He appeared, and confessed the fact, alleging, as an excuse, that he understood that there was no absolute prohibition by the Continental Congress,

and that the scarcity of provisions at that time would plead for him, as what he did was from a desire of supplying the many strangers in Town; but as he had since been informed that such procedure was contrary to a resolve of a Provincial Convention, he would take care to offend in that manner no more, and hoped the Committee would forgive him.

The sense of the Committee being taken on the above, they declared it a breach of the resolve of the Provincial Convention respecting the killing of Lambs; but, all circumstances considered, they were of opinion he ought to be forgiven.

Ordered, That these proceedings be published in the *Maryland Gazette*.  
G. DUVAL, *Clerk*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 4. 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As I am ordered by the Continental Congress to liquidate the accounts of the people employed in the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, that they may be paid; and as Messrs. *Allen* and *Warner* were concerned, there will be money due to them; and as they are in want of some, I could wish you to advance them thirty Pounds, and to make it a Continental charge, for which I shall debit them in their account with the publick.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable Members of the *New-York* Provincial Congress.

ETHAN ALLEN TO THE CANADIANS.

*Ticonderoga*, June 4, 1775.

To our worthy and respectable Countrymen and Friends, the French People of CANADA, greeting:

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN: You are undoubtedly more or less acquainted with the unnatural and unhappy controversy subsisting between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, the particulars of which, in this letter, we do not expatiate upon, but refer your consideration of the justice and equitableness thereof on the part of the Colonies, to the former knowledge that you have had of this matter. We need only observe, that the inhabitants of the Colonies view the controversy on their part to be justifiable in the sight of *God*, and all unprejudiced and honest men that have or may have opportunity and ability to examine into the merits of it. Upon this principle those inhabitants determine to vindicate their cause, and maintain their natural and constitutional rights and liberties at the expense of their lives and fortunes, but have not the least disposition to injure, molest, or any way deprive our fellow-subjects, the *Canadians*, of their liberty or property. Nor have they any design to wage war against them; and from all intimations that the inhabitants of the said Colonies have received from the *Canadians*, it has appeared that they were alike disposed for friendship and neutrality, and not at all disposed to take part with the King's Troops in the present civil war against the Colonies. We were nevertheless surprised to hear that a number of about thirty *Canadians* attacked our reconnoitring party, consisting of four men, fired on them, and pursued them, and obliged them to return the fire. This is the account of the party which has since arrived at Head-Quarters. We desire to know of any gentlemen *Canadians*, the facts of the case, as one story is good till another is told. Our general order to the soldiery was, that they should not, on pain of death, molest or kill any of your people. But if it shall appear, upon examination, that our reconnoitring party commenced hostilities against your people, they shall suffer agreeable to the sentence of a court-martial; for our special orders from the Colonies are, to befriend and protect you, if need be; so that if you desire their friendship, you are invited to embrace it, for nothing can be more undesirable to your friends in the Colonies, than a war with their fellow-subjects the *Canadians*, or with the *Indians*. You are very sensible that war has already commenced between *England* and the Colonies. Hostilities have already begun; to fight with the King's Troops has become a necessary and incumbent duty; the Colonies cannot avoid it. But pray, is it necessary that the *Canadians* and the inhabitants of the *English* Colonies should butcher one another? *God* forbid. There is no controversy subsisting between you and them. Pray



let old *England* and the Colonies fight it out; and you, *Canadians*, stand by and see what an arm of flesh can do. We are apprehensive that the conduct of your people, before complained of, had not a general approbation, and are still confident that your Country, as such, will not wage war with the Colonies, or approve the aforesaid hostile conduct of your people, as we conceive it to be impolitic to the last degree for the *Canadians* to enter into a bloody war without either a provocation or motive, and when, at the same time, every motive of interest, virtue, and honour, are ready at hand to dissuade you from it. In fine, we conclude *Saint Luke*, Captain *McCoy*, and other evil-minded persons, whose interest and inclination it is that the *Canadians* and the people of those Colonies should cut one another's throats, have inveigled some of the baser sort of your people to attack our said reconnoitring party. We expect, gentlemen, as to these particulars, you will in good time inform us; and subscribe ourselves your real friends,

ETHAN ALLEN,

*At present the principal Commander of the Army.*

JAMES EASTON.

A copy of the foregoing letter was this day sent to Mr. *Walker*, our trusty friend at *Montreal*, per favour of Mr. *Jeffere*, whose fidelity is unquestionable; and it is wholly left with Mr. *Walker* to make its contents the most publick that he possibly can, whether by printing it and translating it into *French*, &c. We furthermore thought it expedient your Honours should have a copy communicated to you.

Yours at command,

ETHAN ALLEN,

JAMES EASTON.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Watertown, June 4, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: A publick express for your honourable body gives me opportunity to hand you information of the affairs of this Province. From the confusion in which the engagement at *Lexington* threw the people, they are now beginning to recover, and I hope, by the speedy assistance of some form of Government, that the measures which will be necessary for defence, will not only be practicable, but executed here with success. The spirit of the people is equal to our wishes, and if they continue as they began, it will be as familiar to fight as to pursue the dangers of the ocean. We want assistance by ammunition and money. A full supply of these would render Lord *North* and his myrmidons as harmless as they are infamous. We have stripped the seaports of canvass to make tents; and it is of great importance to possess ourselves of about five hundred pieces of raven's duck, to keep the soldiers in health. I should be glad if the bearer could obtain it on the credit of our vote, as we want all of our specie to send out of the Government for other purposes; but I am doubtful whether you can assist us in this matter, although very important, as the great objects of your attention must take up your whole time.

Government is so essential that it cannot be too soon adopted; and although no argument can be necessary to convince you of so plain a truth, yet it may not be amiss to hint a matter which can only be discovered by being where it has taken place. The people are fully possessed of their dignity from the frequent delineation of their rights, which have been published to defeat the ministerial party in their attempt to impress them with high notions of Government. They now feel rather too much their own importance, and it requires great skill to produce such subordination as is necessary. This takes place principally in the Army. They have affected to hold the military too high, but the civil must be first supported; and unless an established form of Government is provided, it will be productive of injury. Every day's delay will make the task more arduous.

We want, also, a regular General to assist us in disciplining the Army, which, in twelve months' time, and perhaps less, by frequent skirmishes, may be brought to stand against any troops, however formidable they may be with the sounding names of *Welsh* Fusileers, Grenadiers, &c. And although the pride of our people would

prevent their submitting to be led by any General not an *American*, yet I cannot but think that General *Lee* might be so established as to render great service by his presence and counsels with our officers. I should heartily rejoice to see this way the beloved Colonel *Washington*, and do not doubt the *New-England* Generals would acquiesce in showing to our sister Colony, *Virginia*, the respect which she has before experienced from the Continent, in making him Generalissimo. This is a matter in which Dr. *Warren* agrees with me, and we had intended to write you jointly on the affair.

The letter from our Joint Committees and the Generals to the Congress, will come before you, and nothing further is necessary on this head. I remain, gentlemen, with great respect, your obedient servant,

ELBRIDGE GERRY.

To the Honourable Members of the Continental Congress from *Massachusetts-Bay*.

GEN. WARD AND OTHERS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Cambridge, June 4, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: We beg leave to represent to you the peculiar distresses of this Colony, being assured that you will, as the wise guardians of the lives, liberties, and properties of the whole of this extensive Continent, attend to the several circumstances of all who, under *God*, look up to you for protection and deliverance.

Our capital is filled with disciplined troops, thoroughly equipped with every thing necessary to render them formidable. A train of artillery, as complete as can be conceived of; a full supply of arms and ammunition; and an absolute command of the harbour of *Boston*, which puts it in their power to furnish themselves with whatever they shall think convenient by sea, are such advantages as must render our contest with them in every view extremely difficult.

We suffer at present the greatest inconveniences from a want of a sufficient quantity of powder; without this every attempt to defend ourselves or annoy our enemies, must prove abortive. We have taken every step to avail ourselves of this article, by drawing into our general magazines whatever could be spared from the respective Towns of this Colony; but the frequent skirmishes we have had have greatly diminished our stock, and we are now under the most alarming apprehensions that, notwithstanding the bravery of our troops, (whom we think we can, without boasting, declare are ready to encounter every danger for the preservation of the rights and liberties of *America*,) we shall, barely for want of the means of defence, fall at last a prey to our enemies.

We, therefore, most earnestly beseech you, that you would warmly recommend it to the other Colonies, to send whatever ammunition they can possibly spare forthwith to our relief. The manner of recommending this matter we submit to your superiour judgment; we only beg leave to suggest, that an immediate supply is of the last importance to us, and that a discovery of our weakness in this particular, before we receive assistance, may be fatal, not to us only, but to the liberties of the whole Continent; whereas, with a full supply of arms and ammunition, we might, with the common blessings of Providence, baffle the designs of our enemies, and be greatly instrumental in bringing our present disputes to a happy issue. We are your Honours' most obedient servants,

ART. WARD, *General of the Massachusetts Forces.*

JOS. WARREN, *Chairman of the Comm. of Safety.*

MOSES GILL, *Chairman of the Comm. of Supplies.*

P. S. We beg what powder you can possibly spare may be immediately conveyed to us by land in the way least liable to be suspected by any persons who may correspond with the enemy.

MRS. BOWDOIN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Dorchester, June 4, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Bowdoin* has just received the enclosed depositions, and being in a very weak state, desires me to inform you, that for some time past the *Falkland* Sloop-of-



War, commanded by Captain *Linsey*, has been cruising about the islands called *Elizabeth Islands*, near *Martha's Vineyard*. That the said sloop's boats have divers times landed armed men on the said islands, who have abused the inhabitants, stove their boats, and by force taken away a considerable part of their property, as may more fully appear by the said depositions.

It is humbly apprehended if about one hundred armed men were properly posted on the said islands, they would be a sufficient force to defend the inhabitants, and protect their stock of cattle and sheep, which is very considerable, and which has hitherto every year furnished divers parts of this Colony with fat sheep and cattle for provisions, and particularly with a large quantity of wool for our home manufacture.

I beg leave to make this representation that you may take such measures as your wisdom shall dictate; and am, most respectfully, in Mr. *Bowdoin's* behalf, who is part owner of one of said islands, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
ELIZABETH BOWDOIN.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

#### DEPOSITIONS.

I, *Elisha Nye*, innholder, living on one of the *Elizabeth Islands*, commonly called *Naushan*, and near to *Tarpaulin Cove*, testifieth and sayeth, that some time about the fifth of *May* the sloop-of-war called the *Falkland*, commanded by Captain *Linsey*, came into the cove, and as soon as the vessel had come to anchor, the Captain came on shore with his boat's crew, all armed, and came to the house, and said unto the deponent, You need not be scared; upon which I told him it was enough to scare any body to see so many men come on shore armed; and the women are all fled, and to where I knew not. Upon which Captain *Linsey* told me to call them in, for he did not mean to hurt any body; upon which promise I and my family were satisfied. Soon after, the Captain asked me to walk with him, which I complied with, and in the course of the walk he demanded to know what stock I had, and added, to tell him right, for if I did not, he would take all that he met; upon which I gave him the account. Then the Captain told me, (the deponent,) if I sold any one of them he would take the remainder by force; upon which I told him if he were here when they were fit for market, he might have them by paying the price I used to have. Soon after which he went to *Rhode-Island*, and returned back in a few days; after which he used to pass and re-pass the island almost every day, mostly in company with the Doctor of the ship, leaving down the fence repeatedly, which let the cattle often mix together, which I told the Doctor was a great damage. The Doctor's answer was, then you may put it up yourselves, for I will not; and often talked in an abusive, insulting manner, that he (the Doctor) would soon take what he wanted without any pay. On the twenty-sixth instant a sloop came into the cove with about twenty passengers—men, women, and children—in great distress for provisions, and made application to me for supplies. Captain *Linsey*, knowing that, (his boat having boarded her,) sent his boat on shore and forbid me letting them have any. Then I advised them to apply to Captain *Linsey*, and see if they could not prevail upon him to let them have some. Accordingly they went. Afterwards the Captain of the sloop told me that he absolutely refused them, and said, damn the dog that would let them have any, and if they were not gone immediately they would sink them; upon which they set sail immediately without any supplies.

And further, the deponent declareth that the Doctor came on shore, and said that the Captain's orders were that I should go with him and destroy all the boats on the island. I told him I could not go upon such business as that. He said he would send me on board the ship if I did not go; upon which I found I must comply, and accordingly went with him, and saw him (the Doctor) stave three boats. On the twenty-ninth, about eight o'clock in the evening, he (the said Doctor) came on shore, and told me he had come for my sheep; upon which I told him they were out in the pasture, and I could not get them into the pen, it being dark, but would fetch them in as early in the morning as he pleased. The answer from the Doctor was, damn you, what did you turn them out for; the reason I told him was

that they had got out their own sheep, and did not say any thing more about when they should want mine, and I thought it best the sheep should be let out to feed. Upon which the said Doctor said to me, Damn your eyes, go on board the ship, and I'll see what they were turned out for. I told him I would not, but would go and try to get the sheep up; well, damn you, make haste; and swung his sword over my head. But upon trial I found it so dark I could not get them in; but on my return was informed that he (the Doctor) had sent on board for more help to carry me and my brother on board the ship. Upon which, with the abuses and threats I had received before, thought it time to make my escape, which I did, to the main land, and begged the assistance of the people, who readily came to my assistance; and when I returned, which was about three o'clock in the morning, some of my family told me they had been ashore, armed, and had taken all my calves, being seven in number; two of the poorest and smallest they sent ashore in the morning, the others, with four sheep they had some days before, they carried off without paying any thing for them. And I do further declare the abuses and threats I received from Captain *Linsey* and the Doctor is the occasion of my moving off the island and leaving my interest. And I declare that I never refused Captain *Linsey*, or any other person belonging to a sloop-of-war, entertainment in my house, or supply of provisions that I had on my farm that I could spare. And I further declare, that on the night of the twenty-ninth instant aforesaid, the Doctor, as my wife informs me, came on shore and demanded my gun with his sword in his hand, which she delivered to him, and have not seen it since, though the only weapon of defence that I had on the island. The value of the sheep, calves, and gun, which they took from me, and the use of my horse and well, are as follows, viz:—

Four sheep, value £2 16s.; three calves two months old, value £3 6s.; four quarters of veal, weight sixty pounds, sold before and delivered, 16s.; one gun, taken out of my house by the Doctor of the ship, of great value, £3; riding my horse, and use of my well, £3.

ELISHA NYE.

BARNSTABLE, ss., *May 31, 1775*:

Then the within and above named *Elisha Nye* made oath to the within and above named deposition and account as the truth, and by him subscribed. Before me,

THOS. SMITH, *Justice of the Peace*.

We, the subscribers, testify and say, that on the 29th day of *May, 1775*, Captain *Linsey*, commander of a ship-of-war, then at *Tarpaulin Cove*, came with a number of armed men and landed on one of the *Elizabeth Islands*, called *Reskatemeth*, and came to the place where the men that owned part of the stock on said island were shearing their sheep, and demanded the sheep, saying and promising that he would pay for them, and give the full value of the sheep, or words to that purpose; but the owners of said sheep told him that they were unwilling to part with them, but if he would take them, they should not molest him, as most of the owners of the sheep were of the people called *Quakers*, and that they would not be concerned in defending themselves or their interest by force of arms, but would treat him with civility; but said Captain, with his men, took said sheep, and carried them away, some shorn, and many not shorn. The sheep were hurried away in such a manner that we could not take an account of the numbers with exactness, but according to the best of our judgment, the numbers and value of the sheep are as follows, viz:

Took from *Joseph Tucker* and Sons ninety-three sheep, value £68 8s., lawful money; took from *Jeremiah Robinson* seventeen sheep, value £12 4s. 10d., lawful money; took from *William* and *Elisha Robinson* twenty-four sheep, value £14 8s., lawful money; took from *Ebenezer Meiggs* seventy-two sheep, value £51 15s. 6d., lawful money.

JOHN TUCKER, ELISHA ROBINSON,  
JEREMIAH ROBINSON, EBENEZER MEIGGS.

BARNSTABLE, ss., *May 31, 1775*:

Then the above named *Ebenezer Meiggs* made oath to the truth of the above written, by him subscribed, and the above named *John Tucker*, *Jeremiah Robinson*, and *Elisha*



*Robinson*, being of the people called *Quakers*, affirmed to the truth of the above written, by them subscribed.

Before me :

THOMAS SMITH,  
Justice of the Peace.

*Daniel Egry*, of *Dartmouth*, says, that last *Sabbath*, a Whaleman went through *Robinson's Hole* into the *Sound*; just at the eastward lay three tenders, who fired upon the schooner. The master then ordered the schooner about again, and run into the *Hole*; all the people then left the vessel, by the master's orders. The officer of a barge then came on board, and snapped his pistol at the master, which did not go off, though well primed, and all the rest of the barge's crew cocked their pistols, but were ordered by the officer not to fire. The people of the three tenders swore they would have all the stock on the island, having forced the tenants to give an inventory thereof, and intended to seize five vessels to carry them off, and pursued one vessel which hove in sight. The name of the island is *Naushan*, and owned by Mr. *Boudoin*; suppose there are three thousand sheep on the island, and a large stock of cattle. It is supposed they intended to rob the several islands near, on which islands it is supposed there were ten thousand sheep, beside cattle.

May 10, 1775.

#### POLITICAL OBSERVATIONS.

London, June 5, 1775.

In the course of animadversion upon our dispute with *America*, the principle, "that wheresoever the supreme power of legislation is vested, there also centres the supreme power of taxation," has been (it is thought) fully proved to the conviction of every unbiassed reader; and, indeed, the *Americans* themselves seem so thoroughly convinced of it, as to have given up the distinction not only between internal and external taxation, but also the difference between the legislative and taxing power; well knowing that they who can tax will rule, and those who can rule must and will tax; the act of taxation being an essential act of dominion and sovereignty, without which no Government can subsist, or maintain its authority.

The rebellious *Americans* depend upon their numbers and distance from us; but we hope they will be of but little service to them, for there are other ways and means of distressing them, besides our meeting them in the field. Their wealth is the source of their rebellion; and our Ministry have already wisely begun to reduce them to reason by lessening it; and when they find themselves so blocked up by sea that nothing can go to or come from them without falling into our hands; or, if that will not do, that their vessels and properties are seized, and, if occasion requires, their coasts plundered, their towns and ports reduced to ashes, &c., poverty and distress will by degrees break in upon them; and though they have got a great Army, they will see their ruin daily approaching without being able to prevent it. If, therefore, they still persist in their rebellion, contrary to their own interest, and contrary to all the feelings of humanity for their fellow-subjects, but in a more particular manner, contrary to the compassion they ought to have for their wives and children, all the evils and calamities that arise from it will, in the sight of *God* and man, lie at their door; and even the cries of the injured orphan and widow, that will go up to Heaven upon that account, will go up against them.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, June 5, 1775.

Whereas, the business of this Committee has been much obstructed and embarrassed by necessary inquiries into the circumstances of Goods imported here from other Provinces:

*Resolved, therefore*, That for the future, whenever goods shall be imported into this Province from any of the neighbouring Colonies, the importer do produce a certificate from the Chairman of the Committee from whence such goods are sent, signifying their importation within the rules of the Congress, or do produce a qualification taken before some Magistrate of the identity of such goods, of the time of their importation into this Country, and vessel in

which they were imported; in failure whereof no such goods be permitted to be landed or sold within the limits of this City and Liberties.

By order of the Committee for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*. JONATHAN B. SMITH, Secretary.

#### TO GENERAL BURGOTNE.

Philadelphia, June 5, 1775.

Permit me, Sir, though a stranger to your person, but not wholly unacquainted with your character, to address you on your arrival. Glad should I be to offer the language of congratulation; but the love of my Country forbids. Unhappy situation! that virtue must restrain the plaudits with which she hath been used to meet the accomplished *Burgoyne*.

With the manly openness of a soldier you have delivered your sentiments in the Senate; you have wished that the bravery of every "military man" in *America* "may be judged by the test of compassion;" you have chosen "argument," if admitted to intercourse in *America*, "before activity in the line of your profession." The precious opportunity that you desire is granted; the fertile, the once peaceful, the free shores of *America* have received you; a people delighting in freedom of inquiry, susceptible of the force of solid argument, capable of refuting sophistry, would gladly meet you on this first ground of your choice, with candour enough to admire the copiousness of your eloquence, though possessed with too much judgment to mistake it for argument. We desire not to meet you reasoning "to the best of your power in the line of your profession," because the issues of war are dreadful and uncertain; and though you have been victorious in a "cause" which it was honourable "to fight for, to bleed, and to die for," yet in this, we apprehend, whether victor or vanquished, you will "find" nothing but "sorrow and remorse."

When Chairman of the Select Committee on *East India* affairs, you declared, "that the most infamous designs had been carried into execution by perfidy and murder; that the *East India* Princes held their dignities on the precarious condition of being the highest bribers; and that no claim could be admitted, however just on their part, without being introduced by enormous sums of rupees. Your noble nature started from the horrid scene; the ghost of *Omichund* could not have thus appalled you. And can you, Sir, be instrumental to enslave and oppress, not effeminate *East Indians*, but the sons of *Englishmen*? Can you imbrue your hands in brothers' blood, or stoop to the infamous designs of perfidy? Can you wish that claims the most just should not be admitted, unless the fallacious scheme of the treasury be adopted? Forbid it every ennobling sentiment of the human breast! No, Sir, satisfied with the glorious laurels that adorned your brow, let the peaceful olive twine around them; so shall *Britain* and *America* in future time bless the man who felt that bravery and compassion were associate virtues.

A PENNSYLVANIAN.

#### WILLIAM DUER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Fort Millar, June 5, 1775.

SIR: I esteem it a duty which I owe to the Province to inform you that my apprehensions with respect to the designs of the people in this County to stop the courts of justice, were not ill founded. A party of the people on the *New-Hampshire Grants*, strengthened by some persons of desperate fortunes and bad characters in the western districts, had formed a resolution of abolishing the law; and to effect their purpose, had actually marched on their way to *Fort Edward*. Yesterday fortnight I had intelligence of their design, and by a lucky incident put a stop to their proceedings, at least for the present.

Captain *Mott*, who is the bearer of this, was marching his company to join the forces at *Ticonderoga*. I mentioned to him the intelligence I had received, and applied to him for his assistance. This gentleman coincided with myself in opinion of the absolute necessity there was of keeping up at least the shadow of order and justice, and detained his company at *Fort Edward* in order to protect the Bench. The riotous party getting information of this unlooked for relief, desisted from their attempt.



As Captain *Mott* is on his way to your Congress, I esteem myself bound in gratitude to mention his alacrity in supporting good order within our Province, not doubting but such a line of conduct will recommend him to your attention. I have likewise to submit it again to your consideration, whether it might not be proper for the Provincial Congress to make publick their sentiments with respect to the courts of justice. However daring many of the people are in this County, I scarcely imagine they would dare to counteract the avowed opinions of the Congress. It is merely owing to chance, and Captain *Mott's* conduct, that this last Court was not broke up; and should this attempt once succeed, it will not be an easy matter to restore order amongst a people of so turbulent a spirit. Our County will then be reduced to a worse dilemma than any other. We shall not only have to oppose the incursions of the enemy on the frontiers, but shall be torn to pieces with intestine anarchy and confusion. I am conscious, from the knowledge I have of your personal character, of your aversion to such proceedings, and have therefore thought it advisable to write to you on the subject. Your interposition in this matter may save the spilling of blood the next Court, for so long as I know it to be the sense of the Country that the courts of justice should be supported, and that I have the honour of sitting as one of the Judges, I shall endeavour to keep them open even at the risk of my life. I am, Sir, with respect, your obedient humble servant,

WM. DUER.

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq.*, President of the Provincial Congress at *New-York*.

COLONEL GUY JOHNSON TO THE COMMITTEE OF TRYON COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

Thompson's, Cosby's Manor, June 5, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have received the paper signed *Chris. P. Yates*, Chairman, on behalf of the Districts therein mentioned, which I am now to answer, and shall do it briefly, in the order you have stated matters. As to the letter from some *Indians* to the *Oneidas*, I really knew nothing of it till I heard such a thing had been by some means obtained from an *Indian* messenger; and from what I have heard of its contents, I can't see any thing material in it, or that could justify such idle apprehensions; but I must observe that these fears among the people were talked of long before, and were, I fear, propagated by some malicious persons for a bad purpose.

As to your political sentiments, on which you enter in the next paragraph, I have no occasion to enter on them or the merits of the cause. I desire to enjoy liberty of conscience and the exercise of my own judgment, and that all others should have the same privilege; but, with regard to your saying you might have postponed the affair, if there had been the least kind of probability that the petition of the General Assembly would have been noticed more than that of the Delegates, I must, as a true friend to the Country, in which I have a large interest, say, that the present dispute is viewed in different lights, according to the education and principles of the parties affected; and that, however reasonable it may appear to a considerable number of honest men here, that the petition of the Delegates should merit attention, it is not viewed in the same light in a country which admits of no authority that is not constitutionally established; and I persuade myself you have that reverence for His Majesty, that you will pay due regard to the Royal assurance given in his speech to Parliament, that whenever the *American* grievances should be laid before him by their constitutional Assemblies, they should be fully attended to. I have heard that compulsory steps were taken to induce some persons to come into your measures, and treasonable toasts drank; but I am not willing to give too easy credit to flying reports, and am happy to hear you disavow them.

I am glad to find my calling a Congress on the frontiers gives satisfaction; this was principally my design, though I cannot sufficiently express my surprise at those who have, either through malice or ignorance, misconstrued my intentions, and supposed me capable of setting the *Indians* on the peaceable inhabitants of this Country. The interest our family has in this Country and my own, is considerable, and they have been its best benefactors; any

malicious charges, therefore, to their prejudice, are highly injurious, and ought to be totally suppressed.

The office I hold is greatly for the benefit and protection of this Country, and on my frequent meetings with the *Indians* depends their peace and security; I therefore cannot but be astonished to find the endeavours made use of to obstruct me in my duties, and the weakness of some people in withholding many things from me, which are indisputably necessary for rendering the *Indians* contented; and I am willing to hope that you, gentlemen, will duly consider this and discountenance the same.

You have been much misinformed as to the origin of the reports which obliged me to fortify my house and stand on my defence. I had it, gentlemen, from undoubted authority from *Albany*, and since confirmed by letters from one of the Committee at *Philadelphia*, that a large body of men were to make me prisoner. As the effect this must have on the *Indians* might have been of dangerous consequences to you, (a circumstance not thought of,) I was obliged, at great expense, to take these measures. But the many reports of my stopping travellers were false in every particular, and the only instance of detaining any body was in the case of two *New-England* men, which I explained fully to those of your body who brought your letter, and wherein I acted strictly agreeable to law, and as a magistrate should have done.

I am very sorry that such idle and injurious reports meet with any encouragement. I rely on you, gentlemen, to exert yourselves in discountenancing them; and I am happy in this opportunity of assuring the people of a Country I regard, that they have nothing to apprehend from my endeavours, but that I shall always be glad to promote their true interests.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

G. JOHNSON.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK, DATED HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, JUNE 5, 1775.

Mr. *Hide*, the *Boston* post, reports that a vessel bound to *London*, on board of which Mr. *Robert Temple*, a high-flying tory, was passenger, sprang a leak soon after her departure, and put into *Plymouth*, (*New-England*), to refit. That the people took *Temple* prisoner, sent him to the camp at *Cambridge*, secured his papers, and opened a great number of letters, many of which were from officers of the Army at *Boston*. That those letters in general are full of complaints and expressions of uneasiness. Some of the officers desire and entreat to sell out, others say they are fighting in a bad cause, and apprehensive of a mutiny; others mention a difference between the General and the Admiral, and that the Army in general are disheartened and uneasy; other letters are full of invectives against the poor *Yankees*, as they call us. We hear the Provincial Congress will keep *Temple* as a hostage; but I hope they will let the vessel go with the above letters.

JAMES CURGENVEN TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-Haven, June 5, 1775.

SIR: I beg permission to acquaint your Honour that I am appointed Collector of the Customs for the port of *New-Haven*, vice *Peter Harrison*, Esquire, deceased; and that on the second instant, when I arrived within your Government, some people showed a great dislike to my taking upon me the duty of my office. But by the interposition of several gentlemen concerned in trade, and my informing them that I should wait on your Honour as soon as I had recovered from the fatigues of the voyage, they appeared to be satisfied.

I look on it a respect due to your Honour, that I should satisfy you as to the legality of my appointment, as well as necessary that I should take the oaths prescribed by law previous to my entering upon the execution of my duty; but as my ill state of health will not admit of my taking a journey at present, and as I have already taken the oath of office before the Board of Customs, I hope this will be admitted as a sufficient apology. And some persons having suggested that your Honour would refuse to administer the oaths appointed to be taken by officers of the Crown in similar cases with mine, I take the liberty to request that your Honour will be pleased to inform me by a line, if you



have any objection to administer them. Your condescension herein will lay me under the most lasting obligations.

I am, with the greatest respect, Sir, your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,

JAMES CURGENVEN.

The Hon. Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., Governour of His Majesty's Colony of Connecticut, &c., &c., &c.

I, James Curgenven, do sincerely promise and swear, that I will be faithful, and bear true allegiance to His Majesty George the Third. *So help me God.*

I, James Curgenven, do swear that I do, from my heart, abhor, detest, and abjure, as impious and heretical, that damnable doctrine and position that Princes, excommunicated or deprived by the Pope or any authority of the See of Rome, may be deposed or murdered by their subjects or any other whatsoever. And I do declare that no foreign prince, person, prelate, state, or potentate, hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, power, superiority, pre-eminence, or authority, ecclesiastical or spiritual, within the Realm of Great Britain. *So help me God.*

I, James Curgenven, do solemnly, in the presence of God, profess, testify, and declare, that I do believe that in the Sacraments of the Lord's Supper there is not any transubstantiation of the elements of bread and wine in the body and blood of Christ, at or after the consecration thereof by any person whatsoever, and that the invocation or adoration of the Virgin Mary, or any other Saint, and the sacrifice of the Mass, as they are now used in the Church of Rome, are superstitious and idolatrous. And I do solemnly, in the presence of God, profess, testify, and declare, that I do make this declaration, and every part thereof, in the plain and ordinary sense of the words read unto me, as they are commonly understood by English Protestants, without any evasion, equivocation, or mental reservation whatsoever, and without any dispensation already granted me for this purpose by the Pope, or any authority or person whatsoever, or without any hope of any such dispensation from any authority or person whatsoever, or without thinking that I am or can be acquitted before God or man, or absolved of this declaration, or any part thereof, although the Pope or any other person or persons, or power whatsoever, should dispense with or annul the same, or declare that it was null and void from the beginning.

I, James Curgenven, do truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify, and declare, in my conscience, before God and the world, that our sovereign Lord, King George, is lawful and rightful King of this Realm, and all other His Majesty's Dominions and Countries thereunto belonging. And I do solemnly declare, that I do believe, in my conscience, that not any of the descendants of the person who pretended to be Prince of Wales during the life of the late King James the Second, and since his decease, pretended to be, and took upon himself the style and title of King of England, by the name of James the Third, or of Scotland, by the name of James the Eighth, or the style or title of King of Great Britain, hath any right or title whatsoever to the Crown of this Realm, or any other Dominions thereunto belonging. And I do renounce, refuse, and abjure any allegiance or obedience to any of them; and I do swear that I will bear faith and true allegiance to His Majesty King George, and him will defend to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatsoever, which shall be made against his person, crown, or dignity. And I will do my utmost endeavour to disclose and make known to His Majesty and his successor all treasons and traitorous conspiracies which I shall know to be against him or any of them. And I do faithfully promise, to the utmost of my power, to support, maintain, and defend the succession of the Crown against the defendants of the said James, and against all persons whatsoever, which succession, by an Act intitled "An Act for the further limitation of the Crown, and better securing the rights and liberties of the Subjects," is and stands limited to the Princess Sophia, Electress and Dutchess Dowager of Hanover, and the heirs of her body being Protestants. And all these things I do plainly and sincerely acknowledge and swear, according to these express words by me spoken, according to the plain common sense and understanding of the same words, without any equivocation, mental evasion,

or secret reservation whatsoever. And I do now make this recognition, acknowledgment, abjuration, renunciation, and promise, heartily, willingly, and truly, upon the true faith of a Christian. *So help me God.*

June 9, 1775.

JAMES CURGENVEN.

Camp Cambridge, June 5, 1775.

*The Petition of the subscribers, Soldiers in the Company commanded by Captain DRURY, humbly sheweth:*

That your petitioners, with the utmost concern, find themselves shifted out of Colonel Nixen's Regiment into that of Colonel Gardner's, contrary to our inclination, and repugnant to the promise made us at our enlisting. We, therefore, beg that your Excellency would be pleased to continue us in the Regiment we engaged to serve in, and not to be removed for the future only to serve the malevolent disposition of our Captain; and, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Windsor Stone,  
Samuel Ordway,  
Simon Stow,  
Josiah Bent,  
Francis Stow,  
Joseph Brown,  
Joseph Stow,  
Abijah Abbot,  
John Stacy,

Brigham Eaton,  
William Clark,  
Simeon Rogers,  
Joseph Jennings,  
Ebenezer James,  
Josiah Waite,  
Azariah Walker,  
Amos Gates,  
Peter Sabin,

David Waite,  
George Gates,  
Joseph Goynit,  
Benjamin Clark,  
Joseph Seaver,  
Samuel Everdean,  
Isaac Heminway,  
Henry Gates,  
Nehemiah Wright.

To his Excellency General Ward, &c.

*To the Colony Congress of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in NEW-ENGLAND:*

*We, the subscribers, Captains in the Regiment whereof JAMES SCAMMON, Esq., is Colonel, humbly sheweth:*

That whereas there is no provision made for the money that we, our subalterns, and soldiers, have advanced for their support, from the time of enlistment to their arrival at Cambridge, humbly pray, in behalf of ourselves, &c., that your Honours would, in your wisdom, contrive some way that is most agreeable for their being refunded the several sums they have advanced. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

PHILIP HUBBARD,  
JESSE DORMAN,  
JOSHUA BRAGDON,  
JEREMIAH HILL,

TOBIAS FERNALD, JUN.,  
SAMUEL SAYER,  
SAMUEL LEIGHTON,  
SAMUEL DARBY.

#### TOWN MEETING IN CONWAY, NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

At a legal meeting held by the inhabitants of Conway, on the fifth day of June, 1775, the following Votes were passed:

*Voted*, That Col. Andrew McMullen, Capt. Timothy Walker, Capt. David Page, Lieut. James Osgood, and Ensign Joshua Heath, be a Committee at and in behalf of the Town, in any matter respecting the present time of difficulty.

*Voted*, That the Town will aid and assist the above Committee that is chosen in behalf of the Town to preserve the peace and order of it, whenever the Committee shall judge occasion.

*Voted*, That this Committee be fully empowered to inquire touching any obnoxious person who may flee to this Town for an asylum, and that they shall judge whether it is expedient for any such refugee to reside here, or depart from it; and any inhabitant of this Town who shall be obnoxious, shall be only accountable to the Committee for their conduct.

*Voted*, That no other person but the Committee shall concern with any such refugees; but if any person shall know of any such obnoxious person coming into Town, the earliest notice thereof shall be given the Committee.

*Voted*, That the Committee be empowered to call before them, and upon proper evidence to pass upon any inhabitants of the Town, who shall dare to transgress any of the preceding Votes, or in any manner to disturb the peace of the Town.

*Voted*, That the Committee shall make application to the Congress of this Province for arms and ammunition that are wanting in this Town, and for men for a scouting guard for our safety.

RICHARD EASTMAN, Town Clerk.



## TO THE MINISTER.

London, June 6, 1775.

The sword of civil war is at last unsheathed. You are astonished; for you believed those sagacious counsellors, who assured you that the *Americans* were cowards. You were persuaded that what you are pleased to call "firmness" in the King, and "steadiness" in his Ministers, were alone sufficient to stifle that thing called "liberty," which, having fled from this island, took shelter in *America*. You find, my Lord, you were deceived, and from that fatal hour in which the hostile sword glittered in *America*, every ship will bring fresh proof of your error. I know the *Americans*, my Lord, better than any of your military informers. You are deceived, abused, wretchedly abused, and you will find your error when it is too late. Just God! I lose all patience when I recollect the incredible absurdity of your conduct; the paltry, shallow, contemptible system of politics, by which every transaction of your Ministry hath been governed. With regard to *America*, you have struggled under an universal cloud of infatuation, and the arguments of your treasury slaves in support of your tyranny are a continued burlesque on argumentation. You have been equally unlucky, my Lord, in your pensioned scribblers, the two celebrated Doctors, who, unfortunately for your Lordship, are, in truth, most scurvy politicians.

But, my Lord, I will, for the present, waive all other matters of discussion, and confine myself to the topick of the day. *America*, my Lord, *America*! You shudder at the sound. I marvel not; it will be your destruction. Your present game, my Lord, depends entirely on your ability to persuade the people of *England* that their fellow-subjects in *America* are in a state of rebellion. The people of *England* are less liable to mistake declamation for argument than any people in *Europe*. The people of *England* know that to resist illegal exertions of power is not rebellion. If you, my Lord, have presumed to stretch the power of the Crown, or of the Parliament, beyond its legal bounds, you are a rebel to the People and a traitor to your Country. You have dared to tax *America*, an unrepresented part of the King's Dominions. That taxation and representation are inseparable, is the avowed opinion of the first lawyer in the Kingdom. It is not only an opinion, but a glaring axiom of the Constitution; and if you dare deny it, my Lord, I thus publicly declare you an errant traitor to your Country. *America* is not represented, and therefore cannot be taxed but by themselves; and whatever may be your present position, I pledge my credit with the publick, that I will bring you or your advocates to acknowledge the truth of this position. If, therefore, you have presumed to tax *America* illegally; if you have sent an Army to enforce laws unconstitutionally enacted, the *Americans* are not in a state of rebellion. On the contrary, they deserve our prayers and assistance; and you, my Lord, are the arch rebel against whom all our vengeance should be directed. I am unexpectedly interrupted, and I must therefore beg leave to conclude myself, my Lord, yours, &c.

## PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Charlestown, Tuesday, June 6, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen, viz: Sir Edmund Head, Bart., David Deas, Esq., Mr. John Fullerton, Mr. John Wagner, Mr. Josiah Smith, Jr., Mr. Joseph Dill, Robert Williams, Jr., Esq., Mr. Thomas Eveleigh, John Scott, Esq., of Broad-street, Major William Savage, Mr. Edward Lightwood, Captain Alexander Gillon, Alexander Rose, Esq., Mr. George Abbott Hall, Mr. Barnard Beekman, Captain Edward Blake, Doctor Peter Fayssoux, Captain Simon Tufts, Captain John Scott, Mr. James Fagartie, Mr. William Johnson, Mr. James Carsan, Joshua Ward, Esq., Mr. Samuel Legare, Mr. Charles Johnston, and Mr. John Horlbeck, be a Committee to receive the signatures of all the inhabitants of *Charlestown*, to the Association entered into on the third instant, and signed on the fourth by every member of this Congress. And that it be recommended to them to complete the subscriptions as speedily as possible, and make a return of the names of such as decline to sign the said Association, to the General Committee.

By order of the Congress:

PETER TIMOTHY, Secretary.

## CHESTER COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Chester County, June 6, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to appointment, in the Township of *Charlestown*, and proceeded to examine into the charge lodged against *William Moore*, Esquire, setting forth that he was inimical to the liberties of *America*, and that he had expressed a design to oppose the present Association.

Mr. *Moore* being ill, was waited on by two of the Committee, with copies of the several charges exhibited against him, to which, after due consideration, he returned the following answer, viz:

GENTLEMEN: I have read the different charges against me, which have been laid before you, and am extremely sorry for any unguarded expression therein contained that may have dropped from me; for believe me, I have no interest but what is in *America*. I wish well to every individual in it, and pray that its liberties may be preserved to the latest times. I also further declare that I have of late encouraged, and will continue to encourage, learning the military art, apprehending the time is not far distant when there may be occasion for it.

I hope, gentlemen, this will be satisfactory to you. I am now an old man, and cannot possibly entertain a thought but what is friendly to *America*, in which I am to leave my family and all that is dear to me; and the short time I have to live, I wish to seek peace with all men.

Witness my hand this 6th of June, 1775.

WM. MOORE.

To *Anthony Wayne*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Chester County*.

On motion, *Resolved, nem. con.*, That *William Moore*, Esquire, has made a proper acknowledgment, and given a satisfactory answer to this Committee: Therefore,

*Ordered*, That this proceeding be published, to the end that Mr. *Moore's* person and property may remain free from injury on account of any thing that has heretofore been alleged against him respecting publick matters.

By order of the Committee:

LEWIS GRONOW, Secretary pro tem.

## NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 6, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: We take leave to enclose a Resolution of the Grand Congress, of the 31st of *May*, and at the same time to present you our acknowledgments for the letter which we had the honour to receive from you, dated the 29th.

Be assured, Sir, that we are most gratefully sensible of the cheerfulness with which the Government of *Connecticut* has exerted itself to support the important posts of *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, until our abilities may enable us to execute that trust which the Continental Congress has, on that subject, thought proper in the first instance to repose in us.

In compliance with the requisitions made upon us, we have expedited our orders for the several things contained in the enclosed lists, at the bottom whereof are accounts of the several articles already sent for that service, and the persons employed in it.

We are sorry to present you with the very disagreeable intelligence that we have not a sufficient quantity of powder in this Colony to enable us at present to contribute in the least towards supplying those forts with that article; a circumstance which is the more distressing, as we have great reason to believe that a considerable quantity will be required for the defence of the northern frontier.

We pray your Honour to believe that we feel the utmost desire of co-operating with our sister Colonies in executing the Resolves of the Congress, and that we are, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient humble servants.

Per order, and in behalf of the Provincial Congress:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, President.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., of the Colony of *Connecticut*.



## FREDERICK WEISSENFELS AND OTHERS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As we have ever been heartily attached to the cause of our Country, so we are now ready to engage in the defence of its rights; and as we understand Troops are soon to be raised in this Province, we think it a duty incumbent on us to offer our service.

Should you think proper to confide in us, and appoint us, respectively, to the command of a company, we shall study to conduct ourselves in such a manner as to merit your approbation.

We are, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| FREDK. WEISSENFELS, | GARRET ROORBACK, |
| MARINUS WILLETT,    | JACOBUS WYNKOOP, |
| GERSHOM MOTT,       | JAMES ALNER,     |
| JOHN JOHNSON,       | JOHN QUACKENBOS. |

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Province of New-York.

## PIERPONT EDWARDS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 6, 1775.

SIR: I am now on my way to *Connecticut*; shall therefore be much obliged to the Congress of this Province for giving me the fullest information of the measures they have adopted, that I may communicate them to the House of Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

As it will be impossible for me to give them an accurate account, relying merely on memory, I shall esteem it a favour to be furnished with attested copies of those parts of the Minutes of the Congress which contain the most important Resolutions and Orders.

I intend to set out to-morrow morning, and shall esteem myself happy in having an opportunity to execute any commands that the Congress may have to the Eastward.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

PIERPONT EDWARDS.

Peter V. B. Livingston, Esquire.

## KINGSTON, (ULSTER COUNTY, NEW-YORK,) COMMITTEE.

Kingston, June 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Whereas, there is a dispute now subsisting between me and you, gentlemen of the Committee of this Town; and considering that unanimity is necessary for the preservation of our rights and liberties at this critical juncture, the welfare of individuals, and for my own interest in particular, I do most earnestly request, if it be possible, that we may come to an amicable reconciliation, by the following concessions:

First. That I am very sorry so great a misunderstanding has so long subsisted between us, respecting the difference in opinion of the Resolves of the Continental Congress.

Secondly. I earnestly entreat that the gentlemen of the Committee will forgive me all the offences and transgressions, wherein I have offended and injured them in their respective reputations or characters, either in their publick or private capacities.

JACOBUS LOW.

At a Meeting of the Committee of the Town of Kingston, in *Ulster County*, on the sixth day of June, 1775:

It is hereby certified to all whom it may concern, that Mr. *Jacobus Low*, of said Town of Kingston, personally appeared before us, and did make all such reasonable satisfaction (by publick concession) as was required relative to his former conduct. And we recommend to the publick, that from henceforth he may again be received as a friend to the liberties and privileges of *British-America*.

By order of the Committee:

JOHANNES SLEGHT, *Chairman*.

I am both disposed and willing to forgive all injuries and damages which I have sustained in consequence of divers advertisements.

JACOBUS LOW.

## CAPT. HENRY B. LIVINGSTON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Claremont, June 6, 1775.

SIR: Yesterday I received my warrant (which permits me the liberty I now take) from Captain *Shelden*, a member of the Committee appointed for *Dutchess County*. It was not without surprise I received a commission inferior to that I have been honoured with. But the reflection, that the Congress will undoubtedly supply places of higher rank with more experienced officers, soon rid me of the disagreeable sensations my degradation had excited, and determined me to accept of the commission offered, with a fixed resolution to be as useful to my Country as the station I am placed in will allow me. I have this day enlisted ten men, and have provided quarters and provisions for my whole complement, at the rate of eight shillings per week for each man. The men I have enlisted bear good characters, and to appearance are healthy, lively, and of robust constitutions; proper persons will be appointed to inspect them by *Saturday* next. Few of them will be able to furnish shoes, stockings, arms, &c. You will infinitely oblige me if you would lay this matter before the Congress, and use your endeavours to get arms sent to us as expeditiously as possible, as the disciplining them will be much retarded for want of them. I can enlist many who have those necessities, but this will take up more time, and perhaps hinder me from getting men so fit for action as those I now have. A fifer, I believe, cannot be found in this part of the Country; a drummer I have engaged. The rest of my task shall, with all diligence, be performed. Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To Peter V. B. Livingston, Esquire, President of the Provincial Congress of New-York.

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

At a full meeting of the Delegates from the several Towns in the County of *Cumberland*, Colony of *New-York*, convened at *Westminster*, June 6, 1775:

The County of *Cumberland* having received certain intelligence from Mr. *Isaac Low*, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence at *New-York*, that it is the desire of the said respectable Committee of Correspondence at *New-York*, that the sense of the people in said County of *Cumberland* should be fully known with regard to the hostile measures that are using by the *British* Parliament to enforce the late cruel, unjust, and oppressive Acts of the said *British* Parliament, through the *British* Colonies in *America*: We, the Delegates from the several Towns and Districts in said County of *Cumberland*, being chosen by the freeholders and inhabitants of the same, to exhibit to the Provincial Congress the sense and voice of the people with regard to the unjust proceedings of the *British* Parliament, &c., do pass the following Resolves:

1. *Resolved, nem. con.*, That the late Acts of the *British* Parliament, passed in order to raise a revenue in *America*, are unjust, illegal, and diametrically opposite to the Bill of Rights, and a fundamental principle of the *British* Constitution, which is, "that no person shall have his property taken from him without his consent."

2. *Resolved, nem. con.*, That we will resist and oppose the said Acts of Parliament, in conjunction with our brethren in *America*, at the expense of our lives and fortunes, to the last extremity, if our duty to God and our Country require the same.

3. *Resolved, nem. con.*, That we think it needless to pass many resolves exhibiting our sentiments with regard to the unhappy controversy subsisting between *Great Britain* and *America*. Let it suffice, therefore, that we fully acquiesce with what our brethren have lately done at *New-York*, in their late Association; and it is hereby resolved that the late Association entered into at *New-York* is perfectly agreeable to the sentiments of the freeholders and inhabitants of this County, and that they fully acquiesce in the same.

4. *Resolved, nem. con.*, That this County is at present in a very broken situation with regard to the civil authority. We therefore sincerely desire that the advice of the honourable Congress may be by our Delegates transmitted to us, whereby some order and regularity may be established



among us. We therefore should take it as a favour if the honourable Congress would particularly recommend to us in this County some measures to be pursued by us the inhabitants of the same; for we are persuaded their advice herein would have great weight to influence our people universally to pursue such measures as would tend to the peace, safety, and good order of this County for the future.

5. *Resolved, nem. con.*, That we, the inhabitants of this County, are at present in an extremely defenceless state with regard to arms and ammunition. We sincerely desire the honourable Provincial Congress would consider us in this respect, and from their generosity and goodness would do what in them lies for our relief in the premises. We have many brave soldiers, but, unhappily for us, we have nothing to fight with.

6. *Resolved, nem. con.*, That in pursuance of the Honourable *Isaac Low's* (Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence) request for this County to send Delegates to the City of *New-York*, in order to ascertain the sentiments of the people in the County concerning the unconstitutional measures lately adopted by the *British* Parliament against the *Americans* in general, and some other matters, and so forth, we do hereby vote and resolve, that Colonel *John Hazeltine*, Doctor *Paul Spooner*, and *William Williams*, Esquire, be our Delegates to meet and join the other respectable Delegates convened at *New-York*, to represent the affairs of this County in said Congress, at the City of *New-York*.

JOHN HAZELTINE,

Chairman of the County of Cumberland Congress  
and Committee of Correspondence.

#### JAMES EASTON TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Crown Point, June 6, 1775.

RESPECTABLE GENTLEMEN: It is of the utmost importance to the United Colonies to cultivate harmony and friendship with the *Canadians* and their *Indians*. I have painfully exerted myself to procure and secure it. Have sent you a copy of a letter Colonel *Allen* and myself wrote to the *Canadians*. It appears to me of importance that your Honours should be acquainted with the state of policy and of facts. You will discern by perusing the enclosed, that a party of *Canadians* made an attack upon our reconnoitring party. Since that, Mr. *Ferris*, an inhabitant of the *New-Hampshire Grants*, has been at *Montreal*, and returned to this place. He is a man I can confide in, and informs that *Saint Luke LaCorne*, who acted many barbarities towards our people last war, (for which he was sainted,) has been using his utmost influence to excite the *Canadians* and *Indians* to take part in the war against the United Colonies, and that he and Captain *McCoy*, who commanded the *Canadians'* attack, have made but little proficiency. Most of the said party of *Canadians* were appointed officers, but could procure but very few soldiers, and not one *Indian*. *Saint Luke* advises that some in every Parish be immediately executed, except they will join the King's Troops. There are lately come to *St John's* near two hundred Regulars, and joined Captain *McCoy's* party of about fifty *Canadians*, who have been mentioned as assailants on the reconnoitring party; they are there fortifying.

I still retain my sentiments, that policy demands that the Colonies advance an Army of two or three thousand men into *Canada* and environ *Montreal*. This will inevitably fix and confirm the *Canadians* and *Indians* in our interest. Nothing gives me so much concern, as the mistaken policy in our worthy Congresses and Assemblies, who, for want of the real knowledge of certain facts, imagine that to push an Army thither would offend the *Canadians*, and incense them against the Colonies. The armed vessels are advanced to the north part of the lake to command it, and consequently to guard the frontier settlements thereon.

We hear that Colonel *Hinman* is appointed Commander-in-Chief of this department, and is marching hither with a thousand men. This is joyful tidings to us; we hope it will prove true; for we cannot long conduct our Army, without it be regularly organized with officers, and under pay. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES EASTON.

To the Hon. Provincial Congress, Committee of Safety, or the Council of War, at *Watertown* and *Cambridge*.

#### STAMFORD (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

Stamford, June 6, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for the Town of *Stamford*, held in said *Stamford* on *Tuesday*, the 6th day of *June*, 1775, personally appeared *Silvanus Whitney*, of said *Stamford*, before said Committee, and made the following confession: Whereupon, the Committee passed sentence against him, agreeable to the direction of the Continental Congress. His punishment being greater than he was able to bear, he requested the liberty to advertise himself, and offering to deliver up the unfortunate Tea to be burnt, the Committee were of opinion that it would satisfy the publick, who are requested to accept of the following concession as a satisfaction for his crime.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN HAIT, JUN., Clerk.

#### TO THE PUBLICK.

Whereas I, the subscriber, have been guilty of buying and selling *Bohea* Tea, since the first of *March* last past, whereby I have been guilty of a breach of the Association entered into by the Continental Congress; and sensible of my misconduct, do, in this publick manner, confess my crime, and humbly request the favour of the publick to overlook this my transgression, promising for the future to conduct myself as a true friend to my Country. And in testimony of my sincerity, I do now deliver up the whole of the Tea I have on hand unto the said Committee of Inspection, to be by them committed to the flames.

SILVANUS WHITNEY.

#### A short Narrative of the execution of the unfortunate Tea above-mentioned.

About eight o'clock in the evening, a gallows was erected in the middle of the street opposite Mr. *Weed's* tavern; a large concourse of people soon collected, and were joined by a number of the soldiery quartered in the Town. A grand procession soon began to move. In the first place, a large guard under arms, headed by two Captains, who lead the van, with the unfortunate Tea hung across a pole, sustained by two unarmed soldiers. Secondly, followed the Committee of Observation. Thirdly, the spectators who came to see the great sight. And after parading through part of the principal streets, with drums beating and fifes playing a most doleful sound, they came to the gallows, where the common hangman soon performed his office, to the general satisfaction of the spectators. As it was thought dangerous to let the said Tea hang all night, for fear of an invasion from our Tea-lovers, a large bonfire was made under it, which soon reduced it to ashes; and, after giving three loud huzzas, the people soon dispersed to their respective homes, without any bad consequences attending.

The owner of the aforesaid Tea attended during the execution, and behaved himself as well as could be expected on the occasion.

#### EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Cambridge, New-England, June 6, 1775.

This being the day agreed on for the exchange of Prisoners, between twelve and one o'clock Doctor *Warren* and Brigadier General *Putnam*, in a phaeton, together with Major *Dunbar* and Lieutenant *Hamilton*, of the Sixty-Fourth, on horseback, Lieutenant *Potter*, of the Marines, in a chaise, *John Hilton*, of the Forty-Seventh, *Alexander Campbell*, of the Fourth, *John Tyne*, *Samuel Marcy*, *Thomas Parry*, and *Thomas Sharp*, of the Marines, wounded men, in two carts, the whole escorted by the *Weathersfield* Company, under the command of Captain *Chester*, entered the Town of *Charlestown*, and marching slowly through it, halted at the ferry, where, upon a signal being given, Major *Moncrief* landed from the *Lively*, in order to receive the prisoners, and see his old friend, General *Putnam*. Their meeting was truly cordial and affectionate. The wounded privates were soon sent on board the *Lively*; but Major *Moncrief* and the other officers returned with General *Putnam* and Doctor *Warren*, to the house of Doctor *Foster*, where an entertainment was provided for them.



About three o'clock a signal was made by the *Lively*, that they were ready to deliver up our prisoners; upon which, General Putnam and Major Moncrief went to the ferry, where they received Messrs. John Peck, James Hewes, James Brewer, and Daniel Preston, of Boston, Messrs. Samuel Frost and Seth Russell, of Cambridge, Mr. Joseph Bell, of Danvers, Mr. Elijah Seaver, of Roxbury, and Caesar Augustus, a negro servant to Mr. Tileston, of Dorchester, who were conducted to the house of Captain Foster, and there refreshed; after which the General and Major returned to their company, and spent an hour or two in a very agreeable manner. Between five and six o'clock, Major Moncrief, with the officers that had been delivered to him, were conducted to the ferry, where the *Lively's* barge received them. After which, General Putnam, with the prisoners that had been delivered to him, &c., returned to Cambridge, escorted in the same manner as before. The whole was conducted with the utmost decency and good humour, and the Weathersfield Company did honour to themselves, their officers, and their Country. The regular officers expressed themselves as highly pleased. Those who had been prisoners acknowledged the genteel, kind treatment they had received from their captors. The privates, who were all wounded men, expressed, in the strongest terms, their grateful sense of the tenderness which had been shewn them in their miserable situation; some of them could do it only by their tears. It would have been to the honour of the *British* arms, if the prisoners taken from us could, with justice, have made the same acknowledgment. It cannot be supposed that any officers of rank, or common humanity, were knowing to the repeated cruel insults that were offered to them; but it may not be amiss to hint to the upstarts concerned, two truths, of which they seem to be totally ignorant, viz: that compassion is as essential a part of the character of a truly brave man as daring; and that insult offered to a person entirely in the power of the insulter, smells as strongly of cowardice as it does of cruelty.

DECLARATION OF JOHN PRENTICE.

Londonderry, N. H., June 6, 1775.

Whereas I, the subscriber, was so unfortunate some time since as to sign an address to the late Governour Hutchinson, so universally and so justly deemed an enemy to *American* liberty and freedom, I hereby, in this publick manner declare, that at the time I signed the said address, I intended the good of my Country and that only; but finding, to my sorrow, it had not that but quite a contrary effect, I hereby renounce the same address in every part, and hope my injured and affronted fellow-countrymen will overlook my past misconduct, as I am ready to assist them in their struggles for liberty and freedom, in whatever way I shall be called upon by them.

JOHN PRENTICE.

King's Arms Tavern, Cornhill, London, June 7, 1775.

At a special meeting this day of several members of the Constitutional Society, during an adjournment, a gentleman proposed that a subscription should be immediately entered into by such of the members present who might approve the purpose, for raising the sum of one hundred Pounds, to be applied to the relief of the widows, orphans, and aged parents of our beloved *American* fellow-subjects, who, faithful to the character of *Englishmen*, preferring death to slavery, were, for that reason only, inhumanly murdered by the King's Troops at or near Lexington and Concord, in the Province of Massachusetts-Bay, on the nineteenth of last April.

Which sum being immediately collected, it was there-upon

Resolved, That Mr. Horne do pay to-morrow, into the hands of Messrs. Brownes and Collison, on the account of Doctor Franklin, the said sum of one hundred Pounds, and that Doctor Franklin be requested to apply the same to the above mentioned purpose.

London, June 7, 1775.

A commercial correspondent has obliged us with the several quantities of wheat and flour imported at Bristol

from the following Provinces, from the first of January, 1775, to the twenty-seventh of April last.

|                   | Barrels of Flour. | Bushels of Wheat. |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| From New-York, -  | 5,523             | 71,122            |
| " Maryland, -     | 7,594             | 91,888            |
| " Philadelphia, - | 8,045             | 35,967            |
| " Virginia, -     | 1,252             | 42,155            |
|                   | 22,414            | 241,812           |

Suppose five bushels of wheat goes to a barrel of flour, which being added to the sum total of the wheat, makes 353,882 bushels, which is the produce of 17,694 acres, at twenty bushels per acre; and the value of the same, at five shillings per bushel, amounts to £88,470 10s. The bread, rye, rice, and *Indian* corn, are omitted, and likewise wheat, barley, and oats, imported from Holland, Germany, and Ireland, at Bristol.

During the abovesaid period, twenty ships were cleared out from Bristol for North America, with nothing but ballast, viz:

|                   |   |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| For New-York, -   | 7 | Virginia, -       | 3 |
| " Maryland, -     | 3 | South Carolina, - | 3 |
| " Philadelphia, - | 3 | North Carolina, - | 1 |

N. B. The quantity of *American* provisions imported at Bristol, is scarce a fourth of what is imported at London, Liverpool, Lancaster, and throughout the other parts of England; and therefore when the Non-Exportation Agreement from America takes place, with the present scarcity and almost dearth of our own corn this year, a famine may be dreaded before next spring, if the present *American* disputes are not previously settled.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, June 8, 1775.

The Association signed by the Provincial Congress, and recommended by them as a proper instrument to be subscribed to at this juncture by persons of all persuasions, was, in a few days, with the greatest avidity and cheerfulness, signed also by almost every man in this Town; in short, such is here the spirit for liberty and freedom, that of the very few who objected, there were only two who were hardly enough to ridicule, or treat it with contempt, viz: Laughlin Martin and John Dealey, on which account they drew on themselves the resentment of the populace. Yesterday they were carted through the principal streets of this Town, in complete suits of tar and feathers. The very indecent and daring behaviour of the two culprits in several instances, occasioned their being made publick spectacles of. After having been exhibited for about half an hour, and having made many acknowledgments of their crime, they were conducted home, cleaned, and quietly put on board of Captain Lasley's ship, lying wind-bound for Bristol. We hear that, upon the intercession of Martin's friends, and his repeated promises of future good behaviour, he is allowed to come on shore and follow his business as usual.

To the Honourable Members of the Committee of Correspondence at CHARLESTOWN, the humble Petition of MICHAEL HUBART sheweth:

That upon the second day of June, your petitioner being in the house of Thomas Nicoll, in King-street, a certain James Dealey came in, and said there was good news come to Town. Being asked what it was, he answered that a number of arms was sent over to be distributed amongst the Negroes, Roman Catholics, and Indians. Upon which your petitioner replied, he thought it was very bad news that Roman Catholics and savages should be permitted to join and massacre christians. Upon which Dealey struck his breast, and swore "he was a Roman Catholic, and that he had arms, and would get arms, and use them as he pleased." Your petitioner went home to his house, and shortly after came in said Dealey and a certain Laughlin Martin, and A. Reed.

After sitting down a little, Laughlin Martin arose and said, "So, Mr. Hubart, you'll not allow Roman Catholics to carry guns." Your petitioner answered that his circumstances were too small to forbid any party or sect to carry



arms. *Martin* then damned your petitioner for a false-faced villain, and declared he would believe *Dealey* sooner than me; at the same time ordered said *Dealey* to drag your petitioner out of the house and pull him to pieces, at the same time standing with a drawn cutteau in his hand, swearing if he did not, that he (*Martin*) would have blood himself. *Dealey* then dragged your petitioner into a shop in front of the house, holding him by the throat, until released by the aforesaid *Reed*. But, upon being released, said *Martin* came up with his cutteau drawn, threatening to put your petitioner to immediate death, when your petitioner, falling upon his knees, begged his life; your petitioners' wife and children begging at the same time to spare the life of their father and husband. Your petitioner then arose and went into the next room, but was still followed by *Martin*, who vowed to *God* if your petitioner did not beg pardon of *Dealey*, he would that instant cut off his head. Upon which your petitioner, to save his life, did ask his (*Dealey's*) pardon.

*Martin* then declared he was a *Roman Catholick*, and vowed to *God* to cut off the head of any person who said he should not carry arms. After which said *Martin* called for some drink, and drank of it with *Dealey* and *Reed*; and one of his toasts was, "*Damnation to the Committee and their proceedings.*"

Your petitioner has prosecuted them as the law directs; but as the times appear to be very troublesome, and numbers of enemies both to the *Protestant* interest and the present cause are lurking amongst us, your petitioner hopes that you will inquire into such parts of the transaction as concerns the publick; and your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

MICHAEL HUBART.

Secret—tar and feather him.

Passed the Secret Committee and ordered to be put in execution.

On the back of the petition is written, in the real handwriting of *William Henry Drayton*, the Chairman of the Secret Committee, the following, viz: *Locklin Martin.\* James Dealey.†*

\* To land and be discharged, upon his expressing his contrition in the most publick manner.

† Send away.

§ During the events which took place about this time, and of which mention has been made, it is of some consequence to observe, that in the course of *June* of this year, *Laughlin Martin* and *James Dealey*, having behaved in a very improper manner respecting the General Committee and their proceedings, as well as respecting the Association; and having threatened *Michael Hubart* with death, unless he begged their pardon for having justified the conduct of the Committee, he sent a petition, respecting the affair, to the Committee of Correspondence of *Charlestown*. This Committee immediately transferred it to the Secret Committee of five, who having considered the same, ordered both *Martin* and *Dealey* to be tarred and feathered.¶ The order was promptly put in execution by suitable agents, and they were both stripped of their clothes, tarred, feathered, and carted through the streets of *Charlestown*, affording the first instance of such a spectacle in this Colony. This being done, the Secret Committee sent them on board a ship ready to sail for *England*; *Laughlin Martin* was, however, permitted to land again, and was discharged, on expressing his contrition in a publick manner, but *James Dealey*, for an example, was sent away. These summary measures have been supposed by writers to have proceeded from the intemperate zeal of the populace, and there can be no doubt but many of them took their rise from that source; but there can be as little doubt this first commencement of so ludicrous and disgraceful a punishment owed its origin in *South-Carolina* to this very case. And that it was sanctioned and directed by the Secret Committee is equally clear, as the case is specially noted in the manuscript of *William Henry Drayton*, who was Chairman of that Committee, as having been done by the sanction of the same, and the original petition of *Hubart*, with the orders of the Secret Committee thereon, one of them in the known hand-writing of the Chairman, *Mr. Drayton*, is now in the possession of the writer of these Memoirs. We need go no farther for authority to show what vast power and confidence were lodged in this Secret Committee of five, and particularly in the abilities, prudence, and enterprise of its leading members, *William Henry Drayton*, *Arthur Middleton*, and *Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*. And had the revolution not taken place, but colonial affairs had settled down in a rebellion, there can be no doubt but these distinguished patriots would have been marked out as early victims to private persecution and *British* vengeance. For the councils of this Committee were not paralyzed by timid opposition, as often happened in the Provincial Congress, Council of Safety, and General Committee. It was only necessary that the emergency should arise, calling on the Committee to act, for them to direct the blow, and it often fell before the cause of it could have been surmised. Hence the lead and tone which this Secret Committee gave to publick opinion and to publick operations, was great and decisive, and they much tended to concentrate the publick energies into a firm and manly opposition.—*Drayton*.

¶ The *British* Forty-Seventh Regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Nesbit*, commenced this singular punishment on one of the inhabitants of the Town of *Billerica*, in the State of *Massachusetts*, on the eighth of *March*, 1775. See the *London Remembrancer* for 1775, page 62.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK,  
DATED NORTH-CAROLINA, JUNE 7, 1775.

We are much alarmed here with the intentions of Administration; and unless affairs take a turn in our favour very shortly, we shall expect the worst effort of its villany, that of spiriting up an enemy among ourselves, from whose barbarity, if roused, the most dreadful consequences will follow. Our Governour has sent his family to *New-York*, and being greatly disgusted with the people of *Newbern*, has taken up his residence in *Fort Johnston*, at the mouth of *Cape Fear River*, which he has chosen as a place of retreat from popular complaints. Our brethren in the Colonies may be assured that we never shall be bribed, by the benefit of an exclusive trade, to desert the common cause.

#### WORCESTER COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of a great majority of the Committee of *Worcester County*, at the Court-House, at *Snow Hill Town*, on *Wednesday*, the 7th *June*, 1775:

BENTON HARRIS, Esquire, in the Chair.

1st. *Resolved unanimously*, That we owe and acknowledge most faithful and perfect duty and allegiance to His Majesty King *George the Third*, rightful King of *Great Britain*, &c.; that we are actuated by the most loyal and sincere attachment to his person, the most fervent zeal for the support of his Crown and dignity; and that, when constitutionally required, we are ready to expend our lives and fortunes in his service.

2d. *Resolved unanimously*, That we feel ourselves bound by the strongest ties of love and affection to our fellow-subjects in the Mother Country, and that we most ardently wish for a speedy, cordial, and permanent reconciliation and union with them; but we do further resolve, that we will, to the utmost of our power, oppose the detested ministerial plan for enslaving us—a plan calculated to divest us of every privilege which can render life valuable or desirable; that we are incontestably entitled to all the rights and liberties of *Englishmen*; that, as we received them from our glorious ancestors without spot or blemish, we are determined to transmit them pure and unsullied to our posterity.

3d. *Resolved unanimously*, That we will, from time to time, as often as shall be found necessary, contribute cheerfully for the support and relief of our distressed brethren in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, now actually experiencing the fullest extent of ministerial vengeance and tyranny, and groaning under the horrors of war, in defence of their and our common rights and liberties.

The following Letter from *Mr. Dixon Quinton*, an inhabitant of this County, relative to a quantity of Salt imported contrary to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, was produced and read, to wit:

"June 1st, 1775.

"SIR: I have bought forty bushels of *Liverpool* Salt, at two shillings per bushel; and if you have occasion for any, you may have it as I bought. Please to write me a line whether you will take any or no, that I may dispose of it to other people. From your humble servant,

"DIXON QUINTON."

"To *Mr. James Houston*, this."

Likewise *Mr. Thomas Lambden*, an inhabitant of this County, and crier of said County Court, being called before the Committee, and full proof being made that he had declared "all those who took up arms, or exercised agreeable to the Resolves of the Provincial Convention at *Annapolis*, to be rebels," and that, in conversation relative to a quantity of Salt being thrown into the water by the *Baltimore* Committee, the said *Thomas Lambden* had declared, "that the Committee were a parcel of damn'd rascals, and would not be easy until some of them were hanged up;" and further, that in conversation relative to a report that the Ships and Troops were about to be recalled from *Boston*, the said *Thomas Lambden* had declared, "that he should be very sorry they should be withdrawn, until the *Bostonians* were fully humbled:"



It is, therefore, unanimously *Resolved*, That we hold the said *Dixon Quinton* and *Thomas Lambden* to be enemies to their Country; that we are determined immediately to break off all dealings and intercourse with them, and with every person who shall have any connexion with them, or either of them; and do recommend to every attorney of this Province not to bring or prosecute any action at law, nor to appear or plead for them, or either of them, on any trial, until they shall make such proper acknowledgments, and show such genuine marks of repentance and reformation as shall be satisfactory to a majority of this Committee.

*Resolved*, That these proceedings be immediately printed in the *Maryland Gazette*.

A true copy from the Minutes:

Test: ROBERT DENNIS, *Clerk*.

DELAWARE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, June 5, 1775.

The House met, pursuant to their adjournment, and adjourned till ten o'clock, on *Wednesday*, A. M.

Wednesday, June 7, 1775, A. M.

The House met, pursuant to their adjournment, and the Speaker assumed the Chair.

The Speaker informed the House that, during the recess of this House, he had received a Letter from the Speaker of the House of Assembly at *New-York*, enclosing a List of Grievances, with the Resolutions of the House in consequence thereof; also, a Petition to the King, a Memorial to the House of Lords, and a Representation and Remonstrance to the Commons of *Great Britain*, which he now laid before the House.

On motion, by order,

The same were read, and ordered to be filed among the Records of this House.

The House being informed by the Delegates appointed to represent this Colony in the Grand Continental Congress now held at *Philadelphia*, in the Province of *Pennsylvania*, that the said Congress are unanimously of opinion, that it is absolutely necessary, for the preservation of the lives, liberties, and properties of the good people of the twelve United Colonies, and of the Parish of *St. John's*, in *Georgia*, to have an armed force, at their general expense, sufficient for repelling and defeating all hostile attempts by arms to deprive them of the same, took the same into their most serious consideration, and unanimously approved thereof.

*Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That the inhabitants of this Government be chargeable and charged with their quota or share of said expense, to be ascertained by the Congress, and that this House will provide the same by all ways and means in their power.

*Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That the sum of Five Hundred Pounds be drawn for by the Speaker, upon the Trustees of the several Loan Offices of this Government, according to the Proportion Act, to be paid to Mr. Speaker, *Thomas McKean*, and *George Read*, Esquires, towards the share of this Colony of the expense aforesaid; and that the same be hereafter replaced in the said Offices by the Assembly.

Then the House adjourned till the twenty-first day of *August* next.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL BURGoyNE IN BOSTON.

Philadelphia, June 7, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: We have had twenty different accounts of your arrival at *Boston*, which have been regularly contradicted the next morning; but as I now find it certain that you are arrived, I shall not delay a single instant addressing myself to you; it is a duty I owe to the friendship I have long and sincerely professed for you; a friendship to which you have the strongest claims from the first moments of our acquaintance. There is no man from whom I have received so many testimonies of esteem and affection; there is no man whose esteem and affection could, in my opinion, have done me greater honour. I entreat and conjure you, therefore, my dear Sir, to impute these lines not to a petulant itch of scribbling, but to the most unfeigned

solicitude for the future tranquillity of your mind, and for your reputation. I sincerely lament the infatuation of the times, when men of such a stamp as Mr. *Burgoyne* and Mr. *Howe* can be seduced into so impious and nefarious a service by the artifice of a wicked and insidious Court and Cabinet. You, Sir, must be sensible that these epithets are not unjustly severe. You have yourself experienced the wickedness and treachery of this Court and Cabinet. You cannot but recollect their manœuvres in your own Select Committee, and the treatment yourself, as President, received from these abandoned men. You cannot but recollect the black business of *St. Vincent's*, by an opposition to which you acquired the highest and most deserved honour. I shall not trouble you with my opinion of the right of taxing *America* without her own consent, as I am afraid, from what I have seen of your speeches, that you have already formed your creed on this article: but I will boldly affirm, had this right been established by a thousand statutes; had *America* admitted it from time immemorial, it would be the duty of every good *Englishman* to exert his utmost to divest Parliament of this right, as it must inevitably work the subversion of the whole Empire. The malady under which the state labours is indisputably derived from the inadequate representation of the subject, and the vast pecuniary influence of the Crown. To add to this pecuniary influence and incompetency of representation, is to insure and precipitate our destruction. To wish any addition can scarcely enter the heart of a citizen who has the least spark of publick virtue, and who is at the same time capable of seeing consequences the most immediate. I appeal, Sir, to your own conscience, to your experience and knowledge of our Court and Parliament; and I request you to lay your hand upon your heart, and then answer with your usual integrity and frankness, whether, on the supposition *America* should be abject enough to submit to the terms imposed, you think a single guinea raised upon her would be applied to the purpose (as it is ostentatiously held out to deceive the people at home) of easing the Mother Country; or whether you are not convinced that the whole they could extract would be applied solely to heap up still further the enormous fund for corruption which the Crown already possesses, and of which the most diabolical use is made? On these principles I say, Sir, every good *Englishman*, abstracted of all regard for *America*, must oppose her being taxed by the *British* Parliament. For my own part, I am convinced that no argument (not totally abhorrent from the spirit of liberty and the *British* Constitution) can be produced in support of this right. But it would be impertinent to trouble you upon a subject which has been so amply, and, in my opinion, so fully discussed.

I find, by a speech given as yours in the papers, that it was by the King's positive command you embarked in this service. I am somewhat pleased that it is not an office of your own seeking, though, at the same time, I must confess that it is very alarming to every virtuous citizen, when he sees men of sense and integrity (because of a certain profession) lay it down as a rule implicitly to obey the mandates of a Court, be they ever so flagitious. It furnishes, in my opinion, the best arguments for the total reduction of the Army. But I am running into a tedious essay, whereas I ought to confine myself to the main design and purpose of this letter, which is to guard you and your colleagues from those prejudices which the same miscreants who have infatuated General *Gage*, and still surround him, will labour to instil into you against a brave, loyal, and most deserving people. The avenues of truth will be shut up to you. I assert, Sir, that even General *Gage* will deceive you, as he has deceived himself. I do not say he will do it designedly; I do not think him capable. But his mind is so totally poisoned, and his understanding so totally blinded by the society of fools and knaves, that he no longer is capable of discerning facts as manifest as the noon-day sun. I assert, Sir, that his letters to the Ministry (at least such as the publick have seen) are one continued tissue of misrepresentation, injustice, and tortured inferences from misstated facts. I affirm, Sir, that he has taken no pains to inform himself of the truth; that he has never conversed with a man who has had the courage or honesty to tell him the truth.

I am apprehensive that you and your colleagues may fall



into the same trap; and it is the apprehension that you may be inconsiderately hurried, by the vigour and activity you possess, into measures which may be fatal to many innocent individuals; may hereafter wound your own feelings; and which cannot possibly serve the cause of those who sent you, that has prompted me to address these lines to you. I most devoutly wish that your industry, valour, and military talents, may be reserved for a more honourable and virtuous service against the natural enemies of our Country, (to whom our Court are so basely complacent,) and not in ineffectual attempts to reduce to the wretchedest state of servitude the most meritorious part of your fellow-subjects. I say, Sir, that any attempts to accomplish this purpose must be ineffectual. You cannot possibly succeed. No man is better acquainted with the state of this Continent than myself. I have ran through almost the whole Colonies, from the north to the south, and from the south to the north. I have conversed with all orders of men, from the first estated gentlemen to the lowest planters and farmers, and can assure you that the same spirit animates the whole. Not less than one hundred and fifty thousand gentlemen, yeomen, and farmers, are now in arms, determined to preserve their liberties or perish.

As to the idea that the *Americans* are deficient in courage, it is too ridiculous and glaringly false to deserve a serious refutation. I never could conceive upon what this notion was founded. I served several campaigns in *America* last war, and cannot recollect a single instance of ill-behaviour in the Provincials, where the Regulars acquitted themselves well. Indeed, we well remember some instances of the reverse, particularly where the late Colonel *Grant* (he who lately pledged himself for the general cowardice of *America*) ran away with a large body of his own Regiment, and was saved from destruction by the valour of a few *Virginians*. Such preposterous arguments are only proper for the *Rigbys* and *Sandwiches*, from whose mouths never issued, and to whose breasts truth and decency are utter strangers.

You will much oblige me in communicating this letter to General *Howe*, to whom I could wish it should be considered in some measure addressed, as well as to yourself. Mr. *Howe* is a man for whom I have ever had the highest love and reverence. I have honoured him for his own connexions, but above all for his admirable talents and good qualities. I have courted his acquaintance and friendship, not only as a pleasure, but as an ornament; I flattered myself that I had obtained it. Gracious *God*! is it possible that Mr. *Howe* should be prevailed upon to accept of such an office! That the brother of him, to whose memory the much injured people of *Boston* erected a monument, should be employed as one of the instruments of their destruction. But the fashion of the times, it seems, is such as renders it impossible he should avoid it. The commands of our most gracious Sovereign are to cancel all moral obligations, to sanctify every action, even those that the satrap of an Eastern despot would start at.

I shall now beg leave to say a few words with respect to myself, and the part I act. I was bred up from my infancy in the highest veneration for the liberties of mankind in general. What I have seen of Courts and Princes convinces me, that the power cannot be lodged in worse hands than in theirs; and of all Courts, I am persuaded that ours is the most corrupt and hostile to the rights of humanity. I am convinced that a regular plan has been laid (indeed every act since the present accession evinces it) to abolish even the shadow of liberty from amongst us. It was not the demolition of the tea, it was not any other particular act of the *Bostonians*, or of the other Provinces which constituted their crimes; but it is the noble spirit of liberty pervading the whole Continent which has rendered them the objects of ministerial and royal vengeance. Had they been notoriously of another disposition; had they been *homines ad servitudinem parates*, they might have made as free with the property of the *East-India* Company as the felonious *North* himself, with impunity. But the Lords of *St. James's*, and their mercenaries of *St. Stephen's*, well know, that as long as the free spirit of this great Continent remains unsubdued, the progress they can make in their scheme of universal despotism will be but trifling. Hence it is that they wage inexpiable war against *America*. In short, this is the last asylum of persecuted Liberty.

Here, should the machinations and fury of her enemies prevail, that bright goddess must fly off from the face of the earth, and leave not a trace behind. These, Sir, are my principles; this is my persuasion; and, consequently, I am determined to act. I have now, Sir, only to entreat, that whatever measures you pursue, whether those which your real friends (myself amongst them) would wish, or unfortunately those which our accursed misrulers shall dictate, you will still believe me to be personally, with the greatest sincerity and affection,

Yours, &c.

C. LEE.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Philadelphia, June 7, 1775.

The Committee last evening having requested as many members as conveniently could to meet this day at the Coffee-House, to inquire concerning an information given, that Captain *Robert Torrans* had imported and sold *Irish* Linens some time about the first of *May* last, in direct violation of the Association of the Congress:

Mr. *Blair McClenaghan*, in whose vessel Captain *Torrans* sailed, gave the following affidavit, made by the Captain:

"On the fifth day of *June*, 1775, before the subscribing Justice, cometh *Robert Torrans*, Master of the Ship *Duke of York*, lately arrived at the City of *Philadelphia*, and maketh oath on the Holy Gospels, and saith, that Mr. *Blair McClenaghan*, of said City, merchant, was not privy to, nor interested in any goods or merchandise lately imported in said vessel from *Ireland*; and that *Blair McClenaghan* aforesaid was not privy to, nor aiding or assisting, nor consenting to the sale, landing, or putting on shore at *Philadelphia*, or elsewhere in *America*, said goods or merchandise so imported.

ROBERT TORRANS.

"Taken and sworn before me: GEORGE BRYAN."

1. *Resolved*, That Mr. *McClenaghan* appears to this Committee to be liable to no censure or suspicion with regard to the importation, landing, or sale of goods in said vessel, and that he has done his duty in discharging Captain *Torrans* from his employ.

2. *Resolved*, That Messrs. *Harbison* and *Dean* call at Captain *Torrans's* lodgings, and inquire if he is in Town, and request his attendance immediately.

3. Messrs. *Harbison* and *Dean* report, that Captain *Torrans* has not been at his lodgings since yesterday morning.

4. *Resolved*, That as Captain *Torrans* cannot now be found, the consideration of his conduct, and further proceedings of the Committee thereon, be deferred to next meeting of the Committee.

*June 9.*—The Committee resumed the consideration of Captain *Robert Torrans*, late of the Ship *Duke of York*:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That Captain *Torrans* has wilfully and knowingly violated the Association of the Congress, and that it is the duty of this Committee to advertise his conduct, agreeable to the eleventh Resolution of the Continental Congress.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The multiplicity of business brought before us by the Continental Congress, and a short adjournment of our body from *Saturday* till *Tuesday* morning, have rendered it impossible for us to give a more early attention to your favour of the 26th ultimo.

We have little to say upon the principal subject of your letter, as we conceive that the Provincial Congress of both Colonies are concluded from any discretionary provision relative to the ordnance and other stores taken at *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, of which you must be fully convinced by the acts of the Continental Congress on that subject, copies of which are enclosed.

We are fully apprised of the dangerous consequences that would await this capital of our Colony, either from supineness or a confidence in the honour of those who, being the avowed instruments of ministerial vengeance, we cannot expect will hold any faith with us. Whatever articles we are now possessed of, that may be used to the



injury of this City in particular, or of the Continent in general, we shall be studious to prevent, if possible, from falling into the hands of our enemies. In sympathizing with you for the unhappy Town of *Boston*, we shall do every thing in our power to prevent this City from being reduced to the same deplorable situation, and shall watchfully attend to every means of defence which our present or future circumstances may enable us to improve.

We are, gentlemen and brethren, with great respect and sincere affection, your most obedient humble servants,

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

To *Joseph Warren*, Esquire, and the Committee of Safety for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### DONALD McLEOD TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

To the Honourable Gentlemen of the Committee for the City and County of New-York, in Assembly or body convened: The Petition of DONALD McLEOD, Esq., late from SCOTLAND, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, from a deep sense of the favours conferred on himself, as well as those shown to many of his countrymen when in great distress after their arrival into this once happy City, is moved by a voluntary spirit of liberty to offer himself in the manner and form following, viz:

That your said petitioner understands that a great many Companies are now on foot to be raised for the defence of our liberties in this once happy land, which he thinks to be a very proper maxim for the furtherance of our rights and liberty; that your said petitioner (although he has nothing to recommend himself but the vanity of calling himself a *Highlander*, from *North-Britain*) flatters himself that if this honourable Committee were to grant him a commission, under their hand and seal, that he could, without difficulty, raise one hundred *Scotch Highlanders* in this City and the neighbouring Provinces, provided they were to be put in the *Highland* dress, and under pay during their service in defence of our liberties. Therefore, may it please your Honours to take this petition under your serious consideration; and should your Honours think proper to confer the honour upon him as to have the command of a *Highland* Company, under the circumstances proposed, your petitioner assures you that no person shall or will be more willing to accept of the offer than your humble petitioner.

DONALD McLEOD.

New-York, June 7, 1775.

#### BENJAMIN LINDSAY TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

New-York, June 7, 1775.

Captain *Benjamin Lindsay* acquaints the gentlemen of the Committee that he arrived here yesterday from *Providence*, and has brought with him a letter to the Committee, and informs them that application has been made to him by the Committee and people of that Town to bring back with him a load of flour and other necessities, of which they stand much in need, and of the former are at present much necessitated, owing to the uncommon large supplies that Town has contributed to the Provincial Army. And Captain *Lindsay* can assure the Committee, from repeated trials, he can go and come from that place through the back part of *Narragansett*, so as entirely to evade the vigilance of the men-of-war stationed at *Newport*, besides his being well manned and completely armed and able to resist any attacks from their boats, or otherwise. He therefore requests the concurrence of the Committee, as also to take on board a parcel of flour and other necessities that Mr. *Curtenius* informs him he has in care for the poor of *Boston*, and which may easily be forwarded by land to the Provincial Camp, Mr. *Curtenius* having applied to him for that purpose.

#### BENJAMIN LINDSAY TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 11, 1775.

Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress:

I am very sorry that any difficulties should arise from the flour that was to be shipped by Captain *Coffin*. As Mr. *Cook* and I came from *Providence* together, and as I found that I could not take all the flour on board my

own vessel, so we agreed that he should procure another vessel, and Mr. *Cook* applied to Mr. *Vixson* to procure the flour for us; and when Mr. *Vixson* understood how matters were circumstanced, he provided the effects, and we were to sail together. Gentlemen, if you will take it into consideration, and, believe me, it is for the same purpose as mine is, for the Committee of *Providence*, and to supply our camp, or rather called Provincial Camp. This I certify and declare to, with my hand, that there is no other intent in this matter.

BENJAMIN LINDSAY.

#### SELECTMEN OF LANCASTER TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress now holden at WATERTOWN, in the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

We, the subscribers, do request and desire that you would be pleased to direct or inform this Province in general, or the Town of *Lancaster* in particular, what is best to be done with the estates of those men who are gone from their estates to General *Gage*, and are now with him in *Boston*; and who shall take possession of such houses and lands as belong to such men as are with General *Gage*, and to whose use they shall improve them, whether for the Province or the Town where said estate is.

EBENEZER ALLEN, }  
CYRUS FAIRBANK, } *Selectmen*.  
SAMUEL THURSTON, }

Lancaster, June 7, 1775.

#### COMMITTEE OF BELFAST, ETC., TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Penobscot, June 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We, the subscribers, being duly appointed a Committee by the inhabitants settled on *Penobscot* River, the inhabitants of *Belfast*, *Majabigwaduce*, and *Benjamin's* River, to make a representation to you of the difficulties and distress the said inhabitants are under in respect to the scarcity of corn and ammunition, occasioned by the interruption of vessels which they depended upon for their supplies, and also the impediments in the exportation from the seaport Towns from different Committees, after the said articles have been purchased: We accordingly herewith send you the votes of said inhabitants, passed by them at a general meeting, on *Tuesday*, the 6th day of *June* instant, which we are to pray your consideration of, being encouraged thereto from the many instances of favour and assistance which the Province have heretofore afforded to this infant settlement; and without some at this time, we have real cause to apprehend that these promising settlements may be broken up. We are further to assure you that the said inhabitants are ready, with their lives and all they have, to support the cause which this Country is engaged in, in defence of their liberties and privileges, and will hold themselves in readiness for that purpose. The said Committee are also to inform you that it was represented at the said meeting that the establishment of Fort *Pownall* is nearly expired; that the commander of the said fort, in obedience to the commands of the Governour, delivered to his order the artillery and some arms belonging to the said fort; that he also delivered to our own inhabitants in the different parts of this vicinity, upon their application, some arms and ammunition, reserving only a small quantity of each for the use of the soldiers belonging to said garrison, which occasions the said fort at this time to be very bare in those respects. We are also to represent to you that the Town of *Belfast* is in want of about one dozen stands of arms, which is not practicable to be got here. All which we are enjoined to lay before you, gentlemen, who represent the Province in this unhappy time, and to pray you to take the same into your consideration, and give them such relief as, upon mature deliberation, you judge expedient.

We are, in behalf of the said inhabitants, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

THO. GOLDTHWAIT, EDMUND MOORES,  
JOHN TUFTS, BENJAMIN SHUTE,  
JONATHAN BUCK, OLIVER CRARY.

To the Honourable Gentlemen assembled at *Cambridge* in Provincial Congress.



To the Honourable Provincial Congress now sitting at  
WATERTOWN:

The Petition of DAVIS and COVERLY, late of BOSTON,  
humbly sheweth:

That whereas your petitioners have a quantity of *English* goods in *Boston*; that Mr. *Henry Barnes*, of *Marlborough*, now in *Boston*, has quantities of *English* goods at said *Marlborough*, near the same quality, and is willing to make an exchange for the same: We therefore beg leave of this honourable Congress that we, your petitioners, be allowed to make the exchange; and, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

DAVIS & COVERLY.

Watertown, June 7, 1775.

#### RESOLVES OF HANOVER (VIRGINIA) VOLUNTEERS.

At a meeting of the *Hanover* Volunteer Company on the 8th of *June*, 1775:

*Resolved*, That this Company approve of the spirited resolution of the *Williamsburgh* Volunteers of the 25th ult., and that they are determined, at the risk of their lives, to aid and assist in protecting the liberties of this Country against all arbitrary measures whatsoever.

*Resolved*, That the expedition undertaken by this Company in making reprisals on the King's property for powder removed from the Country's magazine by the command of the Governour, proceeded from a sincere attachment to the liberties of their Country; and it is with heartfelt satisfaction that their conduct is so generally approved by their worthy countrymen.

Signed by order of the Company:

JAMES OVERTON, Clerk.

Philadelphia, June 8, 1775.

This morning the three Battalions of this City and Liberties, consisting of fifteen hundred men, the Artillery Company of one hundred and fifty, (with two twelve and four six-pound brass field-pieces,) a troop of Light-horse, several companies of Light-Infantry, Rangers, and Riflemen, in the whole above two thousand men, marched to the commons, and having joined in brigade, went through the manual exercise, firings, and manœuvres, (with a dexterity scarcely to have been expected from such short practice,) in the presence of the honourable members of the Continental Congress, and several thousand spectators, among whom were a great number of the most respectable inhabitants of this City.

#### ABRAHAM CLARK TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, June 8, 1775.

SIR: You have now sent you six quarter casks and two half barrels of powder. The quarter casks I got at *New-Brunswick*, and the two half barrels, containing one hundred and five pounds, I got at *Woodbridge*; for each of which I gave receipts that I received them to be forwarded to the Provincial Camp near *Boston*, agreeable to a requisition from them. There was no more to be obtained; they had sold the most of their stores to the inhabitants. You will be so kind as to send a receipt of the same tenour of those I gave, that I may show them the stores are forwarded agreeable to my promises. I am, Sir, your humble servant,

ABRAHAM CLARK.

To Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress June 10, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We take the liberty to intrude on the patience of your most respectable body, by enclosing a letter which we have this instant received from our brethren in the *Massachusetts-Bay*. When we inform you that it is utterly impracticable for us to procure what they have requested, you will certainly excuse a freedom which is dictated by an attention to the publick safety. How necessary it is to provide some remedy to this pressing necessity, we will not presume to mention. Our duty hath compelled us to relate to you the facts. They speak for themselves loudly; and a most entire confidence in your wisdom precludes us from saying any thing farther on the subject.

We are, gentlemen, most faithfully and respectfully, your fellow-labourers and countrymen.

By order and in behalf of the Provincial Congress:

VOLKERT P. DOUW, Vice-President.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress.

#### GENERAL WARD AND OTHERS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Camp, June 4, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your noble exertions in the common cause, your zeal for the maintenance of the rights of *America*, and the sympathizing concern with which we know you look on our sufferings, encourages us to represent to you the distressing state of this Colony.

Our capital is filled with disciplined troops, thoroughly equipped with every thing necessary to render them formidable; a train of artillery as complete as can be conceived of; a full supply of arms and ammunition; and an absolute command of the harbour of *Boston*, which puts it in their power to furnish themselves with whatever they shall think convenient by sea, are such advantages as must render our contest with them in every view extremely difficult.

We suffer at present the greatest inconveniences from a want of a sufficient quantity of powder; without this, every attempt to defend ourselves, or annoy our enemies, must prove abortive. We have taken every step to avail ourselves of this article, by drawing into our general magazines whatever could be spared from the respective Towns of this Colony; but the frequent skirmishes we have had has greatly diminished our stock, and we are now under the most alarming apprehensions, that notwithstanding the bravery of our troops, (whom we think we can, without boasting, declare are ready to encounter every danger for the preservation of the liberties and rights of *America*.) we shall basely, for the want of means of defence, fall at last a prey to our enemies. We, therefore, most earnestly beseech you that you would, if possible, afford us some relief in this respect, by lending or selling to us some part of the powder in your Colony. We readily conceive the unwillingness with which you must part with so necessary an article at this time. We know you have not the quantity you would wish to keep for your own use. We apply to you, not because we suppose you have a surplusage, but because we are in the most distressing want. We beg, therefore, that we may not be suffered to perish. We have taken such steps as we have great reason to hope will, in a short time, furnish us with powder, and if we can be assisted till that arrives, we doubt not but that we shall be able to baffle the designs of our enemies, and be greatly instrumental in preserving the rights and liberties of all *America*. We must request that whatever aid you shall find it in your power to give us, may be in the most secret manner, as a knowledge of our deficiency in the article of powder before we are supplied, might be attended with the most fatal consequences.

We are, gentlemen, with great respect, your affectionate brethren and very humble servants,

ARTEMAS WARD,

General of the *Massachusetts Army*.

JOSEPH WARREN,

Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

MOSES GILL,

Chairman of the Committee of Supplies.

To the Hon. Congress for the Colony of New-York.

P. S. We beg what powder you can possibly spare may be immediately conveyed to us by land, in the way least liable to be suspected by any persons who may correspond with the enemy.

To the Honourable Gentlemen of the Congress for the Colony of New-York, in body convened:

The Petition of DONALD McLEOD, Esquire, late from SCOTLAND, most humbly sheweth:

That yesterday your said petitioner presented a petition before this honourable body, and as to the contents of which he begs leave to give reference. That since, a ship arrived from *Scotland*, with a number of *Highlanders* passengers. That your petitioner talked to them this morning, and after informing them of the present state of this



as well as the neighbouring Colonies, they all seemed to be very desirous to form themselves into companies, with the proviso of having liberty to wear their own country dress, commonly called the *Highland* habit, and moreover to be under pay for the time they are in the service for the protection of the liberties of this once happy Country, but by all means to be under the command of *Highland* officers, as some of them cannot speak the *English* language. That the said *Highlanders* seem very desirous of being commanded by your petitioner, provided an answer shall be given them very soon, as their intention is not to stay here any considerable time. That the said *Highlanders* are already furnished with guns, swords, pistols, and *Highland* dirks, which, in case of occasion, is very necessary, as all the above articles are at this time very difficult to be had. Therefore, may it please your Honours to take all and singular the premises under your serious and immediate consideration; and as your petitioner wants an answer as soon as possible, he further prays that as soon as they think it meet, he may be advised. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

DONALD McLEOD.

City of New-York, June 8, 1775.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

The Committee met, by adjournment, 8th June, 1775.  
Present:

|                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Henry Remsen,       | Edward Fleming,     | Evert Banker,       |
| Ab. Brinkerhoff,    | Hercules Mulligan,  | Daniel Dunscomb,    |
| Wm. Denning,        | William Goforth,    | Nicholas Hoffman,   |
| John Berrian,       | Lancaster Burling,  | Gerret Kettletas,   |
| Oliver Templeton,   | Petrus Byvanck,     | Isaac Sears,        |
| Joseph Totten,      | Eleazer Miller,     | Jacobus Lefferts,   |
| Jacob Van Voorhies, | John Imlay,         | Abraham P. Lott,    |
| John Morton,        | Peter T. Curtenius, | Alex. McDougall,    |
| William Laight,     | Richard Sharpe,     | John M. Scott,      |
| Jeremiah Platt,     | Thomas Ivers,       | James Beekman,      |
| Nicholas Bogart,    | Robert Ray,         | John Van Cortlandt. |
| Abraham Duryee,     | Cornelius P. Low,   |                     |

In pursuance of an order of this Committee at their last meeting, a poll was this day opened at the City-Hall, for the electing a Deputy to represent this City and County in Provincial Congress, in the place of Mr. *George Folliott*, who declined serving; and also of two members to serve in this Committee, in the room of the said *George Folliott*, and of *Samuel Jones*, who never has attended. And by a return of the said poll, it appears that Mr. *Isaac Sears* was elected by a large majority as a Deputy, and Mr. *William Bedlow* and Mr. *John Woodward* as members of this Committee.

*Ordered*, That the Chairman of this Board grant no certificates for licensing the exportation of Goods from this City and County to any port or place out of this Colony, unless due proof, in writing, on oath, be produced to him, that the said Goods were not imported contrary to the tenour or true intent and meaning of the General Continental Association.

*Ordered*, That *John Imlay*, *John Berrian*, *Thomas Buchanan*, *William Goforth*, *Joseph Bull*, *Abraham P. Lott*, *Cornelius Clopper*, and *Evert Banker*, be a Sub-Committee to inspect and examine into the Cargoes of any vessels which may arrive in this Port, suspected of having goods on board not admissible.

*Ordered*, That *Daniel Phenix*, *Captain Bedlow*, *William Denning*, and *John Woodward* be added to the above Committee.

BROOKHAVEN (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of *Brookhaven*, in the County of *Suffolk*, and in the Province of *New-York*, on the 8th day of *June*, 1775: Then by a large majority of votes, were chosen and elected sixteen persons as a Committee of Observation, to represent said Town, and to deliberate on other matters relative to our present political welfare. Agreed that the last *Tuesday* in *June* be appointed as a day for the above named Committee to meet.

The Committee met, pursuant to appointment, at *Cooram*, on the 27th of *June*, 1775. Present: *John Woodhull*, Esquire, *Thomas Helme*, Esq., Mr. *John Robinson*, Mr. *Thomas Fanning*, Lieut. *William Brewster*, Mr. *Noah Hallock*, Mr. *Joseph Brown*, Mr. *John Woodhull*, Jun.,

Mr. *Nathaniel Roe*, Jun., *Captain Jonathan Baker*, Mr. *Daniel Roe*, and Mr. *Samuel Thompson*, of the Manor of *St. George's*; Mr. *William Smith* and Mr. *Jonah Hulse*, of the Patentship of *Moriches*; Capt. *Josiah Smith*.

Then proceeded, and chose *John Woodhull*, Esquire, Chairman, and Mr. *Samuel Thompson* Clerk, and entered into the following Votes and Resolutions:

First. *Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That we express our loyalty to His Majesty King *George* the Third, and acknowledge him as our rightful Lord and Sovereign, as settled on Revolution principles, being of legal descent from the illustrious house of *Brunswick*, to the utter exclusion of the family of the *Stuarts*, who, by their despotick and tyrannical principles, were deservedly banished and rendered unfit to sway the *British* sceptre.

Second. *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the above Resolution was the opinion of the Continental Congress that set last year; and is also the opinion of the Continental Congress and our Provincial Congress now sitting; and that it is also the opinion of very far the greater part of the *English* inhabitants of this most extensive Continent.

Third. *Resolved, unanimously*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the several acts passed in the *British* Parliament for the express purpose of raising a revenue in *America*; also, the acts for stopping the Port of *Boston*; for altering their Charter and Government; for establishing the *Roman* Catholick religion, and abolishing the equitable system of *English* laws, and erecting in their stead *French* despotick Government, in *Canada*;—as also the act for restraining the *New-England* fishery, and many other acts of a similar nature; and further declaring they have power vested in them to make laws binding on us in all cases whatsoever, are contrary to the Constitution, and subversive of our legal rights as *English* freemen and *British* subjects.

Fourth. *Resolved, nemine contradicente*, That we will use our utmost endeavours, as far as in us lies, and we will earnestly recommend it to our constituents, strictly and invariably to abide by and adhere to the determinations and resolutions of the honourable the Continental Congress, and also strictly to comply with the injunctions of our Provincial Convention, which (under *God*) we hope is the most effectual means to obtain a redress of our present publick grievances, and save us from impending ruin.

Fifth. We do unanimously make this our apology to the respectable publick, and to our several Congresses in particular, that we have come so late into Congressional measures, and hope a veil may be cast over our past conduct, for we can assure the publick in general that our remissness was not for want of a patriotick spirit in a number of our individuals, but because that opposition ran so high in some parts of this Town, that an attempt of this kind would perhaps have answered no valuable purpose, but we verily believe that the past opposition arose in a great measure from want of better information.

Sixth. It is unanimously resolved by us at this meeting, that we will keep a strict watch that no Provisions or necessities be transported from within the bounds of our constituents, so as designedly or accidentally to fall into the hands of those we have just cause to esteem and treat as our enemies.

Seventh. *Ordered*, That the resolves and proceedings of this Committee be printed by Mr. *John Holt*.

Signed by order of the Committee:

JOHN WOODHULL, Chairman.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Westminster, June 8, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: Having received certain advice from Mr. *Isaac Low*, Chairman of the honourable Committee of Correspondence at *New-York*, that it is the desire of the said Committee that this County of *Cumberland* should send Delegates to the City of *New-York*, to consult with the very respectable members of the Provincial Congress, what measures are best to be pursued in this distressing and very alarming situation of this Province; we hereby inform your Honour that the inhabitants of the several Towns in said County of *Cumberland* immediately assembled, (at



the earliest notice from Mr. *Low*,) and all of us, inhabitants of the same County, were unanimously disposed to send Delegates to the City of *New-York*, in order to consult what measures are proper to be taken in this alarming situation of our publick affairs.

We hereby return our most sincere thanks to the honourable Committee of Correspondence, for the favourable notice they have taken of us in this far-distant, infant County.

You, Sir, and the honourable Provincial Congress, may be assured (although the minions and tools of power may assert to the contrary) that we, in this County, are almost to a man resolute and fully determined, (under *God*,) as much as in us lies, to vindicate and maintain those liberties, both civil and religious, which, by the laws of *God* and the *British* Constitution, we are clearly entitled to.

We detest and abhor those arbitrary, tyrannick, and sanguinary measures which the *British* Parliament are most industriously pursuing against the *American* Colonies, in order to dragoon them into compliance of certain late detestable acts of Parliament, replete with horror, and repugnant to every idea of *British* freedom, and which have a direct tendency to reduce the free and brave *Americans* into a state of the most abject slavery and vassalage.

We, therefore, think it our indispensable duty to *God*, our Country, and ourselves, at the expense of our lives and fortunes, (if called,) to the last extremity, to join with our brethren in *America* in general, and most vigorously to oppose and resist the said detestable measures and proceedings. Confidently relying upon the wisdom and integrity of the honourable Provincial and Continental Congresses, we are determined to pursue, at all times, such salutary measures as they in their wisdom and prudence shall advise to.

We would earnestly request that you, Sir, would exert your influence with the members of the honourable Congress, that this poor infant County, at present in a very defenceless state, might have some relief from *New-York*. We esteem it a privilege, and a peculiar happiness, that we are in a Government, rich, opulent, and flourishing, and abundantly able to afford assistance to a needy but industrious people, who are settling a rude and uncultivated wilderness, but at the same time are heartily disposed to promote the grand *American* cause.

Sir, we would flatter ourselves, and humbly hope that the honourable Congress will assist our Delegates in procuring arms and ammunition, which are so very necessary for us at this important crisis. Sir, you may rely upon it that our people in general are spirited, resolute, and active, in the defence of our dear-bought rights and liberties, and will not flinch, if called, generously to spill our blood to oppose and resist ministerial tyranny and oppression.

Therefore, wishing this Province all imaginable prosperity, happiness, and success, we, in behalf of the freeholders and inhabitants of this County of *Cumberland*, subscribe ourselves your most obedient humble servants, &c.

JOHN HAZELTINE,

Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence  
and County of *Cumberland* Congress.

To the Hon. *P. V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the  
Honourable Provincial Congress now convened at the  
City of *New-York*.

PETITION OF SENIOR CLASS RHODE-ISLAND COLLEGE, TO  
THEIR PRESIDENT, ETC.

College in Providence, June 8, 1775.

To the Reverend President, Honourable Professor, and the  
rest of the Honourable Corporation of RHODE-ISLAND  
College: the dutiful Petition of the Senior Class:

MOST WORTHY PATRONS: Deeply affected with the distresses of our oppressed Country, which now most unjustly feels the baneful effects of arbitrary power, provoked to the greatest height of cruelty and vengeance by the noble and manly resistance of a free and determined people, permit us, gentlemen, to approach you with this our humble and dutiful petition, that you would be pleased to take under your most serious consideration the propriety of holding the ensuing Commencement in a publick manner as usual; whether such a celebration of that anniversary would be in conformity to the eighth article of the Association, formed

by the Grand *American* Congress, and which all the Colonies are now religiously executing, and that you would be pleased to signify unto us your resolution respecting the same, that we may govern ourselves accordingly.

Signed by Committee in behalf of the Senior Class.

JOSIAH READ,  
ANDREW LAW,  
JAMES FULTON.

ANSWER TO THE PETITION OF THE SENIOR CLASS.

College Library, June 9, 1775.

To the Committee of the Senior Class:

GENTLEMEN: Your dutiful and reasonable petition has been duly attended to; and permit us to assure you that it gives us no small satisfaction, that the present members of this institution, and particularly the respectable Senior Class, are so sensibly affected with the distresses of our Country in its present glorious struggles for liberty. We rejoice that you are so ready to sacrifice that applause to which your abilities would entitle you at a publick Commencement. And though by this means you may be deprived of an advantageous opportunity to give proof of your abilities in pleading the righteous cause of liberty, for which your predecessors, in this institution, have been justly celebrated, yet you have hereby given us a convincing proof of your inviolable attachment to the true interest of your Country. Be assured that we shall most heartily concur in this, and every other measure which has been or may be adopted by the Grand *American* Congress, as well as the Legislature of this Colony, in order to obtain a most ample redress of all our grievances, and deem it the greatest honour to which a noble and generous mind can aspire, to contribute in any degree towards a restoration and re-establishment in our Country, of all those liberties and privileges, both civil and religious, which the Almighty Father of the Universe originally granted to every individual of the human race, and which all ought to enjoy till by law forfeited; which reason claims; which the right of soil, obtained of the natives by free purchase, settles upon us; which our charters ensure to us, and which have been recognised by *Great Britain*, and guarantied to us by the faith of the *English* Nation. These inestimable rights and privileges our Country has for many years enjoyed, the source of its present wealth and strength, more than its fertile soil or healthy climate. By the cruel and wanton invasion and violation of these, she now bleeds in almost every vein; and finally, it is these that her noble sons, the illustrious *American* patriots, prompted as well as justified by the examples of heroes in all ages, are now prepared to defend, by the same means which have hitherto preserved the liberties of *Great Britain*, and raised to royal dignity the House of *Brunswick*.

And though the din of arms, and the horrors of a civil war, should invade our hitherto peaceful habitations, yet even these are preferable to a mean and base submission to arbitrary power and lawless rapine.

Institutions of learning will doubtless partake in the common calamities of our Country, as arms have ever proved unfriendly to the more refined and liberal arts and sciences; yet we are resolved to continue College orders here as usual, excepting that the ensuing Commencement, by the advice of such of the Corporation as could be conveniently consulted, will not be publick.

JAMES MANNING, *President*.  
DAVID HOELL, *Philos. Professor*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Lebanon, June 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Since my letter of the first instant, I have received three Resolves from the honourable Continental Congress; the copies enclosed will show you their ultimate determination touching the fortresses on *Lake Champlain*, agreeable to our desires, set right by taking the sloop at *St. John's*.

I take encouragement that the *Indians* of the *Six Nations* will prove friendly, from the speeches and answers to and from the Magistrates, &c., of *Albany* and *Schenectady*, with the *Indians* at *Guy Park*, May 25, 1775; too long to copy at this time, received this day.

From *Albany* and places adjacent, six companies, con-



sisting of fifty men each, and one of a hundred men, are gone and going to the above-mentioned fortresses.

The *Albanians* appear spirited in defence of our rights.

Enclosed letter from Colonel *Arnold* came enclosed to me, with desire to forward it to you.

I am, with truth and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 8, 1775.

To the *Moheakounuck Tribe of Indians, living in and about Stockbridge* :

BROTHERS: We this day, by the Delegate from *Stockbridge*, first heard your friendly answer to our speech to you by Captain *William Goodrich*; which answer we are told you made to us immediately, by a letter which we have not yet received. We now reply.

Brothers! you say that you were once great, but are now little, and that we once were little, but are now great. The Supreme Spirit orders these things. Whether we are little or great, let us keep the path of friendship clear, which our fathers made, and in which we have both travelled to this time.

The friends of the wicked counsellors of our King fell upon us, and shed some blood, soon after we spoke to you last by our letter; but we, with a small twig, killed so many, and frightened them so much, that they have shut themselves up in our great Town, called *Boston*, which they have made strong.

We have now made our hatchets, and all our instruments of war, sharp and bright. All the chief counsellors who live on this side of the great water, are sitting in the Grand Council-House in *Philadelphia*. When they give the word, we shall all, as one man, fall on and drive our enemies out of their strong fort, and follow them till they shall take their hands out of our pouches, and let us sit in our Council-House as we used to do, and as our fathers did in old times.

Brothers! though you are small, yet you are wise. Use your wisdom to help us. If you think it best, go and smoke your pipe with your *Indian* brothers towards the setting of the sun, and tell them all you hear, and all you see, and let us know what their wise men say.

If some of your young men should have a mind to see what we are doing here, let them come down and tarry among our warriors. We will provide for them while they are here.

Brothers! when you have any trouble, come and tell it to us and we will help you.

Signed by order of Congress:

SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary*.

To Capt. *Solomon Uhhannauwauumut*, Chief Sachem of the *Moheakounuck Tribe of Indians at Stockbridge*.

PORTSMOUTH COMMITTEE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Portsmouth, June 8, 1775.

SIR: A mail containing a quantity of letters were last night sent from on board the man-of-war to *Eleazer Russell*, Esq., in whose hands they now remain. Mr. *King* waits on the Congress to request their determination on this matter, and will give them what further information they require. We must entreat Mr. *King* may return to Town this night, as the people will be impatient for their letters.

I am, by order of the Committee, Sir, your most humble servant,

THOS. HART, *Chairman*.

To the President of the Provincial Congress at *Exeter*.

In Provincial Congress, Exeter, June 8, 1775.

Whereas the present alarming and very critical situation of this Colony has occasioned this Congress to raise a number of Soldiers to defend the same, and the extreme scarcity of money in the Colony makes it very difficult to raise a sufficiency for supplying said Soldiers, and as there is a considerable sum in the Treasury of this Colony raised on the polls and estates of the inhabitants thereof: it is

Resolved, That *Ichabod Rollings*, Esq., Col. *Bartlett*, *Eben. Thompson*, Mr. *Cilley*, Major *Welch*, *David Gilman*,

and Captain *Evans*, be a Committee, in the name of this Congress, to call upon the Honourable *George Jaffrey*, Esquire, for the balance due from him to the Colony, as Treasurer aforesaid, and that they receive from him said money, and give him such security as shall be sufficient for justifying his payment of the same, which they are hereby empowered to do, and are authorized to assure said Treasurer, that the exigence of the Colony is such that no excuse or delay of the same will be admitted; and make return of your doings.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, June 9, 1775.

We are informed that the Association lately subscribed by the Provincial Congress, and recommended by them as proper to be signed by all the inhabitants, meets with the greatest success. In the course of four days it has been signed by almost every man in *Charlestown*; none having refused that we hear of, except a few gentlemen under peculiar circumstances.

We also learn, that the Provincial Congress have determined to raise two Regiments of Foot, and one of Horse, immediately; and also to put the Militia upon a respectable footing, to which the people most cheerfully accord; and we have the satisfaction of knowing, that the Colony will very speedily be put in a good posture of defence.

The Provincial Congress have resolved to lay up proper quantities of rice and flour in granaries in divers parts of the Colony; and have appointed Commissioners for purchasing these articles, and carrying these resolutions forthwith into execution. They have also prohibited the further exportation of rice and corn for three months.

#### MEETING OF LANCASTER (VIRGINIA) VOLUNTEERS.

At a meeting of the Volunteer Company of *Lancaster County*, on *Friday, June 9, 1775*:

Resolved, That every Member of this Company do return thanks to the worthy Captain *Patrick Henry* and the Volunteer Company of *Hanover*, for their spirited conduct on a late expedition, and they are determined to protect him from any insult that may be offered him on that account, at the risk of life and fortune.

Resolved, That we are determined to defend our worthy Speaker, and the rest of our worthy Delegates, who have so nobly exerted themselves in the cause of *America*; and all other friends to *American* liberty, whom the abandoned tools of Administration may dare to attack.

Resolved, That notice be given to the Volunteer Company of the City of *Williamsburgh* that this Company bind themselves by the sacred ties of honour and love for their Country, to join them on the smallest warning, and march to any part of the Colony in defence of liberty, and that they concur with them in opinion that landing any foreign forces at this time in this Country will be a dangerous attack on the liberties of the same; and therefore if any such should be landed, they are determined, with the assistance of their countrymen, immediately to oppose them.

Resolved, That a copy of the aforesaid Resolutions be transmitted to Mr. *John Pinkney*, and that he be desired to print the same in his *Gazette* as soon as convenient.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS AND OTHERS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Westminster, June 9, 1775.

SIR: We, the subscribers, beg leave most humbly to shew, that being deeply impressed with the great importance of having a Regiment duly prepared, at the least notice, in this County, in order to keep under proper subjection *Regulars*, *Roman Catholics*, and the *Savages* at the northward, as also to be ready at all times to defend our rights and privileges against Ministerial tyranny and oppression, seeing hostilities have already commenced, and the sword is actually drawn in order to enforce certain tyrannick and arbitrary acts of the *British* Parliament, replete with horror, and repugnant to every idea of *British* freedom; we, the loyal inhabitants of this County, glowing with true martial ardour, and willing, with the utmost cheerfulness and alacrity, to unsheath the sword in defence of the lives and properties of the good people of this ancient and truly respectable patriotick Colony of



*New-York*, beg leave to offer our services in the defence of this Province, and *America* in general. We therefore, with due submission, propose cheerfully and with the utmost gratitude to accept (if your honourable Congress shall think proper) commissions from this honourable Provincial Congress, viz: Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Major.

We determine to be entirely under the command and order of the Provincial Congress, hoping we shall truly merit the favours of said Congress, and be useful instruments in serving this ancient and honourable Colony of *New-York*, as also the common grand *American* cause.

Sir your assisting us in this our humble request, and presenting to us the above-mentioned Commissions, would much oblige your most obedient humble servants,

WM. WILLIAMS,  
BENJAMIN WAITE,  
JOAB HOISINGTON.

To the Honourable *P. V. B. Livingston*, President of the Provincial Congress.

N. B. We hope to raise a Regiment of good active enterprising soldiers in this County, which we hope will reflect honour on this Colony. The arrangement of said commissions we desire might be according to the following order: Major *William Williams*, our Delegate, to be first Colonel; Major *Benjamin Wait*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and Captain *Joab Hoisington*, Major.

#### ETHAN ALLEN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Crown Point, June 9, 1775.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I am informed by Colonel *Easton* that you are well satisfied with the economy and enterprising spirit of a number of the sons of liberty, who, animated with the glorious example of the brave action at *Concord*, were inspired to make those acquisitions to the United Colonies of which your Honours have received intelligence, viz: the sovereignty of Lake *Champlain*, and the fortresses thereon, with an armed sloop and all the boats on the lake, and also took into possession a schooner, which was the property of Major *Skene*, and furnished it out for war. These armed vessels are at present abundantly sufficient to command the lake. The making these acquisitions has greatly attached the *Canadians*, and more especially the *Indians*, to our interest. They have no personal prejudice or controversy with the United Colonies, but act upon political principles, and consequently are inclined to fall in with the strongest side. At present ours has the appearance of it, as there are at present but about seven hundred regular Troops in all the different Posts in *Canada*. Add to this the consideration of the imperious and haughty conduct of the Troops which has much alienated the affections of both the *Canadians* and *Indians* from them. Probably there may soon be more Troops from *England* sent there, but at present you may rely on it that *Canada* is in a weak, and almost helpless condition. Two or three thousand men, conducted by intrepid commanders, would at this juncture make a conquest of the ministerial party in *Canada*, with such additional numbers as may be supposed to vie with the re-enforcements that may be sent from *England*. Such a plan would make a diversion in favour of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, who have been too much burdened with the calamity that should be more general, as all partake of the salutary effects of their merit and valour in the defence of the liberties of *America*. There would, furthermore, be this unspeakable advantage in directing the war into *Canada*, that it would unite and confirm the *Canadians* and *Indians* in our interest; and as *England* can spare but a certain number of her Troops, therefore the more she sends to defend her interest in *Canada*, which at present is languid and weak, the less she can send to *Boston*, or any other part of the Continent. By gaining the sovereignty of *Canada*, would intercept the design of the *Quebeck* Bill, and greatly discourage the Ministry, who dote much on the efficacy of it.

I would to God *America* would exert herself in proportion to the indignity offered her by a tyrannical Ministry. She might mount on eagles' wings to glory. Fame is now hovering over her head. A vast Continent must either sink to bondage, ignominy, and exquisite horror, or rise triumphant above the shackles of tyranny to immortal fame.

I hope, gentlemen, you will use your influence in for-

warding men, provision, and every article for the Army that may be thought necessary. Blankets and provisions are scarce. I might have added the article of powder. It ought to be observed that the Colonies must first help their friends in *Canada*, and then it will be in their power to help them again.

I subscribe myself your Honours' most obedient servant,  
ETHAN ALLEN.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, or the Council of War, at *Watertown* and *Cambridge*.

#### PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR CARLETON.

By his Excellency GUY CARLETON, Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief in and over the Province of *QUEBECK*, and the Territories depending thereon, in *AMERICA*, Vice-Admiral of the same, and Major-General of His Majesty's Forces, commanding the Northern District:

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, a rebellion prevails in many of His Majesty's Colonies in *America*, and particularly in some of the neighbouring ones: and whereas, many of the said rebels have, with an armed force, made incursions of late into this Province, attacking and carrying away from thence a party of His Majesty's Troops, together with a parcel of stores, and a vessel belonging to His Majesty, and are at present actually invading this Province with arms, in a traitorous and hostile manner, to the great terrour of His Majesty's subjects, and in open defiance of his laws and Government; falsely and maliciously giving out, by themselves and their abettors, that their motives for so doing are to prevent the inhabitants of this Province from being taxed and oppressed by Government, together with divers other false and seditious reports, tending to inflame the minds of the people, and alienate them from His Majesty: To the end, therefore, that so treasonable an invasion may be soon defeated; that all such traitors, with their said abettors, may be speedily brought to justice, and the publick peace and tranquillity of this Province again restored, which the ordinary course of the civil law is at present unable to effect, I have thought fit to issue this Proclamation, hereby declaring, that until the aforesaid good purpose be attained, I shall, in virtue of the powers and authority to me given by His Majesty, execute martial law, and cause the same to be executed throughout this Province, and to that end, I shall order the Militia within the same to be forthwith raised; but as a sufficient number of commissions to the several officers thereof cannot be immediately made out, I shall, in the mean time, direct all those having any militia commissions from the Honourable *Thomas Gage*, the Honourable *James Murray*, *Ralph Burton*, and *Frederick Haldimand*, Esquires, heretofore His Majesty's Governours in this Province, or either of them, to obey the same, and execute the powers therein mentioned, until they shall receive orders from me to the contrary; and I do accordingly, in His Majesty's name, hereby require and command all his subjects in this Province, and others whom it may concern, on pain of disobedience, to be aiding and assisting such commissioned officers, and others who are or may be commissioned by me, in the execution of their said commissions for His Majesty's service.

Given under my hand and seal of arms, at *Montreal*, this ninth day of *June*, 1775, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* the Third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

GUY CARLETON.

By his Excellency's command:

H. T. CRAMAHE.

#### GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Lebanon, June 9, 1775.

SIR: I have received your letters of the 31st *May* and 1st *June*, enclosing the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress of the same dates. By a wonderful coincidence of counsels the first was nearly complied with before the receipt of it.



Colonel *Benjamin Hinman* is appointed to the command of the troops at *Ticonderoga*, consisting of one thousand men from this Colony, well armed, and furnished with one pound of powder and three pounds of ball to each man, with flints sufficient; besides this we have also sent there about eight hundred pounds of powder. Colonel *Hinman* is a gentleman, in whom we trust full confidence may be placed. On giving my orders to him, (dated 29th of May, 1775,) instructed him to keep up the strictest vigilance to prevent any hostile incursions from being made into the settlements in the Province of *Quebeck*.

In compliance with the other resolution of Congress, I have appointed a Commissary to receive at *Albany*, and forward the supplies of provisions for the forces on Lake *Champlain*, with directions to him, with advice of Colonel *Hinman*, to employ such others under him as that service shall appear to require.

I am, with great truth and regard, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Hon. *John Hancock*, Esquire.

ABIATHAR ANGEL TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Watertown, June 9, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: I take this method to communicate to you my present unhappy situation, viz: that I have a company of men now lying at *Worcester*, which I enlisted and brought from the remotest parts of this Province, many of them having been in the expedition to *Ticonderoga*, and now enlisted as Rangers in the service of this Province; and whereas, as matters have turned, there is not such an establishment.

I came off myself in the alarm after the battle of *Concord*, from my house, one hundred and forty miles from here, and here staid many days a volunteer, on my own expense; but seeing nothing of importance speedily to be done, and that there was a regular establishment on foot for a standing army, I received orders from *David Brewer*, of *Kingston*, from under the hand of the honourable Committee of Safety, for enlisting a company of Rangers into the service of this Province; and judging the men to be greatly wanted, I exerted myself in speedily raising and equipping said company, and have expended above twenty Pounds for said purpose, and marched my men away, greatly against the minds of the inhabitants from whence they came, on account of the commotions to the westward. But being under no regular establishment to go that way, I marched my men forward, and came as far as *Worcester*; there halted last *Sunday*, and came forward myself, previously hearing of some difficulties attending Colonel *Brewer's* establishment, of which you, Sir, are not unapprised. I have been now in waiting ever since *Tuesday* last, endeavouring to obtain some orders and directions from the honourable Congress in regard to my situation. The situation of about fifty men, who have, most of them, been in the service near six weeks at *Ticonderoga*, without receiving the least consideration for the same, surely demands some attention; for them to be now disbanded, when they have laid out of their business for the season, will be almost the ruin of many; and as they are so greatly wanted to the westward, I have petitioned the House for orders to march them to *Ticonderoga*, but have received as yet no orders thereon. I most earnestly entreat you, Sir, to have some regard to my situation, and use your influence for my relief.

I am, Sir, your sincere friend, and most obedient servant,

ABIATHAR ANGEL.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition and Remonstrance of ABIATHAR ANGEL, of LANESBOROUGH, in the County of BERKSHIRE, humbly sheweth:

That the petitioner came off from his home, one hundred and forty miles from this place, a volunteer, in the alarm after the battle of *Concord*, and here staid several days on his own expense, and seeing nothing of importance to be speedily done, and that there was a regular establishment on foot for a standing army, received orders from Captain *David Brewer*, signed by the Chairman of

the Committee of Safety, for raising a company of Rangers in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, for the defence of the liberties of *America*. And that your petitioner, judging said men to be greatly wanted, exerted himself to raise a company, and expended upwards of twelve Pounds, lawful money, in effecting the same, and marched them from the remotest part of this Province, greatly against the minds of the inhabitants where they came from, on account of the commotions to the northward; but as your petitioner was under no regular establishment from authority to go that way, I marched my men forward towards Head-Quarters at *Cambridge*, and came as far as *Worcester*, where they now, by my orders, remain. I do, therefore, at the earnest request of the Committees and principal inhabitants of sundry Towns from whence they came, earnestly pray this honourable Congress that I may be regularly appointed, by the authority of this Province, to march with my company to *Ticonderoga*, for the safety and protection of the inhabitants in the northwestern frontiers of this Province. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ABIATHAR ANGEL.

JOHN LANE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Fort Pownall, June 9, 1775.

SIR: I have proceeded agreeable to my orders, as you will see by the enclosed journal, and have got one of the chiefs to go as an ambassador, attended by three young men, as far as *Falmouth*, and I am in hopes to be able to get them as far as *Watertown*. I could not have thought that they had been so hearty in the cause, and are very ready to assist us, if occasion requires. The *Canada Indians* are all of the same mind. The *Indians* are now here, and we shall go to *Casco-Bay* to-morrow, when I shall write more fully. I am, Sir, with respect, your much obliged servant,

JOHN LANE.

Honourable *Joseph Warren*, Esquire.

The following is my journal to *Penobscot*, in behalf of the honourable Provincial Congress:

*Monday, May 22, 1775.*—I received my orders from the Congress, by *James Sullivan*, Esquire, *Monday*, and proceeded to *Falmouth*, where I arrived on the 24th current, and applied to Colonel *Preble* and the gentlemen belonging to the Committee for that place, who supplied me with some stores for the *Indians*. On *Sunday*, the 28th of said month, set sail for *Penobscot*, and arrived at *Boothbay* the same day. *Monday* morning sailed about ten miles towards *Penobscot*, and meeting with a sloop at sea, commanded by *David Hanwood*, bound for *Penobscot*, which I got on board of and proceeded. *Tuesday*, the 30th, arrived at a place called *Owl's-Head*, at the mouth of *Penobscot-Bay*. The 31st set sail to go up the *Bay*, and got up to the fort.

The first of *June*, when I waited on Colonel *Goldthwait*, and acquainted him of my business, who was willing to do every thing in his power for the good of the Province, and offered me all the assistance possible to forward my business, and any sort of provision or clothing that I should want for the *Indians*, which I accepted, and ordered the interpreter of the fort to go with me to assist in my business. The second day of *June* I went up the river, accompanied by said interpreter and an *Indian* of the *Penobscot* tribe, and got up to the Truck-House the same day; there met a number of this tribe, and informed them of my business, among whom was an *Englishman*, belonging to the *St. François* tribe, who gave me the greatest assurance of his utmost abilities to engage the *St. François* tribe in our behalf, and doubted not but he could accomplish it; and I think this *Englishman* is a man of truth, by the conversation I had with him, and may be relied on. On the third I had some discourse with them, when they agreed to go up to their village to bring their chiefs down to the Truck-House, to know their minds respecting going to the westward. *Sunday*, the fourth, four of their chiefs, accompanied by a number of *Indians*, came to the Truck-House, and after my making known my proposals to them, they told me they fully understood the nature of the thing, and, after some talk, agreed to send one of their chiefs as an ambassador, and three of the young



men to attend him as far as *Falmouth*, with me, and one Mr. *Andrew Gilman*, who came in with them, who also agreed to go with me.

On the sixth, attended the meeting of said river, *Bel-fast*, *Benjamin's River*, and *Majabigwaduce*, who are all ready, on notice, and repaired to the fort, waiting for the *Indians* to come down the river to go to *Casco* with me at the same time. I informed Colonel *Goldthwait* what success I had met with, and who proved to me of his being contrary to what had been represented by some evil-minded person respecting his delivering up the cannon to the Governour; and I am sensible, in my own mind, he could not have acted to the contrary, not because he was obliged to obey the Governour's orders, but that there was not sufficient ammunition to defend it.\* And I am further convinced, by the conversation I had with him, he is ready to give all the assistance in his power for the good of the Province, and has been a great help to me in my tour this way; and I don't know of any person better qualified to act in the office he holds for the good of the poor in that part, for I am sure neither I nor the *Indians* could have been accommodated upon the river elsewhere. He assures me that, by the advice of Congress, he will still keep up the fort and pay the soldiers off, and wait for the pay till its convenient for them, although at this time there is twelve months pay due to the garrison, and which he has paid off to the soldiers and some of the officers. And I don't think that he ought by any means to lay under the scandalous report that has been spread abroad about his delivering the cannon.

Remainder per another opportunity.

ELISHA HEWES TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Penobscot River, June 9, 1775.

To JOSEPH WARREN, Esquire, President of the Provincial Congress of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

SIR: I have had the pleasure of being well acquainted with your uniform and unalterable principles, from the first instant of your publicly engaging in the glorious cause which you now so nobly lead on in the defence of. Should your high appointment and the complicated situation of affairs under your inspection and direction, render my scrawl too minute for your notice, I shall not wonder. I now live on *Penobscot River*, about twenty-three miles above *Fort Pownall*; the settlement is very new—the first man that pitched in my neighbourhood has not been there more than five years. 'Tis true Captain *John Buck* began near ten years ago, but he lives not more than eight miles above the fort, the inhabitants being settled about twenty miles above him. I find this a country very good for both tillage and grass, though at present covered with a fine growth of pine, spruce, cedar, hemlock, &c., and some oak. The river excels for fish of various kinds, and easy navigation for the largest of vessels. The people are firmly attached to the Constitution you preside in defence of, and I am confident will support it to the last moment of their lives, being willing in general to encounter any difficulty rather than yield to that band of tyrants whose plodding pates have long been projecting methods to enslave us.

I am confirmed in this opinion by an anecdote or two that have come to my knowledge since my residence on this river, for I live in the neighbourhood of Colonel *Thomas Goldthwait*, who was a member of our Assembly (as you may remember) for many years, and particularly in the year 1762; from whom I had the following story: *Richard Jackson*, Esq., was then agent for our Province. The Colonel says that then, in some of the private letters which he wrote after his appointment, he intimated his fears that it would not be in his power to do the Province much service, as there was a principle prevailing in *England* at that time to render the Colony Assemblies useless. The Colonel also says, that Mr. *Bollan* (who was agent before Mr. *Jackson*) was continually warning the General Court of this principle then prevailing in *England*, and yet no doubt you remember both these gentlemen were turned out of their agency upon a suspicion that they were not in the interest of the Province. Certainly they were faithful as touching the most important

\* Only about 600 pounds of powder.

matter, whatever part of their conduct might give umbrage to their constituents. And there seems to be some degree of similarity in the case of the above gentleman and Colonel *Goldthwait*; for one of your members, viz: Captain *John Lane*, who is now here, says the Congress had received very unfavourable accounts of the Colonel's conduct; whereas, on a fair and impartial examination, it will appear that Colonel *Goldthwait* has been a steady, uniform friend to our Constitution.

Should the *Almighty* prosper us so as to bring on an accommodation, among other grievances I think the *Greenwich* Hospital money, exacted from our *American* seamen, to be a very capital one. I hope the Congress will compassionate the case of this infant settlement, as we have not got to the years of tillage and raising our own bread and clothing, and like to be shut from the privilege of importing. We could now manufacture our own clothing, but are destitute of wool and flax, which is a very great grievance.

There is an island in the mouth of the river, owned by *Isaac Winslow*, Esquire, as he saith, which contains six or seven thousand acres. I first settled on it; there are ten or twelve families, of good *Connecticut* men, who are hearty in our cause, and should hold what they have taken in their own right; the rest should be deemed forfeit. This is my private opinion, made publick to none but you.

Pray excuse the want of order in these hints from, honourable Sir, your humble servant, in haste,

ELISHA HEWES.

P. S. I have wrote by this opportunity to *Joseph Hewes*, Esq., in the Continental Congress; we are brothers' children, and were brought up together in the same family. Your favour in forwarding is prayed by, Sir, &c.

JOSEPH HAWLEY TO THE HONOURABLE JOSEPH WARREN.

Northampton, June 9, 1775.

DEAR SIR: In my letter sent yesterday in great haste, I suggested some broken hints respecting *Ticonderoga*. I am still in agonies for the greatest possible despatch to secure that pass. I don't call it an acquisition, for it don't merit that epithet; nor can it, until more is done for maintaining it than I have yet heard of. It is clear that it is necessary we should take precisely the same measures for retaining that post, as if the country of *Canada* was in the full possession of the *French*. Nay, I believe we have more to fear from that quarter than if *France* alone held *Canada*. I think there is much reason to apprehend that *Britain* and *France* will, and do act jointly against *America*, and nothing more probable than that they design, in their partition of *America*, that the Province of *Quebeck*, as lately defined, shall be ceded or given up to *France*. I most heartily wish that every member of our Congress, yea, every inhabitant of the Province, had a true idea of the infinite importance and consequence of that station. If *Britain*, while they are in hostility against *New-England*, hold that post, they will, by means thereof, be able to do more to vanquish and subdue us from that quarter, than they will be able to do in all other parts of the continent; yea, more than they could do in all other parts of the globe. If *Britain* should regain and hold that place, they will be able soon to harass and waste, by the savages, all the borders of *New-England*, eastwards of *Hudson's River* and southeast of *Lake Champlain* and the River *St. Lawrence*, and shortly, by the *Lake Champlain*, to march an army to *Hudson's River*, to subdue the feeble and sluggish efforts of the inhabitants on that river, and so to connect *Montreal* and *New-York*; and then *New-England* will be wholly environed by sea and land, east, west, north, and south. The chain of the Colonies will be entirely and irreparably broken; the whole Province of *New-York* will be fully taken into the interest of Administration; and this very pass of *Ticonderoga* is the post and spot where all this mischief may be withstood and resisted; but if that is relinquished or taken from us, desolation must come in upon us like a flood. I am bold to say, (for I can maintain it,) that the General Congress would have not advised to so destructive a measure, if they had recommended and prescribed that our whole Army, which now invests *Boston*, should instantly decamp, and march with all the baggage and artillery to *Worcester*, and suffer *Gage's Army* to ravage what



part of the country they pleased. Good God! what could be their plan. If they intend defence, they must be unacquainted with the geography of the country, or never adverted to the matter. The design of seizing that post was gloriously conceived; but to what purpose did our forces light there, if they are now to fly away from there. Certainly to no good purpose, but to very bad and destructive purposes; for by this step General Carleton is alarmed. Whereas if this step had not been taken, his proceedings might have been slow and with some leisure; but now, if he is worthy of command, he will exert himself to the utmost, and proceed with despatch. If we maintain the post, the measure of taking it was glorious. If we abandon it, the step will turn out to have been a destructive one.

I am informed that *Connecticut* have ordered five hundred men for that place. What number they have proposed that this Province should send, I have not heard. I hope that a moment's time will not be lost before a proper number get on their way thither, if it is possible that they can be furnished with so much ammunition as will make them of any service when they shall arrive there. I shan't presume to say any more, what more I conceive to be fittest for this service; perhaps I went too far on that head in my last. Instead of seeing men march eastward from the County of *Berkshire*, (as they have within these two days,) I hope to see some marching westward for *Ticonderoga*. I think it would be best to importune *Connecticut* to spare some more gunpowder to that place, we paying them for a part or all of it, as they have had a late arrival of at least two tons since they sent five hundred pounds for that place. All that I can say on that head is, that they and we must do as well as we can. As to supplies of victuals, there can be no difficulty of procuring a sufficiency on *Hudson's River* and in *Berkshire County*, if proper persons, with the needful, are appointed for that purpose.

I think, Sir, that *Connecticut* have good pretensions to appoint the commanding or chief officer there, and hope, Sir, that we shall not make any difficulty about it, but fully cede that prerogative to them.

I purpose to set out for Congress the day after to-morrow; but as the case of *Ticonderoga* calls for the greatest despatch, I could not endure the loss of a day before I communicated more of my mind to you. You will use these hints, Sir, as you please.

I am, Sir, with great truth and best regards, your Honour's friend and most humble servant, JOSEPH HAWLEY.

Honourable Joseph Warren, Esq., at Watertown.

Whitehall, June 10, 1775.

Lieutenant Nunn, of the Navy, arrived this morning at Lord Dartmouth's, and brought letters from General Gage, Lord Percy, and Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, containing the following particulars of what passed on the nineteenth of April last between a detachment of the King's Troops in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and several parties of rebel Provincials, viz:

General Gage having received intelligence of a quantity of military stores being collected at *Concord*, for the avowed purpose of supplying a body of troops to act in opposition to His Majesty's Government, detached, on the eighteenth of April at night, the Grenadiers of his Army, and the Light-Infantry, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, of the Tenth Regiment, and Major Pitcairn, of the Marines, with orders to destroy the said stores; and the next morning eight Companies of the Fourth, the same number of the Twenty-Third and Forty-Ninth, and some Marines, marched under the command of Lord Percy, to support the other detachment.

Lieutenant-Colonel Smith finding, after he had advanced some miles on his march, that the country had been alarmed by the firing of guns and ringing of bells, despatched six Companies of Light-Infantry, in order to secure two bridges on different roads beyond *Concord*, who, upon their arrival at *Lexington*, found a body of the country people under arms, on a green close to the road; and upon the King's Troops marching up to them, in order to inquire the reason of their being so assembled, they went off in great confusion, and several guns were fired upon the King's Troops from behind a stone wall, and also from the meeting-house and other houses, by which one man was wounded, and

Major Pitcairn's horse shot in two places. In consequence of this attack by the rebels, the troops returned the fire and killed several of them. After which the detachment marched on to *Concord* without any thing further happening, where they effected the purpose for which they were sent, having knocked off the trunnions of three pieces of iron ordnance, burnt some new gun carriages and a great number of carriage-wheels, and thrown into the river a considerable quantity of flour, gunpowder, musket-balls, and other articles. Whilst this service was performing, great numbers of the rebels assembled in many parts, and a considerable body of them attacked the Light-Infantry, posted at one of the bridges, on which an action ensued, and some few were killed and wounded.

On the return of the Troops from *Concord*, they were very much annoyed, and had several men killed and wounded by the rebels firing from behind walls, ditches, trees, and other ambushes; but the brigade, under the command of Lord Percy, having joined them at *Lexington* with two pieces of cannon, the rebels were for a while dispersed; but as soon as the troops resumed their march, they began to fire upon them from behind stone walls and houses, and kept up in that manner a scattering fire during the whole of their march of fifteen miles, by which means several were killed and wounded; and such was the cruelty and barbarity of the rebels, that they scalped and cut off the ears of some of the wounded men who fell into their hands.

It is not known what numbers of the rebels were killed and wounded, but it is supposed that their loss was considerable.

General Gage says that too much praise cannot be given to Lord Percy for his remarkable activity during the whole day; and that Lieutenant-Colonel Smith and Major Pitcairn did every thing that men could do, as did all the officers in general, and that the men behaved with their usual intrepidity.

*Return of the Commission, Non-commission Officers, and Rank and File, killed, wounded, prisoners, and missing, on the 19th of April, 1775:*

Fourth, or the King's own Regiment: Lieut. Knight, killed; Lieutenant Gould, wounded and prisoner; three sergeants and one drummer wounded; five rank and file killed, twenty-one wounded, and eight missing.

Fifth Regiment: Lieutenant Thomas Baker, Lieutenant William Cox, Lieutenant Thomas Hawkshaw, wounded; five rank and file killed, fifteen wounded, and one missing.

Tenth Regiment: Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Smith, Captain Lawrence Parsons, and Lieutenant Wald Kelly, killed; Ensign Jeremiah Lester, wounded; one rank and file killed, thirteen wounded, and one missing.

Twenty-Third Regiment: Lieut. Colonel Berry Bernard, wounded; four rank and file killed, twenty-six wounded, and six missing.

Thirty-Eighth Regiment: Lieutenant William Sutherland, wounded; one sergeant wounded; four rank and file killed, and eleven wounded.

Forty-Third Regiment: Lieutenant Hull, wounded and prisoner; four rank and file killed, five wounded, and two missing.

Forty-Seventh Regiment: Lieutenant Donald McCloud and Ensign Henry Baldwin, wounded; one sergeant wounded, five rank and file killed, and twenty-one wounded.

Fifty-Second Regiment: one sergeant missing, three rank and file killed, and two wounded.

Fifty-Ninth Regiment: three rank and file killed, and three wounded.

Marines: Captain Souter, and Second Lieutenant McDonald, wounded; Second Lieutenant Isaac Potter, missing; one sergeant killed, two wounded, and one missing; one drummer killed, twenty-five rank and file killed, thirty-six wounded, and five missing.

Total: One Lieutenant-Colonel killed; two Lieutenant-Colonels wounded; two Captains wounded; nine Lieutenants wounded; one Lieutenant missing; two Ensigns wounded; one Sergeant killed, four wounded, two missing; one Drummer killed, one wounded; sixty-two rank and file killed, one hundred and fifty-seven wounded, and twenty-four missing.

N. B. Lieutenant Isaac Potter reported to be wounded and taken prisoner. THOMAS GAGE.



## TO THE PUBLICK.

London, June 12, 1775.

When the news of a massacre first arrived, the pensioned writer of the *Gazette* entreated the publick "to suspend their judgment, as Government had received no tidings of the matter." It was added "that there was every reason to expect despatches from General *Gage*, by a vessel called the *Sukeey*."

The publick have suspended their judgment; they have waited the arrival of the *Sukeey*; and the humane part of mankind have wished that the fatal tale related by Captain *Derby* might prove altogether fictitious. To the great grief of every thinking man, this is not the case. We are now in possession of both the accounts. The *Americans* have given their narrative of the massacre; the favourite official servants have given a *Scotch* account of the skirmish. In what one material fact do the two relations, when contrasted with each other, disagree? The *Americans* said "that a detachment of the King's Troops advanced towards *Concord*; that they attempted to secure two bridges on different roads beyond *Concord*; that when they reached *Lexington*, they found a body of Provincials exercising on a green; that on discovering the Provincial Militia thus employed, the King's Troops called out to them to disperse, damned them for a parcel of rebels, and killed one or two, as the most effectual method of intimidating the rest." This the writer of the *Scotch* account in the *Gazette* styles, "marching up to the rebels to inquire the reason of being so assembled." Both relations, however, agree in this, that a question was asked; the pensioned varnisher only saying that it was asked in a civil way, attended with the loss of blood.

Thus far, then, the facts, in every material circumstance, precisely agree; and as yet, we have every reason to believe that the *Salem Gazette* is to the full as authentick as our Government paper, which, as a literary composition, is a disgrace to the Kingdom.

The *Salem Gazette* assured us that the King's Troops were compelled to return from *Concord*; that a handful of militia put them to rout, and killed and wounded several as they fled. Is this contradicted in the *English Gazette*? Quite the contrary; it is confirmed. The *Scotch* account of the skirmish acknowledges that, "on the hasty return of the Troops from *Concord*, they were very much annoyed, and several of the men killed and wounded." The *Scotch* account also adds, "that the Provincials kept up a scattering fire during the whole of the march of the King's Troops of fifteen miles, by which means several of them were killed and wounded." If the *American* Militia "kept up a scattering fire on the King's Troops, of fifteen miles," the Provincials must have pursued, and the Regulars must have fled, which confirms the account given in the *Salem Gazette*, wherein it is asserted that the Regulars "were forced to retreat." Whether they marched like mutes at a funeral, or whether they fled like the relations and friends of the present Ministry who were amongst the rebel army at the battle of *Cullodon*, is left entirely to the conjecture of the reader; though it should seem that a scattering fire, poured in upon a retreating enemy for fifteen miles together, would naturally, like goads applied to the sides of oxen, make them march off as fast as they could.

The *Scotch* account, in our *English Gazette*, relates dreadful things respecting "the cruelty and barbarity of the rebels, who scalped and cut off the ears of some of the wounded men." If the publick have any aversion to being imposed upon, they need only refer to the affidavits of the Lieutenants, and the rest of the King's force, who were wounded and taken prisoners. In those affidavits the parties freely, and of their own accord make oath, that "although the King's Troops began the bloody business, and thus provoked the Provincials to a rage that might have justified merciless revenge, yet the Provincials behaved with unparalleled moderation, and had exercised every virtuous office humanity could suggest to such of the King's Troops as had fallen into their hands." Whether, therefore, is the greater credit to be paid, to the oaths of the parties who experienced this tenderness, or to the naked assertion of a pensioned varnisher, who trumps up a *Scotch* account of the matter, manifestly to serve the purpose of Ministry, by glossing over murders, for the perpetration of which their heads should instantly be struck off. The *Gazette* writer con-

cludes his narrative, by informing the publick that General *Gage* says "that too much praise cannot be given to Lord *Percy* for his remarkable activity during the whole day."

The publick will think this a very singular kind of compliment. The preceding part of the narrative had told a story about the troops marching, or, in plainer *English*, retreating from *Lexington*; they did not halt, but continued their retreat for fifteen miles. What then are we to understand by the "remarkable activity of Lord *Percy*?" His personal bravery is too well known to leave room for suspicion that he ever would shew "remarkable activity" in retreating. Yet the *Scotch* account in the *Gazette* leaves the compliment so ambiguous, that an invidious reader might suppose Lord *Percy* made it, like the swift-footed *Achilles*, with a light pair of heels. It is not surprising that General *Gage* should wish to pay his court at *Northumberland* house; but when he pays another compliment, as he cannot write himself, he should entrust a better hand than the pensioned compiler of the *Gazette*.

To reason on the facts, which are now indisputable, is a task which will better suit some future opportunity. The publick have but to ponder on the melancholy truths thus attested by Government. The sword of civil war is drawn, and if there is truth in Heaven, the King's Troops unsheathed it. Will the *English* Nation much longer suffer their fellow-subjects to be slaughtered?

It is a shameful fallacy to talk about the supremacy of Parliament. It is the despotism of the Crown, and the slavery of the people, which the Ministry aim at. For refusing those attempts, and for that only, the *Americans* have been inhumanly murdered by the King's Troops.

*Englishmen!* weigh these things with deliberation; make the case your own. If the massacre of brethren will not open your eyes, they deserve to be forever shut against your welfare. Away with the canting piety of a Court! Away with the affected candour of tools in office! Ministry are so candid that they would disguise the truth, and so pious that they would take the sacrament as barbarians keep carousals, and drink of the cup, if it was but filled with the libations of the blood of freemen.

STRICTURES ON THE GAZETTE ACCOUNT OF THE ACTION  
BETWEEN THE PROVINCIALS AND THE REGULARS, NEAR  
BOSTON.

London, June, 1775.

We must give the Ministry credit for the little cunning of putting General *Gage's* name to the end of the whole account, when in truth it was to the return only. This is a trick, or, as Lord *Sandwich* would say, a "take in," and suits at once their genius and their capacity. The truth is, that the whole was culled out of a variety of letters by two Secretaries, their Sub-Secretaries, and office Clerks. Though I do not conceive General *Gage* to be a *Cesar* or a *Wolfe*, yet I know him incapable of writing such stuff as is here indirectly imputed to him.

The Ministry were exceedingly puzzled between the shame of being themselves obliged to refute the charge of cowardice, which they have been so forward to urge against the *Americans*, and the reproach of having commenced a civil war, by a wanton and unprovoked murder of the people. Of two evils, the Ministry chose the least; and, as men who have neither wisdom nor veracity generally correct one extravagance by another, a small body of those cowardly poltron *Americans*, millions of whom were to fly before the face of the Regulars, are represented as daring enough to attack the flower of General *Gage's* Army.

The *Gazette* tells us, "that General *Gage* detached in the night the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry of his army, to destroy some stores at *Concord*."

Every one knows that this description comprehends the best and most active troops of the whole body. They have the advantage, too, of stealing a march upon the people. We might have expected some enterprise and exploit of moment and magnitude, equal to the preparation, the secrecy, and confidence of this expedition. But, alas! the trunions of three old iron ordnance are the vast object of this mighty achievement. Some flour, musket-balls, and gunpowder, were also thrown into the river. I should be glad to know what motive could induce the King's Troops to throw away articles so useful to them-



selves, but the distress occasioned by—a precipitate retreat?

However, the Ministry go on to inform us, “that whilst this prodigious service was performing, the rebels assembled, and a considerable body of them attacked the Light-Infantry posted at one of the bridges, on which an action ensued.” Well, and who were defeated? Not a word of that, but—“a few were killed and wounded.” These dastardly *Americans* march up and attack the best of the Regulars, advantageously posted; and we are left to conclude, from their continuing to annoy, kill, and wound the troops on their return (as it is generally termed) from *Concord*, that the Light-Infantry were driven from their post and defeated. All this we should readily admit, on the credit of the *Gazette*, had not the former assurances of the Ministry, that the *Americans* were too cowardly ever to face the Regulars, rendered it utterly incredible.

But let us accompany the Army in its return, and we find them met by Lord *Percy*, at *Lexington*, with sixteen companies and the Marines, amounting in all to about twelve hundred men, with two pieces of cannon. We have now almost the whole army that was collected at *Boston*, under so active a leader as Lord *Percy*, with the assistance of Colonel *Smith* and Major *Pitcairn*, “doing every thing (so says the *Gazette*) that men could do,” and two pieces of cannon. We may now expect that not a man of the unheaded poltron Provincials will be left alive. Not quite so bad. The *Gazette* tells us dryly, that “the rebels were for a while dispersed.”

They were so dispersed, however, that “as soon as the troops resumed their march,” (not their flight,) they began again to fire upon them, and continued it during the whole of fifteen miles march, “by which means several were killed and wounded.”

If this was not a flight, and if Lord *Percy*’s activity was not in running away, I should be glad to know where were the flanking parties of this army on its march, with all this Light-Infantry? Would any commanding officer suffer such an enemy to continue killing and wounding his troops, from stone-walls and houses, if it was not a defeat and flight? Would they have left so many of their wounded to fall into the enemy’s hands? I feel for the honour of the *British* Troops, though the Ministry do not. This *Gazette* will proclaim their disgrace throughout all *Europe*; and yet I think, that when the military lend themselves to fight against the freedom of their fellow-subjects, they deserve to be both disgraced and defeated.

Take, then, the whole of this account as it stands, and to what does it amount, but that General *Gage*’s Army having marched out of *Boston* in the night, was attacked by the Militia, hastily assembled, without a leader, and was driven back, with the loss of sixty-five killed, one hundred and eighty wounded, and twenty-eight taken prisoners, making in all two hundred and seventy-three.

In the mean time the Ministers, who have thus involved us in disgrace and blood, are perfectly unconcerned. They comfort themselves with throwing out some shameful reflections on the *Americans*, and boast of the activity of their officers and the intrepidity of their troops. They have not sense to perceive, that the more they exaggerate the bravery and conduct of the Regulars, the more they extol their opponents, whom they and their *Scotch* tools have been traducing, both publicly and privately, as the most abject cowards. What must the resolution of that Militia be, which could drive these active and intrepid Regulars, with loss and confusion, back into their intrenchments? In fact this superiority does not arise from any difference between the *English* and the *Americans*, but from the one contending in the cause of tyranny, and the other in that of liberty. It never has entered into the hearts of these wretched Ministers and their tools, to feel or conceive the enthusiasm and valour which so good and noble a cause inspires. Is it not, therefore, wonderful that they should not foresee its effects?

The charge of scalping is of the same complexion with those which they have constantly made, and which we have as constantly found to be false. It is like those of *Bernard* and *Hutchinson*, made in such general terms that it cannot have a particular refutation. Had they mentioned the names of those men who were thus treated, we might then have sought them out to refute the falsehood; but no, they

content themselves with saying, the Provincials “scalped and cut off the ears of some of the wounded;” which I very sincerely believe to be an infamous falsehood, because we have had affidavits from several of the wounded prisoners, acknowledging the kindest treatment; and it is most certain that General *Ward* sent word to General *Gage*, “that his surgeons were at liberty to come into the Provincial camp and attend the wounded prisoners, if General *Gage* had more confidence in them than in the Provincial surgeons.” The publick will hardly believe that so fair and generous an enemy could be guilty of barbarity and cruelty, because an unfair and ungenerous Ministry are their accusers.

The *Gazette* tells us “that the Troops, on seeing some Provincials drawn up at *Lexington*, marched up to them.” For what purpose do you think, gentle reader? to ask the civilist question in the world, “the reason of their being so assembled.” But the Militia not being apprised of their very civil intentions, “went off in great confusion;” and yet, to our utter astonishment, we are in the next line told that this confounded and flying enemy immediately began an attack upon the victorious Regulars, wounding one man, and, what was an inexpiable offence, shot a *Scots* officer’s *Scots* poney! It is, I believe, the first time in the world that one army marched up to another to “ask questions.” We have heard of *Parthians* wounding as they fled, but I did not know this was the *American* method. Surely they might have told a more plausible story, to make us believe the *Americans* were the aggressors; but the Ministry have so often imposed on our credulity, that they think any thing will suffice. The presumption arising from this very detail, compared with that of Lieutenant *Gould*’s affidavit, and the positive oaths of a variety of witnesses, render it unquestionable that the King’s Troops began the fire, and that, too, upon a small body of Provincials who were dispersing.

The whole of this business is shocking in itself, dangerous in its consequences; nor can any thing comfort us under the evils attending it, but a trust that the wicked authors of it will soon be brought to condign punishment.

I am of opinion that children unborn will not alone have occasion to lament the bloody and inhuman carnage of *Lexington*. Some men, whose advice has tended to produce so unhappy a scene, and whose abilities have since been prostituted in misrepresenting and reviling their countrymen, may have cause to join in the general lamentation. The hypocritical eye of Mr. H—— may once more weep, and even *Coriolanus*\* may shed a tear from a different cause than that of virtuous compunction. *Coriolanus*’s friend and adviser, the late Major of Brigade, will meet with a reception worthy of his treachery; and the noble Lord who has been his dupe, will find that he has bestowed rewards on a person unworthy of his confidence. His engagement to bribe the Members of the Continental Congress, and to raise ten thousand men to join the Parliamentary Army, showed the extremity of impudence. He must have known that he was deceiving the Secretary of State, and his Lordship ought to be ashamed of his own puerile credulity. The solicitations of modest virtuous merit, have by him been often rejected, and the most forward and wicked incendiaries countenanced and promoted. *Coriolanus* has been extremely liberal in charging his countrymen with treason and rebellion. I shall not lose so much time as to discuss this question with him. It would necessarily lead me to the examination of the right of taxation.

All the disorders of *America* have arisen from that source, and I defy him to derive them from any other. If the Parliament have not a right to tax *America*, they have no right to send troops to compel submission. If compulsion be attempted, resistance is justifiable. The greatest authorities that ever this Country produced might be cited to prove this. I forbear mentioning the names of *Sidney* and *Locke*, of *Chatham*, and *Camden*. Their doctrines are obsolete, and too uncourtly for the ear of a young divine, newly flattered with the pomp of a professorship in divinity, and gratified with the more substantial acquisition of two hundred Pounds a year. I appeal to Judge *Blackstone*; he cannot be suspected of partiality in favour of the people in opposition to sovereign power. In his seventh

\* A writer for the Ministry in the publick papers.



chapter, which treats of the rights of persons, he says, "All oppressions which may happen to spring from any branch of the sovereign power, must necessarily be out of the reach of any stated rule or express legal provision; but if ever they unfortunately happen, the prudence of the times must provide new remedies upon new emergencies." And again, "It is found by experience that whenever the unconstitutional oppressions even of the sovereign power advance with gigantick strides, and threaten desolation to a State, mankind will not be reasoned out of the feelings of humanity, nor will sacrifice their liberty by a scrupulous adherence to those political maxims which were originally established to preserve it." "Whenever necessity and the safety of the whole shall require it, they will exert those inherent though latent powers of society, which no climate, no time, no constitution, no contract can ever destroy or diminish." A fuller and plainer justification of resistance on certain occasions cannot be penned; and that the occasions have offered which call forth the exertion of those "inherent though latent powers of society," is very evident, from the convulsions into which all *America* is thrown.

The *American* gentlemen, in their petition to Parliament last year, which has done them infinite honour, and which he ought to remember with shame, very justly observe, that "no history can show, nor will human nature admit of an instance of general discontent, but from a general sense of oppression. As there is now no legal provision against such oppression left untried, every Province having in vain, first separately and then unitedly, petitioned and remonstrated, they are compelled into a contest the most shocking and unnatural, with a parent State which has ever been the object of their veneration and their love."

The present Administration and the rest of the friends of arbitrary power and non-resistance, have been premature in declaring this contest rebellion. The event must prove whether it may not be called the necessary step to a revolution. I hope that this Nation may have wisdom and virtue enough to prevent it, by a total and immediate repeal of all the offensive acts, and by resting satisfied with the monopoly of the *American* trade, which is all that the one ought to require, or the other submit to. But it seems the honour of Parliament must not be hurt. They have declared that these are terms they will not be satisfied with. This is a difficulty that Lord *North* will be so good as to obviate for me. The necessity of the case has always been thought a sufficient justification for a departure from such resolutions, which, if not impracticable, never can compensate for the miseries and calamities which must be the consequence of an attempt to carry them into execution. "If (says Lord *North*, in his speech on what he called his conciliatory motion) it should seem to be abandoning the high ground taken in the address, or be contrary to the assurances so frequently given that no terms should be held out to *America* previous to her submission, this is nothing but what is common. The greatest Powers have done it. In the war of the Succession it was a fundamental point that no Prince of the house of *Bourbon* should ever sit on the throne of *Spain*. This was several times repeated, and in the most solemn manner. Such politicks are necessary to gain or to animate allies.\* Yet all the powers which composed this confederacy yielded, and a Prince of the house of *Bourbon* did sit, and one of the same house does now sit on the throne of *Spain*. In the *Spanish* war of 1739, we declared that we could never treat with *Spain*, until she had given up the point of search. Yet peace was made without her giving up the point, and the search continued." Lord *North* added to these many other instances in which great Powers had abandoned their pretensions. His Lordship will, I hope, for the sake of stopping the farther effusion of blood, and for the sake of making us a happy, powerful, and united people, add another example to his catalogue. I shall trouble *Coriolanus* with but one more observation, which, to a clergyman, may have some weight. If he should be as fortunate as Dr. *Johnson*, and get an addition to his pension; if he should succeed his worthy friend and patron, the President of the College in which he is a

professor; if he should attain the summit of all spiritual honours in this kingdom, even the See of *Canterbury*, it is worthy of his consideration whether there may not be

Some chosen curse,  
Some hidden thunder in the stores of Heaven,  
Red with uncommon wrath, to blast the man  
Who owes his greatness to his Country's ruin.

#### TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.

London, June, 1775.

I am a plain man, and you must therefore expect to hear plain truths. Silence would now be a crime.

You have but two choices left, and if you have not wisdom to choose wisely, or virtue to act as wisdom dictates, you will deserve to sink under the evils which this very moment hang suspended, ready to crush you by their fall.

Continue these tory Ministers at your helm, and after having been accustomed for ten years to the news of unnatural carnage, you will have the satisfaction of seeing the whole Continent of *America* totally wrested from you, or, what is equally hurtful, their affections entirely estranged. Your commerce, of course, must decay, and your enemies will have cause to rejoice in your destruction.

Or, if you prefer your own welfare to the emoluments and gratification of your tory Ministers, drive them from their offices, and prevail on Lord *Chatham* to take the reins of Government. He will offer the *Americans* the terms proposed by their Congress, namely, to be governed as in the late reigns; and the *Americans* must gladly accept these terms from whig Ministers, or else all *England*, to a man, will zealously be their enemies. This pen has often fought their battles, because I think them injured by the common enemy of our liberties; but let them refuse to be governed by a whig Administration, according to whig principles, and I will be their most violent opposer. I think they ought not to trust tory Ministers, though they should offer ever such fair terms, because they are not to be trusted. Enemies to freedom, they must be enemies to *America*. But if whigs govern, *America* may depend on their favour, for they have fought one battle, and our hearts are with them. It may truly be said, that if this Nation is saved from ruin, it will be by *American* virtue, for I fear there is none left in *England*. The sun of Liberty is setting here, but *Englishmen* may yet be warmed by its rays from *America*, since they have courage to bleed for freedom.

The *Gazette* styles them rebels; the Ministry honoured them with that appellation long before they drew the sword. I say "honoured them," because I think it an honour to be termed rebels by such men.

Is it rebellion to defend freedom? If your Juries were attacked, if *Magna Charta* in any shape was to be daringly violated, would you not yourselves draw the sword? Could you then be properly styled rebels? Certainly you could not. Can you hesitate in the choice of the only alternatives left you by Heaven? Can you read the accounts from *America* without horror? Are you not shocked when your imagination presents to your view *Englishmen* shedding *English* blood? Do you wish for the continuance of such unnatural, horrid carnage? If the idea of this detestable civil-war does not excite the most generous feelings for your brave countrymen, (now driven almost to madness by the obstinate perseverance of tories,) you have lost the humanity, you have degenerated from the virtue of your ancestors.

Are the Ministry to be gratified longer with the ability of involving you still deeper in this ruinous contention? Will you allow them to prosecute this bloody, unnatural war, any longer? They talk of embodying the Militia, in order to be able to send more mercenaries to *America*; ought they not rather to lose their heads, for having sent those which are already there? Has not enough of *English* blood been shed? Must more be spilled? Are they to add a fresh list of murders to the black account? If the idea of such repeated massacres does not awaken your feelings, *England* ought to be deserted by the few whigs, whose hearts glow with indignation; they should fly to *America*, where liberty is idolized, and tyranny detested.

Have not Ministry, by every measure hitherto adopted, made what was bad, still worse? Did the bills of spring

\* Or to endeavour to intimidate the Colonies into a surrender of every thing that is dear and valuable to them,



1774, or those of spring 1775, answer any good purpose? Did they not add fuel to the flame?

If, then, you have found Ministers so very unequal to the task they have undertaken, can you be so very weak as to trust any longer to their management? You would not surely wish to become habituated to the recital of battles, in which *English* blood must be shed by *Englishmen*. You have now heard of above two hundred of your soldiers killed and wounded. The *Gazette* informs us, that the loss of the Provincials was much greater; in all, lost to *England* above five hundred men.

And as a salve General *Gage* informs us, that "the men behaved with their usual intrepidity:" if so, I have been mistaken in my opinion of *English* soldiers. If they can be brought to fight with ardour against their countrymen, who are standing forward in the most glorious of all causes, that of their Country, they should never be known, henceforward, by any other name than "mercenaries."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED FALMOUTH, ENGLAND, JUNE 10, 1775.

We have received the melancholy news of hostilities being commenced in *America*, between the King's Troops and the Provincials, which will be attended, I fear, with fatal consequences to both parties. I was in hopes the armed force on both sides would have conducted themselves with such prudence as to prevent bloodshed until affairs could have been amicably settled, but now I fear an accommodation is by this means removed at a distance. Our Ministry have carried matters with too high a hand, and been too arbitrary in their determinations; they are greatly blamed (even by those who are of the same sentiments in respect to taxing the *Americans*) for sending any Troops to the Colonies.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, DATED JUNE 10, 1775.

Our Congress has done hard duty this week, and are still sitting. They have resolved to raise two Regiments (each seven hundred and fifty men) of Foot, and another of Horse to consist of four hundred and fifty, exclusive of officers. The command of one Regiment is to be given to Mr. *Gadsden*, as Chief Colonel, and *Isaac Huger* as Lieutenant-Colonel; the other officers are to be determined on this evening. About two hundred gentlemen, I am informed, are candidates for commissions in our Provincials.

We are informed the Whigs and Tories in *Georgia* are disputing with each other, and that Governour *Wright* is much alarmed for his safety. The officers of the *Grenadiers* Company in that Colony, on receiving some orders from Governour *Wright*, positively refused to pay any attention thereto, threw down their commissions, and declared they would fight in defence of their liberties.

Officers of the First and Second Regiments of Infantry, and of the Regiment of Horse Rangers.

Field Officers of the First Regiment.—*Christopher Gadsden*, Colonel; *Isaac Huger*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Owen Roberts*, Major.

Field Officers of the Second Regiment.—*William Moultrie*, Colonel; *Isaac Motte*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Alexander McIntosh*, Major.

Captains of the First and Second Regiments.—*Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*, *Barnard Elliott*, *Francis Marion*, *William Cattell*, *Peter Horry*, *Daniel Horry*, *Adam McDonald*, *Thomas Lynch*, *William Scott*, *John Barnwell*, *Nicholas Eveleigh*, *James McDonald*, *Isaac Harleston*, *Thomas Pinckney*, *Francis Huger*, *William Mason*, *Edmund Hyrne*, *Roger Parker Saunders*, *Charles Motte*, *Benjamin Cattell*.

First Lieutenants in the First and Second Regiments.—*Anthony Ashby*, *James Ladson*, *Richard Singleton*, *Thomas Elliott*, *William Olyphant*, *John Vanderhorst*, *Robert Armstrong*, *John Blake*, *Glen Drayton*, *Richard Shubrick*, *Richard Fuller*, *Thomas Lesseesne*, *Benjamin Dickenson*, *William Charnock*, *John Moat*, *Joseph Joor*, *James Peronneau*, *John A. Walter*, *Thomas Moultrie*, *Alexander McQueen*.

Field Officers of the Regiment of Rangers.—*William Thomson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Mayson*, Major.

Captains of the Rangers.—*Samuel Wise*, *Eli Kershaw*, *Edward Richardson*, *Ezekiel Polk*, *Robert Goodwin*, *Thomas Woodward*, *John Caldwell*, *Moses Kirkland*, *John Purvis*.

First Lieutenants of the Regiment of Rangers.—*John Lewis P. Imhoff*, *Charles Heatley*, *Allen Cameron*, *Richard Winn*, *John Donaldson*, *Hugh Middleton*, *Lewis Dutarque*, *Francis Boyakin*, *Samuel Watson*.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed Resolution of this Congress I am directed to transmit you, and to desire you will order it to be executed in as expeditious and secret a manner as possible, referring to your judgment the most suitable places for landing it, and where there will be the least risk of interruption from the ships-of-war. You will please to consign it to the Committee of Correspondence in each place, with a direction to forward the flour to the Army as soon as possible.

I have it also in charge to recommend to you that the flour be transported in small quantities, as there may be danger of the enemy. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable Members of the Provincial Congress of New-York.

NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We are now to acknowledge the honour of your despatches of the 7th instant.

We have long foreseen the difficulties you must be reduced to for want of money. They will not be lessened by the resolutions of the Congress of yesterday, recommending it to you to procure and forward five thousand barrels of flour for the use of the Army at *Boston*.

We communicated the paragraph of your letter, in which you complain, that unless the Congress shall make some speedy order with relation to the levying of money, it will be impossible for you to comply with their farther requests. They, however, seem persuaded that their note of credit, which accompanies the order for the supply, will remove every obstruction; and relying on your zeal for the common cause, they hope you will be able to throw in this provision, which we are apprehensive will soon become highly necessary.

We may venture to hint to you, that the emission of paper money will be discussed on *Monday*, and we expect in the course of next week to be able to present you with a determination of this important business, which will free us from much anxiety.

We shall not fail to attend to what you suggest concerning the *Indians*. This is an object to our Colony of the highest moment, and we hope in due time will be considered by the Congress. We think the *Indians* will not be disposed to engage in this unhappy quarrel, unless deceived and deluded by misrepresentations, and this, with vigilance and care on our part, can be prevented. As one step towards it, which we much applaud, are the assurances you have given the Superintendent of his safety. From the temper and customs of the *Indians*, they would illy brook the extinguishing of their council fire; and had it been damped by any violence to Colonel *Johnson's* person or property, they must have been alarmed and very probably excited to extremities.

It is much to be lamented that we are still destitute of ammunition. The Government of *Connecticut* have been more provident, or more fortunate, and will be able to supply the forces at *Ticonderoga* with powder.

We commend your caution in directing two letters to us upon the subject of general officers to command our Troops. What we wrote to you was in the character of your own immediate Delegates, and with a view to discover the sense of our Colony, that we might, when this matter came to be debated in Congress, be fortified with your opinion and arguments, which, having obtained, we shall, to the utmost of our power, enforce your recommendations.



Your remarks on the resolution of the Continental Congress relative to taking post at *King's Bridge* appear to us to be conclusive; we shall, however, lay them before our body as soon as the other important matters under consideration shall be determined.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,

PHILIP LIVINGSTON, WILLIAM FLOYD.  
JAMES DUANE, JOHN ALSOP.  
FRANCIS LEWIS,

To the Provincial Congress at *New-York*.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of your application to this Congress for advice respecting a form of Government to be adopted in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, under your present circumstances, I am directed by the Congress to transmit you their Resolution thereon, which is here enclosed.

I am also to inform you that the Congress have been so pressed with business that they have been prevented determining upon the other matters mentioned in your letters to them, but they will very soon come under their consideration, and their resolutions thereon shall be forwarded you.

I also enclose you a Resolve of Congress for furnishing our Army with flour. This you will keep secret, at least as far as the nature of it will admit, as the publication may give an alarm, which may prevent the good effects of it.

Last evening Mr. *Fessenden*, your express, arrived with your despatches of *June 4th*, which I shall this morning lay before the Congress, and when considered by Congress, their determinations shall be immediately transmitted to you.

I am, with much esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress, *Massachusetts-Bay*.

In Congress, Friday, June 9, 1775.

*Resolved*, That no obedience being due to the Act of Parliament for altering the Charter of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, nor to a Governour or Lieutenant-Governour who will not observe the directions of, but endeavour to subvert, that Charter, the Governour and Lieutenant-Governour are to be considered as absent, and these offices vacant; and as there is no Council there, and the inconveniences arising from the suspension of the powers of Government are intolerable, especially at a time when General *Gage* hath actually levied war, and is carrying on hostilities against His Majesty's peaceable and loyal subjects of that Colony; that in order to conform as near as may be to the spirit and substance of the Charter, it be recommended to the Provincial Congress to write letters to the inhabitants of the several places which are entitled to representation in Assembly, requesting them to choose such Representatives; and that the Assembly, when chosen, should elect Counsellors; which Assembly and Council should exercise the powers of Government, until a Governour of His Majesty's appointment will consent to govern the Colony according to its Charter.

A true copy from the Minutes:

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

By order of the Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

THOMAS CUSHING TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Philadelphia, June 10, 1775.

SIR: Doctor *Church* will bring with him a vote of the Congress advising our people to consider the Governour and Lieutenant-Governour as absent, and their offices vacant; and further recommending it to the Provincial Congress to issue letters to all such places as are entitled to a representation, to choose Representatives, who, when convened, are advised to choose Counsellors, agreeable to the Charter; which Assembly, together with the Counsellors that may be chosen, are advised to carry on the affairs of Government until a Governour of His Majesty's appointment will consent to govern according to the directions of

the Charter. As to giving a credit to our Provincial note, and regulating the Army, you will hear further from the Congress soon. The bearer carries a recommendation to the other Colonies to supply you with all the powder they can safely spare.

In great haste, I am, with respect, your most humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

Mr. *Elbridge Gerry*, *Watertown*.

P. S. Pray let me hear from you soon concerning my dear Country. Must refer you for particulars to Dr. *Church*.

ROBERT TREAT PAINE TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Philadelphia, June 10, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: I cannot express to you the surprise and uneasiness I received on hearing the Congress express respecting the want of gunpowder; it always was a matter that lay heavy on my mind; but the observation I made of your attention to it, and your alertness and perseverance in every thing you undertake, and your repeatedly expressing it as your opinion that we had probably enough for this summer's campaign, made me quite easy. I rely upon it, that measures are taken in your parts of the Continent to supply this defect. The design of your express will be zealously attended to, I think. I have seen one of the powder-mills here, where they make excellent powder, but have worked up all the nitre. One of our members is concerned in a powder-mill at *New-York*, and has a man at work making nitre. I have taken pains to inquire into the method. Doctor *Franklin* has seen saltpetre works at *Hanover* and *Paris*; and it strikes me to be as unnecessary, after a certain time, to send abroad for gunpowder as for bread, provided people will make use of common understanding and industry; but for the present we must import from abroad. Major *Foster* told me at *Hartford* he suspected he had some land that would yield nitre; pray converse with him about it. Doctor *Franklin's* account is much the same as is mentioned in one of the first of the *American* magazines; the sweepings of the streets and rubbish of old buildings are made into mortar, and built into walls, exposed to the air, and once in about two months scraped, and lixiviated, and evaporated. When I can describe the method more minutely I will write you; mean while give me leave to condole with you the loss of Colonel *Lee*. Pray remember me to Colonel *Orne*, and all other our worthy friends. Pray take care of your important health, that you may be able to stand stiff as a pillar in our new Government.

I must now subscribe, with great respect and affection, your humble servant,

R. T. PAINE.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 10, 1775.

SIR: By order of the Congress I transmit to you the enclosed Resolutions passed by the Congress this morning. The necessity of the present emergency requires a speedy compliance with the first, respecting the supply of powder to the Army; and I need not inform you, that the nature of the service requires that it should be done with as much secrecy as possible. If there are any supplies of powder to be purchased in your Colony, you will readily see the propriety of engaging it for the use of the Continental Army, and informing the General of the Army thereof, as well as, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the President of the Provincial Congress, or Committee of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. I am directed by the Congress to request you will please to transmit to them, as soon as may be, an estimate of the powder, arms, and ammunition in your Colony, including private as well as publick stocks. Your humble servant, &c.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THEIR DELEGATES.

[Read in Congress June 14, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, June 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: A certain Captain *Coffin* being suspected of taking on board his vessel provisions for the Army and



Navy at *Boston*, though consigned to persons at *Rhode-Island*, we have thought proper to delay his voyage until we have the sentiments of the General Congress on the subject. Our reason of suspicion is this, that it hath been intimated to us, that Messrs. *Lopez* and *Roam*, to whom great part of the cargo is assigned, are commissioned to supply those articles to the Army and Navy, which is done, as is alleged, by suffering vessels which contain provisions to lie in the harbour unladen until seized by a ship-of-war, according to agreement for that purpose.

We should have made inquiry and order in the premises, but that one of our sister Colonies being concerned, it might tend to create divisions among us at a time when unanimity is so necessary to the publick safety.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants. By order of the Congress:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

To the *New-York* Delegates at the Continental Congress.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 10, 1775.

SIR: Since our former letters to your Company on the subject of gunpowder, by application to a neighbouring Colony we have procured a quantity, which we cheerfully spare, as we apprehend it will be most acceptable to our brethren of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. For the more speedy despatch, we would ask the favour of you to issue, out of your most easterly magazine, six hundred and fifty-five pounds weight, and forward to the *American* camp at *Boston*, and we shall immediately replace it, the like quantity being already on the way to your Colony.

We are, Sir, your most obedient and humble servants.

By order of the Congress:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour of *Connecticut*.

P. S. As we have given a receipt for the powder to our neighbouring Colony, you will please to direct the like to be given us.

#### ROBERT BOYD, JUN., TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-Windsor, June 10, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of a resolve of this honourable Convention, passed the 6th instant, Mr. *Henry Watkeys* hath waited on me for the purpose of fixing a plan for making muskets, bayonets, &c., agreeable to said resolve; and after mature deliberation on the subject, I find that the expense of manufacturing a gun-barrel, bayonet, and steel rammer, (which are the parts Mr. *Watkeys* would assign me,) will amount to thirty-two shillings currency; this, I think, will be the extent, but dare not fix it lower previous to making trial. Gentlemen, it would give me particular pleasure to have a manufactory of this kind established in this Province; and believe me, that if you shall be pleased to appoint me as one to bear a part in the execution thereof, I will exert my utmost skill in endeavouring to give satisfaction, both respecting price and quality; but must remind you, gentlemen, that in order to facilitate the business, it will be necessary to fix machinery, and provide a number of tools not necessary in other business, the expense of which will amount to about one hundred Pounds; this sum will be requisite previous to the undertaking; and if a contract can be obtained for one thousand barrels, &c., the money advanced shall be discounted on the first payment; if, on the contrary, it shall be judged by the honourable Congress inexpedient to prosecute the plan proposed, the sum advanced must be considered as sunk.

I am, gentlemen, with due esteem, your most obedient and humble servant,

ROBERT BOYD, Junior.

The Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*, now convened in the City of *New-York*.

Crown Point, June 10, 1775.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress of NORTH-AMERICA, held at PHILADELPHIA:

Colonel *Ethan Allen*; Major *Samuel Elmore*, of the *Connecticut Farms*; Colonel *James Easton*, of *Pittsfield*; Captain *Seth Warner*; Captain *Hezekiah Balding*;

Captain *Ebenezer Marvin*; Captain *Remember Baker*; Captain *George White*; Captain *James Noble*, commandant at this place; Captain *Amos Chapple*; Captain *Wait Hopkins*; Captain *Joseph McCracken*; Captain *John Grand*; Captain *Barnabas Barnum*; Captain *James Wills*; Lieutenant *Ira Allen*; Lieutenant *Oliver Parmerly*; *Isaac Hitchcock*, Commissary; *Stephen Bay*, clerk to Major *Elmore*.

HONoured SIRs: We, whose names are prefixed above, do in council approve of and nominate Colonel *Ethan Allen*, Captain *Seth Warner*, and Captain *Remember Baker*, to meet you in Congress, to consult and have your advice upon this move, which we have understood that you have approved; we are now in possession of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*. And this day, at five o'clock, our armed sloop and schooners arrived here and furnished us with intelligence, that about three hundred of the Regular forces were at *St. John's*, fortifying and intrenching upon the Grants, near this place. We think it might be practicable, in case of emergency, to raise about five hundred men, in case (as they are poor) of encouragement. Colonel *Allen* has behaved, in this affair, very singularly remarkable for his courage, and must, in duty, recommend him to you and the whole Continent.

A number of gentlemen, among whom were Major *Elmore*, of *Connecticut*, and Colonel *Easton*, of *Pittsfield*, contributed, as a present, to a number of *Indians* of the *Caughnawagas* and Captain *Ninham*, of *Stockbridge*, largely, out of their own pockets, who ask no fee nor reward; it was given upon their assurance of friendship. The majority of us have seen the marks of his abuse that he had received at *St. John's* from the Regulars; they assure us, (and we believe that the *Indians* will meddle in no way,) that they understand this affair to be a family dispute.

SAMUEL ELMER, *President*.

#### ELISHA HEWES TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Fort Pownall, June 10, 1775.

HONOURABLE SIR: I expect my letters, sent by Captain *Buck*, will reach you before Captain *Lane*, who will be impeded with his charge. I hope none will rob him of the honour he alone deserves (under the smiles of Heaven) for the success he has met with in his tour up our river. I hope we shall have more of his company, if our troubles continue; you cannot send a man that can act more for the service and interest of the Country. I dare not ask a written answer to this, or mine by *Buck*, but a few words will be highly acceptable to, Sir, your very humble servant,

ELISHA HEWES.

To *Joseph Warren*, Esquire, President of the Provincial Congress.

#### COMMITTEE OF CONWAY TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Conway, June 10, 1775.

SIR: Last Monday we had a Town-meeting; a copy of the same will be shown to you by Mr. *Burbank*, one of our Committee; and as he is not acquainted with any of the Congress, we have recommended him to you, and hope you will direct and assist him in the business he is sent upon. Sir, it is needless to mention any thing concerning our situation on the frontiers of this Province, for it is well known to you, and most part of those gentlemen appointed and chosen for the Congress. But although we are at such a distance from you, we are willing to do every thing in our power in support of the common cause; but, under our present situation, we are neither able to defend ourselves or assist you, if there should be occasion, for reasons which we shall mention. In the first place, there is a number of our men enlisted and gone into the service, we think about fourteen or fifteen, from this Town. The most part of those who are left have no provision to support themselves and families, but what they must bring from some seaport, and but very few have any money to purchase; and not more than half of the Town have got any arms, and those who have got arms have scarcely any ammunition. Therefore, as Mr. *Burbank* and myself are appointed to make application for arms and ammunition, we thought, as you were the one man, to make our first



application to you; and are confident you will do what you can, that he may have such warlike stores as he wants, if they are to be had, or to assist and advise him what steps to take so that we may be provided; and that he may be despatched back as soon as possible: for we have reason to be suspicious of the *Indians*, and, were we able, would keep a scout in the woods daily, to discover their motions; but without the assistance of the Province, of ourselves we are not able; for there are so many of our young men enlisted, that all the men that are left are not sufficient to carry on our farming. Therefore, we shall be under the necessity of asking or petitioning the Congress for some men, to be employed as a scouting party, to guard this quarter of the frontiers; but we are afraid these matters will be omitted until it is too late. We shall esteem it a favour if the Congress will give us directions what to do, or what steps to take, for we are fully determined to adhere strictly to all orders that may come from the Congress.

We expected to have been called upon to send a member to the Congress, but we suppose our being at such a distance left us to be forgot. We shall come down as soon as *Burbank* returns. Any arms or ammunition that we want, we are ready to make over our estates for security, but as to money, at present we have none.

In hopes, Sir, you will do and assist us all you can, I subscribe myself, your obedient humble servant,

Signed in behalf of the Town and Committee:

ANDREW McMULLEN.

To Colonel M. Thornton.

#### TRYON COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Tryon County, on Sunday, the eleventh of June, 1775, at the house of *Gosen Van Alstyn*: Upon reading Letters from the Provincial Congress, dated the thirty-first of May, and third of June, 1775, recommending the appointing of Deputies to meet in Congress with the Deputies of the different Counties at New-York, the question being put, whether any should be sent down? was carried in the affirmative.

This Committee having great confidence in the integrity and ability of *Christopher P. Yates* and *John Malett*, Esquires, do resolve that the said *Christopher P. Yates*, and *John Malett*, be appointed, and are accordingly appointed, to be Deputies to attend the Provincial Congress without delay, and to act, in conjunction with the members of that body, upon the very alarming and calamitous situation of *British America*. By order of the Committee:

NICHOLAS HERKIMER, *Chairman pro tem.*

ANDREW FINCK, JUN., *Clerk.*

#### MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress June 19, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 11, 1775.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the following address be immediately transmitted to the honourable American Congress now sitting at *Philadelphia*.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The situation of any Colony or People, perhaps, was never before such as made it more necessary for fully exercising the powers of civil government than the present state and situation of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

The embarrassments, delays, disappointments, and obstructions, in executing every undertaking necessary for the preservation of our lives, and, much more, of our property, are so great and many, as that they cannot be represented or enumerated; and that is chiefly to be attributed to our want of a settled civil polity or government. Besides, every thing necessary for the abovesaid most important purposes, which is, in some degree, effected, is done in the most expensive manner, in that although the times we are fallen into, and the prospects before us are such as require the utmost economy; yet nothing of the kind can be preserved in our present state.

There are, in many parts of the Colony, alarming symptoms of the abatement of the sense in the minds of some people of the sacredness of private property, which is plainly assignable to the want of civil government; and

your Honours must be fully sensible that a community of goods and estate will soon be followed with the utter waste and destruction of the goods themselves. Besides, the necessity of civil government appears more and more apparent, from the extreme difficulty of maintaining the public peace without it; although we can truly say, much fewer enormities and breaches of the peace have happened among us, than it was natural to expect from the contemplation of such a state as we have been cast into.

May it please your Honours, the pressing weight of our distresses has necessitated the sending a special post to obtain your immediate advice upon this subject, and we do most earnestly entreat that you would, as soon as possible, despatch the messenger with such advice.

Our former application to you, of the sixteenth of May last, has rendered it unnecessary that we should further enlarge upon the subject; and to prevent repetition, we beg leave to refer you to our letter of that date.

The Army under the command of General *Gage*, we estimate to amount to at least five thousand men, well appointed, under the command of Generals of character and experience, and prepared with every thing necessary for action, exclusive of the additional strength derived from negroes, which the General has taken into his service, and disaffected *Americans*; and we have great reason to apprehend a re-enforcement of at least eight regiments of Foot, and one of Horse, may be hourly expected. We enclose a copy of an intercepted letter from Major *Sheriff*, which exhibits to you one ground of that apprehension.

We have had under our consideration the propriety and necessity of augmenting our Army, notwithstanding our great embarrassments, and though we have not yet adopted it, nothing perhaps but the more ample provision of the neighbouring Colonies will relieve that necessity.

The depredations and piracies frequently committed on our sea-coasts, and the little trade which remains to us, whereby, among other capital articles, the importation of ammunition and provision is almost totally obstructed, and threatens our ruin, has also occasioned our contemplating steps to prevent these inconveniences, by fitting out a number of armed vessels, with sufficient strength to encounter their small though numerous cutters.

We shall only add, that as the seat of war and all the attendant distresses have, for the present, taken their principal residence here, we should consider it as a happy event if you should think proper to adjourn to some part of the Continent not so far distant, that the advice and aid of the Continent may be more expeditiously afforded upon any emergency.

We have, may it please your Honours, the honour to be your most obedient humble servants,

By order of Congress:

JOSEPH HAWLEY, *Vice-President.*

Attest: SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary.*

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN IN VIRGINIA, DATED JUNE 12, 1775.

We have had the news of the skirmish at *Concord* between the King's Troops and the Provincials for some time past; and yesterday it was confirmed by an express from General *Gage* to Government, in the *Sukey*, Capt. *Brown*. The first advice many (especially the Court party) threw away, declaring it to be an absolute lie, and wished Government would secure the person who brought it, although we had the *Salem* paper brought by Captain *John Derby*, who said that the account was as particular as could be collected at the time of his departure; but now they believe it to their shame, that eighteen hundred disciplined troops ran away from a handful of brave *Yankees*. I believe that seven-eighths of this Country would willingly fight for us against the King's Troops, if it were possible for them to get to you. The *Americans* bear the greatest applause here of any people in the world, and I hope they may now stand firm, for it is not in the power of Government to send out any more troops. I had the honour of being sent for by Sir *John Warren*, who is nephew to the late Admiral, and a great friend to *America*, with whom I breakfasted. We had all the *American* affairs over, and he positively declared there were not seven thousand of the King's Troops both in *England* and *Ireland*; and he hoped the *Ameri-*



*cans* would stand firm to each other, and then they might have the affair settled as they liked; for, says he, it is impossible for this Country to do without you, neither can they subdue you.

#### ON THE DISTURBANCES IN AMERICA.

London, June 12, 1775.

Whether this is the best of possible worlds, is a point with which the politician has nothing to do; he must take men as they are, and, till the period of the millenium arrives, wars and tumults will possess their full number of pages in the history of mankind. A too eager love of peace, the child of pusillanimity, will be generally found a prelude to the most destructive scenes of blood and slaughter. Whenever unavoidable danger presents itself, prudence directs us to face it boldly. Shall our humanity induce us to leave the contest, so big with danger, to our immediate descendants? Forbid it justice and paternal affection. The probability of success, which is now on our side, will be against them. Yet, shall we give up the sovereignty in *America*, their right of inheritance, and the price of so many cares and of so much blood and treasure, without some struggle? Though they, if the contest was deferred till their day, might probably fail and involve the *British Empire* in ruin, yet we, by a spirited conduct, now may shelter them from the danger, and procrastinate the event.

The *Bostonians* have been guilty of numberless acts of rebellion, which have no other real foundation than their opinion that they can resist with success. On the slightest occasion, large bodies of men appear in arms, with the avowed intention of fighting the King's Troops. Let them have their humour. In every essential point of view they are the enemies of *Great Britain*, and their insults must not be forgiven because they are dangerous—so dangerous, that suppose them defeated, suppose them suing for forgiveness with all the humility which may be expected from their present insolence, they must not be forgiven; they can never be again entitled to the protection and encouragement of the Mother Country. Their soil and climate, their growing manufactories of iron and wool, their ship-building, and even their industry, are our natural, our irreconcilable enemies. The Colonists must not only be defeated, but, as far as it is in our power, the Colonies destroyed. This may be done without much of that carnage which is so dreaded by us. The steady and inflexible regulations of policy, by which every source of trade or manufactures must be cut off from the Northern Colonies, and every possible encouragement given to settlements in warmer latitudes, can alone effect it. Indigo, rice, rum, sugar, cotton, silk, and the various productions of the tropicks, are commodities we want, and the habits of life in southern climates will forever prevent their interfering with our laborious manufactories. Mutual wants are the true foundation of trade and political friendship, and Colonies established without this permanent view, have ever been the ruin of the Mother Country. We want nothing from the Colony most dangerous to us, but provisions and lumber for the islands; and these it will furnish, even were it in a much less cultivated and improved state than it now is.

The *Americans* are fond of repeating their arguments, though it seems agreed on all sides that it is time that action should commence. I shall not, therefore, enter into those reasons by which a Mother Country may be justified in ruining a Colony which has been found prejudicial to her; they deny the debt of gratitude, by asserting that we raised and supported them from motives of interest alone. Admit this to be true, we raised them at an immense expense, with permanent views of political advantage. They are now found to be not barely detrimental, but highly dangerous to us. The same policy will teach us to destroy that which we have been mistaken in defending and supporting. This cannot be done without much private injury and public calamity, but in disputes of this magnitude they are unavoidable. In the management of natural concerns, the lesser evil must be resolutely chosen, and to listen to the complaints of unavoidable evil is a dangerous humanity, and will have the same effect as the most contemptible weakness. Shall we, to avoid the effusion of human blood, give up the sovereignty of *America* without

a blow? What kind of philanthropy must that be which can resolve on this, and survey, with a steady eye, the dreadful prospects of calamity and ruin which will immediately overwhelm the *British Empire*, if, by our tameness, or by *American* resolution, the Colonies are torn from us. Expedients, in a dispute so rooted as this is, were always ridiculous, and are now by all parties given up. What trivial nonsense are affidavits, to prove who fired first. The moment the *Americans* attempted to raise troops, with the avowed intention of resisting Government by force, the first bullet should have been fired; and that we have so long deferred it is an error, for which we shall be severely punished. We ought, long ere now, to have been as unanimous as the *Americans* in perceiving that the voice of necessity, and the great vortex of human affairs, is too powerful to be confined by the forms of a constitution. The sword alone can decide this dispute, and he is a traitor to his Country who does not contribute every thing in his power to prevent the ruin of the *British Empire*, which will immediately take place if we are defeated.

#### SOUTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Charlestown, Monday, June 12, 1775.

*Resolved*, That any person having violated or refused obedience to the authority of the Provincial Congress, shall, by the Committee of the District or Parish in which such offender resides, be questioned relative thereto; and upon due conviction of either of the offences aforesaid, and continuing contumacious, such person shall, by such Committee, be declared and advertised an enemy to the liberties of *America*, and an object of the resentment of the publick; and that the said Committee shall be supported in so doing.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of the Parishes of *St. Philip* and *St. Michael*, when they attend Divine service in places of publick worship, to take with them their fire-arms and ammunition.

By order of the Congress:

PETER TIMOTHY, *Secretary*.

In Provincial Congress, Charlestown, June 12, 1775.

The Provincial Congress having received an intimation that certain persons have already bought up, and others are now buying up, *Indian Corn*, with design to take advantage of the times, have

*Resolved*, That such engrossing is intolerable, and ought not to be suffered in this time of scarcity.

*Resolved, also*, That such persons as may have bought up *Indian Corn*, ought not to sell it at an advanced price, and that proper information ought immediately to be laid before the Congress or General Committee.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Resolves be forthwith printed, and made publick.

By order of the Congress:

PETER TIMOTHY, *Secretary*.

#### SOME THOUGHTS ON THE CONSTITUTION OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, AND THE CONTROVERSY BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE AMERICAN COLONIES.

Philadelphia, June 12, 1775.

As all lawful Government is founded in compact, it behooves those who claim authority, to prove that they have it. *English* Government is territorial, that is, it is limited to certain districts of territory; and owning lands within these limits gives a right to participate in the Government; and those who own the lands have a right to fix the terms on which others may reside within the jurisdiction. This principle seems to be founded on the law of nature, and therefore those who are not freeholders are justly bound by the laws of the land, though they have no vote in electing members of Parliament, and not on the principle of virtual representation; yet they have this security, that the freeholders and other inhabitants are governed by the same laws.

A civil society or state is a number of proprietors of land within certain limits, united by compact or mutual agreement for making laws, and appointing persons to execute those laws for their common benefit.

The *British Empire* consists of such societies, subject to one King, each having a distinct legislature: such is the



Realm of *Great Britain*, the Realm of *Ireland*, and each *English Colony in America*.

This doctrine of distinct Dominions or States, subject to the same Crown, is not a new doctrine, but was known in the *English Nation* long before the settlement of the *American Colonies*, as is well known to all who are acquainted with the *English history*. One instance of this kind will appear by the following extract from a petition presented to the King of *England* by the inhabitants of the County palatine of *Chester*, in the year 1450, wherein they say: "The said County is and hath been a County palatine, as well before the conquest of *England* as continually since, within which County you and all your noble progenitors, since it came into your hands, have had your High Courts of Parliament, and no possessioners or inheritors within the said County be not chargeable or liable, nor have not been bounden, charged, nor hurt of their bodies, liberties, franchises, lands, goods, nor possessions, within the same County, but by such laws as they have agreed unto; and also, they have no Knights, Citizens, nor Burgesses, nor ever had of the said County to any Parliament holden out of the said County, whereby they might by any way of reason be bounded," &c. Whereupon the King discharged them from paying a subsidy granted by act of the Parliament of *England* held at *Westminster*, notwithstanding that County was expressly named in the act.

Whence, then, doth the Parliament of *Great Britain* derive the authority it claims to make statutes to bind the people of the Colonies in *America*, and other Dominions of the Crown not within that Realm, nor represented in that Parliament, but who have Parliaments of their own? Is this claim founded in compact? Where is the evidence of such a compact? The landholders in *America* are not incorporated with those of *Britain* for the purpose of legislation, nor does their being owners of real estates in *America* (to any amount) entitle them to a voice in the election of any members of the *British Parliament*. Should it be said that the Colonists were subjects of the Crown of *England*, and members of that State before their emigration, and therefore must continue so unless they can show that they are discharged by some express agreement; it may be answered, that their compact as members of that State was, in the nature of it, limited to their continuance in that Realm, and consequently was discharged by their emigration. Should it be farther inquired, how is it that they continue subjects of the Crown of *England* or *Great Britain* since their emigration, if their relation to that State was dissolved? I answer, that the people of each Colony, either before or soon after their emigration, entered into particular compacts with the Kings of *England* to continue in allegiance to them, their heirs, and successors, and also as to their particular forms of Government, which appears by Charters, royal Proclamations, and the laws and regulations in each Colony, made by the mutual consent of the King and the people. But it may be further objected, that the *British Parliament* hath, from time to time, made laws to bind the Colonies, which have been acquiesced in for more than a century past, by which it appears that it was mutually understood that the Parliament had authority to make such laws. To which it may be answered, that when the Parliament of *England* first attempted to exercise legislative authority over the Dominions of the Crown out of that Realm, their authority was denied by *Ireland*, *Virginia*, and the ancient Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. The last mentioned Colony refused and neglected to yield any obedience to the acts of Parliament for regulating the Plantation trade in the reign of King *Charles the Second*, from the year 1660 to 1675, when the King wrote to the Governour and Company of that Colony, requiring their conformity to said acts; to which they returned an answer, that they had not conformed to them because they judged them to be an infringement of their rights, for that the authority of the Parliament was limited by the four seas; but as His Majesty had signified to them that it was his pleasure that they should conform to said regulations, they had enjoined obedience to them by an act of their own; for which the King, in another letter, returned them his thanks. This shows how some of the Colonies understood the Constitution while some persons were living who were active in settling the terms of it. Now, can the con-

formity of some individuals in the Colonies to acts of Parliament, from motives of necessity or convenience, be construed as the consent of the Colonies to the authority of the Parliament to make laws to bind them? Some suppose there is a superintending power in the *British Parliament* over the Colonies, resulting from the nature of colonization and their relation to the parent State, especially for regulating and restraining their trade. But how can parental authority be applied to support or illustrate such a principle? A parent has a natural right to govern his children during their minority and continuance in his family, but has no such authority over them after they arrive at full age, and are settled in families of their own. A mutual affection, friendship, and regard to each other's interests ought always to subsist between parents and children, and likewise between parent States and their Colonies, but no connexion in Government but what is founded in mutual compact. Nor can the arbitrary demands or exactions of any parent States from their Colonies, be a foundation to determine what is right in the present case.

It has been urged as a reason why the Colonies should acknowledge a right in the *British Parliament* to make laws to regulate their trade, that no Colony Legislature is competent for that purpose, their authority being confined to the limits of their respective Colonies. But if the authority of the *British Parliament* is limited to that Realm, it is no more competent to make a law to extend without the limit of its jurisdiction than a Colony Legislature. But it is further said that *Great Britain*, by her Navy, has power to enforce obedience to her laws of trade and navigation, therefore the people of the whole Empire must submit to them; and that she protects their trade, and therefore it is reasonable that she should regulate it so as may be most conducive to the good of the Nation. To which it may be replied, that upon the two last mentioned considerations the people of the Colonies have, for about a century past, cheerfully consented to the operation of such acts of the *British Parliament* as are limited to the regulation of their external commerce for the mutual advantage of *Great Britain* and her Colonies, and seem still disposed to persevere in the same line of conduct, so that no controversy will be likely to arise on that subject but what may relate to the justice or utility of particular regulations; and the only way to remove that ground of controversy is, for the Legislature of each Colony to confirm, by their own acts, all such laws of trade as are to be executed within their respective jurisdictions; which doubtless they would readily agree to, and by that means the acts of trade would be more strictly observed. But as the present inquiry is, whether the *British Parliament* hath authority to make laws to bind the people of the Colonies in any case without their consent, it may be well to consider that there is an important distinction between authority to command, and power to enforce submission, and also between an equitable claim in *Great Britain* to receive a compensation from the Colonies for protecting their trade, and her having a legislative authority over them to compel them to make that compensation in any particular way without their consent. And why has not the Parliament as good a right to compel them to make such compensation by laws imposing duties on their imports and exports, as by restraining their trade? But if all lawful Government is founded in compact, the Parliament cannot have right in either case to make laws to bind the people of the Colonies without their consent.

According to Lord *Somer's* opinion, the right of the people to share in legislation is so necessary for the preservation of the society, that they cannot part with it even by their own consent. Take the opinion of that celebrated author in his own words: "Amongst all the rights and privileges appertaining unto us, that of having a share in the legislation, and being to be governed by such laws as we ourselves shall choose, is the most fundamental and essential, as well as the most beneficial; for thereby we are enabled to make such successive and continual provisions as to the preservation of the society, and the promoting either the temporal or eternal welfare of the subject, as shall be found expedient, &c. No man or society of men have power to deliver their preservation, or the means of it, to the absolute will of any man, and they will have always a right to preserve what they have not power to part with."



Should it be inquired, what is the constitutional connexion between these several distinct States which compose the *British Empire*? it may be answered, they are all united under one Crown, subjects of the same Prince, whose person, crown, and dignity, they are all obliged to maintain and defend to their utmost ability, against all enemies and opposers whatsoever; therefore the enemies of any one of the Dominions of the Crown are the common enemies of all the subjects of the Crown, and it is the duty of all to afford their aid for common defence in time of war, and to be prepared for it in time of peace. Also, the supreme executive and one branch of the legislative authority being lodged in the Crown, a similarity in the laws and administration of justice is thereby preserved in all the several Dominions. Also, the King's subjects have a common right to participate in all privileges and immunities in any of the Dominions of the Crown, if they remove from one jurisdiction to another, unless that right be abridged by some positive law.

This union of *Great Britain* and the Colonies, under the same Crown, differs from the case of *Hanover*, which is at present subject to the same King, who holds that Dominion by a different title, and not as King of *Great Britain*. So that if he should resign the *British Crown*, his right of dominion over *Hanover* would remain, but not over the *American Colonies*; for they agreed with the Kings of *England* to be subject to them, their heirs, and successors, which will oblige them to be subject to the King of *England* for the time being, so long as it may be subservient to the great end of civil Government—the publick good. The union of *Great Britain* and the Colonies into one State is, from their situation, impracticable, and every beneficial purpose may, by a prudent administration, be well answered by their union in the Crown, while they continue distinct jurisdictions for civil Government.

The Legislature of each Dominion can grant the necessary aids for common defence, and agree to laws for regulating trade and other matters of general concern, which will bind the people within their respective jurisdictions. Their common safety and interest will induce them to agree to what may appear to be for the publick good; and to facilitate this agreement among the Colonies, Delegates may be chosen by their respective Assemblies, to meet in general Congress, to agree on such matters as shall be referred to their consideration, and report their opinion to the several Colony Legislatures for their final determination. Thus all may co-operate for their common benefit and security, while all enjoy equal privileges and immunities; and the *British Empire*, by a due attention to the true principles of the Constitution, may become the most powerful, happy, and glorious, of any in the world.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, *Monday, 12th June, 1775.* Present:

|                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Henry Remsen,       | John Lasher,        | Nicholas Bogart,    |
| Oliver Templeton,   | Hercules Mulligan,  | Joseph Totten,      |
| Cornelius Clobber,  | William W. Gilbert, | Francis Bassett,    |
| William Bedlow,     | John Woodward,      | James Desbrosses,   |
| Joseph Bull,        | Nicholas Roosevelt, | Daniel Phenix,      |
| Abm. Brinkerhoff,   | Benjamin Helme,     | John Imlay,         |
| Jeremiah Platt,     | George Janeway,     | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  |
| Evert Banker,       | John Lamb,          | Aug. Van Horne,     |
| Gerardus Duyckinck, | Petrus Byvanck,     | William Laight,     |
| Robert Ray,         | William Goforth,    | William Walton,     |
| Cornelius P. Low,   | Edward Fleming,     | Thomas Smith,       |
| Eleazer Miller,     | Gabriel H. Ludlow,  | John M. Scott,      |
| Anthony Van Dam,    | David Beekman,      | Theophilus Anthony. |
| Daniel Dunscomb,    | Hamilton Young,     |                     |

A Letter, dated *New-London, 7th June, 1775*, from *H. Parsons*, enclosing a copy of a Letter from *Portsmouth*, dated *May 29, 1775*, received and read.

Ordered, That Mr. *Henry Remsen* pay unto Mr. *Isaac Sears* the sum of twenty-three Pounds five Shillings and ten Pence, out of the money paid into his hands, and received of Messrs. *Murrays* by Mr. *Kissam*.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Bull, Templeton, and Fleming* be a Sub-Committee to attend the sales of two packages of goods in the possession of *Gray and Blakie*, and also of two bales and a trunk in the possession of *Benjamin Booth*.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Ray and Scott* be a Sub-Committee to wait on his Worship the Mayor, to request him

to give orders for the removal of some soldiers' wives and children, infected with the small-pox, out of this City, and to take measures to prevent their becoming a Parish charge.

Ordered, That *John Lamb, William Laight, Joseph Bull, and George Janeway* be a Committee to wait on *Dr. Betts*, to inquire into the truth of his having lately inoculated for the small-pox.

#### COMMITTEES IN ULSTER COUNTY TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Newburgh, June 12, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of a resolve in Provincial Congress, passed the 7th instant, where it is declared that whenever doubts should arise in the minds of individuals relative to the resolutions and recommendations of either the Continental or our Provincial Congresses, it is the duty of such persons to apply to your Board for an explanation thereof: Therefore, gentlemen, willing to walk in the path of duty, as far as we have knowledge of the same, we, in behalf of the Committees for the Precincts of *New-Marlborough, Newburgh, and New-Windsor*, do hereby apply for an explanation of the words in your resolve of the 29th of *May* last, which is as follows: "And that such persons in those Counties or Districts who have not appointed Committees, as shall be appointed by the members of this Congress, respecting such Counties and Districts respectively," &c. As we cannot ascertain what ideas the honourable Congress means to convey by these words, they will pardon the freedom we take in requesting an explanation. We are at a loss, also, what is intended in the resolve of the Congress of the 31st of *May* last, where it is recommended to the inhabitants of this Colony in general to provide arms, &c., and to use all diligence in acquiring knowledge in the military art, and, if necessary, to join themselves into companies for the purpose aforesaid. With all due deference to the honourable Congress, we humbly conceive that the words "if necessary" leaves the matter indifferent whether the inhabitants of this Colony do form themselves into companies or not; if they do not, we beg to be informed which way we are to acquire the art recommended.

Gentlemen, your answer to our requests will much oblige a number of your constituents, as also your humble servants,

BENJAMIN CARPENTER,  
Chairman of *New-Marlborough*.  
SAMUEL BREWSTER,  
Chairman of *New-Windsor*.  
ISAAC BELKNAP,  
Chairman pro tem. for *Newburgh*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*, now convened in the City of *New-York*.

#### ALEXANDER McDOUGALL TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

New-York Provincial Congress, June 12, 1775.

The President of your Congress, the General, and Chairman of the Committee of Supply for your Province, wrote to our Congress a few days since, complaining greatly of the want of powder, and earnestly soliciting our assistance.

We had it not then in our power to give it, but applied to our neighbours, and procured from them a small supply, which, together with all we could purchase, amount to six hundred and fifty-five pounds.

Our Congress wrote by this day's post to Governour *Trumbull*, requesting him to send this quantity to your camp from one of his eastern magazines, and that we would forward the above to replace it, to any Town in his Colony. At nine o'clock this night it will move hence in a wagon, accompanied by four or six trusty men; for it is necessary that no parade should be made on the road, to prevent a conclusion that this article is wanted with you. They will be directed to travel always at night, and put up in the day. It will be necessary in the way through that Colony, to inquire of Governour *Trumbull* whether he can comply with our request; if he can, to order what is on its way to such place as he shall think proper. If not, a disposition should be made to convey the article through *Connecticut* to your camp. I shall order it to be left with a safe Committee in *Connecticut*.



ALEXANDER McDUGALL TO JOSEPH WARREN.

New-York, June 12, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Your favour to our Congress on the subject of powder, filled us with great distress, which was greatly increased by our utter inability to supply you. We, however, wrote immediately to *Jersey*, where we procured a small quantity, which, with all we could purchase here, amount to six hundred and fifty-five pounds. The Congress wrote by this day's post to Governour *Trumbull*, to supply you with this quantity out of one of his easterly magazines, and we would replace.

For this purpose two wagons set off with the above, or to be forwarded to you, in case he can't comply with our request.

I am, Sir, in the utmost haste, your very humble servant,  
ALEX. McDUGALL.

To *Joseph Warren*, Esq.

ALEXANDER McDUGALL TO THE COMMITTEE FOR GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT.

New-York, June 12, 1775.

SIR: This accompanies six hundred and fifty-five pounds of powder, which you are requested to forward, with the letter to Mr. *Warren*, to *Hartford*, there to be subject to the direction of your Governour, unless he should order the powder to be deposited in some magazine in your Colony before it reaches that place. Please to give Mr. *Willett* a receipt for the quantity of barrels, and the weight. It will be most expedient that the conveyance be at night, for reasons too obvious to be mentioned, but which Mr. *Willett* will explain, if necessary.

I am, Sir, with great truth and regard, your humble servant,  
ALEXANDER McDUGALL.

P. S. The barrels should always be coopered before they are changed from cart to cart, and if they want cooping, it should be done with wooden tools.

Greenwich, June 13, 1775, five o'clock, P. M.

Received the above, and forwarded the same from Committee to Committee to *Hartford*, and if the Governour thinks best, to the Army at *Cambridge*. The powder is contained in two whole barrels, two half barrels, and fourteen quarter casks.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,  
NEHEMIAH MEAD, }  
JOHN MACKAY, } Committee.  
AMOS MEAD, }  
TITUS MEAD, }

To the Committee at *Stamford*.

Stamford, June 13, 1775, eight o'clock, P. M.

Received from the Committee of *Greenwich* the quantity of powder as before desired. By us:

JOHN HAIT, }  
SAMUEL BROKER, } Committee.  
PETER HAIT, }  
SAMUEL HUTTON, }

Newport, Rhode-Island, June 12, 1775.

On *Monday* last the Honourable General Assembly of this Colony met at *East-Greenwich*, and passed the following Act:

"This Assembly, at the Session held at *Providence* on the first *Wednesday* in *May* last, having passed an Act prohibiting his Honour the Deputy Governour and the Assistants, from administering the oath of office to the Honourable *Joseph Wanton*, Esq., who was elected Governour of this Colony for the present year; and declaring all acts by him done in the pretended capacity of Governour, null and void, until he shall be engaged in open General Assembly, and with the consent of the General Assembly, &c.; and the said *Joseph Wanton* having appeared before this Assembly, and demanded that the oath of office be administered to him; and this Assembly having taken the same into consideration, do vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that the said *Joseph Wanton* hath not given satisfaction to this Assembly, and that the said recited Act, passed at the last Session, continue and be in force until

the rising of the General Assembly at the next Session; and that this Act be immediately published, by inserting a copy thereof in the *Newport Mercury*, and *Providence Gazette*."

Colony of *Rhode-Island*, &c.

The above is a true copy of an Act passed by the General Assembly, at the Session held at *East-Greenwich*, on the second *Monday* in *June*, A. D. 1775.

Witness: HENRY WARD, Secretary.

Whitehall, London, July 18, 1775.

Lieutenant-General *Gage*, in his letters to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, dated *June 12*, 1775, gives an account that the Town of *Boston* continued to be surrounded by a large body of rebel Provincials, and that all communication with the country was cut off; that the rebels had been burning houses, and driving sheep off an island that has easy communication with the main land, which drew on a skirmish with some Marines, who drove the rebels away; but that an armed schooner, that had been sent between the island and the main land, having got on shore at high water, there was no possibility of saving her, for as the tide fell, she was left quite dry, and burned by the rebels. Two men were killed, and a few wounded.

The first embarkation of Troops from *Ireland*, consisting of three Regiments of Infantry and one of Light Cavalry, had arrived at *Boston*; and General *Gage* had published a Proclamation, offering His Majesty's pardon to all persons who should immediately lay down their arms, (except *Samuel Adams* and *John Hancock*,) declaring all persons to be traitors who should aid and assist, or hold any correspondence with the rebels; and ordering martial law to be in force within the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, so long as the present unhappy occasions shall necessarily require it.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GENERAL GAGE TO LORD DARTMOUTH.

Boston, June 12, 1775.

It has been mentioned to your Lordship, that the disaffected generally receive very quick intelligence of what is doing at home, and that those who have committed themselves most notoriously in acts of treason and rebellion, fled upon the arrival of a ship from *England*, some days before the *Nautilus* and *Falcon* sloops reached this place with your despatches. From what has passed, your Lordship will judge that a plan for rebellion has been long conceived, and the people's minds ripened for it, and it is now too open and manifest to need the opinion of the law officers. I hear that the rebels, after surprising *Ticonderoga*, made incursions and commenced hostilities upon the frontier of the Province of *Quebeck*, which will justify General *Carleton* to raise bodies of *Canadians* and *Indians* to attack them in return; and we need not be tender of calling on the Savages, as the rebels have shown us the example, by bringing as many *Indians* down against us here as they could collect.\*

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR GAGE.

By His Excellency the Honourable THOMAS GAGE, Esquire, Governour and Commander-in-Chief, in and over His Majesty's Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, and Vice-Admiral of the same:

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the infatuated multitude, who have long suffered themselves to be conducted by certain well known incendiaries and traitors, in a fatal progression of crimes against the constitutional authority of the State, have at

\* It is a singular fact that the first intelligence of the capture of *Ticonderoga* was communicated to General *Gage* through a letter from Doctor *Joseph Warren* to Mr. *John Scollay*, dated *May 17th*, at *Watertown*, just one month before he was slain at *Bunker's Hill*. A copy of the letter was procured by General *Gage*, and sent by him to Lord *Dartmouth*. The following is an extract:

"Thus a war is begun, which I have frequently said to you and others would, if not timely prevented, overturn the *British Empire*; but I hope, after a full conviction both of our ability and resolution to maintain our rights, *Britain* will act with that wisdom which is so absolutely necessary for her preservation; this I most heartily wish, as I feel a warm affection still for the Parent State." *Sparks's Washington*, Vol. 3, p. 510.



length proceeded to avowed Rebellion; and the good effects which were expected to arise from the patience and lenity of the King's Government have been often frustrated, and are now rendered hopeless, by the influence of the same evil counsels; it only remains for those who are invested with supreme rule, as well for the punishment of the guilty, as the protection of the well-affected, to prove they do not bear the sword in vain.

The infringements which have been committed upon the most sacred rights of the Crown and People of *Great Britain*, are too many to enumerate on one side, and are all too atrocious to be paliated on the other. All unprejudiced people, who have been witnesses of the late transactions in this and the neighbouring Provinces, will find, upon a transient review, marks of premeditation and conspiracy, that would justify the fulness of chastisement; and even those who are least acquainted with facts, cannot fail to receive a just impression of their enormity, in proportion as they discover the arts and assiduity by which they have been falsified or concealed.

The authors of the present unnatural revolt, never daring to trust their cause or their actions to the judgment of an impartial publick, or even to the dispassionate reflection of their followers, have uniformly placed their chief confidence in the suppression of truth; and while indefatigable and shameless pains have been taken to obstruct every appeal to the real interest of the people of *America*, the grossest forgeries, calumnies and absurdities that ever insulted human understanding, have been imposed upon their credulity. The press, that distinguished appendage of publick liberty, and, when fairly and impartially employed, its best support, has been invariably prostituted to the most contrary purposes; the animated language of ancient and virtuous times, calculated to vindicate and promote the just rights and interests of mankind, have been applied to countenance the most abandoned violation of those sacred blessings; and not only from the flagitious prints, but from the popular harangues of the times, men have been taught to depend upon activity in treason, for the security of their persons and properties; till, to complete the horrid profanation of terms and of ideas, the name of *God* has been introduced in the pulpits, to excite and justify devastation and massacre.

The minds of men have been thus gradually prepared for the worst extremities. A number of armed persons, to the amount of many thousands, assembled on the 19th of *April* last, and from behind walls and lurking holes, attacked a detachment of the King's Troops, who, not suspecting so consummate an act of frenzy, unprepared for vengeance, and willing to decline it, made use of their arms only in their own defence. Since that period, the rebels, deriving confidence from impunity, have added insult to outrage; have repeatedly fired upon the King's ships and subjects, with cannon and small-arms; have possessed the roads, and other communications by which the Town of *Boston* was supplied with provisions; and with a preposterous parade of military arrangement, they affected to hold the Army besieged; while part of their body made daily and indiscriminate invasions upon private property, and, with a wantonness of cruelty ever incident to lawless tumult, carry depredation and distress wherever they turn their steps. The actions of the 19th of *April* are of such notoriety as must baffle all attempts to contradict them, and the flames of buildings and other property from the islands and adjacent country, for some weeks past, spread a melancholy confirmation of the subsequent assertions.

In this exigency of complicated calamities, I avail myself of the last effort within the bounds of my duty, to spare the effusion of blood; to offer, and I do hereby, in His Majesty's name, offer and promise his most gracious pardon to all persons who shall forthwith lay down their arms, and return to their duties of peaceable subjects, excepting only from the benefit of such pardon, *Samuel Adams* and *John Hancock*, whose offences are of too flagitious a nature to admit of any other consideration than that of condign punishment.

And to the end that no person within the limits of this offered mercy may plead ignorance of the consequences of refusing it; I, by these presents, proclaim not only the persons above named and excepted, but also all their adherents, associates, and abettors, (meaning to comprehend

in those terms, all and every person and persons, of what class, denomination or description soever,) who have appeared in arms against the King's Government, and shall not lay down the same as afore-mentioned; and likewise all such as shall so take arms after the date hereof, or who shall in any wise protect or conceal such offenders, or assist them with money, provisions, cattle, arms, ammunition, carriages, or any other necessary for subsistence or offence; or shall hold secret correspondence with them by letter, message, single or otherwise, to be Rebels and Traitors, and as such to be treated.

And whereas, during the continuance of the present unnatural rebellion, justice cannot be administered by the common law of the land, the course whereof has for a long time past been violently impeded, and wholly interrupted, (from whence results a necessity of using and exercising the Law-Martial,) I have therefore thought fit, by the authority vested in me by the Royal Charter to this Province, to publish, and I do hereby publish, proclaim and order the use and exercise of the Law-Martial, within and throughout this Province for so long time as the present unhappy occasion shall necessarily require; whereof all persons are hereby required to take notice, and govern themselves, as well to maintain order and regularity among the peaceable inhabitants of the Province, as to resist, encounter, and subdue the Rebels and Traitors above described, by such as shall be called upon for those purposes.

To these inevitable, but, I trust, salutary measures, it is a far more pleasing part of my duty to add the assurance of my protection and support to all who, in so trying a crisis, shall manifest their allegiance to the King, and affection to the Parent State; so that such persons as may have been intimidated to quit their homes in the course of this alarm, may return to their respective callings and professions, and stand distinct and separate from the parricides of the Constitution, till *God* in his mercy shall restore to his creatures in this distracted land that system of happiness from which they have been seduced—the religion of peace, and liberty founded upon law.

Given at *Boston*, this 12th day of *June*, in the fifteenth year of the reign of His Majesty King *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, of *Great-Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c., *Annoque Domini* 1775.

THOMAS GAGE.

By His Excellency's command:

THOMAS FLUCKER, *Secretary*.

*God save the King.*

THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Watertown, June 12, 1775.

*May it please your Honours:*

The views of Administration having been made evident by their conduct for some years past, and the late regulations of civil and ecclesiastical polity of *Quebeck* having already discovered an intention to make up of the *Canadians* or *Indians* to reduce the Continent to slavery; it has been found absolutely necessary for the preservation of the liberties of *America* to take possession of the important pass of *Ticonderoga*, and to send forward a sufficient force to hold the same against any attempt which may be made to retake it, and to prevent General *Carleton* from sending forces, by the way of the Lakes, to annoy and distress the frontiers. But we apprehend there never has been any intention to give the least disturbance to our brethren of *Canada*, to whom we most sincerely wish the full and free enjoyment of their civil and religious rights.

We humbly request that your Honours would take such steps to prevent any false impressions which our enemies may attempt to make on their minds, concerning our designs, or to remove any such as have already been made, as you in your wisdom shall think most expedient; as we look upon it to be of the utmost importance that there should be no jealousies subsisting between them and the other Colonies; and we have wrote to our sister Colonies in *New-England* and to *New-York*, requesting they would make a similar application to you respecting this matter.

We are your most obedient humble servants.

To the Continental Congress.



*To the Honourable Provincial Congress of MASSACHUSETTS, now sitting at WATERTOWN, within the County of MIDDLESEX, this twelfth day of JUNE, 1775:*

*The Memorial of HENRY HOWELL WILLIAMS humbly sheweth:*

That your memorialist hath, for eleven years last past, dwelt on an island in *Boston Bay*, commonly called *Noddle's Island*, at a very high rent, and in order to pay the same was obliged to keep a large stock of horses, cattle, sheep, &c.; and that during all the years aforesaid hath paid very large taxes for said island, stock, &c., for the support of Government; and hath always endeavoured faithfully to discharge his duty, as a good member of society, towards all men, and all that was theirs. That on *Saturday*, the 27th day of *May* last, a number of armed troops, commonly called Provincials, came on to said island, by way of *Hog Island*, and did then and there kill or carry away eight horses and three cows, part of the aforesaid stock, and also burnt and destroyed one dwelling-house and barn, with all the household goods therein contained, wearing apparel, &c. That on *Monday*, the 29th of *May*, the same or another number of said armed troops, came again on to said island, and then and there did burn and destroy two other dwelling-houses, goods, &c., and three barns; and at the same time did take away and drive off from said island about five hundred old sheep, and about three hundred and forty lambs, with between thirty and forty head of horned cattle, the property of your memorialist, together with a further number of horses, hogs, &c., &c. And that on *Tuesday*, the 30th day of *May* aforesaid, they entered again on to said island, and then and there proceeded and burnt your memorialist's mansion house, with all the barns, corn-houses, and store houses, stores, provisions, goods, house furniture, wearing apparel, liquors, and utensils of all sorts, to a very considerable amount and value. And on *Saturday*, the 10th day of *June*, instant, entered again, and burnt and destroyed the warehouse, the last building on said island, by which means your poor memorialist is stripped almost naked, and destitute of any place to lay his head, with a very large family of children and servants, to the amount of between forty and fifty in number, that are destitute of any business or supplies but from your memorialist.

These are therefore to request your Honours will take his most distressed circumstances into your wise consideration, and make such order thereon as in your wisdom shall seem meet, and, as in duty bound, will pray.

HENRY HOWELL WILLIAMS.

SPRINGFIELD (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

Springfield, June 12, 1775.

Whereas, the Committee of Correspondence for this Town have signified to me, that many suspicions have been conceived of me, in this and other parts of the Country, respecting my disposition and conduct, in regard to our publick affairs; and have therefore, agreeable to the order of the Provincial Congress of the 8th of *May* last, thought proper to inquire into the same, and have called upon me for the assurance and satisfaction therein mentioned: in conformity to such request, I have assured said Committee, and beg leave respectfully to assure the publick, that I have always conceived a most tender regard for the liberty and privileges of my Country, and the greatest concern at every prospect of its injury or oppression; that however I may, as very probably I have, committed many errors and mistakes in the little part I have had in the publick affairs of the Province, yet that I never entertained a sentiment, or did any thing knowingly, that was unfriendly to its interest, but always endeavoured, according to my ability, with good conscience to promote it.

That wherein I have heretofore in any of those matters, unhappily thought differently from many of my brethren, I humbly apprehend I thought with modesty, and acted with integrity, moderation, and decency, and in some good degree as became one who realized the account he was to give of his conduct. That as a private member of society, I have long since submitted myself to the publick sense and opinion; that I have always conformed myself to the regulations of the former Continental Congress; that I will by no means obstruct any measures that may be taken

for the common defence; that I am determined to conform myself to all such future regulations as may be dictated by the wisdom of the Continent; and to join my countrymen, on all occasions, according to my abilities, in defence of the rights and liberties of *America*.

JOHN WORTHINGTON.

In Committee of Correspondence, Springfield, }  
June 12, 1775. }

This Committee having examined *John Worthington*, Esq., with respect to his principles and conduct, agreeable to the order of the Provincial Congress of the 8th of *May* last, and having received full and ample assurance of his friendly disposition to his Country, and of his readiness to join in defence of its rights and liberties; hereby declare their full satisfaction and confidence therein; and recommend him to the favourable opinion of the publick, and to the treatment and respect due to a friend of his Country.

By order of the Committee:

NATHANIEL BREWER, *Chairman*.

N. B. This Town in town-meeting having heard him on the same matters, voted themselves also satisfied therewith.

COMMITTEES OF CHELMSFORD, ETC., MASSACHUSETTS.

Chelmsford, June 12, 1775.

Whereas, I, *Timothy Brown* of *Tewksbury*, have been suspected as an enemy to the liberties of *America*, I do hereby acknowledge that I have in times past said something (though with no inimical design) that were taken as of an inimical nature. I am heartily sorry I said those things, and desire the forgiveness of all persons that I have offended thereby; and do declare myself a friend to the Charter privileges of my Country, and that I will use all lawful endeavours to maintain and defend the same.

TIMOTHY BROWN.

The above written acknowledgment was accepted by the Committee of Correspondence for the Towns of *Chelmsford*, *Billerica*, and *Tewksbury*, and they do hereby recommend the above named *Timothy Brown* to the charity and friendship of the good people through the Country.

In the name and by order of the Committee of said Towns:

SIMEON SPALDING, *Chairman*.

*To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, now sitting at WATERTOWN, in said Province:*

*The Petition of the Committee of Safety for and in behalf of the Town of KITTERY, humbly sheweth:*

That the Committee of Safety for this Town earnestly desire the favour of making a representation to your Honours of the distresses and insults we are daily subjected to, from the hands of our enemies, being constrained thereto by the duty and regard we owe to said Town, our families, and the community.

Such threatenings being sent on shore, by letters and otherwise, from the Captains of the *Scarborough* and *Canceaux* men-of-war, as would disgrace us as *Englishmen* and rational beings, should we tamely pass over. We are told, that our houses shall be beat down, and the inhabitants made prisoners of, whenever it is in their power, with all the horrors of bloodshed and butchery laid before us. Three cannon-shot have already been fired upon the side opposite to this Town, among the houses, but providentially no lives lost. Although we keep a regular Watch, night and day, we are in expectation every moment, on the least pretence, of having our habitations and effects demolished, and our persons seized as aforesaid.

We are already cut off from all provisions, salt, and molasses, by water; and notwithstanding our being in some measure prepared to defend with musketry, we are destitute of the necessaries for the use of cannon, of which we have two very good ones, and a prospect of obtaining more, having also a very advantageous place for a battery, under some considerable improvement, erected by the late Sir *William Pepperell*, on the news of the *Chebucta* Fleets appearing on the *Nova-Scotia* shore. The inhabitants are willing and ready to exert themselves for the honour of



the Province, as well as for the defence of themselves in particular.

We of this Committee, looking upon the said Town as very unhappy in such a defenceless situation, apply to your Honours, as the guardians of our rights, and beg leave to ask for supplies of powder and balls, for the use of the battery proposed, as a defence against the ravages of merciless men. If it should in your wisdom seem meet to grant us this favour, humbly desire your advice how far, and the manner in which we ought to proceed, as we should be utterly against taking any steps that might interrupt your deliberations. We ask not for this assistance because we are intimidated or dismayed, but that we may have an opportunity to distinguish ourselves in favour of a cause that appears to us so just and reasonable on our part, on the other to be fraught with cruelty and oppression beyond our abilities to set forth. Being reduced to this alternative, either to fight or perish by famine, we choose the first, if we can procure the rational means for defence. We submit the matter to your goodness and wisdom, and doubt not of your inclination to relieve us, if our request appears reasonable to you, and consistent with the general plan of operation.

By order of the Committee:

CHAS. CHAUNCEY, JUN., *Chairman.*

Kittery, June 12, 1775.

ELISHA PHELPS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Lebanon, June 12, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: When I left you I came to this Town, and informed his Honour the Governour the distressing situation I was in concerning the team, and his Honour told me there was no difficulty; that I must apply to *Albany*, and they would pay me, and he would not have me fetch any cannon without orders from the Continental Congress, which advice I shall take. He also informed me that I was appointed Commissary-General for the Northern forces, so that you cannot expect any cannon by any of my assistance at present. I thought it my duty to let you know it; should be glad that this might be read in Congress, as I thought my fidelity suspected. Gentlemen, I am, with the greatest esteem, your very humble servant at command,

ELISHA PHELPS.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEWFOUNDLAND, DATED JUNE 12, 1775.

The necessities of the people here for bread are increasing daily; the labourers and fishermen have some time been at short allowance, and I am informed that many families here have not any to eat. The merchants have despatched vessels to *England*, *Ireland*, and *Quebeck*, in search for bread, and I doubt not many are gone and going to *America* on the same errand; but this is conjecture, founded on the knowledge and solicitations to undertake the voyage, of which I, being suspected and watched, can get no certain intelligence. The minds of the merchants are much agitated. As I transiently fall in company here, where my particular sentiments are not so well known, I hear merchants concerting schemes for their supplies, and complaining that they must discharge their men; then cursing *New-York*, "the only place," say they, "we depend on to assist us in subjugating the *Americans*;" then cursing the Continental Congress, and proposing the most inhuman procedure, whenever they shall fall into their hands; anon cursing the *Poole* Petition, and swearing they had no hand in it; that the *Poole* men had destroyed them. "However," say they, "when General *Burgoyne* arrives, he will draw in *New-York*, and we shall yet bring *America* to terms; but if he should fail, those *Light-horse* will soon secure the Continental Congress; our Troops will march through the Country, and make them feel the effects of their obstinacy; they have no Regular Troops, and what can they do with a few undisciplined men? but, damn them, what shall we do, if they are united; we shall never be able to do any thing with them." This, gentlemen, and much of the same nature, is the reward you have from a sample of *England*; blessings *God* has given to men, are secured to them.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON, DATED JUNE 13, 1775.

The troubles and misunderstandings between us and the Colonies are very much felt here. Remittances are unavoidably very long; and this, added to a total deprivation of trade, puts us in a dreadful situation, and has a still worse appearance to look onwards. The very people who first oppressed the Colonies here, in full assurance that all they asked must be complied with, now say, "What can we do? We have gone too far, but cannot recede." But I hope there are still left some able men, whose humanity will lead them to step forward, and by well-timed arguments will still adjust matters, and that we shall again see that good opinion between both which has hitherto made us great and powerful. This happy hour I most ardently wish for.

GOVERNOUR MARTIN TO HENRY WHITE.

Cape Fear, North-Carolina, June 13, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: I take the liberty to enclose herewith a letter to Mrs. *Martin*, whose safe arrival I am most anxious to learn, the winds having been easterly almost ever since her departure.

I shall be extremely obliged to you if you can contrive to send me, with the royal standard I mentioned to you some time ago, or without it if that is not to be had, a good tent and marquee, of the size of the Colonel's tent in the Army, with a tent-bed to fit the boot of it, and furniture, viz: mattress, bolster, and pillows; to be sent by any vessel bound to *Cape Fear* River, or in default thereof to *Newbern*, directed to the care of Mr. *Cornell*.

I should rejoice to see a prospect of a happy termination of the present deplorable times, that more or less threatens the happiness of every man throughout the *British* Dominions.

My compliments and warmest good wishes attend you and Mrs. *White* and all your family; and I am, dear Sir, ever yours,

JO. MARTIN.

The Honourable *Henry White*, Esq., *New-York*.

P. S. I forbear to give you your due additions on the outside of my letter, to obviate prying curiosity.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ONE OF THE VIRGINIA DELEGATES TO HIS FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 13, 1775.

Notwithstanding the many accounts of the sailing of the Troops from *Ireland*, a vessel has just arrived here from *Newry*, in five weeks, the Captain of which says that none had sailed; and that just as he was coming away, orders were said to have come to them to hold themselves in readiness to embark for *Gibraltar*.

Colonel *Skene* (owner of the schooner taken on Lake *Champlain*, whose son was also taken there, and is now prisoner in *Connecticut*) is just arrived from *London* with a commission to be Governour of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, but, private letters say, is charged with a power from Administration to influence the members of the Congress by arguments drawn on the Treasury, over which he has unlimited power; but as we have no occasion for his services at the forts, and do not intend to deal in his reasonings, he remains a prisoner upon his parole, to keep within eight miles of the city, between the two rivers, and not to correspond with any person on political subjects.

As to the two engagements at the islands near *Boston*, we are told, but not with a degree of confirmation, that the last on *Noddle's Island* was a very serious business, near fifteen hundred being engaged on each side, and that the Regulars had two hundred killed and wounded, the loss on the side of the Provincials being merely trifling.

I think we may finish in a fortnight, but can only guess, without forming any precise judgment about it.

CAROLINE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

MR. PURDIE: Influenced by the best motives, and divested of national prejudice, the Committee of *Caroline* request you to publish the enclosed extracts. They mean



nothing more by the publication than to excite in the breast of their countrymen an honest indignation against the authors of their present calamities; to animate them to a manly opposition against a ministerial system of politicks evidently calculated to enslave *America*; to stimulate them to that industry, and recommend that economy, which are requisite to a discharge of their just debts; and to expose the insidious arts and designs of *British* merchants and factors, who seem highly pleased with a prospect of having the power of seizing in an instant, with merciless rapacity, the property of the poor and laborious Colonist, by means of an establishment of a more compendious course of law.

SAMUEL HAWES, Clerk.

*Extract of a Letter from D. Cross, Glasgow, to James Dunlop, merchant, Port-Royal, June 8, 1775:*

I believe also when your courts are opened, you will meet with better and speedier justice than ever, and perhaps a different mode of having it administered. That you will see an immediate and heavy pressure, when this happens, upon certain classes of the debtors, and their property brought to market; for I believe the late confusions will have given to most individuals a character that is like a stamp upon them, and will, I believe, occasion what I have said taking place, in a very extensive degree. I besides see in conversation, an uncommon backwardness still in people's trusting their property in *America*, nor can I help adopting and approving the sentiment, when I consider what strong reasons they have for it.

*To James Dunlop and Patrick Kennan, merchants, on Rappahannock, June 13, 1775:*

Let your list of debts, your books, and every other document and voucher you send to us, be all sworn to before a proper magistrate; take your assistants and book-keepers' oaths also in the same manner, and study to make every matter as authentick and firm as the nature of the things will admit. You ought to have done this with the last list of debts that you sent; you cannot now err on the side of too much precaution and care, for ascertaining things hereafter. You cannot suffer in taking paper money in payment, so far as you have occasion to pay it away again for debts that you owe; but beware of taking it farther, when you find the exchange affected much, or the difference between it and gold and silver considerable.

Mr. Dunlop, in his letter of the sixteenth of July, by the *Jean*, in case the trade opens again, recommends to us to put the collection of debts into other hands than the sale of goods, each to be under a different firm. This appears to us proper; and if Mr. Kennan is of the same opinion as to his business, he will please to mention it, and each will name the person he would choose to take charge of the collection, and powers will, in proper time, be given. We suppose yourselves would choose to take charge of the sales, and of the apparent new business.

Mr. Morris and Mr. Walsh would be the proper people to devolve the collection upon. If any others, let them be named.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BALTIMORE, JUNE 13, 1775.

A gentleman who last night came here from *Williamsburgh*, which place he left on *Friday* last, *June 9th*, brings an account of Lord *Dunmore* having the day before gone on board a man-of-war, at *York*, with his lady and family. The Assembly sent a deputation to invite him to return, and assured him of protection, but he refused, and pretends to be afraid of being assassinated. He had dismissed the *Indian* hostages, and desired them to make the best of their way to their own country. Two of them have since surrendered themselves, the other is not yet found.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THEIR DELEGATES IN CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of one of your resolves, we appointed a Committee to view the post in the Highlands, whose report, with a map thereto annexed, you have enclosed, which is all we have as yet been able to do respect-

ing that matter. As soon as the proper measures on that head are concluded, we will transmit them to you.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servants. By order of the Congress:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, President.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

BENEDICT ARNOLD TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Crown Point, June 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As commanding officer here, I think it my duty to acquaint you that having lately sent one Mr. *Hoit*, an *Indian* interpreter, to *Montreal* and *Caughnawaga*, to consult with some gentlemen of my acquaintance in the former place, and with the *Indians* in the latter, to know their intentions in the present dispute, he has returned with the agreeable intelligence that the *Indians* are determined not to assist the King's Troops against us. They have made a law, that if any one of their tribe shall take up arms for that purpose, he shall immediately be put to death; this is confirmed by five of their chief men, who are now here with their wives and children, and press very hard for our Army to march into *Canada*, being much disgusted with the Regulars. The *Stockbridge Indians*, whom I lately sent to them with a belt of wampum and speech, confirm the above. My friend in *Montreal*, a merchant and gentleman of probity, writes that I may depend on the truth of the above, and that great numbers of the *Canadians* have expected a visit from us for some time, and are very impatient of our delay, as they are determined to join us whenever we appear in the Country with any force to support them. This I am confirmed in by a party of the *Canadians*, having just returned from a short excursion to the *Isle-au-Noir*, (*Nut-Island*,) where a number of them offer to join us.

Governour *Carleton*, by every artifice, has been able to raise only about twenty *Canadians*, and those of the noblesse, who are in expectation of places of profit or honour. He is now at *Montreal*, and has threatened the *English* merchants, if they will not defend it in case of an attack, he will set fire to the city and retreat to *Quebeck*. There are now in *Canada*, of the Seventh and Twenty-Sixth Regiments, only five hundred and fifty effective men, who are quartered in the following manner: At *St. John's* and *Chamblée*, three hundred; at *Montreal*, forty; at *Lachine*, twelve; at *Trois Rivières*, forty; at *Quebeck*, one hundred and twenty; and some small parties at out-posts. From the foregoing matters of fact, which you may rely are undoubted, and from my personal knowledge of the country and disposition of the *Canadians*, I beg leave to observe, that if the honourable Congress should think proper to take possession of *Montreal* and *Quebeck*, I am positive two thousand men might very easily effect it; for which purpose I beg leave to recommend the following plan of operations:

The men to embark at *Crown Point* and proceed in the sloop, schooner, batteaus, &c., to within two miles of *St. John's*; seventeen hundred men to form a grand division, of which one thousand to proceed directly to *Montreal*; the other division of seven hundred to cut off the communication between *St. John's*, *Chamblée*, and *Montreal*, and the remainder to remain with the shipping to secure our retreat, who will be able, by a diversion in favour of the main body, until they show themselves off *Montreal*, whose gates, on our arrival at that place, will be opened by our friends there, in consequence of a plan for that purpose already entered into by them. Of course *Chamblée* and *St. John's* must fall into our hands, as well as *Quebeck*, unless a number of troops should arrive there before this plan can be carried into execution, the utility of which the honourable Congress will be the best judges. But I must beg to observe, it appears to me the reduction of those places would discourage the enemies of *American* liberty, and, in a great degree, frustrate their cruel and unjust plan of operation, and be the means of restoring that solid peace and harmony between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, so essential to the well being of both; at least it will, in my humble opinion, be more advantageous, and attended with less expense, to reduce *Quebeck* and keep possession, where provisions of every kind are plenty, and a strong fortress built to our hand, than rebuilding *Ticonderoga*, as it will entirely deprive *Great Britain* of the lucrative branch, (the fur trade,) and be an inexhaustible granary in case we are



reduced to want, as there are annually shipped from *Quebeck* five hundred thousand bushels of wheat. I hope the exigency of the times, and my zeal in the service of my Country, will apologize for the liberty of giving my sentiments so freely on a subject which the honourable Congress are doubtless the best judges of, but which they in their hurry may not have paid that attention to the matter requires. I beg leave to add, that if no person appears who will undertake to carry the plan into execution, (if thought advisable,) I will undertake, and, with the smiles of Heaven, answer for the success of it, provided I am supplied with men, &c., to carry it into execution without loss of time. I must beg leave to refer you to the bearer, Captain *Oswald*, for particulars, who is entrusted with an imperfect memorandum of such articles as are most wanted.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most devoted humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress, now sitting at *Philadelphia*.

P. S. The *American Colonies* in general are equally in danger from *Canada*, whether it remain in the hands of *Britain*, under the present form of its Government, or should be restored to the *French*, which many suspect is intended by the Ministry in *England*. But should *Canada* be placed under a free Government, agreeable to the *English Constitution*, like the other Colonies, we should forever after be secure from any danger that way, as it would ever remain an *English Colony*, even though by the treachery of the *British Ministry* it should be given up to *France*; so that this measure, though at first view it might seem like going beyond our own province to invade the rights of *Great Britain*, yet a due regard to our own defence, as well as the advantage of the inhabitants of that Country, makes it necessary.

B. A.

#### Memorandum.

Propose, in order to give satisfaction to the different Colonies, that Colonel *Hinman's* Regiment, now on their march from *Connecticut* to *Ticonderoga*, should form part of the Army—say one thousand men; 500 do. to be sent from *New-York*, including one company of one hundred men of the train of artillery, properly equipped; 500 do. *B. Arnold's* Regiment, including seamen and marines on board the vessels: (no *Green Mountain Boys*.) The men, as many as can be, to be supplied with bayonets, cartridge-boxes, and powder-horns: 2 able engineers: 2 good armourers and tools: 100 tents and marquees: 1000 blankets, one Regiment being already provided: proper camp-equipage, kettles, cups, &c., for one thousand men: 4 brass field-pieces and carriages furnished: two 7 & 8-inch brass mortars, do.: shells and shot of every kind for do.: 2000 pounds of gun-powder: 300 shovels and spades: 200 hoes: 200 pick-axes: 200 narrow do.: 50 broad do.: 500 hatchets: 50 hand-saws, sorted: 10 crosscut do.: 10 whip do.: 5 reams of cartridge paper: 10 pieces of raven's duck for sails: 50 pounds of sewing twine: needles, palms, &c.: match stuff, slow: 6 sets of house and ship carpenter's tools: 6 sets of harness for horses: necessary provisions for two thousand men for two months.

COLONEL B. ARNOLD TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Crown Point, June 13, 1775.

SIR: I have the pleasure to acquaint your Honour, that having lately sent one *Hoit*, and *Indian* interpreter, to *Montreal* to consult with some gentlemen of my acquaintance there, and with the *Indians* in *Caughnawaga*, to know their intentions in the present dispute, he has returned with the agreeable intelligence that the *Indians* are determined not to assist the King's Troops against us, and have passed a law that the first of their tribe who takes up arms against us shall be punished with death. This advice is confirmed by five chief men of their tribe who are now here with their wives and children, and press very hard for our Army to march into *Canada*, as they are much disgusted with the Regular Troops.

Three *Indians* of the *Stockbridge* Nation whom I lately sent to *Caughnawaga*, with a belt of wampum and a speech, confirm the above, which my friend, a gentleman

of probity in *Montreal*, writes me may be depended on, and that great numbers of the *Canadians* have expected us there for some time, and are impatient of our delay, being determined to join us whenever we appear with a sufficient force to support them. This I am confirmed in by many of the *Canadians* themselves, having just returned from an excursion down the lake, where I saw numbers of them, who offered to join us. Governour *Carleton* has been able by every artifice to raise no more than twenty *Canadians* of the noblesse, who are in expectation of places of profit or honour. He is much disgusted with the merchants in *Montreal*, and has threatened them, if they will not defend the City in case of an attack, he will set fire to it, and retreat to *Quebeck*. He has in *Canada* only five hundred and fifty effective men of the King's Troops, so that it would be a very easy matter to possess ourselves of the country if thought expedient.

I have wrote very fully on the subject to the honourable Continental Congress, and sketched out a plan for taking possession of the country if thought advisable by them, which will not only deprive *Great Britain* of the lucrative branch of the fur-trade, but secure to us an inexhaustible granary, (as there is annually shipped at *Quebeck*, five hundred thousand bushels of wheat,) and may very possibly be a means of discouraging the *British Ministry* in their coercive measures, and restoring that peace and harmony between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies* so essential to the well-being of both.

I am, very respectfully, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

P. S. The plan of our expedition to *Canada*, your Honour will please not to disclose.

B. A.

JOSEPH PALMER TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, June 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: There is very great distress in this camp for want of tents or commodious barracks; I therefore humbly beg you will immediately take this important matter into serious consideration. Perhaps if a number of houses, contiguous to the parade, were hired of the owners by the Colony, and solely appropriated as barracks, the soldiery might be well accommodated; this, if recommended by Congress, it is probable might be effected. The least delay in this affair, it appears to me, will be attended with very bad consequences. I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servant,

JOSEPH PALMER, *Quartermaster General*.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 13, 1775.

This Committee beg leave earnestly to recommend to the Honourable Congress, that the above representation from the Quartermaster General be taken into immediate consideration, especially as the Committee, from their own knowledge find the rooms too much crowded, and the healths and lives of the soldiers thereby greatly exposed; and if tents cannot be immediately furnished, that some barracks be forthwith erected.

BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman*.

N. B. It is presumed some lives are already lost from their being thus crowded.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress now sitting in WATERTOWN: the Petition of LEMUEL TRESCOTT, of BOSTON, humbly sheweth:

That before he left *Boston* he had, for a considerable time, assisted at *Faneuil Hall* in teaching a number of men the military art, and upon his arrival in the camp at *Cambridge*, he was, by some gentlemen of the Committee of Safety and Council of War, encouraged to raise a company out of those men, and to hope that a sufficient number of small-arms would be provided for them by the Colony, as, by the stipulation with General *Gage*, (which was consented to by the honourable Congress,) their own were lodged with the Selectmen of *Boston*; that he has now



forty men, including officers, who have borne their share of camp duty since the 17th of last month; but the want of fire-arms not only prevents their perfecting themselves in military exercises, and is the reason why the company is not now complete, but leads those who are enlisted to fear they will soon be dismissed from the service: Your petitioner therefore humbly prays the honourable Congress to take this matter into consideration, and afford such relief to a number of men whose situation is peculiarly distressing, as in your wisdom and goodness you may deem meet; at the same time assuring your Honours, that it will be their grand aim to be as much distinguished by their exertions for the common cause of their Country, as they have been by their sufferings, and that, as in duty bound, shall pray, &c.

LEMUEL TRESCOTT, *in behalf of a Company.*

Cambridge, June 13, 1775.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, June 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By a gentleman of undoubted veracity, (who left *Boston* last *Friday*, and who had frequent opportunity of conversing with the principal officers in General *Gage's* Army,) we are informed there is a great probability there when the expected re-enforcement arrives from *Europe*, that General *Gage* will secure some advantageous posts near *Boston*, viz: *Dorchester* and *Charlestown*. We are unacquainted with the importance of those posts, but if this hint should be in any decree useful, it will give us pleasure.

COMMITTEE OF EXETER, N. H., TO COMMITTEE OF CONWAY.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, June 14, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with your request, we have agreed to spare you twenty-five pounds of powder out of our small stock, which is all we can possibly spare at present. Have advised Mr. *Burbank* to purchase lead, as we suppose he will be able to procure that article without any difficulty. As to arms, its out of power to supply you, nor do we think they are to be had in the Province. If the *Indians* should have any design to trouble our frontiers, we flatter ourselves we shall have such notice of their designs, as to be able to guard ourselves against them. We have determined to employ three companies at present on the frontier for the purposes of observation, which will, we suppose, afford you both necessary information and security for the present.

You may rest assured that it was merely an oversight, unless, as we rather suppose, the letter failed, that your Town was not desired to send a Delegate to the Congress. If you think proper, we think it quite suitable that you choose some person or persons to represent you at the next meeting of the Congress, which will be the 27th of this month.

We have enclosed a copy of the letter on which the other Towns have acted.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ONE OF THE VIRGINIA DELEGATES TO HIS FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 14, 1775.

Col. *Washington* has been pressed to take the supreme command of the *American* Troops encamped at *Roxbury*, and I believe will accept the appointment, though with much reluctance, he being deeply impressed with the importance of that honourable trust, and diffident of his own (superiour) abilities. We have determined to keep ten thousand men in *Massachusetts-Bay*, and five thousand in different parts of the *New-York* Government, at the expense of the Continent; and probably a larger sum of money will be emitted in order to carry on the war, preparations for which go on rapidly in this place.

It seems likely that some of the newly arrived Generals were intended for the Southern Colonies, but no Troops can be spared from *Boston*. The Provincials talk much of storming that Town, and it is expected by many.

The Congress will sit long. Adjusting the expenses of each Colony for the common cause, and settling proper funds for the Army, are subjects fruitful of debate, and of the utmost consequence.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF NEW-JERSEY.

*Friends and Fellow-Subjects:*

How fashionable soever might have been the doctrine of passive obedience and non-resistance in those dark times of ignorance and barbarism, when the laity had no more instruction than to repeat the *Lord's* prayer, nor the clergy any more reading than would save them from hanging; it is, in this lettered and enlightened age, so generally exploded, that save a few Tories, who are pensioned out of their consciences, or a few gowns and cassocks who are looking for an *American* mitre, no man is fond of broaching so gross an absurdity. It is certainly the voice of unbiassed, uncorrupted reason, that whatever one man has a right to enjoy, no other man has a right to take from him; and that, consequently, the first has an undoubted right to repel the invasion of the latter. And what does it matter whether this invasion is made under the character of king, highwayman, or robber? since it is not from the person of the invader, but from the nature of the invasion itself, that the injury receives its complexion, and on which the right of the resistance is founded. And as this is the undoubted right of all mankind, it is, with respect to *Englishmen*, reduced to absolute certainty by a most memorable clause in the Great Charter, whereby four out of twenty-five Barons may show the King his miscarriage; and on his not amending it, may, with the residue of the twenty-five and commonalty, redress themselves by force. It is true the *Americans* have no Barons to shew the King his miscarriage; but the Barons appointed for that purpose by *Magna Charta* being thereto appointed as representatives of the people aggrieved, it is evident, from the nature of our local circumstances, that we must have a right to appoint, in the room of such Barons, a representation for the same purpose; and that such representatives must have the same right to lay our grievances before the throne, and the aggrieved, in default of redress by the Prince, have a right, in the same manner, to redress themselves. In the light of this representation I consider the Continental Congress, being expressly chosen to present our grievances to His Majesty, and to supplicate him to remove our complaints. To this purpose they are undoubtedly the Barons of *North-America*, on whom the united confederated Colonies depend for counsel and protection, agreeable to the security granted to the subjects by the 64th section of *Magna Charta* above referred to, and which, it being probably in few of your hands, I choose to give you at large:

*The Security for the Rights, Privileges, and Immunities of Magna Charta.*

Section 64. "And whereas we have granted all these things for *God's* sake, and for the amendment of our Government, and for the better compromising the discord arisen betwixt us and our Barons, we, willing that the same be firmly held and established forever, do make and grant our Barons the security underwritten, to wit: that the Barons shall choose five-and-twenty Barons of the Realm, whom they list, who shall, to their utmost power, keep, and hold, and cause to be kept, the peace and liberties which we have granted and confirmed by this our present Charter; insomuch that if we or our justice, or our bailiff, or any of our ministers act contrary to the same, in any thing against any person, or offend against any article of this peace and security, and such our miscarriage be shown to four Barons of the said five-and-twenty, those four Barons shall come to us, or to our justice if we be out of the Realm, and shew us our miscarriage, and require us to amend the same without delay; and if we do not amend it, or if we be out of the Realm, our justice do not amend it within forty days after the same is shewn to us, or to our justice if we be out of the Realm, then the said four Barons shall report the same to the residue of the said five-and-twenty Barons, and then those five-and-twenty Barons, with the commonalty of *England*, may distress us by all the ways they can, to wit: by seizing on our castles, lands, and possessions, and by what other means they can, till it be amended, as they shall judge, saving our own person, the person of our Queen, and the persons of our children; and when it is amended, they shall be subject to us as before; and whoever of the Realm will, may swear that, for the performance of these things, he will obey the commands of the said five-and-twenty Barons, and that together with them,



he will distress us to his power; and we will give publick and free leave to swear, to all that will swear, and will never hinder any one; and for all persons of the Realm, that of their own accord will swear to the said five-and-twenty Barons, to distress us, we will issue our presents, commanding them to swear as aforesaid."

This, my countrymen, is the security granted to you and me, and by this are confirmed all the rights and privileges of an *English* subject, and which the present Administration seem determined to destroy. It may, indeed, be said, that we do not belong to the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and that *New-Jersey* is not attacked. But can you be so supine as to suppose that you will continue to enjoy those inestimable rights of *Magna Charta*, when other Colonies are bereft of them; and that the *Massachusetts* is the only Colony to be punished? Have they not done more for the parent State than any Colony on the Continent? Did they not in the war before the last, with very little assistance, take *Cape-Breton*, the *Dunkirk* of *North-America*, the giving up of which procured a peace for the Mother Country? Did they not the last war send seven thousand Troops into the field, under the King's General, until the final conquest of *Canada*? Notwithstanding all this, you see their capital blocked up, their Charter mutilated, and an armed force ready to execute the arbitrary measures of the Minister, who covers himself under a purchased majority in Parliament. Hostilities being actually begun in the *Massachusetts*, you cannot expect to fare better than your sister Colony. Your trade is already restrained, and you are daily to expect open violence to enforce unconstitutional taxation. Thus we have lived to see our most sacred rights daringly invaded; but we will not live to see them destroyed. The wound by which our liberty falls ought first to reach our hearts; and the rich torrents of our blood be shed as a libation on the pile of expiring freedom.

The power of the people can never be lost or impaired, unless they are wanting to themselves. What they could once do, they can and ought to do now. Let us therefore cordially unite under the Continental Congress, and look to them as the *English* formerly did to their Barons, and I am confident in so good a cause we shall have the protection of Heaven; which is the sincere desire, and prayer of

June 14, 1775.

A JERSEY FARMER.

WILLIAM DUER TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 14, 1775.

SIR: My conduct before the Committee of *Albany*, with relation to the northern frontier of this Colony, hath, as I am informed, given rise to sundry insinuations derogatory to my character as a gentleman, and as a friend to the rights and liberties of *America*. Conscious, Sir, that my bosom has never prompted a thought inimical to this Colony, I feel, on this occasion, the warmth of an innocent, injured man. By the report industriously circulated to my disadvantage, my person and property are deeply endangered. At the same time, the facts on which such tales are founded are of such a nature that it would be improper to explain them to the world.

I do, therefore, Sir, most humbly entreat of your honourable House, that they would be pleased to appoint some gentlemen as a Committee to examine into my conduct this afternoon; and that they will pardon any seeming impropriety in naming a time for that purpose by me, which I am confident will readily be done, when the House are informed that my presence is absolutely necessary in the County where I reside on *Tuesday* next, to hold a court there.

I have the honour to be, Sir, with the highest respect, your most obedient and humble servant,

WILLIAM DUER.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

WILLIAM GODDARD TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 14, 1775.

SIR: I beg the favour of you to take an early opportunity to lay before the Provincial Congress the enclosed papers, which are explanatory of a design formed by the friends of freedom for annihilating the old Parliamentary

and Ministerial Post-Office in this Country, by the institution of a new one, on a constitutional basis, or such of them as you may judge proper; a design that, for obvious reasons, hath met with the approbation and support of many respectable Colonies, Cities, and Towns, both in *New-England* and the Southern Governments, as far as *North-Carolina*; not doubting but the Representatives of the free people of this great Province, now convened in this City, will cheerfully co-operate in giving success to a measure of such capital consequence to the publick welfare, and so indispensable at this interesting crisis.

Being on my way to *Philadelphia* from the Eastern Colonies, where I purpose to address the honourable Continental Congress on the subject of the *American* Post-Office, which, I am persuaded, will, ere long, take that matter into their serious consideration, and form such a general plan as will prove extensively beneficial to all *America*, I should be extremely glad to obtain the resolutions of the Provincial Congress of *New-York* relative to the business in question, previous to my departure, and as expeditiously as possible. To prevent an imputation of vanity and ostentation, it may be necessary for me to add, that I engaged in this business with the advice and by the desire of many gentlemen of the first character on this Continent, and am happy in being made an instrument, however humble, in promoting the interest of my native Country.

I am, with great respect, Sir, your very humble and most obedient servant,

WILLIAM GODDARD.

To the Honourable *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 12, 1775.

*Resolved*, As the opinion of this Congress, that Post-Riders be immediately established, to go from *Cambridge*, and to ride the following roads, viz: To *Georgetown*, in the County of *Lincoln*; to *Haverhill*; to *Providence*; to *Woodstock*, by *Worcester*; and from *Worcester* to *Great Barrington*, by *Springfield*; and to *Falmouth*, in the County of *Barnstable*.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 15, 1775.

*Resolved*, That *David Cheever*, Esquire, for reasons by him offered, be excused from serving in the business to which he was appointed by a resolve of this Congress, passed the 12th instant, for establishing Post-Offices and Post-Riders; and that Mr. *William Greenleaf*, *Joseph Greenleaf*, Esquire, and Mr. *John Pitts*, be added to the Committee then appointed.

JOSEPH WARREN, *President pro tem*.

Province of New-Hampshire, }  
In Provincial Congress, May 18, 1775. }

*Resolved*, That a Post-Office be established in *Portsmouth*, and that *Samuel Penhallow*, Esq., of said *Portsmouth*, be appointed Postmaster; and that the members of this Congress from *Portsmouth* be a Committee to agree with a Post-Rider or Riders.

MATTHEW THORNTON, *President*.

Providence, May 30, 1775.

The General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut* and the Provincial Congresses of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire* having seconded the wishes and efforts of the friends of freedom in the Southern Colonies, for abolishing that ministerial engine, the unconstitutional Post-Office, by the establishment of Posts and Post-Offices, on constitutional principles; the Committee of this Town have judged it highly expedient and necessary, at this interesting juncture, to co-operate with their brethren in the important business in question: They have therefore appointed Mr. *John Carter* to act as Postmaster here, and Mr. *Peter Mumford* as Post-Rider, under the direction and control of said Committee, until the legislature of this Colony or the Continental Congress shall be pleased to make other regulations and appointments.

JAMES ANGELL, *Clerk*.

Newport, May 31, 1775.

Whereas the intercourse between the Colonies hath for some time been, and is now, interrupted by the Riders



being dismissed by the Postmaster-General, and as there is no person who acts as Postmaster in this Town; therefore,

*Voted*, That Mr. *Nathaniel Otis* be appointed to receive and deliver the Letters brought to, and to be sent from this Town, under the direction of this Committee, until the General Assembly of this Colony or this Committee shall order otherwise, and that he shall receive for each Letter agreeable to the schedule delivered him by this Committee, and that this Vote be published in the next *Newport Mercury*.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Committee :

THOMAS BUMNEIL, Clerk.

—  
Stamford, May 5, 1775.

We, the subscribers, do fully approve of Mr. *Goddard's* plan for establishing a constitutional Post-Office in *America*, and do therefore recommend Mr. *Ebenezer Weed*, of said *Stamford*, to receive and forward all Letters, until the business of the Post-Office shall be regulated by the Continental Congress. Signed in behalf of the Committee :

JOHN WAIT, JR.

—  
Norwalk, May 7, 1775.

We, the subscribers, do fully approve of Mr. *Goddard's* plan for establishing a constitutional Post-Office in *America*, and do therefore recommend Mr. *John Betts*, of *Norwalk*, to receive and forward all Letters, until the business of the Post-Office shall be regulated by the Continental Congress.

SAMUEL GRUMAN,  
THADDEUS BETTS,  
ELIPHALET LOCKWOOD, } Committee.

—  
Middletown, May 7, 1775.

SIR: I have seen as many of the Committee as I could conveniently, and we have agreed to nominate, as a Postmaster for this Town, Mr. *Wensly Hobby*, a gentleman of acknowledged ability and integrity, and known attachment to the *American* cause, and one that possesses in a high degree the confidence of the people of this Town.

I am, Sir, your obedient humble servant,

TITUS HOSMER.

Mr. *William Goddard*, at *Hartford*; by express.

—  
Hartford, May 7, 1775.

We, the subscribers, do fully approve of the plan for establishing a constitutional Post-Office offered by Mr. *Goddard*, and do recommend Mr. *William Ellery*, of this place, to receive and forward all Letters, until the business of the Post-Office shall be regulated by the Continental Congress.

SAMUEL WYLLYS,  
SAMUEL WADSWORTH, } Committee.

—  
New London, June 6, 1775.

We, the subscribers, do fully approve of the plan for establishing a constitutional Post-Office offered by Mr. *W. Goddard*, and do recommend Mr. *Boswell Saltonstall*, of this Town, to receive and forward all Letters, until the business of the Post-Office shall be regulated by the Continental Congress.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JR., } Committee of  
JOHN DESHON, } Correspondence.

*Elias Bears* appointed Postmaster at *New-Haven*, and *Thaddeus Burr*, Esq., at *Fairfield*.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 14, 1775.

SIR: We embrace the opportunity that now offers, to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 26th and 31st of *May* last, and of the 1st and 10th of *June* instant, covering several important resolves of your respectable body. We have, as far as in our power, endeavoured to comply with these requisitions. Copies of some of our proceedings have already been, and such as were not, are now transmitted to our Delegates. Upon the receipt of the resolution of the 9th of *June*, relative to the sending five thousand barrels of flour for the use of the Continental Army, we immediately appointed a Committee to carry it into execution, as will appear from the enclosed resolve; but it is at present uncertain whether we shall be able to

comply with it, flour being an article which hath generally sold for cash, and we being unable to offer better security to the vender than the faith of our own body. However, the Congress may rest assured that our best endeavours shall not be wanted to complete the order.

We find ourselves much embarrassed on a variety of other occasions, for want of money; many articles necessary to be furnished are not to be got on credit, and you must be sensible that to embody troops for the service, it is absolutely necessary to have large sums in hand. Without money we fear the service will suffer from our inability to comply with the resolutions of the Congress. We have already contracted a load of debts, and stretched our credit to the utmost; our zeal for the publick service therefore leads us to wish a speedy advice on this important subject.

We are, Sir, most respectfully, your most obedient humble servants.

By order and in behalf of the Provincial Congress :

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, President.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

—  
In Provincial Congress, New-York, }  
Die Lunæ, 4to ho. P. M., June 12, 1775. }

This Congress proceeded to the consideration of ways and means to carry into execution the resolution, request, and order of the Continental Congress of the 9th instant, for supplying five thousand barrels of Flour for the use of the Continental Army, and forwarding the same towards the camp before *Boston*: And thereupon,

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Isaac Sears*, *Abraham Walton*, and *Joseph Hallett* be a Committee to purchase the said quantity of Flour for the purpose aforesaid, or so much thereof as they can obtain, and to ship and forward the same, agreeable to the said resolution.

And it is now *Resolved and agreed, nemine contradicente*, That every member of this Congress will be responsible to Messrs. *Sears*, *Walton*, and *Hallett*, for their respective proportions of all moneys they may disburse, or hereafter be obliged to pay, by means of the purchase of the said Flour, or of their appointment to comply with the said resolution and request of the Continental Congress.

A true copy from the Minutes:

JOHN MCKESSON, Secretary.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THEIR DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress, June 16, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 14, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Thompson* arrived here in a ship from *Cork* last evening; and as we understood he had reported that several regiments had sailed from thence for *Boston*, and four other regiments embarked or embarking for *New-York*, the Congress desired him to attend their Board this morning, to examine him upon the subject.

Upon his attendance we took notes of the substance of the intelligence he gave, and enclose a copy thereof to you, in order that it may be laid before the Continental Congress.

We also intend to forward the intelligence to the Governour of *Connecticut*, that he may forward the same to the camp at *Cambridge*.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order and in behalf of the Provincial Congress :

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, President.

To the Delegates from the Colony of *New-York* at Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

—  
Captain *Thompson* arrived at *New-York*, *Tuesday*, 13th *June*, 1775; left *Cove*, in *Ireland*, 6th *May* last, and informs that six regiments had sailed in twenty-four transports for *Boston*, one regiment of Horse included, which sailed the 30th *April*.

Three regiments were embarked, and the fourth embarking, to sail for *New-York* first fair wind. The regiments all full, seven hundred men each, filled by drafts from the regiments that remain, their places being filled by new recruits. The general report was, that these four regiments were coming to *New-York*, and that some Captains and other officers belonging to the Troops told Captain *Thomp-*



son, in person, that they were coming to *New-York*. One regiment arrived at *Cork* (from *Kilkenny*) the day Capt. Thompson sailed, which was the last regiment to embark for *New-York*. Saw twelve large transports destined for *New-York*; he heard sixteen. One General Officer is to come to *New-York*.

The Troops coming to *New-York* are to support people's property, and to assist against mobs. The report in *Ireland* was, that those Troops had been wrote for by persons here.

The Troops in general disliked the service; some officers had sold out; no ships-of-war coming with the transports; a report in *Ireland* that nine new regiments were to be raised. Heard that thirty thousand *Prussians* were ready, at a minute's warning. That the people of *Ireland* in general are well affected to the *Americans*, and are averse to the *Americans* being taxed by the Parliament of *Great Britain*.

Captain *McIlvaine*, who sailed before Capt. Thompson, for *Philadelphia*, has the number of the regiments coming to *America*.

M. S. MUMFORD TO JONATHAN TRUMBULL, JR.

New London, June 14, 1775.

DEAR SIR: A master of one of my vessels (Capt. *Ches-ter*) is this instant arrived from *Philadelphia*. He left *Friday* last, and reports the arrival there of a ship from *London*, on board of which was Major *Skene*, bound for *Quebeck*; that on the Banks of *Newfoundland* they spoke a vessel, which informed them we had taken possession of *Ticonderoga*, which disconcerted them to that degree, that the Captain of the ship thought it unsafe to proceed to *Quebeck*; therefore, as the *Philadelphians* are *Friends*, they thought themselves safer there than in any of the Colonies. On their arrival there the Major was put under guard by order of the Congress. They find the ship has on board seventy chests of arms, containing three thousand five hundred, which were likewise secured, and a Committee from the Congress were examining the letters found on the Major, &c., though he had hove overboard some of consequence. I think this acquisition of consequence to us. I wish we could thus secure a thousand such.

My most respectful wishes attend his Honour our Governour, to whom please to communicate this intelligence, as it may be depended on.

I am, dear Sir, your very humble servant,

M. S. MUMFORD.

Mr. Jonathan Trumbull, Jun.

DEPUTY GOVERNOUR COOKE TO CAPT. JAMES WALLACE.

East Greenwich, June 14, 1775.

SIR: Long have the good people of this Colony been oppressed by your conduct in interrupting their lawful trade, and preventing the importation of provisions necessary for their subsistence. The acts of the *British* Parliament, already filled with restrictions of trade, oppressive in the highest degree, seem by you to be thought too lenient. Not controlled by those you affect to call your masters, you have detained the persons and taken away the property of His Majesty's *American* subjects, without any warrant from the acts of trade, by which you have greatly impeded the intercourse between this and the other Colonies, as well as between the different parts of this Colony. The inhabitants expecting the interposition of the lawful authority of the Colony, have borne these outrages with a patience almost criminal. The Legislature have heard their complaints, and, in consequence of an act passed by the General Assembly this day, I demand of you the reason of your conduct towards the inhabitants of this Colony, in stopping and detaining their vessels; and I also demand of you that you immediately restore the two packets belonging to some inhabitants of the Town of *Providence*, and all other vessels belonging to the inhabitants of this Colony, which you have taken and unjustly detain. So long as you remain in the Colony, and demean yourself as becomes your office, you may depend upon the protection of the laws, and every assistance for promoting the publick service in my power; and you may also be assured that the whole power of this Colony will be exerted to secure the persons and properties of the inhabitants

against every lawless invader. An immediate answer is requested to this letter.

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE, Deputy Governour.

To James Wallace, Esq., Commander of His Majesty's Ship *Rose*, at *Newport*.

CAPTAIN WALLACE'S ANSWER.

His Majesty's Ship *Rose*, Rhode-Island, June 14, 1775.

SIR: I have received your letter of the 12th instant. Although I am unacquainted with you, or what station you act in, suppose you write in behalf of some body of people; therefore, previous to my giving an answer, I must desire to know whether or not you, or the people on whose behalf you write, are not in open rebellion to your lawful sovereign, and the acts of the *British* legislature?

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

JAMES WALLACE.

Nicholas Cooke, Esquire.

NEWPORT (RHODE-ISLAND) COMMITTEE TO EASTHAMPTON (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

Newport, Rhode-Island, June 14, 1775.

SIRS: This day we received a letter from the Committee of Inspection at *Barclay*, advising us that *Thomas Gilbert*, *Ed. Philips*, and *Joseph Winslow*, some short time since, left that Town, in order to proceed from *Newport* to *Long-Island*, to be inoculated. Mr. *Conckling*, of *Southampton*, informs us that they have taken the small-pox at one of your hospitals. This is to request the favour of you to be very cautious that neither of those persons be suffered to depart the hospital until they are perfectly well and free from any infection, nor to suffer them to bring away any of their clothing, nor even a single hair upon their bodies, as they are all of them inveterate enemies of our Country, and it is generally thought have taken this method to spread the small-pox, upon their return, in the camp now before the Town of *Boston*. We rely upon your vigilance in this most important matter, and are, most respectfully, Sirs, your obedient humble servants,

JONATHAN OTIS, Chairman.

To the Committee of Correspondence at *Easthampton*.

P. S. It is further requested of you, that you keep said persons at your inoculation-house, till you have an opportunity to send them to *New-London* or *Stonington*, and desire the favour of the Committee of said place you may send them to, to take care that they may be cleansed again when they arrive there, and before they let them depart from thence.

FALMOUTH COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Falmouth, June 14, 1775.

HONoured SIR: These wait on you by Colonel *Phiney*, who informs us he has ordered the men lately enlisted in this County, to guard the sea-coasts and islands within said County, to secure the cattle and sheep from the ravages of cruisers from the Navy; but as no provision is made for their sustenance, it cannot be expected they can continue to do duty without. We refer you to Colonel *Phiney* for particulars. Four *Indian* chiefs arrived here this day, with Captain *Lane*, from the *Penobscot* tribe. We hope their expectations will be answered, which will lay a foundation for the securing to our interest the whole tribe. We are, honoured Sir, your most obedient humble servants,

JEDEDIAH PREBLE,  
ENOCH FREEMAN.

Hon. Joseph Warren, Esq., to be communicated.

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO THE GENTLEMEN CHOSEN TO REPAIR TO TICONDEROGA.

Watertown, June 14, 1775.

To WALTER SPOONER, JEDEDIAH FOSTER, and JAMES SULLIVAN, Esquires:

You are directed to proceed, as soon as may be, to the posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, by the road through the new settlements, called the *New-Hampshire Grants*;



that you carefully observe the quality of the said road, and judge of the feasibility of transporting provisions by the said road to the waters of Lake *Champlain*; that you take with you copies of the commission and instructions of the Committee of Safety to Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, and inform yourselves, as fully as you shall be able, in what manner the said Colonel *Arnold* has executed his said commission and instructions.

That you make and give to the said *Arnold*, and any men whom he shall, by virtue of the said commission and instructions, retain in the service of this Colony, such orders as to you shall seem meet, provided always, that you do not authorize the said *Arnold* to engage and retain in the pay of this Colony, as soldiers, a greater number than that specified in his said commission and instructions, and provided, that the said *Arnold* and his men whom he has retained, are free and willing to continue at one or both of the said posts, under the command of such chief officer as is or shall be appointed by the Government of *Connecticut*; and in case you shall order such number of men to be continued at or near the said posts, in the pay of this Colony, as you shall judge it necessary there should be, that you appoint a Committee of one or more persons, in the pay of this Colony, to provide supplies for such men, and a Commissary to deal out such supplies to them, which Committee and Commissary you are to appoint in writing under your hands.

And you are to determine and order respecting the said *Arnold's* continuing in the commission and pay of this Colony, as to you shall appear most for the general service and safety, after having made yourselves fully acquainted with the spirit, capacity, and conduct of the said *Arnold*.

And in case you shall judge it proper to discharge the said *Arnold*, that you direct him to return to this Colony, and render his account of the disposition of the money, ammunition, and other things which he received at his setting out upon his expedition, and also of the charges he has incurred, and the debts which he has contracted in behalf of this Colony, by virtue of the commission and instructions aforesaid. And in case you shall find any men at the said posts, properly retained and engaged there in the service of this Colony, that you cause them and their arms to be mustered, and that to such as shall pass muster you pay out of the moneys which you shall receive from our Receiver-General for that purpose, the same advance pay as is by order of Congress paid to such men as are retained and mustered to serve within this Colony; and in case you shall not find any men at the said posts properly engaged and retained in the service of this Colony, or that the number which you shall find so retained shall be much short of the number which said *Arnold* was empowered to enlist, that then you, if you shall judge that the effectual security of said posts shall require it, and if you shall also find a proper person in those parts fit and suitable for the command of four hundred men, or such less number as together with such as you shall find ordered and posted by any other Colony or Colonies, and shall also find that soldiers can be raised in those parts so seasonably as that thereby the effectual maintaining of the said posts may be served or promoted, you are to appoint meet persons to be officers and commanders for such a number of men as you shall order to be enlisted, and give the necessary orders for raising, enlisting, and maintaining them for such term as you shall judge necessary for defence of said posts, and also appoint some sufficient and faithful man as Muster-master and Paymaster of such men, and leave sufficient moneys in his hands for that purpose, taking proper receipts and his security that the money so left shall be applied to that use.

And you are to take a careful survey of the ordnance and ordnance-stores at those posts, together with all other articles necessary for the maintenance thereof, and report the state thereof to this Congress.

And if you shall find it necessary to purchase powder for the men who shall be retained there on the part of this Colony, that you procure the same, and so much as you shall judge needful, in the best and most expeditious way you can, on the credit of this Colony.

And in general you are hereby fully empowered to do every thing in behalf of this Colony for the effectual secu-

ring and maintaining those posts, which you shall judge necessary, equal to the importance of the same.

You are further directed, when you shall have transacted what you are by the foregoing instructions authorized to do and transact at the posts aforesaid, by the very first opportunity to advise the general *American* Congress thereof, as also of your opinion of the necessity and importance of maintaining the said posts for general defence of these Colonies; and when you shall have made yourselves fully acquainted with the state and condition of the said posts, and the dispositions and establishments which you shall find are made for maintaining of them, if you shall judge that any further provisions are necessary for securing and maintaining them, you are directed fully and respectfully to signify your thoughts thereon to the General Congress.

You are also directed to advise the General Convention of the Colony of *New-York*, and the Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, respectively, of what you shall order and transact by virtue of the said instructions.

JOSIAH JONES AND JONATHAN HICKS TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Concord, June 14, 1775.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY at WATERTOWN:

GENTLEMEN: The sentiments of our hearts are such, that we cannot but hope an honest declaration of them will produce some alleviation of the difficulties to which we are reduced. We faithfully acknowledge that we have heretofore entertained opinions variant from those of our fellow-countrymen in general; not, however, in consenting to the equity of every ministerial requisition or parliamentary claim, but in supposing it inexpedient and unsafe for us to bear arms against the power of *Great Britain*. If for this we should incur the imputation of cowardice, yet by no means let us be deemed traitors and enemies to our Country. We can say before *God* and man, with perfect sincerity, that we do most affectionately wish prosperity to our native land, and to the inhabitants in general of these *American* Colonies; and that we are ready at any time and at all times, so far as our abilities extend, to do any thing within the limits of justice that appears to us to be subservient to this important end. With the strictest regard to truth we affirm, that it was merely with a view of avoiding danger, and not from any want of friendship to our Country's cause and interest, that we of late took up our residence in the Town of *Boston*; and we are not conscious of having offended our *American* brethren in any other instance of our conduct. Could we now have our liberty and be permitted to live securely in the country, we should be ready to bind ourselves under the most solemn obligations never directly or indirectly to oppose, or in any respect knowingly to disserve the cause in which the people are so seriously engaged. If we should be so unhappy as not to discern the propriety and prudence of any measures by them adopted for the security of their lives, liberties, and properties, yet we are ready to submit to the united wisdom of this whole Continent, and to acquiesce in the judgment of our superiors, so far, at least, as in no degree to counteract their resolutions.

What we earnestly request, therefore, is, that the honourable Congress would take what we thus faithfully offer, under their candid consideration, and devise means for our liberation, that we may so serve our Country at least as to support ourselves, by our own industry, without being a public charge. If we may not be wholly released from our confinement, it would be a favour most thankfully accepted, to have the privilege of the yard, as the season is very warm. Whatever indulgences may be granted to us shall always be remembered with the warmest gratitude by, gentlemen, your very obedient humble servants,

JOSIAH JONES,  
JONATHAN HICKS.

MACHIAS COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Machias, June 14, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We, the faithful and distressed inhabitants of *Machias*, beg leave once more, in the most respectful



manner, to approach your presence, and spread before you a just and full representation of our very critical situation.

On the 2d instant Captain *Ichabod Jones* arrived in this river with two sloops, accompanied with one of the King's tenders. On the 3d instant a paper was handed about for the people to sign, as a prerequisite to their obtaining any provisions, of which we were in great want. The contents of this paper required the signers to indulge Captain *Jones* in carrying lumber to *Boston*, and to protect him and his property at all events; but, unhappily for him, if not for us, it soon expired, after producing effects directly contrary in their nature to those intended. The next effort, in order to carry these favourite points, was to call a meeting, which was accordingly done. On the 6th the people generally assembled at the place appointed, and seemed so averse to the measures proposed, that Captain *Jones* privately went to the tender and caused her to move up so near the Town that her guns would reach the houses, and put springs upon her cables. The people, however, not knowing what was done, and considering themselves nearly as prisoners of war in the hands of the common enemy, (which is our only plea for suffering Captain *Jones* to carry any lumber to *Boston* since your Honours conceived it improper,) passed a vote that Captain *Jones* might proceed in his business as usual without molestation; that they would purchase the provision he brought into the place, and pay him according to contract. After obtaining this vote, Captain *Jones* immediately ordered his vessels to the wharf, and distributed his provisions among those only who voted in favour of his carrying lumber to *Boston*. This gave such offence to the aggrieved party, that they determined to take Captain *Jones*, if possible, and put a final stop to his supplying the King's Troops with any thing. Accordingly, they secretly invited the people of *Mispecka* and *Pleasant River* to join them; accordingly, a number of them came, and having joined our people in the woods, near the settlements, on the 11th, they all agreed to take Captain *Jones* and *Stephen Jones*, Esquire, in the place of worship, which they attempted, but Captain *Jones* made his escape into the woods, and does not yet appear; *Stephen Jones*, Esq., only was taken, and remains as yet under guard. The Captain and Lieutenant of the tender were also in the meeting-house, and fled to their vessel, hoisted their flag, and sent a message on shore to this effect: "That he had express orders to protect Captain *Jones*; that he was determined to do his duty, whilst he had life, and that if the people presumed to stop Captain *Jones*'s vessels, he would burn the Town." Upon this, a party of our men went directly to stripping the sloop that lay at the wharf, and another party went off to take possession of the other sloop which lay below, and brought her up nigh a wharf, and anchored in the stream. The tender did not fire, but weighed her anchors as privately as possible, and in the dusk of the evening fell down, and came to within musket-shot of the sloop, which obliged our people to slip their cable, and run the sloop aground. In the mean time, a considerable number of our people went down in boats and canoes, lined the shore directly opposite to the tender, and having demanded her to surrender to *America*, received for answer, "Fire, and be damn'd." They immediately fired in upon her, which she returned, and a smart engagement ensued. The tender at last slipped her cable, and fell down to a small sloop, commanded by Captain *Tobey*, and lashed herself to her for the remainder of the night. In the morning of the 12th they took Captain *Tobey* out of his vessel for a pilot, and made all the sail they could to get off, as the wind and tide favoured; but having carried away her main boom, and meeting with a sloop from the Bay of *Fundy*, they came to, robbed the sloop of her boom and gaft, took almost all her provisions, together with Mr. *Robert Avery*, of *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, and proceeded on her voyage. Our people seeing her go off in the morning, determined to follow her; about forty men, armed with guns, swords, axes, and pitchforks, went in Captain *Jones*'s sloop, under the command of Captain *Jeremiah O'Brien*, and about twenty, armed in the same manner, and under the command of Captain *Benjamin Foster*, went in a small schooner. During the chase, our people built themselves breast-works of pine boards, and any thing they could find in the vessels that would screen them from the enemy's fire. The tender,

upon the first appearance of our people, cut her boats from the stern, and made all the sail she could; but being a very dull sailer, they soon came up with her, and a most obstinate engagement ensued, both sides being determined to conquer or die. But the tender was obliged to yield; her Captain was wounded in the breast with two balls, of which wounds he died next morning. Poor Mr. *Avery* was killed, and one of the marines, and five wounded; only one of our men was killed, and six wounded, one of whom has since died of his wounds.

The battle was fought at the entrance of our harbour, and lasted for near the space of one hour. We have in our possession four double-fortified three-pounders, and fourteen swivels, and a number of small arms, which we took with the tender, besides a very small quantity of ammunition, &c. Thus we have given your Honours as particular an account of this affair as possible; we now apply to you for advice, and for a supply of ammunition and provisions, (the latter of which we have petitioned your Honours for already,) which, if we could be fully supplied with, we doubt not but, with the blessing of Heaven, we should be fully able to defend ourselves. We purpose to convey the prisoners to *Penalborough Jail*, as soon as possible, there to await your orders.

We are, with deference, your Honours' most obedient humble servants. By order of the Committee:

GEO. STILLMAN, Clerk.

To the Honourable Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### TO THE PUBLICK.

Cecil County, Maryland, June 15, 1775.

A regard to truth and reputation prompts me to expose the falsehood and iniquity of a publication in *Goddard's Maryland Journal* of the 24th of May. This account is formally ushered into the world under the supposed patronage of the respectable Committee of *Cecil County*, and has been copied in other papers to the northward. I declare, however, in the most solemn manner, that no such summons as is mentioned in the above publication, was ever served upon me; and I am at liberty to add, upon the authority of Messrs. *John Veazey*, Junior, Chairman, and *John Veazey*, the third, acting Clerk, that the proceedings of the Committee respecting me have not been faithfully published, and have neither their sanction nor consent. In short, the father of the child, like the framer of the *Quebeck Bill*, cannot be found, although he has been diligently sought for; but his friends, it is hoped, will not despair of his reformation, since he has the grace to hide his face. Indeed, he blunders exceedingly in his present attempts to rob me of my character, for he makes a *James Veazey* Chairman, whereas there is no such man in the County; but I forgive him, and sincerely wish him a better head as well as a better heart. It is the lot of men more worthy than me to have enemies; I have mine, and they have been industrious to make every one think as ill of me as they do themselves. For this laudable purpose they take advantage of the distraction of the times, and would fain convince the world that I am an enemy to liberty. Now, although I candidly own that my politics are not quite agreeable to theirs, yet I trust in the main I am right; I am deeply principled against the assumed powers of the *British Parliament* to tax these Colonies, and complain of, and have done as much to oppose their late acts, as many of those who make turbulence and clamour the test of patriotism. CHARLES GORDON.

#### TO THE PRINTER OF THE MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Please to inform Mr. *Charles Gordon*, (to save him the trouble of any farther inquiry,) that the proceedings which appeared against him in Mr. *Goddard's Journal* were transmitted to *Baltimore Town* by the Committee of *Charles-town Hundred*, to be printed in handbills, as the most effectual way of carrying into execution the intention of the County Committee, who directed that their resolves, respecting him, should be carefully published in every Hundred through the County. We are sorry that the printer was so inaccurate as to mistake the Chairman's christian name. We also find that the preamble to the resolve (which, by the by, is not set forth as the proceedings of the Commit-



tee,) is worded somewhat different from that which stands upon the Committee's minute-book, occasioned by our not taking a copy of the preamble or summons, at the time we copied the affidavit and resolve. However, to do Mr. Gordon all the justice he can require, we will give the publick an opportunity of judging for themselves how much he was injured by that unfaithful publication, as he calls it, and for that purpose, herewith send you an extract and *verbatim* copy of the proceedings from the Committee Minutes, signed with the Clerk's own hand, by which will also appear what credit is due to Mr. Gordon's assertions. Your inserting this, together with the proceedings in your next paper, will much oblige your humble servants,

PAT. HAMILTON, } Committee for  
NAT. RAMSEY, } Charlestown  
JOHN HAMILTON, } Hundred.  
THOS. HUGHES, }

At a meeting of the Committee for Cecil County, at *Elk-Ferry*, on the sixteenth day of *May*, 1775,

JOHN VEAZEY, JUN., *Chairman*:

Whereas great complaints have this day been made against *Charles Gordon*, Esq., Attorney-at-Law, for that he hath infamously reflected on the members of this Committee, and the Deputies of this County, who lately attended the Provincial Convention: These are therefore requiring the said *Charles Gordon* that he appear before this Committee at the house of *Thomas Savin*, at *Elk-Ferry*, to-morrow, at two o'clock, P. M., to answer unto said complaint; hereof fail not at your peril. Returnable to-morrow, at two o'clock, P. M.

JOHN VEAZEY, 3D,  
*Acting Clerk.*

To *Charles Gordon*, Esq., Attorney-at-Law, near *Warwick*.

On which said Summons was thus endorsed,

CECIL COUNTY, ss.

On this seventeenth day of *May*, 1775, personally came *William Savin* before me, the subscriber, one of his Lordship's Justices of said County, and made oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty *God*, that he served Mr. *Gordon* with a copy of the within summons in time for him to have observed it; and that he told him (this deponent) that he would not meet, and if the Committee wanted him they must come to his plantation, but not inside his yard-gate; that he asked why they did not come or send some of their head men; that upon his (this deponent) saying that he believed if he did not comply with their request, that they would all come, he (Mr. *Gordon*) said he was ready to receive them; that his plantation was large enough to hold them, but they must not come inside his gate, or there would be lives lost; that Mr. *Gordon* told him that he had said, and does still say, that there are a parcel of damned scoundrels of the Committee, and that if they have any thing to say to him, they must come to him, for he is at all their defiance. Sworn before DAVID SMITH.

Which being taken into consideration, the Committee came to the following determination:

Whereas *Chas. Gordon*, Attorney-at-Law, in this County, hath treated this Committee with great contempt and insolence; and whereas the general tenour of his conduct hath, for a long time past, been such as, in their opinions, declare him to be an enemy to the general cause of liberty, for which they are now contending; and he hath this day been duly summoned to appear and answer unto the above charge, to which he hath returned an impertinent and insolent answer, even menacing this Committee with destruction, if they attempted to proceed any further against him:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said *Charles Gordon* lie under the imputation of being an enemy to this Country, and as such, we will have no dealings or communication with him, nor permit him to transact business with us or for us, either in a publick or private capacity, which shall be commenced after the date hereof, until he appear before this Committee and fully satisfy them with respect to the above charge; and we do earnestly recommend to all the good people of this County to observe the same line of conduct.

*Ordered*, That this be published in each Hundred.

True copy from the Minutes:

JOHN VEAZEY, 3D, *Acting Clerk.*

TO LORD NORTH.

London, June 15, 1775.

MY LORD: Whilst I feel the deepest anguish and sensibility for the loss of our hapless countrymen who lately fell in the action with the *Americans*, near *Boston*, suffer me to entreat you to stay the sword, and suspend any further operations against the Colonies, until some happy conciliating means may be devised, some fortunate expedient may be hit upon, to heal the bleeding wounds and reunite us again with that unfortunate and distracted Country. It is, my Lord, the sincere wish of every true friend of freedom, who are too sensibly afflicted, adequately to express their feelings on the above most melancholy event.

As a well-wisher to your Lordship and all mankind, I entreat you, from every motive of humanity, to listen to the dictates of sound reason and policy, and you cannot fail of being convinced of the justice and expediency of a measure so essentially requisite to stop the further effusion of the blood of our countrymen, and prevent us from being engaged in all the horrors of a civil and intestine war; the bare apprehension of which, my Lord, fills me with the most poignant anxiety, and makes me dread the impending consequences with a torture of mind utterly impossible to be described.

If, by those extraordinary exertions which have often proceeded from people contending for their liberties, or by any of those accidents which have frequently decided the fate of battles and of empires, taking the victory from the strong and the race from the swift, we should be repulsed, to what a state of humiliation should we be reduced? Such is the insuperable absurdity of the measure, that whether victors or vanquished, we are sure of being sufferers.

With ties so strong to bind us to each other, is it not strange, is it not deplorable that we should differ? Do they who talk of chastising our Colonies and reducing them to obedience, consider how much we hazard when we dissolve those ties? What, are we to substitute in their place force and fear, which *Tacitus* wisely tells us are insecure restraints, and always succeeded by inveterate hatred? When these consequences follow from the coercive measures we are now pursuing, will the counsellors who have impelled us to them by representations, (not, I am sure, very fair,) defend us from their fatal effects?

It is from experience only, my Lord, that men learn wisdom; but, unhappily, sometimes the injury of the experiment is irretrievable. We have too much reason, I think, to apprehend that this will be the event of our present contest with *America*.

I acknowledge I admire the bravery of our Troops. What men can do they will do; but in a Country furnished with fastnesses and defiles without number, intimately known to the enemy you are to combat, where discipline is unavailing or embarrassing, and valour useless, it requires more than human power to succeed to any permanent purpose. Heaven forbid that the bravery of such troops as the *English* should be so vainly, so fatally employed. They who remember the fatal overthrow of *Braddock* by a few *Indians* in ambush, an overthrow incurred by the very discipline in which he vainly put his trust, will be apt to doubt the facility of reducing the Colonies by military force. They who reflect that the united aid and efforts of all the Colonies were necessary to give success to our arms in the late war against the *Canadians*, will be still more doubtful of this expedient.

But, my Lord, so much having been already said on the subject, I will not take up more of your valuable moments, which I am persuaded must now be fully employed. Indulge me, however, once more to entreat your most serious attention to the true interest and happiness of this Country, and to the welfare of our brethren in *America*; so shall you be revered and esteemed by all good men, your name deservedly transferred with honour to posterity, and the tribute of gratitude, affection, and esteem, be echoed from every quarter of this great and extensive Empire.

MEMENTO.

BRITISH SETTLEMENTS ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

New-York, June 15, 1775.

We have authority to communicate to the publick, from his Excellency *Montford Browne*, Esq., Governor and



Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's *Bahama Islands*, that his Excellency being possessed of several very extensive and valuable tracts of land (as well by grants from the Crown, as by purchase) situated on the banks of the River *Mississippi* and *Mobile*, in *West-Florida*, to the amount of one hundred and fifty thousand acres and upwards, (exclusive of *Dauphin Island*, whose situation for trade is so well known,) is desirous of encouraging all substantial planters or others, who wish to become settlers in those parts. The fertility of soil, salubrity of climate, and most delightful situation of those tracts, are so well known, that they need no fuller description than that printed by his Excellency for His Majesty, who has thought fit to order the intended capital, on account of its rising consequence and most convenient situation, to be removed from *Fort Bute* to *Browne's Cliffs*, nearly opposite to that most beautiful and populous Town called *Point-Coupee*, belonging to the *Spaniards*.

For further particulars his Excellency refers the publick to the printed reasons left with the printer hereof, in order that those who are inclined to remove to that flourishing Province may be well informed, and may, by application to his Excellency, at *New-Providence*, be well assured of meeting with every encouragement they can wish for or desire.

Governour BROWNE'S Reasons, as presented to the King, for an immediate Civil Government in the BRITISH Dominions adjoining to the River MISSISSIPPI, in NORTH-AMERICA.

Whoever is conversant with the natural history of *America*, must be sensible, from the concurrent testimony of writers, travellers, and engineers, that no country in the universe exceeds the neighbourhood of the *Mississippi* in fertility of soil, salubrity of climate, or convenience of situation. Both sides of the river, previous to the late peace, in which the eastern was ceded to *Great Britain*, went under the general name of *Louisiana*, and they have been long celebrated, no less for the prodigious diversity than the prodigious luxuriance of their productions. They frequently yield two annual crops of *Indian corn*, as well as rice, and, with a little cultivation, would furnish grain of every kind in the most flattering abundance. But their value is not confined to the fertility of the meadows, or the immensity of the champaign lands; their timber is as fine as any in the world, and the quantities of live-oak, ash, mulberry, walnut, palm, cypress, and cedar, are equally astonishing.\* Yet what is still more astonishing, above a million of acres are sufficiently clear on the *English* borders to admit of instant habitation, and to answer all the purposes of a Colony long improved. The advantages which they offer are not remote, they are immediate; they do not call for the industry of years, like many of the senior Provinces in *America*, but, on the first appearance of the settler, present themselves to be enjoyed. The neighbourhood of the *Mississippi*, besides, furnishes the richest fruits in an infinite variety; particularly grapes, oranges, lemons, and olives, in the highest perfection. It abounds with silk, cotton, sassafras, saffron, and rhubarb; is particularly adapted for flax and hemp, and the goodness of tobacco even equals the *Brazils*; cochineal also, of the best quality, is found in plenty on its banks, and indigo is at this moment a staple commodity, which commonly yields four cuttings to the planter. In a word, whatever is rich or rare in the choicest climates of *Europe*, seems natural to such a degree on the *Mississippi*, that *France*, though she sent few or no emigrants into *Louisiana* but decayed soldiers, or the refuse of her streets, (and these very poorly supplied with the implements of husbandry,) soon began to dread a rival in her Colony, particularly in the cultivation of vines, from which she prohibited the Colonists, under a very heavy penalty. Yet soil and situation triumphed over all political restraints, and the adventurers, at the end of the late war, were little inferior to the most ancient settlements of *America* in all the modern refinements of luxury. From the success attending the *French* settlers, under every possible disadvantage, it is evident that an establishment on the *Missis-*

*siippi*, favoured with the benign influence of a *British* Government, under which freedom and property are inviolably sacred, would be productive of the happiest consequences, especially as some arguments may be urged in support of such a measure, which, perhaps, never before existed in a case of colonization.

In the first place, contrary to the general principles of new establishments, the Mother Country is neither to be drained of a subject, nor the Government to incur the minutest expense. To maintain these assertions, it must be observed, that since the conclusion of the late war at least twenty thousand families in the old *English* Colonies have removed, on account of the extending population and the barrenness of the soil, to the back settlements of their respective Provinces. Their emigration has been inconceivably injurious to the places which they have deserted, and must be equally injurious to the interest of this Kingdom; for in proportion as choice or necessity has detached these people from an intercourse with the seats of trade, they have been driven into manufactures. Agriculture, undoubtedly, is the grand mine of *American* opulence; but men must sacrifice their wishes to their wants; and such articles as the back settler cannot purchase without much difficulty or much loss, he will naturally attempt to make for his own accommodation. His efforts at first may be awkward, yet he will improve upon practice, and succeed at last, where he only labours for convenience or utility. The consequence is obvious; consuming none of her commodities, he becomes commercially annihilated to the State; nor does the evil terminate even in such annihilation. His example incessantly encourages the emigration of others, and lays the foundation of that independency for *America*, which is alone to be dreaded from her maturity in manufactures, and which is big with so many dangers to the general happiness of the *British* Empire. Was a civil Government, therefore, formed on the *Mississippi*, great numbers of these emigrants would immediately proceed to a situation so peculiarly calculated to the unbounded views of commerce; where, from necessitous farmers, they would become considerable planters; where, from being worse than lost, they would speedily be recovered; and instead of hourly impairing, they would hourly add to the true prosperity of this Kingdom. Yet numerous as the back settlers of the old *English* Provinces are known to be, they do not constitute by any means the only foundation on which *England* may depend for the speedy establishment of a flourishing Colony; on the contrary, many thousand foreign settlers in *Louisiana*, who have formed a strong interest with the *Indians*, will directly place themselves under the protection of the *British* Government;\*

\* Mr. John Durade, late a settler of great eminence on the *Mississippi*, now residing at *Pensacola*, wrote, in February, 1770, to Governour Browne, in the following terms: "The cruelties committed by the *Spaniards*, and their tyrannical yoke, are circumstances which cannot fail of procuring to the *English* possessions, from their proximity, an acquisition of many industrious families, who will be able to transport their effects thither without risk, and are acquainted with the soil and other circumstances. *Germans* and *Acadians* are equally uneasy under their new masters; the latter are settled near *Manchack*, (a part of the *British* territory,) and would be the first to resort thither."

Mr. Durade, in the same letter to Governour Browne, expatiates upon the fertility of the country, the salubrity of the climate, and the certain advantages which the proposed settlement would produce to *Great Britain*. He declared, that a man, his wife, and five children, with two negroes, one wench, on a farm of eighteen acres, may not only subsist very well, but make an annual saving, proportioned to their industry. Hunting affords infinite assistance to the inferior inhabitants, wild cattle and deer abounding beyond belief, and the rivers teeming in equal plenty with the most excellent fish. Mr. Durade affirms, as an attested fact, that twenty negroes, such as are usually employed, will yield a yearly profit of twenty thousand *French Livres*, and deducting three thousand *Livres* for their maintenance and mortality, seventeen thousand, or seven hundred and eighty Pounds *English*, is the very least which the planter can reasonably expect from their labour, even if they are employed but eight months in the cultivation of Indigo. Mr. Durade adds, that many planters who began only with one negro, have now from twenty to fifty on their plantations, and requests Governour Browne, in case an *English* Government is erected on the *Mississippi*, to intercede for a grant of four thousand acres for him, together with an equal grant for a brother of his. "Expedito the patents (says he) as soon as possible, that we may immediately establish ourselves; but if the settlement is not made, we must decline the grant, as it will become useless."

Besides Mons. Durade's letter, Governour Browne received the following application from a body of the *French*, which quitted the western side of the *Mississippi* rather than be subject to *Spain*. They are now at *Pensacola*, waiting with the utmost impatience for an opportunity of putting themselves under the protection of our Government, and

\* The *Spaniards* now cut down as much timber as they think proper on the *British* side of the *Mississippi*, and send it away to the *Havana*, for the use of their Navy, without interruption.



and, added to the certainty of this valuable increase, various very opulent members of the community at home will undertake, on their own entire risk, to collect emigrants from *Germany*, from *Italy*, and different foreign States, particularly the *Greeks*, and other distressed inhabitants on the *Mediterranean*, to cultivate the banks of the *English Mississippi*, where the luxuries of their respective Countries, which now take immense sums annually in specie from *Great Britain*, may be raised as in any part of *Europe*.

Perhaps it may be remarked, that our *American* colonization is already sufficiently extensive, and that there is no possibility of erecting new settlements without an essential injury to the old ones: it cannot on this account be too frequently enforced, that the establishment proposed by no means interferes with the interest of the other Provinces; its chief excellence consists in producing what they are not at all calculated to produce, and in furnishing those silks, fruits, wines, and different delicacies which we are now unavoidably compelled to purchase from strangers, to the incredible injury of our manufactures. For this reason, while the luxuries of life materially constitute the springs of commerce, it is doubtless good policy to procure them

have already obtained lands on the *British* borders of the River, from a full persuasion that we cannot long continue insensible to the advantages of so valuable a territory.

To Governour BROWNE:

SIR: As you are at the eve of leaving this Province, and returning to *England*, we, possessors of lands on the borders of the River *Mississippi*, take the liberty to make you our representations, requesting, Sir, you would be pleased to submit them to the *British* Government, and to take any steps in this affair you shall think convenient.

The River *Mississippi* is now well known; the very great advantages which would result from a settlement on it are likewise so. A very extensive and beneficial fur trade would inevitably fall into our hands. This object alone deserves the highest consideration; besides which the wholesomeness of the climate, and its natural richness, makes the planters certain of reaping a very great benefit from their industry. And notwithstanding all these advantages, we dare not undertake any settlement.

The want of a civil Government, supported by the military, is the only obstacle to this settlement, which would certainly be obviated by the assistance of a Court of Justice and one Regiment; which, if once granted, from that instant our unwearied zeal in settling on the borders of the River would manifest itself. And this is certainly an epoch which numbers of good subjects wish for with impatience, in order to come over to His *British* Majesty's Dominions; as well those who have lands, as those who want to purchase, of whom there is a great number, would soon, by their industry and labours, render this a flourishing Province, and, in time, of great importance to *England*. The greatest part of the *French*, *Acadian*, and *German* planters are determined to free themselves from the *Spanish* yoke; this makes them very desirous to see our settlements on the border of the River in a condition fit for them to settle there with safety, and where they would find a place of refuge to cover them from the oppressions and evil treatment they daily experience from their new masters. Were it practicable for them to remove their effects, they would long since have fled to *Mobile* or *Pensacola*; but their flight would have been their inevitable ruin. Their taking refuge in this settlement is very different, as they can execute it without being perceived or molested by the jealousy and tyranny of the *Spaniards*. Certainly no like enterprise could ever meet with more favourable circumstances than these which offer; this settlement could not possibly be formed in a better time. For, besides what has passed between the *French* and *Spaniards*, which plainly proves with what reluctance the former bear the yoke of the latter, which they endeavour to shake off, it is to be considered that the *Spaniards* are detested by the savages, who will always continue sincere and faithful allies to the *French*, to whatever place they retire, which must strengthen the *English* alliance with the savages.

To all these considerations we shall add one, which does not seem to deserve less attention. The settlement in question once formed, we could erect warehouses, with goods of *English* manufacture, not only fit for the use of His *British* Majesty's subjects, but likewise for that of the *Spaniards* themselves, or such inhabitants as should remain under their subjection, (*French* ships are no longer admitted, they are forced to set off without unloading,) who would certainly come to be supplied therewith. No dry-goods are allowed but such as are brought from *Spain*; this circumstance enhances the prices about ninety per cent. We could supply them much cheaper.

Your disposition to oblige and assist all those who request it, joined to the personal interest you have in common with us in this affair, assures us, Sir, that you will do all that lies in your power to procure the success of this settlement.

We most sincerely wish you a prosperous voyage, and a happy arrival at *England*. And we do assure you we should be rejoiced to see you once more among us, and vested with new honours.

We have the honour to be, &c.

Signed—*Pierre Rouchon*, Pere, *H. Lagautrais*, Fils, *Gerome Metulick*, *Jacques Durade*, *Jean Durade*, *D'Oratoire*, *E. Bernard*, — *Timmermans*, *P. Rouchon*, Fils, — *Lagoutrey*, Fils, — *Bichie*, *Vincent La Combe*, *Dennis Du Faud*, *B. Boulomois*, *Joseph Milon*, *Jean Baptiste Cornillieu*, — *Fourdas*, *Charles Blanchard*, *Lagoutrey*, Pere, *Monsanto*, *Line*, *D. Milhet*, *J. Vincent*, *Locquet Delapommeraye*, *Vicenzo Corona*, *P. Aostion*, Pere, *Baptiste Olis*, *P. Hochoit*, *J. Monsanto*, *Freres*, *J. Monsanto*, *Freres*.

To MOUNTFORT BROWNE, Esq., Governour of *West-Florida*, &c.

To prove the certainty still further of foreign *American* settlers removing to the *British* Dominions on the *Mississippi*, the reader is pre-

sent with the following extract of a Report made to the Government by Engineer *Cambell*, on the subject of *Louisiana*:

But if the silk, the oil, the wines, and the numberless other articles of luxurious consumption, which promise such a liberal reward to the hand of industry in *Louisiana*, are not sufficient to exalt the country in our esteem, let us turn to the growth of hemp, an object materially necessary for the use of the *British* Navy, in which the chief strength of the *British* Empire is universally allowed to consist. Hemp is so indispensably requisite for the purposes of trade and navigation, that foreign Powers sell it to this Kingdom at their own prices, and are consequently able at any time,

sent with the following extract of a Report made to the Government by Engineer *Cambell*, on the subject of *Louisiana*:

EXTRACT OF A REPORT MADE TO GOVERNMENT BY ENGINEER CAMBELL.

I was treated by the *French* and *Indians* of every denomination with hospitality and friendship. Their regret on our posts being deserted was apparent and unanimous, and declared that were they at present occupied, they would all remove to our side; even their Priests expressed a desire of becoming *British* subjects. One of them assured me that were our settlements re-established, and admitting them the privileges of religion, he would engage at a short notice to remove three hundred *French* families into the Province of *West-Florida*, and attach the different tribes of *Indians* to us in the strongest manner. I visited *Humas*, *Jansaws*, and *Alabamas*, among whom I distributed the few presents sent with me; they showed me every mark of friendship and distinction in their power, and solemnly promised an inviolable alliance towards us. The *Indians* are to the full as civilized as our peasants, are very industrious, and have been very useful to the *French*, under whose direction they are entirely. Most of them speak good *French*; and I am fully convinced that their hatred to the *Spaniards* is very pleasing to the *French*, the latter using their influence to heighten it, and at the same time to attach them to us; they tell them the *French* and *English* are one people, friends and brothers. They very much encourage and establish religion among them, and the *Indians* are in general very devout. On their hearing the arrival of the *Spaniards*, they assembled and waited on Mr. *Aubrey*, and in presence of General *O'Reiley*, demanded the reason why the *French* permitted the *Spaniards* to possess the Province of *Louisiana*. He answered them that as he had but few troops, the *Spaniards* were too powerful for him to oppose; whereupon *O'Reiley* showed them the *Spanish* Troops under arms; they replied, his troops were of no consequence, for that if the *French* chose to resist or expel, they would engage to supply a sufficient force for that purpose. The most reputable of the *French*, *Dutch*, and *Acadian* inhabitants desired to know if I could give them any assurance when our posts could be re-established. I told them they might rest assured that it would happen very soon, and referred to my instructions from Government, and the motive of my being sent up the River, as a confirmation of it. This created a general satisfaction among them.

The establishment of proper posts would undoubtedly draw away most of the inhabitants of *Louisiana*, many of whom are rich, experienced planters; and as to the few that would remain, we should have all their produce on the most advantageous terms, in exchange for the produce and manufactures of *Britain*; as *Spain* will never think of supplying them on any other terms than she does her other *American* Colonies. Thus, while we preserve our right to a free navigation, and give a necessary protection to our subjects, it is impossible to fail in carrying off not only the produce of the country, but also the money sent by *Spain* to defray their Government expenses, without the least violation or infringement of treaty on our side; for in this Province the *Spaniards'* necessities compel them to meet us more than half way, and run every risk to be supplied by us.

We have an immense tract of the most fertile land on our side of the *Mississippi*, the produce of which does not interfere with that of *Great Britain*. *French* wines have flourished in as great perfection there as in any part of *France*, on which accounts the inhabitants of *Louisiana* were restrained under severe penalties from cultivating vines. This shows that we might be supplied with a sufficient quantity of wine from *West-Florida*, the growth of that country, in exchange for our commodities. I am likewise, with certainty, assured that it is capable of producing the best silk in abundance. These are advantages well worthy that spirit of trade, from which the wealth and happiness of our State in general derive their source. To expatiate further on this matter is needless; the benefits to be derived from such an establishment are too obvious to be further enlarged upon.

But I must add, that no other country produces better or greater quantities of indigo, cotton, rice, *Indian* corn, tobacco, and hemp; which, together with the fur and peltry trade, which can be easily secured to ourselves by prudent management, are, in my opinion, advantages infinitely superior to those of the *Spanish* mines.

Thus far Engineer *Cambell*.

Engineer *Putnam*, who lately visited *Louisiana*, and published an account of his expedition, coincides entirely with Mr. *Cambell*, and naturally enough ascribes the impatience of the *French* under a *Spanish* Government, among other causes, to the tyranny of General *O'Reiley*, who, without any process whatsoever, ordered six of their chief inhabitants to be executed upon his taking possession of the Country.



by an interdiction of the traffick, to prove very formidable enemies. The interdiction, indeed, is no way likely, yet is possible; and a wise Government should not depend upon strangers for any commodity of consequence, which may be raised in its own territories, and by raising which, instead of relaxing, as is the present case, it must evidently invigorate the sinews of the body commercial. On the *Mississippi*, therefore, where the plenty of provision enables the Colonist with his Negroes, to work as cheap as in any part of *Europe*, it would be highly advisable to encourage the cultivation of hemp. It cannot be a question whether a trading people should part with money or manufactures; whether they should employ the subjects of other Nations, or increase the opulence of their own; nor can it be a question which is most eligible, a losing commerce with our neighbours, or a gaining one between themselves.

As this representation is not the exaggerated picture of over-heated visionaries, who colour from report, but the faithful face of fact, drawn from an accurate knowledge of the country, enough is certainly said to prove the advantages resulting from a civil establishment on the *Mississippi*; yet justice to the publick makes it necessary to add some farther remarks; and first, it may possibly be observed, that the *British Mississippi* is already erected into *British Government*, and is at this moment under the jurisdiction of *West-Florida*: to this it is answered, that the chief benefit arising from the possession of *West-Florida*, is the barrier which it forms for the *British Colonies* against the incursions of their neighbours. As an object of commercial importance, it never has been, nor ever can be thought of, unless some plan similar to the present, is adopted; because those places within the jurisdiction of that Government, which are chiefly calculated for trade, are the very places to which it is wholly incapable of yielding protection; could it protect, the proposal of the new establishment would be impertinent. But *Pensacola* is at too great and disadvantageous a distance for any settler on the *Mississippi* to consider it as a protector; in the hour of surprise, he may as well look for assistance from the tower of *London*—he may be slaughtered long before the least intimation of his danger can be communicated to his defender; and of course few, very few, will attempt to improve a property so precarious, or bestow the efforts of their industry where the fruits are continually liable to be torn from their hands.

Till this Kingdom, therefore, shall think proper to afford settlers on the *Mississippi* a sufficient protection in a civil establishment of their own, the finest country, perhaps, in the habitable world, will remain utterly useless to its real sovereign; nay, it will be worse than negatively prejudicial, it will be positively injurious. It will furnish the object of a rival state with endless springs of wealth, and enable them to wrest an exhaustless traffick from the subjects of the lawful proprietary. Whereas, by separating the *Mississippi* from *West-Florida* to which, as an appendage, it must be of eternal inutility, and erecting it into a distinct Government, *Great Britain* will secure the golden harvest for herself; will establish a more effectual barrier against all possible encroachments on her Colonies; maintain the sanctity of her acknowledged dominion; and, instead of fearing inroads from her neighbours, will herself be in a situation to command the repose of *America*. With the settlement proposed, we shall be able, in any future difference with *Spain*, to make an easy descent upon the enemy's hitherto unattempted empire of *Mexico*. Without it, the *Spaniards* will be able, in the first rupture, to take the *Floridas* from us, which are only to be assisted through a tedious passage by *Jamaica*;\* consequently, if the sense of our trading interest does not wake us to the propriety of the measure, we should be roused by the sense of our apparent danger. Apprehension itself should operate in the room of policy, and we should at least guard the advantages we possess, if we are even unwilling to extend the means of our prosperity.

It is universally acknowledged, that the last war chiefly resulted from the influence which the *French* acquired with the *Indians*, whom they spirited up to continual rava-

ges of the *English* settlements. Whatever neighbour possesses this influence must always be in a capacity of annoying, as well as interested to annoy the *British Dominions* in *America*; and Government, conscious of the danger, incurs an expense, at this hour, much superiour to the charge of an establishment on the *Mississippi*, to keep the natives in good humour by little presents among their several tribes; a large present, however, from another Power will make them instantly enemies. Now the Colony proposed will effectually prevent their communication with any other Power, and of course purchase a certain state of tranquillity upon terms more moderate than we now buy a precarious one. This circumstance is in itself an object of the utmost importance to those who are acquainted with the horrors of an *Indian* war. And surely, if it is prudent to bribe the savages into good order, it must be a greater degree of prudence to incapacitate them from offending. If four thousand pounds a year, for argument sake, is judiciously distributed to keep them peaceable, three thousand pounds a year must be better distributed to remove the possibility of their being otherwise. Should the plan recommended be pursued, every part of *British America* will be surrounded by a *British* force; and those *Indians* who are alone able to be troublesome, precluded from a connection with all interested tamperers. The effect will necessarily cease where the cause is destroyed; and instead of a temporary calm, we shall not only gain an everlasting security, but the prospect of a revenue, which the people now possessing the trade already find approaching to half a million annually of our circulation. In a political light, consequently, as well as in a commercial view, the proposition must be deemed highly important, especially when it is known that three parts of the *Mississippi* produce is in favour of the eastern or *English* side, and that the *French*, *Acadian*, *German*, and native inhabitants can be furnished with manufactures from *Great Britain* above one hundred per cent. cheaper than from any market which is now accessible to their intercourse.\* The benefits of such a traffick, therefore, multiply upon the imagination—for the opulence of a rival is lessened by the very means which increases our own; and the *Indians*, who now hang like the sword of *Democles* over our heads, become obviously interested to support that Government which supplies them most advantageously with *European* commodities. A reduction in the price of any article necessary for their consumption, must act as a perpetual gift; must rivet them eternally to what may be properly called the giver, and, joined to the impossibility of their communicating with the subjects of other states, render the perpetration of those barbarities impossible which kindled the late flame of discord in *Europe*, and marked every quarter of the globe with a lamentable effusion of blood. Since our first efforts in colonization, no crisis ever offered such a certainty of not only preserving the peace of *America* on a permanent basis, but of permanently increasing the commerce of this Kingdom. Our genius at this moment seems peculiarly propitious. Let us then eagerly improve the season which courts us to be happy. Empires, as well as individuals, have their fortunate opportunities; and perhaps if we neglect this, now it is in our power, it may be utterly irrecoverable when we wish to call it back.

The facility of navigation on the *Mississippi* is sufficiently ascertained for all the purposes of commerce; and

\* To elucidate this point, it is proper to observe, that the *Spaniards* buy all their goods necessary for the consumption of *Louisiana*, at present, from the *French*. Supposing, therefore, that articles to the amount of one hundred Pounds are bought in *France*; the expense to the *Mississippi* settler, through a *Spanish* channel, will be, first:

|                                                            |          |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| The original cost in <i>France</i> .....                   | £100 0 0 |
| Charges to <i>Spain</i> .....                              | 12 10 0  |
| Duty on entry of <i>French</i> Goods in <i>Spain</i> ..... | 43 0 0   |
| Charges on reshipping in register ships.....               | 17 10 0  |
| Freight and other charges on landing.....                  | 10 0 0   |
| Cost landed.....                                           | 183 0 0  |
| Profit constantly laid on all <i>European</i> Goods.....   | 80 0 0   |
|                                                            | £263 0 0 |

Expense attending the same quantity of Goods from *ENGLAND*: first,

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| The original cost.....       | £100 0 0  |
| Freight and all charges..... | 7 10 0    |
|                              | 107 10 0  |
| Profit.....                  | 40 0 0    |
|                              | £147 10 0 |

\* Engineer and Comptroller *Mill*, who reported upon the *British Mississippi* to the Commissioners of the Customs at *Boston*, declares, that without the settlement proposed, the *Spaniards*, in the first rupture with us, must be in ample condition to deprive us of the *Floridas*.



the lakes on the eastern side render the navigation still easier to the subjects of this Kingdom than to those on the opposite shore.\* It is unnecessary, however, to dwell upon the practicability of trading on that river, as the fortunes acquired by the *French* settlers prove the fact unquestionably; and if *France* found the commerce highly advantageous, though consisting chiefly of articles which she herself produced in great abundance, must it not be more advantageous to this Kingdom, whose produce it does not rival in the least, but to whom, in exchange for manufactures, as the reader will remember already mentioned, it presents those expensive luxuries of life which are not to be obtained in her other Colonies, and which are now purchased at an immense disbursement of absolute specie from foreigners? When *Louisiana* was under the government of the *French*, the trade of the *Mississippi* was esteemed, according to the most accurate accounts, as worth three hundred thousand pounds a year. Twelve ships, from a hundred and fifty to two hundred tons burden, with wares and dry-goods from *Europe* and *St. Domingo*, scarcely answered the consumption of the inhabitants; and the intelligent may easily imagine that the estimate is not overrated, when the returns in peltry only, at the single port of *New-Orleans*, amounted annually to five millions of livres. As, therefore, not only from our ability to undersell every competitor, but from the peculiar happiness of situation in a junction with the lakes, this traffick must chiefly centre with the subjects of *England*. A very trifling duty on a few articles, together with a part of the quit-rents, will be amply sufficient to defray the charge of the new establishment. The sole question then is, will *England*, who has peopled so many deserts, protect a country ready peopled to her hands? She is not called upon for her citizens; she is only solicited to receive a nursery for thousands; she is not besought to do *Florida* an injury, but to distinguish it by an essential obligation; she is not requested to counteract the interest of her old Provinces, but to provide for their security. The *Mississippi* is at present virtually dismembered from its seat of Government, and is, even to speak favourably, without any manner of use. Dismembering it formally, will make it of the utmost utility, both to that Government and this Kingdom. The measure offers every certainty of a prodigious gain, without any possibility of the smallest loss; and nothing is required of the Parent State but to participate in the advantages, as an incontestable method is pointed out of defraying the whole expense.

A distinct establishment on the *Mississippi* in preference to any other, is recommended for two very forcible reasons: in the first place, a remoteness from the seat of the Provincial Government impedes the administration of justice; and every difficulty in executing the laws excites a spirit of disorder amongst the people. The present insurrection of the Regulators on the back settlements of *North-Carolina*, sufficiently support the propriety of this remark; and perhaps the restoration of order would be but little advanced, were the back settlers in that Colony indulged with a subordinate tribunal for the speedy decision of judicial complaints; because these subordinate tribunals cannot, in any civil case, determine upon property where it exceeds ten pounds; nor in any criminal case inflict a capital punishment on the blackest offender. The consequence of so limited an authority is apparent: many people will rather give up a legal right than contest it, where the expenses attending even the certain success of a suit, at the great distance of *Pensacola* from the *Mississippi*, will most commonly exceed the value of what is recovered in litigation. The evil, however, will not terminate here. Prosecutions, where life is affected, open a source of continual dispute between the dependant and the principal jurisdictions; at any rate they delay the sentence after a conviction; and if judges armed with sufficient powers are sent out from the latter, to try on such occasions, the innocent are liable to all the miseries of a long imprisonment; for, at the utmost, the courts cannot make above two circuits in the year. The second reason for a distinct Government is, the necessity of having the imme-

diate representative of the sovereign, to encourage the aggregation of settlers, and accelerate the attachment of the *Indians*, who are superstitiously influenced by forms, and never conceive that a country belongs to any *European* prince without the positive residence of an acknowledged substitute. If any settlement thereof takes place on the *British Mississippi*, it should be subject to no control but that of *Great Britain* herself; the importance of the object deserves her own particular attention; and the more sensible she seems of this circumstance, the more strongly emigrants will be induced to realize the truth of the present representation.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 15, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By order of the Congress I transmit you the enclosed Resolutions, passed by the Congress this morning. The necessity of the present emergency requires a speedy compliance with the first, and I need not inform you that the nature of the service requires it to be done with as much secrecy as possible.

I am also directed by the Congress to request you will please to transmit them, as soon as may be, an estimate of the powder, arms, and ammunition in your Colony, including private as well as publick stocks. By Dr. Church, this morning, I forwarded you the resolution of Congress respecting the mode of Government. I am your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Members of the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

P. S. The enclosed letters for the Lieutenant-Governour of *Rhode-Island*, and the gentlemen of *New-Hampshire*, please immediately on receipt to send off by express. Pray don't fail.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

[Read in Congress June 19, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 15, 1775.

SIR: You will see by the enclosed order, that this Congress think it expedient to request you to march to this Colony with the troops under your command. If you are not at liberty to comply with the terms of this order until you consult the Governour and Company of *Connecticut* on this subject, we beg you would immediately despatch this requisition to them, and transmit to us their determination as soon as possible.

As we have at present but few tents, we beg you would order such as you have, to be sent to the place intended for their encampment, and make such other dispositions for the support of your troops as are in your power.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

By order and on behalf of the Provincial Congress:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, President.

To Major-General Wooster, at *Greenwich*.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 15, 1775.

The Congress resumed the consideration of Mr. Foster's motion of yesterday; and whereupon,

Ordered, That a message be immediately despatched to Major-General Wooster, now commanding a body of Troops in the southern part of *Connecticut*, requesting him forthwith to march the said Troops, with their tents and other necessaries, to the distance of five miles from this City, to be subject to the orders and directions of the Continental or this Congress while the said Troops shall continue in this Colony.

And Resolved, That we will assist the Commissaries of the said forces in procuring such necessaries for their accommodation as shall be to be procured within this Colony. A true copy from the Minutes:

JOHN MCKESSON, Secretary.

ADONIJAH STRONG TO THE ALBANY COMMITTEE.

Albany, June 15, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I beg leave to lay before this Board my information and request concerning the troops raised in and

\* Governour Browne declares, that in his expedition to the *Mississippi*, he frequently went up the River at the most disadvantageous seasons of the current, twenty-five or thirty miles a day, with eight oars only.



for the Colony of *Connecticut*, for the special defence of the same.

In the first place, it is provided by the said Colony, that each officer and soldier (among other things) shall have fresh meat two days in a week, butter, peas or beans, rice, rum when on fatigue, beer, &c., expecting said troops would be required at, or near by *Boston*, where it would have been easy and convenient for us to have supplied them according to said act.

In the next place, the ever to be revered patrons of *America* (the Continental Congress) have directed one thousand of our troops immediately to repair to *Ticonderoga*, there to be stationed until such time as they should be relieved by forces from this Province—just at a time after many of them were on their march according to their first destination, *Greenwich*, and had to countermarch through our Colony, and directly to *Ticonderoga*, and by means of so tedious a march have already become somewhat sickly. And as the Continental Congress have advised this Province particularly to provide for said forces at *Ticonderoga* during their stay, our Colony have, perhaps, been the more remiss in their provisions; and it does not appear to me that there is sauce sufficient, nor any fresh meat, butter, rum, beer, &c., nor have I had intelligence that any is likely to be provided by this Province. Therefore, I come before this Board for advice in the premises; at the same time giving assurance that the publick faith of our Colony must not be violated, but it must be fulfilled according to the encouragement given by our Colony. Though pledged to soldiers, yet it is to those in defence of what we tenaciously hold as sacred, and to be prized above life. We therefore determine to have it fulfilled according to the Act of our Assembly—if not by this Province, by our Colony.

I am, gentlemen, with great esteem, your very humble servant,

ADONIJAH STRONG,

*Dep. Commissary for said Troops.*

To the Committee in and for the City and County of *Albany*.

Albany, June 17, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: You have enclosed, by order of the Committee, a request of *Adonijah Strong*, Deputy Commissary to the Committee of this City and County.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOHN BAY, *Secretary pro tem.*

To the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Camp at Greenwich, June 15, 1775.

SIR: I have just received your favour of the 14th instant, with enclosed affidavit; also *Angus McDonald*, who shall be kept in such a state of security as may effectually prevent any mischief that might otherwise be expected from him. Be good enough to give my compliments to the gentlemen of the Congress, and tell them that I am sorry you are obliged to send your prisoners so far; I should be much better pleased to receive them within a few miles of your City, especially as you so soon expect the arrival of the four Regiments from *Ireland*.

I am, Sir, with great esteem both for you and the gentlemen of the Congress, your most obedient humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER, *Major-General.*

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esquire, President of the Congress at *New-York*.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Greenwich, June 15, 1775.

SIR: I take this opportunity to acquaint your Honour of the situation of the troops under my immediate command. One company of my Regiment, you are sensible, is ordered to *Ticonderoga*; five more are stationed betwixt *New-Haven* and this Town, and four are in this place. Colonel *Waterbury's* Regiment are all in this Town and *Stamford*. The safety of the Country may possibly require my marching to *New-York* before I can have your orders. I would, therefore, beg of your Honour to direct me to march my troops to *New-York* upon application made to me for that purpose by their Provin-

cial Congress. Your Honour will perhaps think it expedient, when you read a letter which I have just received from Mr. *Sears*, which is as follows:

"New-York, June 14, 1775.

"DEAR SIR: The troops from *Cork*, destined for this City, may be hourly expected. I have the pleasure to inform you that this day in Congress it was moved that yourself and troops be requested to encamp within five miles of this City. The motion was put off until to-morrow, at the intercession of the members for three Counties, and you may be assured it will be carried by a great majority. I am, dear Sir, yours affectionately,

"ISAAC SEARS."

I have also this day received a letter from the Provincial Congress at *New-York*, acquainting me that they hourly expect the arrival of four Regiments from *Ireland*; they have also sent me a prisoner to be kept in safety, who was employed by Major *Small* to raise troops for the purpose of opposing the Colonies, and actually had enlisted forty-three, which was made to appear to the Provincial Congress.

I would also acquaint your Honour that all the military stores which were at *Turtle Bay* have fallen into our hands, consisting of too many articles to be enumerated in a letter, among which there are about five hundred good horse harnesses, a very considerable number of thirteen and ten-inch carcasses, cohorns, and stinkpots, all well charged; a very great plenty of grape-shot; cannon ball, from twenty-four-pounders down to three, &c., &c.; a part of which articles I shall keep with me, but the greater part I shall send to *New-Haven*.

Your Honour cannot be unacquainted that provisions, stores, &c., can be forwarded along the *Sound* by water with much greater despatch and vastly less cost to the Colony than by land; however, at present it is difficult, on account of the tenders and cutters which are perpetually about. We have at *New-Haven* a number of cannon; I have with me all other kinds of military stores, except powder, requisite for a guardacosta; Mr. *Colt*, of *New-Haven*, has a fine vessel very proper for the business. We have in the Army a very sufficient number of men well acquainted with the seas, and good resolute fellows, and it is my opinion, that the additional cost to the Colony will be nothing more than the hire of the vessel and the powder; that about a hundred of the men under my command cannot be employed in any way so much to the advantage of the Country. I am, Sir, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

Answer to a Speech to the CAUGHNAWAGAS, or CANADIAN Tribes of INDIANS, near MONTREAL, sent by the STOCK-BRIDGE INDIANS—returned 15th JUNE, 1775.

BROTHERS: You tell me you open your eyes. I open your ears—I open your hearts; so that you might see, hear, and consider what I am going to say. Now I am going to say the same to you—I open your eyes, your ears, and make your heart strong, so that you might more fully consider things. I also add, with this I wipe the tears from your eyes that comes from the trouble that has hap-pened to your young men.—*Three strings of Wampum.*

Brothers: You tell me that I must sit still, and have nothing to do with this quarrel. I am glad to hear you; I shall do as you tell me.—*A Belt.*

Brothers: This is our road; you tell me I clear the road, and whenever I open my door I shall see your door stand open; and when you shall go out of your door, you shall see my door stand open too. And you tell me, when you hear any bad report of me, don't you lay it up; put it aside, and follow this road, and come and tell me of it, and you will know whether it is so or not. Now, brothers, I make this road more smooth, so that no one might stumble on this way; I now open my door wider for you, and whenever you go out of your door, you shall see my door stand open wider for you. Whenever I hear any bad report of you, I shall not lay it up; but put it aside, and go and tell you of it, and see whether it is so or not.—*A Belt.*



*Brothers*, I am glad you keep in remembrance the agreement of friendship that our fathers have made. Let us hold that fast; let no one break that so as to divide us. Now I make it more strong—now we must sit down under our great tree, and smoke our pipes, and give praise to the great *God*. It is he that made us all; we are in another way, now, from what we used to be, since we began to worship this one *God*; this is like one staff that we both steady ourselves by. I shall do as you advise me to do—I shall sit still—there are seven brothers of us—(meaning seven tribes,) we are all agreed in this. Now we say to you—I would have you sit still too, and have nothing to do with this quarrel; but be strong in your hearts, and I intend to do the same.—*A Belt*.

A true copy. Attest: JOHN SERGEANT.

GENERAL WARD TO WORCESTER (MASS.) COMMITTEE.  
Cambridge, June 15, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: You are desired to see that the enclosed Order be duly executed. I am, &c.

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Standing Committee in the County of *Worcester*.

(GENERAL ORDER.) Cambridge, June 15, 1775.

That *Samuel Murray* be removed from the Jail in *Worcester* to his father's homestead Farm, in *Rutland*, the limits of which he is not to pass until further orders. And all persons are hereby strictly forbidden to offer any violence to said *Murray*, so long as he continues in the peace of *God* within those limits.

JOSEPH WARD, *Secretary*.

P. S. The above mentioned homestead Farm bounds northwardly on the County road; westwardly, on Mr. *Buckminster's* homestead; southwardly, on Doctor *John Frink's* homestead; eastwardly, partly on land of Mr. *Clarke*, and partly on land of Mr. *Blake*.

Published by order of the Committee:

WILLIAM YOUNG, *per order*.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.  
In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 15, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Considering the exposed state of the frontiers of some of the Colonies; the danger that the inhabitants of *Canada* may possibly have disagreeable apprehensions from the military preparations making in several of the other Colonies; and the rumours that there are some appearances of their getting themselves in readiness to act in a hostile way; this Congress have made application to the Continental Congress, desiring them to take such measures as to them shall appear proper, to quiet and conciliate the minds of the *Canadians*, and prevent such alarming apprehensions. We also have had the most disagreeable accounts of methods taken to fill the minds of the *Indian Tribes* adjacent to these Colonies with sentiments very injurious to us; particularly, we have been informed that Colonel *Guy Johnson* has taken great pains with the *Six Nations*, in order to bring them into a belief that it is designed by the Colonies to fall upon them and cut them off. We have, therefore, desired the Honourable Continental Congress that they would, with all convenient speed, use their influence in guarding against the evil intended by this malevolent misrepresentation, and we desire you to join with us in such application.

JOSEPH WARREN, *President*.

Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire*.

WILLIAM STODDARD TO CAPTAIN JAMES LITTLEFIELD.  
Boston, June 15, 1775.

SIR: Your letter and the last, dated the 13th instant, by Mr. *Hopkins*, I have received. I waited on the Admiral this morning, and have got you a fishing pass for your boat and three men, to come in and out of this harbour, which I now send you. You will carefully observe the pass; you must observe to go a fishing from *Salem*, before you come up here, and then you may come in and go out. I hope you will not meet with any obstruction at *Salem*;

not forgetting, if in your power, to bring up veal, green peas, fresh butter, asparagus, and fresh salmon. Mr. *Miles* went away yesterday in the afternoon, by water, in order to come to you, and we suppose he is with you before this. I hope you have received a cloak, with a bag of brown sugar, I sent over yesterday by Mr. *Hopkins's* son. I have paid some of the ferrymen, and I shall pay them all for their trouble, when I have done with them. Do not pay them any thing; if you have, let me know; keep that to yourself. Captain *Hurley* is here with his schooner, from *Penobscot*, and has been here some time. I was the other day in his company, and he asked after you; he desired to be remembered to you. I wish you would send me last *Monday's* newspaper, and this day's paper. I shall be much obliged to you, if you can, before you go for *Salem*, send me some fresh butter, and half a bushel of green peas. I now send you two dollars in this letter, and an osnaburgh bag, by Mr. *Hopkins's* son, to put the peas in. What other charges you are at I will settle with you hereafter. I am obliged to you for the hint in coming out. I will let you know more when you come up from *Salem*. Let me hear from you before you go for *Salem*.

Give my compliments to Mr. *Haynes*, and all friends; all your friends desire to be remembered to you at these distressing times. Twenty-four sail of transports have arrived here this week with Light-horses and Troops from *Ireland*, and twenty-four more sail are coming.

Sir, your humble servant, WM. STODDARD.

To Captain *James Littlefield*, *Watertown*.

TO THE SOLDIERS AND SEAMEN SERVING IN THE BRITISH FLEET AND ARMY IN AMERICA.

Salem, June 15, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your situation is very unhappy, being dishonoured by the most infamous service, and under the command of the most vile and miserable wretches that ever disgraced the name of *Briton*. General *Gage*, to his eternal infamy, has commenced a thief, robber, murderer, and common butcher of his fellow-men; he has violated the most solemn compacts, and become an apostate to every thing that is honourable or virtuous. You never can forget the barbarous murders which *Gage* has committed upon some of his own soldiers; but we come now to a character still more infamous, if possible, than the above. Admiral *Graves* has added to the crimes of a common pirate, that of forcing *Americans*, whom he hath impressed, to act against their own countrymen. *Turks* and *Indians* would scorn such rascally conduct, and surely every *British* soldier and seaman must detest such an odious scoundrel. Gentlemen, the *Americans* still entertain a respect for you, consider you as their brethren, and wish to live in harmony with you, and to make you free citizens of *America*. May you soon be freed from the service of tyrants, become the glorious defenders of freedom, and join with the victorious *Americans*.

SYDNEY.

SAMUEL LANGDON TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

A number of the members of the Corporation and Board of Overseers of *Harvard College*, being met together at the President's house, June 15, 1775, agreed upon the following draught, viz:

"Whereas, in the present difficult situation of publick affairs of this Colony, it is impracticable to call a meeting of the Overseers of the College strictly agreeable to the form and order appointed by the charter of said College: And whereas, nevertheless, the present circumstances of that seminary of learning require a meeting to be called speedily:

"Agreed, That application be made to the honourable Congress of this Colony, to know whether it would be any way displeasing to them that a meeting should be obtained of as many of the Overseers of *Harvard College* as can be called together under the present circumstances of the College and the Country, in order to join with the Corporation in conferring Academical Degrees, at the approaching season of the annual Commencement, on such candidates as may offer themselves and be judged qualified for the same, and to transact any other important matters rela-



tive to that society, and whether the honourable Congress would countenance such a procedure."

At the same time the gentlemen present beg leave to return their most grateful acknowledgments to the honourable Congress for the regard they have already shewn for the interest of the College, in directing the removal of the library and apparatus to a place of greater safety.

In the name of the gentlemen present,

SAMUEL LANGDON, *President.*

To the Honourable Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay.*

To the Hon. JOSEPH WARREN, *President of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY Congress, in WATERTOWN: (To be communicated to said Congress:)*

HONOURED SIR: It appears to me and others that there are wanted in this Government some armed vessels to ward off the distressing piratical blows that, without doubt, will be struck by Admiral *Samuel Graves's* small men-of-war and tenders, by taking from us our inward-bound provisions, (molasses, salt, vessels, &c.,) as they have done, will almost bring on a famine in our Army and on the inhabitants; for this Government always was ill able to support itself with provisions, &c., and now has in it an army to feed, which will soon be felt and be distressing to its inhabitants, and, I fear, will bring on discontent and murmurings, which may be attended with bad consequences, to the disadvantage of our embarkment in the ever to be commended common cause. So hope that you will be enabled to guard against every evil that might otherwise befall us if we were not under the guardianship of Providence and your wise councils.

I hear that there is a ship almost or quite ready to launch at *Danvers*, of about three hundred tons; that it is probable she will be a good sailer, and, by strengthening her with some hanging knees, building a round-house and a top-gallant, forecastle, &c., would carry upward of thirty guns, and fight the major part of her men between decks, &c. By inquiry there may be found good sailing vessels now hauled up, that would in part answer our end for defence, and to bring provisions from the Southern Governments for our support. Some of them might be employed in bringing powder and guns from some parts of the *Spanish* and *French* Kingdoms, and might smuggle some from other Powers, and saltpetre from others, where we could not get it made into powder, and make it here, which would be to our advantage to have it manufactured.

So wishing you the smiles of Heaven in all your undertakings in the defence of our invaluable liberties, &c., &c., I remain, honoured Sir, your most humble and devoted servant,

S. L.

FALMOUTH COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Falmouth, June 15, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: Mr. *Lane* is returned here with four of the *Penobscot* Tribe. We have furnished them with carriages to convey them to you, and Mr. *Lane* with money to pay their expenses. *Orono*, the chief man, seems to be sensible, and hearty in our cause; he reserves what he has chiefly to say till he comes to the Congress. We gave them assurances that they might depend upon being provided for while there, as well as on their return back again; wished them a pleasant journey, and that the event might be happy for them and us. We suppose Mr. *Lane* will give an account of the expense, therefore we have sent none.

Wishing success to our righteous cause, we are your Honours' most obedient humble servants,

JEDEDIAH PREBLE,

*Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence.*

Hon. *Joseph Warren*, *President.*

COL. READ TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Charlestown, Massachusetts, June 15, 1775.

SIRS: I beg leave to inform your body of my proceedings in the business I have the honour to be entrusted with in this difficult day. Gentlemen, on the second day of this instant, *June*, I received verbal orders from General *Folsom*, at *Exeter*, to repair to the westward part of the Province

of *New-Hampshire*, and to collect a number of men I had there enlisted as volunteers for the defence of the liberties of *America*, and in the service of said Province and cause, all able-bodied, effective men, well equipped, to march to *Cambridge*, and there to put myself and men under the command of General *Ward* until further order. In obedience of which I immediately pursued my orders, and notified the men, and likewise I notified the Selectmen of the Town of the vote of Congress, in regard to furnishing the men with blankets. Notwithstanding what they and I could do in that affair, my officers were obliged to leave a number of enlisted men behind, as you will see by their returns herewith enclosed. On the twelfth of *June*, I arrived at *Cambridge* and waited on General *Ward*; he informed me that *Cambridge* was so thronged with soldiers, that he had given orders to Captains *Spalding*, *Walker*, and *Crosby*, to march to *Medford*. Then I repaired to *Medford*, and there I met with Captains *Hinds*, *Whitcomb*, *Town*, *Hutchins*, *Man*, *Marcey*, and *Thomas*. *Whitcomb* and *Thomas* I took out of Colonel *Stokes's* Regiment for the two Companies that were assigned me. Then I was informed by Colonel *Stark* that *Medford* was so full of soldiers that it was necessary for some to take other quarters; then I applied to General *Ward* and received orders in these words:

(GENERAL ORDERS.)

"Head-Quarters, June 12, 1775.

"That Colonel *Read* quarter his Regiment in the houses near *Charlestown Neck*, and keep all necessary guards between his barracks and the ferry, and on *Bunker Hill*.

"J. WARD, *Secretary.*"

A copy per *James Read*.

Then, Sirs, I marched my Regiment from *Medford* to *Charlestown Neck*, and, with the assistance of Mr. *Tufts*, one of the Selectmen of *Charlestown*, I got my men into good barracks, and then raised my guard, consisting of one Captain, two subalterns, four sergeants, four corporals, and forty privates; this ended the thirteenth day of *June*.

I beg leave to inform you that we are in great want of an apothecary and chaplain. There is Doctor *Abner Barker* with us taking care of our sick, but hath no medicines only by applying to Head-Quarters; he is a man that hath been acquainted with the business of an apothecary, and he hath had the small-pox, and seems to be very kind and helpful, and is willing to tarry if desired.

JAMES READ.

To the Honourable Gentlemen of the Committee of Safety at *Exeter*.

COLONEL READ'S LETTER IN FAVOUR OF CAPTAIN COLBURN.

Fitzwilliam, June 8, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: I beg leave to trouble you with one word in favour of the bearer, Captain *Colburn*, that is to inform you that he is one of the signers of the paper of agreement to raise a Regiment under my command. And, Sir, as my Regiment is filled up without him, and as I had encouragement that any officer that had got men should be taken notice of in the next Regiment; and, Sir, as Captain *Colburn* hath been an old officer in the last war, which he is able to give and account for himself, I should take it as a favour if your Honours, the Committee, would favour him in the next Regiment as a Major, if agreeable to your Honours; at the same time would beg leave to subscribe myself your Honours' obliged and ever humble servant at command,

JAMES READ.

*Service done by ANDREW COLBURN in the last war.*

In the year 1755, I was at *Oswego* with General *Shirley's* Regiment; in the year '56, at *Fort Edward*; in the year '57, at *Fort William Henry* when taken; in the year '58, at *Ticonderoga* in the defeat; in the year '59, I sustained a commission in the Province service, and was at the taking of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, with Colonel *Ingersoll's* Regiment; in the year '60, in Colonel *Ruggell's* Regiment, at the taking the several forts on the lakes and *Montreal*. For the year '61, I commanded Captain *Cowdan's* Company at *Crown Point*, and in the year '62, at *Crown Point*; and in the year 1774, I received a Captain's commission in this Government, in Colonel *Reuben Ridders's* Regiment.



## REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

Charlestown, June 14, 1775.

First. That each Captain, or commanding officer of each company, immediately make a true return of all the men they and their recruiting officers have enlisted, according to a form given them by the Adjutant.

Second. That officers see that their companies are equipped with ten pounds, at least, of powder and ball, and that their fire-locks are kept in good order at all times, and give their men special orders not to fire a gun on any account whatever, unless beset by the enemy.

Third. That each commander of a company embody all his company, that are off from duty, twice a day, to exercise them in the best manner for learning the art of war.

Fourth. That each officer give special orders to their soldiers that they do no damage to any of the houses where they are quartered, or to any garden or grass in any part of this town, on pain of being punished according to the offence.

Fifth. That no soldier be allowed to stroll from his company, or pass from this encampment to *Charlestown Ferry*, or to any other encampment, without leave from their officers.

Sixth. That the commanding officer of each company cause the Rules and Regulations for the Army to be read at the head of their respective companies forthwith, and it is expected that all officers and soldiers govern themselves accordingly.

Seventh. That the officers see that the men and barracks are kept clean.

Eighth. That there be a guard paraded this afternoon at six o'clock, of the same number of officers and soldiers that are now on guard, to relieve Captain *Whitcomb* and his party, and that the Adjutant and Orderly Sergeants keep a good roster, so that neither officer nor soldier be called upon for duty out of their proper turn.

Ninth. That there be no noise in camp after nine o'clock at night, but all repair to their lodgings or barracks.

Tenth. That *Ephraim Stone* is appointed Quartermaster Sergeant until further orders.

JAMES READ, Colonel.

## (REGIMENTAL ORDERS.)

Charlestown, June 15, 1775.

The main guard of this day is to consist of one Captain, two subalterns, four sergeants, four corporals, and forty privates. The captain of the main guard is to keep a trusty sergeant with the sentries, in the street below the Guard-House, to examine all passengers; and let none pass without showing proper passes in the day time, and none to pass after nine o'clock at night, without giving the countersign; and no sentry is to set down on his post; and when any field officers pass them, to stand with their fire-locks rested. No soldier to swim in the water on the *Sabbath* day, nor any other day to stay in the water any longer than is necessary to wash themselves.

JAMES READ, Colonel.

## JOSEPH HABERSHAM TO PHILOTHEOS CHIFFELLE.

Savannah, June 16, 1775.

DEAR SIR: The alarming height to which our disputes with the Mother Country has at length arisen, and the many detestable arts that are made use of by our enemies to involve us in one general scene of distress, are motives sufficient to stimulate every honest man to use his best endeavours to counteract the wicked designs of our enemies, which will be a sufficient excuse for my troubling you with this, as it conveys a piece of intelligence that I think very interesting, and should, when thought proper, be made known to the good people of your Province as well as our own.

Mr. *John Stuart*, who is now at Colonel *Mulryne's* house at *Thunderbolt*, desired that the Colonel would wait on some gentlemen who are in opposition to Government, as it is called here, and beg that they would be so good as to call on the Superintendent at his house yesterday, as he wanted to have an opportunity of clearing himself of some aspersions, and likewise to lay before us his letters with respect to *Indian* affairs. Accordingly four or five of us malcontents attended; when Mr. *Stuart* began with informing us that he had received letters by the last post from *Charlestown* which made him very uneasy, as a report had been circulated there that he had been tampering with cer-

tain *Indians*, at which he manifested not a little surprise. He showed us the letter he received from *Charlestown*, and his answer to Colonel *Howarth*, whom he has desired to make the contents publick, and which he means a justification of his conduct. So far every thing appeared to me plausible; but, unluckily for Mr. *Stuart*, he produces a number of his letters to his Deputy, Mr. *Cameron*, and the answers; in one of which he writes thus: "I have received information from General *Gage* that certain persons at the northward have been tampering with the *Six Indian Nations*, and endeavouring to alienate their affections from His Majesty. I mention this to caution you against any thing of the kind with you, and that you will use your influence to dispose those people to act in defence of His Majesty and Government, if found necessary." Mr. *Cameron's* answer was couched nearly in the following words, (I do not differ, I am positive, as to the substance, though I may in some of the words:) "That Mr. *Stuart's* interest with the *Indians* was much greater, and that he was more beloved by them than any other man; and that he (Mr. *Cameron*) had the vanity to think that he could head any number he thought proper whenever called upon in support of His Majesty and Government."

Now, Sir, I shall leave you to make your own comments on the above, though I will acquaint you with what I said to him on its being read: that we were at no loss to know what was meant by assisting or acting in defence of His Majesty and Government, if found necessary; for, as we were not at war with the *French* or *Spaniards*, it could not be against them that they were meant to act. Mr. *Cameron* further tells Mr. *Stuart* that the traders must by some means or other get ammunition among them, or otherwise they may become troublesome to him for the want of it. I do not well know how far I am at liberty to make this publick; but as Mr. *Stuart* has wrote to Mr. *Howarth*, in order to justify himself in the eyes of the people of *Carolina*, I think, as a farther justification, he should produce his letters to and from *Cameron*. Mr. *Stuart's* letter that contains the foregoing paragraph is dated about the middle of *January* last, and is copied from among a number of others, in a large book bound in calf.

You may give the Secret Committee intelligence of this, and if they should think it of sufficient importance to claim a demand from Mr. *Stuart* of these letters, and he should then hesitate, and will not grant what they request, and it should further be thought necessary, I can find four persons besides myself, to avow what I have said to be true, as any thing of this kind should come well authenticated.

We are going on here tolerably well with respect to our political proceedings, and I hope soon to convince the world that *Georgia* will not take advantage of her sister Colonies in the present disputes.

I am, dear Sir, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH HABERSHAM.

*Philotheos Chiffelle, Esq.*

## TO GENERAL BURGUYNE.

Philadelphia, June 16, 1775.

SIR: Your accession to a command upon this side the *Atlantick* must necessarily engage the attention of *America*. A gay sparkler from the parade of *St. James's* may attract the eye of the young and inexperienced; but when the real Soldier and the able Senator appears, these little meteors must die away, whilst a different class of men mark the latter's conduct with determined circumspection. If brave, he is humane; if worthy the seat he fills in the legislature, he will not suffer his idea of promoting his Country's welfare to be circumscribed by any partial, local boundaries. If thus brave and wise, he will love valour and freedom, and endeavour to kindle these glorious emanations of virtue in every bosom. The temple of Liberty fills all space, and the great and good of every age have been the willing votaries to sacrifice at her altar.

It appears, Sir, that you have considered the grand *American* question; "real and virtual representation," external and internal taxes, "revenue and regulation," are not with you novel ideas. I cannot suppose your "understanding confounded," or your "head dizzy with these distinctions;" though you seem willing to consider them as "rhetorical and sophistical," while you view "the Declara-



tory Act of the sixth of the present King" as the solemn line by which your judgment is to be bounded, and beyond which your researches must not presume to soar. Have the Parliament of *England*, Sir, never been mistaken? Are they infallible? No, Sir. We know there existed laws for the punishment of witchcraft, but true philosophy having exploded that error, the wisdom of succeeding times repealed those statutes. The halcyon days of *George* the Second broke that supposed subjection to the powers of darkness. Forbid it, Heaven, that a more gloomy infatuation should becloud the reign of *George* the Third. You view "the Government" of *England* as "suspended," the Parliament a phantom, the mere shadow of authority, assembled only to lament a substance lost, and to propose and subtilize questions of their own impotency. "Was this the case, I should agree" with you, that the state of *Britain* was wretched indeed, and that she was about "reverting to her primitive insignificance in the map of the world." But, Sir, can any Government be suspended, when every branch of authority the Constitution warrants her to exercise is acknowledged and obeyed—when she is only restrained from putting in effect what she has no right to attempt? Were the powers granted to *James* the Second by the Constitution resumed by that source from whence they sprung, because the virtue of our ancestors would not permit him to suspend acts of Parliament, violate Charters, and introduce Popery? Had that deluded man made the line of the Constitution the path of his obedience, he would not have had cause to lament the substance he lost, or sat torpid at *St. Germaine's*, subtilizing questions of his own impotency.

Wisdom and goodness flee every species of deception. Suffer not yourself to be deceived. "The Congress of *Philadelphia*" is not "the legislature to dispense the blessings of Empire;" it is composed of gentlemen met, by the appointment of the freemen of *America*, to devise the most probable schemes for cementing the Parent State and all her blooming Colonies in the firmest band of union; such an union as may make the most happy Nation of the earth, and transmit its glory and freedom to the latest time. Their intention is "to spare the blood of their fellow-subjects;" "to spare the treasures of the State;" and, in concert with *Britain*, to erect an Empire on the firm basis of the Constitution, that shall survive until time shall be no more.

In addressing you, I hope, Sir, nothing has or may fall from my pen to injure the sacred cause of my Country, or to disgust yourself. The language of freedom, as a mother tongue, I must adopt, whilst the walk of abuse or offensive personality shall be entirely unoccupied by

A PENNSYLVANIAN.

ACCOUNT OF PROVINCE STORES AND PROVISIONS RECEIVED, FORWARDED, ISSUED, AND WHAT REMAINED, AT ALBANY, JUNE 14, 1775.

Received at *Albany*, by different vessels from *New-York* and *Kingston*, 200 barrels flour, 400 barrels pork, and 20 tierces rice; bought on publick credit at *Albany*, 52 barrels flour, and 14 barrels peas: In all, 252 barrels flour, 400 barrels pork, 14 barrels peas, and 20 tierces rice.

Forwarded from *Albany* to *Fort George*, 88 barrels flour, 136 barrels pork, and 12 barrels peas: Leaves 164 barrels flour, 264 barrels pork, 2 barrels peas, and 20 tierces rice.

Issued or delivered out at different times, 25 barrels flour, 9 barrels pork, and 2 barrels peas: Remains at *Albany*, 14th *June*, 1775, 139 barrels flour, 255 barrels pork, and 20 tierces rice.

Stores remaining: Five hogsheads rum, one cask naval stores, one cask sails for scows, fourteen barrels pitch and tar, five casks oakum, three boxes spades and shovels, one box hoes, and four coil cordage.

N. B. About twenty wagons are constantly employed on the publick credit of the Colony between *Albany* and *Fort George* to carry stores and provisions to the latter as fast as possible, and before I left *Albany* I received intelligence that ten or twelve more wagons in and about the *Boght* were preparing to come to Town for loads. The last company of Colonel *Hinman's* Regiment, of *Connecticut*, were to leave *Albany* the 15th instant; the other nine

(consisting of near a hundred men each, as the Colonel informed me) were mostly arrived at *Fort George* on the 12th instant, and some, as we heard, had already reached *Ticonderoga*. Those Companies did not all draw provisions at *Albany*, as they brought a sufficiency with them from *Connecticut* to last them to *Fort George*, especially pork, and I think two Companies did not draw any, but the others I have supplied with flour only, and about two barrels of pork.

Provisions requisite to victual fifteen hundred men for three months, viz: 675 barrels flour, average 200 pounds nett; 367 barrels pork, average 210 pounds; 7,232 pounds butter; 226 barrels peas, average 3½ bushels; 1,206 gallons rice, or eighteen tierces, average 8 bushels.

Sent off to *Fort George* fourteen carpenters, to build batteaus.

JOHN N. BLEECKER.

New-York, June 16, 1775.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Greenwich, June 16, 1775.

SIR: Your Honour will receive enclosed a requisition from the Provincial Congress at *New-York*. Captain *Sears*, who arrived here last night about twelve o'clock, informs me that the people of *New-York* intend to quarter the Troops in the City. I should be glad to be informed how far I shall subject myself and the Troops under my command to the direction of the Continental or Provincial Congress; whether, (if I proceed to *New-York*,) when the *Irish* Troops arrive, I shall wait for directions from the Continental Congress whether to oppose them or not. It is my private opinion that they ought not to be suffered to land. I wrote you yesterday for your direction about the expediency of my marching to *New-York*.

I am, Sir, with due respect, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN BOSTON TO HIS FRIEND IN ENGLAND, DATED JUNE 16, 1775.

DEAR SIR: As we are just now convoying with the General's despatches clear off the coast, I thought that a line or two to you by the same opportunity would not be unwelcome. Nothing of consequence has happened at *Boston* since the 19th of *April*, except a skirmish or two between the enemy and some parties of Troops who went a foraging for hay on certain islands in the harbour. The rebels still continue the blockade. Their out-sentinels the other day called to ours to send out the Light-Horse, that they might beat them as they had beaten the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry; and single men of them have been so impudent as to fire a musket at the King's ships. They burnt a house the other day belonging to a Tory within shot of the Admiral. They have taken *Ticonderoga*, in which place were eighty pieces of cannon and a large quantity of stores. It is reported they have got some of those guns now before *Boston*. Before our lines in camp and *Roxbury* the rebels amount to three or four thousand men. At other Towns in the neighbourhood it is said there are two-and-twenty thousand. All the Troops from *Ireland* are arrived in good health, and the horses in excellent condition. Only sixteen horses died in the passage, and they brought forty spare ones. Sixteen of the transports which were ordered from *England* to *New-York*, are, by the General, ordered to *Boston*. With this addition our army will amount to about ten thousand men, all in high spirits, and terribly exasperated against the Provincials. On the 12th instant General *Gage* published a Proclamation, offering a pardon, in the King's name, to all rebels who shall forthwith come in and lay down their arms, excepting only *Hancock* and *Adams*. No regard is paid to Lord *North's* terms of accommodation. The word with the Sons of Liberty, as the rebels style themselves, is, *join* or *die*. I expect to hear of bloody work soon, as our Troops are determined to lay all the Country waste as they go with fire and sword. The prisoners have been all exchanged. The *Merlin* is at *Marblehead*. As soon as we part from our convoy we are to proceed to *New-York*, and from thence to *Philadelphia*, to put the Restraining Act in execution. Thank God I keep health, &c.



## PROCLAMATION BY THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 16, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the following Proclamation be signed by the President, printed, and published throughout this Colony:

BY THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

The confidence which our countrymen have reposed in us, lays us under the strongest obligation to watch and guard against all the malignant designs of their inveterate enemies.

That the *British* Administration have formed, and have been for several years executing a plan to enslave this and the other *American* Colonies, is a proposition so evident, that it would be an affront to the understanding of mankind to adduce proofs in support of it. We shall therefore only advert to those unhappy circumstances which have been the immediate causes of plunging this People into the horrors of war and desolation. When a Fleet and Army were sent forth to deprive us of every thing that man holds dear; when the Capital of this Colony became a garrison, and fortifications were erected upon the only land-entrance into the Metropolis; when the Commander of the Army so far manifested his designs against us, as to send out his Soldiers in the night to remove the publick magazines of the Colony from their safe lodgment in the country, and place them under the command of a Foreign Army; when he evidenced his enmity to the liberties of this Country, by sending a detachment from that Army against the peaceable inhabitants of one of our principal Towns, only because they were assembled quietly to concert measures to save themselves from ruin; when we were lately deprived of the benefit of a legislative body; when the whole system of distributive justice was so mutilated that there could be no reason to hope for any advantages from it; when an Act of Parliament was passed, which the General of the Army resolves to execute, by which our countrymen were given up as a prey to a lawless soldiery, who were screened from punishment here for the murders they might commit; in fine, when the Army and Navy breathed nothing but blood and slaughter, and all our accounts from *England* but too strongly proved the inhuman intentions of those in power: it became us as men, as freemen, and Christians, to take some steps to preserve our own lives and properties, as well as to secure the inheritance, purchased at no less a price than the blood of many thousands of our brave ancestors, entire and undiminished for succeeding generations. The Congress whom this people then chose recommended it to them to provide themselves with such articles for their defence as the law of the land required, and further recommended it to them to appropriate some part of their own property for the purchasing such stores to be laid up in publick magazines as might be useful for the general defence, in case an attack should be made upon us by the Army. The recommendation was cheerfully complied with, and stores were procured in the most peaceable and quiet manner, and deposited in magazines, where they were to have continued without the least injury or disturbance to any one, unless drawn out by necessity to save the Country from destruction. But the possibility of our making resistance to the bloody schemes of our adversaries was the source of continual terror to the traitors, whose aim was to enslave this Country; and General *Gage*, after many little pilferings, and several humiliating disappointments in his attempt to rob the people, at length determined to destroy the magazines at *Concord*; he sent the Grenadiers and companies of Light-Infantry of every regiment (about one thousand in number) secretly by night over *Charles* River. On their way some of the Officers captivated and otherwise infamously abused several of the inhabitants; and when the body arrived at *Lexington* meeting-house, which was very early in the morning of the ever memorable nineteenth of *April*, they in a most barbarous and infamous manner fired upon a small number of the inhabitants, and cruelly murdered eight men. The fire was returned by some of the survivors, but their number was too inconsiderable to annoy the Regular Troops, who proceeded on their errand; and upon coming up to *Concord*, began to destroy by fire and water the stores and magazines, until a party of them again fired upon and killed two more of the inhabitants. The native bravery of our countrymen could

now no longer be restrained; a small party, consisting of about two or three hundred men, attacked them with such spirit and resolution, as compelled them soon to retreat. At *Lexington* they met a re-enforcement of Regular Troops, consisting of about eight hundred, with two field-pieces, commanded by Lord *Percy*. This, however, did not encourage them to keep their ground, but they continued their route towards *Charlestown*, marking their way with every species of desolation and cruelty which their haste would permit.

The burning and robbing of houses, the abuses and barbarities offered to defenceless women and children, the wanton slaughter of the aged and helpless, will be a perpetual memorial of the base spirit which actuated the perpetrators.

Upon their arrival at *Charlestown* our countrymen quitted the pursuit, and the next day suffered them, without annoyance, to pass the river and return to *Boston*.

This action of the Troops destroyed every hope of coming to any accommodation with them; we therefore were compelled to raise an Army to prevent such bloody excursions in future. An Army is therefore raised and appointed for this purpose, and we are, with the greatest reluctance, obliged to declare, that we have now nothing to depend upon under *God* to preserve *America* from slavery and destruction but our arms; to these we have been forced to make our appeal, and by these we are determined to maintain our rights. And we are obliged to declare, and do now publicly declare, all persons who shall afford any aid, assistance, or relief, or hold any manner of communication of any kind whatsoever with General *Gage*, Admiral *Graves*, or the Army or Navy, or any one of those now under their command, who are stationed in our Metropolis and the Harbour of *Boston* or elsewhere, or any persons who are known or shall hereafter be known to have afforded such aid, or to have had such communication with them or either of them, to be enemies and traitors to their Country, and they shall be proceeded against and treated as such, excepting only such of the unhappy inhabitants of *Boston* as have, by a treacherous and most infamous breach of faith in General *Gage*, been prevented from removing out of the Town of *Boston*, whose peculiar circumstances this Congress will at all times make due allowance for, so long as they shall avoid doing any thing to obstruct or counteract such steps as this Congress shall think fit to take; but the said inhabitants are strictly forbidden, whatever may be the consequence of their refusal, to be in any the least degree instrumental in assisting the enemy, or opposing the Country, as they would avoid the penalties due to the enemies thereof. From a real tenderness to our fellow-men, we most sincerely regret the unhappy situation of the Soldiers and Sailors in the Army and Navy now stationed in the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, and assure them, upon that faith which never has been, and we trust never will be violated, that upon their quitting the infamous service in which they are, (as we must in charity suppose,) contrary to their own inclinations and principles, engaged, we will receive them as brethren and fellow-subjects, and protect them against every attempt that may be made by our enemies to force them again into the disgraceful and inhuman service in which they now are employed.

And that our earnest desire to discover our tender regard to our few misguided fellow-countrymen, and our readiness to forgive even those who have knowingly offended, we do promise and engage a full, free pardon to all persons who have fled to the Town of *Boston* for refuge, and to the other publick offenders against the rights and liberties of this Country, of what kind or denomination soever, excepting only from the benefit of such pardon *Thomas Gage*, *Samuel Graves*, and those Counsellors who were appointed by mandamus, and have not signified their resignation, viz; *Jonathan Sewell*, *Charles Paxton*, *Benjamin Hallowell*, and all the natives of *America* not belonging to the Navy or Army who went out with the Troops on the 19th of *April* last, and were countenancing, aiding, and assisting them in the robberies and murders then committed, whose offences are of too flagitious a nature to admit of any other consideration than that of condign punishment: Provided they take the benefit hereof by making a surrender of themselves to any General Officer belong-



ing to the *Massachusetts Army*, and subscribe a declaration of their readiness to comply with, support, and abide by all the resolutions and determinations which are already made by this or any former Congress, or that shall hereafter be made by this or any future Congress or House of Representatives of this Colony, within thirty days from the date hereof. And it is earnestly enjoined upon the Selectmen, Committees of Correspondence, Committees of Safety, and all other Officers of every Town in this Colony, that they use their utmost diligence to discover and make known to this Congress any person or persons who shall in any respect attempt to do any thing tending to render ineffectual their designs and doings; and we trust that the *God of Armies*, on whom we rely for a blessing upon our arms, which we have taken up in support of the great and fundamental principles of natural justice and the common and indefeasible rights of mankind, will guide and direct us in our designs, and at last, in infinite goodness to this his injured people, restore peace and freedom to the *American world*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress now sitting at  
WATERTOWN:

The Petition of EBENEZER SMITH and THOMAS COOK,  
Selectmen of EDGARTOWN, in behalf of said EDGAR-  
TOWN, humbly sheweth:

That whereas the said Town of *Edgartown* is very small and poor, the soil sandy, and not capable of producing the article of bread-corn for the inhabitants yearly by far; whereby many of the inhabitants are obliged to employ themselves in the whaling employ for their support, which at this time is rendered useless, by reason that the oil obtained will not produce cash; and also the staple commodity of said *Edgartown*, which is the article of sheep's wool, cannot be transported to the main land at this time, with any degree of safety, by reason of the armed vessels continually cruising betwixt said *Edgartown* and the main land; and your petitioners are well assured that there is but very little cash in said Town, and that many of the inhabitants are at this time in a considerable degree suffering for the article of bread-corn, and are by no means at this present time capable of paying their publick taxes: we therefore pray, in behalf of said *Edgartown*, that as your petitioners have contracted with the Committee of Supplies to supply them with a number of yarn stockings, that the same may answer in lieu of the money, as far as the amount of said stockings; as we conceive it will be of great utility to said Town, by reason that the little money there is will be stopped in said Town, and the poor kept at work in the manufacturing of the wool. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

THOMAS COOK, }  
EBENEZER SMITH, } Selectmen.

Edgartown, June 16, 1775.

COLONEL ISRAEL GILMAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COM-  
MITTEE OF SAFETY.

Charlestown, June 16, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I take this opportunity to inform you of the state of Colonel *Read's* Regiment now at *Charlestown*. The Regiment is full officered; the soldiery will appear by the return; there is good harmony in said Regiment. A chaplain, surgeon, and armourer very much wanting in said Regiment.

Gentlemen, I am, with respect, your most obedient, &c.,  
ISRAEL GILMAN.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety.

P. S. It is still times with the Regular Troops at present; we expect they will make a push for *Bunker's Hill* or *Dorchester Neck* very soon.

TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.

London, June 17, 1775.

Friends and Fellow-Countrymen:

Let me conjure you, by all you hold dear here and hereafter, by all the ties of nature and justice, to rouse in defence of your persecuted brethren and fellow-subjects in

*America*, who daily fall innocent victims to lawless power. Let me entreat you to rouse in defence of your rights and liberties, those rights and liberties which Heaven gave, and for which your fathers bravely fought, and gloriously fell, to preserve themselves, and us their posterity free. Be assured if bleeding *America* can be reduced to slavery, all the boasted privileges of *Englishmen* must fall with her; let me therefore beseech you to oppose, with uplifted hands and stretched out arms, the cruel, bloody, and unnatural tyranny of *George the Third*, and his diabolical tory minions. Perdition, destruction, and all the miseries of a tortured death, attend the wretch who calls himself an *Englishman*, and yet can tamely see his brother, or fellow-subject, perish through wanton cruelty, oppression, or the sword.

No tyrant was ever more despotick and cruel than the present Sovereign, who disgraces the seat of royalty in the *British Empire*; no Court ever more corrupt than his; and yet, O my countrymen, to this merciless and despotick tyrant, and to his wicked and corrupt Ministry, you sacrifice your rights, and yield a peaceable submission.

Consider the gloomy, the dreadful prospect before you. The plains of *America* are running with the blood of her inhabitants; the essence of the *English* Constitution destroyed, and nothing but the form, the mere shadow of it remains; all the dear-bought liberties purchased and sealed with the blood of your forefathers, wrested from you by the polluted hands of an abandoned set of miscreants, supported and defended by a royal tyrant; and a dark cloud of slavery, like a rising tempest, overspreads the land; it approaches swiftly, and at this moment threatens our destruction: it is therefore high time you should be roused and awakened to a sense of your danger; and by an appeal to Heaven, by a glorious resistance, provide for your common safety.

This is the only way; we have no other to prevent the ruin that threatens us. If we are inattentive or inactive at this time, our chains will be fast riveted, and liberty must expire. Your petitions and remonstrances have been spurned by the King, and you have now no remedy left but that of entering into an association in defence of your common rights, and the rights of *America*. They have set you a noble example, an example worthy of *Britons*, an example which you are bound by all the principles of justice and self-preservation to follow; he must be blind that is not convinced of this, and he is an abandoned wretch, an enemy to mankind, who will not pursue the road.

Upon your virtue and resolution at this juncture, depends the salvation of *England* and *America*; it is now in your power to prevent the further progress of despotism, the butchery of your fellow-countrymen, and yourselves from slavery and ruin.

When the humble supplications of an oppressed People are treated with contempt, and a deaf ear turned to their complaints; when their rights are daily invaded, their property unlawfully wrested from them, and their blood inhumanly shed; it is incumbent on them, it is a duty they owe to *God* and their Country, to take the field and resist their oppressors; to show themselves brave, when bravery is required, and dare to be resolute in the hour of danger. Remember, my fellow-countrymen, our predecessors led the way; the *Americans* have followed their noble example, and we are bound to follow them. Where would have been liberty and property, if it had not been for the virtue, bravery, and resolution of our ancestors? They stood forth in the glorious cause, and many of them secured it to posterity by their blood. Shall we then tamely submit to have those privileges, for which they fought and fell, ravished from us by a lawless tribe of men, who call themselves Senators or Ministers, and who, taking advantage of their Prince, are laying waste their country, and spreading desolation through the land? Shall it be said in after times, that the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five was less glorious than that of sixteen hundred and eighty-eight; and that as the age grew more and more enlightened it became more and more pusillanimous? Forbid it Heaven!

Let me entreat you, O *Englishmen*, to rouse from that state of supineness in which you have so long lain; open your eyes to the danger that surrounds you, and stand forth the defenders of *American* virtue and publick liberty. Havoc



is now the cry at *St. James's*, and the dogs of war are let loose to tear out the vitals of our brethren. *America*, through the abandoned cruelty of an accursed Administration and an unrelenting King, is become a field of blood, overspread with desolation and slaughter. It is in your power to put an end to this horrid unnatural civil war; it must owe its extinction or continuance to you. If you are virtuous, brave, and resolute, the lives, liberties, and properties of your fellow-subjects may be preserved, and your Country saved from destruction: if, on the contrary, you should be irresolute and pusillanimous at this time, (unworthy the name of *Englishmen*,) thousand, many thousand lives must be lost; the liberties of *England* will be no more; and your property taken from you at the will and pleasure of the King and his Ministers.

It can only be from the virtue and united efforts of *England* and *America*, that the Constitution of *Great Britain*, and all our invaluable privileges, can be preserved. Should you remain quiet spectators of the present inhuman massacres and destructive measures, you will deserve the worst of slavery, and the cruelest punishment ever inflicted on a people.

If you have any honour, if you have any virtue, or any bravery, you will now stand forth and resist the tyrants; you will demand the heads of those men who advised those sanguinary, fatal, and ruinous measures; you will declare to the world you will not consent to arbitrary invasions of your liberties; arbitrary dispensings with the laws; and arbitrary governing by an Army: that you owe no submission to a King, beyond the bounds of law; that your lives, liberties, and estates shall not be disposed of at his pleasure; that you are bound by the laws of *God* and man to resist a tyrant; and that you will oppose all unjust violence, and those who attempt the life of the Constitution, as the great enemies of their Country. This has been practised in all ages; and all Nations determine, that Kings who invade the lives, liberties, or properties of their subjects; that tear up the foundations of publick freedom, and the sacred Constitution of their Country; may be resisted, either by calling in and joining with foreign assistance, or by taking arms in defence of the laws and common liberty. This is what was declared at the Revolution, and this is the foundation upon which the people took arms in the time of *Charles* the First.

The axe is now at the root of the tree; the overthrow of the Constitution is the great design of the King and his Ministers, the open and avowed enemies to the natural rights of mankind, who have already sufficiently proved to the world that they mean the subversion of the universal right of Christians and of subjects. Let those, my countrymen, who plead for tyrants, submit to their power; but let us esteem our liberty, religion, and property, equally with our lives, every man's birthright by nature; no Government ever received a legal authority to abridge or take it away; nor has *God* vested any single or confederated power in any hands to destroy it; and it is in defence of those glorious privileges, these common rights, I have written this paper; and to preserve them unviolated by the polluted hands of lawless tyrants, I would lay down my life, for life is a burden in any other state than that of freedom.

It is notoriously known, notwithstanding all the Royal and Ministerial falsehoods which have been, and are daily advanced to our disgrace; it is known that we do not enjoy undiminished, one single privilege purchased by the blood of our ancestors, and confirmed to us by *Magna Charta* and the Bill of Rights. Every man, then, who remains passive at this time, is an enemy and traitor to his Country. I lose all kind of patience when I reflect upon the melancholy situation of *England* and *America*, and the villanous principles of those men entrusted by the Sovereign with the management of the affairs of this once great, free, and powerful Kingdom. I am fired with a just indignation against the authors of our misfortunes; and if I appear too warm, I hope it will be imputed to my zeal in the publick cause, and not to any malice or resentment against individuals, for I here declare to have none. But I most sincerely wish to stop the further effusion of human blood, and would willingly sacrifice my life, could I wrest my Country from the hands of parricides and traitors, and from that destruction which now threatens it.

In Provincial Congress, Charlestown, }  
Saturday, June 17, 1775. }

*Resolved*, That this Congress shall expire on the sixth day of *August* next; that a new election be made on *Monday* the 7th and *Tuesday* the 8th days of *August*, except in *Charlestown*; and that the new members then elected do meet in General Congress at *Charlestown*, on the first day of *December* next, or sooner, if the General Committee shall think it expedient to summon them.

*Resolved*, That each Parish, or District, shall, at the time of choosing Deputies to attend the Provincial Congress, likewise choose a convenient number to form Committees in the said Parishes and Districts respectively, in order to enforce the different Resolves of the Continental and Provincial Congresses. By order of Congress:

PETER TIMOTHY, *Secretary*.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, AND  
TO ALL OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Philadelphia, June 17, 1775.

Suppose this Major, Colonel, or whatever he may be, who is lately arrived from the Parliamentary Army at *Boston*, and says he sold out, should be a Spy sent from the Generals to examine into the state of our affairs; to fix on the ground which can be occupied to most advantage by an Army, Regiment, or party of Regulars; to see whether we are prepared to oppose their landing, or to prevent any ships from coming opposite the City, which by threats to fire upon it, might intimidate the inhabitants. Suppose the Generals have resolved, if the landing at *New-York* should prove too hazardous, on account of its vicinity to *Connecticut*, to send the Troops here, and that he is sent on purpose to assist and direct them in landing. Suppose all, or any of these to be the true supposition, what then? Suppose he and the paroled Major (for I hear they are much together) should, by their united counsels, fix and recommend a plan for introducing a few Regiments to *Philadelphia*, what then? These are reasonable suppositions. Generals who could affect nothing by force, have had recourse to stratagem, and may have again. I have but one supposition more, the rest I leave to your virtue, wisdom, and prudence: suppose the general desire of your fellow-citizens to be "*dent operam curatores selecti ducesq; militares ne quid civitas detrimenti capiat*"—*Quid tum?*

I am, &c.

JAMES DUANE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 17, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the . . . by express came to hand yesterday, and the papers you enclosed have been communicated to the Congress, who cannot but approve of your generous and spirited conduct.

You have by this conveyance two packets from the President of the Congress, on the subjects to which they relate. I need make no remark.

As it was found that you made no progress in raising men, the Congress have thought fit that the posts directed to be taken in our Government should immediately be occupied by the Troops of *Connecticut*, which are ready for service, and unemployed. We enclose you, by order of the Congress, a certified copy of their Resolution on that head.

Your great complaint of the want of money will, I hope, be soon removed. For your present satisfaction, we have obtained leave of the Congress to inform you that the General Committee of the whole body have reported a Resolution to emit, in Continental paper currency, a sum not exceeding the value of two millions of *Spanish* dollars, for the redemption of which all the Colonies are to be pledged. Upon revolving the effect of this Resolution, you will find to agree in the main point—the stability of the fund, with your own judicious system. We hope soon to furnish you with the particulars of this important transaction. We are likewise at liberty to acquaint you that the Congress have agreed to raise, at the Continental expense, a body of fifteen thousand men—ten thousand for the defence of the *Massachusetts*, and the remainder to be employed in *New-York* for keeping open the communication between the Northern and Southern Colonies; and that



Colonel *George Washington* is appointed Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief of all the forces raised and to be raised in the common cause. You are under no further obligation of secrecy on that subject, than to prevent their being inserted in any newspaper, from which it is apprehended some prejudices might arise.

The letters for Governour *Trumbull* and General *Wooster*, relate to the removal of the *Connecticut* Troops into our Government, and are to be forwarded with your despatches on that subject; but they are only from their Delegates, and not authoritative, the Congress having referred it to you to make the application to that Government.

I have retired from the Congress at the request of my brethren to send off these despatches; for which reason I have done the honour of subscribing myself, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JAMES DUANE.

To the Provincial Congress at *New-York*.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THEIR DELEGATES AT PHILADELPHIA.

In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, June 17, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We are this day informed by Mr. *Jeffrey*, of the *Lord Hyde* packet-boat, that the *Mercury* ship-of-war was cruising off our coast, and is now at *Sandy-Hook*, to order the transports from *Ireland* with Troops destined to this City, to proceed immediately to *Boston*; and did on *Tuesday* last, about thirty leagues to the southeast of *Sandy-Hook* deliver those orders to the *Old Spy*, man-of-war, (now a transport with a part of the Forty-Fourth Regiment on board,) who immediately altered her course.

Captain *Jeffery* told us he had this information both from the officers of the troops on board of the *Spy*, and from some of the officers of the *Mercury* man-of-war.

From this information, we are induced to conclude that some capital stroke is meditated against our brethren of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. We therefore, gentlemen, think it our duty to despatch this information to you, that it may be known to the Continental Congress.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

P. S. We enclose you copies of the two letters we have despatched to General *Wooster*.

#### MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Chamber of Supplies, *Watertown*, June 17, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your letter per express, and in answer inform you that we have no horses at present but what are unfit for use, or wanted for the expresses of this Committee. We are informed that Colonel *Gerrish* has a horse taken at *Noddle's Island*, and shall be glad that you will take the same, if the intelligence is true, and give us notice. We have received but ten out of twenty-eight horses ordered by Congress to be delivered us, and are informed that those left behind are some of the best; pray take them if to be found, unless detained by the Generals. We have sent to procure four, which shall be sent you as soon as possible; and are, with respect, gentlemen, your humble servant,

DAVID CHEEVER, *per order*.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety.

P. S. We are sensibly concerned for the expense of powder, as a great consumption by cannon may be ruinous on our side. We think it proper to inform you that, exclusive of thirty-six half barrels powder received from the Governour and Council of *Connecticut*, there is only in the magazine twenty-seven half barrels, and can be no more draughted from the Towns, without exposing them more than they will consent to be.

#### MACHIAS COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Machias, June 17, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Since the express left this, by whom we transmitted an account of the taking of the *Margaretta*, one of the King's tenders, we have discovered, upon

examining the papers, that both of Capt. *Jones's* sloops, of about eighty tons each, were in the King's service; and as the people are now obliged to provide for their own safety in the best manner possible, the Committee of Safety have resolved, with the utmost expedition, to arm one of said sloops, and to act on the defensive. We are deeply sensible of our own weakness and danger, and with becoming deference we once more apply to your Honours for advice and support, if we are judged worthy of your notice. Will not a commission be necessary for those who take the lead in this affair?

We are, gentlemen, very respectfully, &c.

JAMES LYON, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### Account of an Engagement at CHARLESTOWN, between about three thousand of the King's Regular Forces, and about half that number of Provincials, on SATURDAY, the 17th of JUNE, 1775.

On *Friday* night, *June* the sixteenth, fifteen hundred of the Provincials went to *Bunker's Hill* in order to intrench there, and continued intrenching till *Saturday* at ten o'clock, when two thousand Regulars marched out of *Boston*, landed in *Charlestown*, and, plundering it of all its valuable effects, set fire to it in ten different places at once; then dividing their Army, one part of it marched up in the front of the Provincials' intrenchment, and began to attack the Provincials at long shot; the other part of the Army marched round the Town of *Charlestown* under cover of the smoke occasioned by the Town. The Provincial sentries discovered the Regulars marching upon their left wing. Upon notice of this given by the sentry to the *Connecticut* forces posted on that wing, Captain *Nolton*, of *Ashford*, with four hundred of said forces, immediately repaired to and pulled up a post and rail fence, and carrying the posts and rails to another fence, put them together for a breastwork. Capt. *Nolton* gave orders to the men not to fire till the enemy had got within fifteen rods, and then not till the word was given. At the word being given the enemy fell surprisingly. It was thought, by spectators who stood at a distance, that our men did great execution. The action continued about two hours, when the Regulars on the right wing were put into confusion and gave way. The *Connecticut* Troops closely pursued them, and were on the point of pushing their bayonets, when orders were received from General *Pomeroy* for those who had been in action two hours to fall back, and their places to be supplied by fresh forces. These orders being mistaken for a direction to retreat, our Troops on the right wing began a general retreat, which was handed to the left, the principal place of action, where Captains *Nolton*, *Chester*, *Clarke*, and *Putnam*, had forced the enemy to give way and retire before them for some considerable distance; and being warmly pursuing the enemy, were with difficulty persuaded to retire; but the right wing, by mistaking the orders, having already retired, the left, to avoid being encircled, were obliged to retreat; and, with the main body, they retreated with precipitation across the causeway to *Winter Hill*, in which they were exposed to the fire of the enemy from their shipping and floating batteries.

We sustained our principal loss in passing the causeway. The enemy pursued our Troops to *Winter Hill*, where the Provincials, being re-enforced by General *Putnam*, renewed the battle with great spirit, repulsed the enemy with great slaughter, and pursued them till they got under cover of their cannon from the shipping, when the enemy retreated to *Bunker's Hill*, and the Provincials to *Winter Hill*, where, after intrenching and erecting batteries, they, on *Monday*, began to fire upon the Regulars on *Bunker's Hill*, and on the ships and the floating batteries in the harbour, when the express came away. The number of Provincials killed is between forty and seventy; one hundred and forty wounded; of the *Connecticut* Troops sixteen were killed; no officer among them was either killed or wounded, except Lieutenant *Grosvenor*, who is wounded in the hand; a Colonel or Lieutenant-Colonel of the *New-Hampshire* forces among the dead. It is also said that Doctor *Warren* is undoubtedly among the slain. The Provincials lost three iron six-pounders, some intrenching tools, and knapsacks.

The number of Regulars that first attacked the Provin-



cials on *Bunker's Hill* was not less than two thousand. The number of Provincials was only fifteen hundred, who, it is supposed, would soon have gained a complete victory, had it not been for the unhappy mistake already mentioned. The Regulars were afterwards re-enforced with a thousand men. It is uncertain how great a number of the enemy were killed or wounded; but it was supposed by spectators who saw the whole action, that there could not be less than four or five hundred killed. Mr. *Gardner*, who got out of *Boston* on *Sunday* evening, says that there were five hundred wounded men brought into that place the morning before he came out.

This account was taken from Captain *Elijah Hide*, of *Lebanon*, who was a spectator on *Winter Hill* during the whole action.

GOVERNOUR WENTWORTH TO THEODORE ATKINSON.

Castle William and Mary, June 17, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Captain *Barkley* has this morning seized the Sloop *Kingfisher*, *Jonathan Eaton*, master, laden with thirteen hogheads and three tierces of molasses, bound from *Newbury* to *Piscataqua*, for breach of Acts of Trade. This sloop run into *Little Harbour* and unloaded eight casks into a gondola, without entering or reporting at the Custom-House. Captain *Barkley* sends information to the Custom-House, and directions to have the vessel forthwith libelled in the Court of Vice-Admiralty. This is not, therefore, any stoppage upon his general orders relative to provision vessels, &c., but would have taken place any time heretofore. I therefore hope it will be so considered, and occasion no disturbance in Town.

We shall rejoice exceedingly to see you in this our pleasant retirement, where we enjoy a good air, and have some safety from unseasonable attacks.

J. WENTWORTH.

Honourable *Theodore Atkinson*, Esq., *Portsmouth*.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Philadelphia, Sunday Morning, June 18, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I have but a moment's time left to tell you that your order for the duck, &c., cannot be complied with, there being not enough here to make it worth while to think of sending, and indeed they are in want of the same article here. I cannot inform you of the doings of Congress in general, being under an injunction; but I am thus far indulged to mention, but by no means to be put in the newspapers at present, that Colonel *Washington* is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. I shall sign his commission to-morrow, and he will depart in a few days. He is a fine man. You will judge of the propriety of the mode of his reception. Ten Companies of fine Riflemen from this Province, *Maryland*, and *Virginia*, are ordered to proceed immediately to your Army; these are clever fellows. The Committee of the whole Congress have agreed upon a report for the immediate emission of two millions of dollars upon the faith of the Continent. Remember me to Mr. *Gill*, *Pitts*, *Cooper*, and all friends. Adieu; I am almost worn out.

I am your real friend,  
Mr. *Gerry*, *Watertown*.

JOHN HANCOCK.

JOHN ADAMS TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Philadelphia, June 18, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I have at last obtained liberty, by a vote of Congress, to acquaint my friends with a few of the things that have been done.

The Congress have voted, or rather a Committee of the whole House have unanimously agreed, that the sum of two million dollars be issued in bills of credit, for the redemption of which, in a certain number of years, twelve Colonies have unanimously pledged themselves.

The Congress has likewise resolved that fifteen thousand men shall be supported at the expense of the Continent, (ten thousand at *Massachusetts*, and five thousand at *New-York*), and that ten Companies of Riflemen be sent immediately—six from *Pennsylvania*, two from *Maryland*, and two from *Virginia*—consisting of sixty-eight privates in each company, to join our Army at *Boston*. These are said to

be all exquisite marksmen, and by means of the excellence of their firelocks, as well as their skill in the use of them, to send sure destruction to great distances.

Gen. *Washington* is chosen Commander-in-Chief; Gen. *Ward* the first Major-General; and General *Lee* the second, (the last has not yet accepted,) and Major *Gates* Adjutant-General. *Lee* and *Gates* are experienced officers. We have proceeded no further as yet.

I have never, in all my lifetime, suffered more anxiety than in the conduct of this business. The choice of officers, and their pay, have given me great distress. *Lee* and *Gates* are officers of such great experience and confessed abilities, that I thought their advice, in a council of officers, might be of great advantage to us; but the natural prejudices, and virtuous attachment of our countrymen to their own officers, made me apprehensive of difficulties. But, considering the earnest desire of General *Washington* to have the assistance of these officers, the extreme attachment of many of our best friends in the Southern Colonies to them, the reputation they would give to our arms in *Europe*, and especially with the Ministerial Generals and Army in *Boston*, as well as the real *American* merit of them both, I could not withhold my vote from either.

The pay which has been voted to all the officers which the Continental Congress intends to choose, is so large, that I fear our people will think it extravagant and be uneasy. Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Paine*, and myself, used our utmost endeavours to reduce it, but in vain.

Those ideas of equality, which are so agreeable to us natives of *New-England*, are very disagreeable to many gentlemen in the other Colonies. They had a great opinion of the high importance of a Continental General, and were determined to place him in an elevated point of light. They think the *Massachusetts* establishment too high for the privates, and too low for the officers, and they would have their own way.

I hope the utmost politeness and respect will be shown to these officers on their arrival. The whole Army, I think, should be drawn up upon the occasion, and all the pride, pomp, and circumstance of glorious war displayed; no powder burned, however.

There is something charming to me in the conduct of *Washington*. A gentleman of one of the first fortunes upon the Continent, leaving his delicious retirement, his family and friends, sacrificing his ease, and hazarding all in the cause of his Country! His views are noble and disinterested. He declared when he accepted the mighty trust, that he would lay before us an exact account of his expenses, and not accept a shilling for pay. The express waits.

Adieu.

JOHN ADAMS.

Mr. *Gerry*, *Watertown*.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Greenwich, June 18, 1775.

SIR: I have just received a letter from the Provincial Congress at *New-York*, a copy of which I enclose and send you by express, who will also proceed to the Provincial Camp with another to General *Ward*. Perhaps your Honour will now think best to order the troops under my command eastward instead of westward.

I am, in haste, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER, Major-General.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esquire.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

Provincial Congress, New-York, June 17, 1775.

SIR: Being well informed that four Regiments, containing near three thousand effective men, were sailed in transports for this City, we take the liberty to request the assistance of those brave sons of freedom who are under your command. We are this instant further informed, that the *Mercury*, ship-of-war, was cruising upon our coast, and is now at *Sandy-Hook*, to order those transports to *Boston* immediately, and did, on *Tuesday* last, thirty leagues to the southeast of the *Hook*, deliver her orders to the *Old Spy*, man-of-war, now a transport, with part of the Forty-Fourth Regiment on board, which immediately altered her course. From hence we conclude that a very capital stroke is meditated against our brethren of the



*Massachusetts-Bay.* You best can determine, Sir, whether it is proper, on this occasion, for the forces under your command to march westward. But we are led to believe that it is of more important consequence to secure the several passes, with which nature hath bounteously fortified the eastern country, that if some unexpected chance of war should prove fatal to us in the first contest, the enemy may, by such means, receive a double check in his career of vengeance. We beg you to transmit this intelligence to the Provincial Camp with the utmost despatch. We are, Sir, your most humble servants,

By order of the Provincial Congress:

PETER V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President.*

To Major-General *Wooster, Greenwich.*

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF RANK TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED BOSTON, JUNE 18, 1775.

We left *Cork* early in *April*, and after a very tedious and disagreeable passage of seven weeks, arrived here on the sixteenth day of this month. On our landing, we found every thing in the utmost confusion, partly arising from the murmurs of the soldiery; the difference of opinion among the superior officers; the want of fresh provisions; the general unhealthiness of the troops; and, above all, the misery of the wretched inhabitants, destitute of food, raiment, or property. Whether it was an aggregate of all these, or a weakness arising from a sea-sickness, which commenced at the cove of *Cork*, and only left me on my landing, I will not pretend to say, but I have been totally confined to my room since last *Saturday*. Yesterday morning the troops were ordered under arms at three o'clock, on a boat being sent from one of the ships-of-war to acquaint us that the Provincials were raising works in order to besiege us, and put us between cross fires. Feeble as I was, I arose and dressed myself, and went down to the Head-Quarters to offer my service. There were two reasons, however, which prevented their acceptance; one was the state of my health, the other, that the Regiment I belonged to was not ordered out. The troops destined for that service were landed on the *Charlestown* side, between eight and nine o'clock; but on account of the number of the Provincials, the troops did not begin the attack for a considerable time. In the prodigious confusion this place is now in, all I can tell now is, that the troops behaved with the most unexampled bravery; and after an engagement of nearly five hours, we forced the Provincials from their posts, redoubts, and intrenchments, one by one. This victory has cost us very dear, indeed, as we have lost some of the best officers in the service, and a great number of private men. Nor do I see that we enjoy one solid benefit in return, or are likely to reap from it any one advantage whatever. We have, indeed, learned one melancholy truth, which is, that the *Americans*, if they were equally well commanded, are full as good soldiers as ours; and as it is, are very little inferior to us, even in discipline and steadiness of countenance. This sudden, unexpected affair, has had, however, one good effect upon me, for I find myself much better.

P. S. Since I wrote the above, I fell into a conversation with a gentleman who was present in both actions, and who told me that the King's Troops must have been totally destroyed in each, had the Provincials known their own strength, particularly on the former's return from *Lexington* to *Boston*, on the 19th of *April*.\*

GENERAL THOMAS TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Roxbury Camp, June 18, 1775.

SIR: For the well ordering and regulating a Camp, there are some officers necessary that I find no establishment for, which, I suppose, was left by the former Congress for an after consideration; two, in particular, that I

\* LONDON, *July 27*, 1775.—The event of the *Boston* campaign may now be easily guessed. At first, it seemed to turn upon the question, whether the Colony irregulars would stand the phalanxes of Regular Troops? That has been proved too clearly to be denied. It is now a question, which side will soonest be destroyed, and whether a victory to the Regulars, in which they lost one thousand men, and killed two hundred of the Provincials, is not the species of victory which will soon have all the effects of the severest defeat?

find very necessary, viz: an Adjutant and Quartermaster-General, the latter of which may make a great saving to the Province, as he would have the particular charge and control of all the camp utensils, inspection of quarters, &c., &c., which he would be accountable for. It is an office of great importance in many respects. Upon this matter being recommended to the Honourable Congress, I make no doubt they will be sensible of the utility of such officers. I am, Sir, with the greatest esteem, your most obedient servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Supply Chamber, Watertown, June 18, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We were handed an express from you to the several Towns, wherein you desire them to raise the Militia, which was not directed to us for any assistance; but Mr. *Gill* desired us verbally, as by your order, to furnish horses for the purpose, and despatch orders; which was not in our power, as we have no horses for our own necessary expresses; and as we apprehend its being wholly out of our department, it would not have that influence which it might have been expected from the Committee of Safety, whose department only it will be considered, if we had any spare horses to comply with such desire. We therefore hope, gentlemen, you will not depend upon us, however disposed we may be to assist for the publick safety, as it is out of our power. Your most humble servants,

DAVID CHEEVER, *per order.*

To the Committee of Safety.

CIRCULAR TO THE SEVERAL TOWNS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Chamber of Supplies, Watertown, June 18, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The welfare of our Country again induces us to urge your exertions in sending to the magazine in this place, what can be procured of the following articles, viz: salt pork, beans, peas, vinegar, and blankets; the prices whereof, as well as the carting, shall be allowed according to the custom of your place, which we desire you to certify. It is of the utmost importance that the Army should be supplied agreeably to the Resolve of the Congress, more especially with these articles; the four first of which are necessary for the subsistence as well as the health of the men, and the others for their comfort. The occasion of the deficiency in blankets is mostly owing to a number of men enlisted from *Boston*, and other Towns which have been vacated, and they all must be procured immediately, or our worthy countrymen will suffer.

As the country affords every thing in plenty necessary to subsist the Army, and we cannot, at present, obtain many things but by your assistance, we assure ourselves that you will act your parts as worthily as you have done, and hope that the event of all our exertions will be the salvation of our Country.

DAVID CHEEVER,

*Per order of Comm. of Supplies.*

To the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of the Town of . . . . .

COLONEL BARTLETT TO GENERAL FOLSON.

Kingston, June 18, 1775.

SIR: This moment one Mr. *Moreton* has come express from *Cambridge*, and has brought a letter from the Continental to our Congress, which I shall send to the President. He came from thence last evening; has rode all night, and informs that the Regulars came out of *Boston* yesterday to *Charlestown*, and had begun an engagement; that he is well assured that *Charlestown* is burnt, and that our people were flocking down all last night to the Army. I shall send to the President to be at *Exeter* to-morrow morning. Desire that the rest of the Committee be notified. Your prudence will direct you about marching our men. In great haste I am, &c.

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To General *Folsom*.

Copy sent to Doctor *Thompson*, Captain *Whipple*, Captain *Moulton*, Colonel *McDuffee*, and Committee of Safety, *Newburyport*.

Orders sent to Major *Cilley*, Captain *Elkins*, Captain



Rowe, Captain Clough, Captain Adams, Captain Titcomb, Captain Gilman, Captain Wentworth, Captain Tilton, and Captain Norriss, to march their men without loss of time to Cambridge, to join the Army.

#### PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of Prince Edward, at the Court-House, June 19, 1775:

Present: Colonel John Nash, Jun., Chairman for the day; John Morton, Robert Lawson, William Booker, Francis Watkins, Obadiah Woodson, Thomas Flournoy, James Allen, Senior, and Thomas Haskins, Committee-men.

The Committee, taking under their consideration his Excellency Lord Dunmore's conduct in the removal of the Powder from the publick magazine in the City of Williamsburgh, after the most mature deliberation, came to the following Resolutions:

1. That, for ourselves and our constituents, we do hereby publicly avow our unfeigned attachment and affectionate loyalty to the sacred person of our most gracious King, George the Third, and that we ardently pray for nothing more than a speedy pacification between Great Britain and her American Colonies, upon permanent, constitutional, and generous principles, as the only probable means of preserving to us our inherent, legal, and just rights and privileges—rights and privileges which His Majesty's subjects of Great Britain have ever laid claim to, and have received the ample enjoyment of; and deprived of which inestimable blessings, the Americans must, of necessity, cease to be a free, happy, and flourishing people.

2. Under these sentiments, and when exerting every human effort to effect a reconciliation between us and the Parent State, upon the grounds aforesaid, we can but lament that his Excellency Lord Dunmore, as a representative of our Sovereign here, whose duty it was to have given a fair and impartial state to the Ministry of the disposition of the people committed to his care and government, should, on the contrary, delight, by disingenuous, illiberal, and viciously subtle representations, to keep up the unhappy ferment between us and them; the truth of which charge against his Lordship appears but too clearly in his Letter to the Earl of Dartmouth, on the 24th of December last, as published in the different Gazettes on this Continent; the authority of which said Letter his Lordship (as far as we know) has never, as yet, thought proper to disavow.

3. That his Lordship's conduct in the removal of the Powder from the publick magazine in the City of Williamsburgh, under the cover of the night, in the manner it appears to have been done, at that critical juncture of affairs, was as despotick, cruel, and unwarrantable, as his verbal answer to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of Williamsburgh, was unmanly, evasive, and affrontive; and that, in conjunction with some other parts of his conduct, it was a clear declaration of his inimical and hostile designs against this Country; and thereby he has forfeited all claim to the further confidence and respect of the good people thereof.

4. We, therefore, under the above circumstances, and having before us the proceedings of Captain Patrick Henry, do approve of the same, and unanimously vote him, and the volunteers under his command, our cordial thanks, for their firm, prudent, and spirited conduct, in obtaining an equivalent for the Powder so unjustly removed out of the publick magazine.

Ordered, That the Clerk do transmit a copy hereof to Messrs. Dixon and Hunter, and entreat them to publish the same in their Gazette.

BEN. LAWSON, Clerk.

#### FREDERICK COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, Frederick County, June 19, 1775.

The late conduct of Patrick Henry, Esq., relative to his making reprisals from the King's Receiver-General, for the Powder so clandestinely taken from the Colony Magazine, being laid before this Committee, they took the same into consideration; when it was

Resolved unanimously, That an express be immediately

despatched to Williamsburgh, with the following Address to the Printer:

"SIR: We should blush to be thus late in our commendations of, and thanks to Patrick Henry, Esquire, for his patriotic and spirited behaviour in making reprisals for the powder so unconstitutionally (not to use a term more harsh, which perhaps it deserves) taken from the publick magazine, could we have entertained a thought that any part of the Colony would have condemned a measure calculated for the benefit of the whole; but as we are informed this is the case, we beg leave, through the channel of your paper, to assure that gentleman, that we did from the first, and still do, most cordially approve and commend his conduct in that affair. The good people of this County will never fail to approve and support him to the utmost of their powers in every action derived from so rich a source as the love of his Country.

"We heartily thank him for stepping forth to convince the tools of despotism that freeborn men are not to be intimidated by any form of danger, to submit to the arbitrary acts of their rulers; and hope he knows us better than to suppose any proclaimed distinctions, respecting the property of the powder, can ever make us condemn actions so worthily achieved, or forsake the achievers; and more fully to express our sentiments, we cannot but wish he had proceeded to secure what arms and ammunition might remain after the plunder of the magazine."

An Address from the Council, to the good people of this Colony, being laid before the Committee, it was, after mature deliberation,

Resolved unanimously, That the following be transmitted to the publick Printer, in answer thereto:

"The Committee considering the very extraordinary powers assumed and exercised by the Council of this Colony, are induced the more attentively to investigate their conduct on this alarming crisis, and to express their abhorrence and detestation of having the generous struggles for liberty branded with the opprobrious terms of licentious and ungovernable. The peace and good order of the community in their County (and they have been informed it is general through the Colony) they will venture to say has been preserved inviolate, and the people as governable as in times of the most profound tranquillity, unless frequent meetings to perfect themselves in military exercises, and a steady resolution to oppose to the last extremity all invaders of their just rights and liberties, be deemed a licentious and ungovernable spirit. Then, indeed, they must glory that such a spirit has gone forth; and pledge their faith to their countrymen that nothing but death shall rob them of their part of it.

"This Committee has seriously considered, according to the recommendation of the Council, the probable consequences of the conduct which hath been lately pursued; and are of opinion it is the only method to obtain a redress of their grievances. Every lenient measure, they think, has already been tried, without success, (a circumstance with which their Honours would seem to be unacquainted,) and they have nothing left but tamely to submit, or resolutely oppose; of which two they hope the latter will be the choice of every American.

"This Committee would have wished not to doubt the integrity of the Council, nor to make any odious distinction from the important place they hold in the state; but when such odious epithets as licentious and ungovernable are made use of to stigmatise men labouring in the glorious cause of liberty, they must say, in their opinion, the conduct of a man to whom they hold themselves and the whole Colony much obliged for his patriotick behaviour, they conceive it their duty to speak their minds without disguise to any man, or set of men, under Heaven."

A copy from the Minutes:

WILLIAM HETH, Clerk.

#### QUEEN ANNE COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

Queen Anne's County, June 19, 1775.

Whereas, the business of this Committee has been, and is likely to be rendered very tedious and troublesome, by inquiries into the circumstances of goods which have been, and may be imported into this County from other Provinces



and Counties, as well with respect to the time of their importation into *America*, as to the prime cost thereof.

*Resolved*, That we will not, and that no person of this County ought to deal with any merchant, or other vender of goods hereafter to be brought within this County, until the said merchant or vender shall have produced to some one or more of the Committee of this County a certificate from the Chairman of the Committee of the place from whence the said goods shall be brought, that they have been imported into *America* agreeable to the rules of the Continental Congress, and also an invoice of the prime cost of such goods, attested by the Chairman aforesaid, or some other disinterested member of that Committee, in order that this Committee may be enabled to procure a conformity to a resolve of the Provincial Convention respecting the advance on goods.

By order of the Committee:

EDWARD DOWNES, JUN., *Clerk*.

BROOK WATSON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 19, 1775.

DEAR SIR: It is my intention speedily to set forward on my journey to *Quebeck* by the way of *Lakes George and Champlain*, and to take with me *Joseph Maria Tonnuncour*, and *Louis Perras*, two young *Canadians* returning to their parents, the former from *England*, the latter from this City, where they have some time resided for the benefit of education, also *Daniel McKinsie* my servant; hence I pray you to procure for me such letters as may facilitate my journey; and I take leave to assure you, upon my honour, that I will not take, or suffer those who accompany me to take, any letters but such as I know to be merely upon commercial or family subjects, and which I will most readily submit to the inspection of the Provincial Congress, if it shall be deemed necessary.

The only letters in my possession which have the appearance of containing political matters, are some addressed to Lord *Pitt*, and others to General *Carleton's* lady; the former are from Lord *Chatham*, and came to me accompanied by the enclosed note from his Lordship. The latter are from Lady *Maria Carleton's* mother and sisters on mere family concerns.

With great respect and regard, I am, Sir, your faithful humble servant,

BROOK WATSON.

To *P. V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Lebanon, June 19, 1775.

SIR: Your favour of the 29th *May*, have received, and note the contents. Am also favoured with yours of the 6th instant, enclosing the resolution of the Continental Congress of the 31st *May*; with the lists of articles ordered to be sent to *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, and the persons employed in that service. We hope soon to hear you are well supplied with the necessary article of powder, and are able to furnish others with it. As to the supplies of our Troops, the necessary provisions must be furnished from us if not done by you. On application for fresh provisions have ordered a drove of fat cattle to move forward to furnish them with fresh beef for the present. You have enclosed an extract of our act of Assembly directing the supplies of our Troops. Am also to acknowledge your favour of the 10th instant, wherein you mention the forwarding a quantity of powder, which I am advised is arrived at *Stamford*. Shall, agreeable to your desire, immediately forward from hence the like quantity (six hundred and fifty-five weight) to the camp at *Cambridge*.

The proceedings of your Provincial Congress of the 14th instant, enclosing the intelligence given them by Captain *Thompson*, came safe to hand, a copy of which intelligence have forwarded to the camp at *Cambridge*; and in compliance with your request to Major-General *Wooster*, have ordered seventeen hundred men under his command to march immediately within five miles of the City of *New-York*, subjected to the orders of the Continental Congress and Provincial Congress in *New-York*.

Have appointed Captain *Elisha Phelps* commissary, to receive at *Albany* and forward the supplies of pro-

visions for the forces on *Lake Champlain*, agreeable to a Resolve of the Continental Congress the first instant. This gentleman was one of the first in taking possession of those fortresses, and doubt not he will conduct with prudence and to good satisfaction; have directed him to correspond with Colonel *Hinman*, to employ persons already engaged, especially *George Palmer*, Esq., and in such manner as to give no uneasiness to our friends in *Albany*.

I am, with great truth and regard, Sir, your obedient and most humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *P. V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress at *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Lebanon, June 19, 1775, 7 o'clock, A. M.

SIR: Enclosed are copies of notes taken by the Provincial Congress at *New-York*, of the intelligence brought by Captain *Thomson* of the embarkation of four Regiments from *Ireland* for *New-York*; in consequence whereof Major General *Wooster* is requested by that Congress to march immediately within five miles of the City; and the latter informs me that Capt. *Sears* informed him that the people of *New-York* intend to quarter our Troops in the City.

The military stores which were at *Turtle-Bay* have fallen into the hands of General *Wooster*, consisting of too many articles to be enumerated: among which is about five hundred good horse harnesses; a very considerable number of thirteen and ten inch carcasses; stinkpots, all well charged; a very great plenty of grape shot; cannon balls, from twenty-four pounders down to three, &c., &c.

The Provincial Congress of *New-York* forwarded for the use of your camp at *Cambridge*, six hundred and sixty-five pounds of powder, which came as far as *Stamford*. They desired the same quantity might be forwarded from our eastern magazine. The Governour with his Council here agreed on *Saturday* last to send from *Norwich*, immediately after receiving your letter of Mr. *Gerry*, of 17th *June*, seven and eight o'clock P. M. I sent to *Norwich* direction to forward the same night and day. The remainder of Colonel *Parsons's* Regiment were ordered to march forthwith to join the rest at camp, with one pound of powder, three pounds of ball, and six flints each. I have sent to hasten them.

I have this moment received advice from Col. *Arnold*, at *Crown Point*, of 13th inst., that the *Indians* of the *Caughnawaga* Tribe are determined not to assist the King's Troops, and have passed a law that the first of their tribe who takes up arms against us shall be put to death, which, he says, is confirmed by five chiefs of that tribe. These, with their families, press hard for our Army to march into *Canada*, as they are much disgusted with the regular troops. Three *Indians* sent by him to *Canada*, it seems, have been much abused by the regulars, and are returned, and confirm that account. It is also confirmed, he says, by a gentleman of probity at *Montreal*; and that numbers of the *Canadians* have expected our Army there, and are impatient of our delay, being determined to join us as soon as sufficient force appears to support them; that Governour *Carleton* by every art can raise no more than twenty *Canadians* of the noblesse; that he threatens to burn *Montreal* if the merchants will not defend the City in case of an attack; that he has only five hundred and fifty effective men, and thinks it would be very easy to possess ourselves of the whole country.

Colonel *Hinman* writes that he is in quiet possession of *Ticonderoga*, and does not find that there are any enemies about him.

I am, with great truth and regard, gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *Joseph Warren*, President of the Provincial Congress, *Watertown*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL BENEDICT ARNOLD.

Lebanon, June 19, 1775.

SIR: Yours of the 13th instant came to hand this day. Am much obliged to you for the great care you have taken to find out the disposition of the *Canadians* and *Indian* Tribes relative to the present dispute between *Great Bri-*



tain and the Colonies; and gives me great pleasure to find they appear so friendly. I trust nothing will be wanting on your part to continue the same. As to the plan proposed for marching forces into *Canada*, you say the same is laid before the Continental Congress, and if any thing of that plan takes place, it will be with great propriety first moved by them. At present the Army at *Boston*, and the prospect of one arriving at *New-York*, forbids us thinking of any expedition to *Canada*, though the great advantage you propose by such an acquisition appears very evident if it could be effected, consistent with other plans already begun. I remain yours to serve,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, at *Crown Point*.

PROVIDENCE (RHODE-ISLAND) TOWN-MEETING.

At a meeting held by adjournment, in *Providence*, on the 19th day of *June*, 1775:

The Hon. NICHOLAS COOKE, Esq., *Moderator*.

Whereas, Mr. *Paul Allen* has made up the town stock of powder into Cartridges, agreeable to a vote of the Town on the 15th *May* last; and whereas the Captains of the several Companies have not received the said Cartridges, in order to deliver the same to the inhabitants: It is now therefore

*Voted*, That Mr. *Paul Allen* be desired to deliver out said Cartridges to such of the inhabitants as he may think will make a proper use of them; and that he take a receipt from every person for so many of said Cartridges as he shall receive, promising to return the same on demand, (if not used in the Colony's service,) at any time when the Town may order a review; or in case any of said Cartridges shall be missing when called for, to pay to the Committee who may be appointed to make said review, nine pence, lawful money, for every Cartridge which shall be so missing, unless they have been used in the publick defence; the said forfeiture of nine pence for every Cartridge missing, if any, to be appropriated to purchase Ammunition for the Town; and that no one person receive more than seventeen Cartridges to every fire-arm he may have fit for use.

Newport, Rhode-Island, June 19, 1775.

Last *Thursday* the 15th instant, one of the *Providence* packets, which had been arbitrarily seized by, and detained as a tender to the men-of-war in this harbour, was sent up the *Bay*, it is supposed to take a vessel which it was reported had gone up the back side of *Conanicut*; but unluckily she met with two armed vessels which fired upon her so warmly that she was obliged to turn tail; but not being able to get off, the people stuck her ashore on the north end of *Conanicut*, and left her; she was immediately got off, and carried away, most probably to be delivered to her proper owner. This happened just before sunset.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR GAGE.

By the Governour—A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, notwithstanding the repeated assurance of the Selectmen and others, that all the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* had, *bona fide*, delivered their Fire-Arms unto the persons appointed to receive them, though I had advices at the same time of the contrary; and whereas I have had since full proof that many have been perfidious in this respect, and have secreted great numbers;

I have thought fit to issue this Proclamation, to require of those who have yet Fire-Arms in their possession immediately to surrender them at the Court-House to such persons as shall be authorized to receive them; and hereby to declare that all persons in whose possession any Fire-Arms may hereafter be found, will be deemed enemies to His Majesty's Government.

Given at *Boston*, the nineteenth day of *June*, 1775, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

THOMAS GAGE,

By his Excellency's command:

THOMAS FLUCKER, *Secretary*.

GENERAL WARD TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, June 19, 1775.

Sir: I must earnestly entreat the Congress to furnish the train of artillery with a Company of Artificers immediately, as the Army suffers greatly for want of them. This ought to have been one of the first establishments, and I hope the Congress will not delay the matter a day longer.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable the President of the Provincial Congress, at *Watertown*.

JOSEPH WARD TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Cambridge, June 19, 1775.

Sir: The honourable Congress are hereby informed, that in the late action many of the soldiers lost their blankets and clothes; they are now in a very suffering condition on that account, and must, in order to fit them for duty, be immediately supplied, especially with blankets; and many that were not in the action are destitute of blankets. It is requested that the Troops may be supplied also with a large number of spears or lances for defending the breastworks. In the late action spears might have saved the intrenchment. By order of the General:

JOSEPH WARD, *Secretary*.

To the Hon. President of the Congress, at *Watertown*.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 19, 1775.

It being very desirous to obtain the most certain accounts of the names and places of abode of the persons who have been killed or wounded in the battle of *Lexington*, so called, on the nineteenth of *April* past, and at any time since; and also of all such as may be killed or wounded at any future time during the present unnatural contest between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies, in order to transmit to future generations the names of such who have gloriously suffered in the cause of liberty and their Country; to effect which,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the honourable Congress to order that the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts in this Colony transmit, from time to time, to this or some future Congress or House of Representatives, the names and additions of all such persons who have been, or may be killed or wounded as above, within their respective Towns and Districts, and that they severally cause the same to be fairly entered upon their Town and District books.

BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress, *Watertown*.

In Provincial Congress, June 21, 1775.

Whereas the *British* Troops, under the command of General *Gage*, did, on the night preceding the nineteenth of *April*, 1775, make a sudden excursion from the Town of *Boston* into the country, with a design to plunder and destroy the property of the inhabitants of this Colony, and deprive them of the means of defence; and did, very early in the morning of said day, first fire upon, kill, and wound several persons, who came suddenly together in the Town of *Lexington*, being alarmed with the news of the approach of said Troops; in consequence of which, a bloody engagement ensued between the Militia of several adjacent Towns and said Troops, wherein several brave men fell, dying gloriously in the cause of liberty and our Country, and others were wounded;

In order that early and very authentick intelligence may be obtained and transmitted to posterity of the names and places of abode of all such persons as did then, have since, or hereafter shall die, or receive wounds in their Country's cause:

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of each Town and District of this Colony be ordered to transmit, from time to time, to this or some future Congress or House of Representatives, the names and titles, or addition, of all such persons who have been or may be killed or wounded, as above,



belonging to their respective Towns and Districts; and that they severally cause the same to be fairly entered upon their Town and District books, having previously caused this Resolve to be recorded.

COLONEL JOHN STARK TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Medford, June 19, 1775.

SIR: I embrace this opportunity, by Colonel *Holland*, to give you some particular information of an engagement or battle, which happened on the seventeenth instant, between the *British* Troops and the *Americans*. On the sixteenth instant, at evening, a detachment of about twenty-five hundred men of the *Massachusetts* forces marched, by the General's order, to make an intrenchment on a hill in *Charlestown*, called *Charlestown Hill*, near *Boston*, where they intrenched that night without interruption, but were attacked on the seventeenth, in the morning, by the shipping in *Charlestown* River and batteries in *Boston*, very warmly. Upon which I was required by the General to send a party, consisting of two hundred men, with officers, to their assistance; which order I readily obeyed, and appointed and sent Colonel *Wyman* commander of the same; and about two o'clock in the afternoon express orders came for the whole of my Regiment to proceed to *Charlestown*, to oppose the enemy, who were landing on *Charlestown Point*. Accordingly we proceeded, and the battle soon came on, in which a number of officers belonging to my Regiment were killed, and many privates killed and wounded.

The officers who suffered were, Major *McClary*, by a cannon-ball; Captain *Baldwin* and Lieut. *Scott*, by small-arms. The whole number, including officers, who were killed and missing, fifteen; those who were wounded, forty-five; killed, wounded, and missing, sixty.

By Colonel *Read's* desire, I transmit the account of the sufferers in his Regiment who were in battle. Killed, three; wounded, twenty-nine; missing, one; killed, wounded, and missing, thirty-three.

But we remain in good spirits as yet, being well satisfied that where we have lost one, they have lost three. I would take it as a favour if the Committee of Safety would immediately recommend to the several Towns and Parishes in the Province of *New-Hampshire*, the necessity of stopping and sending back all the soldiers belonging to the *New-Hampshire* forces (stationed at *Medford*) they may find there from the Army, not having a furlough from the commanding officer.

I am, Sir, with great respect, yours and the Country's, to serve in the common cause,

JOHN STARK.

JAMES MCGREGORE TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Medford, June 19, 1775.

SIR: I arrived here this morning at six o'clock, and the commanding officers of our *New-Hampshire* Regiments complained that they had a great number of wounded and sick men, and no medicine to do them any service. I immediately went to the Committee of Supplies at *Watertown*, and informed them of our distressed situation; they informed me that they had no medicines to spare; but upon such a representation as I had made to them being sent, the Government of *New-Hampshire* gave one of their own chests of medicine, and expect they will replace them as soon as possible. And if there is any more medicines to spare in our Colony than will be judged sufficient for our own use, they would beg you would let them have it, as they expect it will be scarce.

As to finding provision for our men, I spoke with the Committee of Supplies, and they told me that they would not, for the present, let our people suffer for want of provision, but would be glad if we would look out for ourselves as soon as possible. I have not as yet spoken to Mr. *Trumbull*, and I believe it is hardly worth while, relative to provision, as I think his terms are too high. I shall tarry here while I can hear from you, and hope you will send some one of the Committee of Supplies with cash as soon as it possibly can be ready, as I am sensible it will be saving to any person that goes to *Connecticut* to have cash with them. I shall do every thing in my power for the com-

fortable support of our men until I hear from you, which I pray may be as soon as possible.

I am, Sir, with proper regard to the Committee of Safety, your and their humble servant,

JAMES MCGREGORE.

To Colonel *Thornton*; to be communicated.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, June 20, 1775.

On *Saturday* evening last, *June 17*, his Excellency the Right Honourable Lord *William Campbell*, Governour-in-Chief, &c., of this Province, with his lady and family, arrived here in the *Scorpion*, man-of-war, from *England*. His Lordship was saluted on his arrival by the *Tamar*, man-of-war, by Fort *Johnson*, and the several Forts in the Town, and about one o'clock the next day his Lordship landed at *Champney's* wharf, where he was received by several gentlemen, as also by the Grenadier Company under arms; the Regiment of Militia were likewise under arms. From the wharf his Lordship walked in procession, preceded by the Grenadier Company, to the State-House, where his commission was read and published in the Council-Chamber in presence of some of the members of His Majesty's Council, &c.; from whence he returned in the same order to the Exchange, where it was again read; after which his Lordship and the whole company repaired to the State-House, where a genteel entertainment was provided on the occasion.

The General Assembly of this Province, which was to meet here yesterday agreeable to the last adjournment, is prorogued by his Excellency the Governour to *Monday* the tenth of *July* next, as per Proclamation.

COMMITTEES OF WILMINGTON DISTRICT, NORTH-CAROLINA.

At a general meeting of the several Committees of the District of *Wilmington*, held at the Court-House in *Wilmington*, *Tuesday*, the 20th *June*, 1775:

*Resolved*, That the following Association stand as the Association of this Committee, and that it be recommended to the inhabitants of this District to sign the same as speedily as possible.

THE ASSOCIATION.

The actual commencement of hostilities against the Continent by the *British* Troops, in the bloody scene on the nineteenth of *April* last, near *Boston*; the increase of arbitrary impositions, from a wicked and despotick Ministry; and the dread of instigated insurrections in the Colonies, are causes sufficient to drive an oppressed People to the use of arms: We, therefore, the subscribers of *Cumberland* County, holding ourselves bound by that most sacred of all obligations, the duty of good citizens towards an injured Country, and thoroughly convinced that under our distressed circumstances we shall be justified before you in resisting force by force, do unite ourselves under every tie of religion and honour, and associate as a band in her defence against every foe; hereby solemnly engaging, that whenever our Continental or Provincial Councils shall decree it necessary, we will go forth and be ready to sacrifice our lives and fortunes to secure her freedom and safety. This obligation to continue in full force until a reconciliation shall take place between *Great Britain* and *America*, upon constitutional principles, an event we most ardently desire. And we will hold all those persons inimical to the liberty of the Colonies who shall refuse to subscribe to this Association; and we will in all things follow the advice of our General Committee, respecting the purposes aforesaid, the preservation of peace and good order, and the safety of individual and private property.

|                    |                    |                     |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Robert Rowan,      | Peter Messer,      | Sam. Hollingsworth, |
| Maurice Nowlan,    | Thomas Cabein,     | John Glendenin,     |
| Theophilus Evans,  | Daniel Douse,      | William Carver,     |
| Joseph De Lesline, | James Dick,        | James Edmunds,      |
| John Overler,      | John Stephenson,   | John Carraway,      |
| Micajah Terrell,   | William Bathgate,  | William Herin,      |
| John Wilson,       | Charles Stevens,   | David Evans,        |
| Thomas Rae,        | John Parker,       | James Gee,          |
| James Emmitt,      | Walter Murray,     | Benjamin Elwell,    |
| Aaron Varden,      | William Gillespie, | William White,      |
| Oners West,        | Philip Herin,      | Joseph Greer,       |
| George Fletcher,   | Robert Varner,     | Thomas White,       |
| James Pearl,       | John Elwell,       | John Jones,         |
| Lewis Barge,       | David Dunn,        | Robert Council,     |
| Martin Leonard,    | Simon Bandy,       | James Giffy,        |
| Thomas Moody,      | Robert Greer,      | Robert Carver,      |
| Arthur Council,    | Joshua Hadley,     | Samuel Carver,      |
| David Shephard,    | William Blocker,   | George Barnes.      |



## ACCOMACK COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee held in *Accomack County*, on *Tuesday*, the 20th of *June*, 1775:

JAMES HENRY, Esq., *Chairman*.

Whereas the trade carried on in small vessels in any of the rivers or creeks in this County, or goods imported by any of the merchants or traders here from any port or place in *America*, may be productive of very evil consequences, if not under proper regulations: For remedy whereof,

*Resolved unanimously*, That every master or owner of a vessel having any goods on board for sale, or any merchant or trader residing here having imported any goods, wares, or merchandise, from any part of *America*, shall not sell any goods or merchandise, or part with the same in exchange for any commodity whatever, unless they produce a certificate from the Committee of the County from whence they were brought to this Committee, that the same were imported into *America* agreeable to the terms of the Association of the General Congress.

*Ordered*, That this Resolution be published in the *Virginia Gazette*. JOHN POWELL, *Clerk*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE OFFICERS OF THE INDEPENDENT COMPANIES OF FAIRFAX, ETC.

Philadelphia, June 20, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I am now about to bid adieu to the companies under your respective commands, at least for a while. I have launched into a wide and extensive field, too boundless for my abilities, and far, very far, beyond my experience. I am called by the unanimous voice of the Colonies to the command of the Continental Army—an honour I did not aspire to; an honour I was solicitous to avoid, upon a full conviction of my inadequacy to the importance of the service. The partiality of the Congress, however, assisted by a political motive, rendered my reasons unavailing, and I shall to-morrow set out for the camp near *Boston*.

I have only to beg of you, therefore, before I go, (especially as you did me the honour to put your company under my direction, and know not how soon you may be called upon in *Virginia* for an exertion of your military skill,) by no means to relax in the discipline of your respective companies. I have the honour to be, &c.

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Officers of the Independent Companies of *Fairfax*, *Prince William*, *Fauquier*, and *Spottsylvania*, *Va*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, June 20, 1775.

DEAR BROTHER: I am now to bid adieu to you, and to every kind of domestick ease for a while. I am embarked on a wide ocean, boundless in its prospect, and in which perhaps no safe harbour is to be found. I have been called upon by the unanimous voice of the Colonies to take the command of the Continental Army; an honour I neither sought after nor desired, as I am thoroughly convinced that it requires greater abilities and much more experience than I am master of, to conduct a business so extensive in its nature, and arduous in the execution. But the partiality of the Congress, joined to a political motive, really left me without a choice; and I am now commissioned a General and Commander-in-Chief of all the forces now raised, or to be raised, for the defence of the United Colonies. That I may discharge the trust to the satisfaction of my employers, is my first wish; that I shall aim to do it, there remains little doubt; how far I may succeed is another point: but this I am sure of, that in the worst event I shall have the consolation of knowing, if I act to the best of my judgment, that the blame ought to lodge upon the appointers, not the appointed, as it was by no means a thing of my own seeking, or proceeding from any hint of my friends.

I am at liberty to inform you that the Congress, in Committee, have consented to a Continental currency, and have ordered two millions of dollars to be struck for payment of the Troops and other purposes, and have voted fifteen thousand men as a Continental Army; which number will be augmented, as the strength of the *British* Troops will

be greater than was expected at the time of passing that vote. General *Ward*, General *Lee*, General *Schuyler*, and General *Putnam* are appointed Major Generals under me. The Brigadier Generals are not yet appointed. Major *Gates* is made Adjutant-General. I expect to set out to-morrow for *Boston*, and hope to be joined there in a little time by ten companies of Riflemen from this Province, *Maryland* and *Virginia*. For other articles of intelligence I shall refer you to the papers, as the printers are diligent in collecting every thing that is stirring.

I shall hope that my friends will visit and endeavour to keep up the spirits of my wife as much as they can, as my departure will, I know, be a cutting stroke upon her; and on this account alone I have many disagreeable sensations. I hope that you and my sister, although the distance is great, will find so much time this summer as to spend a little of it at *Mount Vernon*.

## MEETING OF COMMITTEE AT BROAD CREEK, DELAWARE.

The new County proposed in the *Delaware* Government not having yet obtained Representatives in Assembly, have elected a very large Committee of respectable persons to transact all their affairs, to preserve the peace and a constitutional regard to the Sovereign, and to defend and secure the natural, civil, chartered, and sacred rights of the people. This Committee, at a meeting at *Broad Creek*, June 20, 1775, fifty members being present, came to the following determinations, among many others:

Colonel JOHN DAGWORTHY, *Chairman*.

That this Assembly, taking into serious consideration the present distressed situation and unparalleled hardships that our brethren at *Boston* are now suffering in consequence of their determined resolution to support the great cause of liberty, conceive ourselves, and all *American* freemen, to be bound by all the principles of humanity and justice to prevent them, if possible, from sinking under the hand of ministerial oppression.

That though we had not a legal representation in the Assembly of the three lower Counties on *Delaware* when they were elected to represent us, yet confiding in the known wisdom, prudence, and abilities of *Cesar Rodney*, *Thomas McKean*, and *George Read*, Esquires, whom our brethren of *Newcastle*, *Kent*, and *Sussex*, have appointed to represent them in the honourable Continental Congress, now sitting at *Philadelphia*, we hereby do bind ourselves and our constituents, by every thing that is sacred, collectively and separately, to preserve and strictly enforce and carry into execution whatever measures have or may be recommended by them for the relief of our said brethren, and for the preservation of the liberties of *America*, with as much cheerfulness and zeal as though they had been appointed by us.

And we resolve that any artful or designing person or persons whatsoever, that shall attempt to defeat the purpose of this Association, shall be faithfully painted in their proper colours, and be hung up in the publick prints, or be otherwise stigmatized, and bear that load of odium that such miscreants justly merit.

And further to support the union of the Colonies, on which, under *God*, our safety depends, we unanimously Resolve, That *John Dagworthy*, *John Jones*, *John Tennant*, *John Collins*, *Simon Kollock*, *William Holland*, *Samuel Slosse*, *Joshua Polk*, *Clement Bayley*, *William Polk*, *John Mitchell*, *Peter Hubbard*, and *Elijah Cannon* be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee, to meet and correspond with the other Committees of this and the other Governments, and that any seven of them may act.

And whereas disadvantageous conclusions may probably be drawn from the conduct of the people here, with respect to their entering into this Association at this late period, this Committee does with pleasure embrace this opportunity to satisfy our fellow-subjects in general, that our backwardness in this affair has been totally and wholly owing to the fluctuating or unsettled state of the lines or boundaries between the two Governments of *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland*, and not from the influence of any Tories among us, or any disregard to the common cause. But as these lines are now happily established, we hope to evince to the world that we have as proper a sense, and as



becoming a zeal for the liberties of *America*, as our fellow-subjects in the other parts of this Government.

A true extract from the Minutes:

SIMON KOLLOCK, *Clerk*.

Head of Indian River, June 23, 1775.

N. B. In this new County military preparations for self-defence against the bloody attacks of the infatuated *British* Ministry are carried on with great spirit. It is expected we shall soon have fifteen hundred or more of a well trained militia; and the Committee are endeavouring to obtain the necessary supplies of warlike stores.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON FROM PHILADELPHIA, DATED JUNE 20, 1775.

We hear that the Congress intend to make two proposals, to the following effect:

*First*. That they will submit to an absolute restriction of their trade for the benefit of *Great Britain*, upon condition that nothing further shall be required of them, it being in their opinion a more advantageous offer than any other they can make to the Mother Country; or,

*Second*. That it shall be agreed between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, that the latter shall raise her full, equal, and just proportion of revenue for the support of the whole Empire, in a similar manner as the assessment is upon *Scotland*. That if *England* raises twenty thousand Pounds for every forty thousand Pounds levied on *Scotland*, so *America* will bear her share. On this system the Colonies cannot be taxed one farthing, without *Great Britain* paying also a like proportion. In consideration of this, all restraints on the *American* trade to be taken off.

One of these proposals must be accepted, or arms will be the alternative. Colonel *Washington*, on his appointment to be Commander-in-Chief, refused any stipulated salary, saying, he would not receive one farthing more than his expenses. One thousand Riflemen are raised by order of the Congress; *Pennsylvania* sends four hundred, *Maryland* two hundred, and *Virginia* four hundred. Colonel *Ward*, of *New-England*, is second in command, and *Gates* (formerly a Major in His Majesty's service) is Adjutant-General.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 20, 1775.

However anxious the *Americans* are to preserve their allegiance sacred and inviolate, they are also as solicitous and determined to submit to no infringement on their constitutional rights; and for this reason solely, they have taken arms to oppose the despotick system of an infamous Administration, and the Grand Congress in this City are accordingly making every necessary preparation to act with vigour. As the scene of action is at present far removed from hence, it is thought they will shortly adjourn to, or depute a Council to sit at *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*.

They have passed a vote to strike off two millions of dollars, (seven shillings and six pence, our currency,) to answer present exigencies. Colonel *George Washington*, a Delegate from *Virginia*, is, at the particular request of the people in *New-England*, and with the unanimous consent of the Congress, appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces, with a handsome salary per annum. The commission he received with pleasure, but positively refused any pay, requiring only a reimbursement of his actual expenses. Colonel *Ward* (who, I find, is universally esteemed, and well known to be a good officer) is second in command, and Mr. *Gates* (formerly a Major in the King's service) is Adjutant-General. Colonel *Lee* would not have refused a command, but the Congress did not choose to trust him, on account of his professing a personal dislike to the King; but I think it is probable, if there should be no hopes of accommodation, that his military knowledge will induce them to give him a commission.

The Captains are allowed twenty dollars per month; Lieutenants and Ensigns, thirteen; Non-Commissioned Officers, eight; Privates, six.

Although the petition presented to His Majesty last fall was treated with contempt, nevertheless the Congress have

determined to try one more, which they are now preparing, and I suppose will be forwarded as soon as its importance will permit. It is confessedly said, and I have reason to think the report is well founded, that they intend to make two proposals to the following effect:

*First*. They will submit to a parliamentary restriction of their trade, but to no commercial duties, for the purpose of raising a revenue. In consideration of which, to be totally exempt from all taxation by the *British* Legislature.

It is thought by them that the absolute control of their trade would prove more beneficial to *Britain* than any other mode of contribution; but if nothing else than a revenue will please, they will,

*Secondly*, Consent and agree, that whenever a grant is made by the people in *England* and *Scotland*, they will also give a full, equal, and just proportion towards the support of the whole Empire, upon condition of a free and uninterrupted trade, as enjoyed by the subjects in *Britain*.

One of these proposals must be considered of as a groundwork for an accommodation, or arms will be the alternative. It is generally thought that the Congress will concur with the act of Parliament, and stop all exports from and after the 20th of *July*. I am much easier than when I last wrote to you about the article of ammunition, being now satisfied by the plan adopted that we shall have full sufficient to act offensively.

The Congress have ordered one thousand more marksmen, or, as we call them, Riflemen, to be raised, viz: four hundred in *Pennsylvania*, four hundred in *Virginia*, and two hundred in *Maryland*. These men are to be divided in small parties, and scattered through the Army, for the purpose of removing the officers, the good consequences of which are too obvious to need pointing out. A party of these men, at a late review, on a quick advance, placed their balls in poles of seven inches diameter, fixed up for the purpose, at the distance of two hundred and fifty yards.

It is amazing to see the spirit of the *Germans* among us. Thousands of them have served as soldiers in their own Country. They speak with infinite pleasure of sacrificing their lives and property for the preservation of liberty, which they know full well how to value, from its deprivation by despotick Princes.

The *Quakers*, naturally fond of their interest, could not bear the thought of having their property taken from them without their consent, and have therefore taken arms, notwithstanding the Publick Testimony, which was really the work of about thirty of their elders. There are whole companies of that Society daily under arms; in particular the Light-Infantry Company of the first Battalion in this City is composed of them, in an uniform of light blue and buff.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 20, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by the Congress to forward you the enclosed Resolve, which passed yesterday, and to request an immediate compliance therewith, so far as it relates to the Troops in your Colony.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK.

To the Provincial Congress or Committee of *New-Hampshire*.

In Congress, June 19, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the Governour of *Connecticut* be requested to direct all the Forces raised in that Colony, not employed at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, or recommended by this Congress to be marched into the Province of *New-York*, to be immediately sent to join the combined Army before *Boston*; and it is earnestly recommended to the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, and the Provincial Convention of *New-Hampshire*, to send immediately to the Army before *Boston*, such of the Forces as are already embodied, towards the quotas of the Troops agreed to be raised by the *New-England* Colonies.

A true copy from the Minutes:

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.



NEW-HAMPSHIRE DELEGATES TO PROVINCIAL CONGRESS  
AT EXETER.

Philadelphia, June 20, 1775.

Your favour of the 24th of *May* is now before us; in answer to which can only say, we easily conceive the "painful sensation" that every honest man must feel when he sees the unnatural conflict between *Great Britain* and these Colonies rising to such a height. But when we consider it not of our own seeking, but drove by the sons of tyranny and oppression to the sad alternative of being made slaves or appealing to the sword in defence of our just liberties, cannot but think we shall stand justified before *God* and man, in vigorously seizing the latter.

We are much pleased with the proceedings of *New-Hampshire*, shewing their attachment to the common cause, by raising so large a number of men for the defence of *America*. We are very sensible of the inability of our Province to support them, and the necessity of a paper currency.

We are at liberty to inform you that the Committee of the whole Congress have agreed to report a Continental currency, which, no doubt, will be emitted immediately, and forwarded for the payment of the Troops.

The Congress have appointed General *Washington* to the command of the *American* Forces, who will set out for the camp to-morrow or next day; have also agreed upon a Continental Army. The other proceedings of Congress are not yet to be made publick, unless what appears in the prints.

It is impossible to conceive of a greater unanimity in the Colonies than that which at present subsists, one and all being determined to defend our rights to the last. May the great Author of all things bless and assist us, is the most ardent prayer of, your most obedient humble servants,

JOHN SULLIVAN,  
JOHN LANGDON.

*Matthew Thornton*, Esq.

P. S. Enclosed is an order for a general fast.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read before Congress, June 26, 1775.]

Lebanon June 20, 1775.

SIR: This acknowledges the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, and enclosed resolves. Am happy in being able to inform you, that by advice of my Council, appointed to act in the recess of the Assembly, convened on the 7th instant, I had ordered fifty barrels of powder from this Colony, containing one hundred and ten pounds each, to be sent with all despatch and secrecy to the *American* Army before *Boston*, which reached them about *Friday* last; and since the receipt of yours have ordered ten barrels more, of the same quantity each, which moved the 19th, and to proceed night and day; and wish it was in our power to supply much more for the necessity of the Army, and in compliance with the request of your wise, firm and patriotick assembly, on whom, under *God*, the salvation of *America* greatly depends. It is an unhappy truth, that no supplies of that article are to be obtained in this Colony. We have taken all care in our power to procure much larger quantities than we have yet received, but daily hope to expect the arrival of some, yet fear it may be intercepted by the vigilant malice of our enemies.

The *New-York* Congress informs us they have sent six hundred and fifty-five pounds for the same purpose, which I find has been detained at *Stamford*, for General *Wooster's* Regiment, but the same quantity is to be immediately furnished from the eastern part of the Colony, in addition to what is already sent. Only eight hundred and forty pounds have been imported into this Colony since our Delegates left it.

I am not at present able to procure any accurate estimate of powder, arms and ammunition. By the standing law, every Town ought to have fifty pounds to every sixty militia men, four pounds of bullets, and twelve flints; and by an act of last *October*, a double quantity of powder is ordered; but, I suppose, take one with another, we are more than half deficient of a single supply. If they were full, it would be about forty-four thousand seven hundred pound. As to lead and flints, perhaps we have a tolerable supply.

Have not yet been able to carry into execution your resolve of collecting saltpetre and brimstone, and forwarding to the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, but shall pay the greatest attention to it as fast as possible, but expect no great quantity can be obtained.

The General Assembly of this Colony, at their last session, offered very large premiums on saltpetre manufactured in and of materials found within the same, for one year; and on sulphur manufactured in this Colony from materials found in any of them, viz: twenty pounds per hundred weight of the first, and five for the second. Proposals have been made to me by Mr. *De Witt* of *Norwich*, with two of his friends near *New-York*, for speedily making very large quantities of the saltpetre, if they could be assisted with the loan of a sum sufficient to erect necessary buildings, &c., for which they will give ample security. This Colony having given such bounty, and the Assembly not sitting, nothing can be done here in that way. Your wisdom will direct what might be proper for you to do, if application should be made; and your patriotism will certainly incline you to every thing your wisdom shall dictate for the common good. If it is possible for *Philadelphia* or any Southern Colony to spare any manufactured, or other powder, to the *Cambridge* Army, it is and would be a most necessary and acceptable thing. I fear for their supply, where there is most important occasion.

You are doubtless possessed of every intelligence that is attainable, and can better judge whether, notwithstanding every shew and appearance to the contrary, the whole force of the enemy will not be collected, and their utmost exertions made to cut off the head of the snake; if so, although our men are ever so resolute or numerous, they can do nothing without powder; and there must be a vast consumption of it. A very great proportion must have been expended in the several engagements which have already happened, and we have just received the important (but very imperfect) news of a vigorous attack on our Army, on *Friday* night or *Saturday* morning last, in consequence of their attempting to take possession of the important posts at *Bunker's Hill* in *Charlestown*. Our forces have been obliged to retreat, but on the whole suppose they have suffered far less than their enemies.

I am, with great truth and regard, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Honourable President of the Continental Congress.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN PROVIDENCE, RHODE-ISLAND, TO HIS FRIEND IN NEW-YORK, DATED JUNE 20, 1775.

You doubtless have been alarmed with divers accounts of the contest which happened on the 17th instant, between the King's Troops and our Army; shall give you a narrative in a few words, as the post now waits.

On the evening of the 16th, Colonel *Putnam* took possession of *Bunker's Hill*, with about two thousand men, and began an intrenchment, which they had made some progress in. At eight in the morning a party of Regulars landed at *Charlestown*, and fired the Town in divers places. Under cover of the smoke, a body of about five thousand men marched up to our intrenchments, and made a furious and sudden attack. They were driven back three times; and when they were making the third attack, one of our people imprudently spoke aloud that their powder was all gone; which being heard by some of the regular officers, they encouraged their men to march up to the trenches with fixed bayonets, and entered them; on which our people were ordered to retreat, which they did with all speed, till they got out of musket shot; they then formed, but were not pursued; in the mean time six men-of-war and four floating batteries were brought up, and kept up a continual fire on the causeway that leads on to *Charlestown*; our people retreated through the fire, but not without the loss of many of the men.

Our loss is sixty men killed and missing, and about one hundred and forty wounded. The brave Doctor *Warren* is among the former, and Colonel *Gardner* among the latter. We left six field-pieces on the hill; our people are now intrenched on *Pleasant Hill*, within cannon shot of *Bunker's Hill*. The loss of the King's Troops must be very considerable; the exact number we cannot tell. If



our people had been supplied with ammunition they would have held possession most certainly. They have began firing on *Roxbury* with carcasses, to set it on fire, but have not yet succeeded. Our people are in high spirits, and are very earnest to put this matter on another trial.

COMMITTEE OF WAR FOR CONNECTICUT.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council, or Committee of War, called by his Honour, and held at *Lebanon*, Wednesday, 7th June, 1775:

Present, his Honour the Governour; the Honourable Deputy Governour *Griswold*; Honourable *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

*William Williams* was desired and appointed Clerk of this Council.

His Honour laid before this Committee sundry Letters newly received from the Honourable Committee of War, the Committee of Safety, the Committee of Supplies for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, from Brigadier Generals *Spencer* and *Putnam* of the *Connecticut* Troops, at the camp near *Boston*; all earnestly requesting a quantity of Powder to be sent forthwith to supply their present necessity, and engaging to pay for or refund it, &c., &c.

This Committee taking the said requests into consideration, and the circumstances of the case being considered, do agree, direct, and order, that fifty whole barrels, containing about one hundred weight each of Gunpowder, belonging to this Colony, be forthwith sent and forwarded to the said camp, to the care and conduct of said Brigadier Generals *Spencer* and *Putnam*, viz: twenty barrels of that under the care of Colonel *Jabez Huntington* at *Norwich*; twenty barrels of that under the care of Captain *Jabez Huntington* of *Windham*; and ten barrels of that under the care of Colonel *William Williams* of *Lebanon*; to be sent ten barrels in a load, packed into common barrels, and the vacant room to be filled with rye or other grain, and gave orders to said gentlemen accordingly to forward the same, signed by the Governour.

It was then moved by his Honour the Governour, that Colonel *Parsons's* Regiment, part of the troops lately raised for defence, &c., now stationed at *New-London*, or part of them, should be sent and ordered to proceed to the camp near *Boston*, &c.

The motion was considered and largely discussed, and it was, on the question,

*Voted and Ordered*, That said Colonel *Parsons*, with the Company under his immediate command, and the Company under the command of Captain *Chapman*, in said Regiment, be ordered to proceed to the camp aforesaid, and join the Troops heretofore sent and stationed there by the honourable Assembly.

Then, on motion of his Honour, *Voted and Ordered*, That the General Officers of this Colony Troops order such quantity of Fish and Hogs-lard, for the use of said Troops at said camp, as they shall judge reasonable and necessary.

And then the meeting was dismissed, near sun-setting.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Clerk.

N. B. Captain *Richard Dishon*, of *New-London*, one of the Committee appointed by the Assembly to provide carriages for and mount the Cannon at *New-London*, &c., being in Town, came, and moved for the opinion and advice of this Committee, whether he should procure iron carriage-wheels for said Cannon? And also, whether he should mount and fix two small pieces, in the form necessary and proper to be used as field-pieces, &c.? And on consideration, it was signified to him, as the opinion of said Committee on both said motions, that he should do so.

Saturday, June 17, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee at *Lebanon*, called by his Honour the Governour:

Present, his Honour the Governour; the Honourable Deputy Governour *Griswold*; *Jabez Huntington*, *Samuel Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires,

The Governour laid before this Committee sundry Let-

ters received since the last meeting, from the President of the Continental Congress; from our Delegates at said Congress; from Generals *Spencer*, *Putnam*, &c., &c.; requesting a further supply of Powder at the camp near *Boston*, that Colonel *Parsons's* Regiment be sent there, &c.

On motion by me for advice about the price of Gun-Locks proposed to be made by *Uri Hanks*, of *Mansfield*, and shewing one of them, &c., for which he demands twelve shillings each, &c. And advised and *Voted*, That if they cannot be had for less, that I engage them at that price, i. e. fifty proposed to be made by the time, &c.

On motion, *Voted and Ordered*, The remaining six companies of Colonel *Parsons's* Regiment, now at *New-London*, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Tyler*, march forthwith and join the camp near *Boston*, supplied with ammunition, &c., as others have been, and directed Mr. *Shaw* (who was present) to supply them accordingly out of the Colony Stores in his hands.

On motion, *Voted and desired*, Mr. *Shaw* (present) to use his best endeavours to procure the quantity of Powder heretofore ordered, and where it may be had, at the risk of the Colony, and to lay in his account.

A motion for sending more Powder to the Army near *Boston*, had been made and was negatived; was resumed, and, on reconsideration,

*Voted and Ordered*, That ten whole barrels more be sent to the care of Generals *Spencer* and *Putnam*; and Col. *Jabez Huntington* directed to send it from *Norwich*.

Many things discussed, &c., and it being near night, adjourned to Monday next, nine o'clock, A. M.

Monday, June 19, 1775, A. M.\*

Met according to adjournment.

On motion, *Agreed and Voted*, That Mr. *Bissell*, Commissary, send down to our Army all the Cloth he has for Tents, being sufficient for forty; and that Captain *Trumbull*, General Commissary, procure the rest on the place, and get them all made by some of the poor tent-makers escaped from *Boston*, i. e. enough to supply General *Putnam's* Regiment.

It was moved and represented that the colour of blue, being ordered for the Standard of our Second Regiment, cannot be obtained, &c.

*Voted*, That the colour of green be substituted in its stead.

A Letter in answer to Colonel *Wolcott* and Mr. *Strong*, of *Litchfield*, relating to supplying Colonel *Hinman's* Regiment at *Ticonderoga*, prepared and approved.

A Letter in answer to Letter of Colonel *Hinman*, proposed and approved.

And the same to Colonel *Arnold* at *Crown Point*.

It was moved and represented that it would be a saving of expense, and more healthy and agreeable to our Soldiers near *Boston*, to be supplied with more fresh, and less salt Provisions, &c., and on consideration, it was agreed and ordered that they be furnished with fresh Beef three days per week, instead of two.

The manner of furnishing them with Beef is referred to the discretion of the proper officers.

And also of Soap, &c.

*Moved*, That some order be taken concerning a Company of Soldiers of this Colony now at the camp near *Boston*, under the command of Captain *John Perritt*, which is a supernumerary company, not raised by, or under the establishment of the Colony.

Whereupon this Council, taking into consideration the circumstances of said Captain and Company:

*Do Resolve and Order*, That said Captain and Company continue, and be improved in the common service there, under such regulations as shall be made by the proper officers of the Army; and that they be supplied in the same manner as the other *Connecticut* Troops, until the General Assembly of this Colony shall have opportunity to consider and give further, or other orders concerning them. And that in the mean time it be recommended that they be entitled to receive the same pay and allowance, as the other Soldiers of this Colony.

This order to take place unless the General and other

\*The news of the *Charlestown* engagement arrived here last night, about ten o'clock.



proper officers of our Troops shall judge their continuance in said service unnecessary.

On motion, of the difficulties the Army are and must be under for want of a General and Commander-in-Chief of the whole body raised by different Colonies, &c., and a due subordination, on consideration, &c.,

*Voted*, That his Honour the Governour be advised to give orders to our Officers and Soldiers to be subordinate and yield obedience to the General and Commanding Officer of the Troops of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, while they act in that Province, and until the Governour, with advice, shall see fit to order otherwise.

A Resolve of the Congress of *New-York*, requesting General *Wooster's* Regiment, and Colonel *Waterbury's*, to march within five miles of the City of *New-York*, (they expecting Troops from *Great Britain*, &c.):

*Voted and Ordered*, On consideration thereof, and of General *Wooster's* request for direction, both laid before this Board, viz: that said General, with seven of his Companies, and all Colonel *Waterbury's* Regiment, march to within five miles of the City of *New-York*, and into the City, if properly requested; and their conduct be under the direction of the Continental Congress, and of the Congress of the said Province of *New-York*, unless and until he shall receive other and different orders.

*Voted and Ordered*, That two Companies of the said General *Wooster's* Regiment march to *New-London*, and be stationed there, instead of Colonel *Parsons's* Regiment, ordered to be removed from thence.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

Tuesday, June 20, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

An Order subjecting our Officers and Soldiers to the command of the *Massachusetts* Commander-in-Chief, during their continuance in that Province, or until further orders, was read and agreed to.

A Letter to General *Ward*, informing him thereof, and enclosing a copy of said Order, read and approved.

A Letter to Deputy Governour *Cook*, of *Rhode-Island*, informing him of the same, and moving him to do the same respecting the Troops of that Colony, read and approved.

A Letter to the *New-Hampshire* Congress of the like tenour, and for the same purpose, also read and approved.

A Letter to General *Spencer* enclosing a copy of said order of subordination, &c., read and approved.

And another to the same purpose, and copy to General *Putnam*.

An order to General *Wooster*, to send two of his Companies to *New-London*, and march with the remaining seven, and all Colonel *Waterbury's* Regiment, to within five miles of *New-York*, and be under the direction of the General and Provincial Congresses, till further orders, read and approved.

A Letter to said General *Wooster*, enclosing said orders, &c., prepared, read, and approved.

A Letter to our Delegates at Congress, prepared, passed, &c.

*Voted*, That his Honour be desired to send to *Hartford*, and order the Powder which was coming from *New-York*, and stopped at *Stamford*, if not come forward, to be sent for and forwarded immediately to the Army near *Boston*.

And then adjourned without day.

#### MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress June 27, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 20, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Having been favoured with your Resolve respecting the assumption of Government in this Colony, we seize the earliest opportunity to express our grateful sentiments for that compassion, seasonable exertion, and abundant wisdom, evidenced in your recommendation to this people on that head; and for the generous provision you have made for our support in our efforts in defence of the common liberty and essential rights of the whole Continent. As we are plunged into the accumulated distresses of a domestick war, our constant attention to the calls of our brethren in the field will leave us

but little time to contemplate the acts of ordinary legislation: but as we are impressed with the indispensable necessity of rescuing this people from the danger they are in of falling into a state of anarchy, and that our publick resolutions may be taken and executed with the greater despatch, we shall apply ourselves with all diligence to fulfil your benevolent intentions, and establish the form of Government recommended by your Honours, that so order and Government may be restored to this disturbed community.

We think it our indispensable duty to inform you, that re-enforcements from *Ireland*, both of Horse and Foot, being arrived, (the numbers unknown,) and having good intelligence that General *Gage* was about to take possession of the advantageous posts in *Charlestown* and on *Dorchester Point*, the Committee of Safety advised that our Troops should prepossess them if possible.

Accordingly, on *Friday* evening the 16th instant, this was effected by about twelve hundred men. About daylight on *Saturday* morning, their line of circumvallation, on a small hill, south of *Bunker's Hill*, in *Charlestown*, was closed; at this time the *Lively*, man-of-war, began to fire upon them. A number of our enemy's ships, tenders, cutters, scows or floating batteries, soon came up, from all which the fire was general by twelve o'clock. About two the enemy began to land at a point which leads out from *Noddle's Island*, and immediately marched up to our intrenchments, from which they were twice repulsed; but in the third attack forced them. Our forces which were in the lines, as well as those sent for their support, were greatly annoyed on every side, by balls and bombs, from *Copp's Hill*, the ships, scows, &c. At this time the buildings in *Charlestown* appeared in flames in almost every quarter, kindled by hot balls, and is since laid in ashes. Though this scene was almost horrible, and altogether new to most of our men, yet many stood, and received wounds by swords and bayonets before they quitted their lines. At five o'clock the enemy were in full possession of all the posts within the isthmus.

In the evening and night following, General *Ward* extended his intrenchments, before made at the stone-house, over *Winter Hill*. About six o'clock, P. M., of the same day, the enemy began to cannonade *Roxbury* from *Boston Neck* and elsewhere, which they continued twenty-four hours, with little spirit and less effect.

The number of killed and missing on our side is not known, but supposed by some to be about sixty or seventy, and by some considerably above that number. Our most worthy friend and President, Doctor *Warren*, lately elected a Major-General, is among them. This loss we feel most sensibly. Lieutenant-Colonel *Parker* and Major *Moore* of this Colony, and Major *McClary* from *New-Hampshire*, are also dead. Three Colonels, and perhaps one hundred men, are wounded. The loss of the enemy is doubtless great. By an anonymous letter from *Boston*, we are told that they exult much in having gained the ground, though their killed and wounded are owned about one thousand; but this account exceeds every other estimation. The number they had engaged is supposed to be between three and four thousand. If any error was committed on our side, it was in taking a post so much exposed.

As soon as an estimate can be made of publick and private stocks of gunpowder in this Colony, it shall be transmitted without delay, which we are well assured will be small, and by no means adequate to the exigence of our case. We apprehend that the scantiness of our stock of that article, cannot fail to induce your Honours still to give your utmost attention to ways and means of procuring a full supply of it. We feel ourselves infinitely obliged to you for your past care in this respect.

We beg leave humbly to suggest, that if a Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies should be appointed, it must be plain to your Honours, that no part of this Continent can so much require his immediate presence and exertions as this Colony.

We are, with great respect, your Honours' most obedient and very humble servants,

By order of Congress:

JAMES WARREN, *President*.

SAM'L FREEMAN, *Secretary*.

Attest:

To the Honourable Continental Congress now sitting at *Philadelphia*.



## MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO GENERAL WARD.

Watertown, June 20, 1775, nine o'clock.

SIR: This Congress, considering the present situation of the enemy, and that of the division of our Army at Cambridge, think proper to suggest to your serious consideration whether it is not proper and expedient that there should be an immediate draft of a Regiment or more from the Roxbury Camp to that at Cambridge. Your good sense will undoubtedly incline you to consult General Thomas before you determine absolutely on this measure, but we conceive the consideration of this matter ought not to be delayed a moment.

We are, &amp;c.

To the Honourable General Ward.

To the Honourable the Congress for the Colony of the  
MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of TOWNSHEND,  
humbly sheweth:

That when the order of Congress came to us for part of our town stock of powder, but two of our Selectmen being present they inadvertently sent the whole; by which means we are almost destitute of powder, and being called upon to keep in our horses, and to be in readiness for an engagement, we know not what to do. But being informed that there are two half barrels of powder at the Town of Ashby, if we could obtain an order of Congress for Ashby to deliver a part of that to us, we might be in a better situation; but if we could be helped any way we should think ourselves much obliged by your Honours, to which we look upon ourselves in duty bound to obey.

By order of the Selectmen:

JAMES HOSLEY, Town Clerk.

Townshend, June 20, 1775.

RICHARD DERBY, JUN., TO CAPTAIN JAMES KIRKWOOD.

Salem, June 20, 1775.

CAPTAIN JAMES KIRKWOOD: I received your letter this moment, informing me that you were in want of a certificate from me that you had kept the Light-house, &c., which I now enclose you. Yours, &c.,

RICHARD DERBY, JUN.

"This may certify, that Captain James Kirkwood has had the sole care of keeping the Light-house on Thatcher's Island ever since it has been erected; that he applied to the General Court, when sitting here, June, 1774, for his annual grant, and the House then voted him sixty Pounds for the year then or about that time ending; which grant came up to the Board, but the sudden dissolution put an end to the matter. And I further certify, that he has attended his duty (as far as I know) to general acceptance, ever since the care of the lights were by the Province committed to the care of Captain Ewing, Mr. Allen, and myself. Mr. Ewing is shut up in Boston, and Mr. Allen has been out of the Province near a year, so that the burden is totally on me. I have the last week sent down a quantity of oil, which has been in my care for some months past, so that the lights are well supplied for some time to come. If the lights are continued, wood must be provided soon, as it can only be carried there in the course of the summer. Whatever directions the Congress may see fit to give in this matter, shall further govern the conduct of their humble servant,

"RICHARD DERBY, JUN."

EDWARD BUCKNAM AND SETH WALES TO COLONELS BAILEY AND HURD.

Lancaster, June 20, 1775.

SIRS: We sent out a scout of two men to Lake Memphremagog, in order to find two men that Mr. Benjamin Sawyer said he had left at that lake, but found them not, and they have returned back again. They saw at Lake Memphremagog several Indians hunting, one of whom was Black Lewee, by name, who is very well known among our people, in general, to be the most trusty and faithful to his word of any Indian that ever came among us. He tells our scout that he set out to pilot two regular officers

into Lower Coos last winter, and two other Indians with them—but he was their chief pilot—in order to find out a good road from Canada to Coos, as these men told him their desire was to look out a road to Coos; but after they had set out on their journey, the regular officers told the Indians they intended to come through that way with an Army to take and destroy the people in those Towns on this river; and when Lewee found out their desire, he went back and left them. They made him promise and swear he would not come in to us, and make known their desire. He says there are near two thousand Regulars now in Canada, and they are making all preparations they possibly can for war, determined to come against us late this fall, and bring snow-shoes with them, and are now employing the Indians to make them. Lewee says they are continually inviting the Indians to join with them and fight against us, and they will put them in officers, and offer them money to take up arms, but they utterly refuse it. The Regulars threaten to kill them, to scare them to take up arms against us. Lewee says, the Indians and French wait for nothing but an invitation from us to join with us, which they would do immediately, and want us to send an Army to take Quebec, and let them know when our Army will meet them at Quebec, to take it. He says, all Canada will rise to help take it. They determine not to take their old laws again. If we will but join with them, they will join with us. This Lewee says their head man at Caughnawaga is an Englishman, very much for New-England—his name is John Stacy; he wishes us to send them word if we want them to assist us or not. Lewee says he can raise five hundred Indians to assist us any time. This John Stacy is their head man, and this Lewee is next to him. Lewee says, he will do all he can to help us; he will stay at this lake twenty days from the time our scout left them, and this is the fourth day since, and then he and the other Indians are going to Caughnawaga, and if we desire it, he will carry a letter to their head man, who can read English. And now we send a man directly down to Coos, to let you know of these affairs; and as the Indians always spoke in your favour, it would have more effect upon them were you to write to them what our desire is, and whether you will have them join us or not; for they live in fear of being destroyed by the Regulars, as there is but a handful of them. This Lewee says he will go to Canada for us, stay all summer if we desire it, and let us know all the designs of the French and Canadians, and Regulars, &c. He proposes the manner he will go in, that they might not mistrust him to be a friend to us; says he will take part of his hunt that he hath got at a time, and go into Canada and sell that, as usual, and tell them that he hath got some more moose skins in the woods, and must go and fetch them, and so in like manner, as long as we should like to have him go. We have got two men ready to go out to Lewee immediately, if you think it best to send. This scout went and came back again in five days, with a canoe. If Colonel Bailey should have a mind to go out himself and see those Indians, our men can carry you in a canoe, and bring you back again. Your seeing them yourself will be more satisfaction to yourself and to other people in general, than sending by others. This Indian was afraid to let the other Indians know what he told our men, lest they should betray him in Canada. He says, now is the time to take Quebec. The Regulars are buying up and storing all the provisions they can in Canada.

In the mean time, we remain your most humble servants,

EDWARD BUCKNAM,  
SETH WALES.

To Colonel Bailey and Colonel Hurd.

SOUTH-CAROLINA SECRET COMMITTEE TO COL. MOULTRIE.

Charlestown, June 21, 1775.

SIR: By direction of the Committee, I enclose you two orders, by which you will be supplied with a quantity of ammunition, for the use of the two Regiments of Infantry in the service of the Colony; not doubting of your prudence, they, however, think it their duty to recommend that the greatest care be taken of it; and as, in a great degree, the new levies are strangers, and their principle not certainly known, they cannot but intimate, that they



think it advisable, that no soldier should be placed sentry over, or have any thing to do relative to the ammunition, but such as are known friends to the liberties of *America*.

I am, &c.

WM. H. DRAYTON,

*Chairman of the Secret Committee.*

To Colonel Moultrie.

In Provincial Congress, Charlestown, S. C., June 21, 1775.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable *William Henry Drayton*, the Honourable Captain *Barnard Elliott*, Colonel *Charles Pinckney*, Colonel *James Parsons*, Colonel *Isaac Motte*, Colonel *Stephen Bull*, Colonel *William Moultrie*, Major *Owen Roberts*, Captain *Thomas Savage*, Captain *John Huger*, *Miles Brewton*, *Thomas Ferguson*, and *Gabriel Capres*, Esquires, be a Deputation to present to his Excellency the Address of this Congress.

#### SOUTH-CAROLINA :

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Lord WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Governour and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Province aforesaid :

*The humble Address and Declaration of the Provincial Congress :*

We, His Majesty's loyal subjects, the Representatives of the people of this Colony in Congress assembled, beg leave to disclose to your Excellency the true causes of our proceedings; not only that, upon your arrival among us, you may receive no unfavourable impression of our conduct, but that we may stand justified to the world.

When the ordinary modes of application for redress of grievances, and the usual means of defence against arbitrary impositions have failed, mankind generally have had recourse to those that are extraordinary. Hence the origin of the Continental Congress, and hence the present representation of the people in this Colony.

It is unnecessary to enumerate the grievances of *America*; they have been so often represented, that your Excellency cannot be a stranger to them. Let it therefore suffice to say, that the hands of His Majesty's Ministers, which have long lain heavy, now press us with intolerable weight. We declare, that no love of innovation, no desire of altering the Constitution of Government, no lust of independence, has had the least influence upon our councils. But, alarmed and roused by a long succession of arbitrary proceedings by wicked Administrations; impressed with the greatest apprehensions of instigated insurrections, and deeply affected by the commencement of hostilities by the *British* Troops against this Continent, solely for the preservation and defence of our lives, liberties, and properties, we have been impelled to associate and take up arms.

We sincerely deplore those slanderous informations and wicked counsels by which His Majesty has been led into measures which, if persisted in, must inevitably involve *America* in all the calamities of civil war, and rend the *British* Empire. We only desire the secure enjoyment of our invaluable rights, and we wish for nothing more ardently than a speedy reconciliation with our Mother Country, upon constitutional principles.

Conscious of the justice of our cause, and the integrity of our views, we readily profess our loyal attachment to our Sovereign, his Crown and dignity; and trusting the event to Providence, we prefer death to slavery.

These things we have thought it our duty to declare, that your Excellency, and through you, our august Sovereign, our fellow-subjects, and the whole world, may clearly understand, that our taking up arms is the result of dire necessity, and in compliance with the first law of nature.

We entreat and trust, that your Excellency will make such a representation of the state of this Colony, and of our true motives, as to assure His Majesty that, in the midst of all our complicated distresses, he has no subjects in his wide dominions who more sincerely desire to testify their loyalty and affection, or who would be more willing to devote their lives and fortunes in his real service.

By order of the Provincial Congress at *Charlestown* :

HENRY LAURENS, *President*.

June 20, 1775.

The Deputation being returned, the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* reported, that they having delivered the Address

to the Governour, his Excellency was pleased to make the following Answer :

GENTLEMEN: I know of no Representatives of the people of this Province, except those constitutionally convened in General Assembly, and am incompetent to judge of the disputes which at present unhappily subsist between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies.

It is impossible, during the short interval since my arrival, that I should have acquired such a knowledge of the state of the Province as to be at present able to make any representation thereupon to His Majesty; but you may be assured, that no representations shall ever be made by me but what shall be consistent with truth, and with an earnest endeavour to promote the real happiness and prosperity of the Province.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

June 21, 1775.

In Provincial Congress, Charlestown, S. C., }  
Wednesday, June 21, 1775. }

Whereas, the inhabitants of *Poole*, a seaport in the *English Channel*, lost to all sense of honour, humanity, and gratitude, have, by their late Petition to Parliament, manifested themselves not only inimical to *America*, but desirous to add to the heavy oppressions under which the unfortunate and virtuous inhabitants of the four *New-England* Governments labour, in consequence of their laudable conduct in defence of the liberties of *America*, and of mankind: to testify our just resentment of so base and cruel a conduct in the inhabitants of *Poole*, it is hereby

*Resolved*, That this Colony will not use or employ any shipping belonging to that Port, or owned by any inhabitant there, or carry on any transactions, or hold any communication with that people.

PETER TIMOTHY, *Secretary*.

#### FREDERICK COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation of *Frederick* County, at the Court-House, on the twenty-first day of *June*, 1775,

JOHN HANSON, Esq., Chairman :

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence chosen by the people on the 24th day of *January* last, is the true and rightful Committee of Correspondence for *Frederick* County, and shall act as such until superseded by a new election.

That a Committee of Correspondence, conveniently situated, may be chosen for each District :

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Thomas Sprigg Wooten*, *Richard Thompson*, *John Murdock*, *Samuel William Magruder*, and *William Bailey*, or any three of them, shall give notice to the people of the Lower District to meet at Mr. *Charles Hungerford's*, on the 30th instant, to elect a Committee of Correspondence for said District, to consist of five members; that Messrs. *John Hanson*, *Charles Beatty*, *Conrad Grosch*, *William Beatty*, and *Stephen Ramsburgh*, or any three of them, shall give notice to the people of *Frederick Town* District to meet at the said Town on the 3d instant, to elect a Committee of Correspondence for the said District, to consist of five members; that Messrs. *Samuel Beal*, *John Steele*, *Jacob Funk*, *Charles Swearingen*, and *William Beard*, or any three of them, shall give notice to the people of *Elizabeth Town* District to meet at said Town, on the 1st instant, to elect a Committee of Correspondence for the said District, to consist of five members; that Messrs. *Thomas Cresap*, *Thomas Warren*, *Moses Rawlings*, *Ezekiel Cox*, and *Thomas French*, or any three of them, shall give notice to the people of *Old Town* District, to meet at the said Town on the 8th instant, to elect a Committee of Correspondence for the said District, to consist of five members; that returns of such elections shall be made at the next meeting of the Committee of Observation, and the gentlemen so to be chosen shall be members of the Committee of Observation.

A Letter from the Delegates of *Maryland*, and a Resolution of the Congress enclosed therein, were read, requiring two Companies of expert Riflemen to be furnished by this County, to join the Army near *Boston*, to be there employed as Light-Infantry, under the command of the



chief officer of that Army, and proposing that the pay of the Officers and Soldiers be as follows:

|                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Captain, <i>per month</i> , \$20 | Corporal, <i>per month</i> , \$7½ |
| Lieutenant, " 13½                | Drummer, " 7½                     |
| Sergeant, " 8                    | Privates, " 6½                    |

That they find their own arms and clothes; that each Company consist of a Captain, three Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, a Drummer, and sixty-eight Privates; that the form of Enlistment be as follows:

"I, A. B., have, this — day of —, voluntarily enlisted myself as a Soldier in the *American Continental Army*, for one year, unless sooner discharged. I do bind myself to conform, in all instances, to such rules and regulations as are, or shall hereafter be, established for the government of the said Army."

*Resolved*, That, agreeable to the requisition of the Congress, and on the terms by them proposed, two Companies of expert Riflemen be forthwith raised, and officered by the following gentlemen:

Of the First Company.—*Michael Cresap*, Captain; *Thomas Warren*, *Joseph Cresap*, Jun., *Richard Davis*, Jun., Lieutenants.

Of the Second Company.—*Thomas Price*, Captain; *Otho Holland Williams*, *John Ross Key*, Lieutenants—another Lieutenant to be chosen by Captain *Price*, and approved by the Committee.

That Messrs. *John Hanson*, *Conrad Grosch*, *William Beatty*, *George Stricker*, *John Darnal*, *Upton Sheridan*, *John Lawrence*, *Joseph Wood*, *Stephen Ramsburgh*, *Lewis Kemp*, *Roger Johnson*, *Samuel Beall*, and *Abraham Haaff*, or any seven of them, be a Committee to inspect and review the said Companies when raised, and to give recommendatory certificates to the several officers, to be by them carried to the Congress.

*Resolved*, That the collectors of money for the purchase of Arms and Ammunition, shall severally pay to the Committee of Correspondence all sums already received, and shall continue to solicit subscriptions till the third *Tuesday* in *August* next; on which day they shall pay to the said Committee the several sums which they shall have collected, and produce fair copies of their subscription papers, which shall be signed by them, and set up on the Court-House door; that the Committee of Correspondence shall pay to *John Hanson*, Esq., who is hereby appointed Treasurer for the County, all sums of money which they have received, or shall receive from the collectors aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the collectors of money to defray the expenses of the *Maryland* Delegates, shall immediately pay to the Treasurer all sums of money which they have already received, and they shall continue their collections, and make another payment on the 15th instant, and the Treasurer shall then transmit the whole to *Charles Wallace*, Esq., of *Annapolis*, to be by him forwarded to the Delegates at *Philadelphia*.

*Resolved*, That as the fourth Resolve that was resolved at a meeting of the Committee on the 10th of *May* last, is not complied with, it shall be carried into execution, and returns made, agreeable to said Resolve, at the next meeting of this Committee.

In consequence of an order of the Committee, issued on the 11th of last *May*, the Reverend Mr. *Bennet Allen* produced the Sermon that he preached on that day.

On motion, the Sermon was read, and the question put, Whether the said Sermon be exceptionable?

*Resolved* in the negative.

Whereas, a Paper Mill is about being erected near *Frederick Town*, and it being incumbent on us, at this time, to give especial encouragement to country manufactories, it is recommended to the people of this County that they save all their Linen and Woollen Rags, and prefer the Paper made here to any foreign manufacture whatsoever.

*Resolved*, That these proceedings be printed in the *Maryland Gazette* and in the *Maryland Journal*.

The Committee adjourns till *Friday*, the 21st day of *August* next.

Signed by order of the Committee:

ARCH. BOYD, Clerk.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, *Wednesday*, the 21st of *June*, 1775. Present:

|                     |                    |                     |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Henry Remsen,       | John Lamb,         | David Beekman,      |
| James Desbrosses,   | Oliver Templeton,  | Jacob Van Voorhies, |
| William Laight,     | Abraham Duryee,    | Eleazer Miller,     |
| William Walton,     | Joseph Bull,       | John Broome,        |
| Gerardus Duyckinck, | Frederick Jay,     | Richard Sharpe,     |
| Abm. Brinkerhoff,   | Theoph. Anthony,   | John Berrian,       |
| William Bedlow,     | Benjamin Helme,    | John Lasher,        |
| John White,         | Thomas Ivers,      | Victor Bicker,      |
| Robert Ray,         | Abm. Walton,       | William Goforth,    |
| Daniel Phenix,      | Wm. W. Gilbert,    | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  |
| Lewis Pintard,      | Hercules Mulligan, | Edward Fleming,     |
| John Imlay,         | John Anthony,      | Gerret Kettletas,   |
| Wm. Denning,        | Daniel Dunscomb,   | George Janeway,     |
| Francis Bassett,    | Nicholas Bogart,   |                     |

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that no Insurance be made on the Cash shipped off by the Sub-Committee appointed to appropriate the moneys raised by subscription in this City, on account of the Colony.

A Letter, dated *Philadelphia*, 17th *June*, 1775, from *Joseph Reade*, received and read.

A Letter, dated *St. John's*, *Newfoundland*, 30th *May*, 1775, from *Jonathan Parsons*, Jun., giving an account of the arrival of the Ship *Sally*, Captain *Taverner*, from this Port, at *Trinity*, in *Newfoundland*, which said Captain *Taverner*, before his sailing, made oath that he would proceed immediately to *Falmouth*, or some other port in *England*, and that he would by no means stop at *Newfoundland*, nor at any of the Fishing Islands on the coast of *America*.

In pursuance of a recommendation of the Provincial Congress to this Committee to purchase all the Saltpetre in this City and County, and also to procure an account of all the Brimstone and Sulphur therein, and to make a report of the same to the said Congress,

*Ordered*, That *Gerardus Duyckinck*, *Jacob Van Voorhies*, and *Eleazer Miller*, be a Sub-Committee for the above purpose.

— New-York, June 21, 1775.

The General Committee for the City and County of *New-York* having received intelligence that *Andrew Taverner*, master of the Ship *Sally*, arrived in said vessel at *Trinity*, in the Island of *Newfoundland*, the twenty-fourth ultimo, they accordingly appointed *William Walton*, Esq., *Colonel Fleming*, *John Lamb*, and *John Broome*, a Committee to wait on *Theophilact Bache*, to whom the said ship was addressed, to inquire of him the reasons (if any he knew) why the said *Andrew Taverner* did not proceed directly to *Falmouth*, or some other port in *Great Britain*, as he had engaged under oath to use his utmost endeavours to do: We, the said Committee, report, that pursuant to our appointment we waited upon Mr. *Bache*, who produced sundry vouchers, from which, together with his deposition hereunto annexed, we fully believe the said *Theophilact Bache* to be altogether innocent of having had any agency, directly or indirectly, in causing the aforesaid vessel to proceed to *Newfoundland*, as above-mentioned.

WM. WALTON, EDWARD FLEMING,  
JOHN BROOME, JOHN LAMB.

#### CITY OF NEW-YORK, ss.:

*Theophilact Bache*, of the aforesaid City, merchant, of lawful age, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that he had no agency, either directly or indirectly, in causing the Ship *Sally* (whereof *Andrew Taverner* was master at the time of her departure from this port) to proceed to *Newfoundland*, or any other place than *Falmouth*, or some other port in *Great Britain*, but verily believed the said *Taverner* intended to proceed directly to *Falmouth*, or some other port in *Great Britain* as aforesaid. And further this deponent saith, in order to impress upon the said *Andrew Taverner's* mind the necessity of going straightway to *Falmouth*, or some other port in *Great Britain*, he (this deponent) reminded him of the solemnity of the oath he, the said *Taverner*, had taken, and also furnished him with a copy of the same, and was greatly surprised upon hearing the General Committee for this City and County had received intelligence that the said *Taverner* was arrived at the land. And further saith not.

THEOPHILACT BACHE.

Sworn the twenty-third of *June*, 1775, before me,

D. MATTHEWS.



## JOSEPH JOHNSON (A MOHEGAN INDIAN) TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 21, 1775.

*To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Colony of New-York, the humble Petition of JOSEPH JOHNSON, a licensed Preacher of the Gospel amongst seven different Tribes of New-England Indians and the ONEIDAS, humbly sheweth :*

That your petitioner hath for several years been engaged amongst the *Indians*—for some years as a schoolmaster amongst the *Oneidas*, and since that time in preaching the Gospel to several different Nations of *New-England Indians*, and to the *Oneidas*, and in endeavouring to persuade the *Indians* to a civilized life, and to embrace the Christian religion. Also your petitioner humbly sheweth, that a number of *New-England Indians*, of seven different tribes, having become poor and few in number, were adopted by the *Oneida Nation*, who gave them a tract of land to settle on. That your petitioner, with a number of the said *New-England Indians*, removed to the *Oneida* country to settle on the lands given to them, and were very kindly received, and had got corn-fields planted and gardens made : That false reports were lately spread to the westward that your petitioner, and the *New-England Indians* who were with him, had removed to the westward, in pursuance of a design formed by the people of *New-England* to settle in that western country, and that they might thereby have an opportunity of gaining the favour of the Upper Nations, and bring them to their way of thinking : That the *New-England Indians* were afraid that ill disposed persons, whose hearts might be full of jealousy and prejudice, might induce some of the distant *Indian Nations* to credit such false reports, and set them at variance with, and cause them to fall on and take up the hatchet against the new settled *Indians* : That therefore the *New-England Indians*, with the consent and advice of the *Oneidas*, thought best for their safety, and the peace of the country, to return for the present from whence they came, until the present troubles shall be ended : That most part of the said *New-England Indians* are returned, and that your petitioner, with three others of the said *Indians*, are now on their way to the eastward, intending to proceed by the way of *New-London*, which is near their former place of abode : That your petitioner and his three companions, sensible of the present troubles and difficulties in every part of the country, are fearful of travelling without a passport or a letter of safe conduct, which may afford them peace and protection in their journey, and are also so poor and destitute that they are utterly unable to pursue their journey without the charitable aid and relief of the benevolent and the humane. Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that a passport, or a letter of safe conduct and protection, may be graciously given to him for *James Shattock, John Shesneck, Samuel Tallman*, and himself, to pass to *New-London*, in *Connecticut*, and also for such small sum to aid them in their journey to *New-London* aforesaid, as to this honourable Congress in their wisdom shall seem meet. And your petitioner, on behalf of himself and his above named companions, as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN AT NEW-YORK TO HIS FRIEND IN EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND, DATED JUNE 21, 1775.

A worthy young man, an *Indian Preacher*, with three of his tribe, just arrived from the *Six Nations*, were with me this morning. They are come to wait upon our Provincial Congress, now sitting in this City, with the news that the *Indian Nations* are determined not to act against the Colonies. They also inform me that even the *Canadian Indians* are our friends. The Continental Congress have recommended it in the warmest manner to all the Colonies, to observe the twentieth of next month as a Continental fast. A regular Army of seventy thousand men is to be immediately raised. All ranks of people are in arms. Seventeen regular companies are already formed in this City, who have no pay, and provide themselves with uniforms, arms, and ammunition. Should the unhappy con-

test continue six months longer, it is very probable that we will have near two hundred thousand bold, resolute men, disciplined to as great perfection as any of His Majesty's Troops. The Provincial Army, at present at *Boston*, consists of twenty thousand men, and increases daily. Gen. *Wooster*, the chief commander of the *Connecticut Troops*, is soon to encamp near the City with two thousand men. It is a gross calumny to say that we are aiming at independency, for our political principles are the same that raised the house of *Hanover* to the throne ; and were your Ministers to adopt these principles, we would immediately lay down our arms.

## ALBANY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read before Congress, June 26, 1775.]

Albany Committee Chamber, June 21, 1775.

To the Members of the Continental Congress :

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Dirck Swart*, a member of this Board, who is just returned from *Crown Point*, brings the following intelligence: that one Mr. *Hay*, who lives about ten miles up *Lake Champlain*, came down to *Crown Point*, who told Colonel *Arnold* and others that he had been to *Montreal* for some flour ; that Governour *Carleton* had him seized and confined for several days ; that by the interposition of the *English* merchants of that place, he received liberty to return home ; and that the merchants who procured him the pass from the Lieutenant-Governour, desired him to go down to *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga* with all speed, and communicate to the commander of those fortresses that the *French Caughnawaga Indians* had taken up the hatchet, but that they refused to go out upon any scouts until nine of their men, who were then out, returned ; and that Governour *Carleton* was giving them presents daily.

We are very sorry to inform you that, from a number of corroborating circumstances, we have but too much reason to believe the above information to be true, and more especially as the Troops, which amount to about six hundred men, suffer no persons coming up the lake to pass *St. John's* if they can avoid it, where they are building floating batteries and boats. Mr. *Swart* also acquaints us that Mr. *Hay* said that Governour *Carleton* had asked the *English* merchants to take up arms against the *Yankees*, to make use of his own phraseology ; that the merchants refused ; upon which he told them that he would set the Town on fire ; when the merchants said he was welcome to do so, and added, they would carry as much fire as himself. Mr. *Hay* also desired Mr. *Swart*, if he should happen to meet Mr. *Pierce*, he should request him not to proceed, as the *English* merchants in *Canada* conceived it unsafe for him.

The forces above named are in no proper state of defence, principally owing to the scarcity of powder ; of which article we have not yet been able to send up more, with the supply we have received from *New-York*, than three hundred and fifty pounds ; which quantity is altogether insufficient to answer the purposes intended, and of little service in case of an attack. We can farther inform you this City is not half supplied (nor frontier inhabitants) with either powder or arms, for which applications have been, and daily are making to us ; and as we have no prospect of any farther supply from *New-York*, we beg to be assisted, if possible, from the lower Governments, with all the despatch possible.

We should also desire that the command at the forts might be settled. Colonel *Hinman*, we understood, would have taken the command ; but by his appointment from Governour *Trumbull*, his orders are only to re-enforce the garrisons and command his regiment ; upon which Colonel *Arnold* refused to resign. We therefore conceive it highly necessary that a matter of such importance should be settled with all speed. The above we are also informed by Mr. *Swart*, who was present and heard each read the other's instructions.

We thought it our indispensable duty to acquaint you of these matters, and therefore send them to you per express.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants, By order of the Committee :

SAMUEL STRINGER,  
Chairman pro tempore.



CAPT. BENJAMIN CHAPMAN, OF THE ROYAL IRISH OR 18TH  
REGIMENT OF FOOT, TO A FRIEND IN IRELAND.

Boston, June 21, 1775.

I have further to inform you (though I know you to be an advocate for the *Americans*) that their Grand Continental Congress have resolved, in order to force *Great Britain* to confirm the wild claims they have set up, that they will do their utmost to ruin the commerce of *Ireland*, and starve their fellow-subjects in the *West-Indies*, who never injured them. And in their address to the people of *Canada*, after inviting them to join in their illegal opposition, they flatter them with the enjoyment and prosperity of a religion which, in their address to the people of *Great Britain*, they themselves say is fraught with the most impious and sanguinary tenets. Many of their Provincial Conventions have resolved not to pay their debts to the *British* merchants, nor will they suffer any legal process to be resorted to upon that account; thus trampling on every principle of humanity, candour, and common honesty. When the unprejudiced eye of posterity shall cast a retrospect view on those dark transactions, how will they be amazed that a party could be found so shameless as to defend them in Parliament. Matters about *Boston* wear a truly warlike aspect. The Army of the rebels consists of at least fifteen thousand men, and are daily increasing. They are, besides, possessed of a considerable number of artillery: and when we consider the enthusiastick disposition of those infatuated people; that the pulpits and publick meetings breathe nothing but sedition; that the people are in the most slavish subjection to the priests and demagogues; it can no longer remain a matter of surprise if (to use their own phrase) they resist even unto death. The Continental Congress has been sitting since the tenth of *May*: their deliberations are wonderfully secret; the few Resolves that have transpired are mostly inflammatory; their High Mightinesses now appear in various capacities; they have erected themselves into a court of Star-Chamber, and have already tried and passed sentence on several delinquents who have dared to contravene their inquisitorial decrees; in short, they are as omnipotent in this quarter of the globe as any earthly power can be. I will not hazard a conjecture on the steps that may be pursued by Parliament on this important, this unparalleled crisis. *America* seems determined not to recede; should, therefore, *Great Britain* relax, I fear her laurels will wither on her brows, and that her sun of glory will soon set to rise no more. My knowledge of the *Americans* is founded on long experience, from their own writings, and from my intimacy with many of the first characters amongst them; rely upon it, their aim is independency. My Lords, the planters in the South, have long plumed themselves on the prospect of an approaching aristocracy; whilst the levelers in the North already enjoy, by anticipation, their adored republick. The honour and dignity of *Great Britain*, as well as the securing the rights of Parliament, call for an exertion of military power. I cannot fight in a more just, a more noble cause; every other consideration must give way to this; nor do I wish to quit *America* until her dependance on the Parent State is effectually secured, and my much injured Country's rights fixed on the most solid basis.

STOCKBRIDGE INDIANS TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Stockbridge, June 21, 1775.

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, being soldiers enlisted to serve in the Provincial Army during summer, beg leave to lay this our request before you. We, in our more serious hours, reflect with shame upon our aptness to drink spirituous liquors to excess when we are under temptation; by which foolish conduct, when we are guilty of it, we render ourselves unfit for usefulness and service to our fellow-men, and also disagreeable to those that have any thing to do with us. We are sensible that we injure ourselves more than any one else. When we get a taste, we must some of us with shame say, that sometimes no interest of our own will prevent us from procuring more, till we get too much. We therefore desire you would, in your wisdom, do something, during our residence there, that we may get so much as will be good for us, and no more. We further desire you to order the Paymaster-General to pay all our wages, that is now or may be due to us when we are dismissed, to *Timothy Edwards* or *Jahiel Woodbridge*, Esquires,

Delegates from the Town of *Stockbridge*, and to them only or their order, that they may be enabled to provide for us while we are here what we may necessarily want, and bring all the rest home, that it may be altogether, and divide it among us as we like.

*Jehoiakim Naunuptauk,*  
*Abraham Koukpoot,*  
*Moses Auhhheckhurinauhoot,*  
*Cornelius Paupoumham,*  
*William Natauksen,*  
*John Oasauwampummunk,*  
*Abraham Naunaumpretaunkey,*  
*Benjamin Waunnehuaumel,*  
*Daniel Waunyumpskeynunnaunt,*  
*Jehoiakim Astoksim,*  
*Samuel Squintrop,*  
*Joseph Shackheakauwoh,*  
*Jacob Tusnuk,*  
*Thomas Hickimmun,*  
*David Naunawnecknauck,*  
*Bill Notauksen,*  
*John Shepaunerwaunkun.*

To the Hon. *Joseph Warren*, President of Provincial Congress sitting at *Watertown*; to be communicated.

THOMAS TWINING TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Deeply impressed with a sense of the weighty task you have to perform, in the management of our publick affairs at this difficult and alarming crisis, and how necessary it is that many of your deliberations and resolves should be kept a profound secret from the enemies of our common liberties, whether foreign invaders or our own domestick traitors; and humbly apprehending that one Mr. *Amos Knowles*, Jun., from the Town of *Eastham*, hath behaved in such a manner as to give just ground to suspect his fidelity to his Country, and even to suppose him inimical thereto, your petitioner, in behalf of himself and of the Association in *Eastham*, thinking it a duty incumbent on him so to do, as a member of society, begs leave to represent to your Honours, that the said *Knowles*, who now hath a seat in said Congress, hath been an opposer of the common cause of this Country, and hath frequently exclaimed against Congresses and the present mode of opposition, as may appear by the papers herewith presented. And your petitioner, apprehending a known enemy to our Country ought not to be allowed a seat in said Congress, lest he might thereby betray its secret plans to our common enemy, humbly prays your Honours to take the matter into consideration, and expel him from said Congress, or otherwise deal with him as you in your wisdom shall judge proper. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Your petitioner begs leave further to represent, that the said *Knowles* was one whom the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Eastham* thought it their duty to discriminate and disarm, in consequence of recommendations from the late Congress, but did not think it prudent to attempt it, knowing said *Knowles* had a considerable party of similar principles and conduct, who had before armed themselves to oppose some publick measures.

THOMAS TWINING.

To the Friends of Liberty, to whom the bearer hereof shall apply himself:

This may certify, that we, the subscribers, do hereby ask your advice and assistance on the important matters that shall be laid before you by our worthy friend, Mr. *Thomas Twining*, relating to the great and intolerable difficulties between the Whigs and Tories in this Town. Although we are a minority, our number of zealous friends will, we hope, be thought sufficient to gain some notice. Mr. *Twining* is one whose veracity may be relied on; and if by this messenger we gain no relief, we see nothing but we must submit to the mercy of the Tories in this place.

*JOB CROCKER,*                      *THOMAS GOULD,*  
*NATHANIEL MAYO,*           *ELIAKIM HIGGINS,*  
*THOMAS PAINE,*                *JOHN DAVIS.*

*Eastham*, June 12, 1775.



Whereas it hath happened that many transactions in this Town, relating to our publick grievances hath been carried on much to the contrary of the minds of many of the inhabitants of this Town, by which it hath made many parties and a great division in this Town, and we do look upon it as a great judgment from Heaven upon us for our sins; wherefore it hath been moved by some, that each party would meet and assemble together, to see if we could not unite, both in love and unity, among ourselves with our free countrymen, in standing with them for our rights, liberty, and privileges. And accordingly the two parties did agree, met, and assembled themselves together at the South Meeting-House in *Eastham*, on the first day of *December*, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, and then both parties mutually agreed to choose a Committee out of each party, and accordingly proceeded and chose two Committees, one out of each party—seven out of one, and five out of the other—in order to consult and draw up such resolves as they thought most proper and best for peace and unity among ourselves and free countrymen. Accordingly we, the subscribers, being two Committees, did meet at the dwelling house of Mr. *Thomas Twining*, in *Eastham*, on *Tuesday*, the sixth day of *December*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, at nine o'clock in the morning, and then did resolve, in the first place, to pass by and overlook all past conduct among ourselves and towards our free countrymen, and for all past injuries to be buried in oblivion towards all those that will join in the following Resolves:

In the first place, we, the subscribers, do mutually agree and resolve, that we will freely and willingly unite and join with our free countrymen in defence of our sacred rights, privileges, and liberties.

Secondly. We will unite and join our Continental, Provincial, and County Congresses, and with all others of our Congresses, so far as shall be agreeable to the Continental Congress. That we will do our utmost to uphold and defend our liberties and rights.

Thirdly and lastly. We do and shall look upon all those that will not stand for their rights, liberty, property, and religion, as enemies to their Country, and shall ever deem them so till there be a reformation found in them.

Fourthly. We desire that these our Resolves may be, as soon as possible, published throughout the whole Continent.

JONA. DOANE, JONA. LINNEL, JR.  
EDWARD KNOWLES, WM. MYRICK, JR.  
SAMUEL DOANE, JR.,

At a meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of *Eastham*, legally warned and assembled, at the North Meeting-House, the 20th of *February*, A. D. 1775: Deacon *Edward Knowles*, Moderator.

The Assembly voted to dismiss the Committee of Correspondence chosen at a meeting held at the South Meeting-House, 22d *February*, 1774, for this Town, and also voted to choose another, viz: Mr. *Theophilus Hopkins*, Capt. *Edward Knowles*, Capt. *Amos Knowles*, Jun., Major *Solomon Pepper*, and Mr. *John Yates*.

Voted, also, the Town's disapprobation and dismissal of Messrs. *Thomas Paine*, *Job Crocker*, and *Isaiah Higgins*, from any business as a Committee of Inspection, (who were chosen by the County Congress at their last meeting at *Barnstable*, for a Committee of Inspection for this Town, to see that the Resolves of the Congresses and Association are observed and put in execution.)

Also, voted to choose a Committee of three men, viz: Messrs. *Amos Knowles*, Junior, *Benjamin Higgins*, and *John Doane*, as a Committee of Inspection, (to join with a former Committee chosen at a meeting held at the South Meeting-House, 3d of *January*, 1775,) to see that the Resolves of the Congresses and Association are observed and put in execution.

The Town also voted their charge to the abovesaid Committee, that they strictly adhere to their office, and see that all the Resolves of the Congresses are observed and put in execution in this Town which are agreeable to the Continental Congress.

And, also, voted to make null and void the vote which passed in this Town, at a meeting held at the South Meeting-House, 3d of *January*, 1775, for the Constables, viz:

Messrs. *Job Crocker* and *Willard Knowles*, Junior, to pay the Province Tax assessed in their bills to *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, of *Stow*, taking his receipt.

Attest: GIDEON BATY, Town Clerk.

The within has been compared by the Committee of Correspondence, and found to be a true copy of an attested copy of said meeting.

ISAAC SPARROW, }  
JOSEPH COLE, } Committee of  
JOHN DAVIS, } Correspondence.  
THOMAS TWINING, }

Eastham, February 24, 1775.

Whereas it appears to us that a number of men in this Town have been, and still are using their influence and power in opposition to the measures adopted by the *Americans* to recover, preserve, and maintain those rights and privileges which our illustrious ancestors so nobly contended for, and have handed down to us as a fair inheritance: Now, in order to free ourselves as much as possible from the embarrassments of those men, and to convince the world that we are determined to persevere in joining our *American* brethren in their noble efforts to throw off the yoke of tyranny, we think it highly expedient to form ourselves into an Association. Therefore we, the subscribers, mutually agree and associate ourselves under the name and title of Freeholders and Freemen of the Association of the Town of *Eastham*; and do hereby pledge our faith to each other that we will abide by the Association resolves, and recommendations of the Continental, our Provincial, and this County Congresses, (so far as they are made publick,) to the utmost of our power; and also, that we will abide by the regulations and regular votes, resolves, and agreements that shall be hereafter made by this Association for the purposes before mentioned, of recovering, securing, and maintaining our just rights and privileges.

Witness our hands:

|                      |                      |                       |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Thomas Linnel,       | Elnathan Snow,       | Thomas Paine,         |
| Elkanah Young,       | Solomon Higgins,     | Isaiah Higgins,       |
| Jonathan Twining,    | Prince Rogers,       | Thomas Twining,       |
| John Cole,           | John Gould,          | Edmund Freeman,       |
| Oliver Arey,         | Samuel Knowles,      | Asa Mayo,             |
| Jesse Higgins,       | Theophilus Mayo,     | Jonathan Linnel,      |
| Barnabas Twining,    | Isaac Young,         | Thomas Rogers,        |
| Judas Rogers,        | Isaac Higgins,       | Moses Higgins,        |
| Thomas Linnel, 3d,   | Isaac Hopkins,       | Gershom Cole,         |
| Stephen Snow,        | James Rogers,        | Joshua Doane,         |
| Edmund Snow,         | Isaac Sparrow, Jr.,  | Joseph Cole,          |
| Nathaniel Mayo,      | John Atwood,         | Thomas Brown,         |
| Elkanah Higgins,     | Zaccheus Higgins,    | Isaac Sparrow,        |
| Job Crocker,         | Gideon Freeman,      | Jonathan Linnel, 3d,  |
| Prince Freeman,      | Samuel Rogers,       | Heman Linnel,         |
| Joshua Cole,         | Prince Snow,         | Thomas Arey,          |
| Thomas Rogers, Jr.,  | John Linnel,         | David Higgins,        |
| Jesse Kenny,         | Joseph Mayo, Jr.,    | Eleaz. Freeman, Jr.,  |
| Joseph Hopkins,      | Jonathan Snow,       | Solomon Rogers,       |
| Elkanah Cole,        | Joshua Gould,        | Jonathan Rogers,      |
| Gideon Higgins,      | Joshua Knowles,      | Joshua Mayo,          |
| Isaac Cole,          | Christian Remick,    | Josiah Knowles,       |
| Elijah Twining,      | Simeon Higgins, Jr., | Prince Twining,       |
| Yates Nickerson,     | Eliakim Higgins,     | Joshua Crosby,        |
| Philip Young,        | Reuben Cole,         | Bryan Martin,         |
| Sylvanus Higgins,    | John Davis,          | Seth Higgins,         |
| Freeman Higgins,     | Nathaniel Paine,     | Isaac Paine,          |
| Christ. Remick, Jr., | David Rich,          | Nathaniel Cole,       |
| Richard Cook,        | Joseph Pepper,       | Asa Nickerson,        |
| Joseph Hurd,         | Enoch Linnel,        | Joseph Smith, 3d,     |
| Theoph. Mayo, Jr.,   | Daniel Cole, Jr.,    | Zaccheus Higgins, Jr. |

A true copy, examined:

ISAAC SPARROW, Association Clerk.

Eastham, May 26, 1775.

We, the Committee of Correspondence for the Town and Association of *Eastham*, in compliance with a Resolve of the Provincial Congress of the 12th of *April*, 1775, render to the Committee of Correspondence for the County of *Barnstable* the following, which is a true state of the conduct of the Town of *Eastham*, with respect to their having executed each plan recommended by the Continental and Provincial Congresses:

The Town of *Eastham*, at a legal meeting, voted that the Constables for the year 1775 might pay the Province money in their hands to *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, taking his receipt; but soon after, at a meeting at the North Meeting-House, called by the Selectmen by the request of *Amos Knowles*, Junior, *Gideon Baty*, *Theophilus Hop-*



kins, *Thomas Harding, David Young, Jonathan Doane, Esquire, Amos Knowles, John Taylor, John Doane, Jun., Benjamin Doane, and Samuel Doane*, did reconsider the said vote, and made it null and void; but have since, in consequence of a Resolve of the Congress, passed the 31st of *March, 1775*, recommending to the several Towns and Districts that they oblige their several Constables and Collectors to pay the balances due from them to the Province, &c., did vote that *Mr. Job Crocker and Mr. Willard Knowles, Junior*, late Constables, pay the Province money in their hands to *Henry Gardner, Esquire*, taking his receipt, and that *Mr. Jonathan Linnel, 3d, and Mr. Jesse Cole*, Constables for the year 1774, should pay the Province money assessed in their bills to *Henry Gardner, Esq.*, taking his receipt when it was collected.

ISAAC SPARROW,  
JOSEPH COLE,  
THOMAS PAINE,

*Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Eastham.*

N. B. The Resolve for the above fell into the hands of the Town Clerk, and never hath been communicated to the publick, and we were not able to obtain it until this day we were favoured with one from *Colonel Nathaniel Freeman, of Sandwich*.

Eastham, May 26, 1775.

The following is a true state of the transactions of the Town of *Eastham*, since *February 22, 1774*:

The Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Eastham* were first chosen by the freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town, from twenty-one years old and upwards, and have acted ever since in that capacity, without molestation, with this exception: At a meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of *Eastham*, qualified by law to vote in town meetings, called by the Selectmen, at the request of *Amos Knowles, Junior*, and others, for the purposes of regulating a vote of this Town, passed at a legal town meeting, directing the Collectors for the year 1774, to pay the Provincial money assessed in their bills to *Henry Gardner, Esquire, of Stow*, taking his receipt; also, to dismiss the Committee of Inspection, viz: Messrs. *Thomas Paine, Job Crocker, and Isaiah Higgins*, appointed by the County Congress to see that the resolves and recommendations of the several Congresses are put in execution in this Town, and to choose others in their room; and also to dissolve the above Committee of Correspondence, and to choose another in their room, did then and there presume to dissolve said Committee, and chose Messrs. *Theophilus Hopkins, Edward Knowles, Amos Knowles, Junior, Solomon Pepper, and John Yates*, a Committee of Correspondence, who have never appeared to act in that capacity.

The recommendations of the Provincial Congress for choosing a Delegate came to hand on the evening of *Friday, the 19th instant*; and from the former conduct of our Selectmen, the Committee of Correspondence thought it best for them to call a meeting for the purpose of choosing said member or members as above; proceeded to notify said meeting, by posting up in the usual places for notifications in this Town an exact copy of the recommendation and resolve of said Congress, desiring the freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of *Eastham*, qualified to vote for Representatives, to assemble at the South Meeting-House in said Town, on *Wednesday, the 24th of this instant, May*, at two o'clock, P. M., then and there to act as they shall think proper. In compliance with the said recommendation, the people met at the time and place, and chose Captain *Isaac Sparrow* Moderator. The Town Clerk was desired to take his place, and record the proceedings of said meeting, which he refused. The Town then chose *Mr. Thomas Paine* to record the proceedings of said meeting. The question being put, whether they would choose a member to represent them in said Congress, it passed in the affirmative; when *Mr. Amos Knowles, Junior*, was chosen by a majority of two votes, including the votes of twelve persons whom the Committee of Correspondence had agreed to discriminate from those who were friendly to their Country, which thing was attempted, but could not be done by reason of there being so great a number of opposers. And whereas the said *Amos Knowles, Junior*, is chosen as above, who, for ought

we know, may obtain a seat in Congress, we find ourselves constrained to mention that three of us have heard him accuse the Provincial Congress of acting in said capacity from selfish views. Some other things of the like nature we might mention, but for brevity's sake omit them.

ISAAC SPARROW,  
JOSEPH COLE,  
*Committee of Correspondence for the Town.*  
THOMAS TWINING,  
GIDEON FREEMAN,  
*Committee of the Association.*

Eastham, June 16, 1775.

I, *Jonathan Linnel*, of *Eastham*, of lawful age, testify that, on the eleventh of *April* last, at the house of *Mr. Josiah Myrick*, I heard *Amos Knowles, Junior*, declare that what the Continental Congress had done was worse than nothing. Further saith not.

JONATHAN LINNEL.

BARNSTABLE, ss., June 16, 1775:

Then *Jonathan Linnel*, after being carefully examined and cautioned to tell the whole truth, made solemn oath to the within deposition, by him subscribed to, taken at the desire of several inhabitants of the Town of *Eastham*, to be used in their behalf at the Provincial Congress now sitting at *Watertown*; the adverse party, *Mr. Amos Knowles, Junior*, being at *Watertown* aforesaid, not notified nor present at the taking of this deposition.

Before me:

JOHN GREENOUGH, *Justice of the Peace.*

*Samuel Paine*, of lawful age, testifieth and saith, on the twenty-fourth day of *May* last, as he was walking with *Amos Knowles, Junior*, that said *Knowles* said to me, that some measures the Congress had taken were as much tyranny as those at home.

SAMUEL PAINE.

BARNSTABLE, ss., June 16, A. D. 1775:

Then *Samuel Paine*, after being carefully examined and cautioned to tell the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by him subscribed to, taken at the desire of several of the inhabitants of the Town of *Eastham*, to be used in their behalf at the Provincial Congress now sitting at *Watertown*; the adverse party, *Mr. Amos Knowles, Junior*, being at *Watertown* aforesaid, not notified nor present at the taking this deposition.

Before me:

JOHN GREENOUGH, *Justice of the Peace.*

Eastham, June 15, 1775.

We, *Joseph Cole* and *Isaac Sparrow*, both of *Eastham*, of lawful age, testify, that in *January* last, we heard *Amos Knowles, Junior*, exclaim against the Resolves of the Provincial Congress, because they allowed the Towns to send as many members to Congress as they thought proper, because those Towns near the Congress could keep more members at the Congress than those Towns that were remote, and by that means they could carry points in the Congress as they pleased, to serve their own sinister ends; and further saith not.

JOSEPH COLE,  
ISAAC SPARROW.

BARNSTABLE, ss., June 16, A. D. 1775:

Then *Joseph Cole* and *Isaac Sparrow*, after being carefully examined and cautioned to tell the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition, by them subscribed to, taken at the desire of several inhabitants of the Town of *Eastham*, to be used in their behalf at the Provincial Congress now sitting at *Watertown*; the adverse party, *Mr. Amos Knowles, Junior*, being at *Watertown* aforesaid, not notified nor present at the taking this deposition. Before me:

JOHN GREENOUGH, *Justice of the Peace.*

Eastham, June 15, 1775.

I, *Jonathan Linnel*, the 3d, of *Eastham*, of lawful age, testify, that I have, at divers times, heard *Amos Knowles, Junior*, of *Eastham*, exclaim against Congresses, and in particular, some time in *April* last, did hear him say, if



this Province had chosen so many of the worst men in said Province, and they had studied to do mischief, they could not have done more mischief than the Continental Congress had done, and that the Continental Congress assumed more prerogative power than the *British Parliament* had done. Further saith not.

JONATHAN LINNEL, 3d.

BARNSTABLE, ss., June 16, 1775:

Then *Jonathan Linnel*, the 3d, after being carefully examined and cautioned to tell the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by him subscribed to, taken at the desire of several inhabitants of the Town of *Eastham*, to be used in their behalf at the Provincial Congress now sitting at *Watertown*; the adverse party, *Mr. Amos Knowles*, Junior, being at *Watertown* aforesaid, not notified nor present at the taking this deposition.

Before me:

JOHN GREENOUGH, *Justice of the Peace.*

*Report of a Committee of the Provincial Congress on the Complaint against AMOS KNOWLES.*

The Committee appointed to consider the petition of *Thomas Twining*, in behalf of himself and the Association of *Eastham*, praying that *Mr. Amos Knowles*, Junior, a member of this Congress, may be expelled his seat, after due notice given, have heard the parties and the allegations.

It appears to this Committee, by depositions, and by the evidence of persons present, that *Mr. Knowles* has, at sundry times and at divers places, expressed himself against the Continental and Provincial Congresses, and has been one of the heads of a large party in said *Eastham*, which party have been esteemed by the other part of the people in that Town, and by people in other Towns in that County, unfriendly to the publick measures taken by the people of this Congress for the defence of their just rights and liberties.

*Mr. Knowles*, in his defence, says, he has always been friendly to his Country, but has differed in sentiments from the people in his Town of the other party, who call themselves Whigs, as to the mode of redress. That there has been an unhappy party spirit prevailing there for some time, appears.

And *Mr. Knowles* says, there is prejudice in the minds of his opposers arising from thence, and desires he may have opportunity of clearing his character nearer home, where, he says, he can produce a plenty of evidence in his favour.

This Committee are therefore of the opinion, that *Mr. Knowles* leave his seat in this House, and have opportunity to procure the evidence he desires in his favour.

And as it appears the Town of *Eastham* are nearly divided into parties, which may tend to the utter subversion of peace and good order there, unless means may be found for a happy settlement among them, this Committee therefore are further of the opinion, that the most likely method for accomplishing that desired effect is, that all the good people of *Eastham*, by their agents, chosen by themselves for each party respectively, attend the next meeting of the Committees of Correspondence for the County of *Barnstable*, with such evidence as they shall think proper, and endeavour a friendly settlement; and that it be recommended to the said Committee of Correspondence, that they use their best endeavours for the same; and that the present dispute respecting *Mr. Knowles's* right to a seat, in the mean while subside.

(Not accepted.)

REV. SAMUEL WEBSTER TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Temple, June 21, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I mentioned to you *Mr. Isaac Howe*, of *New-Ipswich*, as a person I imagined suitable to be appointed Quartermaster of Colonel *Read's* Regiment. I have since seen *Mr. Howe*, and find he is willing to take the place, which I was doubtful of when I found that the wages was only three pounds per month. If you have not appointed one before this reaches you, I hope you will

bear him in mind; he is, I think, a person of very good capacity and property, has been in the Army, and has, as he tells me, the approbation of Colonel *Read*. He is of fair character, and much used to publick business. I have said enough for me, and I trust you will do right. Pray, gentlemen, don't forget or neglect to give directions to the Committee of Supplies to get ready, as soon as possible, five hundred or one thousand bayonets. It is barbarous to let men be obliged to oppose bayonets with only gun-barrels, and perhaps no ammunition. If many are provided, they will suit somewhere; an armourer will soon fix the sight. Enough may be found to make them, if they are set to work. A man that was in the engagement on *Saturday*, tells me they suffered egregiously for the want of bayonets, as well as powder and ball. It was a pretty feint in the Regulars to tell of attacking *Dorchester*, designing another course. I find stories are spread that reflect on the vigilance and even fidelity of those that led; I hope they were not disputing about rank. However this were, we learn that some brave officers and men, as well as some few cowards, have found their rank by death, a universal leveller. I can scarce forbear being very serious and very long; but as you are, or ought to be, I am sensible, very busy, I have done, with only wishing that you may do always right, and that *God* will reward you, and pity and save our distressed Country. With respect,

SAMUEL WEBSTER.

To the Committee of Safety.

P. S. The drought is hardly so severe here as at *Exeter*, but it is not thought there will be half a crop of hay.

In Provincial Congress, Charlestown, S. C., }  
Thursday, June 22, 1775. }

*Resolved*, That all Absentees holding estates in this Colony, except the sick, those above sixty, and those under twenty-one years of age, ought forthwith to return to this Colony.

*Resolved*, That no persons holding estates in this Colony ought to withdraw from its service, without giving good and sufficient reasons for so doing to this Congress, or, during its recess, to the General Committee.

*Ordered*, That the two foregoing Resolutions be printed and made publick.

PETER TIMOTHY, *Secretary.*

TO THE PEOPLE OF HENRICO COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

*Friends and Fellow-Sufferers:*

The threatened force of ministerial vengeance having been at length exerted, the bloody standard erected, and the sword reeking hot with the blood of your brethren in the *Massachusetts*, threatening you with the same fate, unless you prepare to repel its efforts; there cannot want any inducement for your making the most vigorous exertions for that purpose. And I am sure there needs no argument to picture to you the horrors in which you may be involved, if, by a fatal indifference, you should neglect to provide against the machinations of your enemies, whether external or internal. The justice of the great and common cause of *America* has been so fully and ably stated, so universally allowed, and so feebly denied, that I cannot suppose any of you ignorant thereof; and in that belief shall not now take up any time in observing upon that head any other than the natural rights of all mankind, in the free enjoyment of personal security, personal liberty, and private property, together with the free disposal of the last mentioned right, which are totally subverted by the assuming power of the *British Parliament*, are motives sufficient to justify opposition. I have for some time past observed the conduct of a few among you; and though their conduct has not yet had the evil tendency of influencing that of others, yet as the notoriety thereof may probably have a bad effect unless guarded against in time, this has been one inducement for my addressing you upon that head, strengthened by considering the bad policy of reposing publick confidence in such men. And it is to your indifference upon that head that I would guard you against, being sensible you have hitherto left nothing undone whereby to preserve in common your rights and liberties; and it is to such men, and



such only, whose consciences accuse them of not having taken an active part in endeavouring to preserve and defend the liberties of their Country, that I would retort the whole force of my former arguments, happy that they would work the desired effect. The good people of *Virginia* have ever been zealously attached to the present royal family; and you, gentlemen, have always borne an active part, in conjunction with the rest of the Counties in this Colony, in avowing and expressing your attachment and allegiance upon every occasion. And notwithstanding the artful suggestions of all internal enemies, sensible I am that the good people of this Colony wish not any diminution of the constitutional authority of the Crown, or to break off that connexion with the Mother Country so essential to the interests of both. Why, then, will persons pretending the most zealous attachment and firmest adherence to the just cause of *America*, and putting on professions foreign from their hearts, stand forth and endeavour to gain the confidence of a too much deluded people? To what purpose, other than that of exerting their weak efforts to destroy that unanimity at present so conspicuous throughout this Colony and *America*, can such persons put on such appearances? Ask such persons to enter themselves as volunteers in the great cause of *American* freedom, and they will tell you they have taken the oath of allegiance, and cannot; or rather, I suppose, have taken an implicit oath of passive obedience, and will not. Now let such persons bear in mind the doctrine avowed by that very authority which is now endeavouring to enslave us—I mean the Parliament of *Great Britain*: “That an endeavour to subvert the Constitution of the Kingdom, by breaking the original contract between King and People, and violating the fundamental laws, was sufficient for the People to preserve them in despite of any authority whatever.” Still more apparent, from a supposition that the Constitution is founded upon liberty, and if they do not depart from their former principles, we may yet have the satisfaction of distinguishing between our friends and enemies.

Thus, my countrymen, have I, by a sketch of the political sentiments of this few, endeavoured to set them before you in the clearest point of view; and I could heartily wish that some able pen had taken up the subject before me, for which I have waited with great expectation for some time past. But as it is of great concern that such persons should receive every mark of discountenance and disesteem, they will, I hope, be carefully observed in future, and not be suffered to enlarge upon that confidence already entrusted in them, or to deviate from your own avowed principles, laid down for them to act by—I mean your professed determination of living and dying freemen.

Being influenced to this address by nothing but an ardent zeal for the prosperity of the common cause, grammatical errors will be unnoticed by you, and nothing regarded but the intention of him who wishes at all times to prove himself

A FRIEND TO LIBERTY.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, June 22, 1775.

#### *Friends and Countrymen:*

The *British* Ministry, with unrelenting rigour, continue to persecute the brave *Americans*. Every device that malevolence could suggest, they adopt to divide the Colonies, who now groan under the rod of tyranny. You are not strangers to the bill which has lately obtained the Royal assent, for restraining the *New-England* Fishery, whose chief support depends on that beneficial trade; nor the exemption of the Island of *Nantucket*, which lies about thirty miles from the *Massachusetts*; an island extremely well calculated to refresh the *British* fishing vessels, and thereby enable them to rob us of all the advantage arising from that useful commerce. That island has never acceded to the grand *American* Association, so highly necessary at this important hour for baffling the insidious projects of *Bute*, *North*, and *Mansfield*, with their disgraceful advocates, who are traitors to the *British* Constitution, and inimical to the rights of mankind.

The noble champions of freedom, the General Congress, recommend to all the friends of *America* to exert the greatest vigilance to prevent the people of *Nantucket* from purchasing provisions or necessities of any kind, except from their neighbours, the people of the *Massachusetts*,

and not more of them than are really sufficient for the inhabitants of the island. Notwithstanding, my countrymen, the General Congress, in *September* last, resolved we should not have any commercial intercourse with any *American* who would not approve of that General Association, two vessels from the Island of *Nantucket* have lately entered within our capes to carry provisions and coal to those foes to *American* liberty. With propriety, I conceive they merit that appellation, as they never acceded to the resolves of the Congress. One is a large schooner called the *Diana*, of one hundred tons, commanded by Captain *Forgers*, which is gone up the Bay of *Chesapeake* to load with *Indian* corn. The other is in *James River*, and I think a schooner of fifty tons, named the *Little John*, *Joshua Bunker*, master; the captain of which applied to one of our Representatives for a load of coal, who absolutely refused to sell him one bushel, nobly resolving to sacrifice his private interest whenever it clashes with the liberties of *America*. Such is the unanimity in this Colony, that I think my countrymen will convince the Island of *Nantucket*, and the venal wretches of Ministry, that neither money nor menaces, with every invention their tortured imagination may pursue, shall ever induce us to infringe the resolves of that august assembly, or deviate from the cause of *America*.

I am, with great sincerity, your friend and well-wisher,  
A VIRGINIAN.

SAMUEL ADAMS TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Philadelphia, June 22, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR: Our patriotick General *Washington* will deliver this letter to you. The *Massachusetts* Delegates have jointly given to him a list of the names of certain gentlemen in whom he may place the greatest confidence. Among these you are one. Major General *Lee* and Major *Mifflin* accompany the General. They are a triumvirate which will please the circle of our friends. *Mifflin* is Aide-de-Camp to the General. I regret his leaving this City; but have the satisfaction of believing that he will add great spirit to our Army. Time will not admit of my adding at present more than that I am, your affectionate friend,

SAMUEL ADAMS.

Elbridge Gerry, Esq., Watertown.

GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO LORD BARRINGTON.

Philadelphia, June 22, 1775.

To the Right Honourable Lord Viscount BARRINGTON,  
His Majesty's Secretary at War:

MY LORD: Although I can by no means subscribe to the opinion of divers people in the world, that an officer on half pay is to be considered in the service, yet I think it a point of delicacy to pay a deference to this opinion, erroneous and absurd as it is. I therefore apprise your Lordship in the most publick and solemn manner, that I do renounce my half pay from the date hereof. At the same time, I beg leave to assure your Lordship, that whenever it shall please His Majesty to call me forth to any honourable service against the natural hereditary enemies of our Country, or in defence of his just rights and dignity, no man will obey the righteous summons with more zeal and alacrity than myself; but the present measures seem to me so absolutely subversive of the rights and liberties of every individual subject, so destructive to the whole Empire at large, and ultimately so ruinous to His Majesty's own person, dignity, and family, that I think myself obliged, in conscience, as a citizen, *Englishman*, and soldier of a free State, to exert my utmost to defeat them. I most devoutly pray to *Almighty God* to direct His Majesty into measures more consonant to his interest and honour, and more conducive to the happiness and glory of his People.

I am, my Lord, your most obedient humble servant,  
CHARLES LEE.

HORATIO GATES TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Traveller's Rest, June 20, 1775.

DEAR GENERAL: Last night I was honoured by the receipt of your obliging letter of 17th instant. I shall obey



your commands with all possible expedition, and hope to be in *Philadelphia Thursday* next, and wish earnestly to find you there. I must take the liberty to entreat it of you, not to leave the Congress until you are provided, not only with all the powers, but all the means their power can bestow. If it is indispensably necessary you should leave *Philadelphia* before I get there, I hope to find with Colonel *Harrison* your positive and particular commands, in regard to any business you may leave unsettled behind you. The request for the riflemen was well received in this Province, and in *Maryland*. Major *Stevenson* commands one of the companies from hence, and I believe Captain *Morgan* the other, both excellent for the service. Colonel *Cresap* told me on *Monday* morning that his son had eighty riflemen ready to march; those go for one of the companies from *Maryland*. Immediately upon the arrival of your express, I despatched your packets to your brother and Colonel *Stephen*. If their answers don't come in half an hour, I will bring them with me.

My grateful thanks are most respectfully due to the Congress, for the very handsome manner in which they conferred their commission.

I will not intrude more upon that time which is now so precious to you, only to assure you I will not lose a moment in paying you my personal attendance.

With the greatest respect for your character, and the sincerest attachment to your person, I am, dear General, your most faithful and obedient humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To the President and Members of the Provincial Congress of the Province of NEW-YORK:

The Memorial of WILLIAM ELPHINSTON, Conductor of Ordnance Stores, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist was taken prisoner at *Crown Point*, on the 11th of *May* last, by a detachment of the Provincial Army. After which event, finding that those persons who formerly were very desirous of purchasing his bills, refused to purchase any more, he obtained a pass for coming to *New-York*. Since his arrival here, he finds that the Continental Congress have published a resolve forbidding any one to negotiate bills for the pay of any officer in the Army or Navy. By this means your memorialist is reduced to the want of every thing. The nett amount of your memorialist's pay is one guinea per week. Therefore your memorialist earnestly entreats you will be so good as to take his case into consideration, and to allow him so much subsistence as to your wisdom and goodness shall appear reasonable, until such time as permission is granted for negotiating bills in the usual way. And your memorialist, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

WILLIAM ELPHINSTON,  
Conductor of Ordnance Stores.

New-York, June 22, 1775.

ELISHA PHELPS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, June 22, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: According to a resolve of the Honourable Continental Congress, concerning the appointment of Commissaries, &c., his Honour, *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's *English* Colony of *Connecticut*, has appointed me to be Commissary for the Northern Army, and commissioned me accordingly, to receive at *Albany*, and forward the supplies of provisions for the forces at *Lake Champlain*, from the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

Having arrived at *Albany* for that purpose, find Mr. *Bleecker*, commissary of the stores, (by yourselves already provided,) absent; and no supplies for said Troops (as I can understand) are in this place, but in Mr. *Bleecker's* custody; and his deputy refuses to resign said stores to me, as he has no direction for the same. Therefore, it is not in my power to forward supplies, &c., according to my commission, and the resolve of the Continental Congress. Beg leave to apply to you for advice in the premises, and as the necessity of the case seems to require it, hope for a speedy answer. Mr. *Strong*, acting commissary heretofore, has purchased about thirty head of fat cattle for the use of said Troops; and now draws on me for pay. I have

applied to the Committee in this place, but find no provision made for that purpose. Pray your Honours to send money for the same, or to direct, as you in your wisdom shall think proper.

Interim am your Honours' humble servant,

ELISHA PHELPS.

To the Honourable Provincial Convention for the Province of *New-York*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WETHERSFIELD, CONNECTICUT, TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED JUNE 22, 1775.

Before this you must know, I conclude, that there has been a battle, in which fell the honourable, the noble Doctor *Warren*. For fear you may not have the particulars, I will endeavour in part to relate to you how the affair was, according to the best accounts I can gather by letters from the camp. Last *Friday* afternoon orders were issued for about eighteen hundred of the Provincial Troops, and two hundred of the *Connecticut*, to parade themselves at six o'clock, with one day's provision, equipped with packs, blankets, &c. Their orders were given at nine o'clock, and they marched with their teams, trenching tools, &c., on *Bunker's Hill*, to heave up an intrenchment, which you are sensible is near the water, ships, &c. They worked most surprisingly that night, and were discovered at sunrise by a sailor from the mast-head. The *British* Army commenced a heavy fire from *Copp's Hill*, near *Cutler's Church*, in *Boston*, and from all the ships which could be brought to play, which continued till near night.

About one o'clock, A. M., the *Americans* at *Cambridge* heard that the Regulars were landing from their floating batteries. The alarm was sounded, and they were ordered down to the breastwork at *Charlestown*; and Captain *Chester* writes me, that before it was possible for him to get there, the battle had begun in earnest, and cannon and musket balls were plenty about their ears. *Chester* and my brother were both in the engagement. They re-enforced our men that had left the breastwork in fine order, though they passed through the cannonading of the ships, bombs, chain-shot, ring-shot, &c.; but then their superiour number of artillery and men, (for they were three to two,) forced our men to retreat, after a warm engagement of an hour and a half. Thank Heaven, but few of our men fell, considering the advantages they had over us, our men being much fatigued with working at the intrenchments, and I believe not in the best preparation to meet an enemy. The *British* Troops, to their eternal disgrace, shame, and barbarity, set *Charlestown* on fire with torches.

My brother says we were obliged to retreat to *Prospect Hill*, (alias *Winter Hill*), where we made a stand, and declared we would all die before we would retreat any farther; but the *British* Troops did not think fit to come out from under the protection of their shipping. The loss of *Americans* is supposed to be, of wounded, missing, and slain, about one hundred and twenty. A large, genteel, well-dressed gentleman, who first mounted our breastwork, was overset by one of our impudent *Americans*, who took so good aim as to prevent his ever mounting another, as he tumbled him into the intrenchment just as he cried, "the day is our own."

We greatly rejoice to hear of the coming of the good, the brave, and great General *Washington*, and shall receive him with open arms.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN AT STOCKBRIDGE TO A GENTLEMAN OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, DATED JUNE 22, 1775.

A firm foundation now turns up to view for the influence of the *Stockbridge Indians* amongst the *Six Nations*; and matters stand well with the *Canadian Indians*. If I had time I would relate to you every particular of what befel the messengers of our *Indians* to the *Six Nations* and the *Canadian Indians*. To be short, they were taken and bound by the Regulars, and carried into *Montreal*, where, by a Court-Martial, they were condemned to be hanged for a slight suspicion that they were sent to engage the *Indians* to fall upon the Regulars. This event turned much to our advantage, and has fully fixed the minds of the *Indians* there



against the Regulars. High threatening words passed between the General and the *Indian* Sachems, who were raised far and near on the occasion, and a wonderful spirit of benevolence appeared towards the young men that were taken by the *Indians* there. They told them in the strongest terms, that they would take their place, and would die for them. The whole story is very affecting. The *Indian* Sachems told the General: You have offered us money to fight for you, but we would not take it, as we would have nothing to do with your quarrel; but now we shall know who are our enemies. If you think it best for you to hang these our brothers, that came a great way to see us, do it; but remember, we shall not forget it. Upon these threatenings they thought it best to let the prisoners go, who got away with some difficulty. The *Canadian* *Indians* farther told our *Indians*, that if they did fight at all, they would fight against the Regulars, for they did not like them.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE AT PLYMOUTH, TO THE COMMITTEE OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE-ISLAND, DATED JUNE 22, 1775.

We have a letter come to Town from *Saco*, giving an account of two vessels with provisions from *Gage*, under the protection of a tender, having arrived at that place in order to exchange said provision for lumber. The Committee of that Town considered of the propriety of suffering them to trade, and from necessity were obliged to admit them; after this they discovered great partiality in regard to the persons with whom they contracted, which at once created such uneasiness as to determine the people to seize the two vessels, and fire the cutter, which, however, they failed in. She hove up her anchors, proceeded down the river some distance from the Town, where she again anchored; but was soon so warmly attacked from the shore as to be obliged to slip her cables and push down; in her way she boarded a small coasting sloop, Captain *Tobey*, from *Sandwich*, and obliged him to undertake the pilotage of the vessel out of the river; but before getting out they boarded a schooner, Captain *Avery*, from *Norwich*, and took him also on board. In the mean time the people of *Saco* fitted out two armed vessels, which pursued the enemy, and soon after getting clear of the land they discovered and made for each other. The tender did not suppose them to be armed till they approached each other, when the master threatened to discharge a brace of balls through Captain *Tobey* unless he would swear to take up his gun in defence of the vessel; who replied, that as he engaged only as a pilot, he should refuse. The master then excused him, and threatened *Avery* in like manner, and he was obliged to comply. The first volley from our armed vessel killed poor *Avery* and the infernal Captain, which put the people into such consternation that they descended into the hold, cabin, &c., and were boarded and carried into *Saco*. The number of men taken on board the tender is not mentioned; she had four three pounders, twelve swivels, forty or fifty muskets, as many cutlasses, and a number of pistols.

GENERAL WARD TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, June 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I received your favour of the twentieth instant, suggesting to my serious consideration whether it is not proper and expedient to order a regiment or more from the camp at *Roxbury*. I have this day, in company with General *Putnam*, been over to *Roxbury*, and consulted with Generals *Thomas*, *Spencer*, and *Heath*, who are fully in opinion that they have no forces to spare, notwithstanding we are re-enforced to-day by the arrival of Colonel *Glover's* Regiment from *Marblehead*. But if the honourable Congress still judge that it is best one regiment or more should be ordered to this camp, it will be cheerfully complied with. It is thought best, if any regiment be removed, it should be Colonel *Parsons's*, of the *Connecticut* forces.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your most humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, President of the Provincial Congress, sitting at *Watertown*.

B. GREENLEAF TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Newburyport, June 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We understand that you have desired our Selectmen to send the Town stock of powder to *Cambridge*, saving only one pound for each man. You, perhaps, are not aware that we have lately delivered four half barrels to the order of Congress, and six more to that of the Committee of Supplies, part of which we were encouraged to hope should soon have been replaced. We have likewise furnished our men, who have joined the Army and three large parties who were volunteers on the several alarms that have been made, with cartridges sufficient for their purpose, a considerable part whereof were never returned. By these means our stock is so much reduced as to occasion us great uneasiness, inasmuch as it must prevent our executing some plans we had meditated for the publick good; besides, many of our inhabitants are apprehensive of danger from cutters and other armed vessels, the Admiral having, as it is said, given out some threats. We have been at considerable expense in preparing some light cannon for action, and we are now about erecting a small battery or breastwork, with three or four heavier cannon, which can be procured, to defend ourselves against any attacks by water. But all that we have yet done, and are about to do, will be to no purpose, unless we can have a few barrels of powder ready at hand. We are therefore very loath to part with the little we have, unless the publick cause renders it absolutely necessary, in which case we shall readily give up the last ounce, the destruction of this Town being a trivial matter in our estimation, compared with a final defeat of the Army. However, as it can at any time be conveyed to *Cambridge* in eight or nine hours from the time of our having notice, we hope it may be agreeable to let it remain here for the present, that so we may have the privilege of using it in our own defence if there should be occasion before it is wanted in the Army. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant.

By order of the Committee of this Town:

B. GREENLEAF.

STEPHEN HOOPER TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Newburyport, June 22, 1775.

SIR: In a letter I received yesterday from a Committee in the Town of *Portsmouth*, in *New-Hampshire*, I am acquainted with their having received fifty barrels of flour from *Baltimore* for the use of your suffering brethren in *Boston*, with directions to deliver the same to my order, and that the flour now waits my pleasure. They also acquaint me of their inclination to purchase it for the use of their own Troops. I should therefore be glad to receive the opinion of the Congress, relative to its disposal, as soon as may be, as the aforementioned Committee wait my answer. I am, &c.

STEPHEN HOOPER.

To the President of the Congress.

Cambridge, June 22, 1775.

Last *Friday* night a detachment from our Army began an intrenchment on an eminence below *Bunker Hill*, about a mile to the northward of the centre of the Town of *Charlestown*. The enemy appeared to be much alarmed on *Saturday* morning, when they discovered our operations, and immediately began a heavy cannonading from a battery on *Copp's Hill*, *Boston*, and from the ships in the harbour. Our people, with little loss, continued to carry on the works till one o'clock, P. M., on *Saturday*, when they discovered a large body of the enemy crossing *Charles* River from *Boston*. They landed on a point of land about a mile eastward of our intrenchment, and immediately disposed their Army for an attack; previous to which they set fire to the Town of *Charlestown*. It is supposed the enemy intended to attack us under cover of the smoke from the burning houses, the wind favouring them in such a design; while, on the other side, their Army was extended northward towards *Mistick* River, with an apparent design of surrounding our men within the works, and of cutting off any assistance intended for their relief. They were, however, in some measure, counteracted in this design, and drew their Army into close order. As the enemy approached, our men were not only exposed to the attack of a very



numerous musketry, but to the heavy fire of the battery on *Copp's Hill*, four or five men-of-war, several armed boats or floating batteries in *Mistick River*, and a number of field-pieces; notwithstanding which, our Troops within the intrenchment, and at a breastwork without, sustained the enemy's attacks with real bravery and resolution, killed and wounded great numbers, and repulsed them several times; and after bearing for about two hours as severe and heavy a fire as perhaps ever was known, and many having fired away all their ammunition, they were overpowered by numbers and obliged to leave the intrenchment, retreating about sunset to a small distance over *Charlestown Neck*. Our loss, from the best information we can obtain, does not exceed fifty killed, and about twenty or thirty taken prisoners.

The Town of *Charlestown*, supposed to contain about three hundred dwelling-houses, a great number of which were large and elegant, besides one hundred and fifty or two hundred other buildings, are almost all laid in ashes.

The enemy yet remain in possession of *Charlestown*, and have erected works for their defence on *Bunker Hill*. It is said they have brought over some of their Light-horse from *Boston*.

Our Troops continue in high spirits. They are fortifying a very high hill about a mile and a half from this Town, and within cannon-shot of the enemy on *Bunker Hill*.

GEN. FOLSOM TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Medford, June 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I arrived here *Tuesday* morning, and immediately waited on the Captain-General, who chose to fix the *New-Hampshire* Troops in this quarter and *Winter Hill*; yesterday was taken up in providing barracks for the companies just come in.

I am informed our Troops behaved gallantly in the late engagement. The Continent has sustained a heavy loss in Doctor *Joseph Warren*, who is missing, and it is said was killed in the trench beyond *Bunker Hill*. Major *McClary* was killed by an accidental shot from one of the ships some time after our people had made their retreat. The whole loss sustained by the Provincials is about seventy-five killed and taken, and about one hundred and twenty-five wounded—about twenty-five of them mortally.

I enclose you an account of the loss sustained by Colonel *Read's* Regiment, and request that the sufferers may be immediately supplied with their necessary clothing, &c. Colonel *Stark* was requested to make a like return of his Regiment, but he has not yet done it; he tells me he had fifteen men killed, and forty-five wounded. I shall send as many of Colonel *Poor's* Regiment on duty to *Winter Hill* this morning, as intrenching tools can be found for; there is a great scarcity of those things here. It is highly necessary our Troops should have their tents as soon as possible; they have no shelter from the rain on *Winter Hill*. What tents are finished, if but few, should be sent forward as soon as possible, with as many spades, shovels, and pick-axes, as can be got in readiness, and some bullets and flints. I can get no regular account of the loss the King's Troops sustained. One Mr. *Bradford* writes to Colonel *Lincoln* from *Hingham*, the nineteenth instant; he says: "Yesterday I came out of *Boston* at two o'clock, A. M. I heard the officers and soldiers say that they were sure they had a thousand or more killed and wounded; that they were carrying the wounded men from four o'clock, *Saturday*, till I came away. General *Howe* commanded the Troops. They buried their dead at *Charlestown*. Among their dead was Major *Pitcairn*; a great many other officers are dead. There were five thousand soldiers went from *Boston*; the soldiers and officers exult very much upon taking our lines.

A messenger I sent to Head-Quarters for intrenching tools is just returned, and informs me he cannot get one; therefore must further urge the necessity of forwarding them immediately.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

NATHANIEL FOLSOM.

To the Committee of Safety at *Exeter*.

P. S. According to your directions I inquired at Head-Quarters the rank of the General Officers, and inform you that Mr. *Ward* is Captain-General, Mr. *Thomas* Lieut. General, and the other Generals are Major-Generals.

CHARLES CITY COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

June 23, 1775.

To the Gentlemen of the Committee and Freeholders of BUCKINGHAM County, VIRGINIA:

GENTLEMEN: Being fully sensible of the obligation we are under to you, by your generosity and humanity in offering us an asylum in the bosom of your friendship, at a time when all the evils of a civil war are precipitately approaching; and knowing we must be involved by our situation in much greater difficulties than you; how can we longer restrain the spring of gratitude within the compass of our own breasts?

We observe, gentlemen, in our papers, an address from you to the people in the lower part of the Country, inviting them to make use of your plantations for the safety and refuge of their wives and little ones, with all things they think fit to carry with them for their support. Such an instance of tender and brotherly feeling must convey an idea of the noblest disposition and unequalled affection in you; and such an example who would not, in every situation of life, anxiously endeavour to follow.

Permit us, then, gentlemen, in the fulness of our gratitude, to inform you how much we are obliged to you; and that if the unhappy differences between us and our Parent State should so increase as to compel us to the necessity of accepting your offer, we shall, with the risk of our lives, endeavour to secure your region from the tyranny now threatened. So shall yours and ours enjoy the same blessing—one safety—till our gracious Sovereign is again pleased to communicate to all his people the generous language of unity and peace.

That you may long enjoy every blessing this little life can give, and that the impending dangers *Almighty God* may yet vouchsafe to avert, is the ardent and daily prayer of, gentlemen, your much obliged and most affectionate countrymen.

By order of the Committee of *Charles City County*.

WM. G. MUNFORD,  
SAMUEL HARWOOD,  
JOHN TYLER.

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Albany Committee Chamber, June 23, 1775.

BRETHREN: We have received a vague and uncertain account from your Colony, of an engagement which your Troops have had with the enemies of our Country at or near *Charlestown*. As we feel ourselves deeply interested in every event affecting the general weal of *America*, it gives us great pleasure that (though with the loss of many brave men) you have been able, if our information be true, to drive, with considerable loss, the tools of tyranny and oppression back to their asylum. Strongly impressed with the warmest disposition to cultivate harmony with you, and, if necessary, to afford you all the assistance in our power, we have therefore sent you this by Mr. *Price*, in order to receive from you a circumstantial detail of the late engagement and its consequences.

May that *God* who has so often signally espoused our cause in the arduous struggle for liberty and humanity, still continue to you his gracious guidance and protection.

We expect daily an attack upon *Ticonderoga* from *Canada*.

We are at a loss to know what must be done with the donations collected in this City for the poor of *Boston*; and beg to be informed by you, as the chief of the contributions are in grain, whether we shall dispose of it here, and convert it into cash, or otherwise wait your directions.

We are, brethren, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee: SAMUEL STRINGER,  
Chairman pro tempore.

To the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay* if sitting, or otherwise to the Committee of War at *Cambridge* or elsewhere.

New-York, June 23, 1775.

MR. HOLT: The County of *Cumberland*, in this Province, having been represented as inimical to the proceedings of the late Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, and to the several Provincial Congresses since held in the



respective *British Colonies in America*, in defence of their just rights and freedom; you are desired to publish in the *New-York Journal* the following Proceedings and Resolutions of a General Committee, consisting of the Committees of a number of Towns, by which the whole County was well represented at a meeting in *October* last. The long delay of the publication was occasioned by some unfair practices of a small but mischievous party, together with the remote situation of the County from the City of *New-York*.

At a meeting of the Committees from a number of Townships in the County of *Cumberland*, and Province of *New-York*, held at the County-Hall, at *Westminster*, on the 19th and 20th of *October*, 1774, to consider a Letter very lately received from Mr. *Isaac Low*, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence of *New-York*, dated *May* 21st, 1774, to consult on measures proper to be taken at this important day: present, eighteen Delegates from twelve Towns.

*Colonel JOHN HAZELTINE* chosen Chairman.

After having read Mr. Chairman *Low's* Letter, and the Act of the *British* Parliament in laying a duty or tax on Tea, for the purpose of raising a revenue in *America*, the *Boston* Port Bill, so called, and divers other late Acts of the *British* Parliament; sundry debates being had thereon,

*Voted*, That *John Grout*, Esquire, Mr. *Joshua Webb*, Doctor *Paul Spooner*, Mr. *Edward Harris*, and Major *William Williams*, be a Committee to take into consideration the aforesaid Letter, and divers aforesaid Acts, and report to this meeting. Who reported as follows:

This County being in its infant state, contending with the hardships of subduing the wilderness, and converting it into fruitful fields, being situated here in a corner, at a considerable remove from the populous, civilized parts of the Country, conceive they, by their own experience, in a small degree feel the sufferings of their ancestors.

The first planters in *America* endured hunger, cold, and other distresses, until they, by their arduous industry, found suitable relief from their bountiful fields and their own expenses; and as the people of this County were chiefly born in some one or other of the *New-England* Provinces, and conceive them to be at least as loyal to the King as any subjects he can boast of, are surprised to find, by the late Acts of Parliament, that all *Americans* are deprived of that great right of calling that their own, which they by their industry have honestly acquired; are surprised to find a power arise in *Britain*, which, with impunity say, they have a right to bind the Colonies in all cases whatsoever, and attempt to exercise that authority, by taking, at their pleasure, the properties of the King's *American* subjects without their consent; especially since some of the former Kings of *Great Britain* by charter granted to their subjects in *New-England*, their heirs, and assigns, and all others who should settle within certain boundaries, divided into Colonies, all the liberties and privileges of natural free-born subjects of *England*; yet, notwithstanding this, that such a power should arise under the mere inspection of the King, unrebuked, to claim all *American* property, and actually to take as much as they please, in direct breach of the solemn compact between a former King, on his part, and his successors, made with the first planters of these Colonies, and others that after should be born among them, or join them, or be born on the seas when going thither; and we do not conceive those whose rights are as aforesaid solemnly declared, are more sacred in respect of the security of their property, than the right of this and other Colonies whose rights are only natural as *British* subjects; for he who has nothing but what another has power at pleasure lawfully to take away from him, has nothing that he can call his own, and is, in the fullest sense of the word, a slave—a slave to him who has such power; and as no part of *British America* stipulated to settle as slaves, the privileges of *British* subjects are their privileges, and whoever endeavours to deprive them of their privileges is guilty of treason against the *Americans*, as well as the *British* Constitution. Therefore *Resolved*,

i. That as true and loyal subjects of our gracious Sovereign, King *George* the Third of *Great Britain*, &c., we will spend our lives and fortunes in his service.

ii. That as we will defend our King while he reigns over us, his subjects, and wish his reign may be long and glorious, so we will defend our just rights, as *British* subjects, against every power that shall attempt to deprive us of them, while breath is in our nostrils, and blood in our veins.

iii. That considering the late Acts of the *British* Parliament for blocking up the Port of *Boston*, &c., which we view as arbitrary and unjust, inasmuch as the Parliament have sentenced them unheard, and dispensed with all the modes of law and justice which we think necessary to distinguish between lawfully obtaining right for property injured, and arbitrarily enforcing to comply with their will, (be it right or wrong,) we resolve to assist the people of *Boston* in defence of their liberties to the utmost of our abilities.

iv. Sensible that the strength of our opposition to the late Acts consists in a uniform, manly, steady, and determined mode of procedure, we will bear testimony against and discourage all riotous, tumultuous, and unnecessary mobs which tend to injure the persons or properties of harmless individuals; but endeavour to treat those persons whose abominable principles and actions show them to be enemies to *American* liberty, as loathsome animals not fit to be touched or to have any society or connection with.

v. *Resolved*, That we choose a Committee to correspond with the other Committees of Correspondence of this Province and elsewhere, and that Mr. *Joshua Webb*, *John Grout*, Esquire, Deacon *John Sessions*, Major *William Williams*, and Captain *Jacob Hoisington*, be a Committee as aforesaid.

vi. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Committee be given to the Committee of Correspondence in the capital of this Province, for the notice they have taken of this infant County.

vii. *Resolved*, That Mr. Chairman forward these Resolves to Mr. *Low*, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence at *New-York*, and communicate to him by Letter the reasons why his Letter to the Supervisors of this County was answered no sooner.

viii. *Resolved*, That *Colonel Hazeltine*, the Chairman, have the thanks of this Committee for his good services as Chairman.

The above Report being divers times read, paragraph by paragraph,

*Voted*, *nemine contradicente*, That the same be accepted as the sense of this meeting, and as their Resolves.

By order of the Convention:

*JOHN HAZELTINE*, Chairman.

COLONEL ARNOLD TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

*Ticonderoga*, June 23, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Congress of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, on the fourteenth day of *June* last, appointed *Walter Spooner*, *Frederick Foster*, and *James Sullivan*, a Committee to repair to the fortresses of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, on the Lake *Champlain*, to inquire into the importance of holding those posts, and also the method by which they may be maintained; to establish there in the pay of said Colony, so many men to defend the same posts as they should judge necessary, not exceeding four hundred: And the said Committee were also by said Congress directed, when they should have made themselves fully acquainted with the situation and importance of said posts, respectfully to signify their thoughts thereon to your Honours.

Wherefore, by order of said Committee, I take leave to inform you, that it is the opinion of said Committee, such is the importance of these fortresses, that should they once be in the hands of the enemies to *America*, the Colony of *New-York*, together with the *New-England* Colonies, would be in continual danger of having depredations committed on them by the regular forces who would be possessed of those garrisons; and should the *Canadians* and savages, who, we hope, are not yet at enmity with us, be inclined to take part with the Ministerial Army, the distress of the Colonies before mentioned must be extremely great. A garrison at the south end of Lake *George*, however tenable, could be of but little service to the *New-England* Colonies, because the most easy route for an army from



*Quebeck* into *New-England* would be through *Lake Champlain* to *South-Bay*, from whence they might travel by land through the new settlements of *New-York* into the *New-England* Governments, and destroy the frontier towns on their march, drive the farmers from their fields, prevent the large supplies of wheat and other necessaries which may soon be expected from these new settlements, send distress and famine into the bowels of the country, and this all without being on a right line within many miles of the south end of *Lake George*.

I am also ordered by said Committee to signify to your Honours, that it is the opinion of said Committee that the defence of these fortresses must be supported by holding the command of *Lake Champlain*, which they conceive may be more easily done by having vessels of various constructions, well manned and armed, floating there; for which purpose the Committee have stationed four hundred men there, which are all that the embarrassed circumstances of our Colony can at present admit of, to co-operate with near a thousand under the command of Colonel *Hinman*, who is sent to those posts by the Government of *Connecticut*; but whether the forces now on the lake are sufficient for the purposes aforementioned, your Honours' will judge.

B. ARNOLD.

To the Honourable the President and the Members of the *American Congress* now sitting at *Philadelphia*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Lebanon, June 23, 1775.

SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the seventeenth *June*, enclosing the Resolve in Congress of the sixteenth; the recommendation of a fast; and Col. *Dyer's* letter of the sixteenth. This express passing in haste can only inform thereof, and mention that my letter of the twentieth, which hope you will receive before this, will inform of what is already done. Have enclosed the address of the people of *Great Britain* to the inhabitants of *America*, not knowing whether you have received it from any other way. This express brings you intelligence from camp near *Boston*. I sincerely condole the loss of the worthy Doctor *Warren*, the unhappy burning of *Charlestown*, &c. God grant wisdom, unanimity, and success, to our *American* Councils and cause. Without time to enlarge or to write to our Delegates, to whom pray my compliments, I am, with great truth and regard, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER ON BOARD ONE OF THE KING'S SHIPS AT BOSTON, TO HIS FRIEND IN LONDON, DATED JUNE 23, 1775.

On the evening of the sixteenth we were informed that the Provincials were erecting a battery on the heights near *Charlestown*, and that they intended from thence to bombard the Town of *Boston*. Early on the seventeenth, we were alarmed with an account that they had been at work upon it all night, and had nearly completed it. We were immediately ordered to land some battalions, and in the mean time our great guns were fired against those who appeared to be busily employed at the battery. Whether our shot did not reach far enough to create any confusion among them, or it was owing to their resolution, I cannot say; but certain it is, that the moment they discovered the landing of our Troops, they formed in order of battle, and so far from retreating, as we expected, they marched towards us with the utmost coolness and regularity. Nothing can exceed the panick and apparent dislike of most of the King's Troops to enter into this engagement; even at the landing, several attempted to run away, and five actually took to their heels in order to join the *Americans*, but were presently brought back, and two of them were immediately hung up in *terrorem* to the rest. They, for the most part, openly express a dislike to the service in which they are engaged, and nothing but the fear of military punishment prevents their daily deserting. The Generals, perceiving the strength and order of the Provincials, ordered a reinforcement to join the Troops already landed, but before

they came up, the cannonading on both sides began. The Provincials poured down like a torrent, and fought like men who had no care for their persons; they disputed every inch of ground, and their numbers were far superiour to ours. The King's Troops gave way several times, and it required the utmost efforts of the Generals to rally them. At the beginning of the engagement many of them absolutely turned their backs, not expecting so hot a fire from the *Americans*; the latter feigned a retreat, in order, as we suppose, to draw our Troops after them, and by that means to cut them in pieces; and we are informed that General *Ward* had a reserve of four thousand men for that purpose. The King's Troops, concluding that the *Americans* quitted the field through fear, pursued them under that apprehension, but did not proceed far enough to be convinced, by that fatal experience which was, as we hear, designed for them, of their mistake. The engagement lasted upwards of four hours, and ended infinitely to our disadvantage. The flower of our Army are killed or wounded. During the engagement *Charlestown* was set on fire by the King's Troops, in order to stop the progress of the Provincials, who, after their sham retreat, returned to attack them; but I think it was a wanton act of the King's Troops, who certainly, after they had joined the main body of our Army, had no occasion to take that method of retarding the return of the *Americans*, who, upon perceiving that General *Ward* stood still with his reserve, laid aside their intentions.

Our Troops are sickly, and a great number are afflicted with the scurvy, occasioned by the want of fresh provisions. I heartily wish myself with you and the rest of my friends; and the first opportunity that offers I will sell out and return, for at the best only disgrace can arise in the service of such a cause as that in which we are engaged. The *Americans* are not those poltrons I myself was once taught to believe them to be; they are men of liberal and noble sentiments; their very characteristick is the love of liberty; and though I am an officer under the King of *Great Britain*, I tacitly admire their resolution and perseverance, against the present oppressive measures of the *British* Government.

To the Honourable President and Members of the Provincial Congress, now sitting at *WATERTOWN*:

The Petition of the Selectmen, Officers of the Militia, and Committee of Correspondence of *MANCHESTER*, humbly sheweth:

That whereas, this Town labours under peculiar difficulty, by reason of its being so situated as greatly exposes us to the inroads of our merciless enemies, and we are thereby reduced to the disagreeable necessity of keeping a constant guard in several parts of the Town, for the defence of life and property; and having received information from Headquarters in *Cambridge*, in which the necessity of keeping a very strict guard is urged, in consequence whereof our guards are doubled, that the malevolent intentions of those who are indefatigable in their endeavours to distress us may, if possible, be defeated, together with our numbers being considerably lessened, as there is nigh one full company gone from hence into the service of our Country, has increased our duty and made it more fatiguing; which, of necessity, calls off men of every description, among others farmers, whereby our agriculture is greatly impeded, and which is now our principal dependance, as many of the inhabitants are seamen, and the business on which they entirely depend for the support of themselves and families, being cut off; and the failure of the fishery, the chief branch of business on which this Town depended, has deprived us of the usual income by which we have been in part enabled to pay our proportion of publick charges, which are daily increasing, as also the charges of the Town, that so affects us as to reduce us to great straits and difficulties; and for this Town, under its present circumstances, to put into pay a sufficient number of men to guard and defend it against the invasions of our enemies, would be a burden greater than we are able to bear:

We, your petitioners, therefore pray, that you would take into your serious consideration the difficulties under which we now labour, and grant us the privilege of raising a company of men, or part of one, and the liberty of choosing officers therefor, and quartered in the Town, for



its defence and security; which company to be on the Provincial Establishment, and to appertain to that Regiment which may be posted nearest to us.

And thus having represented our case to this honourable Congress, we have a prevailing confidence that our request will meet with a favourable reception, and we receive the end of our petition. The grant of which, your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| JOHN TEWXBURY,<br>ANDREW WOODBURY,<br>ELEAZAR COUPT,<br>JOHN LEE,<br>ANDREW MARSTERS,<br>SAMUEL FOSTER,<br>ELEAZER CRAFT,<br>JONATHAN BROWN,<br>JOHN TEWXBURY,<br>ANDREW MARSTERS,<br>ANDREW WOODBURY,<br>JOSEPH WHIPPLE. | } <i>Selectmen.</i><br><br>} <i>Officers of<br/>Militia.</i><br><br>} <i>Comm. of<br/>Correspondence.</i> |
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Manchester June 23, 1775.

#### MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO GENERAL WARD.

In Congress, Watertown, June 23, 1775.

SIR: As it appears to this Congress highly probable that the Army of our enemies will speedily make the utmost efforts to force our lines and penetrate into the country, they have judged it absolutely necessary for the strengthening of the Army before *Boston*, that the eight Companies now posted in the County of *Plymouth*, belonging partly to General *Thomas's* Regiment, and partly to Colonel *Cotton's* Regiment, should immediately join the said Army. You are therefore directed, without delay, to give the orders necessary for the marching the said eight Companies to the said Army, as soon as may be.

To General *Ward*.

#### GENERAL FOLSOM TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Medford, June 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In my letter to you yesterday I acquainted you that on my arrival here, I immediately waited on the Captain-General. He then ordered me to make return to him of the two Regiments, viz: Colonel *Stark's* and Colonel *Read's*, of their situation and circumstances. On my return here, I sent orders to the two Colonels to make return of their respective Regiments to me; Colonel *Read* immediately obeyed the order, but Colonel *Stark* repeatedly, and at last absolutely refused to comply. I am well informed by Mr. *Stark's* best friends, that he does not intend to be under any subordination to any person appointed by the Congress of *New-Hampshire* to the general command of the *New-Hampshire* Troops. I have tried all conciliatory methods, both by personal conversation and the mediation of friends, but without effect; in consequence whereof, I this afternoon again waited on the Captain-General at Head-Quarters, to take his orders on the matter. He requested me to advise with the Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire* on the business. As Colonel *Stark* has received no commission as yet from you, he thinks he does not properly come under his cognizance.

Gentlemen, it is, I trust, unnecessary to hint to you, that, without a proper subordination, it will be absolutely impossible for me to execute the trust you have reposed in me. In my last conversation with *Stark*, he told me he could take his pack and return home, (and meant, I suppose, to lead his men with him.) I represented to him the dishonourable part he would thereby act towards both Colonies. I have since made inquiry, and find he would not be able to lead off many more than the supernumeraries of his Regiment, it still consisting of thirteen Companies. I think a Regiment might be formed of the men who have been under his command, without his being appointed to the command of them.

I must do the justice to Lieutenant-Colonel *Wyman* to say, he has behaved prudently, courageously, and very much like a gentleman, and I think I could recommend him for the command as soon as any person I know.

I think I shall never be able to do any thing with the Regiment, unless you make new regulations in the field officers, whom I would recommend should be taken out of the Captains of that Regiment, which I apprehend would facilitate the union of our troops.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
NATHANIEL FOLSOM.

#### ADDRESS OF COL. BAILEY TO THE NORTHERN INDIANS.

Newbury, June 23, 1775.

The present war is only between the King and a part of the Lords and *America*. The Lords say, all *America* shall become slaves or servants to them; shall plough no more than they say; eat nor drink, nor wear, nor hunt, only by their leave; shall not kill deer, moose, beaver, or any other thing, but by their consent. *America* say they will; and that the King, by the Lords' advice, has sent red coats to kill us, if we will not be subject to what they say. And we have thirty thousand men, with guns, great and small, to fight in our defence; we only want to live as we have heretofore; we do not want to fight, if they would let us alone. You are as much threatened as we; they want you to kill us, and then they will kill you, if you will not serve them. Dreadful wicked men they be; they do not think there is any *God* that will punish them by and by. If you have a mind to join us, I will go with any number you shall bring to our Army, and you shall each have a good coat and blanket, &c., and forty shillings per month, let the time be longer or shorter. If you will go to *Canada* and get what intelligence you can, and bring it to me, at any place you shall set, I will meet you myself, and pay you well; further, if you are any way afraid of the Regulars, you and all those tribes shall have protection here, or we will fight for you in your own country, if wanted; but if you or the *French*, or any other *Indians*, fight against us, we know your country, and shall be troublesome to you; you know how we could fight last war. But I know you will be friendly, and you may depend upon us; we will pawn all we have for the most strict observance of any agreement made with you. We are now all brothers, and we will be so with you; for one *God* made us all, and all must meet before *God* in a little while.

#### MEETING OF THE LIVERY OF LONDON IN COMMON-HALL.

London, Saturday, June 24, 1775.

This day came on, at *Guildhall*, the election of Sheriffs for the City of *London* and County of *Middlesex*, and other officers, for the year ensuing. At a quarter past one o'clock, the Lord Mayor, attended by the two Sheriffs, Recorder, and the Aldermen *Bull*, *Lewes*, *Thomas*, *Newnham*, *Hayley*, *Esdaile*, *Rawlinson*, &c., ascended the Hustings, when the Common Crier opened the Court, and the Aldermen below the Chair, who had not served the office of Sheriff, were first put in nomination. The principal show of hands appearing in favour of Aldermen *Hayley* and *Newnham*, the Sheriffs declared the election to have fallen on them.

The names of *Hayley* and *Newnham* were received with the greatest applause, which was testified by almost every one in the Hall holding up their hands. About twelve people held up their hands for Alderman *Rawlinson*, and about seven for Alderman *Thomas*.

The Lord Mayor then came to the front of the Hustings, and acquainted the Livery, that in consequence of their Resolutions last Common-Hall, he waited on His Majesty, in his corporate capacity, with their Address, &c. He then read the King's Answer, together with a Letter he received a few days after from the Lord Chamberlain, with his (the Lord Mayor's) Answer.

Mr. *Saxby*, the Chairman from the Livery at the *Half-Moon* Tavern, then came forward, and made the following motions:

1. That the Town Clerk do enter in the Records of this City, the Letter from the Lord Chamberlain to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, with his Lordship's Answer.

2. That the thanks of this Common-Hall be given to the Right Honourable *John Wilkes*, Lord Mayor, for his



very able, judicious, and spirited defence of the rights and privileges of the Livery in Common-Hall assembled.

3. That a copy of the said Resolution be fairly transcribed and signed by the Town Clerk, and by him delivered to his Lordship.

4. That whoever advised His Majesty to declare he would not in future receive on the Throne any Address, Remonstrance, and Petition, from the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of *London*, are enemies to the right of the subject to petition the Throne, because such advice is calculated to intercept the complaints of the People to their Sovereign, to prevent a redress of grievances, and alienate the minds of *Englishmen* from the *Hanoverian* succession.

5. That it is the opinion of this Common-Hall, that unless His Majesty hears the petitions of his subjects, the right of petitioning is nugatory.

6. That the thanks of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery, in Common-Hall assembled, be given to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Effingham*, for having, consistent with the principles of a true *Englishman*, refused to draw that sword which has been employed to the honour of his Country, against the lives and liberties of his fellow-subjects in *America*.

7. That the said Resolution be fairly transcribed and signed by the Town Clerk, and by him delivered to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Effingham*.

8. That an humble Address, Remonstrance, and Petition be presented to His Majesty, from the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of the City of *London*, in Common-Hall assembled, on this important crisis of *American* affairs.

9. To agree to the Address, Remonstrance, and Petition now read.

10. That the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, our Representatives in Parliament, the Court of Aldermen, the Sheriffs and Livery, in their Gowns, attended by the Recorder and other City officers, be desired to present the said Address, Remonstrance, and Petition, to His Majesty sitting on his Throne.

11. That the Sheriffs, attended by the Remembrancer, do wait on His Majesty on *Monday* next, to know his Royal will and pleasure when he will receive on the Throne the humble Address, Remonstrance, and Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery, in Common-Hall assembled.

12. That the said Address, Remonstrance, and Petition, be not presented to His Majesty but sitting on the Throne.

The above motions being unanimously approved of, the Hall was adjourned.

— London, June 27, 1775.

Yesterday the Sheriffs went up to *St. James's* to know His Majesty's pleasure when he would be pleased to permit the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council, and Livery, to wait on him with their Petition, and Remonstrance. His Majesty being at *Kew*, they went thither, where they waited about three-quarters of an hour, when His Majesty signified to them, by a Lord in waiting, that they should go up to *St. James's* to-morrow for an answer. They returned to the Mansion-House at nine o'clock.

— London, July 4, 1775.

At a meeting of the Livery of *London*, in Common-Hall assembled:

The Lord Mayor acquainted the Livery that the Sheriffs waited on His Majesty at *St. James's* on *Wednesday* last, and that Mr. Sheriff *Plomer* addressed His Majesty as follows:

"May it please your Majesty:

"We are ordered by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of the City of *London*, in Common-Hall assembled, to wait upon your Majesty, humbly to know your Majesty's Royal will and pleasure when your Majesty will be pleased to receive upon the Throne their humble Address, Remonstrance, and Petition."

To which His Majesty answered:

"You will please to take notice, that I will receive their

Address, Remonstrance, and Petition, on *Friday* next, at the levee."

Mr. Sheriff *Plomer* replied:

"Your Majesty will permit us to inform you, that the Livery, in Common-Hall assembled, have resolved not to present their Address, Remonstrance, and Petition, unless your Majesty shall be pleased to receive it sitting on the Throne."

To which His Majesty answered:

"I am ever ready to receive addresses and petitions; but I am the judge where."

The Lord Mayor then declared, that in consequence of the order of the Livery that the Address, Remonstrance, and Petition should not be presented to the King but sitting on his Throne, the Sheriffs' Report to him, and Lord *Hertford's* Letter, his Lordship had not attended His Majesty with the said Address.

Ordered, That His Majesty's Answer, now reported, be entered in the books of the Livery of this City.

Resolved, That the King is bound to hear the Petitions of his People, it being the undoubted right of the subject to be heard, and not a matter of grace and favour.

Resolved, That His Majesty's Answer is a direct denial of the right of this Court to have their Petitions heard.

Resolved, That such denial renders the right of petitioning the Throne, recognized and established by the Revolution, of no effect.

Resolved, That whoever advises His Majesty, directly or indirectly, to refuse hearing the humble Address, Remonstrance, and Petition of this Court, on the Throne, is equally an enemy to the happiness and security of the King, and the peace and liberties of the People.

Ordered, That the Address, Remonstrance, and Petition which His Majesty refused to hear on the Throne, be printed in the publick papers, and signed by the Town Clerk.

Resolved, That the following Instruction be given to our Representatives in Parliament:

"GENTLEMEN: You are instructed by the Livery in Common-Hall assembled, to move immediately on the next meeting of Parliament, for an humble Address from the House of Commons to His Majesty, requesting to know who were the advisers of those fatal measures which have planted Popery and arbitrary power in *America*, and have plunged us into a most unnatural civil war, to the subversion of the fundamental principles of *English* liberty, the ruin of our most valuable Commerce, and the destruction of His Majesty's subjects; to know who were the advisers of a measure so dangerous to His Majesty's happiness, and the rights of his people, as refusing to hear the petitions and complaints of his subjects. You are further instructed, gentlemen, to move for an impeachment of the authors and advisers of those measures; that, by bringing them to publick justice, evil counsellors may be removed from before the King, his Throne may be established, the rights of the people be vindicated, and the whole Empire restored to the enjoyment of peace, liberty, and safety."

Ordered, That the said Resolution be fairly transcribed, and signed by the Town Clerk, and by him delivered to our Representatives in Parliament.

Ordered, That the Sheriffs do wait upon His Majesty, and deliver into His Majesty's hand, in the name of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery in Common-Hall assembled, a fair copy of the Resolutions agreed to on *Midsummer-day* and this day, signed by the Town Clerk.

Ordered, That the Sheriffs, attended by Mr. Remembrancer, do to-morrow wait on His Majesty with the afore-said Resolutions.

Ordered, That the Resolutions of this day be printed in the publick papers, signed by the Town Clerk.

Signed by order:

Rix.

— July 5, 1775.

The Sheriffs waited on His Majesty at *St. James's*, when Mr. Sheriff *Plomer* addressed the King in the following words:



*"May it please your Majesty:*

"We are ordered by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of the City of *London*, in Common-Hall assembled, to wait upon your Majesty, humbly to deliver into your Majesty's hands, in their name, their Resolutions agreed to in Common-Hall, on the 24th day of *June* last, and of the 4th instant."

Mr. Sheriff *Plomer* then delivered a copy of the Resolutions only, but not the Address, Petition, and Remonstrance, into the King's hand, which he received without saying a word. The Address, Petition, and Remonstrance was ordered by the Common-Hall to be given to the publick in print.

At a meeting of the Livery of *London*, in Common-Hall assembled, on *Saturday*, the 24th of *June*, 1775:

A motion being made and question put, that an humble Address, Remonstrance, and Petition be presented to His Majesty, from the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of the City of *London*, in Common-Hall assembled, on this important crisis of *American* affairs; the same was resolved in the affirmative.

And an Address, Remonstrance, and Petition to the King being produced, a motion was made that the same be read; and the question being put by Mr. Recorder, it was resolved in the affirmative; whereupon, the same was read, as follows:

*To the King's Most Excellent Majesty:*

*The humble Address, Remonstrance, and Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of LONDON:*

*Most Gracious Sovereign:*

We, your Majesty's most faithful subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Livery, &c., of *London*, in Common-Hall assembled, are compelled again to disturb your Majesty's repose with our complaints.

We have already expressed to your Majesty our abhorrence of the tyrannical measures pursued against our fellow-subjects in *America*, as well as of the men who secretly advise, and of the Ministers who execute these measures.

We desire to repeat again, that the power contended for over the Colonies, under the specious name of dignity, is, to all intents and purposes, despotism; and that the exercise of despotick power in any part of the Empire, is inconsistent with the character and safety of this Country.

As we would not suffer any man or body of men to establish arbitrary power over us, we cannot acquiesce in any attempt to force it upon any part of our fellow-subjects. We are persuaded, that by the sacred unalterable rights of human nature, as well as by every principle of the Constitution, the *Americans* ought to enjoy peace, liberty, and safety; that whatever power invades these rights ought to be resisted. We hold such resistance in vindication of their constitutional rights, to be their indispensable duty to *God*, from whom those rights are derived to themselves, who cannot be safe and happy without them; to their posterity, who have a right to claim this inheritance at their hands, unviolated and unimpaired.

We have already remonstrated to your Majesty, that these measures were big with all the consequences which could alarm a free and commercial people; a deep, and perhaps fatal, wound to commerce; the ruin of manufactures; the diminution of the revenue, and consequent increase of taxes; the alienation of the Colonies, and the blood of your Majesty's subjects.

Unhappily, Sir, the worst of these apprehensions is now realized in all its horror. We have seen, with equal dread and concern, a civil war commenced in *America* by your Majesty's Commander-in-Chief. Will your Majesty be pleased to consider what must be the situation of your people here, who have nothing now to expect from *America* but Gazettes of blood, and mutual lists of their slaughtered fellow-subjects.

Every moment's prosecution of this fatal war may loosen irreparably the bonds of that connection on which the glory and safety of the *British* Empire depend.

If any thing could add to the alarm of these events, it is your Majesty's having declared your confidence in the wisdom of men, a majority of whom are notoriously bribed to betray their constituents and their Country. It is the

misfortune of your Majesty, it is the misfortune and grief of your People, to have a Grand Council and a Representative under an undue and dangerous influence—an influence which, though procured by your Ministers, is dangerous to your Majesty, by deceiving you; and to your People, by betraying them.

In such a situation your petitioners are bound to declare to your Majesty, that they cannot and will not sit unconcerned; that they will exert themselves, at every hazard, to bring those who have advised these ruinous measures, to the justice of this Country, and of the much injured Colonies.

We have already signified our persuasion, that these evils originate in the secret advice of those who are equally enemies to your Majesty's title, and to the rights of your People. Your petitioners are now compelled to say, that your Throne is surrounded by men avowedly inimical to those principles on which your Majesty possesses the Crown, and this people their liberties. At a time of such difficulty and danger, publick confidence is essential to your Majesty's repose, and to the preservation of your People. Such confidence cannot be obtained by Ministers and advisers who want wisdom, and hold principles incompatible with freedom; nor can any hope of relief be expected from a Parliament chosen under a national delusion insidiously raised, by misrepresentations touching the true state of *America*, and artfully embraced by a precipitate dissolution.

Your petitioners, therefore, again pray and beseech your Majesty to dismiss your present Ministers and advisers from your person and councils forever; to dissolve a Parliament who, by various acts of cruelty and injustice, have manifested a spirit of persecution against our brethren in *America*, and given their sanction to Popery and arbitrary power; to put your future confidence in Ministers whose known and unshaken attachment to the Constitution, joined to your wisdom and integrity, may enable your Majesty to settle this alarming dispute upon the sure, honourable, and lasting foundations of general liberty.

And a motion being made, and question put, to agree to the said Address, Remonstrance, and Petition, the same was resolved in the affirmative.

Signed by order:

Rix.

TO GENERAL GAGE.

Philadelphia, June 24, 1775.

I believe you were not by nature void of humanity or justice. I have even the charity to think, from what I have learned of your character, there was a portion of these cardinal qualities mixed up with your clay. But I know enough of the human heart to be thoroughly convinced that it is possible for a good man to be corrupted, and to become hardened against every honest, virtuous impulse.

Interest, that demon which is perpetually tempting the weakness of man, has prevailed over those conscientious feelings, and betrayed you into irreparable guilt.

Perhaps you may have had the consolatory view, when you accepted your present high command, of speedily, and without bloodshed, conciliating this Country to the desired state of vassalage, and by this means of quickly reaping the rich reward of your glorious villany. If this was your aim, how poignant must be the disappointment you have met with, and how merited the punishment in supposing yourself master of contingencies and director of events, which is the character of divinity itself: but if it be with you as I have represented, you are an instance of great cruelty and depravity of heart, for your intention was evidently to deprive three millions of people of their liberties, and to annihilate all right in property.

Whatever may have been your sentiments in the beginning, you have lately taken so destructive a part as to put both your friends and enemies out of all doubt in respect to your character. How happened it, that in the course of your letter-writing to Ministry, you never hazarded an important conjecture which was confirmed by any subsequent event? That of one week was regularly refuted by the experience of the next? Was it the weakness of your judgment that led you astray, or the desire of flattering the



views of an abandoned Administration? If it was the first, you ought never to venture another, but confine yourself to past events and the facts of the day; if the latter, you must now be convinced, by what has already happened, of the dreadful consequences which may flow from so vile a prostitution of your integrity.

I shall now take leave to recapitulate some parts of your conduct, in order that it may be placed in a true point of light with the ignorant and uninformed.

On the nineteenth day of *April* you sent a considerable part of your Army from *Boston* to destroy a supposed magazine at *Concord*. They landed early in the morning, and marched into the Country with all that overweening boastful presumption peculiar to young troops, ignorant of real service. Adding insult to misfortune, they paraded on their way to the sound of musick. Full of the idea of the fame and honour to be acquired in that memorable expedition, they treated their supposed weak and defenceless enemy with scorn and derision.

But what happened! According to your own relation of that woful and eventful day, this holiday humour did not last long. The same sun saw their offence and punishment. Terror and dismay, inspired by a few opponents, seized upon the invincible host; they fled with a lucky and almost miraculous precipitancy back again to *Boston*.

But in the tale you tell of this unfortunate maiden enterprise, you are accused of want of candour, indeed of misrepresentation of facts. You say, in your circular letters to the several Governours to whom you have written, that the people fired first: if they did, it reflects the highest honour on their courage. They were but a handful to encounter so great a number. But although I have the highest opinion of their spirit and resolution, it requires no uncommon share of faith to credit this assertion; it is against probability, it is in the face of the most specifick and direct testimony of a great variety of persons.

If the information I have received is well founded, your orders were at that time the same as when you left *Britain*—not to strike the first blow. If this is the case, the cause of this contrariety in the evidence of the Country and the Army is sufficiently obvious; for it is as essential, perhaps, for the officer who commanded the Troops that fired first on the people to justify himself to you, as it is for you to vindicate your conduct to your superiours. Here is a combination of personal and particular interests to support the fact alleged in your behalf, independent of general reasons. Upon a fair and impartial state of the account, then, I cannot perceive that this motive for misrepresentation has one answerable to it on the part of the Country. If Lord *Mansfield* himself was to give his opinion on the reason of the case, I think I could predict it would be unfavourable to you.

But the intentional inaccuracy of that part of your letters which gives an account of the loss your Troops sustained in the action, is truly matter worthy of observation.

Your letter, calculated, as one would suppose, for the information of the Representatives of the Crown, says, that more than fifty were killed in the action; how many more, may it please your Excellency? Fifty more, sixty, or seventy? Why did you thus leave them to the uncertainty of guess and conjecture, when, from the returns of your officers, the loss must appear with the greatest exactness?

But, Sir, you are not only charged with the meanness of artifice, but an open violation of your word. The times are now so critically important as to require all the boldness and plainness of truth; in doing you all the justice you merit, I am under the necessity of touching the honour of your character.

When the miserable inhabitants of that Town which had been so long, and is to this day suffering under the weight of ministerial vengeance, applied to you for permission to leave it with their goods or effects, you gave your assent in the presence and hearing of many of your officers and several private gentlemen, and formally pledged your word, too, for the faithful performance: and what was the result of this business? You not only shamefully qualified the Province, by obliging the poorest fellow that went out to pay his eleemosynary dollar to your Secretary for a permit, but you did more: repenting of that part of your solemn engagement which related to the transporting of the goods or effects of the inhabitants, you submitted your Honour on

that head to a prostitute lawyer, who, very consistently, gave it as his opinion, that effects meant nothing more than wearing apparel and household furniture; that it did not include moveables in general. It was upon this wretched quibble you refused to let the inhabitants carry away all their effects with them.

I have always been taught to believe the Army is the school of honour. In this school you were educated and nurtured: but I suspect you were an untoward boy, and that the principles inculcated upon you made little or no impression; otherwise you never would, as a gentleman, have consented to submit the plain obvious meaning of your words to the interpretation of a contemptible, paltry retailer of quirks and quibbles. You spoke in that business as a gentleman; and if you had need to explain yourself in respect to a word of doubtful import, you should have consulted *Johnson's Dictionary*. This would have been a gentleman-like authority.

It requires a considerable degree of acuteness and sagacity in him who is about to do an unwarrantable or an unjust act, to estimate the quantum of moral turpitude and guilt contained in it. For it is not only the portion of it involved in the first view of the crime such an one has to consider, but the consequences which will flow from the act. You prohibited the inhabitants of *Boston* from carrying out their effects, in the manner I have mentioned; in consequence of which several families have been ruined by the late fire. It is true, you could not foresee the accident; but, nevertheless, the loss sustained by the owners of the goods has happened in consequence of the violation of your word: for if you had adhered to it, the owners of the merchandise would have removed it, and thereby have prevented the calamity which has befallen them.

I have but a word or two more for you, by way of advice. If you are still determined to act in the *Swiss* character you have assumed, at least let your conduct savour of that sort of honour which even a *Swiss* holds high.

VERUS.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 24, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By order of the Congress I enclose you certain Resolves, passed yesterday, respecting those who were concerned in taking and garrisoning *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*. As the Congress are of opinion that the employing the *Green Mountain Boys* in the *American* Army would be advantageous to the common cause, as well on account of their situation as of their disposition and alertness, they are desirous you should embody them among the Troops you shall raise. As it is represented to the Congress that they will not serve under any officers but such as they themselves choose, you are desired to consult with General *Schuyler*, in whom the Congress are informed those people place a great confidence, about the field officers to be set over them.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Members of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

FIELD OFFICERS APPOINTED FOR THE THREE BATTALIONS OF THE PHILADELPHIA MILITIA.

First Battalion: *John Dickenson*, Esq., Colonel; *John Chevalier*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jacob Morgan* and *William Coats*, Majors.

Second Battalion: *Daniel Roberdeau*, Esq., Colonel; *Joseph Reed*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; Doctor *John Cox* and *John Bayard*, Majors.

Third Battalion: *John Cadwallader*, Colonel; *John Nixon*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Mifflin* and *Samuel Meredith*, Esquires, Majors.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, June 24, 1775.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That if any Pilot, Shallopman, or others, shall be found assisting in the conveyance or introduction of Goods or Merchandise, contrary to the Association of the late Congress, or in receiving on shore or unloading from any vessel any goods which may have been ordered out of the Port, such persons shall be deemed



enemies to the liberties of *America*, and will be held forth to the resentment of the publick. And if any person, privy to such measures, will disclose them, they shall receive the thanks of the Committee as real friends to their Country. Extract from the Minutes:

J. B. SMITH, *Secretary*.

BURLINGTON COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the General Committee of Observation for the County of *Burlington*, in the Province of *New-Jersey*, at the house of *John Imlay*, in the Township of *Mansfield*, June 24, 1775:

The Deputies appointed for the County of *Burlington* to attend a Provincial Congress at *Trenton*, in *May* last, laid before the Committee an Association, recommended by that body to the good people of this Province; as also certain Rules for regulating the new-raised Militia, and a recommendation to raise the sum of Ten Thousand Pounds for the use of the Province at this very critical situation of publick affairs.

The Committee taking the said Papers into consideration, after some time spent thereon, it was, on motion,

*Resolved*, 1st. That this Committee do heartily approve of said Association, conceiving it to be of the utmost importance towards the future well-being of this County, that the Magistrates, and other civil officers of Government, should be supported in the due execution of their respective offices, agreeable to the laws of this Colony; and that the good people of this County do make use of every means in their power to guard against those disorders and confusions, to which the peculiar circumstances of the times may expose us.

*Resolved*, 2d. That as unanimity amongst all ranks of people, in a virtuous opposition to the oppressive measures of the *British* Ministry and Parliament, is the alone foundation whereon we can hope, under Providence, for a deliverance from our present grievances, it is most earnestly recommended and enjoined by this Committee to the good people of the County of *Burlington*, that no person or persons, on any pretence whatsoever, do attempt in the least degree to injure or molest his or their neighbour, for any supposed imposition or misconduct that they may have been guilty of on account of the present calamitous times, that is not cognizable by the laws of the Province; but that he or they do exhibit their complaint against such person or persons before some member of this Committee, who is hereby required to lay the same before the Chairman, and desire a general meeting of the Committee, in order that each party may have a fair hearing.

*Resolved*, 3d. That any person or persons in this County, who shall act contrary to the above mode of proceeding, ought to be deemed a violator of the eleventh article of the Continental Association, inimical to the *British* Constitution, and unfriendly to the liberties of *America*.

*Resolved*, 4th. That this Committee do approve of the Rules recommended by the Provincial Congress, for the good Government of the new-raised Militia, and desire that the respective military officers in this County will conduct themselves consistent therewith.

*Resolved*, 5th. That this Committee do approve of the recommendation of the Provincial Congress to raise the sum of Ten Thousand Pounds for the use of the Province at this most critical and important moment, recommending it to the good people of this County cheerfully to contribute their apportionment of the same; and as the Provincial Congress have ordered the said money to be disposed of by the respective County Committee, in such manner as they in their discretion shall think most proper, this Committee doth, in consequence thereof, most solemnly assure their constituents that whatever money may be lodged in their hands, or in the hands of the collector, shall be faithfully disposed of according as they may think most beneficial for the service of the County, and purposes intended by the Provincial Congress; and that, whenever the publick shall desire it, they will cheerfully render a true and proper account of their proceedings and disbursements, that every member of the community may know that his contribution has not been embezzled or wasted.

Signed by order of the Committee:

PETER TALLMAN, *Chairman*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-Brunswick, June 24, 1775.

SIR: General *Washington*, with his retinue, is now here, and proposes to be at *Newark* by nine to-morrow morning. The situation of the men-of-war at *New-York* (we are informed) is such as may make it necessary that some precaution should be taken in crossing *Hudson's* River, and he would take it as a favour if some gentlemen of your body would meet him to-morrow at *Newark*, as the advice you may there give him will determine whether he will continue his proposed route or not.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President of the *New-York* Congress.

JOHN HART, JUNIOR, TO DR. CARRINGTON.

Stamford, June 25, 1775.

SIR: I had the good fortune this morning of intercepting the following letter, which a regard to my Country induced me to transcribe for your Honour's perusal; and I am, Sir, yours,

JOHN HART, JUN.

To Doctor *Carrington*.

P. S. Doctor *Whiting* will discover how this letter was intercepted.

New-York, June 19, 1775.

SIR: The Republicans, by their *Oliverian*, *Jesuitical*, and wicked practices and plots, have at length brought this Country nigh to ruin; and his most gracious Majesty's true friends are plunged into a situation I do not very well like. I tremble for the consequences; it is what I never expected. But, Sir, if I may use a vulgar expression, we had as good be hanged for an old sheep as a lamb. Many of the friends to Government have been rewarded with pensions and places, and doubt not but that you will make one of that number if you persevere and continue to be as faithful as you have been. The insults of the vulgar I know you despise.

Self-preservation has dictated to us a piece of policy which it may be well for you to practise. We at present are all Whigs, and by our nominal profession, mean to conceal our real principles and intentions, and abate the fiery zeal of the pretended patriots and lovers of their Country (as they falsely style themselves) until the arrival of the King's Troops, which we hourly expect, and have been promised by our friends at home, which will give us an opportunity boldly to throw off the mask, and to act vigorously in support of the rightful authority of His Majesty and the Parliament of *Great Britain* over as wicked and vile a brood of rebels as ever disgraced any country under Heaven; then shall we enjoy our day of triumph and exultation over the vermin that have insulted, persecuted, and derided us. Here will be a place of safety, an asylum for you to fly to, and find safety in case the storm should increase around and threaten you with destruction. Here would I invite you with all your good friends; for I make no doubt but the King's Troops will repel your cowardly base *Connecticut* poltrons, the rebel Army, and slaughter them by hundreds if ever they should be so imprudent as to risk a battle with disciplined, experienced, and regular troops.

*McDonald* being seized and sent to your army of saints, at *Greenwich*, gives me not a little anxiety. I hear he has made some discovery, and I fear he will be compelled to make more by the rebels, unless we rescue him seasonably, which we have in view. The first of *July*, at midnight, is the time appointed for his deliverance. If you can procure ten or twelve of the lower sort of those you know to be well affected to Government, in such manner as to keep yourself under cover, we will send about as many more to meet them, at the jail in *Fairfield*, where I understand he is.

A word to the wise is sufficient. My hand writing you know; I shall not therefore affix my name. I have taken such a method to convey this that I think there is no danger of its being intercepted.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,

INCOG.

P. S. If you send negroes, they will do, as they are well affected to our cause.



EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A MERCHANT IN BOSTON TO HIS BROTHER IN SCOTLAND, DATED JUNE 24, 1775.

From the 19th of *April* to the 17th of *June*, nothing very material has happened. On the 12th of *June* the General issued a Proclamation, offering His Majesty's most gracious pardon to all who would lay down arms and return to their duty, except two of the ringleaders; and likewise establishing martial law in this Province while this unnatural rebellion exists; but no regard was paid to this.

On the 17th instant, at daylight, it was observed by some of the ships-of-war that the rebels had thrown up an intrenchment on a hill on the other side of the river, about one mile from this Town. The alarm about this new movement of theirs was general; for from this, if they were suffered to go on, they could beat down or burn the Town. At nine o'clock, a battery on an eminence in this Town, directly opposite to their works, began to play upon them, but found they could not dislodge them.

The rebels fired a few shot into this Town, and then desisted, for their shot did no execution. Eighteen hundred of the best of the Troops were immediately ordered to embark on board of boats, and go and engage them, under the command of General *Howe*. About three o'clock they landed on the other side about half a mile from the rebels, under the cover of five or six ships-of-war, who kept a continual fire on the ground betwixt the place of landing and the enemy, who chose to lie close in their breastworks all this time. As soon as the Troops had got themselves in order they began to advance, cannonading all the way till they came within gun-shot. *Charlestown*, on the foot of the hill, consisting of about two hundred houses, was set on fire by the fort on this side at the instant the engagement began, whose flames raged in the most rapid manner, being chiefly of wood. Sure I am nothing ever has or can be more dreadfully terrible than what was to be seen and heard at this time! The most incessant discharge of guns that ever was heard with mortal ears, continued for three quarters of an hour, and then the Troops forced their trenches, and the rebels fled.

The place where the battle was fought is a peninsula of a mile long, and a half broad, and the Troops drove them over the neck and kept the island. All this was seen from this Town.

A very small part of the enemy's intrenchments was seen on this side, it being only thought to be the work of a night; but their chief breastworks were on the other side of the hill; it was found to be the strongest post that was ever occupied by any set of men, and the prisoners that were taken, say they were nine thousand strong, and had a good artillery. Five cannons were taken. The spirit and bravery that the *British* Troops exhibited on this occasion, I suppose is not to be surpassed in any history! But oh! the melancholy sight of killed and wounded that was seen on that day! In four hours after their landing, not less than five hundred wounded were relanded here, and one hundred and forty were left dead on the field, amongst whom was a large proportion of brave officers, viz: thirty-six killed and forty-four wounded; three hundred of the rebels were killed, and thirty-six wounded left on the field, but they carried off great numbers of their wounded in their retreat. To the great satisfaction of all good men, Doctor *Warren* was slain, who was one of their first and greatest leaders.

Early next morning I went over and saw the field of battle, before any of the dead were buried, which was the first thing of the sort that I ever saw, and I pray *God* I may never have the opportunity of seeing the like again. The rebels are employed since that day fortifying all the hills and passes within four miles, to prevent the Troops from advancing into the country. We hourly expect the Troops to make a movement against them, but they are too few in number, not less than twenty thousand being equal to the task. I cannot help mentioning one thing, which serves to show the hellish disposition of the accursed rebels: by parcels of ammunition that were left on the field, their balls were all found to be poisoned.

Thus, brother, I have endeavoured to give you a short account of the desperate state of matters here since my last, and shall sum up the whole with one single observation, viz: the delusion that reigns here is as universal and as deeply rooted as can be found in the annals of mankind;

and of all other rebellions that ever existed in the world, it is the most unprovoked. I am, &c.

ORDER FOR A PUBLIC FAST BY THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 24, 1775.

Whereas *Almighty God*, the just, good, and all-wise Governour of the Universe, hath permitted *Great Britain* to make an unnatural, cruel, and violent attack upon these *American* Colonies, and, unprovoked, to murder, on the ever-memorable 19th of *April* last, many of the innocent, brave, and inoffensive inhabitants of this Colony, burning houses, destroying the private property, and carrying ruin and devastation through the country where they passed, until they were obliged to take shelter in the Town of *Boston*; since which the Troops under General *Gage* have not only shed the blood of many of our countrymen, who fell bravely fighting on the 17th instant, but have acted the part of savage incendiaries, by laying in ashes the Town of *Charlestown* in this Colony: And whereas some late oppressive Acts of the *British* Parliament, and designed by them soon to be enforced upon the *Americans*; and as large re-enforcements of Troops are arrived and arriving to join our enemies in *Boston*, which will probably induce them to make another trial of military prowess to penetrate into the country; and we being deeply impressed with a sense of our absolute dependance upon the *Lord* of Hosts and *God* of Armies for success in this important war, into which we are driven by our enemies, renounce all confidence in our own strength, well knowing that the battle is not the strong; relying upon the justice of our cause, and the Divine protection and assistance therein:

Do *Resolve*, That *Thursday*, the 13th day of *July* next, be observed throughout this Colony as a day of publick Fasting and Prayer, not only to humble ourselves before *God*, on account of our many sins; to implore his forgiveness; to beg his blessing upon the labours of the field, that he would be pleased to water the dry and thirsty earth with plenteous showers of rain, that the poor may be satisfied with bread, and that this year be crowned with goodness; to ask his blessing upon the various means used for the recovery and preservation of our rights; humbly to request that our Congress, those of the other Colonies, and especially the *American* Congress, be inspired with all that wisdom that is necessary to direct them in this day of difficulty and distress; to petition the assistance of his Spirit, to make us to bear and suffer whatever his holy and righteous Providence may see fit to lay upon us; but earnestly to beseech the Divine direction and assistance in our military operations, and that *God* would be pleased soon, very soon, to bring our enemies to reasonable terms of accommodation, that not only a stop may be put to the wanton effusion of human blood, but that *Great Britain* and these Colonies may speedily again rejoice in the inestimable blessings of peace, and the free and undisturbed exercise of all those rights, liberties, and privileges, civil and religious, for the enjoyment of which our pious and venerable ancestors braved every danger, (by which they have rendered their memory dear to us, their posterity,) and set an example worthy the imitation of all succeeding generations. And all religious societies of every denomination are hereby desired to observe and keep said day in that solemn and religious manner that becomes a people whose all is at stake; who, while they are, with unremitting vigilance, using those means for the salvation of their Country which human wisdom point out, yet feel their absolute dependance upon Him who superintends all the affairs of men, and will make the cause of the righteous to prevail.

GENERAL WARD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Cambridge, June 24, 1775.

SIR: I am informed that Lieutenant *Francis Cox*, of Captain *Richardson's* Company, in Colonel *Mansfield's* Regiment, has deserted and left the service, and has carried away a number of enlistments, and told the same men they might go home, that no one had a right to stop them, although they were mustered, sworn, and paid. Many of the men are gone, and it is probable others will go.

Considering the present state of the Army, I would humbly suggest whether it would not be advisable for the



honourable Congress to take some order respecting Lieutenant *Cox* and the said men, and make a publick example of him, if not of them. I am your humble servant, in great haste,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To Hon. James Warren, Esq.

P. S. Lieutenant *Cox* lives in *Salem*.

GEN. FOLSOM TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Camp on Winter Hill, June 24, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The *New-Hampshire* Troops being stationed at a very important post on the outlines, and exposed to the enemy's batteries, I yesterday applied to his Excellency General *Ward* for heavy artillery, but he could not supply me with any. I have this moment received a line from him, wherein he requests me to apply to the Colony of *New-Hampshire* for two twenty-four and two nine-pounders, to be forwarded with all possible despatch.

I therefore, under the greatest anxiety for the safety of our Troops, earnestly entreat you to send the above mentioned cannon as soon as possible, fitted with carriages, as we hourly expect the enemy will attempt to force our lines before we have fully completed the intrenchments, which are in considerable forwardness, and some of the embrasures completed, but have no cannon to mount in them. No other cannon are suitable for the purpose.

By complying with the above request, you will, in all probability, save the lives of many of your brave soldiers, who have gallantly ventured their lives in the glorious common cause, suffered the greatest fatigues and hardships, and are now exposed where it is expected by the Engineers that the enemy will endeavour to force our lines.

And also oblige your humble servant,

NATHANIEL FOLSOM.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

N. B. If nine-pounders can't be procured, I should be glad to be supplied with two double fortified six-pounders.

JAMES MCGREGORE TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Medford, June 24, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed I send you a memorandum of sundry articles that the General thinks is very much wanted here for the use of the *New-Hampshire* forces; and should be glad, if you think best, that the horses may be forwarded here as soon as may be, as there is scarcely any such thing as getting teams here, and likewise carriages with them. Salt provision is very scarce here, but we have been well supplied hitherto.

Colonel *Hale* has gone to *Connecticut* to forward provision; Mr. *Molton* is to follow him with cash. The men are very uneasy for want of a month's pay that was proposed to be given them. I hope you will forward it as soon as possible, and likewise some cash to me, as I am left here, and many people calling on me, which is sufficient to put a man of my patience almost distracted. I always shall obey your directions with pleasure.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JAMES MCGREGORE.

PROPOSED VINDICATION AND OFFER TO PARLIAMENT,  
DRAWN UP IN A COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS, JUNE 25,  
1775.

Forasmuch as the enemies of *America* in the Parliament of *Great Britain*, to render us odious to the Nation, and give an ill impression of us in the minds of other *European* Powers, have represented us as unjust and ungrateful in the highest degree; asserting on every occasion that the Colonies were settled at the expense of *Britain*; that they were, at the expense of the same, protected in their infancy; that they now ungratefully and unjustly refuse to contribute to their own protection, and the common defence of the Nation; that they aim at independence; that they intend an abolition of the Navigation Acts; and that they are fraudulent in their commercial dealings, and propose to cheat their creditors in *Britain* by avoiding the payment of their just debts:

And as by frequent repetition these groundless assertions and malicious calumnies may, if not contradicted and

refuted, obtain farther credit, and be injurious throughout *Europe* to the reputation and interest of the Confederate Colonies, it seems proper and necessary to examine them in our own just vindication.

With regard to the first, that the Colonies were settled at the expense of *Britain*, it is a known fact that none of the twelve United Colonies were settled, or even discovered, at the expense of *England*. *Henry* the Seventh indeed granted a commission to *Sebastian Cabot*, a *Venetian*, and his sons, to sail into the Western Seas for the discovery of new countries; but it was to be " *suis eorum propriis sumptibus et expensis*," at their own costs and charges. They discovered, but soon slighted and neglected, these Northern Territories, which were, after more than a hundred years dereliction, purchased of the natives, and settled at the charge and by the labour of private men and bodies of men, our ancestors, who came over hither for that purpose. But our adversaries have never been able to produce any record, that ever the Parliament or Government of *England* was at the smallest expense on these accounts; on the contrary, there exists on the Journals of Parliament a solemn declaration in 1642, (only twenty-two years after the first settlement of the *Massachusetts*, when, if such expense had ever been incurred, some of the members must have known and remembered it,) "that these Colonies had been planted and established without any expense to the State."\* *New-York* is the only Colony, in the founding of which *England* can pretend to have been at any expense, and that was only the charge of a small armament to take it from the *Dutch*, who planted it. But to retain this Colony at the peace, another at that time full as valuable, planted by private countrymen of ours, was given up by the Crown to the *Dutch*, in exchange, viz: *Surinam*, now a wealthy sugar Colony in *Guiana*, and which, but for that cession, might still have remained in our possession. Of late, indeed, *Britain* has been at some expense in planting two Colonies—*Georgia* and *Nova-Scotia*; but those are not in our confederacy, and the expense she has been at in their name has chiefly been in grants of sums unnecessarily large, by way of salaries to officers sent from *England*, and in jobs to friends, whereby dependants might be provided for, those excessive grants not being requisite to the welfare and good government of the Colonies; which good government (as experience in many instances of other Colonies has taught us) may be much more frugally, and full as effectually, provided for and supported.

With regard to the second assertion, that these Colonies were protected in their infant state by *England*, it is a notorious fact, that in none of the many wars with the *Indian* natives, sustained by our infant settlements for a century after our first arrival, were ever any troops or forces of any kind sent from *England* to assist us; nor were any forts built at her expense to secure our seaports from foreign invaders; nor any ships-of-war sent to protect our trade, till many years after our first settlement, when our commerce became an object of revenue, or of advantage to *British* merchants; and then it was thought necessary to have a frigate in some of our ports, during peace, to give weight to the authority of Custom-House Officers, who were to restrain that commerce for the benefit of *England*. Our own arms, with our poverty, and the care of a kind Providence, were all this time our only protection; while we were neglected by the *English* Government, which either thought us not worth its care, or, having no good will to some of us, on account of our different sentiments in religion and politicks, were indifferent what became of us. On the other hand, the Colonies have not been wanting to do what they could in every war for annoying the enemies of *Britain*. They formerly assisted her in the conquest of *Nova-Scotia*. In the war before last, they took *Louisbourg*, and put it into her hands. She made her peace with that strong fortress, by restoring it to *France*, greatly to their detriment. In the last war, it is true, *Britain* sent a fleet and army, who acted with an equal army of ours, in the reduction of *Canada*; and, perhaps, thereby did more for us, than we, in the preceding wars, had done for

\**VENERIS, March 10, 1642.*—Whereas the Plantations in *New-England* have, by the blessing of the Almighty, had good and prosperous success, without any publick charge to this State, and are now likely to prove very happy for the propagation of the gospel in those parts, and very beneficial and commodious to this Kingdom and Nation: the Commons now assembled in Parliament, &c., &c., &c.



her. Let it be remembered, however, that she rejected the plan we formed in the Congress at *Albany*, in 1754, for our own defence, by an union of the Colonies—an union she was jealous of, and therefore chose to send her own forces; otherwise, her aid, to protect us, was not wanted. And from our first settlement to that time, her military operations in our favour were small, compared with the advantages she drew from her exclusive commerce with us. We are, however, willing to give full weight to this obligation; and as we are daily growing stronger, and our assistance to her becomes of more importance, we would, with pleasure, embrace the first opportunity of showing our gratitude, by returning the favour in kind. But when *Britain* values herself as affording us protection, we desire it may be considered that we have followed her in all her wars, and joined with her, at our own expense, against all she thought fit to quarrel with. This she has required of us, and would never permit us to keep peace with any Power she declared her enemy; though, by separate treaties, we might well have done it. Under such circumstances, when at her instance we made nations our enemies whom we might otherwise have retained our friends, we submit it to the common sense of mankind, whether her protection of us in these wars was not our just due, and to be claimed of right, instead of being received as a favour? And whether, when all the parts of an Empire exert themselves to the utmost in their common defence, and in annoying the common enemy, it is not as well the parts that protect the whole, as the whole that protects the parts? The protection, then, has been proportionably mutual. And whenever the time shall come that our abilities may as far exceed hers as hers have exceeded ours, we hope we shall be reasonable enough to rest satisfied with her proportionable exertions, and not think we do too much for a part of the Empire, when that part does as much as it can for the whole.

The charge against us, that we refuse to contribute to our own protection, appears from the above to be groundless. But we further declare it to be absolutely false; for it is well known, that we ever held it our duty to grant aids to the Crown, upon requisition, towards carrying on its wars; which duty we have cheerfully complied with, to the utmost of our abilities; insomuch that frequent and grateful acknowledgments thereof by King and Parliament appear on their records.\* But as *Britain* has enjoyed a most gainful monopoly of our commerce, the same, with our maintaining the dignity of the King's representative in each Colony, and all our own separate establishments of Government, civil and military, has ever hitherto been deemed an equivalent for such aids as might otherwise be expected from us in time of peace. And we hereby declare, that on a reconciliation with *Britain*, we shall not only continue to grant aids in time of war, as aforesaid, but whenever she shall think fit to abolish her monopoly, and give us the same privileges of trade as *Scotland* received at the union, and allow us a free commerce with all the rest of the world, we shall willingly agree (and we doubt not it will be ratified by our constituents) to give and pay into the Sinking Fund £100,000 sterling per annum, for the term of one hundred years; which duly, faithfully and inviolably applied to that purpose, is demonstrably more than sufficient to extinguish all her present national debt, since it will in that time amount, at legal *British* interest, to more than £230,000,000.

But if *Britain* does not think fit to accept this proposition, we, in order to remove her groundless jealousies that we aim at independence, and an abolition of the Navigation Act, (which hath in truth never been our intention,) and to avoid all future disputes about the right of making that and other acts for regulating our Commerce, do hereby declare ourselves ready and willing to enter into a covenant with *Britain*, that she shall fully possess, enjoy, and exercise that right for a hundred years to come; the same being *bona fide* used for the common benefit. And in case of such agreement, that every Assembly be advised by us to confirm it solemnly by laws of their own, which once made cannot be repealed without the assent of the Crown.

\* Journals of the House of Commons, on the 4th of April, 1748; 28th January, 1756; 3d February, 1756; 16th and 19th of May, 1757; 1st of June, 1758; 26th and 30th of April, 1759; 26th and 31st of March, and 28th of April, 1760; 9th and 20th of January, 1761; 22d and 26th of January, 1762; and 14th and 17th of March, 1763.

The last charge, that we are dishonest traders, and aim at defrauding our creditors in *Britain*, is sufficiently and authentically refuted by the solemn declarations of the *British* merchants to Parliament, (both at the time of the Stamp Act, and in the last session,) who bore ample testimony to the general good faith and fair dealing of the *Americans*, and declared their confidence in our integrity; for which we refer to their petitions on the Journals of the House of Commons. And we presume we may safely call on the body of the *British* tradesmen, who have had experience of both, to say, whether they have not received much more punctual payment from us than they generally have from the members of their own two Houses of Parliament.

On the whole of the above, it appears that the charge of ingratitude towards the Mother Country, brought with so much confidence against the Colonies, is totally without foundation; and that there is much more reason for retorting that charge on *Britain*, who not only never contributes any aid, nor affords, by an exclusive commerce, any advantages to *Saxony*, her mother country; but no longer since than in the last war, without the least provocation, subsidized the King of *Prussia* while he ravaged that mother country, and carried fire and sword into its capital, the fine City of *Dresden*—an example we hope no provocation will induce us to imitate.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO CONGRESS.

New-York, Sunday, June 25, 1775, }  
Five o'clock, P. M. }

SIR: Upon my arrival here this afternoon, I was informed that an express was in Town from the Provincial camp in *Massachusetts-Bay*; and having seen, among other papers in his possession, a letter directed to you as President of the Congress, I have taken the liberty to open it. I was induced to take that liberty by several gentlemen of *New-York*, who were anxious to know the particulars of the affair of the 17th instant, and agreeable to the orders of many members of the Congress, who judged it necessary that I should avail myself of the best information in the course of my journey.

You will find, Sir, by that letter, a great want of powder in the Provincial Army, which I sincerely hope the Congress will supply as speedily and as effectually as in their power. One thousand pounds in weight were sent to the camp at *Cambridge*, three days ago, from this City, which has left this place almost destitute of that necessary article, there being at this time, from the best information, not more than four barrels of powder in the City of *New-York*.

I purpose to set off for the Provincial camp to-morrow, and will use all possible despatch to join the forces there.

Please to make my compliments to the gentlemen of the Congress, and believe me to be, Sir, your obliged friend and obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

The Hon. John Hancock, Esq., President of the American Congress.

New-York, June 25, 1775.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United American Colonies:

To PHILIP SCHUYLER, Esquire, Major-General in the said Army:

SIR: You are to take upon you the command of all the Troops destined for the *New-York* Department, and see that the orders of the Continental Congress are carried into execution with as much precision and exactness as possible. For your better government therein, you are herewith furnished with a copy of the instructions given to me by that honourable body. Such parts thereof as are within the line of your duty, you will please to pay particular attention to. Delay no time in occupying the several posts recommended by the Provincial Congress of this Colony, and putting them in a fit posture to answer the end designed. Neither delay any time in securing the stores which are or ought to have been removed from this City by order of the Continental Congress. Keep a watchful eye upon Governour Tryon; and if you find him attempting, directly or indirectly, any measures inimical to the common cause, use every means in your power to frustrate his designs. It is not in my power at this time to



point out the mode by which this end is to be accomplished; but if forcible measures are judged necessary, (respecting the person of the Governour,) I should have no difficulty in ordering them if the Continental Congress were not sitting; but as this is the case, and the seizing of a Governour quite a new thing, and of exceeding great importance, I must refer you to that body for direction, in case the Governour should make any move towards increasing the strength of the Tory party, or in arming them against the cause we are embarked in. In like manner watch the movements of the *Indian Agent*, (Colonel *Guy Johnson*,) and prevent, as far as you can, the effect of his influence to our prejudice with the *Indians*. Obtain the best information you can of the temper and disposition of those people, and also of the *Canadians*, that a proper line may be marked out to conciliate their good opinion, or facilitate any future operation.

The posts on *Lake Champlain*, &c., you will please to have properly supplied with provisions and ammunition; and this, I am persuaded, you will aim at doing on the best terms, to prevent our good cause from sinking under a heavy load of expense.

You will be pleased, also, to make regular returns to me once a month, and to the Continental Congress, and oftener, as occurrences may require, of the forces under your command, of your provisions, stores, &c., and give me the earliest advices of every piece of intelligence which you shall judge of importance to be speedily known. Your own good sense must govern in all matters not pointed out, as I do not wish to circumscribe you within narrow limits.

I remain, with great regard, Sir, your most obedient servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO CONGRESS.

New-York, June 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The rain on *Friday* afternoon and *Saturday*, the advice of several gentlemen of the *Jerseys* and this City, by no means to cross *Hudson's River* at the lower ferry, and some other circumstances too trivial to mention, which happened on the road, prevented my arrival at this place until the afternoon of this day.

In the morning, after giving General *Schuyler* such orders as, from the result of my inquiry into matters here, appear necessary, I shall set out on my journey to the camp at *Boston*, and shall proceed with all the despatch in my power.

Powder is so essential an article, that I cannot help again repeating the necessity of a supply. The camp at *Boston*, from the best account I can get from thence, is but very poorly supplied. At this place they have scarce any. How they are provided in General *Wooster's* camp, I have not been able yet to learn.

Governour *Tryon* is arrived, and General *Schuyler* directed to advise you of the line of conduct he moves in. I fear it will not be very favourable to the *American* cause.

I have only to add, that I am, with great respect and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient and obliged humble servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., and the Hon. Members of the Continental Congress.

Ticonderoga, June 25, 1775.

MR. HOLT: The following erroneous account of the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, was published in Mr. *Thomas's Oracle of Liberty*, the 24th of *May* last; and as the writer of the account which follows it had no opportunity of seeing it till very lately, he being up at the forts ever since they were taken, he could not contradict it sooner. I beg, therefore, you will republish it in your next journal, together with the account that follows it, which may be depended on. I am, yours, &c.

"Cambridge, May 18, 1775.

"Yesterday Colonel *Easton* arrived at the Provincial Congress in *Watertown*, from *Ticonderoga*, and brings the glorious news of the taking that place by the *American* forces, without the loss of a man, of which interesting event we have collected the following particulars, viz:

"Last *Tuesday* se'nnight, about two hundred and forty men, from *Connecticut* and this Province, under Colonel

*Allen* and Colonel *Easton*, arrived at the lake near *Ticonderoga*; eighty of them crossed it, and came to the fort about the dawn of day. The sentry was much surprised at seeing such a body of men, and snapped his piece at them; our men, however, rushed forward, seized and confined the sentry, pushed through the covered way, and all got safe upon the parade, while the garrison were sleeping in their beds. They immediately formed a hollow square, and gave three huzzas, which brought out the garrison, and an inconsiderable skirmish with cutlasses or bayonets ensued, in which a small number of the enemy received some wounds. The commanding officer soon came forth; Colonel *Easton* clapped him upon the shoulder, told him he was his prisoner, and demanded, in the name of *America*, an instant surrender of the fort, with all its contents, to the *American* forces. The officer was in great confusion, and expressed himself to this effect: Damn you, what—what does all this mean? Colonel *Easton* again told him that he and his garrison were prisoners. The officer said, that he hoped he should be treated with honour. Colonel *Easton* replied he should be treated with much more honour than our people had met with from the *British* Troops. The officer then said, he was all submission, and immediately ordered his soldiers to deliver up all the arms, in number about one hundred stands. As they gave up their arms, the prisoners were secured in the hollow square.

"The *American* forces having thus providentially got possession of this important fortress, found in it upwards of one hundred pieces of cannon, several mortars, and a considerable quantity of shot, stores, and some powder.

"After this acquisition, a detachment of our Troops was despatched to take possession of *Crown Point*, where there is a considerable number of cannon. Another detachment was sent to *Skenesborough*, where they took Major *Skene* and his family, with a number of soldiers, and several small pieces of cannon."

As the above account of the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, which, from its complexion, I suppose originated with that very modest gentleman (Colonel *Easton*) himself, is so replete with falsehood, and is so great an imposition on the publick, that I think it my duty, in order to undeceive the publick, and to do justice to modest merit, to give you a candid detail of the whole matter, for the truth of which I appeal to every officer and private who were present, which is as follows:

Some gentlemen arrived in the *New-Hampshire Grants* from *Connecticut*, with a design of seizing on the fortress of *Ticonderoga*; were there joined by a number of men, among whom were Colonels *Allen* and *Easton*; the former, with the assistance of Captain *Warner*, collected about one hundred and fifty men, with whom they marched to *Castletown*, twenty miles from *Ticonderoga*, where they left Colonel *Easton*, and proceeded ten miles towards *Shoreham*. The next day Colonel *Arnold* arrived at *Castletown* from *Cambridge*. Having concerted in a similar plan, and being commissioned by the *Massachusetts* Congress to raise a regiment, he proceeded on to the party under the command of Colonel *Allen*. When Colonel *Arnold* made known his commission, &c., it was voted by the officers present that he should take a joint command with Colonel *Allen*, (Colonel *Easton* not presuming to take any command.) When the party had marched to *Shoreham*, two miles on the lake below *Ticonderoga*, where they waited for batteaus to cross the lake, until midnight, and none arriving; Colonel *Arnold*, with much difficulty, persuaded about forty men to embark with him in a batteau accidentally taken there, and landed half a mile from the fort, and immediately sent back the batteau, which, by reason of a violent storm of wind and rain, did not return until break of day, with a small boat, and near fifty men in both. It was then proposed by some gentlemen to wait open day and the arrival of the remainder of the men, which amounted at that time to near one hundred. This Colonel *Arnold* strenuously opposed, and urged to storm the fort immediately, declaring he would enter it alone, if no man had courage enough to follow him. This had the desired effect; he, with Colonel *Allen*, headed the party, and proceeded directly to the fort. When they came within about ten yards of the gate, the sentry discovered them, and made a precipitate retreat. He was



pursued closely by Colonel *Arnold*, who was the first person that entered the fort, and Colonel *Allen* about five yards behind him. This I was an eye-witness of, being only a few yards distant. Colonel *Arnold* immediately ordered the men to secure the doors of the barracks, and went himself, with Colonel *Allen*, to the commanding officer, Captain *Delaplace*, and desired him to deliver up his arms, and he might expect to be treated like a gentleman; which he immediately complied with, as did the whole garrison.

I do not recollect seeing Colonel *Easton* until nine o'clock, and was told he was the last man that entered the fort, and that not till the soldiers and their arms were secured, he having concealed himself in an old barrack near the redoubt, under the pretence of wiping and drying his gun, which he said had got wet in crossing the lake; since which I have often heard Colonel *Easton*, in a base and cowardly manner, abuse Colonel *Arnold* behind his back, though always very complaisant before his face. Colonel *Arnold* was soon made acquainted with the liberty he had taken with his character; and upon his refusing to give proper satisfaction, I had the pleasure of seeing him heartily kicked by Colonel *Arnold*, to the great satisfaction of a number of gentlemen present, although he (*Easton*) was armed with a cutlass, and a pair of loaded pistols in his pocket. I am your humble servant,  
VERITAS.

Hartford, July 28, 1775.

Having by accident seen in a paper styled the *American Oracle*, of May 24, the paragraph relative to the taking *Ticonderoga* by one Colonel *Easton*; and being the commanding officer at that time, think I cannot, in justice to myself, do less than contradict the many particulars therein contained, knowing them to be totally void of truth. Indeed, I am quite at a loss to conjecture what could incline this same Colonel *Easton* to publish a conversation said to be had with me, except he, knowing that I was a prisoner, and restricted from giving any account at all of this affair, took the advantage of my situation, in order to answer his own purposes, at the total expense of his veracity; for I solemnly declare I never saw Colonel *Easton* at the time the fort was surprised, nor had he and I any conversation whatever relative thereto, then, or at any other time since.

WILLIAM DELAPLACE.

TO THE PRINTER.

The following is an address from the inhabitants upon Lake *Champlain*, to the worthy Colonel *Arnold*, of *New-Haven*, who, in *April* last, on the first alarm of the ravage and bloodshed committed by the Ministerial Troops at *Lexington*, &c., marched, with his company of Cadets, from *New-Haven* to the assistance of his bleeding countrymen.

On his march he concerted a plan for the reduction of the very important fortresses *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, which he first communicated to a member of the Committee of Correspondence for *Connecticut*, afterwards by letter to the Governour of *Connecticut*, and immediately after his arrival at *Cambridge* to the Provincial Congress and Committee of Safety. They approving his plan, and confiding in his judgment and fidelity, commissioned him to reduce the same, which, by his vigilance and prudence, he soon effected: and having also taken possession of the King's sloop and batteaus, which were at *St. John's*, secured the protection of all our frontiers in that quarter, and obtained the command, without the loss of one man, of an extent of country one hundred and sixty miles in length, which, in the last war, cost the *British* Nation two millions of money and two campaigns, under the command of some of the best *English* Generals, in which many thousand brave heroes fell. While we regret, and sensibly feel the loss of a *Warren*, and many other worthy men, in the present conflict, we have reason to rejoice that so many others, and among them an *Arnold*, are preserved to us, who are equally ready to risk their lives in defence of the rights and liberties of their country.

It appears that envy or self-interested views has created Colonel *Arnold* some enemies, who have, in his absence, artfully endeavoured to misrepresent his conduct, and give a blamable aspect to actions which, when fairly examined, will be found to merit the highest approbation of

his constituents and the publick, whose judgment, with respect to the reports to his prejudice, it is hoped will be suspended, till he can have an opportunity to vindicate his character.

A. B.

To BENEDICT ARNOLD, Esquire, Colonel of a MASSACHUSETTS Regiment, and Commander-in-Chief of an Expedition to Lake CHAMPLAIN, for taking the Fortresses on said Lake, and the armed vessel thereon, into the possession and protection of the AMERICAN Army.

We, the subscribers, the principal inhabitants on the said lake, in behalf of ourselves, and on behalf of all the inhabitants contiguous thereto, amounting in number to about six hundred families, deeply impressed with a sense of your merit, and the weighty obligations which we lie under to you in your military capacity, think it our duty to address you in this publick manner, to testify our gratitude and thankfulness for the uncommon vigilance, vigour, and spirit, with which you have achieved those important conquests, so essentially necessary for our preservation and safety from the threatened and much dreaded incursions of an inveterate enemy.

The humanity and benevolence which you have exercised towards the inhabitants of those parts most immediately affected by the present convulsions, by supplying them with provisions in their distress, render you no less worthy our admiration, than your tenderness and polite treatment of such prisoners as have fallen into your hands entitle you to the most favourable opinion of some of the regular officers, whose grateful sentiments thereon you have already received. So you are likewise, in a peculiar manner, entitled to our warmest thanks, since you have thereby, and by the proofs they have had of your prudence and valour, been the means of keeping our enemy and their scouting parties at a distance from us, to which your vigilance, in constantly employing such a number of boats on the north part of this lake, hath not a little contributed.

The humane and polite manner with which you treated your prisoners, insures to you the applause of all: you have thereby shown your adversaries a bright example of that elevation and generosity of soul, which nothing less than real magnanimity and innate virtue could inspire.

By your vigilance and good conduct, we have been, under Providence, preserved from the incursions and ravages of an enraged enemy, to whose declared vengeance we lay entirely exposed; and therefore we cannot help expressing our sorrow at the approaching period of your removal from us.

Convinced of your competency to the undertaking of protecting us, we cannot help lamenting our situation on the thoughts of losing you, being ignorant of the experience or abilities of the gentleman appointed to succeed you. We sincerely wish you rewards adequate to your merit, and are, with the utmost gratitude, regard, and esteem, Sir, your most obliged and most obedient servants.

[Signed by a number of the principal Inhabitants, on behalf of themselves and the rest.]

Lake Champlain, July 3, 1775.

To the very respectable Inhabitants on LAKE CHAMPLAIN:

GENTLEMEN: Permit me to return you my most hearty thanks for the polite and obliging address you have been pleased to present me this day, which, as it convinces me of your esteem and approbation of my conduct in a military capacity, is more than an adequate recompense for the poor services and protection I have been happy enough to render you, which both duty and humanity required of me. I am much pleased to have it in my power, in this publick manner, to return you my sincere thanks for your support, vigilance, and spirited conduct in the publick cause, and cannot help regretting the necessity I am under of leaving you so soon. I heartily wish you the protection of that kind Providence which has so remarkably interposed in your favour heretofore, and beg leave to assure you I shall, at all times, be happy in hearing of the welfare of all the inhabitants on Lake *Champlain*, but of my friends in particular; and am, with the greatest respect and esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

Crown Point, July 4, 1775.



THADDEUS BURR TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

Fairfield, June 25, 1775; 12 o'clock.

SIR: Captain *Jonathan Maltbie*, who went express from here last *Sabbath*, has this day returned from *Watertown*, which place he left last *Thursday*, at four o'clock, afternoon, and the intelligence brought by him being so direct, I thought it my duty to forward it to you, which is as follows, viz:

Copy of a letter from Mr. *Isaac Lothrop*, one of the Provincial Congress at *Watertown*.

"Watertown, June 22, 1775.

"Before this reaches you, you will doubtless hear of the engagement of last *Saturday*, between our Troops and those of the Army at *Boston*; but lest you should not be well informed, I will now undertake to give you as regular an account as can at present be obtained. Last *Friday* evening a detachment from the camp at *Cambridge* marched to *Charlestown*, and there took possession of *Breed's Hill*, about half a mile from the ferry; their intrenching tools not coming up in season, it was twelve o'clock before they began their works. As soon as daylight appeared they were discovered from *Boston*, when the men-of-war in the ferry, the battery from *Copp's Hill*, and the floating batteries, kept up a continual cannonading and bombarding, which fortunately did but little execution, although our intrenchments were very far from being completed. This continued till about two o'clock, when a large Army of between four and five thousand men, (as we since hear from *Boston*,) under the command of General *Howe*, landed on the back of the hill, and marched up with great seeming resolution towards our lines. Our men reserved their fire till the enemy had advanced very near, when a general engagement ensued. The fire from our lines was so excessively heavy, and made such a terrible slaughter, as obliged the enemy twice to give way, although many of their officers stood in the rear with their swords pointed at their backs, ready to run them through. Our men kept up a continual blaze upon them for about an hour, with such execution as is scarce credible. The enemy then came on the flanks, marched up, and forced their way over the ramparts with fixed bayonets, cutlasses, and hand-grenades, which obliged our little brave Army, consisting only of about five hundred men at most, to retreat.

"The Town of *Charlestown* was fired in various parts during the action, and is now consumed to a wretched heap of rubbish. I kept my ground at *Watertown*; but what with the thundering of cannon and small arms, the conflagration of *Charlestown*, the wagons and horse-litters, with the wounded men coming to the hospital in this Town, and the streaming of expresses to and fro, exhibited such an awful scene as I pray *God Almighty* I may never again behold. The brave and worthy Doctor *Warren* was killed, stripped, and buried within the intrenchment.

"Our numbers killed are not yet known; but by the best account I can obtain it will not much exceed fifty, and the wounded short of a hundred. Several credible persons have since made their escape by water from *Boston*, some of whom I well know. The latest out says, that upwards of fourteen hundred of the enemy were killed and wounded, with eighty-four officers; and that twenty-eight of our men were made prisoners, and the enemy had buried forty-one of our dead. All agree that the loss of the enemy in killed and wounded is more than one thousand. General *Howe* says, you may talk of your *Mindens* and *Fontenoy's*, &c., but he never saw nor heard of such carnage in so short a time. All the surgeons in the Army, with what they could get in *Boston*, were not sufficient to dress the wounded. Although they were twenty-four hours, night and day, in removing them from *Charlestown*, with the assistance of many of the inhabitants of *Boston*, whom they pressed into the service, many died in the streets on their way to the hospitals.

"N. B. Doctor *Mather* had his whole furniture, with his library, plate, &c., consumed in the fire at *Charlestown*."

I have employed Mr. *Samuel Penfield* to go with this; if you think it proper to forward this account to *New-York*, he will be ready to serve you.

You will excuse my sending it open, as I think it best for every one to know with what bravery our men have acted, and how *God* in his providence seems to appear for us.

Mr. *Penfield* will also hand you a paper from *Cambridge*, which contains some particulars.

I am, in the utmost haste, Sir, your friend and humble servant,

THADDEUS BURR.

To General *Wooster*, at *Greenwich*.

The Congress of the Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY,  
To ANDREW GILMAN, Gentleman:

We, entertaining a good opinion of your prudence, courage, and good conduct, do appoint, and you, the said *Andrew Gilman*, are hereby appointed to the honorary title of Lieutenant; and you are to be considered of that rank not only among the good people of this Province, but also among all our friends and brethren through the Continent; and we confide in your readiness to promote the common cause of *America* among our good brothers the *Indians* of the several tribes which you may have opportunity to be acquainted with, as well as with the inhabitants of the Province of *Quebeck*. By order of the Congress.

Watertown, June 25, 1775.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 25, 1775.

Resolved, That Lieutenant *Andrew Gilman* be and hereby is ordered and instructed to use his utmost influence to cultivate a friendly and peaceable disposition in the *Indians* at *St. Francois*, and all other parts adjoining, and to give intelligence of their temper and disposition from time to time, as he shall have opportunity, and as the importance of affairs may require; and also of the *Canadians* at *Quebeck*, and other adjacent parts of *Canada*, so often as it may be in his power: for which service he shall receive a proper reward. By order of Congress.

JAMES WARREN, President.

JOHN LANE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Watertown, June 25, 1775.

*John Lane* having been employed by the honourable Congress to go to *Penobscot* to treat with the *Indians* there, and the said Congress, in consequence of his services, having resolved that he shall have a Captain's commission, provided he enlist a company of fifty-six effective men to join the Army at *Cambridge*; and he being now going to proceed on that business, humbly prays that your Honours would direct the Receiver-General to pay him or his order two months pay, as a Captain in the Colony service.

JOHN LANE.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 25, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: From advices received divers ways, we have the greatest reason to determine that all the *British* Troops already destined, or that may yet be ordered to *America* this season, will come to *Boston*, it being evidently their design, if possible, to rout our Army before that place, destroy all our magazines, and thereby to strike terror and faintness into the hearts of all the friends to right and liberty throughout the Continent, to revive and animate their scattered friends, and break the union of the Colonies, and in that way insure final success to their tyranny. This being undoubtedly the plan of our enemies, it is of inexpressible consequence that the ground which we have taken should, at all events, be maintained. Your Honour is no doubt fully sensible that our Army, for the present, is unavoidably checked with regard to offensive operations, for a reason of which you are not unapprized, but, however, we have the means of acting on the defensive.

As *Boston* is impregnable against every thing but great artillery, very few Troops are sufficient to keep it; and as there are two passes at least, very distant from each other, by which the enemy will probably attempt to advance into the country, it is thereby necessary that we should throw our Army into at least two grand divisions, each of which ought to be able to withstand almost the whole strength of the enemy. Your Honour is acquainted that it was first supposed to be necessary that thirty thousand men should be raised



and stationed to act, for this season, in the environs of *Boston*. Thirteen thousand six hundred was the number supposed by our Congress to be this Colony's proportion of such an Army, and that number we have, to our utmost, been endeavouring fully to complete; but because there are deficiencies in our Regiments, as your Honour well knows there always will be in such cases, in order to make that quota good we have been obliged to increase the number of the Regiments; but still there is a deficiency. And because of the inexpressible importance of having our Army effectually strong, we are, with unremitted efforts, and by every device, at vast expense, labouring to make that number fully complete, or rather to exceed it.

*May it please your Honour:* Because we are so vastly apprehensive of the fatal consequences of a general defeat of this Army to the whole *American* cause, and are so unutterably solicitous to have it effectually strengthened, we have called in every individual of our levies, from all our out-posts, to join the Army, although by that measure we expose all our Towns on the sea-coast to the rage and depredations of the enemy, and run the dreadful risk of the best of our Towns being reduced to ashes, and taking the miserable fate of *Charlestown*.

We beg leave to acquaint your Honour that it is most clearly our opinion, and that we have the best grounds to suppose, that as soon as the enemy have recovered a little breath from their amazing fatigues of the seventeenth of *June*, and the surprising losses which they then undoubtedly sustained shall be made up by arrivals of new troops, which is almost daily taking place, they will direct all their force to some one point, and make the utmost efforts to force our lines, destroy our magazines, and thereby strike general terror and amazement into the hearts of the inhabitants of the whole Continent.

From this view of the case we cannot a moment longer forbear addressing your Honour, and most earnestly suggesting to the immediate consideration of your General Assembly, not only the expediency, but indispensable necessity of an immediate augmentation of the Troops from your Colony, for the more effectual strengthening of the Army. What the number of the augmentation ought to be, we most cheerfully submit to the good judgment of your Assembly, not in the least doubting but their wisdom and justice will direct and dispose them to do all that is proper in so important a crisis as we really consider the present.

We need not express to your Honour the indispensable necessity of despatch in making re-enforcements, nor the propriety and advantage of marching any new levies, which your Assembly may order with all possible speed, without the first raised Companies waiting for the completion of others; inasmuch as your Colony has here on the spot all the proper officers to make the necessary disposition for their reception, and as the season of their being of any advantage for the support of our Army may be irrevocably lapsed before their arrival, if the least unnecessary delay should be indulged.

We have made a representation to the Lieutenant-Governour of *Rhode-Island*, similar to the foregoing, and are about to make a like representation to the Congress of *New-Hampshire*, and to send the same by special express.

We suppose the whole number of our enemy's land forces, when joined with the four Regiments which were ordered to *New-York*, will amount to upwards of ten thousand, exclusive of negroes and tories, who are every way provided and furnished in the best manner for action.

We have the fullest confidence that your Honour's zeal and ardour for the salvation of our Country, and the preservation of our inestimable rights, will render any importunity unnecessary to induce you to take all the requisite steps to effect the proposed augmentation for which we are most solicitous.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE SELECTMEN OF BRADFORD.

Cambridge, June 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: It gives us great concern that we are obliged to address you on a subject which we are convinced must be disagreeable; but the department we are placed in, and the safety of this Colony, demand our exertions, which,

with yours, will, we hope, put an end to all such disorders as have taken place in the instance to which we would now proceed. We are informed by Captain *Gage* that a company of fifty men were enlisted under his command as Minute-men, in the Town of *Bradford*, agreeable to a recommendation of the Provincial Congress; and we find, by said enlistment, they engaged to serve for the term of one year from *February*, 1775. We are also informed that said men refused enlisting anew, agreeable to the late order of Congress for establishing an army, but have, notwithstanding, been doing duty in the camp, and it was expected by their officers and this Committee, that they would continue in the service agreeable to their engagement; but to our surprise we are informed that the whole of said Company, save two men, have scandalously deserted the cause of their Country, and stained their own honour by leaving the camp and returning home; by which conduct they have forfeited all their pay, and set an example which, if followed, must injure the important cause we are engaged in. We therefore must, in the strongest terms, urge that you use your influence in this matter in such way as shall tend to bring those persons to such a sense of their bad conduct as may cause them to return to their duty; for should such base conduct not be put a stop to, how would our character in this Colony appear to our brethren in the sister Colonies? We apprehend we need not say any thing further to urge you to exert yourselves in this affair, but that the importance of putting a stop to such proceedings will be of sufficient weight with you to act such a part as will do you honour and your country service.

We are, &c.

N. B. Should they return and continue in their duty, they will no doubt be entitled to and receive pay for their whole services.

GEN. FOLSOM TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

June 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In my letter of the twenty-third instant, I informed you that Colonel *Stark* refused subordination to my orders; but yesterday he made such submission as induces me to desire you to pass over said letter, so far as it relates to him, unnoticed. He has three supernumerary Companies, one of which very lately joined his Regiment: pray your orders with respect to them. In my letter of the fourth instant I omitted mentioning that the Captain-General could as poorly supply me matrosses as artillery. 'Tis needless to mention that a camp is insecure without artillerymen in proportion to the battalion. The *New-Hampshire* forces, in their present station, are in a great measure independent of the other forces, and, if occasion requires, the few matrosses in our camp (scarcely sufficient to manage a few small field-pieces) may be detached from us, and the camp left entirely destitute. I therefore pray your judgment whether it is not more eligible to draft out one half the Artillery Company designed to be raised in *Portsmouth*, to join your forces here, with a good Engineer, as soon as may be.

If you cannot procure any expert gunner in *New-Hampshire*, several persons have been recommended to me by members of the *Massachusetts* Congress, who I believe may be procured by proper encouragement.

I am your most obedient humble servant,

NATHANIEL FOLSOM.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF THE ARMY IN BOSTON TO HIS FRIEND IN ENGLAND, DATED JUNE 25, 1775.

When I left *England*, the service on which I am now come was even at that time irksome and disagreeable, but now it is doubly so. The cause in which we are concerned is entirely obliterated; our disputes, as from man to man, are of a private nature. The people of the country have, by various methods, exasperated and enraged us; and to free ourselves from a situation so disagreeable and confined, there is not any thing we would not attempt. I confess, upon the grand basis of this business we all unanimously



acquit the Colonists, and every hour of the day pray Lord *North* to head us. After the skirmish of the seventeenth, we even commended the Troops of *Putnam*, who fought so gallantly, *pro aris et focis*. When we marched to the attack of their redoubt, they called out "Colonel *Abercrombie*, are the *Yankees* cowards?" nor did they discharge a gun until we were within fifteen yards. The fire on our left wing was so hot that our Troops broke; but the Grenadiers, with uncommon fury, attacked the trenches, and forced them, when our soldiers rallied again. We kept possession of the intrenchments till next morning, when we marched into *Boston*; a sad remains of those glorious fellows who were led into the field. Gen. *Howe* was three times in the field left by himself, so numerous were the killed and wounded about him; and alas! I grieve to tell you, that I fear nine out of ten of these gallant fellows will die of their wounds. The loss of the Provincial Troops is trifling in comparison to ours; and indeed another such onset will be our ruin. A universal murmur now runs through the Army, which ever most disagreeably invades the General's ears. An *Irish* officer humorously said on the occasion, that indeed we had gained but a loss. In short, all you have yet sent by way of Troops to this Continent are but a mouthful. If you send more to add to us, we may make them a dinner; and you may continue to supply them with a supper, and then it will be a good night. Indeed, we may say with *Falstaff*, with great propriety; that "they make us here but food for gunpowder." I wish all these domestick animosities were settled, and also our private ones; but even in our promotions, glaring and unjust partialities prevail. So very secret was the late action conducted, that Generals *Clinton* and *Burgoyne* knew not of it till the morning, though the Town did in general, and *Putnam* in particular. This man served under *Prussia*, and does honour to his master; he is sixty-three, and brave to the back bone. I hope better times, but these are really sad ones. Adieu.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BOSTON TO A GENTLEMAN IN SCOTLAND, DATED JUNE 25, 1775.

About a week ago the remainder of the fleet from *Ireland* arrived here with the Thirty-Fifth, Forty-Ninth, and Sixty-Third Regiments of Foot, and Seventeenth of Light Dragoons, all of whom, except part of the Forty-Ninth, were landed.

At daylight on *Saturday* morning, the seventeenth instant, I was awakened by some cannon fired from the *Lively*, man-of-war, stationed at *Charlestown Ferry*. This firing was occasioned by their seeing a great number of the rebels at work, raising a redoubt on that height, at the back of *Charlestown*, nearest to *Boston*, known by the name of *Bunker's Hill*, which they had begun the night before, and, by the help of facines, gabions, and other such materials, and by a great number of hands, they had got almost completed. This firing from the *Lively* was almost immediately put a stop to by the Admiral. In the mean time the General ordered three pieces of brass cannon, (twenty-four pounders,) to be mounted on a battery that had been raised on *Copp's Hill*, at the north end, where he also sent some howitzers, and a large quantity of ammunition of all kinds.

At nine in the morning this battery opened, and continued to annoy the rebels all the forenoon, as did also the *Glasgow*, man-of-war, who lay off the point at *New-Boston*. At twelve o'clock the Light Infantry and Grenadiers, with the Fifth, Thirty-Eighth, Forty-Third, and Fifty-Second Regiments, embarked on board the transport boats at the *Long Wharf* and at the north battery, and about half past one landed on *Charlestown Point*, at the entrance of *Mistick River*, covered by a heavy fire from the *Lively*, and another man-of-war stationed off the north battery; a large sloop and two floating batteries at *Charlestown Ferry*; the battery from *Copp's Hill*; a transport mounting twenty guns, lying a little higher up, and the *Glasgow*, man-of-war. They effected their landing without any loss, and, after resting the men a few minutes, marched on to dislodge the rebels from some posts they had taken on the back of the hill.

In half an hour after, the Forty-Seventh Regiment, part of the Thirty-Fifth, and a battalion of Marines, followed,

and landed at the place where there formerly was a battery in *Charlestown*.

At their landing, the Town of *Charlestown* was set on fire by carcasses thrown from *Copp's Hill* battery, and the Troops marched on, commanded by Generals *Howe* and *Clinton*.

About three quarters past three, an excessively hot fire commenced on the back of the hill, to dislodge a large body of the rebels that had posted themselves behind some fences, which they had made ball-proof by bushes, hay, earth, &c. This fire lasted about fifty minutes. As soon as they had dislodged this body, one party of our men came up on one side, and another on the other side of the redoubt, and stormed and carried it in a few minutes. From this they pursued the rebels to the hill beyond, and having drove them from that, forced them over *Charlestown Neck*. All this they accomplished in about four hours, having entire possession of the *Neck* by six o'clock. The whole body of Troops engaged was about fourteen hundred.

In the redoubt the rebels had sixteen hundred men; and behind it and the fences, which they had fortified from that to the water, about five thousand; besides some thousands more stationed on the hill behind, all of whom the Troops forced to fly over the *Neck*.

The loss on both sides is supposed to be nearly equal; nor can we wonder it should be so, when we consider that this handful of fourteen hundred men forced a redoubt defended by sixteen hundred, who, had they behaved with any tolerable degree of courage, and had but a small portion of military skill, they might have defended against three times their number. Our officers have suffered much, no less than eighty-six being killed and wounded. Among the killed of the rebels is Doctor *Warren*, who commanded at the redoubt. The Troops are now busy in fortifying the hill that commands *Charlestown Neck*; and the rebels are fortifying a hill about half way between that and *Cambridge*, from which I expect to find them dislodged in a few days.

We hear nothing from the country, as this has put an entire stop to the little communication we had before.

Had this post not been taken, it was the intention of the rebels to have set fire to *Boston* that night; instead of which the whole Town of *Charlestown* is in ruins; their leader and orator (Doctor *Warren*) is slain; and they must now be convinced that *British* Troops are capable of driving them from their strongest holds, though opposed by vast superiority of numbers.

GENERAL BURGoyNE TO LORD STANLEY.

Boston, June 25, 1775.

*Boston* is a peninsula, joined to the main land only by a narrow neck, which, on the first troubles, General *Gage* fortified; arms of the sea and the harbour surround the rest on the other side. On one of these arms, to the north, is *Charlestown*, or rather was, for it is now rubbish, and over it is a large hill, which is also (like *Boston*) a peninsula. To the south of the Town is a still larger scope of ground, containing three hills, joining also to the main by a tongue of land, and called *Dorchester Neck*. The heights, as above described, both north and south, (in the soldier's phrase,) command the Town; that is, give an opportunity of erecting batteries above any that you can make against them, and consequently are much more advantageous. It was absolutely necessary we should make ourselves masters of these heights, and we proposed to begin with *Dorchester*; because, from the particular situation of batteries and shipping, (too long to describe, and unintelligible to you if I did,) it would evidently be effected without any considerable loss. Every thing was accordingly disposed; my two colleagues and myself, (who, by the by, have never differed in one jot of military sentiment,) had, in concert with General *Gage*, formed the plan. *Howe* was to land the transports on the point; *Clinton* in the centre; and I was to cannonade from the *Causeway* or the *Neck*; each to take advantage of circumstances. The operations must have been very easy; this was to have been executed on the 18th. On the 17th, at dawn of day, we found the enemy had pushed intrenchments with great diligence during the night, on the heights of *Charlestown*, and we evidently saw that every hour gave them fresh strength; it therefore became necessary to alter our plan, and attack on



that side. *Howe*, as second in command, was detached with about two thousand men, and landed on the outward side of the peninsula, covered with shipping, without opposition; he was to advance from thence up the hill which was over *Charlestown*, where the strength of the enemy lay; he had under him Brigadier-General *Pigot*. *Clinton* and myself took our stand (for we had not any fixed post) in a large battery directly opposite to *Charlestown*, and commanded it, and also reaching the heights above it, and thereby facilitating *Howe's* attack. *Howe's* disposition was exceeding soldierlike; in my opinion it was perfect. As his first arm advanced up the hill they met with a thousand impediments from strong fences, and were much exposed. They were also exceedingly hurt by musketry from *Charlestown*, though *Clinton* and I did not perceive it until *Howe* sent us word by a boat, and desired us to set fire to the Town, which was immediately done; we threw a parcel of shells, and the whole was instantly in flames; our battery afterwards kept an incessant fire on the heights; it was seconded by a number of frigates, floating batteries, and one ship-of-the-line. And now ensued one of the greatest scenes of war that can be conceived: if we look to the height, *Howe's* corps ascending the hill in the face of intrenchments, and in a very disadvantageous ground, was much engaged; to the left the enemy pouring in fresh troops by thousands, over the land; and in the arm of the sea our ships and floating batteries cannonading them; straight before us a large and noble Town in one great blaze—the church-steeple being timber, were great pyramids of fire above the rest; behind us, the church-steeple and heights of our own camp covered with spectators of the rest of our Army which was engaged; the hills round the country covered with spectators; the enemy all in anxious suspense; the roar of cannon, mortars, and musketry; the crash of churches, ships upon the stocks, and whole streets falling together, to fill the ear; the storm of the redoubts, with the objects above described, to fill the eye; and the reflection that, perhaps, a defeat was a final loss to the *British* Empire in *America*, to fill the mind; made the whole a picture, and a complication of horror and importance beyond any thing that ever came to my lot to be witness to. I much lament *Tom's*\* absence; it was a sight for a young soldier that the longest service may not furnish again; and had he been with me he would likewise have been out of danger; for, except two cannon balls that went a hundred yards over our heads, we were not in any part of the direction of the enemy's shot. A moment of the day was critical: *Howe's* left were staggered; two battalions had been sent to re-enforce them, but we perceived them on the beach seeming in embarrassment what way to march. *Clinton* then, next for business, took the part without waiting for orders, to throw himself into a boat to head them; he arrived in time to be of service; the day ended with glory, and the success was most important, considering the ascendancy it gave the Regular Troops; but the loss was uncommon in officers for the numbers engaged. *Howe* was untouched, but his Aid-de-Camp, *Sherwin*, was killed; *Jordan*, a friend of *Howe's*, who came engage le de cœur, to see the campaign, (a shipmate of ours on board the *Cerberus*, and who acted as aid-de-camp,) is badly wounded. *Pigot* was unhurt, but he behaved like a hero. You will see the list of the loss. Poor Colonel *Abercrombie*, who commanded the Grenadiers, died yesterday of his wounds. Captain *Addison*, our poor old friend, who arrived but the day before, and was to have dined with me on the day of the action, was also killed; his son was upon the field at the same time. Major *Mitchell* is but very slightly hurt; he is out already. Young *Chetwynd's* wound is also slight. Lord *Percy's* Regiment has suffered the most, and behaved the best; his Lordship himself was not in the action. Lord *Rowden* behaved to a charm; his name is established for life.

TO GENERAL BURGUYNE.

SIR: In reading the newspapers I find an extract of a letter which it is said you wrote a few days after the battle of *Charlestown*, to a noble Lord in *England*; and I take

\* His nephew, the Honourable Thomas Stanley, Esquire, (and brother to Lord Stanley,) who is gone a volunteer to *Boston* in His Majesty's service.

notice you close your narration of that important day's work, by saying, "The day ended with glory."

As I am totally at a loss to know what part of the day's conduct was crowned with so much "glory" on your part, permit me, Sir, to inquire, whether it was such a "glorious" achievement for upwards of two thousand regular disciplined troops, being the flower of the *British* Army, headed by the most approved and experienced Generals, with part of the train of artillery, supported and covered with one ship-of-the-line, a number of frigates and floating batteries, and a large battery on *Copp's Hill*, in which General *Clinton* and you took your stand, and which commanded the Town, to dislodge a much inferior number of *American* Militia from a slender defence, which they had but four hours to prepare, for it was twelve o'clock before either spade or pickaxe entered the ground, and the *Lively*, ship-of-war, fired upon them at four next morning, and soon after the battery above mentioned began to play.

Was it, indeed, such a "glorious" action, with all this tremendous apparatus of war, and under all these advantageous circumstances, in the space of twelve hours to kill seventy-seven, and wound two hundred and seventy-eight *Americans*, (twenty-eight of whom were captivated,) and take five small pieces of cannon, which they had not time to place? Nor was all this effected till they had sustained your fire from four o'clock in the morning till four o'clock in the afternoon; being then quite worn down with fatigue, and their ammunition wholly expended, were obliged to retreat.

Your representation of the transactions of that day does the *Americans* an honour you never intended. All *Europe* will revere the fortitude, and stand surprised at the firmness and valour of this handful of brave, though undisciplined men.

Or was it, indeed, such a "glorious" sight to view the field strewn with the mangled corpses of a few brave and virtuous *Americans*? Or to see the agonies and hear the piercing shrieks and dying groans of *Abercrombie*, *Pitcairn*, and above a thousand others of those who were brought hither to crush the rising liberty of *America*, but who now lay weltering in their gore? Or to behold the inexpressible anguish of the widows and orphans made by that day's wicked attempt to enslave *America*?

If such a scene as this is "glorious" in your eyes, *Americans* are of opposite sentiments; they lament the loss of those brave *Britons*, whose life and blood should have been reserved for a cause of justice against the natural enemies of *Englishmen*. *Americans* mourn over the wounds you compel them to give, and heartily sympathize with those widows and orphans you forced them to make.

But perhaps it was your laying *Charlestown* in ashes that has elated your mind, and led you to conclude that "the day ended with glory."

Remember, Sir, any parricide, any assassin, the greatest of villains, with proper materials, can set wooden buildings on fire, especially when they themselves are as far out of danger as you were at that time.

Was it indeed "glorious" to see whole streets falling together in flaming ruins, owned by subjects second to none for their loyalty to the Monarch of *Britain*, who, by the way, have now sprung to their arms, determined to check the bloody career of ministerial vengeance, or perish in the attempt?

Was there any necessity, from the exigency of the day, for this wanton waste of *English* property, to the amount of one hundred thousand Pounds sterling? You yourself acknowledge that neither *Clinton* nor you perceived any firing from the Town of *Charlestown* on the troops under Lord *Howe*, nor did any body else see any; for I now appeal to his Lordship's candour, whether it was possible that his troops could have been annoyed by the *Americans* from any of the houses in *Charlestown* provided those houses had been full of them? The Town of *Charlestown* was always in your power, and you might have set it on fire at any hour when you pleased.

Would it not have been less inglorious to have reserved it for the use of your own troops, who have since loaded you with many a curse, while suffering in cold and rain for want of being covered in those very buildings you destroyed?

If this is your idea of "glory," I shall think that this, and the martial soul you discover in lamenting the absence



of your nephew, *Thomas Stanley*, Esquire, because you were out of the direction of the *American* shot, pretty near of a piece.

Liberty, peace, and glory to both Countries, is the voice of *America*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GENERAL GAGE TO LORD DARTMOUTH.

Boston, June 25, 1775.

The success, of which I send your Lordship an account by the present opportunity, was very necessary in our present situation, and I wish most sincerely that it had not cost us so dear. The number of killed and wounded is greater than our forces can afford to lose. The officers, who were obliged to exert themselves, have suffered very much, and we have lost some extremely good officers. The trials we have had show the rebels are not the despicable rabble too many have supposed them to be, and I find it owing to a military spirit, encouraged among them for a few years past, joined with an uncommon degree of zeal and enthusiasm, that they are otherwise. When they find cover, they make a good stand, and the country naturally strong, affords it to them, and they are taught to assist its natural strength by art, for they intrench and raise batteries. They have fortified all the heights and passes around this Town, from *Dorchester* to *Medford* or *Mistick*, and it is not impossible for them to annoy the Town.

Your Lordship will perceive that the conquest of this Country is not easy, and can be effected only by time and perseverance, and strong armies attacking it in various quarters and dividing their forces. Confining your operations on this side only is attacking in the strongest part, and you have to cope with vast numbers. It might naturally be supposed, that troops of the nature of the rebel Army would return home after such a check as they had got, and I hear many wanted to go off, but care has been taken to prevent it; for any man that returns home without a pass, is immediately seized and sent back to his Regiment. In all their wars against the *French* they never showed so much conduct, attention, and perseverance as they do now. I think it my duty to let your Lordship know the true situation of affairs, that Administration may take measures accordingly.

The people's minds are kept so much heated and inflamed, that they are always ripe for every thing that is extravagant. Truth is kept from them, and they are too full of prejudices to believe it, if laid before them; and so blind and bigoted, that they cannot see they have exchanged liberty for tyranny. No people were ever governed more absolutely than those of the *American* Provinces now are, and no reason can be given for their submission, but that it is a tyranny they have erected themselves, as they believe, to avoid greater evils.

GENERAL GAGE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

Whitehall, July 25, 1775.

This morning arrived Captain *Chadds*, of His Majesty's ship *Cerberus*, with the following letter from the Honourable Lieutenant-General Gage to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State:

*Copy of a Letter from the Honourable Lieutenant-General GAGE to the Earl of DARTMOUTH, dated BOSTON, JUNE 25, 1775.*

MY LORD: I am to acquaint your Lordship of an action that happened on the 17th instant, between His Majesty's Troops and a body of the rebel forces.

An alarm was given at break of day on the 17th instant, by a firing from the *Lively*, ship of war; and advice was soon afterwards received, that the rebels had broke ground, and were raising a battery on the heights of the peninsula of *Charlestown*, against the Town of *Boston*. They were plainly seen at work, and in a few hours a battery of six guns played upon their works. Preparations were instantly made for landing a body of men to drive them off, and ten companies of Grenadiers, ten of Light-Infantry, with the Fifth, Thirty-Eighth, Forty-Third, and Fifty-Second battalions made a third line. The rebels upon the heights were perceived to be in great force, and strongly posted—a redoubt thrown up on the 16th at night, with other

works, full of men, defended with cannon, and a large body posted in the houses in *Charlestown*, covered their right flank, and their centre and left were covered by a breastwork, part of it cannon proof, which reached from the left of the redoubt to the *Mistick* or *Medford* river.

This appearance of the rebels' strength, and the large columns seen pouring in to their assistance, occasioned an application for the Troops to be re-enforced with some companies of Light-Infantry and Grenadiers, the Forty-Seventh Battalion, and the First battalion of Marines, the whole, when in conjunction, making a body of something above two thousand men. These Troops advanced, formed in two lines, and the attack began by a sharp cannonade from our field-pieces and howitzers; the lines advancing slowly, and frequently halting to give time for the artillery to fire. The Light-Infantry was directed to force the left point of the breastwork, to take the rebel line in flank, and the Grenadiers to attack in front, supported by the Fifth and Fifty-Second Battalions. These orders were executed with perseverance, under a heavy fire from the vast numbers of the rebels; and notwithstanding various impediments before the Troops could reach the works, (and though the left, under Brigadier-General *Pigot*, who engaged also with the rebels at *Charlestown*, which, at a critical moment was set on fire,) the Brigadier pursued his point, and carried the redoubt. The rebels were then forced from other strong holds, and pursued till they were drove clear off the peninsula, leaving five pieces of cannon behind them.

The loss the rebels sustained must have been considerable, from the great numbers they carried off during the time of action, and buried in holes, since discovered, exclusive of what they suffered by the shipping and boats. Near one hundred were buried the next day after, and thirty found wounded in the field, three of whom are since dead.

I enclose your Lordship a return of the killed and wounded of His Majesty's Troops.

This action has shown the superiority of the King's Troops, who, under every disadvantage, attacked and defeated above three times their number, strongly posted and covered by breastworks.

The conduct of Major-General *Howe* was conspicuous on this occasion, and his example spirited the Troops, in which Major-General *Clinton* assisted, who followed the re-enforcement. And in justice to Brigadier-General *Pigot*, I am to add, that the success of the day must, in a great measure, be attributed to his firmness and gallantry.

Lieutenant-Colonels *Nesbit*, *Abercrombie*, *Clarke*; Majors *Butler*, *Williams*, *Bruce*, *Spendlove*, *Smelt*, *Mitchell*, *Pitcairn*, and *Short*, exerted themselves remarkably; and the valour of the *British* officers and soldiers in general was at no time more conspicuous than in this action.

I have the honour to be, &c., THOMAS GAGE.

*Return of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, killed and wounded of His Majesty's Troops, at the attack of the Redoubts and Intrenchments, on the Heights of CHARLESTOWN, JUNE 17, 1775.*

Royal Regiment Artillery—Captain *Huddleston*, Captain *Lemoin*, Lieutenant *Shuttleworth*, one Sergeant, eight rank and file, wounded.

Fourth Foot—Captain *Balfour*, Captain *West*, Lieutenant *Barron*, Lieutenant *Brown*, wounded; one Sergeant, thirteen rank and file, killed; one Sergeant, one drummer and fifer, twenty-nine rank and file, wounded.

Fifth—Captain *Harris*, Capt. *Jackson*, Capt. *Downes*, Capt. *Marsden*, Lieut. *McClintock*, Lieut. *Croker*, Ensign *Charleton*, Ensign *Ballaquire*, wounded; twenty-two rank and file, killed; ten Sergeants, two drummers and fifers, one hundred and ten rank and file, wounded.

Tenth—Captain *Parsons*, Captain *Fitzgerald*, Lieutenant *Pettigrew*, Lieutenant *Verner*, Lieutenant *Hamilton*, Lieutenant *Kelly*, wounded; two Sergeants, five rank and file, killed; one drummer and fifer, thirty-nine rank and file, wounded.

Eighteenth—Lieutenant *Richardson*, wounded; three rank and file, killed; seven rank and file, wounded.

Twenty-Second—Lieut. Colonel *Abercrombie*, wounded, and since dead.

Twenty-Third—Captain *Blakeney*, Lieutenant *Beckwith*, Lieutenant *Cochrane*, Lieutenant *Lenthall*, wound-



ed; two Sergeants, one drummer, eleven rank and file, killed; two Sergeants, one drummer and fifer, thirty-five rank and file, wounded.

Thirty-Fifth—Lieutenant *Baird*, killed; Capt. *Drew*, Captain *Lyon*, Lieutenant *Massay*, Lieutenant *Campbell*, wounded; eighteen rank and file, killed; two Sergeants, two drummers, forty-one rank and file, wounded.

Thirty-Eighth—Lieutenant *Dutton*, killed; Capt. *Coker*, Captain *Boyd*, Lieutenant *Christie*, Lieutenant *Houze*, Lieutenant *Myers*, Ensign *Sergeant*, Ensign *Sweeney*, Quartermaster *Mitchell*, wounded; two Sergeants, twenty-three rank and file, killed; four Sergeants, one drummer and fifer, sixty-nine rank and file, wounded.

Forty-Third—Major *Spendlove*, Captain *McKenzie*, Lieutenant *Robinson*, Lieutenant *Dalrymple*, wounded; two Sergeants, twenty rank and file, killed; three Sergeants, two drummers and fifers, seventy-seven rank and file, wounded.

Forty-Seventh—Major *Smelt*, Captain *Craig*, Captain *England*, Captain *Alcock*, Lieutenant *England*, wounded; Lieutenant *Hilliard*, Lieutenant *Gould*, wounded, since dead; one Sergeant, fifteen rank and file, killed; three Sergeants, forty-seven rank and file, wounded.

Fifty-Second—Major *Williams*, wounded, since dead; Captain *Addison*, Captain *Smith*, Capt. *Davidson*, killed; Captain *Nelson*, Lieut. *Higgins*, Lieut. *Thompson*, Lieut. *Crawford*, Ensign *Chetwynd*, Ensign *Grame*, wounded; one Sergeant, twenty rank and file, killed; seven Sergeants, seventy-three rank and file, wounded.

Fifty-Ninth—Lieutenant *Haynes*, wounded; six rank and file, killed; twenty-five rank and file, wounded.

Sixty-Third—Lieutenant *Dalrymple*, killed; Captain *Folliott*, Captain *Stopford*, wounded; one Sergeant, seven rank and file, killed; two Sergeants, one drummer, twenty-five rank and file, wounded.

Sixty-Fifth—Captain *Hudson*, killed; Major *Butler*, Captain *Sinclair*, Lieutenant *Paxton*, Lieutenant *Hales*, Lieutenant *Smith*, wounded; one Sergeant, one drummer, twenty-five rank and file, wounded.

First Battalion of Marines—Major *Pitcairn*, wounded, since dead; Captain *Ellis*, Lieutenant *Shea*, Lieutenant *Finnie*, killed; Captain *Averne*, Captain *Chudleigh*, Captain *Johnston*, Lieutenant *Ragg*, wounded; two Sergeants, fifteen rank and file, killed; two Sergeants, fifty-five rank and file, wounded.

Second Battalion Marines—Captain *Campbell*, Lieutenant *Gardiner*, killed; Captain *Logan*, Lieutenant *Dyer*, Lieutenant *Brisbane*, wounded; five rank and file, killed; one Sergeant, twenty-nine rank and file, wounded.

#### *Officers attending on General Howe.*

Sixty-Seventh—Capt. *Sherwin*, Aid-de-Camp, killed.

Fourteenth—Lieutenant *Bruce*, killed; Ensign *Hesketh*, wounded.

Royal Navy—Lieutenant *Jorden*, wounded.

Engineer—Lieutenant *Page*, wounded.

Volunteers, late *Barre's*—Lieutenant *Alexander Campbell*, on half-pay, wounded.

Royal Artillery—Mr. *Vance*, wounded.

Fourth Foot—Mr. *Dorans*, wounded.

Thirty-Fifth—Mr. *Maden*, wounded.

Fifty-Second—Mr. *Harrison*, wounded.

Fifty-Ninth—Mr. *Clarke*, wounded.

Second Battalion Marines—Mr. *Bowman*, wounded.

Total—One Lieutenant Colonel, two Majors, seven Captains, nine Lieutenants, fifteen Sergeants, one drummer, one hundred and ninety-one rank and file, killed; three Majors, twenty-seven Captains, thirty-two Lieutenants, eight Ensigns, twenty Sergeants, twelve Drummers, seven hundred and six rank and file, wounded.

N. B. Captain *Downes*, of the Fifth Regiment, and Lieutenant *Higgins*, of the Fifty-Second, died of their wounds on the 24th instant.

#### OBSERVATIONS ON THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNT OF THE LATE ACTION NEAR CHARLESTOWN.

London, August 1, 1775.

There are two sorts of persons who always persevere uniformly, and without shame, in one unvaried line of conduct, regardless of the contempt and detestation of man-

kind. The sorts I mean are the thorough virtuous and the thorough scoundrel.

To one of these classes most evidently belong the Ministers who settled the account which they have given us in last *Tuesday's Gazette*.

The action near *Boston* happened on the "17th of June;" yet General *Gage's* letter is dated eight days after, on the "25th of June."

By this letter it appears that it has cost one thousand and sixty-four of the Troops, killed and wounded, to destroy a redoubt thrown up only the overnight, *i. e.*, on the 16th of June.

The loss of the Provincials, the letter says, "must have been considerable;" yet, eight days after the action, the General, though completely victorious, can tell us only of "one hundred" buried, and "thirty" wounded.

But "they had carried off great numbers during the time of action." Did they so? That is no great sign of flight, confusion, and defeat.

But "they buried them in holes." Really! Why, are our soldiers buried in the air.

But "the King's Troops were under every disadvantage." So truly it seems; for, in the same letter we are told "that they had a proportion of field artillery, and landed on the peninsula without opposition, and formed as soon as landed, under the protection of some ships-of-war, armed vessels, and boats, by whose fire the rebels were kept within their works."

But "this action has shewn the superiority of the King's Troops." Has it, indeed! How? Why they (with a proportion of field artillery, and with the assistance of ships, armed vessels, and boats, and with the encouragement of certain and speedy re-enforcements, if necessary) attacked and defeated "above three times their own numbers." What, three times their own numbers? Of whom, pray? Of *French* or *Spanish* Regulars? No, of the *Americans*. Of the *Americans*! What, of those dastardly, hypocritical cowards, who (Lord *Sandwich* knows) do not feel bold enough to dare to look a soldier in the face! Of those undisciplined and spiritless *Yankees*, who were to be driven from one end of the Continent to the other, with a single Regiment! What, of those skulking assassins, who can only fire at a distance, from behind stone-walls and hedges! Good God! Was it necessary, to defeat these fellows, that the Troops should be "spirited" by the example of General *Howe*, assisted by General *Clinton*! And can it be, that Lieutenant-Colonels *Nesbit*, *Abercrombie*, and *Clarke*; Majors *Butler*, *Williams*, *Bruce*, *Spendlove*, *Smelt*, *Mitchell*, *Pitcairn*, and *Short*, should be forced to exert themselves remarkably against such poltrons! Is it possible that this could be an affair in which "the valour of the *British* officers and soldiers in general was as conspicuous as at any time whatever;" and notwithstanding all this, that the success, in a great measure, should be attributed to the firmness and gallantry of General *Pigot*?"

Good God! is it come to this at last? Can the Regulars, with all these exertions, only defeat three times their own number of undisciplined cowards? and that, too, at the expense of one thousand and sixty-four (that is, more than one-half) killed and wounded, out of something above two thousand.

Is every redoubt which the *Americans* can throw up in a short summer night, to be demolished at this expense? How many such victories can we bear?

Alas! when I read in the General's letter the regular and formidable preparations for attack: "Ten companies of Grenadiers, ten of Light-Infantry, with the Fifth, Thirty-Eighth, Forty-Third, and Fifty-Second Battalions, with a proportion of field artillery, under the command of Major-General *Howe* and Brigadier-General *Pigot*;" and these "landed on the peninsula under the protection of ships-of-war, armed vessels, and boats," and their dreadful fire: when I had read this, I concluded that the next lines would inform me of the immediate and precipitate flight of the *Yankees*. Judge, then, of my surprise, when I read that (instead of being at all dismayed or struck with the *Sandwich* panick) "large columns" of these cowards "were seen pouring in to their assistance."

Well, but then comes "an application for the Troops to be re-enforced with some companies of Light-Infantry and Grenadiers, the Forty-Seventh Battalion, and the First



Battalion of Marines." They will certainly, thought I, scamper away now. Alas! No. They stay and fight. And to complete my astonishment, I cannot find in General *Gage's* letter where our Troops were when he wrote, nor what became of them after the action; whether they are returned to *Boston*, or have ventured to encamp without the Town; what prisoners they have taken; what advantages (besides five pieces of cannon) result from this bloody action; whether the war is now at an end, or what the Troops propose to do next.

To be serious, I am, for my own part, convinced that the event of this execrable dragooning is decided; and that before winter there will not be a single soldier of Lord *Bute's* and Lord *Mansfield's* mercenary troops left upon the Continent of *America*.

With what consolation those noble Lords will wipe away the tears of the widow and orphans, (as well *English* as *American*;) which these bloody *Stuart* measures have occasioned, I cannot tell; but I know that my eyes will gush out with joy when they see the authors of our domestick miseries receive (what I believe they will soon receive) their just reward.

#### FURTHER OBSERVATIONS.

I have the highest idea of General *Howe's* military character, yet cannot help wondering how he came to suffer the Provincials to escape, and even carry off their dead, when drove from their strong lines; for I conceive it very easy to have destroyed the whole body, after dislodging them so suddenly from their intrenchments, if Mr. *Gage* is suffered to tell the story right: I can't help observing also, that I never before heard of so many men, in proportion to the number, being killed and wounded from redoubts made in four hours, and from six pieces of cannon only in those redoubts, to oppose above one hundred pieces. I therefore suspect that the disagreeable scene is not unfolded.

One or both of the following conclusions must be drawn from this narration: The *Americans* are either the cleverest fellows in the world at making strong lines in three or four hours, or the most desperate enemy in defending them; for, by Mr. *Gage's* account, they killed and wounded near half his army in marching up about three hundred yards under a complete train of artillery, and all the fire of the Navy to cover them; which, by this account, is a new instance of successful defence from one night's labour. Hah, *Gad!* by this rule the *Americans* will put our whole Army into the grave or hospitals in three or four nights' work, and an hour's fire in each morning. I do not remember precisely, but am apt to believe, that there were not so many officers killed and wounded at the battle of *Minden*, though the *English* Regiments sustained the force of the whole *French* Army for a considerable time. A six-gun battery, the production of a night's digging, had there been ten thousand men to protect it, could never have made such havock against a vast train of artillery, and the irresistible fire of our ships, which would sweep all before them, from every acre of that peninsula. But the true story is not told: A Methodist Secretary, and a *Scotch* Printer, can do more than our people; they pay off the sins of omission and commission of the day by a long prayer at night, and thus settle accounts between *God* and the People in an hour's devotion.

London, August 8, 1775.

The account of the late action between the *Americans* and the Troops of General *Gage*, is one of the most evasive and unsatisfactory that ever yet obtruded on the publick, even through the channel of a Ministerial paper; and yet it is every way worthy of the victory which it affects to describe. The General sent out "something above two thousand men," of whom something above half (*i. e.* 1053) are either killed or wounded. The General, however, takes care not to mention how many hours were employed in the prosecution of this hopeful business, but, nevertheless, pretends to tell us that great numbers of the enemy were destroyed; and seems to have employed his soldiers in digging up such as were buried in holes, that he might have power to ascertain the value of his conquest.

With all the vanity of a military man he praises the conduct of the officers under his command; but prudently omits to say whether any such advantage has been gained

as may make up for the loss of one Lieutenant-Colonel, two Majors, seven Captains, nine Lieutenants, fifteen Sergeants, one Drummer, one hundred and ninety-one rank and file, killed; and three Majors, twenty-seven Captains, thirty-two Lieutenants, eight Ensigns, forty Sergeants, twelve Drummers, and seven hundred and six rank and file wounded, and unfit for service. In short, if every time the General sends out his brace of thousands, the one half of them should either drop, or be rendered useless, we shall soon see an end to the war in *America*, but it cannot be expected to terminate in our own favour.

The Ministry received this account several days before it was announced, but were either unwilling or unable to cook it up for the publick till after their despatches had been sent away. The printer may rely on this assurance from one whose private letters will always reach him unexamined and uncastrated by the spies of Government. General *Gage* is but too well convinced that such another victory would oblige him to re-embark his Troops and sail immediately for *England*, without attempting any farther reduction of the *Americans*.

The Captain who brought these despatches from *Boston*, was commanded to declare he had great news of the defeat of the *Americans*, though he had assured many people in the Towns through which he passed on his way to *London*, that he was afraid the accounts he brought would throw the whole Nation into disorder, and direct its vengeance on the advisers of hostile measures in *America*.

Grenada, June 28, 1775.

On *Monday*, the 26th instant, his Honour the Commander-in-Chief, sent the following Message to the Honourable House of Assembly:

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:*

I think it my duty to require, that the Address and Minutes of your House, in favour of the rebellious subjects in *America*, be rescinded. This I hope will be done before any other business is entered upon by your House.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WILLIAM YOUNG.

St. George's, June 26, 1775.

Whereupon it was *Resolved by the House*, That a Message be sent to his Honour, the Commander-in-Chief, acknowledging, that an Address to His Majesty had passed this House, in consequence of an unanimous Resolution for that purpose; that such Address was ordered to be engrossed and delivered to the late Speaker for the purpose of presenting the same to the Throne, and is no longer considered to be in the power of this House; that such Address contained a renewal of the sentiments of this House, of their attachment to His Majesty's Royal person, family, and Government, and of their confidence under such auspices, in the conduct of the Mother Country, towards this Colony; that the Address also deplored the mischiefs already consequent on the unhappy contest subsisting between *Great Britain* and its Provinces on the Continent of *America*, and pointed out some of the many evils of which the continuance of such disputes were likely to be productive of to these islands; and imploring His Majesty, the father of all his People, to exert that influence which he possessed from the attachment of his servants, and the affection of his subjects, towards healing differences between their countrymen and friends; but contained no principles or expressions tending to encourage or approve rebellion, or a rebellious disposition, in any part of His Majesty's extensive dominions; and therefore hoping that his Honour will not consider such an Address as any deviation from that loyalty which they feel, are ready to manifest on all occasions to His Majesty; and that his Honour will please to allow the continuance of the publick business of this Colony, which requires the immediate attention of the Legislature.

After which a Message was accordingly sent to his Honour.

The following Resolutions were proposed, and passed the House unanimously:

That this House are no less astonished than alarmed, to find that the exercise of one of the most acknowledged and indisputable rights of the subject, that of petitioning the Sovereign for the redress of evils, which they either feel



or may foresee to be unavoidable, should have drawn upon them the displeasure of the Commander-in-Chief.

That they are at a loss to comprehend upon what principles an Address to the King, couched (as they conceive) in the most respectful terms, and breathing but those real sentiments of loyalty with which this House is impressed, should be construed as encouraging a spirit of disaffection, or rebellion, in any part of His Majesty's dominions.

That the peremptory requisition to rescind the Minutes, and a very loyal and dutiful Address to their Sovereign, before the House proceeded on any other business, is a very extraordinary and unheard-of exertion of power, destructive of the right of making the most decent representations of the state of the Colony to the Sovereign, and of every idea of freedom of conduct and debate, which are not only the incontrovertible right of the House of Representatives, but essential to the welfare and good Government of the Colony.

That this House cannot but in a particular manner lament that there should be any interruption to their proceedings, at a time when, with the greatest appearance of harmony among themselves, and a hearty concurrence on the part of the other branches of the Legislature, they were actually preparing so many useful laws and regulations, which were become materially requisite for the re-establishment of public credit, and for the preservation of the Colony from the numerous calamities with which it has been long afflicted, and which, without an immediate remedy, must speedily tend to its total ruin; but this House can never resolve to attain even these desirable ends (were the means of doing so still in their power) by the sacrifice of so essential and inherent a right as that of petitioning their Sovereign for the redress of grievances, or prevention of evils, either felt or foreseen.

The same day his Honour dissolved the Assembly.

#### PROCLAMATION.

GEORGE the Third, by the grace of GOD of GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, and IRELAND, King, Defender of the Faith:

Whereas, it is expedient and necessary that the present House of Assembly, called for our said Island of *Grenada* and the *Grenadines*, should be dissolved: We do therefore think fit to issue this our Royal Proclamation, to publish and declare to our loving subjects, that the said Assembly is dissolved, and be it, and it is hereby dissolved accordingly.

Witness our trusty and well beloved *William Young*, Esq., our Commander-in-Chief in and over our Islands of *Grenada*, the *Grenadines*, *St. Vincent* and *Tobago*, Chancellor, Ordinary, and Vice-Admiral of the same, at *Grenada*, this 26th day of *June*, in the year of our Lord, 1775, and the fifteenth of our reign.

WILLIAM YOUNG.

*Grenada*, duly published this 26th *June*, 1775.

JOHN PORTEUS, Deputy Provost Marshal.  
GOD save the King.

#### MEETING OF THE INHABITANTS OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

At a meeting of sundry gentlemen at *Savannah*, on *Monday*, *June* 26, 1775, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That the present Acts of Parliament tending to raise a revenue in *America*, are grievances:

*Resolved*, therefore, That we will do all that we legally may to obtain redress of those grievances.

*Resolved*, That *Friday*, the 30th instant, *June*, at nine o'clock, A. M., at the house of Mrs. *Cuyler*, be a day appointed for a meeting, in order to consult the most expedient method to obtain redress.

#### TALBOT COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

June 26, 1775.

The Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County desire you to publish the following piece of intelligence:

On *Monday*, the 26th of *June*, the Ship *Johnston*, Captain *Jones*, from and belonging to Mr. *James Gildart* of

*Liverpool*, was spoke within the *Chesapeake Bay* by Captain *Harding*, of the Schooner *Endeavour*; when Captain *Jones* informed Captain *Harding* that he was from *Liverpool*, and had on board a quantity of Salt. Captain *Jones* being asked whether he had any thing more than Salt on board, answered, yes, he had a few Dry-Goods. On being asked further, how Mr. *Gildart* (who was well apprized of the Association) would venture to send such articles to *America*, Captain *Jones* replied, that three Generals and twenty thousand soldiers had been ordered to *America* some time before the above goods were shipped, and that it was not doubted but all would be quiet by the time he should arrive.

Captain *Jones* inquired of Captain *Harding* whether he could land his Goods and Salt in *Georgia*; but the next day came with his Ship into the *Eastern Bay*, landed some Servants he had on board, and soon after started down the *Bay*.

The publick are cautioned to be under the watch, and look out for the Ship *Johnston*; as there is reason to suspect she is still hovering in some part of the bay, and will attempt to land her Goods if she can find a convenient opportunity, notwithstanding the Captain's inquiring whether it were practicable to land them in *Georgia*.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County, on *Friday*, the 7th of *July*, 1775:

JAMES LLOYD CHAMBERLAINE, in the Chair.

Messrs. *Thomas Harrison*, *William Hamilton*, *Richard Skinner*, and *Hugh Rice*, four of the gentlemen deputed to go on board the Ship *Johnston*, and examine her papers and log-book, appear and report: That on notice from Mr. *James Braddock*, agent and factor for Messrs. *James Gildart* and *John Gawith* and Co., of *Liverpool*, merchants, in the night of the 27th of *June* last, they did, in the morning of the 28th, get on board the said Ship *Johnston*, then lying in the *Western Bay*, waiting the return of her boat sent for the said deputation, and did examine her manifest, cocket and log-book, by which they found that she had on board Salt, fourteen Convicts, two indented Servants, and Dry-Goods, as in the annexed schedule;\* said by Mr. *Braddock* to be shipped by Mr. *James Gildart*, on account of the above-mentioned *Gildart* and *Gawith*, and did give orders for her immediate return, permitting her, however, to lay at *Hampton Roads*, in *Virginia*, to take in a recruit of bread and water.

They further report, that Mr. *Braddock* applied to them for leave to land the convicts and servants; to which they replied, that they could see nothing in the proceedings of the Congress relative to convicts or servants, and therefore could give no directions with regard to their being landed; but told him, if he chose to do it, it must be at his own risk; on which Mr. *Braddock* did land the said convicts and servants, when they (the deputation) came on shore, alleging in his justification, that servants had been a few days before landed at *Annapolis* and *Baltimore* Town, and were then advertised for sale.

They further say, that they charged Captain *Jones* of the said Ship *Johnston*, to return immediately to the Port of *Liverpool*, without breaking bulk, which he, the said

\* A Schedule of the Goods on board the Ship JOHNSTON, Captain JONES, taken JUNE 28th, 1775.

- No. 1. Bale, 10 pieces of Kendal cottons.
- No. 2. Do. Do.
- No. 3. Cask of nails, forty thousand 8d; ten thousand 6d.
- No. 4. Do. twenty thousand 10d; ten thousand pump.
- No. 5. Do. twenty thousand 20d.
- No. 6. Do. ten thousand 30d; ten thousand scupper.
- No. 7. Cask of hats, 4½ dozen.
- No. 8. Chest containing sixteen pieces of check linen; half a dozen bed bunts, and fourteen dozen check handkerchiefs.
- No. 9. Cask four pieces of sheeting.
- No. 10. Bale, six pieces of oznabrigs.
- No. 11. Do. six Do.
- No. 12. Do. six Do.
- No. 13. Chest, quantity thirty-two pieces of Irish linen.
- No. 14. Do. of Haberdashery; quantity, thirty-six pounds of pins, three dozen ivory combs, five dozen horn combs, four pounds of thread. Fifty crates of Virginia ware.
- Four crates of stone bottles.
- No. 15. Slops, quantity; jackets, shirts, and trowsers.
- Twelve thousand four hundred bushels salt.
- Fourteen men and women convicts.
- Two indented servants.

JOHN BRACCO, Clerk pro tem.



Captain, assured them he would do; and when they left him, he stood down the bay. The deputation also say, that Mr. *Braddock*, in their hearing, told the said Captain he must proceed immediately on his return as aforesaid. One of the deputation further saith he overheard the Captain, in private conversation with Mr. *Braddock*, remonstrate that he could not land the Salt at *Liverpool*; to which Mr. *Braddock* replied, they might do as they would with it, but that he (the Captain) must immediately carry it back to the place from whence it came.

It is the unanimous opinion of this Committee, that the said Messrs. *James Gildart* and *John Gawith*, by sending the said Goods to be landed in *America*, have been guilty of a breach of the first Resolve of the *American Association*, viz: "That if any Merchant, residing in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, shall, directly or indirectly, ship any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, for *America*, in order to break the Non-Importation Agreement, or in any manner contravene the same, on such unworthy conduct being well attested, it ought to be made publick; and on the same being so done, we will not thenceforth have any commercial connexion with such Merchants."

Resolved, therefore, for ourselves and our constituents, That we will from henceforth break off all commercial connection with the said Messrs. *James Gildart* and *John Gawith*, and each of them, their and each of their agents, factors and store-keepers.

Resolved, also, That agreeable to a determination of the Provincial Convention, in *December* last, no Gentleman of the Law ought henceforward to bring or prosecute any suit whatever for the said Messrs. *James Gildart* and *John Gawith*, or for either of them, their or either of their agents, factors, managers, or store-keepers, as such.

The proceedings of the several Provincial Conventions were read, and unanimously approved of.

Ordered, That the proceedings of this meeting be immediately made publick, and printed in the *Maryland Gazette*.

Signed per order: JOHN BRACCO, Clerk pro tem.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

The Committee for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* will meet this afternoon, at six o'clock, at the Philosophical Society's Hall.

In Committee, June 26, 1775.

A quantity of Salt, and a box of Wine-Glasses, having been imported in the Ship *Albion*, *Thomas Crippen*, master, from *Liverpool*, it was

Resolved, That the said Ship and Cargo ought to be returned forthwith; and that the Captain have notice thereof immediately.

Ordered, That the District Committee see the above Resolution complied with.

On motion, Resolved, That Mr. *Joseph Whittall*, one of the owners of the Ship *Albion*, does not appear to have had any knowledge of, or concern in shipping the Salt, &c., in said vessel.

Resolved, That Mr. *Henry Cour*, merchant, of *Liverpool*, in *Great Britain*, half owner of the Ship *Albion*, has knowingly violated the Association of the *American Congress*, by shipping the said Salt to *America*; and that it is the duty of this Committee to advertise him accordingly.

Resolved, That *Nicholas Ashton*, Esq., of, or near *Liverpool*, in the County of *Lancaster*, in *Great Britain*, owner of the above-mentioned Salt, has wilfully violated the Association of the *American Congress*, by shipping the said Salt to *America*; and that it is the duty of this Committee to advertise his conduct herein.

Resolved unanimously, That agreeable to the Resolutions of the Grand *American Congress*, it is the duty of us, and of all our constituents, the inhabitants of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, from henceforth not to have any commercial intercourse whatever with the said *Henry Cour* and *Nicholas Ashton*; and it is recommended that an inviolable regard be paid to this Resolution.

Extract from the Minutes of the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*:

JONATHAN B. SMITH, Secretary.

#### J. LAMB AND G. ROORBACK TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Pursuant to your order we immediately waited on Mr. *Evert Bancker*, the Barrack-master, to request his delivering us the keys of the Barracks, when he informed us that he had, in compliance with your order of *Thursday* last, employed a proper person to get the Barracks cleansed with the utmost expedition. But upon inspecting into the matter this morning, we find there are only four persons employed for that purpose; and as there are sixty rooms, all of which are extremely dirty, we are of opinion that it will take them ten or twelve days at least to get them effectually and properly cleansed. Besides, there is a good deal of mason's and carpenter's work necessary to be done, as they are much out of repair.

We are, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

JOHN LAMB,

GARRET ROORBACK.

To the Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*.

#### JOSEPH FRENCH TO ROBERT BENSON.

Jamaica, Queen's County, June 26, 1775.

SIR: Yours of the twenty-second instant came safe to hand; in answer to which, I must acquaint you that I have made it a rule in life, never to accept any office or place of trust, unless I could acquit myself with honour.

Some time ago we had an election at *Jamaica* to send members to Congress, and it was carried in the negative. These same men have acquainted me if I attend in Congress, I don't represent them, but the minority. As for my part I have signed the Association in *New-York*, and expect to abide by the consequence.

I am, Sir, with great esteem, your very humble servant,

JOSEPH FRENCH.

To *Robert Benson*, Secretary to the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

#### ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Claremont, June 26, 1775.

SIR: I beg leave, by your means, to inform the gentlemen of the Provincial Congress, that yesterday I received their favour of the twenty-second instant, and that my powder-maker, who has brought with him from *Philadelphia* one hundred and eighty pounds of saltpetre, will begin to work it up on *Thursday*. The mill consists of four mortars and twelve pounders, and is well supplied with water.

I shall punctually comply with the Resolutions of the Continental Congress transmitted to me, and will communicate them to my powder-maker, who has half the profits of this business.

I remain, with the greatest respect to the gentlemen of the Provincial Congress, their most humble servant,

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress.

#### GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO JOHN HANCOCK.

[Read before Congress, July 5, 1775.]

Lebanon, June 26, 1775.

SIR: I received your letter of the twentieth instant, enclosing the resolve of Congress of the nineteenth; the Governour, and Committee to assist him in the absence of the Assembly, came into a similar resolution the same day; orders were given, and your request answered. The remainder of Colonel *Parsons's* Regiment are arrived in the camp near *Boston*, and apprehend Major-General *Wooster*, with seventeen hundred men, are at the place of their destination, near *New-York*. The harmony of our councils affords matter of rejoicing. May the Supreme Director of all events give wisdom, stability and union in our counsels, and success, and convince them who seek to deprive us of our happy privileges and just rights, that all their attempts are injurious and vain.

I am, with great truth and sincerity, Sir, your and the Honourable Congress's most obedient and most humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

The Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.



## GENERAL GAGE TO THE EARL OF DUNMORE.

Boston, June 26, 1775.

This Town was alarmed on the seventeenth instant, at break of day, by a firing from the *Lively*, ship-of-war, and a report immediately spread that the rebels had broke ground, and were raising a battery on the heights of the peninsula of *Charlestown*, against the Town of *Boston*.

They were plainly seen, and in a few hours a battery of six guns played upon their works. Preparations were instantly made for landing a body of men, and some companies of Grenadiers and Light-Infantry, with some battalions and field artillery, amounting in the whole to two thousand men, under the command of Major-General *Howe* and Brigadier-General *Pigot*, were embarked with great expedition, and landed on the peninsula without opposition, under cover of some ships-of-war and armed vessels.

The Troops formed as soon as landed. The rebels upon the heights were perceived to be in great force, and strongly posted. A redoubt, thrown up on the sixteenth, at night, with other works, full of men, defended with cannon, and a large body posted in the houses of *Charlestown*, covered their right, and their left was covered by a breastwork, part of it cannon-proof, which reached from the left of the redoubt to the *Mistick* River.

Besides the appearance of the rebels' strength, large columns were seen pouring in to their assistance; but the King's Troops advanced. The attack began by a cannonade, and notwithstanding various impediments of fences, walls, &c., and the heavy fire they were exposed to from the vast numbers of rebels, and their left galled from the houses of *Charlestown*, the Troops made their way to the redoubt, mounted the works, and carried it.

The rebels were then forced from other strong holds, and pursued until they were entirely driven off the peninsula, leaving five pieces of cannon behind them. *Charlestown* was set on fire during the engagement, and most part of it consumed. The loss they sustained must have been considerable, from the vast numbers they were seen to carry off during the action, exclusive of what they suffered from the shipping. About one hundred were buried the day after, and thirty found on the field, some of whom are since dead. About one hundred and ninety of the King's Troops were killed, and a great many wounded.

This action has shown the bravery of the King's Troops, who, under every disadvantage, gained a complete victory over three times their number, strongly posted and covered by breastworks. But they fought for their King, their laws, and constitution.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A BRITISH OFFICER IN BOSTON, DATED JUNE 26, 1775.

Four days ago I received an order to command three armed vessels, and to put myself under the command of General *Gage*; as soon as I did I was ordered to be ready at six o'clock next morning, to cover a part of some Troops which were to make an attack on a height on the left side of *Boston*, and to flank a breastwork and a wood, which was supposed had a number of men in it; but about seven o'clock General *Clinton* sent to me not to proceed till farther orders from him. Some little time after I was ordered up to General *Howe's* camp to lie with the vessels on his right, where I last night left them, having been relieved, as I had not been in bed for four nights. I find, since I came down, the reason of the attack not going on was, that the rebels knew of our coming, and had seven or eight thousand men ready to receive us. I own I could have wished it had went on, as I had placed the vessels in such a situation as must have mowed them down, and done great execution.

I am, &amp;c.

## GENERAL WARD TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, June 26, 1775.

SIR: I have this day received by express a letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, from which I have made the following extract, viz:

Philadelphia, June 20, 1775.

SIR: The enclosed Resolve, which passed yesterday, I have, by order of Congress, forwarded to *New-Hampshire*,

*Rhode-Island*, and *Connecticut*, and now send to you for your government.

I am directed by the Congress to inform you of their desire that none of the Troops now before *Boston*, however large their number, be disbanded, but retained by you in the service until the further order of this Congress, or orders from General *Washington*.

Resolved, That the Governour of *Connecticut* be requested to direct all the forces raised in that Colony, not employed at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, or recommended by this Congress to be marched into the Province of *New-York*, to be immediately sent to join the combined Army before *Boston*; and it is earnestly recommended to the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, and Provincial Convention of *New-Hampshire*, to send immediately to the Army before *Boston* such of the forces as are already embodied, towards their quotas of the Troops agreed to be raised by the *New-England* Colonies.

A true copy from the minutes:

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

As there are many that are, and others that ought to be engaged in the service, absent from the camp, I should be very glad if Congress would take such steps as they in their wisdom may judge best, to influence or oblige the Towns to send back to camp such as have left it without leave, that have received the Colony's money, and such as have not engaged, but ought to be. Nearly a whole company from *Bradford*, not being mustered and sworn, have left us without leave. I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esquire, President of the Provincial Congress sitting at *Watertown*.

## COMMITTEE OF NORTHFIELD TO MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Northfield, June 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We think proper to acquaint you that there are two small cannon belonging to the *Massachusetts-Bay* left at Fort *Dummer* when that garrison was dismantled, and one at Fort *Hinsdale*, above *Northfield*, each four pounders. If it should be judged that there might be no occasion for them on the Western frontiers, they might soon be conveyed to our Army if they should be wanted there. If it should be proper to remove them from the places where they now lie, we shall be ready at the first notice to assist in conveying them to such place as shall be appointed and directed to.

By order of the Committee of Correspondence at *Northfield*: SAMUEL SMITH, Chairman.

To the Committee of Safety in *Cambridge*.

P. S. There is one double fortified cannon, a four-pounder, at Fort *Dummer*, belonging to *New-Hampshire*.

## PLYMOUTH COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress now sitting at *WATERTOWN*, the Petition of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *PLYMOUTH* humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners have this day received intelligence that a vote passed your House the — instant, determining to remove to Head-Quarters that part of Colonel *Cotton's* Regiment which has been, by order of your most respectable body, stationed in this place, for the security and protection of the lives and property of this greatly exposed and much threatened Town. We, your petitioners, have lately received undoubted intelligence by one of our townsmen, who has been taken by a tender and carried into *Boston*, that Admiral *Graves* made particular inquiry into the circumstances of this Town, and said that we were a rebellious people, and that in consequence of our building a fort in opposition to the King's Troops, it should not be long before he would blow the Town about our ears. Your petitioners are very sensible that should the Troops be called away from this station, the Town of *Plymouth*, as well as the adjacent villages, will lie open to the ravages of our enemies, and that it will be no difficult matter for them to plunder and destroy us. The poor of this Town are already much distressed by reason of the stop put to the



fishery, and can scarcely subsist upon what they get out of the clam banks and by fishing in boats; and should they be driven from their huts into the barren country that surrounds us, they must (for aught we see) perish with hunger and for want of habitations, there not being houses within twenty miles sufficient to receive them. These poor people consist principally of women and children, their husbands and parents having enlisted themselves into the service of the Colony. Your petitioners are very far from desiring to create any unnecessary expense to the Colony, but, at the same time, think it necessary that said Troops remain with us; and are of opinion that, should they be withdrawn, the Town will be immediately evacuated; and, for the above reasons, your petitioners, as in duty bound, &c.

For and by order of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Plymouth*:

ANDREW CROSWELL, Clerk.  
GAMALIEL BRADFORD, JR.  
JOHN GRAY.

P. S. The Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Duxbury* and *Kingston*, which lie on *Plymouth Bay*, join in the general prayer of the above petition.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GEN. FOLSOM.  
Exeter, June 26, 1775, Eleven o'clock, P. M.

*The Committee of Safety of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, to General FOLSOM, greeting:*

SIR: Previous to the receipt of yours of the twenty-second instant, we sent you flints, bullets, &c., per Mr. *Gordon*, which the Company has received. We now send what intrenching tools we have prepared, also a quantity of blanketing. As to what you write in yours of the twenty-eighth instant, concerning Colonel *Stark*, the Congress will meet to-morrow and shall lay it before them; shall immediately provide and send a Surgeon for *Read's* Regiment; are preparing carriages for the cannon you request in yours of the twenty-fourth instant, and, as soon as completed, shall forward them without delay. The Muster-master will shortly be at *Medford* to pay off the forces; by him will send your commission; have sent ninety-two tents, and shall, within a week, forward sixty more.

We earnestly wish you the favour and protection of Heaven, and are yours, &c.

By order of the Committee:

M. THORNTON, Chairman.

COMMITTEE OF MASON TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.  
*To the Honourable Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:*

That whereas, *Jason Russell* and *John Tarbell*, both of *Mason*, in said Province, did, in a felonious manner, on or about the 20th of *May* last, retire to a pasture in said Town belonging to *Samuel Dana*, of *Groton*, and took from thence a three year heifer, and killed and converted it to their own use; whereupon, early notice being given to the Committee for said Town, they met, and required of the offenders full satisfaction therefor, but each of them peremptorily refusing to comply therewith: The advice of Committees from the neighbouring Towns being called in, viz: *New-Ipswich* and *Temple*, and the criminals being cited to appear before said Committees, not only neglected to make their appearance before us, but, as we learn, have fled to the Army; and finding ourselves unable to settle the unhappy difficulty by reason of their escape, came into the following Resolution, viz:

*Resolved*, To refer the matter to your judicious consideration, begging that you will, in your wisdom, take cognizance of the offence, and deal with them in this and in such like case for the future.

EPHRAIM ADAMS, Chairman.  
DAVID BLODGETT, Scribe.

*Mason*, June 26, 1775.

SIR JAMES WRIGHT TO GOVERNOUR GAGE.

*Savannah*, in *Georgia*, June 27, 1775.

SIR: I had the honour to write to your Excellency, of the 7th instant, enclosed to Lieutenant-Governour *Colden*,

which I hope you have received; and last night I received a letter from Lord *William Campbell*, acquainting me that he is going to send the *Scorpion* with letters to your Excellency, and which opportunity I now embrace; and hope some method may be fallen upon, that we may receive frequent information of the state of things your way, as it has the greatest effect and influence on the conduct of the people in these Provinces, and may contribute much to his Majesty's service.

The unhappy affair of the 19th of *April*, and some late occurrences in the neighbouring Province, have at length drawn and forced the people of this Province into the same predicament with others; and I now expect that, as far as they possibly can, they will follow the example of them; and I see no probability of any tolerable quietude, unless the prudence and moderation of the Continental Congress should lay a foundation for it.

Your Excellency's order to Major *Furlong*, I have not yet forwarded; indeed, I have neither vessels nor money to pay the expense of sending for them; and as things are circumstanced at present, it is the opinion of the gentlemen of the Council, that such a number might only inflame the whole Province, and be liable to insults, if not worse; for we have no fort of defence for them to be in, or retire to; and they could neither awe or prevent any attempts against them. This number, a year ago, might have been of great use; or, if things take a favourable turn, may, but not just now; and it is our opinion, that not less than five times that number could answer any effectual purpose; and therefore, I do not mean to forward it yet. But if your Excellency could, for this length, and authorize me to draw for the expense of putting up a temporary fort, I think matters would soon wear a different aspect here; but without, neither law or government can be supported. And I have neither men or money. And the Governours had much better be in *England* than remain in *America*, and have the mortification to see their powers executed by Committees and mobs. And I am really amazed that these Southern Provinces should be left in the situation they are, and the Governours and King's Officers, and friends to Government, naked and exposed to the resentment of an enraged people.

*Stuart* has been obliged to take sanctuary in *St. Augustine*.

I shall hope for a full and clear answer from your Excellency, that I may know better how to conduct myself; and have the honour to be, with respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JAMES WRIGHT.\*

To his Excellency General *Gage*.

\* The above letter was withdrawn from the envelope, and the following was substituted in its place, and forwarded by the Secret Committee at *Charlestown*, *South-Carolina*:

*SAVANNAH, IN GEORGIA, June 27, 1775.*—SIR: The unhappy affair of the 19th of *April*, and some late occurrences in *Carolina*, have occasioned this Province to put on an appearance, which I have the pleasure to assure your Excellency is by no means real; and I am happy that I can, with equal confidence, assure you that there is nothing really formidable in the proceedings or designs of our neighbours of *South-Carolina*, notwithstanding the late address of their Congress to Lord *William Campbell*, who being but just arrived, and, as your Excellency knows, but inexperienced in affairs of Government, may think them very serious, and express his apprehensions to you on the subject. However unwilling I write this, yet the good of His Majesty's service compels me to make this intimation to your Excellency, lest you should otherwise be disposed to believe that affairs are in extremity in these Colonies, and act accordingly.

My private intercourse is so extensive in these Colonies, and I am so well informed of the private sentiments of their leading men, that I assure you no danger is to be apprehended from their designs; and their measures, I am convinced, will quickly change, provided they are left to do it in their own way. And upon the best information, joined to certain knowledge of men and matters in *Carolina* and *Georgia*, I am fully assured, that if any ships or troops were to be sent into these parts, they would not only totally destroy the present favourable appearances, but in all probability would prove destructive to the good of the service. Upon these ideas I have regulated my conduct; and I have not, as yet, even dreamed of applying to Major *Furlong*; and I firmly believe that I shall have no occasion to do it.

I sincerely wish your Excellency success in your undertakings; and I have the honour to be, with perfect esteem, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JAMES WRIGHT.

To his Excellency General *Gage*.

A fac-simile signature of *James Wright* was affixed to this letter by the Secret Committee; and an impression of his seal having been taken in clay, the new envelope carried the resemblance of Sir *James Wright's* seal.—*Drayton*.



SIR JAMES WRIGHT TO ADMIRAL GRAVES.

Savannah, in Georgia, June 27, 1775.

SIR: Some time ago I had the honour to receive a letter from the Earl of Dartmouth, dated the 1st of February last, wherein he wrote me that an order was gone from the Admiralty to you, Sir, to send me one of your cruisers, but none is yet arrived, nor have I heard any thing of it since. And I am now to acquaint you, that four or five boats, from the South-Carolina side of our inlet, have been here for ten or twelve days past, full of armed men—it is said near one hundred. We expect a vessel from London every day, with a considerable quantity of gunpowder on board; and report says that these people mean to take it out and carry it away; and it is not in my power to prevent it. And thus you see, Sir, that our port may, and in short is, blocked up by our neighbours, and that they have it in their power to plunder any thing that arrives here, and do just what they please. I hope, therefore, that you will be kind enough to give such immediate assistance as may be in your power, to prevent such insults and attempts as I have mentioned.

Pardon me, Sir, for saying that an armed schooner will be of little use; or any thing less than a sloop-of-war of some force, and which, from Lord Dartmouth's letter, I have been long expecting, and impatiently looking out for.

I doubt not but the situation we are in will strike you in such a light, that you will see the propriety of immediate assistance.

Another matter seems to be also necessary for His Majesty's service, viz: frequent accounts from yourself and General Gage, with respect to the state of affairs your way, as I find it has the greatest influence on the conduct and proceedings of the people here; and I have no way by which this can be done, unless you are pleased to send it by some of his Majesty's vessels under your command.

I have the honour to be, with perfect esteem, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JAMES WRIGHT.\*

Admiral Graves.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, DATED JUNE 27, 1775.

We enclose you extracts of letters from Georgia and Augusta, by which you may judge of our present state relative to Indian affairs. It seems that General Gage has corresponded with the Superintendent here on that subject, and he with his Deputy in the Cherokee Nation. Mr. Stuart, finding the matter suspected, left Charlestown, and went to Georgia about the time of the sitting of the Congress. Matters taking a turn in Georgia, he found himself obliged to produce his letters, since which he has escaped to Florida, and thereby confirmed the suspicion of an in-

\* The above letter was withdrawn from the envelope, and the following was substituted in its place by the Secret Committee in Charlestown, and forwarded:

SAVANNAH, IN GEORGIA, June 27, 1775.—SIR: Some time ago I had the honour to receive a letter from the Earl of Dartmouth, dated the 1st February last, wherein he wrote to me that an order was gone from the Admiralty to you, Sir, to send me one of your cruisers. It gives me the highest pleasure to acquaint you that I now have not any occasion for any vessel of war; and I am clearly of opinion that His Majesty's service will be better promoted by the absence than the presence of vessels of war in this port. On this subject of military forces being at present sent to this part of the Continent, I have written fully to the General, and I beg leave to refer you, Sir, to that letter, which is of equal date with this.

As I am persuaded it will be for the benefit of the service, that the Southern Governours should have early information of important transactions in your part of the Continent, I doubt not but that if you, Sir, shall be of the same opinion, you will send such by some advice boat. And if such vessel proceeds to Charlestown, my packet may there be sent on shore, and it will reach me by a secure land conveyance by express from the Post-Office.

Perhaps Captain Tollemache may give you, Sir, some little alarm about two or three canoes from South-Carolina, in this river, waiting, as report says, to take some gunpowder from on board a vessel daily expected to arrive here. But I acquaint you, Sir, that they are sent upon a smuggling party of goods into their own Colony, by private directions of their Committee. They mean to procure some gunpowder, and I shall not be displeased if, under the appearance of some violence, they purchase such an article, as it is intended to make good the contract made by Mr. Stuart and myself with the Indians, both Creeks and Cherokees, the latter of whom will be more convenient for the Carolinians than the people of Georgia to supply. I have the honour to be, with perfect esteem, Sir, your most humble and most obedient servant,

Admiral Graves.

JAMES WRIGHT.

A fac-simile signature of James Wright was affixed to this letter by the Secret Committee.—Drayton.

tended Indian war. The other extract shows you the present state of the Indian Nation.

## Extract of a Letter from John Wilson, of Augusta, to Messrs. Campbell and Son, dated June 15, 1775.

All the Cherokee traders have come down but two, and have the pleasure to inform you that they have overpaid their full cargoes. There is at present but very indifferent talk in that Nation. They have lately killed two Virginians that had gone up there express, which I am afraid will be the cause of war. Should that be the case, I shall be badly off, having little powder in the fort. I am informed that one of our traders was stopped by the Indians, in order to bring a talk down.

## Extract of a Letter from John Stuart to Mr. Cameron.

I have received information from General Gage, that certain persons at the Northward have been tampering with the Six Nations, and endeavouring to alienate their affections from His Majesty. I mention this to caution you against any thing of the kind with you, and that you will use your influence to dispose those people to act in defence of His Majesty and Government, if found necessary.

## Mr. Cameron's Answer.

That Mr. Stuart's interest with the Indians was much greater, and that he was more beloved by them than any other man; and that he (Cameron) had the vanity to think that he could head any number he thought proper, whenever called upon in support of His Majesty and Government.

Cameron is Stuart's principal Deputy.

## ACCOMACK COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Accomack County, at the Court-House, the 27th of June, 1775:

SOUTHEY SIMPSON, Esquire, in the Chair.

A complaint having been made, that James Arbuckle, a member of this Committee, had drawn a Map of the Eastern Shore, and that the sea-coast was delineated therein, so as to furnish information to vessels to explore our harbours; and that the same had been delivered to his Excellency the Governour for that purpose:

The said Arbuckle appeared voluntarily before the Committee, and acknowledged that he had drawn a draught or Map of the internal part of the Eastern Shore, but denied that he had illustrated any of the harbours, or marked any of the soundings or shoals; which he had delivered to Mr. Andrew Sprowle, of Gosport.

Sundry witnesses were then called in, and duly sworn, and by their testimony it appeared that the said Arbuckle had shewn the said Map publicly to many of the inhabitants of this County, before he parted with it; that he had drawn the same at the request of the Custom-House Officers, and, so far as relates to this County, from an old draught which he had made some years ago; and that the use the said officers told him they designed to make of it, was to excuse themselves to his Excellency the Governour from a suspicion of neglect in office. And it also appeared that there were none of the harbours laid down with such exactness as to give any new insight to any persons to come into them; and it appeared that the Governour is in possession of the said Map. And it appearing farther, that the said James Arbuckle has, as well heretofore as before this Committee, expressed great uneasiness that he should have been so imprudent as to have done any thing to alarm his Country at this time:

Resolved unanimously, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the said James Arbuckle is not intentionally guilty of any offence against American liberty.

A complaint having also been made against John Sherlock, of this County, that he has expressed himself in such manner as to prove him an enemy to the liberties of this Country; and he being called upon to attend the Committee this day, refused, but wrote them an abusive and insulting letter.

Several witnesses were then called upon and sworn, and by their evidence, it appeared that he had, at sundry different conversations, declared, in substance, "that such



people as oppose the Ministerial measures with *America*, are rebels; that he shall be employed hereafter in hanging them; and that if no hemp can be got, he has plenty of flax growing."

It is therefore unanimously *Resolved*, That we hold the said *John Sherlock* to be an enemy to *American* liberty; and that we are determined, immediately, to break off all dealings and intercourse with him, and with every person who shall have any connexion with him, until he shall make such proper acknowledgments, and show such genuine marks of repentance and reformation, as shall be satisfactory to a majority of this Committee.

*Resolved*, That these proceedings be immediately printed in the *Virginia Gazette*. JOHN POWELL, Clerk.

MR. PINKNEY: At a meeting of the Committee of Accomack County, held at the Court-House, on *Tuesday* last, it was found necessary to hold up to publick contempt a certain *John Sherlock*, of the said County, for having expressed himself, at sundry times, in the most daring and insulting manner against the good people who have proved themselves, by their behaviour, friends to *American* liberty.

Mr. *Sherlock*, instead of appearing before the Committee, agreeable to summons, wrote them an abusive, insulting letter; whereupon the day next after the Committee had proceeded against him agreeable to the rules of the Association, part of the Independent Company of this County went to his house, took, and carried him to the Court-House, and, after a solemn trial, received from him, under the Liberty Pole, his recantation; a copy whereof you have enclosed. Mr. *Sherlock*, at the Company's approach, took shelter in an upper room of his house, with two loaded guns, but was prudent enough to decline making use of them.

#### JOHN SHERLOCK'S RECANTATION.

Whereas, I, the subscriber, have thoughtlessly and imprudently at sundry times expressed myself to the following purpose: that such people as oppose the present ministerial measures respecting *America* are rebels, and that I expect to be employed at a future day in hanging them; and if no hemp could be had I had flax enough; and that I wanted no greater bondage, under the name of liberty, than to be bound by the Association; and I have also expressed myself very imprudently in calling the Independent Company of this County an unlawful mob, and many other idle and foolish words: I do hereby, in the most solemn and serious manner, declare that at those times, when I have held such language, I did not mean as much as I said; and I do hereby declare my most unfeigned sorrow for what I have done or said, and in the most humble manner ask the pardon of the said Independent Company, [which was accordingly done by application being made to each member of the said company respectively;] and I declare I look upon the said company as a very respectable body of men, and, upon the most calm reflection, I declare my opinion to be altered. I most heartily wish success to this my native Country in her present honest struggle for liberty with the Mother Country, and do here promise to do all in my power to retrieve my character with my countrymen. This acknowledgment and confession I make freely and voluntarily, and desire the same may be published in the publick papers. JOHN SHERLOCK.

#### BEDFORD COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of Bedford, the 27th day of June, 1775: The Committee being apprehensive that the inhabitants of the lower parts of this Colony may possibly (in the course of the present unhappy dispute between *Great Britain* and her *American* Colonies) be compelled to quit their habitations, wish it to be known to them, that the inhabitants of this County will cheerfully give them, and whatever they may think proper to remove among us, the most cordial reception, afford them every possible assistance, and that they shall freely participate of any thing we possess.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk of this Committee do transmit a copy of this Resolution to the printer, to be inserted in the *Virginia Gazette*.

ROBERT ALEXANDER, Clerk.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By the unanimous vote of this Congress, I am directed to assure you that they have a high sense of your services in the common cause of the United Colonies, and to inform you of the appointment of the several General Officers to command the Continental Forces; a list of whom I now enclose you. The subordinate officers to be recommended by the Provincial Congresses to the General, to whom commissions from this Congress are sent to be filled up agreeable to such recommendation.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Members of the Provincial Congress, New-York.

#### Officers appointed by the Congress.

*George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces raised or to be raised for the defence of *American* Liberty.

*Artemas Ward*, Esq., First Major-General.

*Charles Lee*, Esq., Second Major-General.

*Philip Schuyler*, Esq., Third Major-General.

*Israel Putnam*, Esq., Fourth Major-General.

*Seth Pomeroy*, Esq., First Brigadier-General.

*Richard Montgomery*, Esq., Second Brigadier-General.

*David Wooster*, Esq., Third Brigadier-General.

*William Heath*, Esq., Fourth Brigadier-General.

*Joseph Spencer*, Esq., Fifth Brigadier-General.

*John Thomas*, Esq., Sixth Brigadier-General.

*John Sullivan*, Esq., Seventh Brigadier-General.

*Nathaniel Greene*, Esq., Eighth Brigadier-General.

*Horatio Gates*, Esq., Adjutant-General, and with the rank of Brigadier-General.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, June 27, 1775, Three o'clock, P. M.

SIR: Last evening Captain *Hoops*, of *Trenton*, in *New-Jersey*, informed me, that he had escorted to *Elizabeth-town* four wagons with ninety-eight quarter casks of a necessary article, packed in eight hogsheads, to be forwarded to *Cambridge*, which were then on their way for *Hudson's River*. This morning I had advice by express that the wagons were within four miles of *Bull's Ferry*, which is nearly opposite to the north end of *New-York Island*. In consequence of which I despatched a boat with one of the *New-York* Committee, and twelve armed men, to *Bull's Ferry*, to transport the baggage across the *North-River* to *King's Bridge*. Two gentlemen of our Committee are gone by land to *King's Bridge*, to whose prudence they are committed for conveyance into your Colony.

I thought it necessary to give you this information, and submit it to you whether it may not be proper for you to give the like orders as you did on a similar occasion, provided your circumstances will permit, and forward this intelligence to *Cambridge*.

I have the Honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

#### THOMAS HICKS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 27, 1775.

SIR: Last *Saturday* I received a copy of a resolve of the Provincial Congress of the 22d instant, wherein I was requested to take my seat in Congress on this day, or assign my reasons for neglecting to attend. The latter, Sir, I shall endeavour to do, by acquainting the Congress with some of the circumstances of the election of Deputies of *Queen's County*, and some subsequent transactions.

On the day of the election three gentlemen appeared who declared they were charged with a message to the freeholders assembled for the purpose of choosing Deputies, from a very large number of freeholders of the Township of *Hempstead*, who had assembled a few days before at *Hempstead*; they had it in charge they said, to declare there at that day, that the said freeholders were determined to have nothing to do with the election of Deputies, but that they were resolved to wait till they knew the effect of the Petitions of the General Assembly of this Colony, or



words to that effect, as near as I can recollect. Upon which, as there were not so many freeholders convened as I expected, I proposed that the separate Towns should elect Deputies, but being overruled, I proposed that none should be elected for *Hempstead*, to avoid the appearance of obtruding Deputies on them; this I thought was agreed to by the gentlemen present. But after a little time a gentleman (who I believe was not in the room at the time the last proposal was made) objected that in the latter case the County would be partially represented, and urged the appointment of Deputies for *Hempstead*; this, after a little while, was agreed to by a majority, and Captain *Thorne* and myself were named to represent *Hempstead*, and our names were inserted in the list accordingly.

I saw myself placed in a very disagreeable situation, and expressed my idea of it to the gentlemen present; they did not seem to see the embarrassment which I sensibly felt, and therefore were not disposed to dispense with my service. The bad state of my health, which obliges me to avoid *New-York* as much as possible in the summer, from long experience of the bad effect of the city air in that season, also made me wish to be excused from a service which I was convinced would very much impair it.

In this situation, I determined, however, to offer myself to the Congress as a Deputy, if the people of *Hempstead* were silent about it; but I was soon informed that some of the leading people had declared they did not believe I would presume to represent them in Congress. Upon receiving this intelligence, I immediately went to *Hempstead*, applied to a gentleman whom I took to be a leading man, and desired him to consult the principal people of the Town, and let me know as soon as might be whether I should represent them or not. A very few days after I received from him a letter, dated the 30th *May* last, wherein he informed me that he had consulted as many persons in the Township of *Hempstead* as the shortness of the time would admit, who, he said, seem fixed upon their former resolutions not to appoint any Deputies to represent the Town of *Hempstead* in Provincial Congress; that the people seemed to be much inclined to remain peaceable and quiet; that he had consulted the gentlemen I had desired him to speak to in particular, who had desired him to give me this information. Upon the receipt of this letter I resolved to decline taking a seat at the Congress, from a persuasion of the impropriety, and even injustice of transacting business of so much consequence for people who disavowed my authority.

This is a true state of facts as near as my memory will serve me, and I flatter myself, Sir, it will sufficiently apologize to the Congress for my conduct.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS HICKS.

*Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq.*

HERMAN ZEDTWITZ TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

To the Honourable Members of the Provincial Congress, at this time convened in the City of NEW-YORK:

The Petition and humble Remonstrance of HERMAN ZEDTWITZ of the same City, Gentleman, most humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner is a *German* by birth, and hath heretofore served as an officer in the King of *Prussia's* Army, upwards of fourteen years. That through the course of your petitioner's experience in the art of war, he hath found that a body of Riflemen, properly equipped, to precede the Grand Army, have been of great use to annoy and confuse the enemy. That your petitioner being well versed in the exercise of such men, would, with the appointment and sanction of this honourable board, undertake to raise a Regiment, to contain six hundred able bodied men, from *Paxton* and other parts of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, many of them already provided with their rifles, and the whole number in a very short time might be complete and ready to go on such service as should be found necessary. That your petitioner hath known such a Regiment in the time of action to be of more service than any three common Regiments, and is willing and desirous personally to explain to this honourable Board, at such time as shall be appointed, the particular services of such a body of

men. That your petitioner hath very lately been in that part of *Pennsylvania* before mentioned, and is well satisfied that if this honourable Board shall see fit to appoint, or cause him to be appointed to the command of such a Regiment, he could in a very short time complete the same, and would use his most indefatigable endeavours at all times to approve himself worthy of the honour conferred upon him. And your petitioner most humbly requests that this honourable Board will take the premises into consideration, and appoint such time for hearing him further therein as shall be found convenient, when he will most punctually attend; and in the mean time remains this honourable Board's most dutiful and very devoted humble servant,

HERMAN ZEDTWITZ.

City of New-York, June 27, 1775.

ELISHA PHELPS TO THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Ticonderoga, June 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: After my kind respects to you all, when I left *Cambridge*, I went to his Honour the Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*; and he informed me he had appointed me a Commissary for the Northern Army, which I cheerfully accepted, and thanked his Honour for the notice he took of me. I then informed him of the orders Colonel *Arnold* gave me, concerning the teams. He told me I need not trouble myself, as *York* was to provide teams, &c., and I could charge teams in common stock; and the pork you would pay for when I produced an order from Colonel *Arnold*. As for news, I have nothing remarkable. We have had some mutiny in this company, but I hope now settled. The gentlemen Committee you sent, were not treated with that esteem by some as I wish they had been. I long to hear the particulars of the fight at *Boston*. If you would furnish it I should take it as a great favour.

Gentlemen, I am with great esteem your very humble servant, at command,

ELISHA PHELPS.

To the respectable Gentlemen of the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, for the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Lebanon, June 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: This morning received your pressing instance for an immediate augmentation of Troops from our Colony. In consequence expresses are gone forth to call our Assembly, to meet at *Hartford* on *Saturday* next. Generals *Washington* and *Lee* are expected this day at *Hartford*, on their way to the Army. The warriors from *Virginia* and *Pennsylvania* are coming forward. Have received this day a speech and belt from the *Oneida Indians*, and have enclosed their speech.

Colonel *Hinman* at *Ticonderoga*, writes the 19th instant: "The enemy are fortifying at *St. John's*, and last night was informed that the *Caughnawaga Indians* have had a war-dance, being brought to it by General *Carleton*."

Eight or nine hundred barrels of flour from the General Congress for the Army are arrived safe at *Norwich*, and more expected. Hope a report with us this morning is true, that a large quantity of powder is arrived at *New-York*, and a quantity for this Colony at *New-London*. Every effort in our power for defence of the rights of the Colonies will be used with diligence and without delay.

May the Supreme Director of all events give wisdom, stability and union in all our counsels; inspire our soldiery with courage and fortitude; cover their heads in the day of battle and danger; convince our enemies of their mistaken measures, and that all attempts to deprive us of our rights are injurious and vain.

I am, with great esteem and sincerity, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Honourable *James Warren, Esq.*

A Speech of the Chiefs and Warriors of the ONEIDA Tribe of INDIANS, to the four NEW-ENGLAND Provinces, directed to Governour TRUMBULL; and by him to be communicated:

As our younger brothers of the *New-England Indians*, (who have settled in our vicinity) are now going down to



visit their friends, and to move up parts of their families that were left behind, with this belt by them, we open the road wide, clearing it of all obstacles, that they may visit their friends and return to their settlements here in peace. We *Oneidas* are induced to this measure on account of the disagreeable situation of affairs that way; and we hope, by the help of *God*, that they may go and return in peace. We earnestly recommend them to your charity through their long journey.

Now we more immediately address you, our brother, the Governour and the Chiefs of *New-England*.

*Brothers!* We have heard of the unhappy differences and great contention betwixt you and old *England*. We wonder greatly, and are troubled in our minds.

*Brothers!* Possess your minds in peace respecting us *Indians*. We cannot intermeddle in this dispute between two brothers. The quarrel seems to be unnatural; you are two brothers of one blood. We are unwilling to join on either side in such a contest, for we bear an equal affection to both of you, *Old and New-England*. Should the great King of *England* apply to us for our aid, we shall deny him. If the Colonies apply, we will refuse. The present situation of you two brothers is new and strange to us. We *Indians* cannot find nor recollect in the traditions of our ancestors the like case or a similar instance.

*Brothers!* For these reasons possess your minds in peace, and take no umbrage that we *Indians* refuse joining in the contest; we are for peace.

*Brothers!* Was it an alien, a foreign Nation, which struck you, we should look into the matter. We hope, through the wise government and good pleasure of *God*, your distresses may soon be removed, and the dark cloud be dispersed.

*Brothers!* As we have declared for peace, we desire you will not apply to our *Indian* brethren in *New-England* for their assistance. Let us *Indians* be all of one mind, and live in peace with one another, and you white people settle your own disputes betwixt yourselves.

*Brothers!* We have now declared our minds; please write to us that we may know yours.

We, the sachems, warriors, and female governesses of *Oneida*, send our love to you, brother Governour, and all the other chiefs in *New-England*.

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |   |                                   |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Signed by | <i>William Sunoghsis,</i><br><i>Viklasha Watshaleagh,</i><br><i>William Kanaghquassea,</i><br><i>Peter Thaychase,</i><br><i>Germiné Tégayavher,</i><br><i>Nickhes Aksechose,</i><br><i>Thomas Yoghtanawca,</i><br><i>Adam Ohonwano,</i><br><i>Quedellis Agwerondongwas,</i><br><i>Handerchiko Tegahpreahdyen,</i><br><i>Johnks Skeanender,</i><br><i>Thomas Teorddeatha.</i> | } | Chief Warriors of <i>Oneida</i> . |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|

Caughnawaga, June 19, 1775.

Interpreted and wrote by *Samuel Kirkland*, Missionary.

#### TIVERTON AND LITTLE COMPTON (R. I.) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committees of Inspection for the Towns of *Tiverton* and *Little-Compton*, held at the dwelling-house of *Gideon Wilcox*, Esquire, on *Saturday*, June 27th, 1775:

*NATHANIEL SEARLE, JUN., Esq.*, in the Chair.

Information being given to these Committees, that *Abiel Cook*, of *Little-Compton*, had violated the seventh article of the Continental Congress Association, and was thereby endeavouring to feed and support the enemies of *American* liberty, by selling some of his Sheep to go on board the *Swan*, man-of-war, at *Newport*; the Sheep being stopped at *Forkland-Ferry*, and said *Cook* ordered to attend the Committees, he attended accordingly this day, and had the effrontery to insult the Committees and his Country, by declaring, that he had sold the Sheep to go on board the man-of-war, and would do it again when any opportunity should offer.

*Voted*, That the above Sheep be sent as a present to the *American* Army near *Boston*.

*Ordered*, That the above be printed in the *Newport Mercury*, that all friends to *American* liberty may break

off all dealings with said *Cook*, and treat him as an enemy to his Country and the liberties of *America*.

A true copy. By order of the Committee:

*WM. LADD, Clerk for the day.*

#### GOVERNOUR COOKE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Providence, Rhode-Island, June 27, 1775.

**GENTLEMEN:** I gave you a hint in my letter of yesterday of our fitting out two armed vessels for the protection of our trade. It looks very probable to me that if there were a few vessels properly armed and manned along the coast, in different parts, it would be a great means of protecting our own trade, and also of picking up many of the provision vessels that they (the men-of-war) take this way, and send round to *Boston*. Many of those vessels are sent round with but five or six hands in each, and with nothing more than a small-arm a piece, to defend them; and further, as the enemy think we have no force that dare put out of our harbours, some of their store-ships come without convoy, and there is a possibility that we might pick up one of them if we had a vessel or two to cruise in their way. These things are dropped, gentlemen, for your consideration, from your most humble servant,

*NICHOLAS COOKE.*

To the Hon. *James Warren*, President of the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts Bay, Watertown*.

#### EXTRACTS OF LETTERS RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA FROM GENTLEMEN IN THE ARMY, DATED CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE, JUNE 27, 1775.

You will have heard of the battle on *Bunker's Hill* before you receive this, but the accounts will be various. Our people went on to take the ground, expecting every day the enemy would take it, if we did not. They were not well prepared; however, they went on; and at day-break, before they had time to finish their work, they were attacked, but General *Howe* gives them the praise of defending their works as well as any men on earth could do; and had our troops who were to march up to their support, behaved as well in coming to their posts as the others did in defending theirs, they never would have lost their ground, but the enemy must have been cut off. But the low ground over which they were to pass was so continually raked by a constant fire from the ships and floating batteries, with every kind of shot, that it rendered it impossible to bring a proper number of men over at that time to their support; and after a most vigorous defence for some hours, our men being employed the whole night before without sleep or rest, and many having expended the ammunition they had with them, they retreated, and left the ground and unfinished lines to the enemy, where they are now encamped and fortifying. Our people are encamped on *Prospect Hill*, at about a mile distance, and have strong lines thrown up from *Cambridge River* to *Mistick River*, and are watching each other. We lost in the engagement one hundred and seventy-nine men, killed and wounded: fifty killed, thirty wounded and prisoners in *Boston*, and the remainder of the one hundred and seventy-nine wounded with us; the enemy lost one thousand on the spot and dead of their wounds before last *Wednesday*, and seven hundred then in the hospitals wounded. Many such conquests would totally ruin the King's Troops.

Last *Saturday* the enemy cannonaded *Roxbury*, and endeavoured to burn the Town, but failed. *Sunday* General *Clinton* sent a flag from his camp to ours with letters from our prisoners; they say they are kindly treated, and have their choice of Army or Town Surgeons, or both; and most of them are like to do well. Mr. *P—cy* is this day arrived here from *London*; he came with Captain *Jenkins* to *Nantucket*; an officer of the King's Army was passenger with them, and is secured. Mr. *P—cy* says it was expected by Administration that the *Yankees* would not fight; that the Army would get up the hill and down again, and that would settle the whole controversy; they will be much chagrined when the account from here arrives. They are like to have enough to do to keep *France* and *Spain* quiet during the summer. *Russia* and the *Porte* are preparing for war again; and *Prussia*, always ready, is looking on, and laughing in his sleeve, and the States of *Holland* are



quarrelling with *England*, and have ordered all the *English* ships out of the *Texel*.

We have lost but few men compared with the loss the enemy sustained; ours will fall short of sixty killed; thirty are prisoners, and about one hundred wounded. We have the greatest reason to believe, from their own account, as well as from many other concurring circumstances, that their loss is not short of fifteen hundred killed and wounded; among the former are two Colonels, Majors *Pitcairn* and *Sheriff*. The *Royal Welsh Fusileers* have but seventy privates and one Captain left alive. The Regulars say that the battle of *Minden*, or that on the *Plains of Abraham*, did not exhibit equal scenes of blood in so short a time from so few men engaged.

They give out that we must have lost three thousand men, as they conclude our loss must greatly exceed theirs.

GENERAL WARD TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, June 27, 1775.

SIR: I was lately applied to by the honourable Congress to propose or recommend some person that would be suitable for an Adjutant-General; in consequence of which, I wrote to Colonel *William Henshaw*, who is now in camp, and will accept, if the post is properly dignified. I flatter myself he will do us eminent service, if appointed. He will probably be at the Congress this day.

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esquire, President of the Provincial Congress at *Watertown*.

GENERAL THOMAS TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Roxbury Camp, June 27, 1775.

SIR: I have herewith enclosed a request from a number of prisoners now in *Boston*, which I received yesterday, P. M., by one of the Selectmen of *Weymouth*, to whom it was sent from Mr. *Scholay*, of *Boston*. It was carried to the Committee of Safety, and from them to General *Ward*, who sent it to me, but think it not proper to determine this matter without advice from the Congress, whose directions I shall comply with.

I am, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, at *Watertown*.

Boston, June 23, 1775.

It is the desire of twenty-five persons from the country, that were taken prisoners at *Charlestown* last *Saturday*, and many of them dangerously wounded, that as they are in great want of fresh provisions for their comfort, they would have you go to *Weymouth*, or any other Town in your neighbourhood, and recommend to the good people there to send them some mutton and other provisions as may be suitable for them.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, June 26, 1775.

General *Ward* refers the above to the determination of General *Thomas*, to conduct the affair as he may think proper.

J. WARD, Secretary.

COLONEL DAVID BREWER TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Camp at Roxbury, June 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have been informed that there is a number of books printed, containing the law martial for regulating the *Massachusetts* Army, designed for the use of said Army. If so, you will please send by the bearer, Sergeant *Bull*, as many of said books as is designed, or shall be thought necessary for my Regiment, as it is absolutely necessary the soldiers should know the law in order to keep the same.

I am, gentlemen, your obliged friend and humble servant,

DAVID BREWER.

TO THE HONOURABLE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

The Petition of Officers belonging to Colonels *Prescott*, *Frye*, and *Bridges's* Regiments, humbly sheweth:

That whereas in the late battle at *Charlestown*, on the seventeenth of this instant, *June*, a number of things be-

longing to us fell into the enemy's hands, whereby we are deprived of some necessary clothing, arms, &c.: As the loss is considerable, we beg that (if it may be consistent with the honour and dignity of the Congress, and the good of the Country) they have an allowance for the same as your Honours shall see fit; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| WM. PRESCOTT,    | ISAAC ABBOTT,   |
| EBENEZER BRIDGE, | ISAAC BROWN,    |
| JAMES BRICKETT,  | JONATHAN EVANS, |
| HENRY WOODS,     | ASA LAWRENCE,   |
| BENJAMIN AMES,   | ABIJAH WYMAN,   |
| JOHN DAVIS,      | HENRY FARWELL,  |
| JOHN NUTTING,    | PETER COBURN,   |
| NATHANIEL LAKIN, | JOHN FORD,      |
| JOHN MOSHER,     | JOHN FLINT.     |

June 27, 1775.

Watertown, June 29, 1775.

The Committee appointed to consider the within Petition, beg leave to report that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, June 27, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Were you now in the Continental Army which invests *Boston*, it would beget unutterable vexation and torment in your hearts, to behold so large a body of so active brave men as that army consists of, insulted by the fire and blaze of the enemy's cannon and mortars from their lines, ships, and floating batteries; and the same brave men, although possessed of divers good pieces of great ordnance, and willing, at any hazard, to improve them, yet wholly restrained from returning any fire of the kind, lest, by so doing, their little stock of gunpowder should soon be exhausted, and they reduced to the fatal necessity of laying down their arms or flying into the woods, leaving their houses to be burnt, their fields wasted; in short to give up and abandon the just claims of all *America*, and in effect to resign themselves and the lives of all the children of liberty in this whole Continent, to the arbitrary pleasure of a haughty Administration, instigated and influenced by enraged Tories of our own breeding.

Your minds will be still more agitated and alarmed, if you knew our supplies of that article was so scanty as really to beget doubts in your minds, whether the Army would be able to sustain so many attacks as we have reason soon to expect, without leaving them generally destitute of that necessary part of ammunition, even if no other expense of powder should be made in the defence than by the use of small arms. We cannot, therefore, delay one moment longer acquainting your Honours with the state of this Army in that respect, and in the most importunate manner begging your immediate attention to this matter, and that the utmost exertions be instantly made, at any hazard and expense, to procure and send to this Army all the gunpowder which can be obtained, either by manufacture, importation, seizures of the enemy's ships, or in any other way, without stripping individuals of their private stocks for their own personal use; and that every quantity which can in any way be obtained, even if it shall not amount to more than one load for one horse carriage, be sent by land with all possible speed and safety to this Army.

We beg your Honours to realize that the force of all the *British* Troops in *America*, or destined to *America*, is levelled against this Army, and how shocking and terrible the effects of a defeat and dispersion of this Army would be, not only to this Colony, but to all the Continent. We feel the warmest sentiments of gratitude to your Honours for your great attention and care for the Army, expressed in your appointment of able and experienced Generals to command the same; but we beg your Honours to contemplate of what significance either officers or soldiers can be for the intent of annoying the enemy or defending the Country, without the necessary means. Besides, we ask your Honours' pardon when we pray you to consider how inexpressibly afflictive it must be to those honourable and worthy gentlemen, appointed by your Honours, to arrive at our Army, (which would be an honour to any General in *Europe*, if they were well supplied,) to find that they had not the necessary means of acting offensively, and the sup-



plies for defence so very slender, as to fill them with perpetual solicitude and even anguish of spirit, lest by defending, even with small arms, against frequent attacks, their ammunition should be wholly spent, and they constrained to turn their backs on their enemy; when, if the Army was well found with ammunition, they would be able, not merely to defend themselves and their Country, but to bear down and triumph over the enemy.

Your Honours, therefore, will be most certainly convinced that nothing can so much merit your immediate and earnest attention, as the ways and means of supplying this Army, in the speediest manner, with the article of gunpowder. We cannot find words to express the importance of this proposal with sufficient emphasis. Our all very much depends upon success in this particular, and we cannot forbear repeating our request, that whatever quantity your Honours may find it in your power in any way to avail yourselves of, whether greater or less, may be sent forward with the utmost expedition.

We humbly conceive that it cannot be by any means prudent to venture an article of this importance any part of the way by water, nor by land, without a sufficient guard, as the same is in a manner as precious as our very blood.

This Colony is making the utmost efforts, running every risk, and trying every experiment, and hesitating at no expense, to procure good supplies of the above-said most important article for this Army. Nothing can be more remote from the temper of this Colony than to solicit the exertions of the other parts of the Continent, with a view, in any degree, to relax or render unnecessary our own utmost assiduity and endeavour; but our foregoing importunate applications proceed only from the fullest conviction that the largest contributions which the whole Continent is capable of, and the most immediate, vigorous, and unremitted efforts of every part of our Country, will be little enough, not to say inadequate, to effect such a supply of that commodity as the exigencies of the present crisis require.

The foregoing representation has been, by order of Congress, considered by our Committee of Supplies, who fully agree that nothing therein is expressed in too strong terms, or deserves the epithet of high colouring.

We are, may it please your Honours, with the greatest esteem and deference, your most obedient servants,

JOSEPH HAWLEY,  
ELISHA PORTER,  
*Committee of Congress.*

The foregoing letter is made by us as a Committee of Congress, without its having been read publicly, (for reasons which your Honours will not be at a loss about,) and this by express order of Congress.

GEN. FOLSOM TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.  
Camp on Winter Hill, June 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Since my arrival here, the harmony and willing obedience of the *New-Hampshire* Troops gives me the most sensible pleasure. I have got them into tolerable regulation, and shall, as far as in me lies, use my utmost exertion to get them into the greatest good order and discipline, which is so indispensably necessary in an army, and still promote and preserve unanimity and concord amongst them.

But to that end you are very sensible that they must receive regular supplies. Such brave Troops as yours are, deserve the best of living, or at least such as will conduce to the preservation of their health, and render them capable of undergoing fatigues and hardships. I would therefore beg leave to intimate, that if part or the whole of the Committee of Supplies were constantly to attend the camp, vested with discretionary power as to supplies, it would be greatly advantageous to your forces, as it is impossible any set of men can so well ascertain what properly belongs to their department when absent as when present, and can have their business carried on under their immediate inspection. The foregoing I esteemed myself in duty bound to mention; and leaving it to your well known wisdom and prudence, I remain your very humble servant,

NATHANIEL FOLSOM.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

PORTSMOUTH (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Portsmouth, June 27, 1775.

To the Rev. SAMUEL LANGDON, D. D., to be communicated to the Committee at CAMBRIDGE.

HONOURED SIR: The Committee of *Portsmouth* having detected the enclosed letter, have thought proper to transmit a copy to you by way of caution, as we have heard that *James Henderson* has been travelling about the country lately to gain intelligence; and lest he might be the cause of more mischief to the *American* cause, we pray he may be prevented.

We have some cannon, with good carriages, of twenty-four and thirty-two pounders; if you need them, please to signify, and we will send them.

We are, with cordial esteem, Sir, your most humble servants, the Committee of Safety at *Portsmouth*, per their order.

GEORGE GAINES.

Copy of the above to be transmitted to the Committee of Supplies.

Boston, June 22, 1775.

DEAR HUGH: I take this opportunity of letting you know of our welfare. We had a good deal of confusion last *Saturday*, but we have great reason of thankfulness that the Troops got the better of the people. It was one of the boldest attacks almost of the age, as they had it very strong, but they did not keep it fifteen minutes after the attack begun; and such firing I never heard—so constant. I saw it all the time. There are a great many country people killed, (amongst them is Doctor *Warren*), and about thirty taken prisoners who are in Town. There is one of the second fleet come in last night; so I am in hopes the Troops will be soon enabled to bring them to a sense of their duty.

If you have any apprehension of danger, I think you had best come to Town. My love to *Hannah*, &c.

I am yours.

The above letter came in a tender, directed to *Hugh Henderson*, and was stopped by the Committee at *Portsmouth*; it is supposed here to be wrote by *James Henderson*, of *Boston*.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Anne Arundel* County and City of *Annapolis* was requested by Captain *Charles Henzell*, on *Wednesday*, the twenty-eighth day of *June*, 1775.

Present: *Charles Carroll*, of *Carrollton*, *Matthias Hammond*, *John Bullen*, *Chas. Wallace*, *John Davidson*, *Wm. Wilkins*, *Allen Quynn*, *John Brice*, and Doctor *Richard Tootell*.

Mr. CHARLES CARROLL in the Chair.

Captain *Henzell* having informed the Committee of his arrival from *London* with goods on board the *Adventure*, which was cleared, as appears by the cocket, for *Maryland*, he being duly sworn, deposed that the following goods, and no other, were shipped on board said vessel, to wit: two hundred dozen Porter, one hundred Pipe-Staves in packs, two thousand weight of Cheese, and forty-two chaldrons of Coal, *Winchester* measure, which was to be disposed of at the Island of *Madeira*, but through contrary winds he was prevented from landing them there: and this deponent also saith that he brought in with him about seventy persons, consisting of passengers and servants.

It appearing to the Committee, from letters produced by Captain *Henzell*, and by his and *Joseph Eastman's* depositions, that the Cheese, Porter, Pipe-Staves, and *Newcastle* coal, were to be sold at *Madeira*, and the proceeds thereof to be laid out in the purchase of *Madeira* Wine, he being empowered to draw bills on *London* for so much as said Wine should exceed the value of the above mentioned articles; and it also appearing to the Committee that Captain *Henzell* intended to bring to *Maryland* the cargo of Wine aforesaid: being interrogated whether he intended to sell the said Wine in *America*, he declared on oath that he did not, but proposed to carry the Wine to the *London* market, and report the same here to the Custom-House. Being asked whether he did not know, or had been informed that the aforesaid Wine was subject to a duty, imposed by



Act of Parliament, and that consequently the importation thereof was contrary to the Continental Association, he answered that he did not know, nor had he been informed that any duty was to be paid on the Wine thus imported, and intended to be exported in the same bottom to *London*.

It appearing to the Committee that the above enumerated articles of goods were shipped contrary to the Continental Association,

*Resolved unanimously*, That the said goods cannot be landed, but be sent back forthwith.

The question being put, whether Capt. *Henzell* should be permitted to land his Servants? *Resolved* in the affirmative.

Captain *Henzell*, together with Mr. *James Hutchings*, Jun., to whom the Servants were consigned, then engaged and pledged their honour to the Committee that the goods should be sent back forthwith.

Signed per order of the Committee :

G. DUVAL, Clerk.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress, July 3, 1775.]

New-York, June 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I do myself the honour to acquaint you that I parted with General *Washington* yesterday, at ten o'clock, at *New-Rochelle*, at which place we were met by Brigadier-General *Wooster's* and Colonel *Waterbury's* Regiments. Those arrived to within two miles of this Town, about eight this morning, and got sheltered in barns and out-houses. As soon as the weather (which is at present wet and stormy) will permit, I propose to encamp them on the south side of *Sand Hill*, which is nearly two miles from hence.

I have been so little in Town since my first arrival here, that I have not yet had an opportunity to inform myself of the Provincial Congress, of what progress has been made in the execution of the different orders you were pleased to send them. Individuals of that body inform me there is very little powder in any part of this Colony; that about sixteen hundred barrels of flour have already been sent to different ports in the *Massachusetts-Bay*; that the remainder will be despatched with all possible speed.

I have prepared a letter, which I hope to forward to-day to Colonel *Hinman*, requesting a return of the Troops under his command; their condition; the post they occupy; a minute return of the stores of every kind, which he is possessed of; and I have pointedly urged the necessity of gaining intelligence from *Canada*, and cultivating a good understanding with that people and the *Indians*. Reports prevail here that the latter have accepted the hatchet offered them by General *Carleton*, and that considerable bodies of them have been seen going to *Montreal*; and that even the *Oneidas* made part of them. Should this be confirmed, too much despatch cannot be used in the appointments of proper persons to counteract the meditated evil—an evil of the most alarming nature. Some of those accounts are said to have been made by Mr. *Swift*, a young gentleman from *Philadelphia*, who passed through here a few days ago on his way from *Canada*.

Eight transports with Troops are now at *Sandy-Hook*. It is whispered by some that they mean to land. Others affirm that they are going to *Boston*. I have taken measures to procure intelligence of their intentions, and shall take every possible precaution to secure this City against the evil consequences that would attend their landing, should they be able to effect it.

General *Washington*, before we parted, desired me to inform your Honours, that he thought it most advisable that the commissions for the officers in the *New-York* Department should be directly sent to me to be filled up.

I foresee, that unless a Commissary-General and a Quartermaster-General be appointed for this Department, that the service will not only suffer, (from disputes already rising,) but the waste of provisions that will be occasioned by the want of the first, and the extra expenses in having the necessary supplies forwarded to the different armies through such a variety of hands, for want of the last, will enhance the expenses far, very far indeed beyond what their appointments will be. On this head I can speak with confidence, because I have had long experience.

Governour *Tryon*, I have reason to believe, will not

create any trouble in his Government. It is said that he laments, and is sincere, that the unhappy controversy has been carried so far, and that he wishes a happy termination of it on principles friendly to both.

Some of the *German* people in the County of *Tryon*, and some few in other parts of this Colony, are said to be unfriendly to us. I beg leave to hint, that an address from their countrymen in *Pennsylvania*, in their own language, distributed amongst them, would, I think, have a very salutary effect. I wish some step taken to engage those people, the rather as many of them live in the vicinity of the *Indians*.

Be assured, honourable Sirs, that I shall omit nothing in my power faithfully to discharge the important trust with which you have honoured me. If, however, I should be unfortunate, I hope your candour will impute it to that want of abilities which I, with much truth and sincerity, avowed previous to my appointment, unless you should be convinced that any neglect of duty proceeded from wickedness of heart.

I am, honourable Sirs, most respectfully, your obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

#### PETER T. CURTENIUS TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Pursuant to your order, I have purchased, on the publick credit, 261 pieces ravens duck, which is all that is in Town; also, 26 bell-tents, and 635 haversacks, of Mr. *Levy*; one bell and one officers' tent, from Captain *Devereux*. I have delivered 137 pieces duck to the tent-makers, out of which they have made 250 tents, which are finished, and in my store. There remain 124 pieces duck in my hands, which will make about 227 soldiers' tents more.

I made an inquiry about blankets, and find them very scarce, and what there is, are not of the right sort or size; particulars as under. Those I sent per Captain *Wendell*, were two-point blankets, two of which sewed together will make one good blanket, and therefore bought double the quantity ordered. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

*John Morton*, 38 one-point blankets, four of which will make one good blanket.

*Abraham Brinkerhoff*, 140 blankets; one bale of them are one-point, the remainder are 9 and 10-quarter rose blankets, from 18 to 25 shillings a pair.

*Joseph Totten*, *Lawrence Embree*, *J. Pearsall*, *Eleazer Miller*, and *Alexander Robeson*, have none but 8 and 9-4 rose blankets.

#### CHARLOTTE COUNTY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Manchester, June 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: To my great surprise I found sundry men in our County of *Charlotte* about to form themselves into a mob to stop the Court. They were from different parts of the County; and we have heard that some in the County of *Albany* were about to join them, although many were dissuaded from their proceedings; yet some were on their way to *Fort Edward*, to carry into execution their evil design. But when they heard that Captain *Mott*, from *Connecticut*, was at *Fort Edward*, with his company, and *Remember Baker* and *Robert Cochran*, with an intent to protect the Court, gave over their intended expedition. Those men, I think, are mostly debtors, and design to put a period to common law. Therefore, we do most humbly pray that a resolve may be made at your honourable Board, that will encourage and strengthen the well-minded, and weaken the ill-minded, without which we fear we shall fall into the utmost confusion.

Many of our inhabitants were greatly alarmed by the Congress ordering all the cannon to be removed from *Ticonderoga*, which would have laid us open to an enemy from the Northward, and in that surprise, called the people together, and chose a man to send to the Continental Congress, alleging that they feared that some designing men would make an ill use of their names, relative to the title of our lands.

This last objection seems to weigh heavy in the minds



of many, however groundless in the opinion of others; therefore, do pray your indulgence relative to the return of the Association till we can better unite this people. All which we shall submit to your wise deliberation. Only beg leave to subscribe ourselves your most obedient and humble servants,

WILLIAM MARSH, }  
SAMUEL ROSE, } Committee-men.

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

P. S. If it should be necessary to appoint officers for the Army in this part, we think that Mr. *Gideon Brunson*, and Mr. *Potter*, and Mr. *Joseph Lockwood*, suitable men, and will accept.

#### ADDRESS TO THE ONEIDAS AND TUSCARORAS.

On the 28th of June, 1775, the *Oneidas* and *Tuscaroras* assembled at the *German Flats*, where they were met by the inhabitants of that District, and the Delegates from *Albany*. The inhabitants of the *Flats* delivered to them the following Speech:

*Brothers*: We are glad to have you here to return you thanks. We should have been much pleased to have spoken with you at the appointed place; that is, by your Superintendent, where of late you kept your council fire; but since his removing so far from us, we do not think it wrong or imprudent to communicate our sentiments of peace to you here. It is at this place, brothers, it has often been done, and here again we renew it, and brighten the old chain of peace and brotherly love.

*Brothers*: We cannot see the cause of your late council fire, or Superintendent, going away from among us. We did him no harm, and you well know that none of us ever did, and you may depend on it there was no such thing meant against him. He told our people he was going up to *Thompson's* (*Cosby's Manor*) to hold a council fire with our brothers, the *Five Nations* there. We helped him to provisions to support you there, and every thing we had that he wanted. But he is going away from among us, and told some of our people that he would come back with company which would not please us; which, if true, it is certain his intentions are bad; and he may depend, that whatever force he may or can bring, we regard not.

*Brothers*: Our present meeting does not arise from any unfriendly thoughts we entertain of you, or from any fear of ourselves. It is purely on account of the old friendship which has so long been kept up between us; that friendship we want to maintain. It is that friendship which will be an equal benefit to us. It is as much wanted on your side as ours.

*Brothers*: We cannot too much express our satisfaction of your conduct toward us, by your late proceedings with the Superintendent, at the carrying place, for which we are also obliged to you, and do not doubt but that your conduct will be blessed with greater benefits than any other of those who will hurry themselves into mischief, which can never be of any other benefit to them, but sorrow for the innocent blood that may be shed on an occasion where-with they have no concern. We look to you, particularly, to be men of more understanding than others, by the benefits you have received in learning; wherefore we confide and trust the more freely in you, that you can communicate to the other Tribes and Nations the error they want to lead you into; and cannot doubt but your wisdom and influence with the other Nations will be attended with that happy success which will hereafter be a blessing to you and your posterity.

*Brothers*: What we have said is supposed to be sufficient to convince you that our meaning is for our joint peace and friendship, in which we hope that we and our children may continue to the end of time.

#### ADDRESS OF ENGLISH MERCHANTS TO GENERAL CARLETON. Quebec, June 28, 1775.

The following is a copy of an Address unanimously agreed to, and presented by the *English Merchants* at *Quebec*, to his Excellency General *Carleton*; a similar one was, at the same time, presented by the *French*, as also from the inhabitants of *Montreal*; so that the Provin-

cials will be disappointed in their expectations of any assistance from this quarter.

To his Excellency GUY CARLETON, Esquire, Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of *Quebeck*, &c., &c., &c.

SIR: As it has been found necessary to withdraw His Majesty's Troops from this garrison, we, the subscribers, think it our duty, in the present situation of affairs, to offer our service in protecting the King's Magazines, as well as our own property in this place; and we do therefore humbly entreat your Excellency to order the Militia of *Quebeck* to be embodied, and to appoint such officers for the purpose of protecting His Majesty's subjects here as to you may seem expedient; having the honour to be His Majesty's most faithful subjects, and your Excellency's most obedient humble servants.

#### GENERAL GREENE TO JACOB GREENE, ESQ.

Rhode-Island Camp, June 28, 1775.

The hurry I have been in, and the numerous employments I am called to, have left me no opportunity to write to you. I regret it the less, as I am confident that you have heard every day from the camp, and almost every particular transaction here, with many that never were transacted here or any where else.

The particulars of the late battle of *Bunker's Hill* have been differently represented. Sometimes the enemy have lost a hundred; sometimes a thousand; and now it is up to fifteen hundred. I believe, from the best accounts I can collect, that they suffered a loss nearly equal to the last accounts. Many officers fell in the action. The *Welsh Fusileers*, the finest Regiment in the *English* establishment, is ruined; there are but one Captain and eleven privates left in the Regiment. It is said, that if some Regiments on our side had done their duty as well as others did, the Regulars must have suffered a total defeat, and would never have got possession of the intrenchments. Upon the whole, I think we have little reason to complain. There were but about fifty killed on our side, thirty made prisoners, and sixty wounded. I wish we could sell them another hill at the same price.

The Regulars are now encamped on *Bunker's Hill* and our people on *Prospect* and *Winter Hills*, both strongly intrenched. Our people are in good spirits, but regularity and discipline are much wanted. Our own Troops are raw, irregular, and undisciplined; yet, bad as they are, they are under much better government than any Troops round about *Boston*. There are some officers in each Regiment who exert themselves to bring the camp under regulations. There are some Captains, and many subaltern officers, who neglect their duty; some through fear of offending their soldiers, some through laziness, and some through obstinacy. This makes the task of the field-officers very laborious. I have warned them of their negligence many times, and am determined to break every one for the future who shall lay himself open to it.

My task is hard, and fatigue great. I go to bed late, and rise early. The number of applications you cannot conceive of, without being present to observe the round of business. But, hard as it is, if I can discharge my duty to my own honour, and my Country's satisfaction, I shall go through the toil with cheerfulness. My own officers and soldiers are generally well satisfied; nay, I have not heard one complaint.

The General Officers of the neighbouring camps treat me with the greatest respect; much more than my station or consequence entitles me to. Were I to estimate my value by the attention paid to my opinions, I should have great reason to think myself some considerable personage. But fatal experience teaches me every day, that mankind are apt to pay deference to station and not to merit. Therefore, when I find myself surrounded by their flattering attentions, I consider them as due to my office, and not to me. I shall study to deserve well, but cannot but lament the great defects I find in myself to discharge, with honour and justice, the important trust committed to my care. You know I never made much parade, nor was ambitious of raising people's expectation higher than I had reason to hope my conduct would be answerable to. The world, in



general, are too good judges not to learn the true merits of men, after being furnished with an opportunity to inspect them. I hope *God* will preserve me in the bounds of moderation, and enable me to support myself with proper dignity, neither rash nor timorous, pursuing a conduct marked with manly firmness, but never bordering on frenzy.

BIDDEFORD COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Biddeford, June 28, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: As we have thought proper to forward to your Honours, under convoy of the bearers, Messrs. *Noah Hooper* and *Edgcomb Nason*, a person who calls himself *Thomas Neal*, we apprehend it to be our duty, as a Committee of Inspection, to transmit you an exact detail of our proceedings relative to him, that he may be disposed of as your Honours may judge expedient: Therefore, beg leave to represent, that on *Saturday* last the person in question arrived in this Town, and being a stranger, some of the inhabitants were prepossessed with a suspicion of his being a spy. The Committee, in consequence, were immediately applied to. We attended, when he submitted to an examination, and gave the following account of himself, to wit: That he was a native of *Britain*; had lived several years in *America*; had frequently travelled, and was well acquainted in most of the Southern Colonies, and had, previous to the present unhappy crisis of the unnatural contest between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, acquired the birth of a steward on board of His Majesty's ship *Senegal*, Captain *Duddington*, commander; that he left *England* in said ship about ten weeks since, fully persuaded, from the representations he had then received, that the disturbance in *America* was kindled by the breath of a faction by no means formidable; that it might be easily quelled, and was universally disapproved by the cool and dispassionate of all denominations in the Colonies; that the first *American* port they touched at was *Boston*, when they soon had orders to repair to *Falmouth*, in *Casco Bay*, at which place he had been two weeks; that on his arrival in *America*, found not a faction, but the whole Continent joined in opposition to Parliamentary measures; that, therefore, he could not, in conscience, continue in a service in which he must be obliged to draw the sword against *America*; for that reason he had left the ship, and proposed going to *Philadelphia*, where he has several friends and acquaintance; and that he should have applied for a pass prior to his leaving *Falmouth*, but that he imagined such application would be attended with danger, as the ship lay in the harbour.

In order, if possible, to be more fully ascertained of the truth of the above declaration, we next day despatched a person to *Falmouth*, to wait on the Committee there, who informed him that the Steward had departed the ship, and that the Captain, supposing he had been detained by the people, sent a message to Colonel *Preble* to demand a restoration of him. The Colonel returned for answer, that he knew nothing of him, but that he was seen a little before going out of Town. Colonel *Preble* likewise informed the messenger sent by us, that he had had some conversation with this person, and heard him say he intended to leave the ship for the reasons above mentioned. He hired a horse a little without the Town of *Falmouth*, and came publickly to this place.

The above, may it please your Honours, is a true account of what we have been able to collect relative to the person in custody; and as the people here are uneasy, and still apprehensive that he may be inimical to the interests of *America*, we have judged it most eligible that he should be sent to the Congress, that your Honours may give such farther orders concerning him as your wisdom may direct,

RICHARD JORDAN,  
BENJ. HOOPER,  
THOS. GILLPATRICK,

Committee of Inspection for the Town of Biddeford.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 28, 1775.

Whereas, the Honourable Provincial Congress did, on the 26th instant, pass a Resolve, "That all the small-arms

that are or may be procured by the above order (mentioned in said Resolve) be delivered to the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, they to give their receipt for the same to the person from whom they receive them; that the same be delivered out to such officers as shall produce orders therefor from the Hon. General Ward," &c.

And whereas, the Honourable General *Ward*, in consequence of that part of the above quotation which is scored, has this day issued General Orders, in which are the words: "And the Committee of Safety are hereby ORDERED to deliver out arms to such commanding officers as make application to them for the same:"

And whereas, this Committee apprehend that said Resolve does not empower the General to order them to deliver said arms, but only to order his officers to receive from this Committee such arms as they are ordered by the honourable Congress to deliver to the General's orders to his officers.

And whereas, the Committee apprehend, that it is of vast importance that no orders are issued by the military, or obeyed by the civil powers, but only such as are directed by the honourable representative body of the people, from whom all military and civil power originates: And though this Committee are satisfied that General *Ward* has misunderstood said Resolve, and does not mean or intend to set up the military power above the civil; yet, lest this order of the General's should be adduced as a precedent in future, we think it our indispensable duty to protest against the General's said order; notwithstanding which protest, we also think it our indispensable duty to deliver said arms, agreeable to the spirit of said Resolve, and as the exigency of the publick requires, and submit our conduct to the honourable Congress.

BENJAMIN WHITE, Chairman.

To the Hon. Provincial Congress at Watertown.

JOHN O'BRIEN TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Machias, June 28, 1775.

The Petition of JOHN O'BRIEN, for and in behalf of the Inhabitants of MACHIAS, humbly sheweth:

That the inhabitants of said *Machias* are a thousand souls, who have not provision, or any method to procure it, from the situation of the times; that the provision already made for their support by this Congress fills them with gratitude, but is so small that it will not support them for any length of time. The petitioner therefore prays that said inhabitants may be supplied with some more provision, in the same or like method as upon their former petition, or they will be obliged to remove from their habitations. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN O'BRIEN.

To the Hon. Provincial Congress at Watertown.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL FOLSOM.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, June 28, 1775.

SIR: Doctor *Ezra Green* is appointed Surgeon of *Read's* Regiment, if he will accept. We are informed he is now with the Army. You will please to let him know he is appointed. The cannon are getting ready with all possible despatch. What you mention of the Artillery company, is under consideration of Congress.

We have not time to add, as the bearer is waiting, and in a great hurry, but shall write you fully by the Paymaster, who will be with you this week. Please to see that the enclosed is carefully delivered. We are, &c.

To General *Folsom*, *Medford*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE HAGUE, DATED JUNE 29, 1775.

In a full assembly of the States General the 20th ultimo, it was resolved, that orders be issued from the Admiralty Board of their High Mightinesses the States General, to the *Sieur Van Stort*, Vice-Admiral of the *Dutch* squadron in the *West-Indies*, instructing him to give orders to all persons under him, to their utmost power to seize and destroy all ammunition, stores, and provisions, which may be found



in any ship or ships bound from any of the *Dutch* settlements in that quarter, or on board *Dutch* ships from any quarter, which are bound to any port in the *English American* Colonies, except such as are consigned either to the Governours of *New-England*, *Philadelphia*, *New-York*, *Hali-fax*, or *Virginia*; and that such captures shall be considered as lawful prizes, and be shared among the officers and crews of those vessels concerned in taking them, the same as those who are enemies to the States, but that the crews (the captain, his chief mate, and supercargo, if any, excepted) be landed on the nearest Dominion of *Great Britain*, where such capture is made. Resolved, also, that *Sieur Van Stort* make this known in every *Dutch* port or harbour where he may touch.

“Ordered, that these resolutions be made known to his Excellency Mr. *York*, the *British* Minister to the States; and also a copy of the same be sent to the *Dutch* Resident at *London*.”

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED JUNE 29, 1775.

Our place has rather the appearance of a garrison town than a mart for trade; one company keeps guard all day, and two every night. In our situation we cannot be too watchful, and we may require much strength, for our negroes have all high notions of their liberty; and we lately learned by intercepted letters, and otherwise, that there have been endeavours to set the *Indians* on us. Mr. *Stewart*, the Superintendent of *Indian* affairs, is accused of being the person who has forwarded this wicked design, and he has fled for safety.

The Tories in *Georgia* are now no more; the Province is almost universally on the right side, and are about to choose Delegates to send to the Congress.

FREE THOUGHTS ON THE PRESENT TIMES AND MEASURES; ADDRESSED TO THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA.

MY COUNTRYMEN: In popular, mixed, and free Constitutions, the fluctuation of power ought to be carefully marked, and diligently attended to, lest the different branches arrogate to themselves rights and privileges not originally inherent in them. To resolve such Constitutions to their first principles, is the best criterion to judge of their purity. If they will not stand this test, we may safely pronounce them defective; and then our next inquiry should be, where has the error begun, or the violation originated? When this point is gained, like a skilful physician, who reckons a competent knowledge of the distemper of his patient half way towards his cure, we ought to exert ourselves to combat the evil in its origin, and eradicate it out of the political body. If lenitives should fail we should have recourse to corrosives; for the political as well as the human state must sooner or later sustain a convulsion, if the latent or obvious infirmities in its frame are not timely removed. As prudence will ever guard against the one, so it will endeavour to discover and heal the other. It is a duty of the first importance, interwoven in the honest man's constitution, and founded in that love for his Country which, in the generous breast, supersedes all other considerations; it is a task *Virginius* has prescribed himself, and which he will constantly execute, let what may be the consequence.

In the present alarming situation of affairs between the *American* Colonies and *Great Britain*, if the publick attention were not wholly absorbed in the multiplicity of so many more alarming objects, a late Proclamation\* would scarcely fail of attracting notice; but though it be of an inferiour nature, and more capable perhaps of exciting our contempt than indignation, yet, my fellow-citizens, I think it ought not to be suffered to pass unstigmatized. The person who manifests an intention of doing you an injury in your persons or properties, is perhaps a degree less criminal than the real aggressor, under the strict letter of the law, but not a jot so in *foro conscientia*. Whoever, therefore, would dare circumscribe your privileges, or abridge those rights which the laws of *God*, of nature, and reason, and the liberties of the *British* Constitution have given

\* Published the 28th of *March* last, by our Governour.

you, however dignified his station or exalted his condition, ought to be dragged out to open and publick view, and held up to the indignation of an injured, incensed people. Soothed as we have been hitherto by the Earl of *Dunmore's* vacant indifference, amidst the convulsions of this distressed Country, if we did not consider him as a friend, we never imagined him an enemy. But time, the great revealer of secrets, has at last convinced us that we were sadly mistaken. His letter to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, replete with the most injurious misrepresentations and the most notorious falsehoods; his removal of the powder from the magazine of the Country, at a time that the minds of the people were alarmed with the justest apprehensions; his offers to our slaves, and the general turbulence thereby occasioned all over the Colony; his late Proclamation, charging you, my countrymen, with disaffection to the present form of Government, and a settled design of altering it; but above all, his late heroick transaction in setting a trap in the magazine, with the express intention to murder our incautious fellow-citizens; all these circumstances put together, leave no doubt, my dear countrymen, I hope, in your breasts of the intentions and views of your Governour.

A countryman put a snake, pinched with cold and expiring with hunger, into his bosom. The snake no sooner began to feel a genial warmth and a renovation of strength from the fostering hand of its protector, than it displayed the native malevolence of its constitution; it bit the countryman, and if the kind protector did not expire of the wound, it was rather owing to the soundness and vigour of his constitution than to the leniency of the adder's tooth.

In whatever light I behold the late conduct of *John* Earl of *Dunmore*, his disingenuity extorts my utmost contempt. As the representative of the King, candour and truth, at least, we had some reason to expect from him. But, alas! how have we been disappointed. Witness the above mentioned letter to the Earl of *Dartmouth*. As freemen, I humbly think, also, we were entitled to every species of freedom that a man in *Great Britain* claims. The *British* subject claims it as his undoubted right to associate with his fellow-citizens in a peaceable manner, deliberate on his grievances, and he thinks it no very extraordinary piece of presumption to petition the King for a redress. This privilege is denied you by the Earl of *Dunmore*. Your grievances he styles pretended, and the measures you have concerted to obtain a redress are termed unjustifiable; consequently, my countrymen, this pageant of State, this machine of Government, thinks it incumbent on him to inhibit you the exercise of a right that the King of *Great Britain* was never hardy enough to deny the *British* Nation. If I behold him gloriously engaged in clandestinely removing the powder from the magazine in the night, how is it possible to refuse him the tribute of my applause? Aided by your worthy compeer, *Collins*, (no despicable auxiliary,) the fame of that night's transaction will certainly, if gratitude is not banished the world as well as virtue and honour, transmit your name, my Lord, with undiminished lustre to future ages. How will it sound in the annals of some future historian, that on such a night the Right Honourable his Excellency *John* Earl of *Dunmore*, Lieutenant-Governour and Commander-in-Chief of *Virginia* and Vice-Admiral of the same, had gone privately in the night, and burglariously broke open the publick magazine of the Country, and stole thereout about twenty barrels of gunpowder, lodged therein for the use and exigence of the Colony? And lest any part of this memorable transaction be forgot, I hope the historian will not omit to mention that Captain *Henry Collins*, commander of one of the King's armed vessels (the terror of oyster boats and fishing canoes) in the Bay of *Chesapeake*, had aided and assisted, and valiantly co-operated with your Lordship in that arduous and important exploit; that when remonstrated with on what the *Virginians* thought an imprudent, improper, absurd, disingenuous step, you honourably pledged your word that you would return the powder, and remove every cause of discontent, and that then, almost in a breath, you basely violated your word; that you made use of such low, unmanly evasions and subterfuges, to deceive the people of *Virginia*, as no one, unless totally dead to every sense of shame and every manly exertion, would have recourse to; that you have added the corrup-



tions of the worst of hearts to the blunders of the worst of heads; that having once gone wrong, you think it your duty to persist in the road of error; that as you have done so,\* recrimination you think is your best asylum; and that to avoid the importunity of a free expostulation, (too severe a trial to the self-condemned,) your last retreat is the *Fowey*. Tracing you, my Lord, through all the mazes of your iniquity, I will drop the ridicule, and seriously ask you if you can wonder that the people of this Colony have withdrawn their confidence from you? Can any confidence be reposed in a murderer? I know not how your Lordship could reconcile to your feelings the idea of the secret assassin, the dark murderer. But I believe there are very few who do not rank you in that class. I care not whether the incautious but brave young fellows who have fallen victims to your dark plans, have expired of their wounds or not; it is the intention of the agent that should regulate our judgment of any action, and here you should stand self-convicted. Will you, then, confess that evil counsellors and pernicious advisers betrayed you into that diabolical project? Or that it was the machination of your own corrupt heart? Deviate, I conjure you, for once, into candour, and make atonement for the many injuries you have done this distressed Country; drive from your presence the reptiles that have involved you in your present difficulties and embarrassment with a brave and free people, who, I believe, once esteemed you, and would doubtless continue to do so, had you continued to merit their approbation; candidly acknowledge your faults, and you may yet mitigate the resentment of the *Virginians*, but you can never recover their esteem.

To what fatality, my Lord, can it be imputed that you, who have been hitherto considered as an inoffensive, easy, good natured man, should suddenly become black as the *Ethiop*, and prostitute abilities never, indeed, designed to shine in the superiour spheres of life, but which, in the calm retreats of social converse, if properly managed, might exempt you from censure? Is the paltry emolument of the government of *Virginia* so intrinsically considerable that you must sacrifice your honour, your virtue, your reputation, (if you ever had any,) to the preservation of it? Does it necessarily follow as an indispensable conclusion, because you have accepted an office from our most pious and gracious Sovereign, that you must, chameleon-like, alter your colour, your complexion, your sentiments, and, in short, that you must become the very reverse of what you were at the time of your investiture? Are not the strongest marks of an overbearing influence discernible in your whole conduct? Or must we impute the complexion of your political manœuvres to a parity of sentiments in your royal master? These are questions, my Lord, that the late tenour of your conduct would require a solution of. It rests with you to determine whether it needs any justification. I shall urge you no further at present, but leave you to brood in solitude, disappointed and baffled, as I wish you and all the enemies of *America* ever may be, over half-formed schemes of imaginary promotion, despicable as a *Bernard* or a *Hutchinson*, and with *Woolsey's* last consolation: "Had I as industriously served my *God* as I have my King, he would not now have forsaken me!"

Wonderful and unaccountable are, my dear fellow-citizens, the works and dispensation of Providence! By a strange but noble species of alchymy, we perceive the greatest possible good resulting from the greatest evil. The *Boston* Port Bill, intended by a most abandoned Ministry to intimidate and divide, has joined together in an indissoluble union the whole *American* Continent from the Bay of *Fundy* to the Gulf of *Florida*. The famine bills to the Northward were designed for the same purpose, as well as the restraining bills, to operate in these Southern Colonies; but instead of answering the ends of their devisers, I trust they will cover their guilty heads with ruin and confusion. Tyrants I from my soul abhor, and whether individuals or aggregate bodies, they are equally the objects of my detestation. Oh! if there is a *God*, and that there is all nature cries aloud throughout her works, he must delight in virtue, and that which he delights in must be happy. Your exertions for liberty, my countrymen, must be pleasing to the great Creator of the Universe. Your cause, O *Virginians*,

is the cause of virtue, of justice, and of truth. Never, then, relinquish it but with your latest breath, and let it be the last glorious boast of your lives that you have transmitted the precious inheritance inviolate to your sons.

VIRGINIUS.

Chester County, Pennsylvania, June 29, 1775.

At a meeting of several officers of several companies of the Militia in the County of *Chester*, it was unanimously agreed, for the better regulation of the military order of said County, to have a general meeting of all the officers of the several companies, to be held at the house of *Richard Cheney*, Inn-keeper, in the Township of *East Cain*, on the 21st of *July*, at ten o'clock, A. M., which will be the day immediately after the Continental Fast, then and there to divide this County into the most proper and convenient districts, in order to form our several Battalions and choose our Field-Officers. The gentlemen officers are therefore hereby earnestly requested to attend for the abovesaid purposes.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, June 29, 1775.

Whereas several persons, through a misapprehension of the Resolves which have been entered into by the Provincial Convention, relative to the killing of Sheep, have purchased Ram Lamb in the market of this City, contrary to the intent and meaning of said Resolve; the Committee, in order to prevent such mistakes in future, request the publick will take notice that, agreeable to the purport of the Resolve aforesaid, no Sheep of what denomination soever may be killed or purchased under four years of age; and that the names of all persons who shall, after this, be discovered to act in opposition to said Resolve, will be published forthwith to the world.

*Ordered*, That notice be given in the publick papers to all masters of vessels which may arrive in this port, that the Committee of Inspection will meet every day at twelve o'clock, at the Coffee-House, to receive a report of their respective cargoes. And it is expected that no Captain will fail to attend the Committee the first noon after his arrival; and that owners of vessels and consignees will direct their Captains accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the following Report of the District Committee, No. 2, concerning the Ship *Christopher*, Captain *Edwards*, from *Gibraltar*, be made publick, viz:

"We, the District Committee, No. 2, appointed to attend the discharging a cargo of Salt from on board the Ship *Christopher*, do report to the General Committee, that we have attended said duty with care, and that we are fully satisfied that no *British* Goods were imported in said ship, nor the Association of the Congress in any wise violated."

Extract from the Minutes:

J. B. SMITH, *Secretary*.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress, July 3, 1775.]

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with the Resolve of Congress of the 10th of *June*, instant, we have wrote to the proprietors of the Powder Mills in this Colony, requesting them immediately to put their Mills in a condition to manufacture Powder for the use of the Continent.

Upon inquiry we find that there can be purchased in this City sixteen or twenty tons of Sulphur, which we conceive will be more than sufficient for the Saltpetre that may be collected in the different Colonies.

If the Congress should be of this opinion, it will be necessary to give directions to the other Colonies not to send to this City any Sulphur, but to direct their attention to the article of Saltpetre only; of this article there are but two hundred and fifty pounds to be purchased here at present.

We submit this matter to the consideration of the Congress, and are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Congress:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress.

\* See the Governour's reasons for leaving *Williamsburgh*, to reside on board the *Fowey*.



## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONGRESS.

[Read in Congress July 1, 1775.]

New-York, June 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I did myself the honour to write you yesterday, since which I have received some intelligence which I think it my duty to lay before you.

A gentleman, a member of the Provincial Congress here, is this afternoon arrived from *Albany*. He advises that a few of the *Oneida Indians* are lately arrived at that place, in a disposition very friendly to our cause; that they have declared a desire that the *Indians* should be called together at *Albany*, or in its neighbourhood; that great attention was paid them by the *Albany Committee*. As so good an opportunity to conciliate their affections will, I trust, be readily embraced by your Honours, I have ventured to advise the *Albany Committee* to dismiss them with presents, and assurances that they will speedily be requested to meet persons appointed for the purpose of holding a conference with them, either at *Albany* or any other convenient place.

The troops on board the transports at *Sandy-Hook*, from the best intelligence I am able to procure, are destined for *Boston*; they have been detained to take in water, and I am well assured that they are to sail tomorrow.

Permit me, honoured Sirs, to request that I may be favoured with a copy of the arrangement of the General and Staff-Officers in your Army, of the pay allowed them, and every other officer and soldier, and receive your orders what allowance of provisions each man is to have per day, that all troops under my command may be equally provided for, to prevent uneasiness. Enclose a copy of my letter to Colonel *Hinman*, commanding at *Ticonderoga*.

I am, honoured Sirs, respectfully, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO COLONEL HINMAN.

New-York, June 28, 1775.

SIR: The honourable Continental Congress having been pleased to appoint me to a Major-General's command in the *American Army*, and being directed to take charge of that part of it which is or may be employed in the Province of *New-York*, I do myself the pleasure to advise you thereof.

You will please with all expedition to make me a return of the troops under your command and their condition, specifying from which Colony they are, what number of them are at *Crown Point*, what at *Ticonderoga*, the landing on Lake *George*, and the south end of said lake, or at any other post you may have occupied. And that the service may not suffer for want of any thing necessary with you, I beg of you to make me a very minute return of the provision, cannon, ammunition, artillery stores, intrenching and pioneer tools, at every of the above mentioned places; as also of the number of vessels on Lake *George*, what kind they are, and their burden; the same of those on Lake *Champlain*.

As it is of the highest importance that good intelligence of General *Carleton's* motions should be had, let me entreat you to spare no pains to procure the best accounts of what he is about; of the disposition of the *Canadians* and *Savages* towards us; what posts are occupied against us; if fortified, and how; the number of men with which they are garrisoned, whether of *Canadians* or Regular Troops; and from time to time transmit me any intelligence you may procure. Take every opportunity of giving the *Canadians* and *Indians* the strongest assurances of our friendly sentiments towards them; and if they should unfortunately have entertained any that are unfavourable from Mr. *Allen's* excursion into their country, try and eradicate them by assurances that what he did was without any orders; and although I am convinced he meant to serve the cause of *America* by what he did, yet it may be well, if the *Canadians* have taken umbrage at it, to inform them that his conduct in that instance was disapproved of.

In military contests it behoves every commander to be extremely diligent, careful, and circumspect to watch every movement of his opponents; this I have confidence you will not by any means neglect any more than that of put-

ting yourself in the best posture of defence. And as it is necessary to prepare against possible accidents, I would have you take measures to secure a retreat to the south end of Lake *George* or *South-Bay*, if at any time you should be unhappily forced to so disagreeable a step.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Colonel *Hinman*, commanding at *Ticonderoga*.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 29, 1775.

SIR: As I propose that the troops from *Connecticut* should encamp this morning, permit me to beg of you to give orders that tents to the number of two hundred and fifty, with the poles, be sent down as soon as possible to the grounds the troops are to occupy. They will also be in immediate want of fuel for dressing their victuals, and for straw to lie on.

Pray be so good as to let me know at what hour you think the tents can be at the place destined for the encampment. I am, Sir, respectfully your most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President, &c.

## CHARLOTTE COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting held at *Fort Edward*, June 29, 1775, to choose three Delegates to represent the County of *Charlotte* at the Provincial Congress convened at the City of *New-York*, with Doctor *John Williams* and *William Marsh*, Esq., before chosen by a number of the inhabitants of said County:

Be it known, that Doctor *George Smyth*, *David Watkins*, and *Archibald Campbell*, Esquires, are duly elected, and it is the sense of the inhabitants of the County aforesaid that the above named *John Williams*, *William Marsh*, *George Smyth*, *David Watkins*, and *Archibald Campbell*, they, or either of them, shall represent the said County in the Provincial Congress at *New-York*.

Signed by order of the County Committee:

ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, *Chairman*.

## JACOB BAYLEY TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Newbury, June 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Lately we received a desire from you to send a member or two to the Provincial Congress at *New-York*. We met and chose one, Sir, myself; but considering our distance and the danger we might be in of a visit from *Canada*, thought best that I do not yet attend until we were prepared to meet with an enemy at home. I am taking what pains I can to be prepared with arms and ammunition, but as yet to but little purpose; am still apprehensive of danger from *Canada*, and cannot be absent. I have had intelligence from an *Indian* to be depended on, who informs me that they shall be forced to take up arms, if we do not help them by sending an army to *Canada*, and say they are both threatened and flattered; says that the *French* and *Indians* will join us, and make no doubt but *Quebeck* will be taken, (which is their desire,) but if it is neglected much longer it may be fatal to them and us. I have employed him to bring intelligence from *Canada*, and must meet him myself, and shall transmit to you. I should think that if orders were sent to me, I could raise two or three hundred men from the neighbouring Governments, which must be necessary either for our defence or to proceed to *Canada*.

If it is thought best to raise men, arms (at least two hundred) and powder and flints must be sent. Mr. *Harvey* will inform more, and take care of whatever is sent. Mean time I am endeavouring to supply ourselves from seaports eastward.

We acknowledge with gratitude the notice taken of us by you; shall acquiesce in the measures which shall be taken by you; shall attend as soon as we are in a posture of defence.

Wish prosperity to the cause of liberty and truth. Am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JACOB BAYLEY.

To the Provincial Congress for *New-York* Colony.



New-York, June 29, 1775.

MR. HOLT: You are requested to publish the enclosed Association, adopted and signed by a number of the inhabitants of a Town in a neighbouring Colony, for the information of the people of this City and Province.

Newtown, Fairfield County,  
Colony of Connecticut, April 12, 1775. }

Whereas, a considerable number of the inhabitants of this Town have, in a publick meeting, passed certain Resolves in opposition to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, (which have since been published in Mr. *Rivington's* Paper,) we have thought it expedient in some suitable way to make known our minds also respecting those matters; and therefore having subscribed the following Resolves, desire they may be printed, with the several names affixed:

We, the subscribers, do sincerely profess ourselves to be liege subjects of King *George* the Third. But from the best acquaintance with publick affairs that we have been able to attain, cannot but be deeply apprehensive that several Acts passed by the late *British* Parliament relative to *North-America* are of a very unconstitutional and oppressive nature in their tendency, directly subversive of those precious rights and privileges to which the Colonies have an indubitable claim, which Acts, therefore, are of a very alarming nature; and not being able to conceive but that the measures come into, and recommended by the late Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, are very consistent with our sworn loyalty to our King, and in the main wisely calculated to obtain redress of said publick grievances: we do, therefore, hereby signify our willingness and purpose to be compliant in our several stations with the Resolves of said Congress.

NEWTOWN, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, February 13, 1775.

|                      |                       |                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Richard Fairman,     | Richard Smith,        | Joshua Hatch,     |
| John Botsford,       | Ebenezer Smith,       | Joseph Wheeler,   |
| Abraham Bennett,     | Matthew Curtiss, Jr., | Nathaniel Little, |
| David Judson,        | Benjamin Dunning,     | Nathaniel Brisco, |
| John Chandler,       | Eli Dunning,          | Joel Basset,      |
| Amos Botsford,       | Abijah Dunning,       | Amos Smith,       |
| Caleb Baldwin, Jun., | Paulo Dunning,        | Nathan Burritt,   |
| Gideon Botsford,     | Henry Peck,           | Joseph Smith,     |
| Joseph Smith, Jun.,  | Jared Dunning,        | Thomas Bennett,   |
| Ephraim Sherman,     | Samuel Brown,         | Eleazer Burritt,  |
| Amos Northrup,       | Gideon Dunning,       | Asa Cogswell,     |
| Ichabod Fairman,     | James Sanford,        | James Fairchild,  |
| Abm. Bennett, Jun.,  | Job Bunnel,           | Henry Wood,       |
| David Curtiss,       | David Jackson,        | George Terril,    |
| Jabez Botsford,      | Gershom Jackson,      | Fitch Kimberly,   |
| Silas Hubbel,        | Ephraim Jackson,      | John Basset,      |
| Abel Baldwin,        | Silas Dunning,        | William Wright,   |
| Elijah Botsford,     | David Jackson, Jun.,  | Josiah Beardslee, |
| Henry Fairman,       | Rich. Fairman, Jun.,  | Nathaniel Cada,   |
| Gid. Botsford, Jun., | Joshua Northrup,      | Joseph Gunn,      |
| Abraham Botsford,    | Enos Northrup,        | Matthew Baldwin,  |
| Jonathan Northrup,   | Daniel Jackson,       | Silas Fairchild,  |
| Aaron Gregory,       | Thomas Brooks,        | Amos Burritt.     |
| Clement Botsford,    |                       |                   |

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN HARTFORD,  
DATED FORT GEORGE, NEAR TICONDEROGA, JUNE 29,  
1775.

The reports from the northward are various; it is thought, from the best accounts, that the *Canadians* will be very reluctant to enter into the service against the Colonies, and it is pretty certain that General *Carleton* has hanged two or three of them for refusing, and speaking to discourage others; so that it is on the whole believed, that through all the stratagems of tyranny, *Carleton* will dragoon a number of the *Canadians* and *Indians* into the service, and it is generally believed he is making preparations to come against us; but some think otherwise, and that he is only fortifying at *St. John's*, to prevent any incursions from us. Doubtless a short time will discover which of these is the truth. We have certain intelligence that *Guy Johnson* is making all the interest possible to raise the *Indians* about the Lakes and *Oswegatchie* against us.

Williamsburgh, June 30, 1775.

Last Friday there was a very full meeting of the inhabitants of this City at the Court-House, convened there by desire of our Representative, the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, to consider of the expediency of stationing a number of men here for the publick safety, as well as to assist the citizens in their nightly watches, to

guard against any surprise from our enemies; when it was unanimously agreed (until the General Convention meets, who no doubt will provide against every contingency) to invite down, from a number of Counties, to the amount of two hundred and fifty men, who are expected in a very few days. Meanwhile, until they arrive, the neighbouring Counties are kind enough to lend us their assistance, the *James City* volunteers having furnished us with a guard on Wednesday; a party of the *New-Kent* volunteers did duty last night, and this day we expect another detachment from that County, as well as a number of the *York* volunteers.

Early yesterday morning sailed from *Yorktown* His Majesty's Ship *Fowey*, and the *Magdalen* Schooner; which last, we are informed, proceeded to *England* immediately, with Lady *Dunmore* and the rest of the Governour's family, attended by his Lordship's Chaplain, the Reverend Mr. *Gwatkin*.

#### CUMBERLAND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

To the Inhabitants of CUMBERLAND County, VIRGINIA:  
The Address of the Committee of the said County,  
convened on FRIDAY, the 30th of JUNE, 1775.

DEAR COUNTRYMEN: In contemplation of securing your dearest rights and liberties against the oppression of *Great Britain*, you some months ago elected us, (subordinate to those august bodies the Continental Congress and Provincial Convention,) by your free and unbiassed suffrages, guardians of these invaluable blessings. At a short period after receiving this honour, we convened ourselves for the purpose of discharging the important trusts so reposed in us, and have, from time to time, devised such means for a happy event of your weighty contest as the maturest deliberation could suggest. In return, you have ever paid us the grateful tribute of entire confidence, testified by the most implicit acquiescence and concurrence in whatever we recommended. We with pleasure bear in mind a very recent instance of your confidence, that of the late speedy and cheerful contribution of moneys requested of you for the purpose of making military preparations; which, you may depend, no means shall be untried for laying out for the best advantage. We find, however, that you can still contribute much to this preparation, by applying diligently to making Saltpetre; this is an article much wanted, as an ingredient for making Gunpowder. Your tobacco-houses and stable floors are foundations from which Saltpetre may be produced, with but little work, in great abundance and perfection. We entreat you, therefore, to apply for the most short and ready process, and lose no time in making this necessary, but easily-procured, article.

We have been attentive to the movements of the cursed instruments of your troubles; and, had any prospects of an accommodation with the Parent State come within our view, we should gladly have laid them before you; but we must now expressly tell you, that it is to be feared no such event can be expected at all. Your enemies seem implacable in their determination to ruin *American* liberty, and, with that view, suffer no engine to lie still which can be put in motion by any manœuvre, however mean, cowardly, and detestable. For instances, we need only refer you to the late conduct of that mercenary ministerial tool, Lord *Dunmore*, within your own Colony; and be assured, that many such hirelings are employed, and will be as long as means can be supplied for paying them. In short, we must tell you, that nothing can be expected for your relief from the virtue of a *British* Ministry or Parliament; though, true it is, there are some members, in both Houses of the latter, who, ashamed of the black deeds of their body, daily, to their lasting honour, hold out their names as dissentients; yet, unhappily for *Britain*, and *America* too, they are but few. You may, indeed, at this time, consider yourselves in a state of civil war with *Great Britain*; for several engagements have been had between her troops and the brave inhabitants of your sister Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*. We have long since considered all the *American* Colonies as united, in opposing the oppressive measures of *Great Britain*; a blow, therefore, struck at one, is a blow struck at all. Since matters have gone to such lengths there, you must daily look for the invaders in your own country, which is equally destined to destruction; or



should the whole force of your enemies be bent on that, or any other Colony, you must not think a march thither too far. Believe us, when we tell you, that in your arms, under Divine assistance, rests your security. We entreat, you, therefore, by that regard you have for the safety of your persons; for your liberties, civil and religious; for every thing which can render your being on earth happy; by what is of more weighty consideration, that tender regard you have for the happiness of your posterity, for endless ages to come; under sanction of that confidence you repose in us: that you, without delay, apply to your arms as speedily as possible; put them in the best condition; make yourselves acquainted with military discipline, and stand in readiness for actual service, upon the shortest warning; put down every animosity from amongst yourselves; pay obedience to officers properly appointed; let no discontents, on account of their advancement, prevent your attention to them, for now your movements must harmonize. The time is arrived at which no private consideration should interfere with the safety of the State; observe the old maxim, "United we stand, divided we fall."

We entreat you, with like earnestness, to preserve what ammunition you have by you; do not expend it on any occasion whatever, except under the greatest necessity, for you may depend that more will be wanted for your defence than can shortly be procured. Pay attention to these our entreaties, and fear not.

Your American brethren are firm; you have many friends in *Great Britain and Ireland*; and, in the justness of your cause, you may, with confidence, look up to Heaven for assistance; in supplication of whose interposition to avert the approaching scene of blood and destruction, we recommend that you, universally, in compliance with the appointment of the Grand Continental Congress, devote *Thursday*, the twentieth day of *July*, to humiliation, fasting, and prayer.

GEORGE CARRINGTON, *Chairman*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ONE OF THE VIRGINIA DELEGATES TO HIS FRIEND IN WILLIAMSBURGH, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 30, 1775.

You will see that our enemies had little to boast of for being able to force our Troops from *Bunker's Hill*. It is no wonder they did so, with superiour numbers, ships-of-war, floating batteries, and field artillery. Their loss has certainly been very great, and now they dare not go from under protection of their ships' cannon. Our Army now before *Boston* amounts to about fifteen thousand effective men, commanded by Generals *Washington, Ward, Lee, Putnam, Gates of Berkely*, with several Brigadiers. In *New-York*, we have now about four thousand; and they are to be increased to five thousand, under the immediate command of General *Schuyler*. The *Canadians* absolutely refuse to join *Carleton*, and the *Indians* assure us they will observe a strict neutrality. Thus, we seem to be well secured in the north against ministerial madness. A faithful observance of the Association with us will surely rouse the sleeping lion ere long, and bring exemplary punishment on the most abandoned Ministry that ever abused mankind, and disgraced human nature. Sir *William Meredith* has cheated the *Liverpool* men, and they are sending out goods as usual; but all their ships, yet arrived, have been sent back. It will be necessary, however, to keep a good look out to prevent their slipping in through other doors less attentively watched than this place, and *Charleston*, in *South-Carolina*.

We are here confined to a constant and painful attendance on business, from nine in the morning to four and five, and sometimes six o'clock in the afternoon; and, what is more, have not the most distant prospect of rising yet.

We have sent to *Virginia* and *Maryland* for two companies of riflemen from each Province, and six from this, to join the Army before *Boston*. Two millions of dollars are ordered to be struck upon the faith of the twelve United Colonies, for the payment of the Continental Army.

NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, June 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your letter of the 23d instant, and are sorry to be informed of your being retard-

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ed by any difficulties in completing your levies. It would be extremely imprudent to suggest the least hint of your objections to the Congress. Be assured that the Northern and some other Colonies are ready to raise men on almost any terms, and would be happy of an opportunity of furnishing Troops without any allowance for bounty or clothes.

Permit us earnestly to recommend to you to proceed in this business with alacrity and despatch. The honour as well as the interest of the Province is much concerned in the success of this measure. Your neighbours of *Connecticut* boast of their having raised their men in ten days' time; endeavour not to be behind hand with them.

We have the pleasure to acquaint you that a Continental currency is forming, and when completed, you will be immediately supplied with a sum adequate to your exigences.

If forces cannot be raised without bounties, we beg leave to submit it to your consideration, whether it would not be better to do it at the expense of the Province, or by advancing it on the credit of their pay, than lose this opportunity of signalizing your attachment to the cause, and provide for a great number of your poor.

From the intelligence we have received of the state of ammunition in your City and Province, we are apprehensive that you are so destitute of powder as to be exposed to very imminent danger in case of an attack, against which we think it extremely necessary that provision be speedily made.

We fear there are too many in *New-York* who flatter themselves with safety and security from the removal of the Troops. For our parts we consider it as a mere temporary suspension of danger, and that this opportunity of putting the Country in a posture of defence, is very fortunate, and by all means to be improved.

We are, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and humble servants,

PHILIP LIVINGSTON, WILLIAM FLOYD,  
JOHN ALSOP, ROBT. LIVINGSTON, JUN.  
JOHN JAY,

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq.*

P. S. Since writing the above, the Congress have requested the Committee of *Philadelphia* immediately to send forward fifty quarter-casks of powder; it set out this day consigned to the Committee at *Elizabethtown*, who will send it to *Dobb's Ferry*. You are requested to provide for its being immediately taken from thence and carried to *Albany*, for the use of the Troops at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 1, 1775.]

New-York, June 30, 1775.

SIR: I do myself the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th instant, which I received late last night, enclosing the Resolutions of Congress of the preceding day, and copy of a letter from the Committee of *Albany*, bearing date 20th *June*, 1775.

In obedience to the Resolutions of Congress, I shall without delay repair to *Ticonderoga*. It will, however, be necessary, previous to my departure from hence, that I should take order to have the variety of articles, necessary to carry into execution the views of the Congress, sent after me with all expedition: this will probably detain me until *Monday*.

The success of the intended operation will evidently depend so much on despatch, that I am sorry I do not think myself at liberty to move the Troops now here to *Albany* without the immediate consent of Congress. At this place I do not apprehend they can be wanted. At *Albany* they would greatly facilitate and expedite the service, as well as save expense by their assistance in the transportation of stores and provisions, and by their aid in building boats, carriages, &c., &c.; and as they must ultimately go on this service, the forces at *Ticonderoga* being vastly inadequate to the enterprise, I wish for the sense of the Congress with all possible despatch, and therefore I send this by express. On a service of this kind, in which success will be attended with such a variety of important and salutary consequen-



ces, I beg leave to suggest that every measure ought to be pursued that has a probable tendency to it; and therefore I hint that on a service in which we shall in all probability be encountered by *Indians*, a body of riflemen would be of vast utility. Perhaps I might be favoured with part at least of those now levying in *Pennsylvania*.

I shall immediately despatch a trusty person, Mr. *Walter Livingston*, to Governour *Trumbull*, for the two important articles of money and ammunition, neither of which can, at any rate, be procured here. The former is so much wanted here, that I am under apprehensions that the service in general may suffer, unless the Provincial Congress of this place can have a supply speedily.

The appointments I recommended in mine of the 28th are now become so pressingly necessary that I beg leave again to recommend them to the attention of Congress.

I am, Sir, with the greatest respect, yours and the Congress's most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President, &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 30, 1775.

SIR: I do myself the honour to acquaint your respectable body, that late last evening I received some despatches containing matters of the first importance. They were accompanied by an order, the carrying of which into execution will require the aid of your body. I therefore wish to meet with a small Committee at any time and place, and the soonest possible, before whom I will lay such part of my orders as will become the subject of your consideration.

I am, Sir, with sentiments of respect and esteem, yours and the gentlemen of the Congress's most obedient and humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

*Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the *New-York* Provincial Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, June 30, 1775.

SIR: I enclose your Honour a copy of a Resolution of the honourable the Continental Congress. I should have been happy if either of the important articles mentioned in it could have been procured here. The Provincial Congress of this Colony have already pledged their faith and fortunes for a very considerable debt, accrued on the publick account. They will, however, with that distinguished zeal for the common cause, which has already done them so much honour, do every thing in their power to carry into execution the important views of the Continental Congress, and furnish me with such articles as they shall be able to procure here. I am, however, left under the necessity of calling on your Honour for the aid of fifteen or twenty thousand Pounds of your money, (the latter sum if possible,) which I wish to have at *Albany* as soon as conveniently it may, and have therefore sent *Walter Livingston*, Esq., a member of the Provincial Congress here. Into this gentleman's hands your Honour will please to put the money, taking his receipt for the same; and permit me to entreat you, Sir, to give him an escort of some gentlemen, to his father's (Col. *Livingston*) on *Hudson's* River. Ammunition, that indispensably necessary article, cannot be had here even in the smallest quantity; hence my demand on your Honour must necessarily be considerable. I wish I could possibly do with less than six tons of powder. If any more can be spared you will doubtless send it. This article I wish to have forwarded by land to any part of *Hudson's* River. I shall immediately despatch a trusty officer to *Connecticut*, to take charge of it.

I shall be extremely happy to receive a line from you, the soonest possible, and by express, on the subject matter of this application, directed to me at *Albany*, that I may have it in my power to attempt other measures, should it be out of your power to comply with this requisition.

I am, &c., your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

The Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

CAPTAIN JOHN LAMB TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, June 30, 1775.

SIR: As there is no appointment of a Second Lieutenant in the arrangement of the Artillery Company proposed to be under my command, I take the liberty to recommend the bearer, *Martin Johnson*, as a proper person to be appointed to that station. Captain *McDougall* will shew you the arrangement for the Artillery Company which lately went from *Rhode-Island* to the *Massachusetts-Bay*; from which you will see the propriety of such an appointment. It will likewise be proper to appoint a Lieutenant Fireworker; but I do not at present know a proper person to recommend.

I am, with the greatest respect, Sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN LAMB.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq.

SAMUEL MOTT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Fort George, June 30, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: Two days ago by a kind hand of Providence I arrived in health at this place, and am this day going for *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*. I have seen the Honourable Judge *Duer*, of *Charlotte* County, one of *New-York* Committee, and Colonel *Sullivan* and two others of the *Massachusetts* Congress, who have been over to *Ticonderoga*, &c., and told me of the very extraordinary ill conduct of Colonel *Arnold*, the particulars of which I suppose your Honour will have from Colonel *Hinman*. I was advised by Judge *Duer*, and those from *Massachusetts*, to write immediately down for Captain *Robert Niles*, of *Norwich*, to come up and take command of one of the vessels, as they are a very important part of our defence, and as I could recommend him as a bold and able sea commander; but I thought your Honour the only proper judge of the feasibility and propriety of such a measure, and also that your Honour only could commission Captain *Niles* for that service, if judged expedient. I have nothing in my department of any importance to report to your Honour. Our reports from the northward are various. I had a verbal message from the Rev. Mr. *Kirkland*, informing me that *Guy Johnson* was doing all in his power to stimulate the *Indian* Nations against us; but he did not think they would in any measure be unanimous against us; yet he did not doubt that a number from the several tribes might be raised against us. After I have viewed *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, I shall report their state, with my opinion thereon, to your Honour; and meanwhile am your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

SAMUEL MOTT.

His Honour the Governour.

WORCESTER COUNTY (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee for the County of *Worcester*, this 30th day of *June*, 1775:

*Voted*, That in the present critical situation of our publick affairs, when the Province is about assuming government, and many persons, by undue methods, may be seeking offices of profit and honour, we would offer for the consideration of the respective Towns in this County, whether it would not be expedient to instruct their several members to be very vigilant, and inquire into the characters of such as may be nominated for Counsellors; and also that they pitch on proper persons to recommend as respectable to fill up the respective executive and military offices, and that the substance of this vote be inserted in the *Worcester* paper.

GENERAL WARD TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 11, 1775.]

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, June 30, 1775.

SIR: I have this day received your favour of the twenty-second instant, in which you are so kind as to inform me of the General Officers that the honourable Continental Congress have appointed.

I wish, Sir, the appointments in this Colony may not have a tendency to create uneasiness among us, which we ought, at this critical time, to be extremely careful to avoid.

I have, Sir, to acknowledge the receipt of the commission as a Major-General, and do heartily wish that the



honour had been conferred upon a person better qualified to execute a trust so important. It would give me great satisfaction if I thought myself capacitated to act with dignity, and to do honour to that Congress which has exalted me to be second in command over the *American Army*. I hope they will accept my sincere desire to serve them, and my most grateful acknowledgments for the honour conferred upon me, and pray they may not be wholly disappointed in their expectations. I always have been, and am still ready to devote my life in attempting to deliver my native Country from insupportable slavery.

I am, Sir, with great respect, your most obedient humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of Congress, &c.

P. S. Colonel *Gardner* is wounded, I hope not mortally.

GENERAL WARD TO JOHN PIGEON.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, June 30, 1775.

SIR: There are now on *Prospect Hill* nearly four thousand men, who at present are obliged to come to the store in college, for all the provisions they stand in need of. If they can be supplied with provisions at the hill, it will tend much to the safety of the lines there, for a great number of the men are now obliged daily to leave the lines that they may convey provisions to others upon the hill; and the milk especially, when it is conveyed from the store in college to the hill, is unfit for any person in camp to eat; therefore, if possible, it must be altered.

I am, Sir, &c.,  
ARTEMAS WARD.  
To Mr. Commissary *Pigeon*.

GEN. THOMAS TO MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Roxbury Camp, June 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Major *White* has procured a small number of fire-arms, which I have presumed to stop in the camp at *Roxbury* for your order; when received I shall always comply with. We have a considerable deficiency of arms here. If it be agreeable, I should be glad there may be directions for the delivery of them here. I shall submit it to your consideration; and am your most obedient and very humble servant,  
JOHN THOMAS.

GEN. HEATH TO MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Camp at Roxbury, June 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: A number of fire-arms were put under my care last winter, which were afterwards ordered to *Worcester*. The Committee of Safety, when sitting at *Concord*, gave me assurances that I should have a number of them for my Regiment, which I believe some of your Honours will remember. They are since disposed of, as I am informed, to other Regiments. A number of good arms are now brought to camp; a number of my Regiment, which Lieutenant-Colonel *Greaton* can ascertain, have no arms. I therefore earnestly request that you would be pleased to give order for their being supplied from those now brought to camp.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your humble servant,  
W. HEATH.  
Honourable Committee of Safety.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 30, 1775.

Whereas the honourable Provincial Congress has this day passed a Resolve, appointing this Committee to be a Committee to consider of a farther emission of Bills of Credit, as mentioned in said resolve; but this Committee, feeling themselves unable to proceed in the business without a more perfect knowledge of the emissions lately made, both in quantity and circumstances of payment, and also for want of sufficient knowledge of the demands made, or to be made upon the Colony, do resolve that Colonel *Palmer* attend the honourable Congress to-morrow, in order to obtain all necessary light in the premises.

J. PALMER, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress now sitting at *Watertown*.

MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Chamber of Supplies, Watertown, June 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We understand that you have signified, in a letter to Mr. *Langdon*, the President of *Harvard College*, that you had some cannon mounted, and would send them if wanted. We therefore beg leave to inform you, that orders have been sent us from the camp for three twenty-four pounders more than we have now ready, and that we apprehend it very important that they should be forwarded as soon as may be.

We are respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,  
DAVID CHEEVER, *per order*.  
Honourable Committee of Safety, *New-Hampshire*.

*An Eulogium sacred to the memory of the late Major-General WARREN, who fell JUNE 17, 1775, fighting against the Ministerial Army at BOSTON.*

When an amiable man, with a promising family of children, perishes in the bloom of life, every friend to humanity must share in the distress which such a calamity occasions in the circle of his acquaintances. This distress is heightened when we hear that the virtues of the man were blended with the exalted qualities of a Patriot. We rise in our expressions of grief when we are told that he possessed not only the zeal of a patriot, but the wisdom, the integrity, and the eloquence of a Senator. But when we hear that these shining qualities were crowned with the patience, the magnanimity, and the intrepidity of a Warrior, we are led to contemplate one of the most august characters in human nature. When such a man falls, grief is dumb, and eloquence is obliged for a while to muse eulogiums which it cannot express.

Such were our feelings upon hearing of the death of the illustrious General *Warren*, who fell on the seventeenth of *June*, at the head of a detachment of the *American Army*, near *Boston*. It is impossible to do justice to his full-orb'd character. He filled each of the numerous departments in life that were assigned to him so well, that he seemed born for no others. He had displayed, in the course of three and thirty years, all the talents and virtues of the man, the patriot, the senator, and the hero. He was unlike the *Spartan General* only in not expiring in the arms of victory. But even in this unfortunate event he has served his Country, for he has taught the sons of freedom in *America*, that the laurel may be engrafted upon the cypress, and that true glory may be acquired not only in the arms of victory, but in the arms of death.

If our pleasures are exalted in proportion to the extent and degrees of our benevolence, how shall we describe those pleasures which the hero feels who performs the highest act of benevolence to mankind, by dying in defence of the liberties of his Country. He enjoys a prelibation, the most like the joys of heaven that mortals can taste upon earth; he partakes of the nature and happiness of *God*.

Say, illustrious shade! what new resentments kindled in thy bosom at the prospect of executing vengeance upon the foes of liberty? Say, what were the transports of thy mind when the twice repulsed enemy fled before thy powerful arms?

But when, alas, borne down with numbers, thou wast forced to retreat, and death showed his commission to the ball that pierced thy bosom, say what joy thrilled after it at the prospect of having thy brows encircled with the patriot's crown of martyrdom? Tell me, ye brave *Americans* who beheld our hero fall, did he not, in his last moments, pour forth his usual expressions of loyalty to the Crown of *Britain*, and his wonted prayers for the welfare of his Country? Did he not, in faltering accents, call upon his fellow-soldiers to forget his death, and to revenge his Country's wrongs alone? Ah! he breathes his last! Crowd not too closely on his shade, ye holy ministers of Heaven. Make room for yonder spirit! It is the illustrious *Hampden* who flies to embrace him, and, pointing to the wound that deprived him of life in a conflict with arbitrary power above an hundred years ago, he claims the honour of conducting him to the regions of perfect liberty and happiness.

How ineffable are the delights of Heaven to a virtuous lover of liberty. To behold the power of the Sovereign of



the Universe, directed by unerring wisdom, and limited by the eternal laws of justice! To see perfection in Government, consisting in the happiness of every member that composes it! To enjoy the most perfect freedom, and yet to choose nothing but such things as are agreeable to the will of the Supreme Being. These, blessed shade, now constitute a part of thy enjoyments! Oh couldst thou tell us what other pleasures now occupy thy capacious mind! Dost thou still direct, by an invisible influence, the counsels of thy native Colony? Dost thou still inspire whole battalions of thy countrymen with courage, and lead them on to danger and glory? These we know would be a happiness suited to the benevolence and activity of thy spirit, and we hope not an inferior part of the happiness of Heaven. But it is not for mortals to pry too minutely into the secrets of the invisible world.

What a noble spectacle is the body of a hero, who has offered up his life as a ransom for his Country! Come hither, ye vindictive ministers, and behold the first fruits of your bloody edicts. What atonement can you make to his children for the loss of such a father, to the King for the loss of such a subject, and to your Country for the loss of such a member of society? You may now recall your military executioners. Here you may satiate your thirst for arbitrary power. You have slain its most implacable enemy.

Come hither ye mercenary wretches who are hired to commit murder upon your fellow-subjects, and behold the victim of your cruelty. You have no tears to shed over a brother whom you have butchered, for you have given up your title to humanity. You have ceased to be men, and we have nothing to expect from you but the vices of slaves. We only beseech you not to insult the body of our departed hero. Spare the anguish of an aged mother, whose affection extends to the corpse of her beloved son. You have nothing now to fear from his eloquence or his arms. Sheath your swords. You have performed an exploit which has filled up the measure of your infamy; and while the name of liberty is dear to *Americans*, the name of *Warren* will fire our hearts, and nerve our arms against the execrable mischiefs of Standing Armies.

Come hither ye *American* Senators, who are met to consult for the safety and liberty of the United Colonies. Here contemplate a spectacle that shall—but I forget the dignity of my auditors; let the wounds of the breathless hero before your eyes address you. Methinks I hear him call upon you with an energy that should be irresistible, never to listen to terms of accommodation with *Great Britain* that shall deprive you of a single privilege of *Englishmen*. Oh, interrupt not (methinks I hear him say) my present felicity with the least apprehension that I have sold my life for a country of slaves. I will listen with rapture to your wise deliberations, but I will haunt the midnight hours of that

traitor who sues for peace or liberty with a bayonet at his breast, or who suspends for a moment the execution of vengeance upon the enemies of our Country.

Come hither ye military champions for *American* liberty and glory, come and behold a spectacle that shall rouse in your bosoms new principles of courage and ambition. Mark the widening lustre of that path of glory which he trod. But remember his ghost walks unrevenged among us. Ten thousand Ministerial Troops cannot atone for his death. Let not the remembrance of your former connection with them enervate your arms, nor silence the clamours of justice in your breasts. The enemies of liberty are no longer the brethren of freemen. Whet your swords once more, and let them never be returned to their scabbards till the monster tyranny is expelled from the *British* Empire, or till its bounds are prescribed, and *America* remains the land of perfect freedom and happiness.

Come hither, in the last place, ye *American* fathers and mothers, and behold the sad earnestness of arbitrary power! Behold your friend, your fellow-citizen, one of the guardians of your liberty, the pride of your Country, the pillar of your hopes; behold this illustrious hero covered with blood and wounds! But pause not too long in bedewing his body with your tears. Fly to your houses, and tell your children the particulars of the melancholy sight. Chill their young blood with histories of the cruelty of tyrants, and make their hair to stand on end with descriptions of the horrors of slavery! Equip them immediately for the field. Shew them the ancient charter of their privileges. Point to the roofs under which they drew their first breath, and shew them the cradles in which they were rocked. Call upon Heaven to prosper their arms, and charge them with your last adieu to conquer, or, like *Warren*, to die in the arms of liberty and glory.

O, posterity, posterity, you will often look back to this memorable era. You will transfer the epithets of rebels and traitors from the loyal people of *America* to their just originals. You will unfold every part of that system of despotism which has been contrived for the *British* Empire. You will show pious Kings misled by arbitrary Ministers, and pious Ministers misled by arbitrary Kings. You will show that even the monarchs of *Britain* have shed tears in prevailing upon their subjects to accept of their hateful commissions, and at the same time have exulted in the society of a few paricides at the prospect of seeing a Continent deluged with the blood of freemen. O save human nature from the worst of infamy, by turning your eyes to the *American* Colonies. Here let your historians and orators kindle with *Roman* or ancient *British* eloquence. Prize the liberty we have transmitted to you. It cost us much treasure and blood. It cost us, (oh, how high the price,) it cost us a *Warren's* life!

#### RHODE-ISLAND ASSEMBLY.

At the General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English* Colony of *Rhode-Island*, and *Providence* Plantations, in *New-England*, in *America*, begun and holden at *Providence*, within and for the said Colony, on the first *Wednesday* in *May*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and fifteenth of the reign of His Most Sacred Majesty *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, King of *Great Britain*, and so forth:

Present: The Honourable *Darius Sessions*, Esq., Deputy-Governour; *John Collins*, Esq.; *David Harris*, Esq.; *John Sayles*, Jun., Esq.; *Thomas Wickes*, Esq.; *Jonathan Randall*, Esq.; *William Richmond*, Esq.; Assistants. The Secretary.

Deputies from the several Towns.

NEWPORT.—Mr. *John Wanton* (son of *Gideon*.)

PROVIDENCE.—*Stephen Hopkins*, Esq., Mr. *John Jenckes*, Mr. *John Smith*, Colonel *John Mathewson*.

PORTSMOUTH.—*Metcalf Bowler*, Esq., *Jonathan Freeborn*, Esq., Mr. *Job Durfee*.

WARWICK.—Mr. *Jacob Greene*, Mr. *Thomas Holden*, Mr. *John Low*.

WESTERLY.—*Joshua Babcock*, Esq.

NEW-SHOREHAM.—(None.)

NORTH-KINGSTOWN.—*John Northup*, Esquire, *Sylvester Gardner*, Esq.

SOUTH-KINGSTOWN.—*John Potter*, Esquire, Mr. *Carder Hazard*.

EAST-GREENWICH.—Mr. *Job Gardner*, Mr. *Allen Johnson*. JAMESTOWN.—(None.)

SMITHFIELD.—*Daniel Mowry*, Jun., Esq., *Stephen Whipple*, Esq.

SCITUATE.—*Ezekiel Cornell*, Esq., Mr. *Rufus Hopkins*.

GLOUCESTER.—*Silas Williams*, Esq., Mr. *Daniel Owen*.

CHARLESTOWN.—*Joseph Hoxsie*, Esq., Mr. *Samuel Kinyon*.

WEST-GREENWICH.—*William Nichols*, Esquire, *Thomas Gorton*, Esq.

COVENTRY.—*John Rice*, Esq., Mr. *Nathaniel Greene*, Jun.

EXETER.—*George Pierce*, Esq., *Jeffrey Wilcox*, Esq.

MIDDLETOWN.—(None.)

BRISTOL.—Major-General *Simeon Potter*, *William Bradford*, Esq.

TIVERTON.—Captain *John Cooke*.

LITTLE-COMPTON.—Captain *Thomas Brownell*, *William Richmond*, Esq.

WARREN.—Mr. *Cromwel Child*.

CUMBERLAND.—*John Dexter*, Esq., *Jeremiah Whipple*, Esq.

RICHMOND.—*George Webb*, Esq., Mr. *Richard Bailey*, Jr.



CRANSTON.—Captain *Richard Searle*, Mr. *William Field*.  
HOPKINTON.—Captain *Abel Tanner*, Mr. *Thomas Wells*,  
the 3d.

JOHNSTON.—Mr. *Emmor Olney*, Mr. *Ebenezer Sprague*.  
NORTH-PROVIDENCE.—Mr. *Joseph Olney*, Major *Thomas Olney*.

BARRINGTON.—Col. *Nathan'l Martin*, Mr. *Thomas Allen*.

The Honourable *Metcalf Bowler*, Esq., was chosen Speaker, and *Josias Lyndon*, Esq., Clerk of the Lower House.

The Company of Light-Infantry in the Town of *Newport* having made choice of the following Officers, and made return of them to the Governour and Council, to wit:

*Jabez Champlin*, Captain; *Charles Spooner*, First-Lieutenant; *Philip Moss*, Second-Lieutenant; *Samuel Spooner*, Ensign;

Upon consideration whereof,

*It is Voted and Resolved* by the Council, That the said Officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the General Treasurer remove, with the Colony's treasure, to the Town of *Providence*: and that, for the charge of his removing, together with the extraordinary trouble he is likely to have in doing the business of the said office during the present year, he be allowed the sum of ninety Pounds lawful money, including his annual salary.

Whereas, the Secretary hath removed the Colony's Records and his office to the Town of *Providence*, and prayed this Assembly, in case the removal be approved, to order the expense thereof to be paid out of the General Treasury: on consideration whereof, *It is Voted and Resolved*, That the said removal of the Colony's Records be, and it is hereby, approved; and that an account of the expense thereof be laid before this Assembly.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Honourable *Metcalf Bowler*, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed to receive the Town of *Portsmouth's* proportion of the Colony's Arms, in the room of the Town-Treasurer, whose religious principles will not admit of his receiving the same.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That Colonel *James Mitchell Varnum*, Colonel *Daniel Hitchcock*, and Colonel *John Mathewson*, be, and they are hereby, appointed a Committee, to prepare a Bill for the regulation of the Army ordered to be raised for the defence of the Colony; that they also prepare the form of a Commission for the Officers of the said Army; and that they lay the same before this Assembly.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That each of the gentlemen appointed Delegates to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress, to be holden in the City of *Philadelphia* on the tenth instant, draw the sum of sixty Pounds lawful money out of the General Treasury, to bear their expenses.

*An Act for embodying, supplying and paying, the Army of Observation, ordered to be raised for the defence of the Colony.*

*Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority of the same it is enacted*, That the fifteen hundred men ordered to be raised by this Colony be formed into one Brigade, under the command of a Brigadier-General, and consist of three Regiments, each of which shall be commanded by one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major; that there be one Adjutant of Brigade, or Adjutant-Major, for such purposes as appertain to that office; that there be one Adjutant, one Surgeon, one Surgeon's Mate, and one Quartermaster to each Regiment; that each Regiment consist of eight Companies; each Field Officer's Company to be commanded, under such Field Officer, by one Captain-Lieutenant, one Lieutenant, and one Ensign; and each of the other Companies by one Captain, one Lieutenant, and one Ensign: and that one of the Companies be a Train of Artillery, and have the use of the Colony's field-pieces.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That each Regiment be placed in the said Brigade upon the flanks and in the centre by rotation, so that a perfect equality in rank be preserved. And that a similar equality be preserved among the Field Officers of the different

Regiments, by the Brigadier-General, in all the duties of a campaign.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That each able-bodied effective man, who shall enlist into the service, and find himself a Small-Arm, Bayonet, and other Accoutrements, shall be allowed and paid forty Shillings as a bounty; and each able-bodied effective man, not finding himself a Small-Arm, Bayonet, and other Accoutrements, shall receive twenty-four Shillings as a bounty.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That each Officer and Soldier shall receive the following monthly wages, while in the service, to wit: each Colonel fifteen Pounds, each Lieutenant-Colonel twelve Pounds, each Major ten Pounds, the Adjutant of Brigade, or Adjutant-Major, nine Pounds, each Captain and Captain Lieutenant six Pounds, each Lieutenant four Pounds, each Ensign three Pounds, each Adjutant of a Regiment five Pounds ten Shillings, each Surgeon seven Pounds ten Shillings, each Surgeon's Mate four Pounds, each Quartermaster three Pounds, each Sergeant two Pounds eight Shillings, each Corporal two Pounds four Shillings, each Drummer and Fifer two Pounds four Shillings, and each private man forty Shillings.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That each Field-Officer be allowed ten Shillings per week, and each other Officer and Soldier six Shillings per week, for billet, while in this Colony after enlistment, and before the Regiments are embodied. And each Soldier shall also have a Blanket and Knapsack given him by the Colony.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That each Officer and Soldier be paid his wages, and the weekly billet that shall be due, as soon as may be; and that one month's wages be paid in advance before the Troops march out of the Colony.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That each Soldier be enlisted by signing the following Enlistment, to wit: I, the subscriber, hereby solemnly engage and enlist myself as a Soldier in His Majesty's service, and in the pay of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, for the preservation of the liberties of *America*, from the day of my enlistment, to the last day of *December* next, unless the service admit of a discharge sooner, which shall be at the discretion of the General Assembly; and I hereby promise to submit myself to all the orders and regulations of the Army, and faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as I shall receive from time to time from my officers.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That no officer or soldier be arrested, prosecuted, or detained in jail, for any debt whatsoever less than fifteen Pounds lawful money, due to one creditor; and that every apprentice who shall enlist into the said Army shall be entitled to the whole of the bounty, and one half of his wages; his master receiving the other half.

*And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That for supplying the Troops with Arms, Provisions, &c., five hundred barrels of Flour, three hundred barrels of Pork, one hundred barrels of Beef, fifteen hundred Blankets and Knapsacks, and fifteen hundred Small-Arms and Bayonets, with suitable Accoutrements, be immediately procured on the Colony's account.

And that the said Troops may be supplied with clothing and other necessaries, *It is further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That a Commissary be appointed, who shall go sutler to the Troops, and have one and a half per cent. upon all the business he shall transact. And such Commissary is hereby directed and required to deliver unto the soldiers such things as the Colony shall send for the use of the Regiments at the prime cost, including all charges that may accrue thereon; provided that the said officer deliver nothing to any soldier without an order from the Captain or Commanding Officer of the company for the time being to which such soldier belongs. And the officers are hereby restricted and forbid drawing any order or orders on the Commissary, exceeding the monthly wages due to the soldier that applies for the same.

*And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That whoever shall be appointed Commissary and Sutler, shall give security to the General Treasurer, in the penal sum of two thousand Pounds, for the faithful performance of his duty; and shall not carry with him, on his own account, any necessaries of the same kind with those that



shall be sent by the Government. And as such Commissary may want assistance, he is hereby authorized to appoint a Deputy or Deputies under him; he being accountable for the conduct of his Deputies.

And for the purposes aforesaid, *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That a Committee of Safety be chosen by this Assembly, one of whom shall reside in each County, excepting the County of *Providence*, which shall have two, to furnish and pay the officers and soldiers in such County; and that each Committee-man shall give bond with surety to the General Treasurer, in the sum of one thousand Pounds lawful money, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said Committee provide Arms, Tents, Provisions, and every other Accoutrement necessary for the Army; and that they be allowed one and a half per cent. for transacting the business.

And for supplying the General Treasury, *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the sum of Twenty Thousand Pounds, lawful money bills, be immediately printed, and signed by the Honourable *Metcalf Bowler*, Esq., *Henry Ward*, *Joseph Clarke*, *John Cole*, and *Thomas Greene*, Esquires; that all Bills under five Shillings be signed by one of the Committee, and all the other Bills by two of the Committee; that the same shall be a lawful tender in discharge of all contracts, debts, dues and demands, whether of a publick or private nature; that one half of the said Bills shall be redeemed within two years, and the other half within five years, from the time of the emission, together with the interest thereon accruing, at the rate of two and a half per cent. per annum, by a general tax to be levied on the inhabitants of this Colony; and that the Bills shall be of the following value, to wit:

|        |                                |         |
|--------|--------------------------------|---------|
| 2,000  | Bills of Forty Shillings each, | £4,000  |
| 4,000  | of Thirty Shillings,           | 6,000   |
| 4,000  | of Twenty Shillings,           | 4,000   |
| 4,000  | of Ten Shillings,              | 2,000   |
| 4,000  | of Five Shillings,             | 1,000   |
| 4,000  | of Four Shillings,             | 800     |
| 4,000  | of Three Shillings,            | 600     |
| 6,000  | of Two Shillings,              | 600     |
| 10,000 | of One Shilling,               | 500     |
| 8,000  | of Nine Pence,                 | 300     |
| 8,000  | of Six Pence,                  | 200     |
|        |                                | £20,000 |

Which Bills shall be of the following form: "The possessor of this Bill shall be paid, by the Treasurer of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, . . . . lawful money, at the rate of six Shillings and nine Pence for one ounce of Silver, within five years from the date hereof, with interest at two and a half per cent. per annum until paid.—By order of Assembly.—*Providence*, the third day of *May* 1775." And on the said Bill there shall be the same impression and motto as on the lawful money Bills heretofore emitted.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be, and they are hereby, appointed to receive the Colony's Arms, and distribute them where they are wanted, amongst the soldiers that shall enlist into the Army of Observation; that the said Committee, or any four of them, be, and they are hereby, appointed, and fully empowered, during the recess of the General Assembly, to fill up all vacancies that shall happen amongst the officers that shall be appointed by the General Assembly for the said Army; and that they procure all necessaries not particularly mentioned in the Act for raising said Army.

Both Houses being joined in a grand Committee, chose the following Officers, to wit:

*The Committee of Safety.*

*William Richmond*, Esq., for the County of *Newport*.

Mr. *John Smith* and *Daniel Tillinghast*, Esq., for the County of *Providence*.

*John Northup*, Esq., for the County of *King's County*.

*William Bradford*, Esq., for the County of *Bristol*.

Mr. *Jacob Greene*, for the County of *Kent*.

*Officers of the Army of Observation.*

*Nathaniel Greene*, Jun., Esq., Brigadier-General.

*Peter Phillips*, Esq., Commissary.

*Thomas Church*, Esq., Colonel of the Regiment to be raised in the Counties of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Daniel Hitchcock*, Esq., Colonel of the Regiment to be raised in the County of *Providence*.

*James Mitchell Varnum*, Esquire, Colonel of the Regiment to be raised in the Counties of *King's County* and *Kent*.

*William Turner Miller*, Esquire, Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment to be raised in the Counties of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Ezekiel Cornell*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment of *Providence*.

*James Babcock*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment of *King's County* and *Kent*.

*John Forrester*, Esq., Major of the Regiment of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Israel Angell*, Esq., Major of the Regiment of *Providence*.

*Christopher Greene*, Esq., Major of the Regiment of *King's County* and *Kent*.

*John Crane*, Captain, and *Joseph Balch*, Captain-Lieutenant of the Train of Artillery.

*William Ladd*, Captain-Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Church*, Lieutenant, and *Cornelius Briggs*, Ensign, of the Colonel's Company of the Regiment of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Matthew Allen*, Captain-Lieutenant, *James Smith*, Lieutenant, and *James Brown*, Jun., Ensign, of the Lieutenant-Colonel's Company of the Regiment of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*John Topham*, Captain-Lieutenant, *George Tennant*, Lieutenant, and *Stephen Tripp*, Ensign, of the Major's Company of the Regiment of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Sion Martindale*, Captain, *Benjamin Diamon*, Lieutenant, and *James Child*, the Second, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Thomas Tew*, Captain, *Jonathan Simmons*, Lieutenant, and *Christopher Bennet*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Jonathan Brownell*, Captain, *Sylvanus Shaw*, Lieutenant, and *Godfrey Brown*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Benjamin Seabury*, Captain, *Gilbert Manchester*, Lieutenant, and *Israel Church*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Simeon Thayer*, Captain-Lieutenant, *John Spurr*, Lieutenant, and *William Potter*, Ensign, of the Colonel's Company of the Regiment of *Providence*.

*Stephen Kimball*, Captain-Lieutenant, *Jonathan Smith*, Lieutenant, and *George Dorrance*, Junior, Ensign, of the Lieutenant-Colonel's Company of the Regiment of *Providence*.

*John Field*, Captain-Lieutenant, *David Richmond*, Lieutenant, and *Samuel Black*, Ensign, of the Major's Company of the Regiment of *Providence*.

*Andrew Waterman*, Captain, *William Aldrich*, Lieutenant, and *David Dexter*, Junior, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *Providence*.

*John Angell*, Captain, *Coggeshall Olney*, Lieutenant, and *Stephen Olney*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *Providence*.

*Christopher Olney*, Captain, *Ephraim Bowen*, Junior, Lieutenant, and *Cyprian Sterry*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *Providence*.

*Jeremiah Olney*, Captain, *Levi Tower*, Lieutenant, and *Nathaniel Field*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *Providence*.

*Nathaniel Blackmar*, Captain, *Samuel Thornton*, Lieutenant, and *Abraham Tourtellot*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *Providence*.

*Archibald Crary*, Captain-Lieutenant, and *John Singer Dexter*, Lieutenant, of the Colonel's Company of the Regiment of *King's County* and *Kent*.

*John Hoxsie*, Captain-Lieutenant, *Jonathan Bates*, Junior, Lieutenant, and *Joseph Holloway*, Ensign, of the Lieutenant-Colonel's Company of the Regiment of *King's County* and *Kent*.

*Edmund Johnson*, Captain-Lieutenant, *John Reynolds*, Lieutenant, *John Holden*, (Son of *Charles*,) Ensign, of the Major's Company of the Regiment of *King's County* and *Kent*.

*Thomas Holden*, Captain, *Joseph Barton*, Lieutenant,



and *Joseph Arnold*, (son of *Caleb*.) Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *King's County and Kent*.

*Samuel Ward*, Junior, Captain, *Elijah Lewis*, Lieutenant, and *Joshua Collins*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *King's County and Kent*.

*James Gardner*, Captain, *Thomas Phillips*, Lieutenant, and *Samuel Bissell*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *King's County and Kent*.

*Christopher Gardner*, Junior, Captain, *Nathaniel Hawkins*, Lieutenant, and *William Potter*, (son of *Ichabod*.) Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *King's County and Kent*.

*John Randall*, Captain, *Oliver Clarke*, Lieutenant, and *Stephen Wells*, Ensign, of a Company in the Regiment of *King's County and Kent*.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety in the several Counties, be, and they are hereby appointed Muster-Masters of the Troops now ordered to be raised, for their respective Counties.

Whereas, the Ministry and Parliament of *Great Britain*, sacrificing the glory and happiness of their Sovereign, and the good of *Britain* and the Colonies, to their own ambitious and lucrative views, have entered into many arbitrary, illegal Resolutions, for depriving His Majesty's subjects in *America* of every security for the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property; and have sent, and are still sending, troops and ships of war into these Colonies, to enforce their tyrannical mandates, and have actually begun to shed the blood of the innocent people of these Colonies; in consequence whereof, this Assembly, at the session held on the 22d day of *April* last, passed an Act for raising fifteen hundred men, as an Army of Observation, and to assist any of our sister Colonies:

And whereas, the Honourable *Joseph Wanton*, Esquire, then Governour of this Colony, did enter a protest against the said Act, conceived in such terms as highly to reflect upon the General Assembly, and upon the united opposition of all *America*, to the aforesaid tyrannical measures:

And whereas, the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esquire, hath neglected to issue a Proclamation for the due observation of *Thursday*, the 11th of *May* instant, as a day of Fasting and Prayer, agreeable to an Act passed at the said session:

And whereas, the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esquire, hath been elected to the office of Governour of this Colony for the present year, and been duly notified thereof by this Assembly; notwithstanding which he hath not attended at this General Assembly and taken the oath required by law:

And whereas, the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esquire, hath positively refused to sign the commissions for the officers appointed to command the Troops so ordered to be raised: By all which he hath manifested his intentions to defeat the good people of these Colonies in their present glorious struggle to transmit inviolate to posterity those sacred rights they have received from their ancestors:

*Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted*, That the Deputy Governour and Assistants be, and they are hereby forbid to administer the oath of office to the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esq., unless in free and open General Assembly, according to the unvaried practice in this Colony, and with the consent of such Assembly: that until the said *Joseph Wanton*, Esq., shall have taken the oath of office as aforesaid, it shall not be lawful for him to act as Governour of this Colony in any case whatever; and that every act done by him, in the pretended capacity of Governour, shall be null and void in itself, and shall not operate as a warrant or discharge to any person acting by his orders, or under his authority.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That *Henry Ward*, Esquire, Secretary of the Colony, be, and he is hereby directed, and fully authorized and empowered, to sign the Commissions for all officers, civil and military, chosen by this Assembly, as well those going in the service abovesaid, as others, he receiving therefor, out of the General Treasury, two shillings and eight pence for each commission. And that such commission so signed, with the Colony seal affixed, shall be as full and effectual warrant and warrants to every and all such officer and officers so chosen, for the faithful discharge of his and their

duty, as if the same were signed by a Governour of this Colony, duly elected and engaged according to law; any law, custom, or usage, to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That his Honour the Deputy Governour be requested, and fully authorized and empowered, to call the General Assembly together upon any emergency, to meet at such time and place as he shall think most for the interest of the Colony.

Whereas, the Honourable *Joseph Wanton*, Esquire, who is elected Governour of this Colony for the present year, hath not attended this Assembly and taken the oath of office, and cannot, therefore, appoint a Naval Officer until he shall be sworn in before the General Assembly:

*Be it therefore enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted*, That the Naval Office be kept by *James Clarke*, Esq., who hath for some time past kept it, until further orders from this Assembly; and that he account to this Assembly.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be, and they are hereby directed to make out the account of the expenses of raising and equipping the fifteen hundred men ordered to be raised by this Colony, as an Army of Observation, and for the assistance of any of the neighbouring Colonies, as soon as the said Troops are fully equipped, and transmit the same to the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, to be by them laid before the Congress, that the Colonies which have not been, or shall not be, at a proportionate expense in the defence of our common rights, may contribute their proportion towards reimbursing this Colony such part of the expenses of raising and equipping the said fifteen hundred men, as shall be more than this Colony's proportion towards the common defence.

*Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted*, That the Lieutenant-General, Brigadier-General, and the Committee of Safety, be, and they, or the major part of them, are hereby fully authorized and empowered, to order and direct when and in what manner the forces, or any part thereof, shall march out of this Colony to the assistance of any neighbouring Colony in distress.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Brigadier-General draw up the several Regiments to be raised in this Colony, either singly or together; and that the Captains of the several companies, not belonging to the field-officers thereof, shall draw lots for their places and stations in the Regiments aforesaid.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the form of a Commission to a Colonel of a Regiment in the Army of Observation, now laid before this Assembly, be, and the same is hereby approved; and that similar Commissions, *mutatis mutandis*, be issued to the other officers of said Army.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Speaker of the Lower House be, and he is hereby requested to transmit to the Speaker of the House of Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*, and to the Committee of Inspection for the City of *New-York*, copies of the Proceedings of this Assembly, relative to the present disputes between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

*Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted*, That any military officer commissioned to command any part of the Army of Observation, be removed for any misbehaviour or neglect of duty, and another appointed in his stead, by a General Court Martial to be holden for that purpose.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That *Joshua Babcock*, Esq., be requested to carry the proceedings of this General Assembly, respecting the raising an Army of Observation, &c., to the General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*; and to request of them to transmit to this Assembly their proceedings and transactions relative to the present alarming crisis of affairs.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the following monthly wages shall be allowed and paid unto the following respective officers and men in the Army of Observation; that is to say:



|                                   |     |    |   |
|-----------------------------------|-----|----|---|
| To the Brigadier-General, - - - - | £20 | 0  | 0 |
| <i>In the Train of Artillery.</i> |     |    |   |
| To the Captain, - - - - -         | 9   | 0  | 0 |
| Captain-Lieutenant, - - - - -     | 7   | 4  | 0 |
| First Lieutenant, - - - - -       | 5   | 8  | 0 |
| Second Lieutenant, - - - - -      | 3   | 12 | 0 |
| Lieutenant Fire-worker, - - - - - | 3   | 12 | 0 |
| Two Bombardiers, each - - - - -   | 2   | 14 | 0 |
| Two Sergeants, each - - - - -     | 2   | 8  | 0 |
| Four Gunners, each - - - - -      | 2   | 6  | 0 |
| Privates and Fifers, - - - - -    | 2   | 4  | 0 |

This Assembly do *Vote and Resolve*, That an embargo be set on all Provisions going out of this Colony, excepting what shall be necessary for victualling vessels sailing out of this Colony, and for the use of the Army; and that this Act be in force immediately.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That all business lying before this Assembly unfinished, be, and the same is hereby referred to the next session; that the Secretary publish the publick Acts and Orders made and passed at the last and present session, by beat of drum, in the Town of *Providence*, within ten days after the rising of this Assembly, and within thirty, send copies thereof to the Sheriff of each County in the Colony, by him to be transmitted to the several Town Clerks in the County; and that this Assembly be, and hereby is adjourned until the second *Monday* in *June* next, then to meet in *East-Greenwich*.

GOD save the KING.

Published according to order, on *Wednesday*, the 17th day of *May*, A. D. 1775, by

HENRY WARD, *Secretary*.

At the General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*, in *New-England*, in *America*, begun and holden, by adjournment, at *East-Greenwich*, within and for the said Colony, on the second *Monday* in *June*, in the year of our *Lord* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and fifteenth of the reign of His Most Sacred Majesty *George the Third*, by the grace of *God*, King of *Great-Britain*, and so forth:

Present: The Honourable *Nicholas Cooke*, Esquire, Deputy-Governour; *Samuel Dyre*, Esq.; *Simeon Potter*, Esq.; *Ambrose Page*, Esq.; *John Sayles*, Junior, Esq.; *John Jepson*, Esq.; *James Arnold*, Junior, Esq.; *Jonathan Randall*, Esq.; *Peter Phillips*, Esq.; *Joseph Hazard*, Esq.; *Thomas Church*, Esq.; Assistants. The Secretary.

*Deputies from the several Towns.*

The Honourable *Metcalf Bowler*, Esquire, Speaker.

NEWPORT.—Mr. *John Wanton*, (son of *Gideon*), *George Hazard*, Esq., Mr. *John Tanner*, Mr. *Joseph Anthony*.

PROVIDENCE.—Mr. *John Jenckes*, Mr. *John Smith*, Col. *John Mathewson*.

PORTSMOUTH.—Mr. *Job Durfee*.

WARWICK.—*William Greene*, Esq., Mr. *Jacob Greene*, Captain *Thomas Holden*, Lieut. Col. *John Low*.

WESTERLY.—*Joshua Babcock*, Esq., Mr. *James Rhodes*.

NEW-SHOREHAM.—Mr. *John Sands*.

NORTH-KINGSTOWN.—*John Northup*, Esquire, *Sylvester Gardner*, Esquire.

SOUTH-KINGSTOWN.—*John Potter*, Esq., *Carder Hazard*, Esq.

EAST-GREENWICH.—Mr. *Job Gardner*, Mr. *Allen Johnson*.

JAMESTOWN.—Capt. *Edward Hull*, Capt. *Samuel Carr*.

SMITHFIELD.—*Daniel Mowry*, Jun., Esq., *Stephen Whipple*, Esq.

SCITUATE.—*Rufus Hopkins*, Esq.

GLOUCESTER.—*Silas Williams*, Esq., Mr. *Daniel Owen*.

CHARLESTOWN.—*Joseph Hoxsie*, Esq., Mr. *Samuel Kinyon*.

WEST-GREENWICH.—*William Nichols*, Esquire, *Thomas Gorton*, Esq.

COVENTRY.—*Nathaniel Greene*, Jun., Esq.

EXETER.—*George Pierce*, Esq., *Jeffery Willcox*, Esq.

MIDDLETOWN.—Mr. *James Potter*.

BRISTOL.—Major-General *William Bradford*, *Benjamin Bosworth*, Esq.

TIVERTON.—*John Cooke*, Esq.

LITTLE-COMPTON.—Captain *Thomas Brownell*, *William Richmond*, Esq.

WARREN.—Mr. *Cromel Child*, *Martin Luther*, Esq.

CUMBERLAND.—*John Dexter*, *Jeremiah Whipple*, Esq's.

RICHMOND.—*George Webb*, Esq., Captain *Richard Bailey*, Junior.

CRANSTON.—Captain *Richard Searle*, Mr. *William Field*.

HOPKINTON.—Captain *Abel Tanner*, Mr. *Thomas Wells*, the 3d.

JOHNSTON.—Mr. *Emmor Olney*, Mr. *Ebenezer Sprague*.

NORTH-PROVIDENCE.—Mr. *Joseph Olney*, Major *Thomas Olney*.

BARRINGTON.—Colonel *Nathaniel Martin*, Mr. *Thomas Allen*.

JOSIAS LYNDON, Esq., *Clerk of the Lower House*.

This Assembly, at the session held at *Providence* on the first *Wednesday* in *May* last, having passed an Act prohibiting his Honour the Deputy-Governour, and the Assistants, from administering the oath of office to the Honourable *Joseph Wanton*, Esq., who was elected Governour of this Colony for the present year, and declaring all acts by him done, in the pretended capacity of Governour, null and void, until he shall be engaged in open General Assembly, and with the consent of the General Assembly, &c. And the said *Joseph Wanton* having appeared before this Assembly, and demanded that the oath of office be administered to him, and this General Assembly having taken the same into consideration, do vote and resolve, and it is voted and resolved, that the said *Joseph Wanton* hath not given satisfaction to this Assembly; that the said recited Act, passed at the last session, continue and be in force until the rising of the General Assembly at the next session, and that this Act be immediately published, by inserting a copy thereof in the *Newport Mercury* and *Providence Gazette*.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That his Honour the Deputy-Governour be, and he is hereby requested to write to *James Wallace*, Esq., commander of His Majesty's Ship *Rose*, now in the harbour of *Newport*, and demand of him the reason of his conduct towards the inhabitants of this Colony, in stopping and detaining their vessels, and also to demand of him the packets which he detains.

Whereas Mr. *John Carter* exhibited unto this Assembly an account, by him charged against the Colony, for printing fifty-eight thousand lawful Money Bills, sixteen hundred Enlistments for the Army of Observation, the Proceedings of this Assembly at the sessions in *April* and *May* last, &c. And the said account being duly examined, it is *Voted and Resolved*, That the same be and hereby is allowed, and that fifty-nine Pounds thirteen Shillings and five Pence, lawful money, being the amount thereof, be paid the said *John Carter* out of the general Treasury.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That no Soldier belonging to the Army of Observation, raised by this Colony, be allowed to take up of the Commissary any more than one third part of his monthly wages for his own use; and that whatever more the Commissary shall supply or pay to the Soldiers, shall be at his own risk.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the allowance to the Soldiers in camp be as followeth, to wit: one pound of bread, one pound of beef or pork, a half-penny for vegetables, half a gill of rice, one pint of milk, and one quart of beer per day, and one pint of molasses per week. That once a week, instead of meat, they have a pound of fish, an ounce of butter, and half a pint of vinegar: That if they have no milk they be allowed a gill and a half of rice per day: That if the half-penny per day for vegetables be not sufficient, the Brigadier-General be empowered to increase the same to a sufficient allowance, and that the Commissary furnish them with the same quantity of soap as is allowed by the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to their Troops.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the following Rules and Orders for regulating the Army of Observation raised by this Colony, be and they are hereby approved, and that the Secretary procure the same to be printed, and supply the Brigadier-General, each Field Officer, the Commissary, and each Commissioned Officer, with a copy thereof.

Whereas, the lust of power, which of old oppressed, persecuted, and exiled our pious and virtuous ancestors from



their fair possessions in *Britain*, now pursues, with tenfold severity, us, their guiltless children, who are unjustly and wickedly charged with licentiousness, sedition, treason and rebellion; and being deeply impressed with a sense of the almost incredible fatigues and hardships our venerable progenitors encountered, who fled from oppression for the sake of civil and religious liberty for themselves and their offspring, and began a settlement here on bare creation, at their own expense; and having seriously considered the duty we owe to *God*, to the memory of such invincible worthies, to the King, to *Great Britain*, our Country, ourselves and posterity, do think it an indispensable duty, by all lawful ways and means in our power, to recover, maintain, defend, and preserve, the free exercise of all those civil and religious rights and liberties, for which many of our forefathers fought, bled, and died, and to hand them down entire, for the free enjoyment of the latest posterity: And whereas the keeping a Standing Army in any of these Colonies in times of peace, without the consent of the Legislature of that Colony in which such an Army is kept, is against law: And whereas such an Army, with a large Naval Force, is now placed in the harbour of *Boston*, for the purpose of subjecting us to the power of the *British Parliament*: And whereas we are frequently told by the tools of Administration, dupes to ministerial usurpation, that *Great Britain* will not, in any degree, relax in her measures, until we acknowledge her "right to make laws binding upon us in all cases whatsoever;" and that if we refuse to be slaves, if we persist in our denial of her claim, the dispute must be decided by arms, in which it is said by our enemies "we shall have no chance, being undisciplined, cowards, disobedient, impatient of command, and possessed of that spirit of levelling which admits of no order, subordination, rule, or government?" And whereas from the Ministerial Army and Fleet now at *Boston*, the large re-enforcement of Troops expected, the late circular letters to the Governors upon the Continent, the general tenour of intelligence from *Great Britain*, and the hostile preparations making here, as also from the threats and frequent insults of our enemies, we have reason to apprehend that the sudden destruction of this Colony is in contemplation, if not determined upon:

And whereas the great law of self-preservation hath required our raising and keeping an Army of Observation and defence, in order to prevent or repel any farther attempts to enforce the late cruel and oppressive Acts of the *British Parliament*, which are evidently designed to subject us and the whole Continent to the most ignominious slavery: And whereas, in keeping such an Army, it will be necessary that the officers and soldiers in the same be fully acquainted with their duty, and that the articles, rules, and regulations thereof be made as plain as possible; and having great confidence in the honour and publick virtue of the inhabitants of this Colony, that they will readily obey their officers, and will cheerfully do their duty, when known, without any such severe articles and rules (except in capital cases) and cruel punishments, as are usually practised in standing armies, and will submit to all such rules and regulations as are founded in reason, honour; and virtue:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the following Articles, Rules and Regulations, for the Army raised by this Colony for the defence and security of our lives, liberties, and estates, be, and hereby are established and required to be strictly adhered to by all officers, soldiers, and others concerned, as they regard their own honour and the publick good; and upon the penalties and forfeitures hereinafter mentioned.

ARTICLE I. All Officers and Soldiers, not having just impediment, shall diligently frequent divine service and sermon in the places appointed for assembling of the Regiment, Troop, or Company, to which they belong; and such as wilfully absent themselves, or being present, behave indecently or irreverently, shall, if Commissioned Officers, be brought before a Regimental Court-Martial, there to be publickly and severely reprimanded by the President; if Non-Commissioned Officers or Soldiers, every person so offending shall, for his first offence, forfeit one Shilling, to be deducted out of his wages; for the second offence he shall not only forfeit one Shilling, but be confined, not exceeding twenty-four hours; and for every like offence, shall suffer and pay in like manner; which money so forfeited shall be applied to the use of the sick Soldiers of the Troop or Company to which the offender belongs.

ART. II. Whatsoever Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier shall use any unlawful oath or execration, shall incur the penalty of six Pence; and if a Commissioned Officer be thus guilty of profane cursing and swearing, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence the sum of nine Pence, lawful money.

ART. III. Any Officer or Soldier who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the General or Generals, or Commander-in-Chief of the *Rhode-Island Forces*, or shall speak words tending to his or their hurt or dishonour, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the judgment of a General Court-Martial.

ART. IV. Any Officer or Soldier who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any mutiny or sedition in the Regiment, Troop, or Company, to which he belongs, or in any other Regiment, Troop, or Company of the *Rhode-Island Forces*, either by land or sea, or in any party, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court-Martial shall be ordered.

ART. V. Any Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, or Soldier, who being present at any mutiny or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavours to suppress the same, or coming to the knowledge of any mutiny or intended mutiny, does not without delay, give information thereof to the commanding Officer, shall be punished by order of a General Court-Martial, according to the nature of his offence.

ART. VI. Any Officer or Soldier who shall strike his superiour Officer, or draw, or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful commands of his superiour Officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence, be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. VII. Any Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier who shall desert, or without leave of his Commanding Officer, absent himself from the Troop or Company to which he belongs, or from any detachment of the same, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

ART. VIII. Whatsoever Officer or Soldier shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other Officer or Soldier to desert, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. IX. All Officers, of what condition soever, shall have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, though the persons concerned should belong to another Regiment, Troop, or Company, and either order Officers to be arrested, or Non-Commissioned Officers or Soldiers to be confined and imprisoned, till their proper Superiour Officers shall be acquainted therewith; and whoever shall refuse to obey such Officer, (though of an inferiour rank,) or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

ART. X. No Officer or Soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches, or gestures to another, nor shall presume to send a challenge to any person to fight a duel; and whoever shall knowingly and willingly suffer any person whatsoever to go forth to fight a duel, or shall second, promote, or carry any challenge, shall be deemed as a principal; and whatsoever Officer or Soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge, shall also be considered as a challenger; and all such offenders, in any of these or such like cases, shall be punished at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

ART. XI. Every Officer commanding in quarters, or on a march, shall keep good order, and, to the utmost of his power, redress all such abuses or disorders which may be committed by any Officer or Soldier under his command; if upon any complaint made to him, of Officers or Soldiers beating, or otherwise ill-treating any person, or of committing any kind of riot, to the disquieting of the inhabitants of this Continent, he, the said Commander, who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation made to the party or parties injured, as far as the offender's wages shall enable him or them, shall, upon due proof thereof, be punished as ordered by a General Court-Martial, in such manner as if he himself had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

ART. XII. If any Officer shall think himself to be wronged by his Colonel, or the Commanding Officer of the Regi-



ment, and shall, upon due application made to him, be refused to be redressed, he may complain to the General, or Commander-in-Chief of the *Rhode-Island Forces*, in order to obtain justice, who is hereby required to examine into said complaint and see that justice be done.

ART. XIII. If any inferior Officer or Soldier shall think himself wronged by his Captain, or other Officer commanding the Troop or Company to which he belongs, he is to complain thereof to the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, who is hereby required to summon a Regimental Court-Martial for the doing justice to the complainant, from which Regimental Court-Martial either party may, if he thinks himself still aggrieved, appeal to a General Court-Martial; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal shall appear to be vexatious and groundless, the person so appealing shall be punished at the discretion of the General Court-Martial.

ART. XIV. Whatsoever Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier shall be convicted at a Regimental Court-Martial of having sold, or designedly, or through neglect, wasted the Ammunition, Arms, or Provisions, or other Military Stores delivered out to him to be employed in the service of this Colony, shall, if an Officer, be reduced to a Private Sentinel; and if a Private Soldier, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XV. All Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers shall be allowed the limits of one mile from the place of encampment, unless the Commander-in-Chief shall think proper to mark out shorter limitations. Every Officer or Soldier found without those limits, without leave in writing, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted by a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XVI. No Officer or Soldier shall lie out of his quarters or camp without leave from the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, upon penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XVII. Every Non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier shall retire to his quarters or tent at the beating of the retreat; in default of which, he shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of the Commanding Officer.

ART. XVIII. No Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, or Soldier, shall fail of repairing at the time fixed, to the place of parade, or exercise, or other rendezvous, appointed by the Commanding Officer, if not prevented by sickness, or some other evident necessity, or shall go from the said place of rendezvous, or from his guard, without leave from his Commanding Officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XIX. Whatsoever Commissioned Officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty under arms, shall be cashiered for it; any Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XX. Whatsoever Sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. XXI. Any person belonging to the *Rhode-Island Army*, who, by discharging of Fire-Arms, beating of Drums, or by any other means whatsoever, shall occasion false alarms in camp or quarters, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. XXII. Any Officer or Soldier who shall, without urgent necessity, or without leave of his superior Officer, quit his platoon or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XXIII. No Officer or Soldier shall do violence, or offer any insult or abuse to any person who shall bring provisions or other necessities to the camp or quarters of the *Rhode-Island Army*; any Officer or Soldier so offending, shall, upon complaint being made to the Commanding Officer, suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XXIV. Whatsoever Officer or Soldier shall shamefully abandon any Post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like in time of an engagement, shall suffer death immediately.

ART. XXV. Any person belonging to the *Rhode-Island Army*, who shall make known the watchword to any person who is not entitled to receive it, according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole or watchword different from what he received, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. XXVI. Whosoever, belonging to the *Rhode-Island Army*, shall relieve the enemy with Money, Victuals, or Ammunition, or shall knowingly harbour or protect an enemy, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court-Martial shall be ordered.

ART. XXVII. Whosoever belonging to the *Rhode-Island Army*, shall be convicted of holding correspondence with, or of giving intelligence to the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court-Martial shall be ordered.

ART. XXVIII. All Publick Stores, taken in the enemy's camp or magazines, whether of Artillery, Ammunition, Clothing, or Provisions, shall be secured for the use of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*.

ART. XXIX. If any Officer or Soldier shall leave his post or colours in time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall, upon being convicted thereof before a General Court-Martial, suffer such punishment as by said Court-Martial shall be ordered.

ART. XXX. If any Commander of any Post, Intrenchment, or Fortress, shall be compelled by the Officers or Soldiers under his command, to give it up to the enemy, or to abandon it, the Commissioned Officer, Non-Commissioned Officers, or Soldiers, who shall be convicted of having so offended, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. XXXI. All Sutlers and Retailers to a camp, and all persons whatsoever serving with the *Rhode-Island Army* in the field, though not enlisted Soldiers, are to be subject to the Articles, Rules, and Regulations of the *Rhode-Island Army*.

ART. XXXII. No General Court-Martial shall consist of a less number than thirteen, none of which shall be under the degree of a Commissioned Officer, and the President shall be a Field-Officer; and the President of each and every Court-Martial, whether General or Regimental, shall have power to administer an oath to every witness, in order to the trial of offenders; and the Members of all Courts-Martial shall be duly sworn by the President, and the next in rank on the Court-Martial shall administer the oath to the President.

ART. XXXIII. The Members both of General and Regimental Courts-Martial shall, when belonging to different Corps, take the same rank which they hold in the Army; but when Courts-Martial shall be composed of Officers of one Corps, they shall take their ranks according to their commissions, by which they are mustered in the said Corps.

ART. XXXIV. All the Members of a Court-Martial are to behave with calmness, decency, and impartiality, and in the giving of their votes, are to begin with the youngest or lowest in commission.

ART. XXXV. No Field-Officer shall be tried by any person under the degree of a Captain; nor shall any proceedings or trials be carried on excepting between the hours of eight in the morning and three in the afternoon, except in cases which require an immediate example.

ART. XXXVI. The Commissioned Officers of every Regiment may, by the appointment of their Colonel or Commanding Officer, hold Regimental Courts-Martial for the inquiring into such disputes or criminal matters as may come before them, and for the inflicting corporal punishments for small offences, and shall give judgment by the majority of voices; but no sentence shall be executed till the Commanding Officer (not being a member of the Court-Martial) shall have confirmed the same.

ART. XXXVII. No Regimental Court-Martial shall consist of less than five Officers, excepting in cases where that number cannot be conveniently assembled, when three may be sufficient, who are likewise to determine upon the sentence by the majority of voices, which sentence is to be confirmed by the Commanding Officer, not being a member of the Court-Martial.

ART. XXXVIII. Every Officer commanding in any Fort,



Castle, or Barrack, or elsewhere, where the Corps under his command consists of detachments from different Regiments, or of independent Companies, may assemble Courts-Martial for the trial of offenders in the same manner as if they were Regimental, whose sentence is not to be executed till it shall be confirmed by the said Commanding Officer.

ART. XXXIX. No person whatsoever shall use menacing words, signs, or gestures, in the presence of a Court-Martial then sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot, so as to disturb their proceedings, on the penalty of being punished at the discretion of the said Court-Martial.

ART. XL. To the end that offenders may be brought to justice, whenever any Officer or Soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his Commanding Officer, if an Officer, be put in arrest; if a Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a Court-Martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by proper authority.

ART. XLI. No Officer or Soldier who shall be put in arrest or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a Court-Martial can be conveniently assembled.

ART. XLII. No Officer commanding a guard, or Provost-Marshal, shall refuse to receive or keep any prisoner committed to his charge by an Officer belonging to the *Rhode-Island Forces*; which Officer shall, at the same time, deliver an account in writing, signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

ART. XLIII. No Officer commanding a guard, or Provost-Marshal, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge, without proper authority for so doing; nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape on the penalty of being punished for it by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. XLIV. Every Officer or Provost-Marshal, to whose charge prisoners shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give in writing to the Colonel of the Regiment to whom the prisoner belongs (where the prisoner is confined upon the guard belonging to the said Regiment, and that his offence only relates to the neglect of duty in his own Corps) or to the Commander-in-Chief, their names, their crimes, and the names of the Officers who committed them, on the penalty of being punished for his disobedience or neglect at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

ART. XLV. And if any Officer under arrest shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the Officer who confined him, or by a superiour power, he shall be cashiered for it.

ART. XLVI. Whatsoever Commissioned Officer shall be convicted before a General Court-Martial of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.

ART. XLVII. All Officers, Conductors, Gunners, Matrosses, Drivers, or any other person whatsoever, receiving pay or hire in the service of the *Rhode-Island Artillery*, shall be governed by the aforesaid Rules and Articles, and shall be subject to be tried by Courts-Martial in like manner with the Officers and Soldiers of the *Rhode-Island Troops*.

ART. XLVIII. For differences arising amongst themselves, or in matters relating solely to their own Corps, the Courts-Martial may be composed of their own Officers; but where a number sufficient of such Officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other Corps are interested, the Officers of Artillery shall sit in Courts-Martial with the Officers of the other Corps.

ART. XLIX. All crimes not capital, and all disorders and neglects which Officers and Soldiers may be guilty of, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, though not mentioned in the Articles of War, are to be taken cognizance of by a General or Regimental Court-Martial, according to the nature and degree of the offence, and be punished at their discretion.

ART. L. No Courts-Martial shall order any offender to be whipped, or receive more than thirty-nine stripes for any one offence.

ART. LI. The Field-Officers of each and every Regiment are to appoint some suitable person belonging to such

Regiment to receive all such fines as may arise within the same, for any breach of any of the foregoing Articles, and shall direct the same to be carefully and properly applied to the relief of such sick, wounded, or necessitous Soldiers as belong to such Regiment; and such person shall account with such Officer for all fines received and the application thereof.

ART. LII. All Members sitting in Courts-Martial shall be sworn by the President of said Courts, which President shall himself be sworn by the Officer in said Court next in rank; the Oath to be administered previous to their proceeding to the trial of any offender, in form following, to wit:

"You, *A. B.*, swear that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the Rules for regulating the *Rhode-Island Army*; so help you *God*."

ART. LIII. All persons called to give evidence in any case before a Court-Martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal at the discretion of such Court-Martial; the Oath to be administered in the form following, to wit:

"You swear the evidence you shall give in the case now in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; so help you *God*."

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be, and they are hereby directed to charter two suitable Vessels for the use of the Colony, and fit out the same in the best manner to protect the trade of this Colony: That the said vessels be at the risk of the Colony, and be appraised before they are chartered by Messieurs *Joseph Antony*, *Rufus Hopkins*, and *Cromel Child*, or any two of them, who are also to agree for the hire of the said vessels: That the largest of the said vessels be manned with eighty men, exclusive of officers, and be equipped with ten guns, (four-pounders,) fourteen Swivel Guns, a sufficient number of Small-Arms, and all necessary warlike stores: That the small vessel be manned with a number not exceeding thirty men: That the whole be included in the number of fifteen hundred men, ordered to be raised in this Colony, and be kept in pay until the first day of *December* next, unless discharged before by order of the General Assembly: That they receive the same bounty and pay as the Land Forces, excepting that the First and Second Lieutenants, and Master, receive the same pay as the First Lieutenant of the Land Forces, and the under or petty Officers the same as Sergeants of the Army: And that the Lieutenant-General, Brigadier-General, and Committee of Safety, or the major part of them, have the power of directing and ordering said vessels; and in case it shall appear to them that the officers and men of the said vessels can be more serviceable on shore than at sea, to order them on shore to defend the seaports in this Colony.

*And it is further Voted and Resolved*, That the following Officers be and are hereby appointed to command the said vessels, to wit: Of the largest vessel, *Abraham Whipple*, commander, with the rank and power of Commodore of both vessels.

*John Grimes*, First-Lieutenant.

*Benjamin Seabury*, Second Lieutenant.

*William Bradford*, of *Providence*, Master.

*Ebenezer Flagg*, Quartermaster, at the wages of four Pounds, lawful money, per month.

*Of the smallest Vessel.*

*Christopher Whipple*, Commander.

*William Rhodes*, Lieutenant.

Whereas, *William Potter*, Esquire, presented unto this Assembly the following Memorial, to wit:

*To the Honourable the General Assembly of the Colony of RHODE-ISLAND, at the session to be holden in EAST-GREENWICH, on the second MONDAY in JUNE, A. D. 1775:*

I, *William Potter*, of *South-Kingstown*, in the County of *King's County*, in the Colony aforesaid, humbly shew: That at a Session of the General Assembly held at *Providence*, on the twenty-second day of *April* last, an Act was passed for the raising, with all expedition and despatch, fifteen hundred Men, as an Army of Observation, to repel any insult or violence that might be offered to the inhabitants; and also, if necessary for the safety and preserva-



tion of the Colonies, to march out of this Colony, and join and co-operate with the Forces of the neighbouring Colonies; against which Act I, as one of the Upper House of Assembly, together with *Joseph Wanton*, Esquire, the then Governour, *Darius Sessions*, Esquire, the then Deputy-Governour, and *Thomas Wickes*, Esq., then also one of the same Upper House, did enter my Protest; which hath given much uneasiness to the good people of this Colony. To remove which, so far as respects myself, and as far as in me lieth, I beg leave to observe, that a rough draught was drawn up, and delivered to a person to be corrected; which Protest, as the same now stands, appears to me to be of a different import from my meaning at that time, and which, through the hurry attending the business before the House, was not so properly attended to as it might have been, and in that haste was signed. It is true, I was against the passing of the said Act at that time, as I conceived the Trade, and particularly the Town of *Newport*, would be greatly distressed, which a little longer time might prevent; and because it was known that the very respectable Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut* would soon sit, of whose wise deliberations we might greatly avail ourselves. These were the true reasons of my conduct, however the contrary may appear from the Protest signed. No man hath ever been more deeply impressed with the calamities to which *America* is reduced, by a most corrupt Administration, than myself. No man hath more exerted himself in private and publick life to relieve ourselves from our oppressions; and no man hath held himself more ready to sacrifice his life and fortune in the arduous struggles now making throughout *America* for the preservation of our just rights and liberties; and in these sentiments I am determined to live and die. Sorry I am if any of the good people of this Colony should have conceived otherwise of me; and I greatly lament that the unguarded expressions in that Protest should give cause therefor. Should I from thence lose the confidence, just hopes, and expectations of my countrymen of my future conduct in the arduous *American* struggles, it might create an uneasiness of mind for which nothing can ever compensate. But should this publick declaration ease the minds of my friends and the friends of liberty, and convince them of my readiness to embark, to conflict with them in every difficulty, and against every opposition, until our glorious cause shall be established upon the most firm and permanent basis, it will be a consideration that will afford me the highest satisfaction that human nature is capable of enjoying. I am, your Honours' most humble servant,

WILLIAM POTTER.

And the said Memorial being duly considered,

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the same be accepted; that it is satisfactory; and that the said *William Potter* be, and he is hereby, reinstated in the favour of this General Assembly.

Both Houses being resolved in a Grand Committee, the gentlemen whose names are set down in the subsequent list were chosen to serve the Colony in the offices ascribed to their names respectively, to wit:

*William Bradford*, Esquire, Major-General of the Forces of this Colony.

*John Malbone*, Esquire, Colonel of the Regiment of Militia in the County of *Newport*.

*James Angell*, Esquire, Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Providence*.

*Joseph Noyes*, Esquire, Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *King's County*.

*Nathaniel Martin*, Esquire, Colonel of the Regiment of Militia in the County of *Bristol*.

*John Waterman*, Esquire, Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Kent*.

*Chad Brown*, Esquire, Colonel of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Providence*.

*Robert Brown*, Esquire, Colonel of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *King's County*.

*Stephen Potter*, Esquire, Colonel of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Kent*.

*Christopher Lippitt*, Esquire, Colonel of the Third Regiment of Militia in the County of *Providence*.

*George Champlin*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment of Militia in the County of *Newport*.

*Jabez Bowen*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Providence*.

*Jesse Champlin*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *King's County*.

*Thomas Gray*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment of Militia in the County of *Bristol*.

*John Low*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Kent*.

*Elisha Mowrey*, Jun., Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Providence*.

*George Peirce*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *King's County*.

*Nathaniel Brown*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Kent*.

*John Colwell*, Jun., Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Third Regiment of Militia in the County of *Providence*.

*John Cooke*, Esquire, Major of the Regiment of Militia in the County of *Newport*.

*John Innis Clark*, Esquire, Major of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Providence*.

*Jesse Maxson*, Esquire, Major of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *King's County*.

*Benjamin Besworth*, Esquire, Major of the Regiment of Militia in the County of *Bristol*.

*Joseph Fry*, Esquire, Major of the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Kent*.

*John Fisk*, Esquire, Major of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Providence*.

*Joshua Davis*, Esquire, Major of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *King's County*.

*Archibald Kasson*, Esquire, Major of the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Kent*.

*Joseph Knight*, Esquire, Major of the Third Regiment of Militia in the County of *Providence*.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That this General Assembly will join with the other Colonies in establishing Post-Officers and Post-Riders, in order to preserve an intercourse between the different Colonies, which will prove so beneficial to the publick as well as to individuals: And that this Colony will, for the present, defray the expense of Post-Riders throughout this Colony, upon the usual Post Road.

*It is further Voted and Resolved*, That Post-Offices be, and hereby are, established at the following places, to wit: At *Newport*, *Providence*, *Bristol*, *Warren*, *Tower-Hill* in *South-Kingstown*, and *Westerly*. And that the following persons be, and hereby are, appointed Postmasters, to wit:

For *Newport*, Mr. *Nathaniel Otis*; *Providence*, Mr. *John Carter*; *Bristol*, Mr. *Jonathan Russell*; *Warren*, Mr. *Shubael Burr*; *Tower-Hill*, Mr. *Ray Sands*; *Westerly*, Mr. *Joshua Babcock*.

*It is further Voted and Resolved*, That the Rates and Duties for Postage of Letters be as follows, to wit:

|                                                     |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------|
| For any distance not exceeding 60 miles, - -        | Os. 5½d. |
| Upwards of 60 miles, and not exceeding 100 miles, 0 | 8        |
| Upwards 100 " " " 200 " 0                           | 10½      |
| Upwards 200 " " " 300 " 1                           | 1        |
| Upwards 300 " " " 400 " 1                           | 4        |
| Upwards 400 " " " 500 " 1                           | 6½       |
| Upwards 500 " " " 600 " 1                           | 9        |
| Upwards 600 " " " 700 " 2                           | 0        |
| Upwards 700 " " " 800 " 2                           | 2½       |
| Upwards 800 " " " 900 " 2                           | 5        |
| Upwards 900 " " " 1000 " 2                          | 8        |

The above Rates to be paid in lawful money of this Colony, and are for the postage of a Single Letter. They are to be doubled for all Double Letters; trebled for all Treble Letters; and for every ounce weight four times so much is to be charged as for a Single Letter.

*It is further Voted and Resolved*, That Mr. *Peter Mumford* be, and he is hereby, appointed the Post-Rider from *Newport* to *Providence*; and Mr. *Benjamin Mumford* the Post-Rider from *Newport* to *New-London*. And that they neither receive nor deliver any Letters from any Post-Office heretofore established in this Colony.

*It is further Voted and Resolved*, That Messrs. *Joshua Babcock*, *John Jenckes*, *William Bradford*, and *Joseph Anthony*, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee



to agree with the Postmasters and Post-Riders for their service, and to give directions for the setting off and return of the Post-Riders; and that the Postmasters account to the said Committee for what they shall receive.

*It is further Voted and Resolved*, That all Letters which the Post-Rider, for the time being, may receive, directed for the Town of *Boston*, shall be first post-paid, and submitted to the examination of the Commander-in-Chief of the *American Forces at Cambridge*, or of a Committee that may be appointed by the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, before they are permitted to go into *Boston*; and that all Letters coming out of *Boston*, be submitted to the like examination.

*And it is further Voted and Resolved*, That this Act shall continue in force until this Assembly shall make some further order relative to the same.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Letter written by his Honour the Deputy-Governour, to *James Wallace, Esq.*, Commander of His Majesty's Ship *Rose*, and Captain *Wallace's* answer, be published in the next *Newport Mercury*, and *Providence Gazette*.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That Ten Thousand Pounds, in lawful money Bills of Credit, be struck off for the use of the Colony; that the same proportion of the different Bills be printed; that they be signed by the same persons who signed the former emission, and in the same manner; that they be completed and lodged in the General Treasury, as soon as may be; and that the Committee for signing the Bills procure the paper.

The Return of the Officers chosen to command the Company of Light-Infantry, in the County of *Providence*, was read in Council, and is as follows, to wit:

*John Mathewson*, Captain; *Jonathan Ellis*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Truman*, Second Lieutenant; *Asa Franklin*, Ensign.

Which being duly considered by the Council,

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the said Officers be, and hereby are approved.

The Return of the Officers chosen to command the Company of Light-Infantry in the Town of *Gloucester*, was read in Council, and is as follows, to wit:

*Timothy Wilmarth*, Jun., Captain; *David Richmond*, First Lieutenant; *Enos Smith*, Second Lieutenant; *Abraham Tourtellot*, Ensign.

Which being duly considered by the Council,

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the said Officers be, and hereby are approved.

The Return of the Officers chosen to command the Company of *Scituate* Hunters, in the Town of *Scituate*, was read in Council, and is as follows, to wit:

*Joseph Kimball*, Jun., Captain; *Gideon Cornell*, First Lieutenant; *Jonathan Smith*, Second Lieutenant; *Bertram Rounds*, Ensign.

Which being duly considered by the Council,

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the said Officers be, and hereby are approved.

*An Act to prevent Desertion from the Army of Observation.*

Whereas, some of the Soldiers of the Army of Observation raised by this Colony have shamefully deserted from the encampment upon *Jamaica Plains*, in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*: For the prevention whereof for the future,

*Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted*, That a reward of thirty Shillings, lawful money, be given and paid for the apprehending and securing any Soldier in the pay of this Colony, who shall desert from his place of encampment, detachment, or other post he may be stationed at; and that every Soldier so apprehended be sent back to his post or place of encampment, and delivered up to the Commanding Officer, to be punished as the law for regulating the said Army directs.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That in case any person shall harbour or secure any deserter or deserters from the said Army, or shall know of his or their haunt or place of abode, and shall not give information thereof to some one of the Committee of Safety, or to the Sheriff, his Deputy, or some other executive officer, the person so offending, upon due proof thereof being

made, shall forfeit and pay, as a fine, the sum of five Pounds, lawful money, and costs of prosecution, for harbouring or concealing, and the sum of three Pounds, lawful money, and costs of prosecution, for not giving information, to be recovered by bill, plaint, or information; and that one third part of the said fines shall be paid to the informers, and the other two third parts be lodged in the Town Treasury where such deserter is an inhabitant, to be paid out for the support of the soldiers, or their families, who may be disabled in the service.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the Committee of Safety, upon information being given them by any Officer of the said Army, of a deserter or deserters, with proper descriptions by which they may be known, shall forthwith furnish the Sheriff, his Deputy, or some other executive officer, with the name or names of such deserter or deserters, with his or their marks or descriptions, who is hereby commanded to make diligent search after the person or persons so deserting, and to apprehend and secure him or them, until he or they can be conveyed back to his or their quarters.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the Sheriff, his Deputy, or any other officer, who shall go in search of any deserter or deserters, may take what aid and assistance they shall think necessary; that all the costs and charges of apprehending, securing, and returning to his or their post, any deserter or deserters, shall be paid by such deserter or deserters; and that the wages of every deserter shall stop from the day of desertion until his return to duty.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That a copy of this Act be inserted in the *Newport Mercury*, and *Providence Gazette*.

The Return of the Officers chosen to command the Company of *North-Providence* Rangers, in the County of *Providence*, was read in Council, and is as follows, to wit:

*Joseph Olney*, Captain; *Joseph Randall*, Lieutenant; *Thomas Olney*, Junior, Ensign.

Which being duly considered by the Council,

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the said Officers be, and they are hereby approved.

Whereas, *Thursday*, the 20th day of *July* next, is recommended by the honourable the Continental Congress to be observed as a day of Publick Fasting and Prayer throughout the Colonies: It is, therefore,

*Voted and Resolved*, That his Honour the Deputy Governour be, and he is hereby requested to issue a Proclamation, to be published in the *Newport Mercury*, and *Providence Gazette*, earnestly recommending the same to be religiously observed by the inhabitants of this Colony.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That his Honour the Deputy-Governour be, and he is hereby requested to write an answer to the Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, and to transmit to them a copy of the proceedings of this Assembly.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Secretary publish the Acts and Orders now made and passed, by beat of drum, in the Town of *Providence*, within ten days after the rising of this Assembly; and in thirty, send copies thereof to the several Sheriffs in this Colony, by them to be transmitted to the Town Clerks of the Towns in their respective Counties; and that this Assembly be, and hereby is adjourned to the third *Monday* in *August* next, then to meet in the Town of *Providence*.

GOD save the KING.

Published according to order, on *Tuesday*, the 27th day of *June*, A. D., 1775, by

HENRY WARD, Secretary.

At the General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*, in *New-England*, in *America*, begun and holden (in consequence of Warrants issued by his Honour the Deputy-Governour) at *Providence*, within and for the Colony aforesaid, on *Wednesday*, the twenty-eighth day of *June*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and fifteenth of the reign of His Most Sacred Majesty *George the Third*, by the grace of God, King of *Great Britain*, and so forth:



Present: The Honourable *Nicholas Cooke*, Esquire, Deputy-Governour; *Ambrose Page*, Esq.; *John Sayles*, Jun., Esq.; *John Jepson*, Esq.; *James Arnold*, Jun., Esq.; *Jonathan Randall*, Esq.; *Peter Phillips*, Esq.; *Joseph Hazard*, Esq.; Assistants. The Secretary.

*Deputies from the several Towns.*

The Honourable *Metcalf Bowler*, Esquire, Speaker.

NEWPORT.—Mr. *John Wanton*, (son of *Gideon*.) Mr. *Thomas Freebody*.

PROVIDENCE.—Mr. *John Jenckes*, Mr. *John Smith*, Col. *John Mathewson*.

PORTSMOUTH.—*John Shearman*, Esquire.

WARWICK.—*William Greene*, Esq., Mr. *Jacob Greene*, Colonel *John Low*.

WESTERLY.—*Joshua Babcock*, Esq., Mr. *James Rhodes*.

NEW-SHOREHAM.—(None.)

NORTH-KINGSTOWN.—*John Northup*, Esq., Major *Sylvester Gardner*.

SOUTH-KINGSTOWN.—*Carder Hazard*, Esquire.

EAST-GREENWICH.—Mr. *Allen Johnson*.

JAMESTOWN.—Captain *Samuel Carr*.

SMITHFIELD.—*Daniel Mowry*, Jun., Esq., *Stephen Whipple*, Esquire.

SCITUATE.—*Rufus Hopkins*, Esquire.

GLOUCESTER.—*Silas Williams*, Esq., Mr. *Daniel Owen*.

CHARLESTOWN.—(None.)

WEST-GREENWICH.—*William Nichols*, Esquire, *Thomas Gorton*, Esquire.

COVENTRY.—*John Rice*, Esquire.

EXETER.—*George Peirce*, Esquire.

MIDDLETOWN.—(None.)

BRISTOL.—Major-General *William Bradford*, Major *Benjamin Bosworth*.

TIVERTON.—Major *John Cooke*.

LITTLE-COMPTON.—Captain *Thomas Brownell*, *William Richmond*, Esquire.

WARREN.—Mr. *Cromwel Child*.

CUMBERLAND.—*John Dexter*, Esq., *Jeremiah Whipple*, Esquire.

RICHMOND.—*George Webb*, Esq., Capt. *Richard Bailey*.

CRANSTON.—(None.)

HOPKINTON.—(None.)

JOHNSTON.—Mr. *Emmor Olney*, Mr. *Ebenezer Sprague*.

NORTH-PROVIDENCE.—Mr. *Joseph Olney*, Major *Thomas Olney*.

BARRINGTON.—Col. *Nathaniel Martin*, Mr. *Thomas Allen*.

*JOSIAS LYNDON*, Clerk of the Lower House.

In Council was read the Return of the Officers chosen to command the company of *Pawtuxet* Rangers, in the Towns of *Warwick* and *Cranston*, which is as follows, to wit:

*Samuel Aborn*, Captain; *Benjamin Arnold*, First Lieutenant; *Rhodes Arnold*, Second Lieutenant; *Stephen Greene*, Ensign.

Which being duly considered by the Council,

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the said Officers be, and they are hereby, approved.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That six Companies, consisting of sixty men each, including officers, be immediately raised in this Colony, in addition to those already ordered to be raised; that they be equipped with Arms, Ammunition, and all other necessities; that two Companies be added to each Regiment now in the service of this Colony, and encamped near *Boston*; that as soon as twenty men in a company shall be raised, they be sent forward, under the care of one commissioned officer, and the whole as soon as possible; that the same bounty and wages be allowed to them as to those already raised; and that, to defray the expense thereof, ten thousand Pounds, in lawful money bills, be emitted, and signed in the same manner and proportion as the first emission, excepting that the bills now ordered to be emitted be signed in the following manner, to wit: all the bills of five Shillings, and upwards, by three signers; and all under, by two signers.

*An Act to repeal an Act, intituled, An Act for regulating Appeals to His Majesty in Council, in GREAT BRITAIN.*

*Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted*, That the Act intituled an

Act for regulating Appeals to His Majesty in Council, in *Great Britain*, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Act to prevent the Honourable *Joseph Wanton*, Esq., from acting as Governour of this Colony, until the oath of office shall be administered to him in open General Assembly, with the consent of the Assembly, &c., which was passed at the Session held on the first *Wednesday* in *May* last, and continued by an Act passed at the Session held on the second *Monday* in *June* instant, be continued, and remain in force, until the rising of this Assembly, at the next Session: and that a copy of this Act be inserted in the *Newport Mercury*, and *Providence Gazette*.

Whereas, it is absolutely necessary, for the well governing and exerting the force of an Army, that the same should be under the direction of a Commander-in-Chief:

*It is therefore Voted and Resolved*, That the Army of Observation raised by this Colony, during the operations of the present campaign, be under the command and direction of the Commander-in-Chief of the combined *American* Army, stationed in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*; and that the Secretary transmit a copy of this Act to the Commander-in-Chief of the combined *American* Army; and to the Brigadier-General of the *Rhode-Island* Troops.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That his Honour the Deputy-Governour be, and he is hereby, requested to write an answer to the Letter from the Governour of *Connecticut*; and to the Speech of the *Oneida* Tribe of *Indians* to the four *New-England* Colonies.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That Messrs. *Jabez Champlin*, *James Angell*, *Metcalf Bowler*, *John Waterman*, *James Rhodes*, *John Sands*, *Sylvester Gardner*, *John Hawkins*, *Allen Johnson*, *Benjamin Underwood*, *Elisha Mowry*, Jun., *Rufus Hopkins*, *Asa Kimbal*, *Joseph Stanton*, Jun., *Thomas Gorton*, *Stephen Potter*, *George Peirce*, *John Barker*, *Benjamin Bosworth*, *John Cooke*, *Thomas Brownell*, *Cromel Child*, *John Dexter*, *George Webb*, *Richard Searle*, *Abel Tanner*, *Emmor Olney*, *Thomas Olney*, and *Thomas Allen*, be, and they are hereby, appointed and directed to take an account, as soon as may be, of the Powder, Arms and Ammunition, in the several Towns in this Colony in which they respectively dwell, including private as well as publick stock: that they be, and hereby are, directed and empowered to go to the house of each person in their respective Towns, to take an account of the Powder, Arms and Ammunition; that they make report to his Honour the Deputy-Governour, that he may transmit an account thereof to the Continental Congress; and also make report to this Assembly, at the next Session; and that in case any of the persons hereby appointed shall refuse to serve, the members of the General Assembly, of the Town in which the person so refusing dwells, appoint another in his stead, who will undertake.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Committees of Inspection in the several Towns in this Colony be, and they are hereby, appointed to collect all the Saltpetre and Brimstone in the respective Towns wherein they dwell, at the charge of the Colony, and send the same with all possible despatch to the Committee of Inspection for the Town of *Providence*, by them to be immediately forwarded to the Provincial Congress at *New-York*.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That Captain *Joseph Stanton*, Jun., be, and he is hereby, appointed one of the Committee of Safety for the County of *King's County*, in respect to the Soldiers now ordered to be raised by this Assembly.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the Gunner, and all the Soldiers, at *Fort George*, be immediately discharged; that Mr. *Thomas Freebody* have the care of the Buildings on *Goat-Island*, and let them out; that he hale up the Fort-boat, take particular care of her, and preserve her for the use of the Colony; that he procure the Cannon to be brought over from the Fort to *Newport*; and that he advertise the Guns which were stolen from the Fort.

In Council was read the Return of the Officers chosen to command the *Providence* Grenadier Company, and is as followeth, to wit:

*Jonathan Arnold*, Captain; *Zephaniah Andrews*, First



Lieutenant; *Ezekiel Burr*, Second Lieutenant; *Simeon Thayer* Ensign; *John Spurr*, Adjutant.

Which being duly considered by the Council,

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That the said Officers be, and hereby are, approved.

Both Houses being joined in a Grand Committee, chose the following Officers, to wit:

*Officers to command the six additional Companies to the Army of Observation.*

*Ebenezer Flagg*, Captain, *Joseph Perry*, Lieutenant, *Noel Allen*, Ensign, of the Eighth Company, to be raised in the Counties of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Thomas Gray*, Captain, *Lemuel Bailey*, Lieutenant, *William Southworth*, Ensign, of the Ninth Company, to be raised in the Counties of *Newport* and *Bristol*.

*Levi Tower*, Captain, *Silas Talbut*, Lieutenant, *Reuben Sprague*, Ensign, of the Ninth Company, to be raised in the County of *Providence*.

*Israel Gorton*, Captain, *James Williams*, Lieutenant, *Joseph Harris*, Ensign, of the Tenth Company, to be raised in the County of *Providence*.

*Ethan Clarke*, Captain, *Thomas Cole*, Lieutenant, *John Woodmansie*, Ensign, of the Ninth Company, to be raised in the Counties of *King's County* and *Kent*.

*Christopher Smith*, Captain, *Thomas Sweet*, Lieutenant, *Oliver Tefft*, Ensign, of the Tenth Company, to be raised in the Counties of *King's County* and *Kent*.

*Officers in the Trained Bands, or Companies of Militia.*

*Reuben Ballou*, Ensign of the Second Company, in the Town of *Cumberland*, in room of *Levi Ballou*, who refused.

*Comfort Wheaton*, Captain, *Nehemiah Sweet*, Lieutenant, *John Demont*, Ensign, of the First Company, in the Town of *Providence*.

*Elijah Bacon*, Captain, *Nathaniel Frothingham*, Lieutenant, *James Burrill*, Ensign, of the Second Company, in the Town of *Providence*.

*Robert Potter*, Captain, (in the room of *Thomas Bissell*, Jun., who declined,) *Timothy Deane*, Lieutenant, *Samuel Thomas*, Jun., Ensign, (in the room of *Robert Potter*, advanced,) of the Third Company, in the Town of *North-Kingstown*.

*Joseph Jenckes* Captain, *Sylvanus Bucklin*, Lieutenant, *Samuel Hills*, Ensign, of the First Company, in the Town of *Smithfield*.

*Thomas Aldrich*, Captain, *Elijah Arnold*, Lieutenant, *Peleg Arnold*, Ensign, of the Second Company, in the Town of *Smithfield*.

*Nehemiah Smith*, Captain, *Job Mowry*, Lieutenant, *James Smith*, Ensign, of the Third Company, in the Town of *Smithfield*.

*Mr. Solomon Southwick*, Postmaster for *Newport*, in the room of *Mr. Nathaniel Otis*, who is removed out of the Colony.

*It is Voted and Resolved*, That *Mr. Job Watson* be, and he is hereby, appointed a Post at *Tower-Hill*, to give intelligence to the Northern Counties, in case any squadron of Ships shall be seen off; that in case of an alarm, the Northern Counties be, and they are hereby, ordered to march to the Town of *Providence*; that a Proclamation be immediately issued by his Honour the Deputy-Governour, commanding every man in the Colony, able to bear arms, to equip himself completely with Arms and Ammunition, according to law; and that the Town of *Providence* fix a beacon on the hill to the eastward of the said Town, to alarm the country, in case of an invasion.

*An Act for Enlisting one fourth part of the Militia of the Colony as Minute-Men.*

*Be it enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted*, That one quarter part of the Militia of this Colony be enlisted as Minute-men, to meet together, and exercise themselves in military discipline, half a day, once in every fortnight; and that the following persons be, and hereby are, appointed in the several Towns to enlist them, to wit:

**NEWPORT.**—The Captains of the several Companies of Militia.

**PROVIDENCE.**—Messrs. *John Demont*, and *Nathaniel Frothingham*.

**PORTSMOUTH.**—*Mr. Burrington Anthony*.

**WARWICK.**—Messrs. *Malachi Hammet*, *Reuben Wightman*, and *Thomas Rice*, (son of *Thomas*.)

**WESTERLY.**—Messrs. *George Sheffield*, *Benjamin Hull*, and *Joseph Stillman*.

**NEW-SHOREHAM.**—The Captain of the Company of Militia.

**NORTH-KINGSTOWN.**—Messrs. *Charles Tillinghast*, *Jonathan Vaughan*, and *Ezekiel Gardner*, Junior.

**SOUTH-KINGSTOWN.**—Messrs. *Peleg Babcock*, and *John Wait*.

**EAST-GREENWICH.**—Messrs. *Allen Johnston*, and *William Arnold*.

**JAMESTOWN.**—The Captain of the Company of Militia.

**SMITHFIELD.**—Messrs. *Andrew Waterman*, *Luke Arnold*, and *Peleg Arnold*.

**GLOUCESTER.**—Messrs. *John Wells*, *Gideon Burgess*, *Aaron Winsor*, and *Samuel Mayes*.

**CHARLESTOWN.**—Messrs. *Augustus Stanton*, and *Beriah Lewis*.

**WEST-GREENWICH.**—Messrs. *Eleazer Carr*, *Jeremiah Austin*, and *John Mathewson*, Junior.

**COVENTRY.**—Messrs. *Archibald Kasson*, *Yelverton Wait*, *Stutely Hudson*, and *Benjamite Greene*.

**EXETER.**—*Mr. George Peirce*.

**MIDDLETOWN.**—The Captain of the Company of Militia.

**BRISTOL.**—*Mr. Benjamin Bosworth*.

**TIVERTON.**—Messrs. *Joseph Almy*, and *Pardon Cooke*.

**LITTLE-COMPTON.**—*Mr. Peres Richmond*.

**WARREN.**—*Mr. William Barton*.

**CUMBERLAND.**—Messrs. *Elisha Waterman*, and *Elias Philbrook*.

**RICHMOND.**—*Mr. Simeon Clarke*, Junior.

**CRANSTON.**—Messrs. *Andrew Harris*, *William Potter*, and the Captain of the Third Company.

**HOPKINTON.**—Messrs. *Thomas Wells*, (the Third,) and *Oliver Davis*.

**JOHNSTON.**—Messrs. *William Hawkins*, and *Joseph Waterman*.

**NORTH-PROVIDENCE.**—*Mr. Job Olney*.

**BARRINGTON.**—*Mr. Luther Martin*.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That in case any of the persons hereby appointed shall refuse to serve, the Deputies of the several Towns to which they belong be, and they hereby are, empowered to appoint others in their stead.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the following be the form of the Enlistment for the said Minute-men, to wit:

“*Colony of RHODE-ISLAND, &c:*

“We, the subscribers, voluntarily enlist ourselves to serve as Minute-men, in the service of this Colony, to be under the immediate command of our superiour Officers, and subject to the law of this Colony for regulating the Minute-men.”

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the persons who are hereby appointed to enlist the said Minute-men, return the names of the persons they shall so enlist unto the Deputies who live within their respective Regiments; that the said Deputies, or the major part of them, be, and hereby are, empowered to form them into Companies, each to consist of as many men as they shall think proper and direct, and also to appoint Officers over them; and that they return the names of the Officers they shall appoint to his Honour the Deputy-Governour, to be commissioned by the Secretary, in the same manner that the other Officers have been commissioned.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said Minute-men march for the defence of the Colony, when and as often as they shall be called upon by the Colonel of the Regiment to which they respectively belong; and that the Lieutenant-General and Major-General of the Colony be, and they are hereby, authorized and empowered to march them out of the Colony, whenever they, or either of them, shall think it necessary.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the following wages be allowed and paid out of the General Treasury to the said officers and men, to wit: for every time they shall meet and exercise, each Captain shall receive two Shillings and six Pence lawful money;



each Lieutenant and Ensign, two Shillings, lawful money; and each other person one Shilling lawful money; and when they march for the defence of the Colony, or out of the Colony, each Captain shall receive six Shillings lawful money per day; each Lieutenant five Shillings lawful money per day; each Ensign four Shillings lawful money per day; and each other person three Shillings lawful money per day; and shall also be billeted at the charge of the Colony: and that the Commanding Officer make his return once a month to the Committee of Safety, and draw the money.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the several Independent Companies in this Colony, or such of them as shall think proper, form themselves into Companies of Minute-men, under the same regulation and command as above mentioned, and exercise and do duty in the same manner; and that they receive the same pay and allowance.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the Secretary, as soon as may be, transmit copies of this Act to the several Sheriffs in the Colony, who are hereby directed to forward them by the first safe hands to the persons appointed to enlist the said Minute-men in their respective Counties.

*It is Voted and Resolved,* That Mr. John Martin be, and he is hereby, appointed a Surgeon to the *Rhode-Island* Brigade; that he do all the services in said Brigade that his capacity will admit of; and that he be allowed for the same the monthly wages of nine Pounds lawful money.

*It is Voted and Resolved,* That Captain John Grimes be, and he is hereby, appointed Commander of the small Sloop chartered by the Colony, in the room of Captain Christopher Whipple, who refused; that all other vacancies, in either of the Sloops chartered by the Colony, be filled up by the Committee of Safety; and that the Officers be commissioned by the Secretary of this Colony.

*It is Voted and Resolved,* That when the places of any commissioned Officers in the Army of Observation, raised by this Colony, shall happen to be vacant, the Brigadier-General of the said Army, with the advice of the Field-Officers thereof, fill up all such vacancies with Officers; who shall have full power to act by virtue of such appointment, until his Honour the Deputy-Governour shall send them Commissions, signed by the Secretary.

*It is Voted and Resolved,* That the Secretary publish the Acts and Orders now made and passed by beat of drum, in the Town of *Providence*, in ten days after the rising of this Assembly, and within thirty send copies thereof to the Sheriffs of the several Counties in this Colony, by them to be transmitted to the Town-Clerks in their respective Counties; and that this Assembly be, and hereby is, adjourned until the third Monday in August next, then to meet in the Town of *Providence*.

God save the King.

Published according to order, on Monday, the tenth day of July, A. D. 1775, by

HENRY WARD, Secretary.

#### PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.

Monday, June 19, 1775, P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-three Members, met pursuant to adjournment; and a quorum not appearing, they adjourned to three o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

Tuesday, June 20, 1775.

A quorum met, pursuant to the adjournment of last night.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Brown and Mr. Edmonds wait on the Governour, and acquaint him that the House are met, pursuant to their adjournment, and ready to receive any business he may be pleased to lay before them.

Wednesday, June 21, 1775.

The House met pursuant to their adjournment.

The Members appointed to wait on the Governour with the Message of last night, reported they had delivered the same according to order; and that his Honour was pleased to say, he had no business at present to lay before the House.

A Petition from a number of inhabitants near *Head's* Creek, in the Townships of *Chestnut-Hill* and *Domencing*, in *Northampton* County, was presented to the House, and read, complaining of great inconveniences suffered by the petitioners, from a saw-mill dam erected on the said creek, obstructing the navigation thereof, and praying relief.

*Ordered* to lie on the table.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter from *Benjamin Franklin*, Esquire, Agent for this Province in *London*, dated the 15th of *February* last, enclosing a list of six Acts of the General Assembly of this Province, presented to His Majesty in Council the 14th of the same month, respectively intitled and passed, as follows, viz:

No. 1. "An Act for the relief of *Samuel Sweet*, a languishing prisoner in the Gaol of *Philadelphia*; and *Thomas Bamford*, a languishing prisoner in the Gaol of *Lancaster* County, with respect to the imprisonment of their persons;" passed the 28th of *September*, 1773.

No. 2. "An Act for the support of the Government of this Province, and payment of the Publick Debts;" passed the same day.

No. 3. "An Act to prevent counterfeiting the Paper Moneys of other Colonies;" passed the same day.

No. 4. "An Act to continue an Act intitled 'An Act to amend the Act intitled An Act to prevent the exportation of Bread and Flour not merchantable,'" passed the 23d of *July*, 1774.

No. 5. "An Act for lending the sum of Eight Hundred

Pounds to the several and respective Counties of *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland*, for building a Court-House and Prison in each of the said Counties;" passed the same day.

No. 6. "An Act for the support of the Government of this Province, and payment of the Publick Debts;" passed the 29th of *September*, 1774.

All which Acts are herewith most humbly presented this 14th day of *February*, 1775, by me, *Henry Wilmot*, Agent for the Proprietaries of *Pennsylvania*.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Gray, Mr. Hillegas, Mr. Rodman, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Wayne, Mr. Ross, Mr. Swoope, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Edmonds, Mr. Hunter, and Mr. Dougherty, be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for striking the sum of Twenty-Two Thousand Pounds, in Bills of Credit, to be sunk by the excise on spirituous liquors.

Thursday, June 22, 1775, P. M.

The House met, and adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill for striking the sum of Twenty-Two Thousand Pounds, in Bills of Credit, to be sunk by the excise on spirituous liquors, reported an essay for that purpose, intitled "An Act for the support of the Government of this Province, and payment of the Publick Debts;" which was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

Friday, June 23, 1775.

The Bill intitled "An Act for the support of the Government of this Province, and payment of the Publick Debts," being read the second time, and debated by paragraphs, was ordered to be transcribed for a third reading.

A Petition and Memorial from the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House, and read, setting forth, that the petitioners, reflecting upon the great and imminent danger to which the liberties of *America* are exposed, by the open and declared determination of the *British* Ministry to enforce certain cruel and oppressive Acts of Parliament; and contemplating those mournful events which have already happened, as well as those which may happen, during this important struggle, have been induced to form and recommend a Military Association within this City and Liberties; that, in forming such Association, they have extended their views beyond a mere parade and useless show; and animated with a lively sense of the inestimable value of the blessings of civil liberty themselves, they have endeavoured to



inculcate upon others the necessity of defending and supporting them by actual service, if the exigency of publick affairs should require it; that, under these circumstances, they find various difficulties, which require the aid and assistance of the honourable House. Reposing, therefore, the fullest confidence in the virtue and spirit of their Representatives, they beg leave to lay before them several particulars, which seem, in a peculiar manner, to claim their attention and regard, viz:

That, in the first place, there are great numbers of able-bodied men, who have acquired some skill in the use of arms, and, in case of necessity, would proceed to actual service; but their situation and circumstances in life (many having families, and others not sufficient ability to support themselves) forbid their entering into any engagements of this nature; and in case of an actual call, their ardour and readiness to devote themselves to their Country's service would be damped, if not extinguished, by the alarming consideration of leaving their families subject to want at home, and experiencing all the difficulties of unpaid Troops while in the field. The petitioners, therefore, humbly submit to the honourable House, that as there is the highest reason and justice that all the members of the community, who are equally interested in the preservation and security of our common liberties, should contribute to the assistance and support of those who take a more active, laborious, and dangerous part, it would be highly proper that a vote of credit should be passed, ascertaining and promising suitable pay and subsistence to such officers and soldiers as shall solemnly engage to go into actual service, if required; and who shall, in case of necessity and publick danger, comply with such engagements, by meeting at any rendezvous appointed, and performing such military duty as shall be deemed necessary, and may be demanded of them. And that such provision may be extended to camp equipage, wagons for transporting baggage, and such other necessaries as actual field duty shall require. That the petitioners, on this subject, would only add, that the provision here requested, is no more than that made by the Militia-laws in *England*, and the neighbouring Provinces, in case of invasion or insurrection, and by all judicious and sensible men deemed absolutely necessary, to give efficacy, spirit, vigour, and success to any military association whatever.

That, in the second place, the petitioners beg leave to lay before the honourable House the very naked and defenceless state of this City and Harbour, now in its turn become the frontier, and exposed to equal dangers and difficulties, from which it has, at different times, cheerfully contributed to rescue the more distant parts of the Province. Vain are all our military operations; useless and lost the sums of money generously given by this honourable House for our defence, if a single ship of war may proceed, without any interruption, to the very front of the City, and impose such terms of surrendering our arms, or contributions of money and provisions, as will reduce us to the melancholy alternative of a disgraceful compliance, or exposing the City to certain destruction. That great quantities of large cannon and some stores lay in useless heaps in various parts of this City, which skilful persons have judged might, at no great expense, be so employed as to make our situation much more secure than it is at present; besides which, there are many other devices calculated for obstructing the passage of rivers and harbours, well worthy of immediate attention, if some suitable provision could be made for defraying the expense which would be incurred by so essential a service.

That, in the third place, the petitioners earnestly recommend to the patronage and assistance of the honourable House, a manufacture of that valuable and necessary article, Saltpetre. While dependant on a precarious supply from beyond sea, and that under the restraints which our cruel oppressors have laid or procured, our situation is truly alarming; but should success happily attend the infant manufactory promoted and formed by the petitioners, it may be extended so as to bid defiance to all the schemes of our enemies to deprive us of the necessary means of defence, and afford the fairest prospect of relief from our present difficulties and distress.

Besides these particular objects, which, with all due

respect, the petitioners submit to the consideration of the honourable House, they beg leave to add, that in times so critical and important, when the fate of our Country, the safety and security of all which can make life valuable or desirable to a free citizen, is suspended; when every day brings with it some event of a most interesting nature, particular and unforeseen exigences and damages arise, which require immediate attention, and incur an immediate expense. That the petitioners, therefore, submit to the consideration of the House the necessity and propriety of appointing persons out of their own body, or in conjunction with others, as a Committee of Safety and Defence, with discretionary powers, upon the credit, and under the control of the House, to act on such emergencies; to appropriate such publick moneys as may be already raised, or to raise such further sums upon credit, or otherwise, as the alarming situation of the Province may require.

Signed by order, and in behalf of the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*.

JOSEPH REED, *Chairman*.

*Ordered* to lie on the table.

The House adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

The House resumed the consideration of the Petition and Memorial from the Committee for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*; and after some time spent therein, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, June 24, 1775.

A Member of this House, and one of the Deputies to the Continental Congress, read in his place, and then presented at the table, a Resolve of the said Congress, in the words following, viz:

"In Congress, June 22, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the Colony of *Pennsylvania* raise two more Companies of Riflemen, and that these, with the six Companies before ordered to be raised by them, making eight Companies, be formed into a Battalion, under such Field and under officers as shall be recommended by the Assembly or Convention of the above Colony."

The House taking into consideration the foregoing Resolve relative to the manner of recommending Field and other officers for the Battalion of Riflemen to be raised in this Province by order of Congress, and to be in Continental pay,

*Resolved*, That the Members of the Congress deputed by this Assembly, be a Committee to consider of and recommend proper persons for officers of the said Battalion.

A Petition from a number of the Officers of the Association in the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, concurring with, and recommending to immediate consideration, the Petition and Memorial from the Committee of the said City and Liberties, presented yesterday, was delivered at the Chair, and read.

*Ordered* to lie on the table.

The House adjourned to *Monday* next, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Tuesday, June 27, 1775.

A quorum met pursuant to adjournment.

The Governour, by Mr. Secretary, sent down a verbal Message, requiring a List of the Draughts and Certificates of Assembly made payable out of the Supply Bill before him; and a List thereof being drawn at the table accordingly,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Bartholomew* and Mr. *Wayne* wait on his Honour and deliver the same.

The Members return, and report they had waited on the Governour and delivered the said List according to order.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

The House resumed the consideration of the Petition from the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*; and after some debate thereon,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Dickinson*, Mr. *Hillgas*, Mr. *Charles Thomson*, Mr. *Rodman*, Mr. *Pearson*, Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *Ross*, Mr. *Montgomery*, and Mr. *Edmonds*, be a Committee to consider of and report to the



House such measures as may be expedient for putting this City and Province into a state of defence.

— Wednesday, June 28, 1775.

The Governour, by Mr. Secretary, returned the Bill intituled "An Act for the support of the Government of this Province, and payment of the Publick Debts," with a written Message to the House, which was read by order; and follows in these words, viz:

*A written Message from the Governour to the House.*

GENTLEMEN: It being unusual to make provision for the discharge of the Orders drawn for the payment of the publick debts before the end of the year, at which time there may probably be a sum sufficient for the purpose in the Treasury, arising from the funds heretofore provided, I cannot think it proper to give my consent to the Bill intituled "An Act for the support of the Government of this Province, and payment of the Publick Debts."

JOHN PENN.

June 28, 1775.

Upon consideration of the foregoing Message, Ordered, That Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Hillegas, Mr. Pearson, and Mr. Ross, be a Committee to prepare and bring in an Answer to the said Message.

The House adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration and report to the House such measures as may be expedient for putting this City and Province into a state of defence, reported they had essayed a draught of some Resolves for that purpose, which they presented to the Chair; and the same being read by order, was referred for further consideration.

The House adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Thursday, June 29, 1775.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Ordered, That Mr. Ferree and Mr. Ewing wait on the Governour, and inquire at what hour to-day the House shall attend him to enact into Laws the Bills that have been returned with his assent.

The Members return, and report, that they had waited on his Honour, and delivered their Message according to order, and that the Governour was pleased to say, he should be immediately ready to meet the House to pass the several Bills which have been agreed on.

The House then taking into consideration the time of adjournment, agreed to meet again on Monday, the 18th of September next, with which the Speaker is desired to acquaint his Honour when the House shall wait on him to pass the Bills.

Ordered, That Mr. Hillegas join with the Members of Council appointed by the Governour to compare the engrossed Bill with its original.

The Member reported he had assisted in collating the engrossed Bill with its original, and found them to agree.

Ordered, That Mr. Hillegas and Mr. Parker see the Great Seal affixed to the said Bills after they are enacted into laws, and deposite the same in the Rolls Office.

*A Message by the Secretary.*

"SIR: The Governour is in the Council Chamber, and requires the attendance of the House, to enact into laws the Bills returned with his assent."

Mr. Speaker then, with the whole House, waited on the Governour; and being returned from the Council Chamber, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and reported, that the House had waited on his Honour, and presented three Bills, respectively intituled: "An Act to amend the Act intituled, 'A supplement to the Act intituled, An Act appointing Wardens for the Port of Philadelphia, and for other purposes therein mentioned;'" "An Act for confirming the estate of Daniel Andrews, in and to certain lands, in Amity Township, in the County of Berks;" and, "An Act for confirming the estate of the heirs and representatives of John Taylor, late of the County of Chester, practitioner in physick, deceased, in a certain tract of land in the Township of Bradford, in the said County." To

which Bills the Governour had been pleased to give his assent by enacting the same into laws.

Mr. Speaker also reported, that he had acquainted his Honour the House purposed to adjourn to the 18th of September next, if the Governour approved thereof; to which he was pleased to say, he had no objection to the proposed time of adjournment.

The Members appointed to see the Great Seal affixed to the said Bills, and deposite the same in the Rolls Office, reported they had performed that service according to order.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

The Committee appointed to strike the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, directed by the Act intituled "A supplement to the Act intituled 'An Act for erecting a new Jail, Workhouse, and House of Correction, in the City of Philadelphia,'" passed the eighteenth of March last, produced to the Chair a receipt from Joseph Fox, Esquire, one of the Commissioners of the County of Philadelphia, for the said sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Pounds in the said Bills of Credit to him paid agreeable to the directions of the said Act.

The said Committee also produced two extra sheets unsigned, which had been printed to supply any loss or deficiency happening in the said Bills during the signing and numbering the same; which two extra sheets, containing sixteen Bills of five Pounds each, and sixteen Bills of fifty Shillings each, were burned by order of the House, in the presence of the Members.

The House resumed the consideration of the Resolves of the Committee appointed to consider of such measures as may be expedient for putting this City and Province into a state of defence, and after some time spent therein, adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Friday, June 30, 1775.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and proceeded in the consideration of the Resolves of the Committee; which being put to the question, were agreed to by the House, and follow in these words, viz:

1. Resolved, That this House approve the Association entered into by the good people of this Province for the defence of their lives, liberty, and property.

2. Resolved, That if any invasion or landing of British Troops, or others, shall be made in this or the adjacent Colonies during the present controversy, or any armed ships or vessels shall sail up the River Delaware in a hostile manner, and such circumstances shall render it expedient in the judgment of the Committee hereafter to be appointed, for any number of the officers and private men of the Association within this Colony to enter into actual service for repelling such hostile attempts, this House will provide for the pay and necessary expenses of such officers and soldiers performing such military duty, while they are in such actual service.

3. Resolved, That the Pay of the officers and privates, while in such actual service, shall not exceed that of the Army raised by the Congress of the United Colonies, for the defence of the liberties of America.

4. Resolved, That this House do earnestly recommend to the Board of Commissioners of the City and County of Philadelphia, and of each County in this Province that have not made the provision hereinafter mentioned, and they are hereby enjoined, as they regard the freedom, welfare, and safety of their Country, immediately to provide a proper number of good new Firelocks, with Bayonets fitted to them; Cartridge-boxes, with twenty-three rounds of Cartridges in every box; and Knapsacks: not less than fifteen hundred of each article for the City and County of Philadelphia; three hundred for the County of Bucks; five hundred for the County of Chester; six hundred for the County of Lancaster; three hundred for the County of York; three hundred for the County of Cumberland; four hundred for the County of Berks; three hundred for the County of Northampton; one hundred for the County of Bedford; one hundred for the County of Northumberland; and one hundred for the County of Westmoreland: to be under the care of the Commanding Officers of the Battalions of the said Counties, for the immediate use of



such Officers and Soldiers as shall be draughted from the Battalions from time to time for actual service. And the said Commissioners and Assessors shall produce their accounts for the furnishing the Arms and Accoutrements aforesaid to the Committee hereinafter appointed, which being approved of by the said Committee, they shall draw orders on the Treasurer for the payment thereof, and he is hereby enjoined to pay the same out of the Bills to be emitted by the Resolution of this House.

5. *Resolved*, That the Firelocks to be provided as aforesaid be of one size and bore, with steel Rammers, well fitted to the same; and that patterns of the said Firelocks, Rammers, and Bayonets, be immediately made in the City of Philadelphia, and sent to the different Counties.

6. *Resolved*, That this House do recommend to and enjoin the Officers and Committees of each County in this Province, to select a number of Minute-Men equal to the Arms, &c., provided for the same, to be in readiness, upon the shortest notice, to march to any quarter, in case of emergency.

7. *Resolved*, That provision be made for defending this Province, and the City in particular, against the attacks of armed vessels that may be sent to annoy them.

And whereas, the safety of a Country greatly depends on having within itself the means of defence, and it appears that sufficient quantities of Saltpetre may be collected, not only for defence, but for other purposes:

8. *Resolved*, That the sum of twenty Pounds be paid for every hundred weight of good merchantable Saltpetre that shall be made and manufactured in this Province, and delivered to the Committee of Safety hereinafter named, within the space of three months from this time; and that the sum of fifteen Pounds be paid for every hundred weight of good merchantable Saltpetre that shall be made and manufactured in this Province and delivered to the said Committee within the space of three months next following; and so in proportion for a greater or lesser quantity.

9. *Resolved*, That John Dickinson, George Gray, Henry Wynkoop, Anthony Wayne, Benjamin Bartholomew, George Ross, Michael Swoope, John Montgomery, Edward Biddle, William Edmonds, Bernhard Dougherty, Samuel Hunter, William Thompson, Thomas Willing, Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, John Cadwalader, Andrew Allen, Owen Biddle, Francis Johnston, Richard Reily, Samuel Morris, Junior, Robert Morris, Thomas Wharton, Junior, and Robert White, Gentlemen, be a Committee of Safety for calling forth such and so many of the Associators into actual service, when necessity requires, as the said Committee shall judge proper; for paying and supplying them with necessaries while in actual service; for providing for the defence of this Province against invasion and insurrection; and for encouraging and promoting the manufacture of Saltpetre; which said Committee are hereby authorized and empowered to draw orders on the Treasurer hereinafter appointed for the several purposes above mentioned.

10. *Resolved*, That any seven or more of the said Committee shall be a board for transacting the business aforesaid, or any part thereof.

And for carrying the foregoing Resolves into execution, it is

11. *Resolved*, That Bills of Credit to the value of Thirty-Five Thousand Pounds shall, on or before the first day of August next, be prepared and printed on good strong paper, under the care and direction of George Gray, Joseph Parker, William Rodman, and Isaac Pearson, Esquires, or any three of them, at the charge of the publick, to be defrayed out of the said Bills; which Bills shall be made and prepared in manner and form following, viz:

According to the Resolves of the Assembly of Pennsylvania, made on the thirtieth day of June, in the fifteenth year of His Majesty George the Third; dated at Philadelphia, the twentieth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

And the said Bills shall have such escutcheons and devices as the said George Gray, Joseph Parker, William Rodman, and Isaac Pearson, shall think proper; each of which Bills shall be of the several and respective denominations following, and no other, viz:

Seven thousand of the same Bills of the sum of forty Shillings.

Seven thousand of the same Bills of the sum of thirty Shillings.

Seven thousand of the same Bills of the sum of twenty Shillings.

Seven thousand of the same Bills of the sum of ten Shillings.

And the said George Gray, Joseph Parker, William Rodman, and Isaac Pearson, shall use their best care, attention, and diligence, during the printing of the said Bills, that the number and amount thereof, according to their respective denominations aforesaid, be not exceeded, nor any clandestine or fraudulent practice used by the printer, his servants, or other persons concerned therein.

12. *Resolved*, That the said George Gray, Joseph Parker, William Rodman, and Isaac Pearson, or any three of them, after the said Bills are printed, shall deliver them to the signers to be signed and numbered by parcels, for which they shall take the receipts of the signers.

13. *Resolved*, That Sharp Delany, Lambert Cadwalader, Isaac Howell, James Meas, Adam Hubley, John Benezet, Samuel Cadwalader Morris, Thomas Prior, Godfrey Twells, John Meas, John Purviance, and William Allen, Junior, or any three of them, shall be the signers of each and every of the said Bills.

14. *Resolved*, That when the same Bills shall be signed, they shall be delivered to Michael Hillegas, Esquire, hereby appointed Treasurer, who shall give his receipt for the same, and shall therewith pay off and discharge all such draughts and certificates as shall be made by order of Assembly, or the Committee of Safety aforesaid.

15. *Resolved*, That the Treasurer aforesaid shall give bond with two sufficient sureties to John Morton and Charles Humphreys, Esquires, in the sum of ten thousand Pounds, for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him.

And for the more certain paying, redeeming, discharging, and sinking the said Bills of Credit hereby emitted:

16. *Resolved*, That a Tax on all estates, real and personal, within this Province, shall be raised and levied by the respective Commissioners and Assessors of the several Counties within this Province, in the same manner and mode as the Provincial Tax, by the laws now in force, is raised, levied, and recovered, and shall be paid to the Provincial Treasurer; which said Tax first mentioned shall commence immediately after the sinking of the Bills of Credit now remaining to be sunk of those sums granted to the King during the course of the last war; which Tax, for the purposes aforesaid, the several Commissioners and Assessors are enjoined and required to raise, levy, recover, and pay, as they regard the freedom, welfare, and safety of their Country.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety draw an order on their Treasurer for fifty Pounds, payable to George Ross, Esquire, and another order for the like sum, payable to James Wilson, Esquire, for their services as Deputies of this Province in the Continental Congress.

The House taking into consideration that many of the good people of this Province are conscientiously scrupulous of bearing Arms, do hereby earnestly recommend to the Associators for the defence of their Country, and others, that they bear a tender and brotherly regard towards this class of their fellow-subjects and countrymen; and to these conscientious people it is recommended, that they cheerfully assist, in proportion to their abilities, such Associators as cannot spend their time and substance in the publick service without great injuries to themselves and families.

Upon motion,

The Memorial of Samuel Preston Moore, Esquire, was again read, and after some debate, referred to the Committee of Accounts, to consider the service of the memorialist, and report thereon at the next meeting.

The House adjourned to Monday, the 18th of September next, at four o'clock, P. M.



## NEW-HAMPSHIRE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, June 12, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

And there being but a thin House, adjourned till tomorrow, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, June 13, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Deputy Secretary came into the House, and informed the House that Colonel *Weare* had taken the oaths, and was qualified as a Member of this House.

*Meshech Weare*, Esq., having been chosen Clerk to this House, and now being present, the oath for the faithful discharge of that office was administered to him by the Speaker.

The Committee appointed to consider the matter respecting the admission of the Members called in from the new Towns by virtue of the King's writ, made report as on file; which being read and considered, and after debate thereon, the question was put, Whether the Members returned for *Plymouth*, *Orford*, and *Lime*, should be admitted to a seat in this House?

It passed clearly in the negative.

Tuesday, June 13, 1775, P. M.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Answer to the Governour's Speech, laid before the House the following draught of an Answer, viz:

*May it please your Excellency:*

Our grateful acknowledgments are due to you for your kind assurance given this House in your Excellency's speech, that you will afford all the facility in your power to every measure that may be conducive to the publick good; and that you will make the happiness and prosperity of this Government the object of your warmest wishes and constant pursuit. Your Excellency may be assured, that we, in our department, will ever consult and steadily pursue such measures as we may judge will be most likely to promote the prosperity of this Province. We desire the Treasurer's Accounts may be laid before us as soon as may be, which we will immediately proceed to inspect.

It is with the most anxious concern we view the unhappy controversy between *Great Britain* and her Colonies rapidly advancing to the most serious issue; a matter of such a momentous, interesting nature, cannot fail of engaging our most serious attention, while it fills us with the deepest solicitude and distress. We most ardently wish it in our power to effect, by any measures we could take, the restoration of publick tranquillity, and the re-establishment of the much-desired reconciliation with our Mother Country, upon a just, solid, and permanent basis, that the blessings of the *British* Constitution might thereby be diffused and enjoyed through every part of this wide and extended Empire. But we are apprehensive the settlement of the present distressing difficulties is an object of such magnitude, and a matter of such general concernment to all the Colonies, as far exceeds our circumscribed power and influence. As a variety of methods have been proposed, and measures pursued, in order to effect this desirable end, all of which have hitherto proved ineffectual, we are entirely at a loss to know what measures we can take that may afford a prospect of success. Was it in our power to settle this most unnatural, unfortunate contest, in a way consistent with the true interest and rights of the whole Nation, our calamities would be but of short duration; and we trust, had it been equally in the power of the Colonies, as it ever was their wish, matters would never have proceeded to such extremity. Intimately connected as we are with the Parent State, by the strongest ties of kindred, religion, laws, and interest, it ever must be our most sincere desire and zealous endeavour to adopt and constantly pursue such measures as may have the most likely tendency to strengthen and perpetuate such connexion, and to promote the general interest and happiness of the whole Empire.

With hearts deeply impressed with the most affectionate attachment to, and concern for, the interest and prosperity of *Great Britain*, as inseparably connected with our own, we trust that our conduct will invariably manifest the rectitude of our intention, and our sincere aim to restore

and establish peace and harmony between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, and to advance the prosperity of both Countries.

*Voted*, That the foregoing be presented to his Excellency the Governour, in answer to his Speech at the opening of the present General Assembly.

The Deputy Secretary brought down the following Message from his Excellency, viz:

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:*

When a general spirit of jealousy, alarm, and apprehension, have either banished the sober reason, or blinded the cool judgment of men; when the love of order and respect to the laws, reverence and attachment to the ancient and happy Constitution of this Province, seem wholly to have deserted their seat, and disorder and confusion introduced in their stead; and when the people, as it were, seem to have lost sight of any possible alternative but slavery or civil war, and abandon the hope that there is yet remaining of possibility of reconciliation with the Mother Country, I think it incumbent upon me, in this most alarming and dangerous situation, to recommend to your most serious consideration the Resolution of the House of Commons of the 27th of *February* last, which hath been approved by His Majesty. There appears in this solemn Resolution so great an affection, tenderness for your liberties, and readiness to be reconciled, upon principles consistent with the just rights and dignity of the Parent State, and the privileges of the Colonies, as precludes the necessity of particular observations upon it; and I cannot but trust that it will meet with the just and grateful return from you that may be naturally expected from the wisdom which the hour of serious reflection will call forth, and from the feelings which calm consideration will produce; and be finally productive of those happy effects for which it lays so fair a foundation. But as this is a subject of a most weighty nature to the good people of this Province, the security of whose lives and properties may rest upon the moment of your decision as their Representatives, I cannot give a greater instance of my duty to His Majesty, and of zeal for the true interest of this Province, than by affording you time for candid consideration, and an opportunity to take the real, and, on this very serious occasion, I hope dispassionate sentiments of your constituents, from whence my most fervent prayers to Heaven are, that a disposition for reconciliation may spring up, whose blossoms being mutual affection and a desire for peace and harmony, we may speedily reap the blessed fruit of happy prosperity to this Province, and perpetual glory to the united *British* Empire.

I do therefore adjourn the General Assembly, and it is hereby adjourned accordingly, to *Tuesday*, the 11th day of *July* next, then to meet at the State-House in *Portsmouth*, in order to proceed to the consideration of this and the other publick affairs of the Province.

In the mean time I most earnestly recommend it to you, by all means in your power, to discourage and discountenance all acts and measures tending to increase our difficulties, by widening the breach between us and our Mother Country, which unhappily but too much prevail throughout the Province, and to use your best endeavours to cultivate a quiet and peaceable disposition among your constituents.

J. WENTWORTH.

New-Hampshire Council Chamber, June 13, 1775.

## NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, June 15, 1775.

*Captain HENRY ELKINS, Sr:*

You are hereby directed to man two whale-boats out of your company, and keep them constantly cruising off and on the coast, and direct them to acquaint all vessels bound to *Piscataqua*, having Provisions, Salt, or Molasses on board, that the man-of-war there has orders to seize them; and advise them to get into *York*, *Newburyport*, *Hampton*, or *Rye*, as they may judge expedient.

By order of the Committee.

The Committee gave the Receiver-General orders to deliver to *Captain Henry Elkins* twenty pounds of Gunpowder, taking his receipt for the same, to be accounted for.



In Committee of Safety, June 16, 1775.

*To the Committee of Supplies:*

GENTLEMEN: You are desired, without delay, to procure at *Cambridge*, of Mr. *Trumbull*, or any other person or persons, on the best terms you can, about one month's provision for two thousand men, as part of your general orders of the 8th of *June*, and deliver it to Mr. *Moses Emerson*, our Commissary at *Cambridge*; and also procure for him sufficient store-houses there.

By order of the Committee.

In Committee of Safety, June 16, 1775.

*To the Committee of Supplies:*

GENTLEMEN: We desire you to procure, as soon as you can, five dozen of hatchets or small axes, and lodge four dozen of them with the Commissary at *Cambridge*, and keep the remainder in safe custody for the present. We also desire you to fix a number of guard-houses for the accommodation of the soldiers stationed on the coast, as you shall see and judge needy, not exceeding six in number.

By order of the Committee.

In Committee of Safety, June 17, 1775.

Orders given to Captain *Jeremiah Clough*, to muster his Company on *Wednesday*, the 28th day of *June* instant, at *Canterbury*, there to wait further orders.

Ordered, That *Nathaniel Perkins*, of *Canterbury*, provided he enlist as a soldier, shall be Armourer of Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, and be allowed the same wages, including that of a soldier, as is allowed Armourers in the *Massachusetts* service.

Received a Letter from Colonel *Read*, dated *Charlestown*, *June 15*, 1775, with a Return of his Regiment, &c., as on file.

Received a Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *Gilman*, dated *Charlestown*, *June 15*, 1775.—Filed.

In Committee of Safety, at *Exeter*, *June 17*, 1775.

*To General FOLSOM:*

SIR: You are required to order two of the companies in Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, viz: Captain *Adams's* and Captain *Tilton's*, to march, by the middle of next week, to join the Army at or near *Cambridge*, in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, there to receive further orders.

MATTHEW THORNTON, *Chairman*.

*June 18*, 1775.—Upon receiving the news of the engagement at *Charlestown*, directed Colonel *Poor* to order all the companies in his Regiment, except Captain *Elkins's*, to march immediately to *Cambridge*.

Received a Letter from the Continental Congress, dated *June 10*, 1775, enclosing sundry of their Resolves.—Filed.

Wrote to *Samuel Cutts*, Esquire, desiring him to procure ten reams of the best Paper he could get, and send it here to-morrow; also, to engage all the Saltpetre and Brimstone in *Portsmouth*, and to send the Saltpetre here as soon as may be; to employ as many hands as can be employed on the tents, and to add eighty to the number already ordered.

Ordered the Selectmen or Committee of *Stratham* to supply their men with Fire-Arms.

Ordered the Selectmen of *Kingston* to deliver *Samuel Philbrick* six barrels of Powder, to be by him conveyed to the Army.

*June 19*, 1775.—Received a Letter from the Chamber of Supplies at *Watertown*, dated the 18th of *June*, 1775, by Mr. *Woods*.—Filed.

Answered the above by same Messenger.—Copy filed.

Received from *S. Cutts*, Esq., four reams and two quires of Paper, and a Letter from him by Mr. *Young*, who was sent hence to him for the Paper.—Letter filed.

*June 20*, 1775.—Orders given Capt. *Nicholas Gilman* to deliver Captain *Benjamin Titcomb* thirty pounds of Gunpowder for the use of his Company, and to take his receipt for the same.

Orders given Major *Coffin* to deliver Captain *Titcomb* fifteen pounds of Bullets for the use of his Company, taking his receipt for it.

Orders given Major *Coffin* to deliver *Moses Meader*, of Captain *Adams's* Company, twenty Bullets, taking his receipt for them.

*June 21*, 1775.—Memorandum of sundry articles sent to *Cambridge* by Mr. *Nathaniel Gordon*:

One cask Flints, quantity, 3200; five kegs Bullets, weight, 113, 110, 62, 123, and 220 pounds each; 30 Tents and poles, and pins for do.; 10 barrels Powder, 100 pounds each; 25 Tin Buckets; 7 Milled Blankets; 6 Oxen.

Ordered Mr. Commissary *Emerson* to proceed directly to *Cambridge*, and to take into his custody all Stores there belonging to this Colony, and to issue the same to our Forces in the same manner as Stores of the same kind are delivered to the *Massachusetts* Forces.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Commissary *Emerson* eleven Pounds, by him to be accounted for, (£11.)

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Jedediah Robinson* fifteen Pounds six Shillings, for a yoke of Oxen purchased of him for our Army, (£15 6s.)

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Nathaniel Ordway* fourteen Pounds fourteen Shillings for do. (£14 14s.)

Ordered Receiver-General to pay General *Folsom* twelve Pounds fifteen Shillings for do. (£12 15s.)

Delivered Commissary *Emerson* eight quires out of the Paper received of Mr. *Cutts*.

Gave Esquire *Rice* a receipt for two barrels of the Powder sent by Mr. *Gordon*.

Received a Letter from Congress at *Watertown*, dated *June 13th*, 1775.—Filed.

Received a Letter from Mr. *James McGregore*, dated *Medford*, *June 19th*, 1775.—Filed.

Received a Letter from Colonel *Stark*, dated *Medford*, *June 19th*, 1775.—Filed.

*June 23*, 1775.—Received a Letter from General *Folsom*, dated *Medford*, *June 22d*, 1775.—Filed.

Wrote to the Selectmen of *Newmarket*, to send by *Nicholas Nichols* four barrels of the Provincial Gunpowder now in their custody, to be dealt out as the publick service may require.

*June 24*, 1775.—Mr. *Nichols* returned from *Newmarket* with one barrel of Gunpowder only.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay the Committee of Supplies thirty Pounds lawful money, and to charge to Colony account, (£30.)

In Committee of Safety, *June 24*, 1775.

*To the Committee of Supplies:*

GENTLEMEN: You are desired to send to *Israel Morey*, Esq., at *Orford*, in the County of *Grafton*, twenty barrels of Pork and twenty barrels of Flour, as soon as may be, for the use of the soldiers to be employed in the North-western frontiers of this Colony, and that the remainder you have purchased that way be safely secured till further orders. By order of the Committee:

MATTHEW THORNTON, *Chairman*.

Ordered *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., to deliver to *Nathan Goss* thirty pounds of Gunpowder for the use of the Parish of *Rye*.

*June 26*, 1775.—Received another barrel of Gunpowder from *Newmarket*.

Received a Letter from General *Folsom* per Mr. *Emery*, dated *June 23d*, 1775.—Filed.

Received a Letter from Mr. *McGregore* per do., dated *June 24th*, 1775.—Filed.

Received a Letter from General *Folsom* per Esquire *Tilton*, dated *June 24th*, 1775.—Filed.

Directed Captain *Elkins* to order his boatmen to put into the shoals, and bring to *Hampton* any Cannon-Shot they may find there, if the people at the shoals will allow it to be done.

Directed Lieutenant *Bartlett* to pick out two of the largest, strongest, and best Cannon that were taken from *Fort William* and *Mary* last winter, and convey them to *Exeter* as soon as possible, in order to their being sent to the Army at *Medford*.

Answered General *Folsom's* Letter per Mr. *Dearing*, who went with a horse team to *Medford*, with Blanketing, Intrenching Tools, &c.—Copy filed.

*June 27*, 1775.—Received a Letter from General *Folsom*, dated *June*, 1775.—Filed.



Received a Letter from Continental Congress, dated *June 20, 1775*, with a Resolve of said Congress enclosed.—Filed.

*June 28, 1775.*—Wrote General *Folsom* per *Stephen Piper* of *Stratham*.

*June 29, 1775.*—Received a Letter from General *Folsom*, dated 25th of *June, 1775.*—Filed.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, June 30, 1775.

*To the Committee of Supplies :*

GENTLEMEN: Inasmuch as you may find many things necessary for the use of the Army which do not come within the limits of any particular directions from this Committee, the procuring which articles may not admit so much delay as to afford time for an application to the Committee of Safety; you are therefore desired, according to your best judgment, and with the strictest attention to economy, to procure such necessary articles, rendering an account for allowance to the Committee of Safety at least once in ten days of all articles so furnished.

By order of the Committee :

MATTHEW THORNTON, *Chairman*.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Tuesday, June 27, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That two of our 24-pound Cannon, and two other smaller Cannon, be forthwith fitted with carriages and sent to our Army at *Medford*; and that *Ezekiel Worthen* and *Joseph Sciuss*, Esquire, Captains *Gavin* and *Wingate*, be a Committee to fit up the aforesaid Cannon with proper implements for their use, and send them to the Army with all possible despatch.

*Voted*, That General *Folsom* be desired to apprehend Messrs. *Jason Russell* and *John Tarbell*, of *Mason*, a complaint being exhibited to this Congress of their being guilty of theft, and send them to the Committee of Safety in *Mason*, in order that they may be tried, and, if convicted, punished for so heinous a crime.

Adjourned to three o'clock.

Wednesday, June 28, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That all the Provincial and County Records that are now kept in the Town of *Portsmouth*, be removed to some place of more safety.

*Voted*, That the Records be removed to *Exeter*, and that Messrs. *Samuel Brooks*, *John McClary*, and *Noah Emery*, Esq., be a Committee to look out a place or places in *Exeter* to put the Records in.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, June 29, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress heard Colonel *Stark's* complaint, and dismissed the same.

*Voted*, That *Joseph Welsh* and *Samuel Hobart*, Esqrs., be, and hereby are appointed Paymasters of the Troops now employed by this Colony in the *American* Army, and that they proceed, as soon as may be, to the Army, and pay one month's wages to the Officers and Soldiers; and previous to the paying of the Soldiers, that they receive of the Captain, or the Commanding Officer of each Company, a complete Muster-Roll of their respective Companies, upon oath, and return the same to this Congress, or to the Committee of Safety; and that they take a receipt for all the money paid from each Officer and Soldier; and further, that they pay no Officer or Soldiers who have not taken the oaths, and have been or shall be mustered by the Muster-Master as able-bodied, effective men; also, that *Joseph Welsh*, Esquire, assist the Muster-Master in mustering the men unmustered at the Army; and also, that they pay no more than ten Companies in a Regiment, of sixty-six men in a Company, including Officers.

Adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That whereas it is necessary that the Officers and Soldiers raised and to be raised in this Colony for the preservation and defence of this and the other Colonies in

*America* should be fully acquainted with their duty, and that the Articles, Rules, and Regulations be made as plain as possible; and having great confidence in the honour and publick virtue of the inhabitants of this Colony, that they will readily obey the Officers chosen and appointed by this Congress, and will cheerfully do their duty when known, without any such severe articles and rules, and cruel punishments (excepting in capital cases) as are usually practised in Standing Armies, and will submit to all such rules and regulations as are founded in reason, honour, and virtue: It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the following Rules, Articles, and Regulations, for our said Forces, be, and hereby are earnestly recommended to be strictly adhered to by all Officers and Soldiers, and others concerned, as they regard their own honour and the publick good. The Rules and Articles of War voted, are those voted in the *Massachusetts* Colony, from No. 1 to 53, inclusive, and now printed.

*Voted*, That Colonel *John Fenton* is not a friend to this Country.

*Voted*, That the Records and Files of the Secretary's Office, and Clerk's Office of the Superiour Courts, be kept at *John Rice's*, Esq.; the Register of Deeds' Office to be kept at *Deacon Samuel Brooks's*; Register of Probates Office to be kept at *William Parker's*, Jun., Esq.; Inferiour Courts and Quarter Sessions Offices, Records, &c., to be kept at *Noah Emery's*, Esquire.

*Voted*, That Messrs. *Samuel Brooks*, Captain *Stephen Evans*, Major *Weeks*, *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., and Lieut. *Thomas Bartlett*, be a Committee to remove the Records to the above-mentioned places, as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That the Secretary, the Clerk of the Superiour Court, the Register of Deeds, the Register of the Court of Probates, and the Clerk of the Inferiour Court and Quarter Sessions, be requested to accompany the Committee, with the several Records, to *Exeter*, and to keep them, agreeable to a Resolve of this Congress, until further directions from said Congress; and in case those gentlemen refuse to go to *Exeter* and keep their respective offices there, then the Committee are empowered to receive and give receipt for the Records.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, June 30, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That General *Folsom's* Commission be dated the 24th of *May*, and that he rank as a Major-General.

Whereas, the Committee of Safety have appointed *Alexander Scammel* to be a Brigade-Major:

*Voted*, That he have pay accordingly, which is to be agreeable to what is paid in the *Massachusetts* Colony to such an officer.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Samuel Brooks* be of the Committee of Supplies, instead of Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*.

*Voted*, That a Committee be appointed to take out of the custody of Colonel *John Fenton* the Files and Records of the Courts of Common Pleas, General Sessions of the Peace, Courts of Probate for the County of *Grafton*; and that the same be delivered for safe keeping to Colonel *John Hurd*; and that Colonel *Bedel*, *Israel Morey*, Esq., Mr. *Abel Webster*, Capt. *Matthew Thornton*, and Capt. *Weston*, be a Committee for the purpose mentioned above.

*Voted*, That it be, and hereby is recommended to the Justices of the several Courts of Common Pleas, Courts of Judicature, and Quarter Sessions for the several Counties in this Colony, that they adjourn their respective Courts by Proclamation, or otherwise, to the first day of the next term of each of the said Courts, respectively, till further advice of this Congress.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Captain *Samuel Langdon* have forty-two pounds of the Colony Powder for his Company at *Portsmouth*, they paying for the same.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety, and they only, shall draw orders on the Treasurer or Receiver-General, for all and any sum or sums of money that shall be or is already voted for the supplies of our Forces, and for the payment of any necessary charges, as the said Committee



shall find occasion; and the said Treasurer or Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay no orders but such as aforesaid; and the said Committee of Safety are to be accountable to this Congress for all the money drawn out of the Treasury by their order.

Adjourned for one and a half hour.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Fenton* be confined.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Fenton* be confined in the jail of this Town, till further orders from this Congress.

*Voted*, That Colonel *John Fenton* be supported like a gentleman, at the expense of this Colony, till further orders from this Congress.

Adjourned till eight o'clock to-morrow.

Saturday, July 1, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *John Fenton* be sent to Head-Quarters of the *New-Hampshire* Forces.

*Voted*, That the Proclamation issued by the Continental Congress, of the 12th instant, appointing the 20th of *July* to be kept as a day of Fasting and Prayer, be printed and sent to all the Towns in this Colony.

*Voted*, That Captain *Moulton* be desired to take four men out of Captain *Elkins's* Company, and an Officer at *Hampton*, and send Colonel *Fenton* to Head-Quarters, agreeable to the vote of this Congress, as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety be, and hereby are directed to answer that part of General *Folsom's* Letter relating to Matrosses, and to make such orders concerning them as the said Committee shall think best.

*Voted*, That Messrs. *Samuel Sherburne*, *Pierce Long*, Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, and *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq., be a Committee to bring in a draught for an emission of a further sum of Paper Notes.

*Voted*, That Captain *Jeremiah Folsom*, Major *Childs*, Reverend Mr. *Webster*, *Samuel Dudley*, Esquire, *Enoch Hale*, Esquire, *Antipas Gilman*, and Deacon *Knowles*, be a Committee to bring in a plan in order to regulate the Militia of this Colony.

*Voted*, That a Committee be chosen to confer with the Congress in *Massachusetts*; and if they then see best, with the Assembly in *Rhode-Island* and *Connecticut*, respecting the information we have received of the situation of *Ticonderoga*, *Crown Point*, and *Canada*, and the frontiers of *New-York* and *New-Hampshire*, and endeavour to gain such further intelligence as they can procure, of the situation of *Canada*, and the views of those Assemblies relative to any plan of operations in those parts; and the above Committee proceed with the utmost expedition in the business to which they are chosen; and that Messrs. *Jonathan Child* and *Oliver Ashley* be a Committee for the above purposes.

*Voted*, That this Congress is adjourned till three o'clock, Monday, P. M.

Monday, July 3, 1775, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to wait on the Honourable *Theodore Atkinson* and *George Jaffrey*, Esquires, reported that they had received of the Honourable *George Jaffrey*, Esq., the sum of one thousand five hundred and sixteen Pounds four Shillings and eight Pence, Proclamation money, and further reported, as on file.

*Voted*, That the Committee aforesaid deliver the money brought from Mr. Treasurer *Jaffrey*, to Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, Receiver-General, appointed by this Congress, and take his receipt therefor, and make report to this Congress.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Congress be given to the Honourable *George Jaffrey*, Esq., for his ready compliance to pay into the hands of the Committee the publick money.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Congress be given to the Committee who received the publick money, for their faithful and able discharge of the trust committed to them, in demanding and receiving the Colony's money from the Honourable *George Jaffrey*, Esquire.

A Letter from Doctor *Wheelock*, giving an account of the state of matters in *Canada*, laid before the Congress; and after considering thereon,

*Voted*, That *Timothy Bedel* and Mr. *John Wheelock* immediately proceed to the Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay* with a copy of said Letter, and further inform them relative thereto.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, July 4, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *Noah Emery*, Esq., be, and hereby is appointed Deputy Secretary of this Congress.

The Complaint and Petition of *Enoch Bean*, being read and considered, it is referred to the Committee of Safety of *Gilmanton*.

*Voted*, That the Reverend Mr. *Samuel Webster*, *Israel Morey*, Esq., and *John McClary*, Esq., be a Committee to make a draught of a Vote for establishing and encouraging sundry Manufactures in this Colony.

*Voted*, That Captain *Matthew Thornton* and *John Dudley*, Esq., be added to the Committee for bringing in a plan for regulating the Militia.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety be, and hereby are directed to draw on the Treasurer or Receiver-General for one month's pay, to be paid to the widows and legal representatives of such Officers and Soldiers as have been killed in the service of this Colony, in the present unhappy war.

*Voted*, That the consideration of settling and officering the Militia of this Colony, be postponed till further consideration of this Congress.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Bartlett*, Colonel *Hurd*, and the Honourable Colonel *Weare*, be joined to the Committee to bring in a draught for an emission of a further sum of Paper Notes.

*Voted*, That a publick stock of Fire-Arms shall be provided for the use of this Colony.

*Voted*, That five hundred good Fire-Arms be provided, and that a Committee of three Members of this body be chosen to procure them, as soon as may be; and that Captain *Jeremiah Folsom*, Mr. *Moses Parsons*, and Captain *Stephen Evans*, be the Committee for that purpose; and that they previously inquire how cheap they can procure them, and make report as soon as may be to this Congress, if sitting, or otherwise to the Committee of Safety, upon whose approbation they are to procure the same; also, that the Committee of Safety be, and hereby are empowered to advance out of the Treasury such sums as they shall think proper, to the said Committee, for procuring materials for the purpose of making Fire-Arms, &c.

Adjourned till to-morrow, eight o'clock in the morning.

Wednesday, July 5, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition being read from the Town of *Monadnock*, No. 5, the Congress have taken the same under consideration:

*Resolved*, That it be, and hereby is recommended to the said Town of *Monadnock*, No. 5, that they proceed to choose, as soon as may be, the several Town Officers which may be necessary for the internal government of said Town; such as Selectmen, Constables, &c., as are chosen in other Towns in this Colony, at their annual Town-Meetings; also, that they choose a Committee of Safety, or of Correspondence, for said Town; and also, that the said Town (if occasion requires it) may use the money in the hands of Mr. *James Lewis*, for the purpose of purchasing Fire-Arms and Ammunition; and for which money said Town is to be accountable to this Colony or Congress, and County of *Cheshire*, when demanded; and further, it is *Resolved*, That Mr. *Jonathan Frost* be, and hereby is appointed by this Congress the Moderator of the first meeting in said Town; and that Messrs. *Jonathan Frost*, *Benjamin Tucker*, and *Thomas Biggs*, be, and hereby are empowered to call said meeting.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General of this Colony, appointed by the Congress, be hereby empowered to give his notes of hand on the faith of the Colony, payable to the possessor, for the further sum of Ten Thousand Pounds, of the present currency, or lawful money, to be paid into the Treasury aforesaid, by a tax on the Polls and Estates of the inhabitants of this Colony, in the following manner, viz:

Two thousand Pounds to be paid by the 20th of *December*, which will be in the year of our Lord, 1776; and the sum of three thousand Pounds by the 20th of *December*,



1777; three thousand Pounds by the 20th of *December*, 1778; two thousand Pounds by the 20th of *December*, 1779.

And the said Notes shall be printed off with printing types, under the care and direction of the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esq., and Captain *Pierce Long*, being a Committee appointed by this Congress for that purpose.

Eight thousand Pounds of which first mentioned to carry interest the same with those already emitted, and to be of the following denominations, viz :

Three thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine Pounds, to be in bills of three Pounds each ; two thousand and one Pounds, in bills of thirty Shillings ; nine hundred and ninety Pounds fifteen Shillings, in bills of fifteen Shillings ; six hundred and sixty-seven Pounds, in bills of ten Shillings ; three hundred and thirty-three Pounds five Shillings, in bills of five Shillings ; making, in the whole, the said eight thousand Pounds.

The form of said Notes to be in the following words, with such other devices as may be ordered by the Congress or Committee, viz :

"Colony of New-Hampshire, No. —.

"The possessor of this Note shall be entitled to receive, out of the Treasury of this Colony, the sum of . . . . Shillings, lawful money, on the 20th of *December*, 177—, with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum ; and this Note shall be received in all payments at the Treasury at any time after the date hereof, for the principal sum, without interest, if paid before the said 20th day of *December*, A. D. 177—.

"E. T.

N. G."

And the Treasurer or Committee who shall number the same, shall fill the blank left for time of payment, in a number of bills sufficient to complete two thousand Pounds, with the figure 6 ; and a number to complete three thousand, with the figure 7 ; and three thousand Pounds, with the figure 8. The remaining two thousand Pounds to be small bills, of the following denominations, without interest, viz :

One hundred Pounds, in bills of six Pence ; one hundred and fifty Pounds, in bills of nine Pence ; three hundred Pounds, in bills of one Shilling and six Pence ; three hundred and fifty Pounds, in bills of one Shilling and nine Pence ; five hundred Pounds, in bills of two Shillings and six Pence ; six hundred Pounds, in bills of three Shillings, making, in all, the said sum of two thousand Pounds. The bills to be in the following form :

"Colony of New-Hampshire, }  
July 25, 1775. }

"The possessor of this Note shall be entitled to receive, out of the Treasury of this Colony, the sum of . . . ., lawful money, on the 20th of *December*, 1779 ; and this Note shall be received in all payments at the Treasury at any time after the date hereof.

"E. T.

N. G."

And all the above Notes, when redeemed, shall be consumed to ashes, in the presence of the Representatives of this Colony, or a Committee appointed by them for that purpose.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Received a Petition from a number of gentlemen at *Portsmouth*, respecting the removing of the several Records from the Town of *Portsmouth* to *Exeter* ; which being read and considered,

*Voted*, That the Vote be not reconsidered, as desired by the petitioners.

*Voted*, That two Companies, not exceeding sixty-six men each, including officers, be raised of the inhabitants of this Colony, to be commissioned by the Committee of Safety ; and that they be stationed as this Congress or Committee of Safety shall think proper.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Meshech Weare* be of the Committee of Safety.

*Voted*, That the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq., be President *pro tempore*.

*Voted*, That the Committee at *Newburyport* have the loan of two 24-pound, or 32, or 6-pound Cannon ; and the Reverend Mr. *Stearns* and Mr. *Webster* be a Committee to acquaint them of the same.

*Voted*, That it be, and hereby is recommended to the Selectmen or Committee, to take an exact list of all the Fire-Arms fit for use in their respective Towns and Parishes in this Colony ; also, of what are wanting in each Town and Parish, and lay the same before this Congress at their next meeting, by their Delegates.

*Voted*, That this Congress be adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, July 6, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the Plate which was used in striking off the ten thousand and fifty Pounds, be altered, by erasing the date and disfiguring the devices upon the plates ; and that *Ebenezer Thompson* and *George Frost*, Esquire, be a Committee to see it done, and then deliver the said Plates to the Receiver-General, for the purpose of keeping the same safe.

*Voted and Resolved by this Convention*, That any persons who may be detected in counterfeiting and passing any of the Treasurer's Notes of this Colony, shall, upon full conviction of the crime before this or any future Convention of this Colony, be deemed an enemy or enemies to their Country, and punished according to the discretion of the said Convention before which he or they may be so tried and convicted.

Adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the following Receipt be entered into this book's record :

"Exeter, July 4, 1775.

"Received by virtue of the above Vote of the Provincial Congress, from the Committee, the sum of fifteen hundred and eleven Pounds two Shillings and eight Pence, Proclamation money ; received into the Province Treasury."

NICHOLAS GILMAN, Receiver-General."

*Voted*, That Captain *John Parker* have orders to enlist one of the Companies last voted to be raised in this Colony, and that *Asa Pattee* be recommended for his Lieutenant.

*Voted*, That Captain *James Osgood* have orders to enlist the other of said Companies, and that Captain *Matthew Thornton* be recommended for his Lieutenant.

*Voted*, That Captain *Pierce Long* be excused as a Committee-man, to take the care and direction of printing off the Notes ordered by this Congress to be printed ; and that *Samuel Cutts*, Esquire, be, and hereby is chosen and appointed for that purpose, in the room and stead of said Captain *Long*.

*Voted*, That this Congress be adjourned till to-morrow, 7 o'clock, A. M.

Friday, July 7, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to remove the publick Records, &c., make the following Return, viz :

That they proceeded to *Portsmouth* the 4th and 6th instant, received and brought to *Exeter*, and deposited in the several places ordered by Congress, all the Records and Rolls from the several offices (mentioned in their instructions which were shewn to them, excepting some books of Charters, which the Hon. Secretary *Atkinson* informed the Committee that Governour *Wentworth* had sent for a few days since.

Whereas, this Congress have resolved it as their opinion, that all the publick Records of this Colony were, in time of danger, unsafe in the Town of *Portsmouth*, and that the same should be removed to the Town of *Exeter* ; all which Records have, in consequence thereof, been removed by a Committee appointed for that purpose, as far as came to their knowledge, except the books of Charters of the several Towns, kept in this Colony : Therefore, it is now

*Resolved*, That the Honourable *Theodore Atkinson*, Esq., Secretary of this Colony, is accountable to the people for said Records, and that he ought, without delay, to deliver the same to the said Committee.

Whereas, by a Vote of this Congress, of the 28th of *June* last, the publick Records were ordered to be removed to *Exeter*, as a place of safety ; and as the real intent of the Vote may be mistaken, or not understood, it is now

*Resolved*, That it was the sole intent and meaning of



this Congress, in removing the aforesaid Records, that they might be kept in a place of more security than they apprehended *Portsmouth* to be, and not to fix them from being removed again to *Portsmouth*, whenever the present difficulty and danger may subside.

*Voted*, That Deacon *Samuel Brooks*, *Noah Emery*, *William Parker*, Jun., and *John Rice*, Esq., be desired to take care and keep in safety the respective Records lately left in their custody, until the respective officers take charge of them, or till further orders of this Congress.

Whereas, by and in consequence of a law of this Colony, considerable sums of Money have been paid by foreign Vessels entering the Port of *Piscataqua*, which was, by said law, to have been appropriated for purchasing Powder for the use of the Colony: And whereas, a part thereof has been lately paid by the executors of the testament of the late Governour *Benning Wentworth*, to *Samuel Livermore*, Esq., Attorney General; and as the state of the Colony now greatly needs said Moneys for providing Powder for the defence of this Colony, according to the original intention of the aforesaid law: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That *John Hurd* and *Israel Morey*, Esquire, and *Mr. Abel Webster*, be a Committee to call upon and receive the aforesaid Moneys of the said *Samuel Livermore*, Esq., and in behalf of this Congress to give him a receipt therefor sufficient to indemnify him for the delivery thereof.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety be desired to write a Letter to the Continental Congress, and that the President sign the same in the name and behalf of this Congress, therein setting forth the state of our Forces, and the situation of this Colony, &c.

*Voted*, That the Committee for procuring Fire-Arms be, and hereby are directed to procure the same forthwith, on the best terms they can.

*Voted*, That this Congress be adjourned to *Tuesday*, the 22d day of *August* next, at three of the clock, afternoon, to meet at this place; and that if any thing should happen in the mean time that the Committee of Safety shall think of sufficient consequence, that they have power to convene this Congress sooner.

Adjourned to *August 22*, 1775.

#### HOUSE OF BURGESSES OF VIRGINIA.

General Assembly begun and held at the Capitol in the City of *Williamsburgh*, on *Thursday*, the first day of *June*, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Lord *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c., *Annoque Domini* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

On which day, being the first day of the meeting of this General Assembly for the despatch of publick business, pursuant to a Proclamation hereunto annexed, and also to the Writs which had issued for that purpose, his Excellency the Right Honourable *John Earl of Dunmore*, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governour-General of the Colony and Dominion of *Virginia*, and Vice-Admiral of the same, having made a Commission under his hand and the seal of the Colony, hereunto also annexed, empowering the Honourable *Thomas Nelson*, *Richard Corbin*, *William Byrd*, *John Tayloe*, *Robert Carter*, *Robert Burwell*, and *Ralph Wormeley*, Esquires, *John Camm*, Clerk, and *John Page* and *Gavin Corbin*, Esquires, to administer the Oaths appointed to be taken by the Members returned to serve in the General Assembly before they go into the House of Burgesses, several of the said Commissioners came about ten of the clock into the Council Chamber, where the said Oaths are usually taken, and *George Wythe*, Clerk of the House of Burgesses, attending according to his duty, with a book containing a list of the names of such Members as had been returned to serve in this General Assembly, and with the Writs for electing them, delivered to him by the Clerk of the Secretary's office, the said Commissioners administered the said Oaths to such of the said Members of the House of Burgesses as appeared; which being done, the Members repaired to their seats in the House of Burgesses.

After which, a Message was delivered by *John Blair*, Esquire, Clerk of the General Assembly:

GENTLEMEN: The Governour commands this House to attend his Excellency immediately in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly the House went up to attend his Excellency in the Council Chamber, where his Excellency was pleased to say to them:

*Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses*:

You must return again to your House, and immediately proceed to the choice of a Speaker.

And the House being returned,

*Henry Lee*, Esquire, one of the Members for the County of *Prince William*, addressing himself to the Clerk, (who, standing up, pointed to him, and then sat down,) moved that *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, should take the Chair of this House, as Speaker, which office he had before filled with such distinguished abilities, steadiness,

and impartiality, as had given entire satisfaction to the publick; and thereupon,

*Mr. Randolph* was elected without opposition, and was taken out of his place by two Members, who led him from thence to the Chair; and having ascended the uppermost step, and standing there, *Mr. Randolph* returned his thanks to the House for placing him again in that elevated station, and assured them, that as he had gained their favourable opinion, of which their unanimous suffrages on this and other occasions were a testimony equally convincing and honourable, so he would studiously endeavour to preserve it by a strict attention to, and a faithful discharge of, his duty, in any department the publick should think him worthy to serve them in; adding, that he doubted not the House would judge of his future conduct with their wonted candour, and would support him with their assistance, more especially necessary at this critical season.

And thereupon he sat down in the Chair; and then the Mace (which before lay under the table) was laid upon the table.

*Ordered*, That a Message be sent to the Governour, to acquaint his Excellency that this House, in obedience to his commands, have made choice of a Speaker, and to know his pleasure when they shall attend to present him; and that *Mr. Henry Lee* and *Mr. Treasurer* do wait upon his Excellency with the said Message.

They accordingly withdrew, and being returned, *Mr. Treasurer* reported, that the Governour was pleased to say he would send an answer by a messenger of his own.

A Message from the Governour by *Mr. Blair*:

*MR. SPEAKER*: The Governour commands this House to attend his Excellency immediately in the Council Chamber.

Accordingly *Mr. Speaker* elect, with the House, went up to attend his Excellency in the Council Chamber; and he was pleased to declare his approbation of their choice.

Then *Mr. Speaker* did, in the name and on behalf of the House, lay claim to all their ancient rights and privileges, particularly a freedom of speech and debate, exemption from arrests, and protection for their estates; and lastly, for himself, requested that his errors might not be imputed to the House.

The Governour answered that he should take care to defend them in all their just rights and privileges.

The House being returned,

*Mr. Speaker* reported, that the House had attended the Governour in the Council Chamber, where his Excellency was pleased to approve the choice they had made of him to be their Speaker, and to grant and to allow to them, upon petition of claim made by him to his Excellency, in the name and on the behalf of the House of Burgesses, all their ancient rights and privileges, particularly a freedom of speech and debate, exemption from arrests, and protection for their estates.



Mr. Speaker also reported that the Governour was pleased to make a speech to the Council and this House, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistake, obtained a copy; which he read to the House, and is as followeth, viz:

*Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and  
Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:*

I have called you together to give you an opportunity of taking the alarming state of the Colony into your consideration, and providing remedies against the evils which are increasing therein; and I am induced to it at this time particularly, as the declaration of the King and Parliament, contained in the joint Address of the Lords and Commons, on the 7th of *February* last, and His Majesty's Answer, no longer admit of a doubt that your well-founded grievances, properly represented, will meet with that attention and regard which are so justly due to them; so likewise the Resolution of the House of Commons, which followed on the 27th of the same month, will, I trust, have the effect of removing the jealousy which has been the principal source of disquiet and uneasiness in the minds of the people. Therefore I entertain the strongest hopes that nothing will remain, after a just consideration of the nature and tendency of that Resolution, to prevent your seriously exerting yourselves to bring the disputes, which have unhappily raged between the Mother Country and the Colonies, to a good end; to which the step already taken by the House of Commons must be considered as a benevolent, tender, and, I hope, auspicious advance on the part of the Parent State.

It must now be manifest to all dispassionate people, that the Parliament, the high and supreme legislature of the Empire, far from having entertained thoughts so inconsistent with the wisdom and publick virtue which have ever distinguished that august body, of oppressing the people of the Colonies, or of promoting the interest of one at the expense of another part of their fellow-subjects, have only been extending their care, that the whole, in consideration of the enjoyment of equal rights, privileges, and advantages, should be obliged, according to their abilities and situation, to contribute that proportion towards the burdens necessary for the support of their civil Government, and for the common defence, which the subjects of the same State cannot, with any justice, or consistent with their own welfare, refuse to grant; the principle of which having never, I believe, been denied by the people of His Majesty's Dominion of *Virginia*, I hope you will think it reasonable now to acknowledge the propriety, and to engage to fulfil your part of the obligation it concludes.

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:*

No specific sum is demanded of you for these purposes, that (as I think obviously appears) your justice and liberality may be left to their full scope, and that your gift, if you should be induced to offer any, may be, in the completest manner, free. The civil Government of this Country being already provided for, you will only have to declare what proportion, and by what means, you are willing to contribute towards the publick burdens of the State, burdens to which the Mother Country hath cheerfully submitted, to secure the Colonies from the encroachments of a dangerous and vigilant enemy. And I am warranted to say, that as it is never intended to require you to tax yourselves, without Parliament's taxing the subjects of *Great Britain* on the same occasion, in a far greater proportion, no prudence which you shall think necessary to observe for your security in that particular can be disapproved of.

And I can likewise assure you, that if you should judge fit to adopt the principle and imitate the example of justice, equity, and moderation in your proposals, which actuated the House of Commons in their Resolution, declaring at once what was ultimately expected of you, such a compliance on your part will be considered by His Majesty not only a testimony of your reverence for Parliament, but also a mark of your duty and attachment to your Sovereign, who has no object nearer his heart than the peace and prosperity of his subjects in every part of his Dominions.

I must recommend to you to fall upon means of paying the officers and private men employed in repelling the late invasion and incursions of the *Indians*, as I make no doubt

you will think their services on that occasion deserving of your attention.

*Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker, and  
Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:*

You may be assured of my cheerful concurrence in all measures, and ready assent to all laws which it may be found expedient to adopt for the present peace, tranquillity, and advantage of the Country; and I hope you will think it necessary to these ends, that the courts of justice should forthwith be opened, in order that the laws may again have their due course.

I cannot conclude without exhorting you, in the most earnest manner, to enter upon the subject-matter now recommended to you, with that patience, calmness, and impartiality, which its great importance requires, and to reflect upon the benefits this Country hath received from the support given to it by the Parent State, which I hope will animate your zeal, now you have it in your power, to restore that harmony and mutual confidence which rendered both Countries so flourishing, and, in short, to pursue your true interest, which will convert our present gloomy apprehensions into prospects of peace, happiness, and lasting security.

*Ordered*, That the said Speech do lie upon the table, to be perused by the Members of the House.

*Ordered*, That the said Speech be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Friday, June 2, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

A Message from the Governour, by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: I am commanded by his Excellency the Governour to deliver to your House the joint Address of the Lords and Commons, on the 7th of *February* last, and His Majesty's answer; and also the Resolution of the House of Commons, on the 27th of the same month, referred to in the Speech of his Excellency to the Council and this House.

And he presented the said Papers at the bar.

And the said Papers were read.

*Ordered*, That the said Papers do lie upon the table, to be perused by the Members of the House.

The Order of the Day being read,

The Speech of his Excellency the Governour to the Council and this House was again read by Mr. Speaker.

*Resolved*, That an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governour, to assure his Lordship that we will immediately take into our most serious consideration the several important matters contained in his Excellency's Speech to the Council and this House, and proceed with that coolness and deliberation which ought ever to influence the counsels of a free and loyal people.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governour upon the said Resolution.

And a Committee was appointed of Mr. Treasurer, Mr. Mercer, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Henry Lee, Mr. Munford, Mr. Dandridge, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Jones, Mr. Cary, Mr. Francis Lightfoot Lee, Mr. Whitinge, and Mr. Charles Carter of Stafford.

*Ordered*, That the Governour's Speech to the Council and this House, and the Papers therein referred to, which were ordered to lie upon the table, be referred to the said Committee.

A Journal of the Proceedings of the Congress held at *Philadelphia*, on the 5th day of *September*, 1774, was laid before the House.

*Ordered*, That the said Journal do lie upon the table, to be perused by the Members of the House.

*Resolved*, That this House will, upon *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider of the said Journal.

The Proceedings of the Convention of Delegates for the Counties and Corporations in the Colony of *Virginia*, held at *Richmond Town*, in the County of *Henrico*, on the 20th day of *March*, 1775, were laid before the House.

*Ordered*, That the said Proceedings do lie upon the table, to be perused by the Members of the House.

*Resolved*, That this House will, upon *Monday* next,



resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider of the said Proceedings.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a Bill for appointing Commissioners to settle the accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, and for making provision to pay the same; and that Mr. Mercer and Mr. Mason do prepare and bring in the same.

Saturday, June 3, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

*Resolved*, That an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governour, requesting that his Lordship will be pleased to communicate to this House the best information he has had respecting the number of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service in defence of this Colony, by his Excellency's command, and the probable expense attending the same; and that his Lordship will inform this House what Militia his Excellency has ordered on duty since the conclusion of the late *Indian* expedition, and for what purposes.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by Mr. Mercer and Mr. Thomas Walker.

Monday, June 5, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

A Message from the Governour by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: I am commanded by the Governour to lay before this House his Excellency's written Message in answer to their Address relative to the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, together with the other Papers which the Message refers to. And he presented the same at the bar; and the Message was read, and is as followeth, viz:

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:*

In answer to a Resolution of your House, brought to me by two of your members, that an Address be presented to me requesting me to communicate to you the best information I have had respecting the number of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service in defence of this Colony by my command, and the probable expense attending the same; and that I inform you what Militia I have ordered on duty since the conclusion of the late *Indian* expedition, and for what purposes: I can only from recollection (not having been furnished with exact returns) acquaint you that the body of militia which Colonel Andrew Lewis conducted, and that with which I marched in person, amounted together to about three thousand men, officers included; but I refer you to the Lieutenants of the Counties from whence the Militia were draughted for that service, to the Commanding Officers of the different Corps, and to the Captains under them, from the returns and lists of whose respective companies you will obtain the information in regard of number and from that of expense, which you require, in the best and most particular manner.

With respect to what Militia have been ordered on duty since the conclusion of the *Indian* expedition: it was thought requisite to continue a body of one hundred men at a temporary fort near the mouth of the *Great Kenhawa*, as well for taking care of the men who had been wounded in the action between Colonel Andrew Lewis's division and the *Indians*, as for securing that part of the back country from the attempts of straggling parties of *Indians*, who might not be apprised of the peace concluded, or others of the tribes which had not joined in it. It was likewise necessary to keep up a small body of men at Fort *Dunmore*, in like manner for the security of the country on that side, and also for guarding twelve *Indian* prisoners belonging to the *Mingo* tribe, which had not surrendered or acceded to the peace concluded only with the *Shawanese*; and seventy-five men were employed at this place for these purposes. Twenty-five men were likewise left at Fort *Fincastle*, as a post of communication between the two others; and all together for the further purpose of forming a chain on the back of the settlers, to observe the *Indians* until we should have good reason to believe nothing more was apprehended from them; which, as soon as I received favourable accounts of, I ordered the several posts to be evacuated, and the men to be discharged.

I have ordered my letters to be laid before you for your further information, which contain all the orders I gave for the embodying and drawing out the Militia upon the occasion of the *Indian* disturbances; and likewise the substance

of the peace agreed to between me and the *Indians*, which has not been formally ratified, that having been deferred to a meeting intended to be held at Fort *Dunmore* this spring, where all the *Ohio Indians*, for the greater solemnity, were to be present, but which I have not been able to find time to proceed to.

If there be any thing further which the House shall require to be informed of, I shall be ready to give them all the satisfaction in my power.

DUNMORE.

*Ordered*, That the said Message, and the Papers therein referred to, do lie upon the table, to be perused by the Members of the House.

Mr. Treasurer reported from the Committee appointed to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governour, that the Committee had drawn up an Address accordingly, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Burgesses of *Virginia*, now met in General Assembly, take this opportunity, which your Excellency hath given us, to express our great concern at the alarming situation of our Country and those evils brought upon us by a departure of His Majesty's Ministers from that wise system of administration under the influence of which the Colonies of *North America* had so long and happily flourished.

However strangely this Country may have been misrepresented, we do solemnly avow the firmest and most unshaken attachment to our most gracious Sovereign and his Government, as founded on the laws and principles of our excellent Constitution, and we shall think ourselves happy in giving His Majesty every future testimony of our loyalty and affection.

We assure your Lordship that we will pursue the most speedy measures for defraying the expenses of the late military expedition against the *Indians*. That proper provision has not yet been made for those gallant officers and soldiers who so nobly exposed their lives in defence of this Country, cannot be justly imputed to any delay or neglect on our part, this being the first opportunity your Lordship hath been pleased to afford us of paying a proper attention to their signal services and giving them their due reward.

The occlusion of our Courts of justice can only be ascribed to a combination of untoward and distressing incidents, which we have long and deeply lamented. These Courts, my Lord, were established by different Acts of our General Assembly. In order to enable the officers of justice to receive such fees as were adequate to their services, our ancestors judged it necessary to settle and limit them by an express act of their Legislature. This law had existed and been continued with various amendments, such as the fluctuation of affairs made necessary, through a long tract of time. The late House of Burgesses, in May, 1774, finding that the Fee-Bill had expired just before they were convened, and that other most valuable acts were near expiring, proceeded to the continuance and revival of them; but their endeavours to discharge these and other important duties to their Country were arrested and cut short by a sudden and unexpected dissolution of the Assembly. Since this, my Lord, our situation has undergone a total change. For just and well known reasons, this Country, as well as our sister Colonies, have been driven to the necessity of suspending their commerce with *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *West-India* Islands. There still, however, remained within the line of former parliamentary regulations, several other valuable branches of export to different parts of the world, which we well hoped would have enabled the inhabitants of this Country to discharge their debts more expeditiously than they could have done by continuing their usual exports and exceeding imports to and from *Great Britain*, so that we are convinced their creditors could have had no reasonable cause of complaint. But we have now, my Lord, received information, too well grounded it is to be feared, that these resources are to be entirely shut up by an act of the *British* Parliament, cutting off all our trade with all other parts of the whole universe, except the Islands of *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *West-Indies*.



Money, my Lord, is not a plant of the native growth of this Country. If the people are totally restrained by the hand of power from sending such produce of their estates as they choose, and it is most for their general interest to make, to foreign markets, in which alone it will command a tolerable price, they are precluded from the necessary proper means of discharging their debts. In such a situation we presume it may be submitted to your Lordship's judgment, how far it would be consistent with prudence and justice, or even humanity, for us to interpose legislative authority, in order to compel the Magistrates to open the courts of civil jurisdiction, and thereby expose the people to cruel exactions; we rather think it will be better to await the time when the returning wisdom and justice of *Great Britain* may put it in our power to restore all things to that channel in which they formerly flowed to her aggrandizement, the prosperity and happiness of the whole Empire.

We will, my Lord, proceed forthwith to consider farther the state of the Country, the Address of the Lords and Common's, and His Majesty's answer, together with the Resolution of the House of Commons, which you have laid before us; this we will endeavour to do with that calmness and impartiality which their great importance may require; and we sincerely hope, as your Lordship conceives, that we may find the propositions now made to us a benevolent, tender, and auspicious advance on the part of the Parent State towards bringing to a fortunate, and the most desirable issue, all those disputes and dissensions which have so unhappily prevailed.

The said Address being read a second time,

*Resolved nemine contradicente*, That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Address to be presented to the Governour.

*Resolved*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by the whole House.

*Ordered*, That the Gentlemen who drew up the said Address do wait upon the Governour, to know his pleasure when this House shall attend his Excellency to present their Address.

*Resolved*, That the Governour's Speech be taken into consideration to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to take into consideration the Governour's Speech.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to inspect the publick Magazine in this City, and inquire into the Stores belonging to the same, and make report thereof to the House.

And a Committee was appointed of Mr. Mercer, Mr. Treasurer, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Henry Lee, Mr. Munford, Mr. Dandridge, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Jones, Mr. Cary, Mr. Francis Lightfoot Lee, Mr. Whitinge, Mr. Charles Carter of Stafford, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Zane, Mr. Page, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Digges, Mr. Banister, Mr. Thomas Walker, Mr. Travis and Mr. Norvell. And they are to have power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

A Petition of the *Presbytery* of *Hanover*, in behalf of themselves and all the *Presbyterians* in *Virginia*, and of all *Protestant Dissenters* elsewhere, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that in or about the year 1738 many thousand *Presbyterian* families, relying upon the assurances of Government that they should enjoy the free exercise of their religion, removed from the Northern Colonies and settled in the Frontiers of this, forming a barrier for the lower parts thereof; and taking notice of a bill for granting a toleration to His Majesty's dissenting *Protestant* subjects, which, in the year 1772, was presented to the House, and afterwards ordered to be printed; and pointing out several objections thereunto; and praying that no bill may pass into a law but such as will secure to the Petitioners equal liberties and advantages with their fellow-subjects.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition do lie upon the table.

*Resolved*, That an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governour, desiring that he will be pleased to direct the proper officer to lay before this House the amount of the tonnage of one shilling and three pence sterling, imposed on Ships and Vessels trading to this Colony, from the year 1762.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by Mr. Treasurer, Mr. Mercer and Mr. Henry Lee.

The Order of the Day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of the Journal of the proceedings of the Congress held at *Philadelphia*, on the fifth day of *September*, 1774, The House resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Cary took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Cary reported from the Committee, that they had come to several Resolutions, which they had directed him to report when the House will please to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the Report be now received.

Mr. Cary accordingly reported from the said Committee the Resolutions which they had directed him to report to the House; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table; where the same were read, and are as followeth, viz:

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the House be moved to come to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That this House doth entirely and cordially approve the Proceedings and Resolutions of the *American* Continental Congress; and that they consider this whole Continent as under the highest obligations to that very respectable body, for the wisdom of their counsels, and their unremitted endeavours to maintain and preserve inviolate the just rights and liberties of His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects in *America*.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the House be moved to come to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That the warmest thanks of this House, and all the inhabitants of this Colony whom they represent, are particularly due, and that this just tribute of applause be presented to the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, *Richard Henry Lee*, *George Washington*, *Patrick Henry*, Junior, *Richard Bland*, *Benjamin Harrison*, and *Edmund Pendleton*, Esquires, the worthy Delegates deputed to represent this Colony in General Congress at *Philadelphia*, the fifth day of *September* last, for their cheerful undertaking and faithful discharge of the very important trust reposed in them.

The said Resolutions being severally read a second time, were, upon the question severally put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Resolved nemine contradicente*, That this House doth entirely and cordially approve the Proceedings and Resolutions of the *American* Continental Congress; and that they consider this whole Continent as under the highest obligations to that very respectable body for the wisdom of their counsels, and their unremitted endeavours to maintain and preserve inviolate the just rights and liberties of His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects in *America*.

*Resolved nemine contradicente*, That the warmest thanks of this House, and all the inhabitants of this Colony whom they represent, are particularly due, and that this just tribute of applause be presented to the Honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esquire, *Richard Henry Lee*, *George Washington*, *Patrick Henry*, Junior, *Richard Bland*, *Benjamin Harrison*, and *Edmund Pendleton*, Esquires, the worthy Delegates deputed to represent this Colony in General Congress at *Philadelphia*, the fifth day of *September* last, for their cheerful undertaking and faithful discharge of the very important trust reposed in them.

The other Order of the Day being read,

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider of the proceedings of the Convention of Delegates for the Counties and Corporations in the Colony of *Virginia*, held at *Richmond Town*, in the County of *Henrico*, on the twentieth day of *March*, 1775.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Cary took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Cary reported from the Committee that they had come to a Resolution, which they had directed him to report when the House will please to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the Report be now received.

Mr. Cary accordingly reported from the said Committee,



the Resolution, which they had directed him to report to the House; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the House be moved to come to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That this House doth entirely approve the Proceedings and Resolutions of the Convention of Delegates for the Counties and Corporations in the Colony of *Virginia*, held at *Richmond Town*, in the County of *Henrico*, on the twentieth day of *March*, 1775; and that it be recommended to all the good people of this Colony strictly to conform to and observe the same.

The said Resolution being read a second time, was, upon the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Resolved nemine contradicente*, That this House do entirely approve the Proceedings and Resolutions of the Convention of Delegates for the Counties and Corporations in the Colony of *Virginia*, held at *Richmond Town*, in the County of *Henrico*, on the twentieth day of *March*, 1775; and that it be recommended to all the good people of this Colony strictly to conform to, and observe the same.

Address of the Council to the Governour.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governour-General of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, and Vice-Admiral of the same:

The humble Address of the Council:

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council of *Virginia*, now met in General Assembly, beg leave to present our humble thanks to your Excellency for your Speech at the opening of the Session, and for giving us an opportunity to take the present alarming state of this Colony into our consideration, and provide remedies against the increasing evils therein. Your doing this so seasonably, and as soon as you were properly apprised of what you thought would lay a firm foundation for our proceeding with success in so desirable a work, we cannot but regard as a proof of your attachment to the welfare of this Dominion.

As this Country hath, for many years past, made ample provision for the civil Government thereof, we have only to declare our willingness to concur with the other branch of the Legislature in such proportion and in such means as they shall be willing to contribute towards the publick burdens of the State.

The peace and good order of every Country depending on the regular administration of justice, we are desirous that the Courts should be forthwith opened, and that the laws may again have their due course; as such a step will be instrumental in removing mischiefs of the greatest magnitude and most destructive tendency.

To which His Excellency was pleased to return the following Answer.

GENTLEMEN: Your willingness to concur in measures which, if adopted, will entirely compose the destructive differences between this Country and *Great Britain*, and restore the order and tranquillity of the Colony, cannot but give His Majesty the most sensible pleasure, as the opportunity of communicating to him such a proof of the duty and loyalty of this branch of the Legislature of *Virginia* affords me the greatest satisfaction.

Tuesday, June 6, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

A Message from the Governour by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: I have received the Governour's commands to lay before this House a written Message from his Excellency, relative to the publick Magazine, together with a paper therein referred to. And he presented the same at the bar, and the Message was read, and is as followeth, viz:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:

I have received a Paper, without date or signature, desiring I would direct the keeper of the Magazine to give access to some persons, (I know not whom, the paper not saying who they are,) appointed by the House of Burgesses a Committee to examine into the state of the publick Magazine. I send the said paper for the inspection of the

House, and beg to be informed whether the persons there alluded to are authorized, as therein alleged, to desire access to the Magazine. DUNMORE.

The Paper referred to in the Message:

"MY LORD: We, being appointed by the House of Burgesses a Committee to examine into the state of the publick Magazine, wait upon your Lordship to desire that you will be pleased to direct the keeper thereof to give us access thereto, that we may be able to make a proper and full report to the House.

"Before this Resolution was known to the people, we understand that sundry persons, unknown to us, broke open the Magazine, and took out several arms; but we assure your Lordship, that, so soon as this transaction was known to the House, some of the members interposed, and prevailed on such as were to be found, to return what they had taken, and we have hopes that the rest may yet be reclaimed, which we shall not neglect our endeavours to effect."

*Ordered*, That the gentlemen who were appointed to inspect the publick Magazine in this City, and inquire into the Stores belonging to the same, do prepare an Answer to the said Message, and that they withdraw immediately.

*Ordered*, That the said Message, and the Paper therein referred to, be referred to the said Committee.

Mr. Mercer reported from the Committee appointed to prepare an answer to the Governour's Message, that the Committee had prepared an Address accordingly, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Burgesses of *Virginia*, having received your Lordship's written message respecting the proceedings of the Committee appointed to examine the Magazine, have taken the same under our consideration. The House, yesterday, as what they thought a proper foundation of inquiry into the many disturbances which had arisen in the Country, appointed Mr. Mercer, Mr. Treasurer, Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Henry Lee, Mr. Munford, Mr. Dandridge, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Jones, Mr. Carey, Mr. Francis Lightfoot Lee, Mr. Whiting, Mr. Charles Carter of Stafford, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Zane, Mr. Page, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Digges, Mr. Banister, Mr. Thomas Walker, Mr. Travis, and Mr. Norvell, twenty-one of their members, to inquire into the state of the publick magazine. Upon receipt of your Excellency's message, they examined the steps their Committee had taken, and received the following report: That the Committee having convened, and judging it decent and proper, in the first place, waited on your Excellency, who by law hath the appointment of the keeper of the magazine, to request that you would be pleased to direct him to give them access thereto; that finding some irregularities had been committed, they also thought it prudent to mention them to your Excellency, and inform you of their endeavours to have the arms, which had been taken out of the magazine, immediately restored; that, to avoid mistakes, they judged it most proper to reduce the intended application to writing; that they then in a body, and in the most respectful manner waited on your Excellency, and by their Chairman delivered their request verbally, leaving the written paper with your Lordship for your better information; that your Excellency was pleased to receive it, and promised to furnish them with the key of the magazine as soon as you could procure it; that the Committee not hearing from your Lordship, their Chairman was directed to wait on you this morning, and was referred for answer to a message you intended to send to the House.

We hope that your Lordship, upon revising these proceedings, will change your present sentiments, and think with us, that there was no impropriety in the conduct of the Committee. Their application to your Excellency, the House considers as proper and decent. The gentlemen who composed the Committee must have been all known to you; and had you conceived the least impropriety in their procedure, it would have been kind in your Lordship to have pointed it out to them. At the time this Committee waited upon your Lordship, another Com-



mittee attended, to inform you that this House had agreed to an address in answer to your Lordship's speech; this message was delivered by one Committee, who, we presume, were not better known to your Lordship than the members of the other. Though there was not an express order of the House that the Committee should apply to your Lordship for the purpose they did, yet we conceive that such application was necessarily incident to the due execution of the general order of the House to inquire into the state of the magazine.

We feel very sensibly, my Lord, the weight of the insinuation in your message; but willing, upon all occasions, and especially at this unhappy juncture, to avoid every kind of controversy, we shall direct that your Excellency be waited upon with the order of yesterday, before referred to; and should any doubts still remain, we will endeavour to remove them, on their being pointed out to us.

The said Answer being read a second time,

*Resolved*, That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Answer.

*Resolved*, That the gentlemen who prepared the said Answer do wait upon his Excellency with the same.

A Message from the Governour by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: I have received the Governour's commands to lay before this House a written Message from his Excellency, relative to the Gunpowder which has been removed from the publick Magazine by his Excellency's order. And he presented the same at the Bar, and the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:*

The removing, by my order, of fifteen half-barrels of the King's Powder, received from the *Rippon*, man-of-war, from the publick magazine, has, I find, given great uneasiness to the people. I was influenced in this by the best motives; and as I have once ventured, and, if occasion offered, should again venture my life in the service of this Country, I had hoped the most favourable construction would have been put upon my conduct. The magazine was represented to me as a very insecure depository, and, from experience, I find it so;\* all the arms which have been kept there being now taken away: arms not purchased at the expense of this Colony, but sent here by His Majesty, from his Office of Ordnance, of which they bear the mark. But in confidence that you are now met to remove every grievance, and by your wisdom to establish the publick tranquillity on a sure foundation, I do promise you, that as soon as I see the magazine in a proper state for securing the Powder and other publick stores, I will replace it, and at all times be ready, most willingly, to do every thing my poor abilities are capable of for the benefit of this Colony, in which I have lived, till of late, in the greatest happiness.

DUNMORE.

*Resolved*, That the said Message be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The other Order of the Day being read:

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to take into consideration the Governour's Speech.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council have directed me to lay before this House a copy of their proceedings upon a report which had prevailed, relative to the Marines and Sailors belonging to His Majesty's Ship the *Fowey*. And he presented the same at the bar.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

The said copy of the Council's Proceedings was read, and is as followeth, viz:

It having been reported that the Marines and Sailors

\* In the night of *Saturday*, the third instant, some young men got into the publick magazine in this City, intending to furnish themselves with arms, but were presently after surprised by the report of a gun, which was so artfully placed (said to be contrived by Lord *Dunmore*) that upon touching a string which was in their way, it went off, and wounded three persons, but not mortally: one of them is terribly hurt by several small balls that entered his arm and shoulder; another, by the loss of two fingers of his right hand, rendered incapable of following his profession for subsistence; the other wounded very slightly. There were two guns prepared for this horrible purpose, one of which was brought out next morning, and found to be double charged. On *Monday* a Committee was appointed by the Honourable House of Burgesses to examine the state of the magazine, who have placed a guard over it till measures shall be concerted for its better security.

belonging to His Majesty's Ship the *Fowey*, were expected to be at the Palace this day, by the Governour's order, and that the people of the City of *Williamsburgh*, and Counties adjoining, were greatly alarmed thereat, and were determined to attack the said Marines and Sailors if they should come, it was ordered that *Richard Corbin* and *Robert Carter*, Esquires, wait on his Excellency, in the name of the Council, to desire he would be pleased to give orders for stopping them, and thereby prevent the great calamity which was otherwise likely to ensue. *Richard Corbin*, Esquire, reported, that the gentlemen appointed had, according to order, waited on the Governour, who appeared to be astonished at the report which had prevailed; assured them that he had given no orders for the Marines or Sailors, nor did he know of its being intended by any body to send them to the Palace, and that in case of any such design he would send to prevent it.

*Ordered*, That the thanks of this House be given to the Council, for laying a copy of their Proceedings before the House upon the report relative to the Marines and Sailors belonging to His Majesty's Ship the *Fowey*, and that Mr. *Cary*, and Mr. *Charles Carter* of *Lancaster*, do acquaint the Council therewith.

*Ordered*, That Captain *James Innis*, of the Volunteer Company of the City of *Williamsburgh*, be desired to employ any number of men that he shall think sufficient, to guard the publick Magazine in this City, until such time as the House shall direct the guard to be discontinued, and that Mr. *Braxton* do acquaint him therewith.

Wednesday, June 7, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

The Order of the Day being read, for taking into consideration the Governour's written Message, relative to the Gunpowder which has been removed from the publick Magazine by his Excellency's order,

The said Message was again read.

*Resolved*, That an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governour, to express to his Lordship our thanks for his kind tender of services in behalf of this Colony, and for restoring publick tranquillity on a sure and firm foundation; to assure his Lordship that we have the highest sense of his services on the late *Indian* expedition, and sincerely lament that any event should suspend the happiness which his Lordship hath enjoyed among us; that, wishing a restoration of peace and harmony, we had directed an inquiry into the causes of the late great uneasiness given to the people, which we shall proceed on with that attention recommended by his Lordship, and apply, on our parts, remedies the best our abilities can suggest.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address, to be presented to the Governour upon the said Resolution.

And a Committee was appointed, of Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Treasurer*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Dandridge*, Mr. *Henry Lee*, and Mr. *Munford*.

*Ordered*, That the Governour's Message be referred to the said Committee.

*Ordered*, That the other Order of the Day, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House to take into consideration the Governour's Speech, be now read.

And the said Order being read accordingly,

*Ordered*, That the Governour's Speech, and the joint Address of the Lords and Commons, on the seventh of *February* last, and His Majesty's Answer, and also the Resolution of the House of Commons of the twenty-seventh of the same month, referred to in the said Speech, which, upon *Friday* last, were ordered to lie on the table, be referred to the said Committee.

Then the House resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. *Cary* took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. *Cary* reported from the Committee that they had made some progress in the matter to them referred, and that he was directed by the Committee to move that they may have leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to take into their further consideration the Governour's Speech.



## A Message from the Governour by Mr. Blair :

MR. SPEAKER : I am commanded by the Governour to lay before this House his Excellency's written Message in answer to your Address of this day. And he presented the same at the bar ; and the said Message was read, and is as followeth, viz :

## Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses :

In answer to your address of this day, I assure the House, that my message, to which it alluded, was intended for proper information only, which I thought necessary ; because as I would by no means infringe any rule of, or omit any ceremony due to your House, I could not expect but to be treated with the same attention ; and to give you a proof of my desire to avoid every kind of controversy, I have ordered the keys of the Magazine to be delivered to the Committee appointed by your order of *Monday*.

DUNMORE.

Mr. Treasurer reported to the House that the Governour having been waited on, pursuant to the order of *Monday* last, to know his pleasure when he would be attended by this House, had been pleased to appoint to be attended to-morrow, at one of the clock in the afternoon, in the Council Chamber.

Mr. Treasurer reported to the House that their Address to the Governour of *Monday* last, desiring that he will be pleased to direct the proper officer to lay before this House the amount of tonnage of one shilling and three pence sterling, imposed on ships and vessels trading to this Colony from the year 1762, had been presented to his Excellency, and that he had directed him to acquaint the House that he would send an answer thereto by a messenger.

A Petition of *William Fleming*, of the County of *Botetourt*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth that, in the year 1755, the petitioner entered into the service of this Colony, and continued therein until the end of the war, in 1763, when the *Virginia* Regiment was disbanded ; after which he supported himself and his family by the practice of surgery, until he was called out on duty the last year, under the command of Col. *Andrew Lewis*, Lieutenant of the said County, and marched, with the Troops there raised, against the *Indian* enemy on the frontiers, where, in an engagement the tenth day of *October*, the Petitioner was wounded in the breast and left arm, so that he is unable to exercise his profession of a Surgeon ; therefore praying the House to take his case into consideration and grant him relief.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition be referred to the consideration of the Committee of Publick Claims, and that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

—  
Thursday, June 8, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

Mr. Cary reported from the Committee of Publick Claims, to whom the Petition of *Abram Field*, a soldier wounded in the late engagement with the *Indians*, was referred, that the Committee had examined the matter of the said Petition, and had come to a Resolution thereupon, which they had directed him to report to the House ; and he read the Report in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the Resolution of the Committee was read, and is as followeth, viz :

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the said Petition is reasonable, and that the Petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of Twenty Pounds for his present relief, and the further sum of Ten Pounds per annum during his life, as a recompense for the wound he received in the defence of this Colony.

The said Resolution being read a second time, was, upon the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the sum of Twenty Pounds be paid to *Abram Field*, a Soldier wounded in the late *Indian* expedition, and that the sum of Ten Pounds per annum be paid to him during his life.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cary do carry the Resolution to the Council, and desire their concurrence.

The Order of the Day being read,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, take into their further consideration the Governour's Speech.

## A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair :

MR. SPEAKER : I am commanded by the Council to deliver to your House a written Message from his Excellency the Governour, which was by him communicated to the Council, to be by them sent to you ; and he presented the same at the bar.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

The written Message from his Excellency was read, and is as followeth, viz :

## Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses :

Being now fully persuaded that my person and those of my family likewise, are in constant danger of falling sacrifices to the blind and unmeasurable fury which has so unaccountably seized upon the minds and understanding of great numbers of the people, and apprehending that at length some among them may work themselves up to that pitch of daringness and atrociousness as to fall upon me in the defenceless state in which they know I am in the City of *Williamsburgh*, and perpetrate acts that would plunge this Country into the most horrid calamities, and render the breach with the Mother Country irreparable, I have thought it prudent for myself, and serviceable for the Country, that I remove to a place of safety ; conformable to which I have fixed my residence for the present on board His Majesty's Ship the *Fowey*, lying at *York*.

It is not my intention to give the least interruption to the sitting of the Assembly, but I hope they will proceed in the great business which they have before them with diligence and effect. I shall take care to make the access to me so easy and safe, that the necessary communication between me and the House may be attended with the least inconvenience possible : and I thought it would be more agreeable to the House to send to me, from time to time, some of their members, as occasion shall require, than to put all to the trouble of moving, to be near me.

I hope the House will see my proceedings on this occasion as they were really meant ; and I beg them to be assured that I shall now be as ready to attend to all the duties of my office as I was before, and that I am perfectly disposed to contribute all in my power, if opportunity be given me, to restore that harmony, the interruption of which is likely to cost so dear to the repose, as well as to the comforts of every individual.

DUNMORE.

*Ordered*, That the said Message be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole House.

*Resolved*, That this House will now resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of the said Message.

The House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Cary took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Cary reported from the Committee that they had come to a Resolution, which they had directed him to report to the House when the House will please to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the Report be now received.

Mr. Cary accordingly reported the Resolution which the Committee had directed him to report to the House ; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz :

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governour, in answer to his written Message of this day, to represent to his Lordship the probable tendency of his removal from the Palace, and the propriety of his return : to assure his Excellency that we view with horror every design that may be meditated against the person of his Lordship, his very amiable lady or family ; promising one cheerful concurrence in any proper measure for their future safety.

The said Resolution being read a second time, was, upon the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governour upon the said Resolution.

And a Committee was appointed of Mr. Treasurer, Mr. Mercer, Mr. Jones, Mr. Munford, Mr. Henry Lee, Mr.



*Dandridge, Mr. Banister, and Mr. Francis Lightfoot Lee, and they are to withdraw immediately.*

*Ordered,* That the said written Message be referred to the said Committee.

Mr. Treasurer reported from the Committee that they had drawn up an Address accordingly, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz :

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council and the Burgesses of *Virginia*, assure your Excellency, that it is with the greatest concern we find that your Lordship, by your messages to them, entertains any suspicions of the personal security of yourself or family, as we can by no means suppose any of His Majesty's subjects in this Colony would meditate a crime so horrid and atrocious as your Lordship seems to apprehend. We are fearful the step your Lordship hath taken, in removing from the Seat of Government, may conduce to a continuance of great uneasiness, which hath of late so unhappily prevailed in this Country. We cannot but express our concern that your Lordship did not think proper to communicate the ground of your uneasiness to us, as from our zeal and attachment to the preservation of order and good government, we should have judged it our indispensable duty to have endeavoured to remove every cause of disquietude. In proof of the great respect we shall ever pay to the representative of our most gracious Sovereign, and to remove, to the utmost of our power, your Lordship's apprehensions, we assure your Lordship that we will cheerfully concur in any measure that may be proposed proper for the security of yourself and family. It is with much anxiety we consider the very disagreeable situation of your Lordship's most amiable lady and family, and should think ourselves happy in being able to restore their perfect tranquillity, by removing all their fears.

We cannot, my Lord, but approve your intention of not giving the least interruption to the important affairs on which we are now assembled; and it is with much pleasure we receive your Lordship's assurance of your disposition to establish that harmony, so essential to the repose and comfort of every individual; but we must beg leave to observe to your Lordship how impracticable it will be to carry on the business of the session, with any tolerable degree of propriety, or with that despatch the advanced season of the year requires, whilst your Lordship is so far removed from us, and so inconveniently situated. We therefore earnestly entreat your Lordship, that you will be pleased to return with your lady and family to the Palace, which we are persuaded will give the greatest satisfaction, and be the most likely means of quieting the minds of the people.

The said Address being read a second time,

*Resolved,* That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Address to be presented to the Governour.

*Ordered,* That the gentlemen who drew up the said Address do go to the Council, and acquaint them that this House have agreed to an Address to the Governour, to which they desire the concurrence of the Council.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair :

MR. SPEAKER: The Council have agreed to join with this House in their Address to the Governour; and, in consequence thereof, have made the necessary amendments, and have appointed two of their Members, to join with such of the Members of this House as may be appointed, to present the same to his Excellency.

*Ordered,* That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by Mr. Cary, Mr. Wood, Mr. Attorney General, and Mr. Braxton.

Friday, June 9, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

The Order of the Day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to take into their further consideration the Governour's Speech,

The House resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Cary took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Cary reported from the Committee, that they had made a further progress in the matters referred to them, and

that the Committee had directed him to move that they may have leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to take into their further consideration the Governour's Speech.

Mr. Cary reported that two of His Majesty's Council and the Members appointed by this House had, pursuant to the order of yesterday, presented to his Excellency the Governour, on board His Majesty's ship the *Fowey*, the Address of the Council and this House; and that he was pleased to say that, as the subject of their Address was of the utmost importance to the Colony, and to himself and his family, he would take time to consider of it, and would return an answer in writing after he had maturely deliberated upon its contents.

Saturday, June 10, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to take into their further consideration the Governour's Speech.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Cary took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Cary reported from the Committee, that they had gone through the matter to them referred, and had come to a Resolution, which they had directed him to report when the House will please to receive the same.

*Ordered,* That the Report be now received.

Mr. Cary accordingly reported from the said Committee the Resolution, which the Committee had directed him to report to the House; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table; where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz :

*Resolved,* That it is the opinion of this Committee, that an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governour, to inform him that we have taken into our consideration the joint Address of the two Houses of Parliament, His Majesty's Answer, and the Resolution of the Commons, which his Lordship has been pleased to lay before us. That wishing nothing so sincerely as the perpetual continuance of that brotherly love which we bear to our fellow-subjects of *Great Britain*, and still continuing to hope and believe that they do not approve the measures which have so long oppressed their brethren in *America*, we were pleased to receive his Lordship's notification that a benevolent tender had at length been made by the *British* House of Commons towards bringing to a good end our unhappy disputes with the Mother Country; that next to the possession of liberty, we should consider such reconciliation the greatest of all human blessings. With these dispositions we entered into consideration of that Resolution; we examined it minutely; we viewed it in every point of light in which we were able to place it; and, with pain and disappointment, we must ultimately declare it only changes the form of oppression, without lightening its burden. That we cannot close with the terms of that Resolution for these reasons :

Because the *British* Parliament has no right to intermeddle with the support of Civil Government in the Colonies. For us, not for them, has Government been instituted here. Agreeable to our ideas, provision has been made for such officers as we think necessary for the administration of publick affairs; and we cannot conceive that any other legislature has a right to prescribe either the number or pecuniary appointments of our offices. As a proof that the claim of Parliament to interfere in the necessary provision for the support of civil government is novel and of a late date, we take leave to refer to an act of our Assembly, passed so long since as the thirty-second year of the reign of King *Charles* the Second, intituled "An Act for raising a publick revenue, and for better support of the Government of this His Majesty's Colony of *Virginia*." This act was brought over by Lord *Culpepper*, then Governour, under the great seal of *England*, and was enacted in the name of the "King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the consent of the General Assembly."

Because, to render perpetual our exemption from an unjust taxation, we must saddle ourselves with a perpetual tax, adequate to the expectations, and subject to the disposal of Parliament alone: whereas, we have a right to



give our money, as the Parliament does theirs, without coercion, from time to time, as "publick exigences may require." We conceive that we alone are the judges of the condition, circumstances, and situation of our people, as the Parliament are of theirs. It is not merely the mode of raising, but the freedom of granting our money, for which we have contended. Without this we possess no check on the royal prerogative; and what must be much lamented by dutiful and loyal subjects, we should be stripped of the only means, as well of recommending this country to the favour of our most gracious Sovereign, as of strengthening those bands of anity with our fellow-subjects, which we would wish to remain indissoluble.

Because, on our undertaking to grant money as is proposed, the Commons only resolve to forbear levying pecuniary taxes on us, still leaving unrepealed their several acts passed for the purposes of restraining the Trade and altering the form of Government of the Eastern Colonies; extending the boundaries and changing the Government and Religion of *Quebeck*; enlarging the jurisdiction of the Courts of Admiralty, and taking from us the right of Trial by Jury; and transporting us into other Countries to be tried for criminal offences. Standing Armies, too, are still to be kept among us; and the other numerous grievances of which ourselves and sister Colonies, separately and by our Representatives in General Congress, have so often complained, are still to continue without redress.

Because, at the very time of requiring from us grants of money, they are making disposition to invade us with large armaments by sea and land, which is a style of asking gifts not reconcilable to our freedom. They are also proceeding to a repetition of injury, by passing Acts for restraining the Commerce and Fisheries of the Provinces of *New-England*, and for prohibiting the Trade of the other Colonies with all parts of the world, except the Islands of *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *West-Indies*. This seems to bespeak no intention to discontinue the exercise of this usurped power over us in future.

Because, on our agreeing to contribute our proportion towards the common defence, they do not propose to lay open to us a free trade with all the world: whereas, to us it appears just, that those who bear equally the burdens of Government, should equally participate of its benefits. Either be content with the monopoly of our trade, which brings greater loss to us and benefit to them than the amount of our proportional contributions to the common defence; or, if the latter be preferred, relinquish the former, and do not propose, by holding both, to exact from us double contributions. Yet we would remind Government, that on former emergencies, when called upon as a free people, however cramped by this monopoly in our resources of wealth, we have liberally contributed to the common defence. Be assured, then, that we shall be as generous in future as in past times, disdaining the shackles of proportion when called to our free station in the general system of the Empire.

Because the proposition now made to us involves the interest of all the other Colonies. We are now represented in General Congress by members approved by this House, where our former union, it is hoped, will be so strongly cemented, that no partial application can produce the slightest departure from the common cause. We consider ourselves as bound in honour, as well as interest, to share one general fate with our sister Colonies, and should hold ourselves base deserters of that union to which we have acceded, were we to agree on any measures distinct and apart from them.

To observe that there was, indeed, a plan of accommodation offered in Parliament, which, though not entirely equal to the terms we had a right to ask, yet differed but in few points from what the General Congress had held out. Had Parliament been disposed sincerely, as we are, to bring about a reconciliation, reasonable men had hoped that by meeting us on this ground, something might have been done. Lord *Chatham's* bill, on the one part, and the terms of the Congress on the other, would have formed a basis for negotiation, which a spirit of accommodation on both sides might, perhaps, have reconciled. It came recommended, too, from one whose successful experience in the art of Government should have insured to it some attention from those to whom it was tendered. He had

shown to the world, that *Great Britain*, with her Colonies, united firmly under a just and honest Government, formed a power which might bid defiance to the most potent enemies. With a change of Ministers, however, a total change of measures took place: the component parts of the Empire have, from that moment, been falling asunder, and a total annihilation of its weight in the political scale of the world seems justly to be apprehended.

To declare that these are our sentiments on this important subject, which we offer only as an individual part of the whole Empire. Final determination we leave to the General Congress now sitting, before whom we shall lay the papers his Lordship has communicated to us. To their wisdom we commit the improvement of this important advance: if it can be wrought into any good, we are assured they will do it. To them, also, we refer the discovery of that proper method of representing our well-founded grievances, which his Lordship assures us will meet with the attention and regard so justly due to them. For ourselves, we have exhausted every mode of application which our invention could suggest as proper and promising. We have decently remonstrated with Parliament: they have added new injuries to the old. We have wearied our King with supplications: he has not deigned to answer us. We have appealed to the native honour and justice of the *British* Nation: their efforts in our favour have been hitherto ineffectual. What, then, remains to be done? That we commit our injuries to the evenhanded justice of that Being who doth no wrong, earnestly beseeching him to illuminate the counsels, and prosper the endeavours of those to whom *America* hath confided her hopes, that through their wise direction we may again see reunited the blessings of liberty, property, and union with *Great Britain*.

The said Resolution being read a second time, was, upon the question being put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governour upon the said Resolution.

And a Committee was appointed, of Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Treasurer*, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *Munford*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Digges*, and Mr. *Nelson*.

A Message from the Council, by Mr. *Blair*:

MR. SPEAKER: His Excellency the Governour hath desired the President to communicate to this House his Answer to the joint Address of the Council and the House of Burgesses, presented yesterday to his Excellency. And he presented the said Answer at the bar.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

The Governour's Answer was read, and is as followeth, viz:

*Gentlemen of the Council, Mr. Speaker and  
Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:*

In answer to your joint Address, presented by your Deputies yesterday, I acquaint you that it appears to me the commotions among the people, and their menaces and threats (an enumeration of which I forbear out of tenderness) have been of such publick notoriety, that you must suppose many of His Majesty's subjects in this Colony, whether they meditated or not, have at least manifested such an inveteracy as justifies my suspicion that they would not hesitate to commit a crime, which, horrid and atrocious as it is, I had just ground to apprehend.\* And when the disposition which the House of Burgesses have shown to me, the returns they have made to the respect and civility which I have been forward to offer them, the countenance they have given to the violent and disorderly proceedings of the people, His Majesty's magazine having been forced and rifled in the presence of some of the members of the House of Burgesses, and, by the information of the Committee of the House appointed to inspect the magazine, no other endeavours have been used than to prevail on the

\* LONDON, August 3, 1775.—Many persons have been at a loss to account for Lord *Dunmore's* late conduct; but we have authority to say, that the true reason of his Lordship's retiring on board the *Fowey*, man-of-war, was an express from General *Gage* by the *Otter*, sloop-of-war, which was despatched on the seventh of June, to acquaint him of his intention of publishing the Proclamation, which appeared on the twelfth, that he might secure himself from being seized and detained as a hostage in the hands of the Americans, in case of the apprehension of Messrs. *Adams* and *Hancock*.



people to return the arms taken out, but not to commit the persons in whose possession they were found, in order that they might be brought to the punishment due to so heinous an offence, no less against the peace and good order of the Country than the dignity and authority of the King; when a body of men assembled in the City of *Williamsburgh*, not only to the knowledge, but with the approbation of every body, for the avowed purpose of attacking a party of the King's forces, which, without the least foundation, it was reported were marching to my protection, and which, if true, ought to have been approved and aided, not opposed and insulted, by all good and loyal subjects; when, especially, the House of Burgesses, or a Committee of the House, (which is the same,) has ventured upon a step fraught with the most alarming consequences, in ordering and appointing guards, without ever consulting me, to mount in the City of *Williamsburgh*, as is pretended, to protect the magazine, but which may well be doubted, as there then remained nothing therein which required being guarded; but if otherwise, this step nevertheless shows a design to usurp the Executive power, which, if it be persisted in, subverts the Constitution: I say, when these circumstances are duly considered, I may submit it to your own judgment whether I could reasonably expect any good effect from communicating the ground of my uneasiness to you.

But as you are pleased, Gentlemen, now to assure me that you will cheerfully concur in any measure that may be proposed proper for the security of myself and family, I leave to your own consideration whether that can be effected any otherwise than by reinstating me in the full powers of my office, as His Majesty's representative, by opening the courts of justice and restoring the energy of the laws, which is all the security requisite for all parties; by disarming all independent companies, or other bodies of men, raised and acting in defiance of lawful authority; and by obliging those who have taken any of His Majesty's publick store of arms, to deliver them up immediately; and what is not less essential than any thing, by your own example, and every means in your power, abolishing that spirit of persecution, which, to the disgrace of humanity, now reigns, and pursues with menaces and acts of oppression all persons who differ from the multitude in political opinion, or are attached from principles and duty to the service of their King and Government, by which means (the deluded people never hearing but the disfigured side of a story) their minds are continually kept in that ferment, which subjects them for ever to be imposed upon, and leads to the commission of many desperate acts, and endangers the general safety. For the more speedy accomplishment of these ends, and the great object and necessary business of the sessions, I shall have no objection to your adjourning to the Town of *York*, where I will meet you, and remain with you till your business be finished.

With respect to your entreaty that I should return to the Palace, as the most likely means of quieting the minds of the people, I must represent to you that unless there be among you a sincere and active desire to seize this opportunity now offered to you by Parliament, of establishing the freedom of your Country upon a fixed and known foundation, and of uniting yourselves with your fellow-subjects of *Great Britain* in one common bond of interest and mutual assistance, my return to *Williamsburgh* would be as fruitless to the people as, possibly, it might be dangerous to myself. But if your proceedings manifest that happy disposition, which is to be desired ardently by every good friend to this as well as the Mother Country, I assure you, in the warmth of my heart, that I will return with the greatest joy, and shall consider it as the most fortunate event of my life if you give me an opportunity to be an instrument of promoting your happiness, and a mediator between you and the supreme authority, to obtain for you every explanation of your doubts, and the fullest conviction of the sincerity of their desire to confirm to you the undisturbed enjoyment of your rights and liberty; and I shall be well pleased, by bringing my family back again, that you should have such a pledge of my attachment to this Country, and of my wishes to cultivate a close and lasting intimacy with the inhabitants.

JUNE 10, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the said Answer be taken into consideration on *Monday* next.

*Resolved*, That this House will, upon *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to take into consideration the Governour's Answer to the joint Address of the Council and this House.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the causes of the late Disturbances and Commotions, and report the same as they shall appear to them, to the House.

And a Committee was appointed, of Mr. *Cary*, Mr. Treasurer, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Munford*, Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Charles Carter* of *Lancaster*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Whitinge*, Mr. *Nelson*, Mr. *Francis Lightfoot Lee*, Mr. *Wood*, Mr. *William Cabell*, Mr. *Braxton*, and Mr. *Zane*, and they are to have power to send for persons, papers, and records.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a Bill for appointing an Agent; and that Mr. *Braxton* and Mr. Treasurer do prepare, and bring in the same.

Monday, June 12, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

A Petition of the community of Christians, called *Methodists*, was presented to the House, and read, setting forth, that the Petitioners hold it to be contrary to the holy word of *God* to swear in any matter whatsoever; so that they cannot become witnesses in matters of controversy depending in any Court; nor can execute the office of executor of any testament; nor undertake the administration of any intestate's estates; whereby they suffer many inconveniences; and therefore praying, that they may have the same liberty of affirming to the truth of any matter, as is indulged to the people called *Quakers*, whose religious persuasion that of the Petitioners nearly resembles.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition be referred to the consideration of the Committee of Religion; and that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same with their opinion thereupon to the House.

Mr. *Cary* reported from the Committee appointed to draw up an Address, to be presented to the Governour, that the Committee had drawn up an Address accordingly; which they had directed him to report to the House. And he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read; and is as followeth, viz:

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Burgesses of *Virginia*, now met in General Assembly, have taken into our consideration the joint Address of the two Houses of Parliament, His Majesty's Answer, and the Resolution of the Commons, which your Lordship has been pleased to lay before us. Wishing nothing so sincerely as the perpetual continuance of that brotherly love which we bear to our fellow-subjects of *Great Britain*, and still continuing to hope and believe that they do not approve the measures which have so long oppressed their brethren in *America*, we were pleased to receive your Lordship's notification, that a benevolent tender had at length been made by the *British* House of Commons towards bringing to a good end our unhappy disputes with the Mother Country. Next to the possession of liberty, my Lord, we should consider such a reconciliation as the greatest of all human blessings. With these dispositions we entered into the consideration of that Resolution; we examined it minutely; we viewed it in every point of light in which we were able to place it; and, with pain and disappointment, we must ultimately declare it only changes the form of oppression, without lightening its burden. We cannot, my Lord, close with the terms of that Resolution, for these reasons:

Because the *British* Parliament has no right to intermeddle with the support of civil Government in the Colonies. For us, not for them, has Government been instituted here. Agreeable to our ideas, provision has been made for such officers as we think necessary for the administration of publick affairs; and we cannot conceive that any other legislature has a right to prescribe either the number or pecuniary appointments of our officers. As a proof that the claim of Parliament to interfere in the necessary provisions for the support of civil Government is novel, and of a late date, we take leave to refer to an Act of our Assembly, passed so long since as the thirty-second year of the reign of King *Charles* the Second, intituled "An Act



for raising a publick revenue, and for the better support of the Government of His Majesty's Colony of *Virginia*." This act was brought over by Lord *Culpepper*, then Governour, under the great seal of *England*, and was enacted in the name of the "King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the consent of the General Assembly."

Because, to render perpetual our exemption from an unjust taxation, we must saddle ourselves with a perpetual tax, adequate to the expectations, and subject to the disposal of Parliament alone: whereas, we have a right to give our money, as the Parliament do theirs, without coercion, from time to time, as publick exigences may require. We conceive that we alone are the judges of the condition, circumstances, and situation of our people, as the Parliament are of theirs. It is not merely the mode of raising, but the freedom of granting our money, for which we have contended. Without this, we possess no check on the royal prerogative; and, what must be lamented by dutiful and loyal subjects, we should be stripped of the only means, as well of recommending this Country to the favours of our most gracious Sovereign, as of strengthening those bands of amity with our fellow-subjects, which we would wish to remain indissoluble.

Because, on our undertaking to grant money, as is proposed, the Commons only resolve to forbear levying pecuniary taxes on us, still leaving unrepealed their several Acts passed for the purposes of restraining the Trade, and altering the form of Government of the Eastern Colonies; extending the boundaries, and changing the Government and Religion of *Quebeck*; enlarging the jurisdiction of the Courts of Admiralty; taking from us the right of Trial by Jury, and transporting us into other countries to be tried for criminal offences. Standing Armies, too, are still to be kept among us, and the other numerous grievances, of which ourselves and sister Colonies, separately and by our Representatives in General Congress, have so often complained, are still to continue without redress.

Because, at the very time of requiring from us grants of money, they are making disposition to invade us with large armaments by sea and land, which is a style of asking gifts not reconcilable to our freedom. They are also proceeding to a repetition of injury, by passing Acts for restraining the Commerce and Fisheries of the Provinces of *New-England*, and for prohibiting the Trade of the other Colonies with all parts of the world, except the Island of *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *West-Indies*. This seems to bespeak no intention to discontinue the exercise of this usurped power over us in future.

Because, on our agreeing to contribute our proportion towards the common defence, they do not propose to lay open to us a free trade with all the world: whereas, to us it appears just that those who bear equally the burdens of Government should equally participate of its benefits; either be contented with the monopoly of our trade, which brings greater loss to us and benefit to them than the amount of our proportional contributions to the common defence; or, if the latter be preferred, relinquish the former, and do not propose, by holding both, to exact from us double contributions. Yet we would remind Government, that on former emergencies, when called upon as a free people, however cramped by this monopoly in our resources of wealth, we have liberally contributed to the common defence. Be assured, then, that we shall be as generous in future as in past times, disclaiming the shackles of proportion when called to our free station in the general system of the Empire.

Because the proposition now made to us involves the interest of all the other Colonies. We are now represented in General Congress by members approved by this House, where our former union, it is hoped, will be so strongly cemented, that no partial applications can produce the slightest departure from the common cause. We consider ourselves as bound in honour, as well as interest, to share one general fate with our sister Colonies; and should hold ourselves base deserters of that union to which we have acceded, were we to agree on any measures distinct and apart from them.

There was, indeed, a plan of accommodation offered in Parliament, which, though not entirely equal to the terms we had a right to ask, yet differed but in few points from what the General Congress had held out. Had Parliament

been disposed sincerely, as we are, to bring about a reconciliation, reasonable men had hoped, that by meeting us on this ground, something might have been done. Lord *Chatham's* Bill, on the one part, and the terms of Congress on the other, would have formed a basis for negotiation, which a spirit of accommodation on both sides might, perhaps, have reconciled. It came recommended, too, from one whose successful experience in the art of Government should have insured it some attention from those to whom it was tendered. He had shown to the world, that *Great Britain*, with her Colonies united firmly under a just and honest Government, formed a power which might bid defiance to the most potent enemies. With a change of Ministers, however, a total change of measures took place. The component parts of the Empire have, from that moment, been falling asunder, and a total annihilation of its weight in the political scale of the world, seems justly to be apprehended.

These, my Lord, are our sentiments on this important subject, which we offer only as an individual part of the whole Empire. Final determination we leave to the General Congress, now sitting, before whom we shall lay the papers your Lordship has communicated to us. To their wisdom we commit the improvement of this important advance; if it can be wrought into any good, we are assured they will do it. To them, also, we refer the discovery of that proper method of representing our well-founded grievances, which your Lordship assures us will meet with the attention and regard so justly due to them. For ourselves, we have exhausted every mode of application which our invention could suggest as proper and promising. We have decently remonstrated with Parliament: they have added new injuries to the old. We have wearied our King with applications: he has not deigned to answer us. We have appealed to the native honour and justice of the *British* Nation: their efforts in our favour have been hitherto ineffectual. What, then, remains to be done? That we commit our injuries to the evenhanded justice of the Being who doth no wrong, earnestly beseeching him to illuminate the counsels, and prosper the endeavours of those to whom *America* hath confided her hopes, that through their wise direction we may again see reunited the blessings of liberty, property, and harmony with *Great Britain*.

The said Address being read a second time,

*Resolved*, That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Address, to be presented to the Governour.

*Resolved*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Munford*, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Jones*, and Mr. *Wood*.

The Order of the Day being read,

*Resolved*, That this House will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to take into consideration the Governour's Answer to the joint Address of the Council and this House.

Tuesday, June 13, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

Mr. *Mercer* reported, from the Committee appointed to inspect the Magazine in this City and inquire into the Stores belonging to the same, that the Committee had inspected the said Magazine, and inquired into the said Stores accordingly; and had directed him to report the same, as it appeared to them, to the House; and he read the Report in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table; where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

It appears to your Committee, from the deposition of *John Frederick Miller*, keeper of the magazine, that in *June* last there were thirty barrels of gunpowder, containing each about fifty weight, in indifferent order; that, by the Governour's directions, he sifted twenty-seven barrels, out of which he made up twenty-six casks and better; the other three he left unsifted; that the President soon after sent the Governour, then on the frontiers, eight of those he had sifted, three hundred muskets, bayonets, cartouch boxes, and canteens, which have never been returned; that one hundred and sixty of the said muskets were furnished out of the palace, and soon after replaced out of the magazine; that the said *Miller*, by order of the President, also delivered out about fifty stand of arms to some gentlemen of this City, which have not been returned.



That, about the middle of *April* last, the said *Miller* delivered up the keys of the magazine to the Governour, and he then left there twenty one barrels and a half of powder, including the three unsifted; three hundred and forty-two new muskets, lately cleaned, and in complete order; others that wanted but small repairs, and a large number of old muskets, and other small guns, almost useless, and many other articles, which he could not enumerate.

It further appears to the Committee, from the depositions of the said *Miller*, and *John Dixon*, Esquire, Mayor of this City, that they were in the magazine (soon after the powder was said to be taken away) with his Excellency, who then mentioned, that he had taken away fifteen barrels of powder. They then saw eight barrels which they understood was powder; one being open, appeared to be dust of powder; and, at the same time, they observed that the cleaned muskets were without locks; and the said *Miller* says his Excellency rebuked him for not taking notice of that circumstance; and the said *Dixon* said he observed some persons had been in the magazine over night, as he saw many arms lying in the yard of it; and his Excellency then told him, he had ordered the powder to be buried in the magazine yard; for though it was but dust, yet, as he understood some persons went into the magazine for arms in the night with a light, they might set fire to the powder and injure the magazine.

Your Committee farther report, that before they proceeded to examine any witnesses, they waited on his Excellency, to request that he would be pleased to direct the keeper of the magazine to give them access thereto; and having received the keys three days after the first application, they immediately proceeded to inspect the magazine, and found therein nineteen halberts; one hundred and fifty-seven trading guns, in pretty good order, but very indifferent in the kind; fifty-one pewter basons; eight camp kettles; one hundred and eight new muskets without locks; about five hundred and twenty-seven old muskets, the barrels very rusty, and the locks almost useless; twelve hundred cartouch boxes; fifteen hundred cutlasses with scabbards; one hundred and seventy pistol holsters, and one hundred and fifty old pistols, or thereabouts, with and without locks; fifty mallets; two bundles of match rope; two hundred canteens; thirty-five small swords, in bad order; one tent and ten poles; one hogshhead of powder-horns; one hundred and twenty-seven bayonets; and one hundred knapsacks in the smith's shop, and that part of the magazine called the armory; also one half barrel of dust and rotten powder; one half barrel and a quarter of unsifted powder, tolerably good, in the powder room, that has no communication with the armory; also, five half barrels of loose powder, buried in a hole in the magazine yard, the top of which (in quantity about two half barrels) was totally destroyed by the late rains, the rest very damp, but quite sound; this, his Excellency acknowledged to your Committee, was buried there by his orders. The deficiency, this Committee suppose, is owing to the fifteen half barrels which Captain *Collins* moved from the magazine, as acknowledged in the Governour's message to this House.

And your Committee farther report, that the morning before they entered upon this business, some persons unknown had broke into the magazine, and taken out arms, part of which, upon the application of some of the members of this House and other gentlemen, were restored. And finding the respect paid by the people to the members of this House, your Committee thought it most likely, to prevent farther depredations, to request some gentlemen of the Town to guard the magazine till application could be made to his Excellency for leave of access thereto, which your Committee immediately did, informing his Lordship of the steps they had taken therein; which he did not object to.

That the doors and windows of the magazine now want repairs, which, being done, your Committee are of opinion that it will be sufficiently secure, it never having proved otherwise since its first erection, now sixty years past, until since the powder was taken by order of the Governour aforementioned.

Your Committee also proceeded to inquire what arms and ammunition had been, from time to time, deposited in

the magazine, and the disbursements thereof, but could obtain no certain information respecting the same, the late keeper being out of the Colony, and his predecessor dead; nor can your Committee find, although they have examined several persons most likely to be acquainted with such facts, and applied personally to His Majesty's Receiver-General for that purpose, that any powder had been lodged in the magazine from on board the *Rippon* man-of-war, or any of His Majesty's ships.

*Ordered*, That the said Report do lie upon the table, to be perused by the Members of the House.

*Resolved*, That a Message be sent to His Majesty's Council acquainting them, that since his Excellency the Governour hath been pleased to remove from the Palace, the House are exceedingly apprehensive that the publick Arms therein are too much exposed, and beg to be informed whether in their opinion some proper method cannot be taken to secure as well these Arms as those in the publick Magazine.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Braxton* and Mr. Treasurer do carry the said Message to the Council.

A Petition of sundry persons of the community of Christians called *Baptists*, and other *Protestant Dissenters*, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that the toleration proposed by the bill ordered at a former session of General Assembly to be printed and published, not admitting publick worship, except in the day time, is inconsistent with the laws of *England*, as well as with the practice and usage of the primitive churches, and even of the *English* church itself; that the night season may sometimes be better spared by the Petitioners from the necessary duties of their callings; and that they wish for no indulgences which may disturb the peace of Government; and therefore praying the House to take their case into consideration, and to grant them suitable redress.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition do lie upon the table.

Mr. *Braxton* presented to the House, according to order, a Bill for appointing an Agent; and the same was received and read the first time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill be read a second time.

The other Order of the Day being read,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to take into consideration the Governour's Answer to the joint Address of the Council and this House.

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Wednesday, June 14, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

*Richard Bland*, Esq., one of the Delegates from this Colony to the General Congress at *Philadelphia*, acquainted the House that a petition of several persons in that part of the County of *Augusta*, which is on the west side of the *Alleghany* Mountain, addressed to the President and Gentlemen of the Continental Congress, having been presented to them, setting forth that the petitioners had grievously suffered by the devastations of the *Indians* in the late war; that, to avoid captivity by an enemy so insidious, cruel, and savage, many of the petitioners having been obliged to desert their habitation and retire to Forts, so that they could not till the ground, now wanted bread, and supported themselves chiefly by the spontaneous productions of the earth; that the promising appearance of a plentiful crop had encouraged them to bear these afflictions without repining, and to hope for better times; but that those fair prospects would probably be delusive, unless effectual measures were pursued to avert the calamities with which they were threatened; that Lord *Dunmore*, after the expedition against the *Indians*, promised to meet them at *Pittsburgh* in the spring, and conclude a peace, and then restore the hostages delivered to him, and discharge the captives; that the *Indians* had been uneasy for some time because the treaty was deferred; that the *Delawares* particularly were very much dissatisfied, and repented that they had not joined the *Shawanese* in the war, since they found the white people were not to be depended on; that the commandant in that quarter for Government had instructions, as the petitioners were informed, to assemble the *Indians* at that place so soon as he could, when the hostages and prisoners would be delivered up; and that the petitioners,



unable to discover the design of Government, apprehended every evil from the threats of it to enfranchise the slaves, on condition they would rebel against their masters: and therefore praying the Congress, to which application was made because it was thought the Provincial Assemblies could not provide adequate remedies early enough, to take the case of the petitioners into consideration, and appoint Commissioners from this Colony and *Pennsylvania*, to attend the meeting of the *Indians*, and co-operate with Government for the publick good; or, if the latter should fail, to nominate persons for that purpose, and proceed without them in the treaty, which is absolutely necessary. The Congress referred the said Petition to the Delegates of this Colony and *Pennsylvania*, who having considered the same, and being of opinion that the matter ought to be communicated to this House, and submitted to their consideration, Mr. Bland was directed by his colleagues to lay the same before the House, which he thus did with all convenient expedition.

The said information being immediately taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Walker, James Wood, Andrew Lewis, John Walker, and Adam Stephen*, Esquires, be appointed Commissioners to ratify the Treaty of Peace between this Colony and the *Indians*.

*Ordered*, That a Bill be brought in pursuant to the said Resolution, and that Mr. Treasurer and Mr. Dandridge do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the gentlemen appointed to prepare and bring in the said Bill, that they have power to receive a clause or clauses, to empower the said Commissioners to join with such other Commissioners as may be appointed by the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, in such manner as shall be judged most proper for conciliating the friendship of the *Indians*, and perpetuating the peace now subsisting between the said *Indians* and the Colonies.

Mr. Cary reported from the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the late Disturbances and Commotions, that the Committee had inquired accordingly, and had directed him to report the causes of the said Disturbances and Commotions, as they appeared to them, to the House; and he read the Report in his place, and afterwards delivered it at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

It appears to your Committee, by the testimony of Doctor *William Pasteur*, that on *Friday* morning, the twenty-third of *April* last, there was a commotion in the City of *Williamsburgh*, occasioned by the Governour's removing some powder from the publick magazine; that a common hall being assembled he attended; an address was presented to his Excellency the Governour, and an answer received, as published in the *Virginia Gazette*; that the people, at the request of the Corporation, retired peaceably to their habitations; that, during the commotion, the Captains *Foy, Montague, and Collins*, walked the main street unmolested; that, in the morning of the twenty-third of *April*, the said *Pasteur*, attending a patient at the Palace, accidentally met with his Excellency the Governour, who introduced a conversation relative to what had passed the preceding day, and seemed greatly exasperated at the people's having been under arms; when the said *Pasteur* observed, that it was done in a hurry and confusion, and that most of the people were convinced they were wrong. His Lordship then proceeded to make use of several rash expressions, and said that though he did not think himself in danger, yet understood some injury or insult was intended to be offered to the Captains *Foy* and *Collins*, which he should consider as done to himself, as those gentlemen acted entirely by his particular directions; that his Lordship then swore by the living *God*, that if a grain of powder was burnt at Captain *Foy* or *Collins*, or if any injury or insult was offered to himself or either of them, that he would declare freedom to the slaves, and reduce the City of *Williamsburgh* to ashes. His Lordship then mentioned setting up the royal standard, but did not say that he would actually do it, but said he believed if he did, he should have a majority of white people, and all the slaves, on the side of Government; that he had once fought for the *Virginians*, and that, by *God*, he would let them see that he could fight against them, and declared that in a short time

he could depopulate the whole Country. That his Excellency desired the said *Pasteur* immediately to communicate this to the Speaker and other gentlemen of the Town, for that there was not an hour to spare: adding also, that if *Finnie* and *George Nicholas* continued to go at large, what he had said would, from some misconduct of theirs, be carried into execution. That the said *Pasteur* immediately communicated this matter to the Speaker and several other gentlemen of the Town, and it soon became publickly known; in consequence of which two of the principal gentlemen of the City sent their wives and children into the country. That his Excellency at other times, more than once, did say he should not carry these plans into execution unless he was attacked. That the inhabitants of *Williamsburgh* were soon after informed, by an express from *Fredericksburgh*, that the people in that part of the country were in motion towards this City. That the next morning after this report, the said *Pasteur*, attending a patient at the Palace, again met accidentally with the Governour, who declared to the said *Pasteur*, that if a large body of people came below *Ruffin's Ferry*, (a place about thirty miles from this City,) he would immediately enlarge his plan and carry it into execution; but said that he should not regard a small number of men, adding, he then had two hundred muskets loaded in the Palace. The said *Pasteur* saith, that, to the best of his knowledge, at the time Lady *Dummore* and family removed from *Williamsburgh* on board the *Fowey*, man-of-war, then lying at *York*, the inhabitants of this City were very peaceable.

It appears to your Committee, from the testimony of *Benjamin Waller*, that the morning after the powder was removed from the publick magazine, the people in the City of *Williamsburgh* were much alarmed, and assembled, some with, and others without arms; but when the Corporation reported the Governour's answer to their Address, they, by the persuasions of the Magistrates and other principal gentlemen of the Town, dispersed and were quiet, except in the evening, when a report prevailed that the Marines were landed, and intended to attack the Town; they expressed great uneasiness, and went with their arms to the magazine to guard it, but soon dispersed, except a few, who acted as a patrol that night. That the next day Dr. *Pasteur* came to the said *Waller's* house and informed him of the Governour's threatening, that if himself, his family, or Captain *Collins*, were insulted, he would declare liberty to the slaves, and lay the Town in ashes; and that the Governour had desired him to communicate this his declaration to the Magistrates of the City, for that there was not an hour to lose. That these declarations gave the said *Waller* and the other inhabitants of the Town great uneasiness. That several days afterwards his Excellency came to the said *Waller's* house on some private business, and in the course of conversation his Lordship said that Captain *Collins* had only taken fifteen half barrels of powder from the magazine; that some was not good, and others not full; but that he believed that one whole barrel might be got out of three half barrels; whereupon the said *Waller* took the liberty to mention to his Lordship, that he was sorry to tell his Excellency that he had lost the confidence of the people, not so much for having taken the powder, as for the declaration he made of raising and freeing the slaves; to which he answered, that he did say so, and made no secret of it, and that he would do that or any thing else, to have defended himself, in case he had been attacked. That his Lordship farther observed, that some slaves had offered him their service at the time the *Hanover* men were coming down, but that he had sent them away. The said *Benjamin Waller* farther says, that several young gentlemen of the Town, and others, had formed themselves into a company, (by the name of an Independent Company,) to learn the military exercise, and elected the Colonel of the Militia for their Captain, and that they usually mustered once a week. That when his Excellency returned from the *Indian* expedition last fall, many of the said company waited upon him in their uniform, to congratulate his Lordship on his return; but the said *Waller* heard they were coolly received. That said *Waller* says that he never heard of any powder being lodged in the magazine from the *Rippon*, man-of-war, until since the removal of the powder, and then only from report, the truth of which he does not know.



It also appears to your Committee, from the testimony of *John Randolph, Esq.*, Attorney-General, of the City of *Williamsburgh*, that the morning after the removal of the powder, many of the people were under arms at the Court-House. That he does not recollect he heard the Governour expressly say he would proclaim freedom to the slaves, but is well satisfied such was his Lordship's intention, if it had been necessary for him to take up arms in defence of his person. That he does not recollect he ever saw any of the people under arms (except on the removal of the powder) but the volunteer company when exercising; which company had been formed a considerable time before the disturbance happened. That he thought *Lady Dunmore* had no reason, but the timidity of her sex, to suspect any injury would be done her or her family; nor did he know that *Lord Dunmore* had just cause to apprehend danger, unless he gave credit to the reports carried to him, which were of such a nature as to justify an opinion that his person was not safe. That he is of opinion, and that he informed the Governour so when he, with other gentlemen, waited upon him with the address of the House, that his person was in no danger. That his Lordship was almost every day at his, the said *Randolph's*, house, distant above a quarter of a mile from the Palace, and in particular the evening of his departure, and that his Lordship received no insult, as he knows of, in passing to and from thence. The said *Randolph* says that he understood from the Governour, in case armed people came to *Williamsburgh*, he would fix up the royal standard to distinguish the friends of Government from its foes; and that if negroes, on that occasion, offered their services, they would be received. That the Governour informed him (by one of his servants) some negroes had offered their service, but ordered his servant to bid them go about their business. That the morning after the removal of the powder, the said *Randolph* saw *Captain Collins*, *Captain Foy*, and, he believes, *Captain Stretch*, pass through the people unmolested.

It also appears, by the testimony of *John Dixon, Esq.*, Mayor of the City of *Williamsburgh*, that, in the opinion of the inhabitants, the Militia of the City being on an indifferent footing, and they having heard of an independent company established at *Norfolk*, were desirous of forming one in *Williamsburgh*. That such company was accordingly formed, and, although he does not know the Governour was ever present when they were exercised, the said *Dixon* never heard he disapproved of it. That his Honour the President, while the Governour was out on the *Indian* expedition, directed the keeper of the publick magazine to furnish the company with muskets. That a Committee was chosen in the City, agreeable to the directions of the Congress, but not to act, as he knew of, under the Committee. That upon the Governour's return from the *Indian* expedition, one of the company waited upon his Excellency, to inform him the company intended to pay their compliments to him the next morning, before the Palace, if agreeable to *Lady Dunmore*, who was then indisposed; but his Lordship being out of the way, the person who went, left his compliments of the above import. That the next morning the said *Dixon*, as captain, with part of the company, drew up in Palace-street, and paid the usual compliments. That his Lordship did not come out to meet them; but some time afterwards there was a message delivered by *Mr. Blair*, from his Excellency, that he would have done himself the pleasure of waiting upon them, if they had staid a little longer, as he did not expect they would have finished their exercise so soon. That the morning after the powder was removed, many of the inhabitants being much alarmed, and greatly incensed against *Capt. Foy* and *Capt. Collins*, assembled at the Court-House under arms; but does not believe, nor has he heard any injury or insult was intended to the Governour. That some time after the Governour's answer to the address of the Corporation was read, the people, upon the interposition of the Magistrates, and other gentlemen, were satisfied, and returned home in quiet. That after the Governour had declared what *Captain Collins* had done was by his order, their resentment against *Captain Collins* subsided. That the same evening the powder was removed a report prevailed that a number of armed men from *Captain Collins's* schooner had landed at *Burwell's Ferry*, about four miles from *Williamsburgh*, with design, as was supposed,

to remove the arms from the magazine; whereupon many of the inhabitants repaired to the magazine, to prevent such design being executed; but by the advice of some gentlemen, they all dispersed except such as patrolled that night. That the inhabitants appeared to be in perfect tranquillity, till a report was spread of his Excellency's throwing out some threats respecting the slaves, when there seemed to be great uneasiness; but nothing more was done but doubling the usual patrol. That after the alarm was over the first day, he remembers to have seen *Captain Foy* and *Captain Montague* walk the streets, and he believes without insult; and frequently saw them, *Captain Collins* and other officers, do the same, without their swords, unmolested by the inhabitants.

It also appears, by the testimony of *Joseph Hutchings*, Colonel of the Militia of the Borough of *Norfolk*, that some years ago the inhabitants, judging it would be a means of their greater security, proposed raising an independent company, that, by their being more regularly trained, they might be more capable of acting upon an emergency; that some time afterwards, his Excellency *Lord Dunmore* being at *Norfolk*, the said *Hutchings* informed him of the intention of the inhabitants, and asked his advice how to act as to granting commissions, the company intending to choose their own officers; that his Lordship highly commended the proposal, advised the said *Hutchings* to encourage and grant commissions to such officers as might be chosen, and expressed his wishes that the example might be followed throughout the Country. That about two years afterwards his Lordship was again at *Norfolk*, when the company was completely formed and regimented; and, having drawn them up, his Lordship marched through the lines in order to review them, and again expressed great satisfaction.

Your Committee then proceeded to examine several gentlemen, merchants, natives of *Great Britain*, who reside in different parts of this Colony, respecting the disposition of its people, and its internal peace, the causes of the late commotions, and the progress thereof; and it appears to your Committee, from the depositions by them taken, as follows:

It appears, from the testimony of *Hugh Hamilton*, of the County of *Westmoreland*, that the Courts of this Colony have always proceeded in criminal business as usual, but declined trying civil causes immediately on the lapse of the *Fee-Bill*, which, together with the *Non-Exportation Agreement*, was, in his opinion, the cause of stopping that business, rather than an inclination of withholding justice, his acquaintances having the same inclination to pay their debts as before the stoppage of the Courts. That Committees had been chosen within these twelve months, and independent companies formed in his and the neighbouring Counties about the month of *February* last, for the defence of the Colony, and that he never heard they were designed to protect the Committee. That, in his County, the gentlemen have been at proper pains to preserve order; and it has been recommended to the Militia to acquire a knowledge of the military exercise. That the people within his acquaintance have been very orderly, and that he never saw any commotion before the powder was taken from the magazine; that there was an alarm concerning the slaves prior to this transaction, which was greatly increased by the report of the Governour's intention to declare them free. That he never discovered the smallest inclination in any of the inhabitants to be independent of *Great Britain*; but, on the contrary, a most eager desire for a connexion, as it stood prior to the acts of Parliament imposing taxes on *America*; and he is persuaded a redress of grievances complained of would establish a perfect tranquillity throughout this Colony, and produce a reconciliation with the Parent State.

It appears, from the testimony of *Thomas Mitchell*, of the County of *Louisa*, that the loss of the *Fee-Bill* is generally assigned, and, he believes, was the immediate cause of stopping the civil proceedings in the courts of justice; but apprehends their not being resumed is owing to the commercial mode of opposition. That no independent company was formed in the said County until the 8th of *May*, 1775, or thereabouts, nor a Committee chosen until some months after the Association entered into; and it is his opinion the said company was raised with a view to put



the Colony into a state of defence, but believes it would assist their Committee, if called on. That no commotions have happened in the said County, but that the Governor's declaration to give freedom to the slaves greatly inflamed the minds of those who believed it; but does not think that belief was general. That he does not think the Colony wish to be independent of *Great Britain*, and is satisfied a redress of the grievances complained of would restore tranquillity and reconciliation.

It appears, from the testimony of *James Lyle* and *Robert Donald*, of the County of *Chesterfield*, that the reason assigned for stopping the Courts in civil proceedings was the expiration of the Fee-Bill; and they are of opinion, that their refusing to proceed now is owing to the adopted mode of commercial opposition. That no independent company was formed in *Chesterfield* till a few weeks ago, and that they were intended for the general defence of the Country, and not, as they know, designed for the protection of the Committee, or to be under their direction; but they believe they would protect the Committee, if required. That the inhabitants were quiet and peaceable prior to the removal of the powder, and were greatly alarmed and exasperated at the Governor's declaration of giving freedom to the slaves, since which uncommon diligence has been used in training the Independent Company and the Militia to arms; but the people have always behaved themselves orderly, paying the greatest regard to the prudent advice of their officers. That they have no reason to believe the people wish an independence of *Great Britain*, and firmly believe a redress of the present grievances would establish general tranquillity throughout this Colony, and a reconciliation with *Great Britain*.

It appears, from the testimony of *Thomas Hodge* and *James Robison*, of *King George* County, *Charles Yates* and *Henry Mitchell*, of *Spottsylvania*, and *Robert Gilchrist* and *Patrick Kennan*, of *Caroline*, that the expiration of the Fee-Bill was the immediate cause of stopping the Courts in civil causes. That it has been since considered as a political means of obtaining a redress of grievances, by interesting the *British* merchants, who have property here, in our behalf; and that, since it has been determined to discontinue the exports, it has been thought necessary; but the Courts proceed in criminal cases as usual. That Committees have been established to enforce the resolutions of the General Congress, and independent companies formed to learn the use of arms, at different periods: in *Spottsylvania* some time last winter, in *Caroline* in *February* or *March* last, and in *King George* since the last Colony Convention in *March*. They do not know that they were established to protect the Committees, but believe the defence of the Colony was the first and principal motive. That some of the Independent Company of *Spottsylvania* have acted under the direction of their Committee, but the *Caroline* company refused to enlist, unless they were to be solely under the direction of officers of their own choosing. That there never were any commotions among the people till after the powder was removed from the magazine, when, in consequence of that transaction, there was a great assembly of armed men at *Fredericksburgh*, and adjacent places; but they were very orderly and peaceable, and upon advice of a Council they appointed, and some of the Delegates of this Colony, they all retired to their respective homes. That about this time they understood the Governor had made a declaration of freedom to the slaves, which was not generally believed; but as far as it gained credit, it tended greatly to inflame the people. That they do not believe any part of this Colony wish an independence of *Great Britain*, though they cannot undertake to judge of the views of individuals; and they hope and think, a redress of the present grievances would restore tranquillity here, and produce a reconciliation with the Parent State.

It appears, from the testimony of *Archibald Ritchie*, of the County of *Essex*, that the cause generally assigned for stopping the proceedings of the Courts in civil causes (the criminal proceedings going on as usual) was the expiration of the Fee-Bill; but that he believes the measure was politically adopted for carrying more effectually into execution the purposes of the Association. That the volunteer company in the County of *Essex* was formed about three weeks ago, not merely for protecting the Committees; but believes

they would do so, if required. That previous to the seizure of the powder, the state of the Colony, as far as his observation extended, was a general acquiescence in the resolves of the Provincial and General Congress; and that in consequence thereof, no commotion happened in that County. That he does not know of any one that wishes independence of *Great Britain*; but, on his oath, cannot say there are none such. That he has not the least doubt, if the grievances complained of were redressed, perfect tranquillity would be established between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

It appears, from the testimony of *Charles Duncan*, of the County of *Chesterfield*, near the Town of *Petersburgh* and *Blanford*, that the loss of the Fee-Bill, in his opinion, was the immediate cause of the stop to the proceedings in the Courts in civil causes, (the criminal going on as usual.) That a volunteer company in the said County was formed some time after the Convention at *Richmond*, and, in his opinion, solely for putting the Country into a posture of defence, without any regard to the protection of the Committee. That the state of the Colony, before the removal of the powder, was peaceable and orderly; and a strict compliance with the resolves of the Continental and Provincial Congress was, he thinks, the cause of maintaining that good order, so little to be expected in a country deprived of so essential a part of its laws. That the removal of the powder certainly occasioned the commotions complained of, and he believes, so far as the Governor's declarations gained credit, they contributed to those disturbances; but there were none such in the neighbourhood where he lives. That he never heard any person wish an independence of *Great Britain*, and is clearly of opinion a redress of the present grievances would immediately produce a hearty reconciliation.

It appears, by the testimony of *Archibald Bryce*, of the County of *Henrico*, that the expiration of the Fee-Bill was the reason assigned by the Court for stopping the proceedings in civil cases (the criminal going on as usual;) and he believes the commercial mode of opposition is the reason why the business of the Courts is not resumed. That the suspension in civil proceedings took place in *June*, 1774; and, some time in the fall, a Committee was chosen, agreeable to an article of the General Association. That the Independent Company of *Henrico* has not been formed above six weeks, and he believes the principal design of their institution was to put the Colony into a proper state of defence. That he knew of no commotions in the Country before the seizure of the powder; and as very few took up arms upon that occasion, he was informed that at the request of one of the representatives of the County they returned to their habitations. That he thinks, as far as the Governor's declaration gained credit with the people, it served to irritate their minds, and might possibly be a means of continuing the commotions in the Country. That he believes the Colony in general do not wish an independence, and that a redress of grievances would establish tranquillity, and produce a reconciliation.

It appears, by the testimony of *Thomas Montgomery*, of the County of *Prince William*, that, previous to the powder's being seized, Committees of Correspondence and of Observation, to carry into effect the resolutions of the Congress, and volunteer companies, were formed; military discipline was taught, arms and ammunition were industriously procured. That upon the report of the Governor's having seized the powder, many people marched to *Fredericksburgh*; where, upon a meeting of several Counties, it was determined, in consultation, they should return to their respective homes. That the Court proceeds in criminal cases. In civil cases, the proceedings are stopped; owing, as he thinks, to the expiration of the Fee-Bill, but not to the determination against imports and exports, which he thinks did not necessarily produce that effect. Having observed the same inclination in the people to do justice to their creditors as usual, he thinks the above steps do not proceed from any inclination to withhold justice. That no other commotions or disturbances have happened in the County but what were produced by the alarm of seizing the powder; and these subsided soon, and the people returned to their own habitations. That the political measures are adopted by all classes of men. That the Independent Company was



formed in that County about *September*, and its design was to protect the Colony in general, and the County in particular; and that he has heard it observed, this institution would aid the execution of the resolutions of the Committee. That he believes few, if any persons in the Colony, wish an independence of *Great Britain*; but, on the contrary, is of opinion that a redress of grievances would establish tranquillity here, and a perfect reconciliation with the Mother Country, as he thinks they entertain not a desire but of dependance on the Mother Country, on constitutional principles.

It appears by the testimony of *Archibald Govan*, *Thomas Evans*, *John Johnson*, and *George Braikenridge*, of the County of *Hanover*, that proceedings in criminal cases went on as usual. That all civil law proceedings (except motions against Sheriffs and other publick officers) were stopped in *June*, 1774. In *November*, a Committee, in conformity to a regulation of the Congress, was chosen, to carry into execution the *American Association*, and an Independent Company enlisted, but not embodied. That, for the interruption of suits in civil cases, they assign the expiration of the Fee-Bill as the principal cause, and do not attribute that measure to the adoption of the commercial opposition, as this political measure took place some months after the Courts had stopped their proceedings. That as to the commotions, they say none have occurred, except in one instance, which proceeded from the Governour's seizing the powder, which was heightened and increased by his threatening to enfranchise the slaves. That those causes induced the Independent Company to choose their officers, and march out about twenty miles towards *Williamsburgh*; but how they conducted themselves on their march, they can give no information. That they think the independent companies were formed to put the Country into a state of defence; yet they suppose they would have aided the Committee. That the Colony, in their opinion, desires not an independence of *Great Britain*; and that a redress of the present grievances would re-establish tranquillity, and produce a reconciliation with the Parent State.

It appears to your Committee, from the testimony of *Andrew Sprowle*, *Archibald Campbell*, and *James Ingram*, of the County of *Norfolk*, and *Samuel Donaldson*, of the County of *Nansemond*, that in these Counties the Courts, as usual, proceed in criminal cases. For the causes of stopping the proceedings in civil suits, they assign the expiration of the Fee Bill as the primary one; but, as a secondary cause, they think this measure was adopted to carry the purposes of the Association more effectually into execution, which, by distressing the mercantile part of the *British Nation*, was intended to interest them in favour of the Colony, and to produce in the end an accommodation. That the Town of *Norfolk*, as yet, has no independent company, but one formed before the existence of Committees, with the approbation of the Governour, and under his commission. In *Nansemond County*, an independent company was formed in *May* last; not for the avowed purpose of protecting Committees, but in conformity to the direction of the last Convention. That before the seizure of the powder, a general acquiescence under the resolutions of the General and Provincial Congress marked the political character of this Colony; and, in the above mentioned Counties, no commotions were excited by this conduct of the Governour, since in neither did the report that an insurrection was intended by the slaves, produce that effect. That they think it the universal wish to have a constitutional dependance on *Great Britain*; and that a redress of grievances will immediately establish tranquillity, and be productive of a reconciliation with the Parent State.

*Ordered*, That said Report do lie upon the table, to be perused by the Members of this House.

The Order of the Day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House upon the Bill for appointing Commissioners to settle the Accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, and for making provision for paying the same:

*Resolved*, That this House will to-morrow resolve itself into the said Committee.

The other Order of the Day being read,

*Resolved*, That this House will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to take into con-

sideration the Governour's Answer to the joint Address of the Council and this House.

Thursday, June 15, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: I am commanded by the Council to acquaint this House, that the Council do desire a present free conference with this House in the Conference Chamber, on the subject of your Message relative to the securing the publick Arms.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

*Resolved*, That the House doth agree to the free conference desired by the Council.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bland do go to the Council, and acquaint them that the House doth agree to the conference desired by them.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council have appointed three of their Members to manage the conference desired with this House, who are now in the Conference Chamber.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Bland, Mr. Treasurer, Mr. Cary, Mr. Jones, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Digges, do manage the conference desired by the Council.

And they went to the conference.

And being returned,

Mr. Bland reported, that the Managers had attended the conference, and that it was managed, on the part of the Council, by Mr. Carter, who acquainted them that the Council are of opinion the publick Arms are not secure, and think it would be proper that an inventory of them be taken; and that an Address be presented to the Governour to desire that he will consent to the removal of them to a more secure place.

*Resolved*, That a free conference be desired with the Council upon the subject-matter of the last conference.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bland do go to the Council and desire the said conference.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council do agree to the free conference desired by this House, and have appointed three of their Members to manage the same, who are now in the Conference Chamber.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

*Resolved*, That the gentlemen who managed the last conference do manage this conference.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to them, that they acquaint the Managers for the Council that this House will agree to join with the Council in an Address to be presented to the Governour, to desire that he will consent to the removal of the publick Arms to a more secure place; and, moreover, that they propose to the Managers for the Council that some measure may be taken to secure the Arms in the mean time.

And the Managers went to the conference; and being returned,

Mr. Bland reported that the Managers had attended the conference, and had acquainted the Managers for the Council that this House would agree to join with the Council in an Address to be presented to the Governour, and had proposed to them that some measure may be taken to secure the Arms in the mean time.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council desire a present free conference with this House in the Conference Chamber, on the subject-matter of the last conference.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

*Resolved*, That this House doth agree to the present free conference desired by the Council.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bland do go to the Council, and acquaint them that the House doth agree to the conference desired by the Council.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council have appointed two of their Members to manage the conference desired by this House, who are now ready in the Conference Chamber.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

*Resolved*, That the gentlemen who managed the last conference, do manage this conference.



And they went to the conference.

And being returned,

Mr. *Bland* reported, that the Managers for the Council acquainted them that the Council do agree to join with this House in an Address to be presented to the Governour, to desire that he will consent to the removal of the publick Arms to a more secure place, and have appointed three of their Members to draw up the said Address, in conjunction with such of this House as may be appointed; but that the Council do not approve of any measure to be taken, before such Address be presented, for securing the said Arms.

Ordered, That the gentlemen who managed the conference be appointed a Committee to join with a Committee of the Council in drawing up the said Address.

The Order of the Day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to take into consideration the Governour's Answer to the joint Address of the Council and this House,

Ordered, That the Report of the Committee appointed to inspect the publick Magazine, and inquire into the Stores belonging to the same, which, on *Tuesday* last, was ordered to lie upon the table, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the late Disturbances and Com-motions, which was yesterday ordered to lie upon the table, be referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the extract of a Letter from the Earl of *Dunmore* to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, dated *Williamsburgh*, *December* 24, 1774, laid before the House of Commons, which extract was this day presented to this House, be referred to the said Committee.

Then the House resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. *Cary* took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. *Cary* reported from the Committee that they had gone through the matter referred to them, and had come to a Resolution, which they had directed him to report when the House will please to receive the same.

Ordered, That the said Report be now received.

Mr. *Cary* accordingly reported from the Committee the Resolution which the Committee had directed him to report to the House, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee that an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governour, in reply to his Lordship's written Message in answer to the joint Address of the Council and this House, representing to his Excellency the great concern the House was under at receiving such a message; giving to his Excellency a true state of this Country; the dispositions of the people towards His Majesty and his Government; stating, from the evidence now produced to this Committee, the real causes of the late unhappy disturbances, and the effects those disturbances have produced; representing the conduct of the Committee appointed by the House to examine into the state of the publick Magazine in its proper light; explaining to his Excellency the views of this House in offering to close with any proper measures he might have recommended for the security of his person and family; giving his Excellency a faithful account of the proceedings of the Convention lately held at *Richmond*, and the reasons for the Resolutions then entered into; observing the tendency of his Lordship's representations of the inhabitants of this Colony in his publick letters to the Secretary of State; the design of the Committees; the origin of Independent and Volunteer Companies, their true design, and the effects they have produced; representing how inconvenient and improper it would be for the House to adjourn to *Yorktown*; referring his Excellency to the former Address of the House for the reasons why we cannot interpose our legislative authority in respect to the Courts of Justice; and why we cannot approve the proposition made to us by Parliament; again to assure him, that in our opinion there cannot be the least danger in his returning to the Palace with his family, and that we are still willing and desirous of doing every thing in our power for their most perfect security; to inform his

Excellency, as our opinion, that the best means of mediating between the supreme authority and this Country will be to make an impartial representation of what has happened ever since his arrival in *Virginia*; and to assure him in the warmth of our hearts of the sincerest disposition on our part to have the utmost harmony and most perfect tranquillity restored.

The said Resolution being read a second time, was, upon the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governour upon the said Resolution.

And a Committee was appointed, of Mr. Treasurer, Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Nelson*, Mr. *Jones*, and Mr. *Munford*.

Several other Members, having taken the oaths appointed to be taken by Act of Parliament, and repeated and subscribed the Test, took their places in the House.

Ordered, That a Message be sent to the Council, informing them that it appears to this House, by the report of their Committee, that the locks of upward of three hundred Guns, lately in complete order in the publick Magazine, have been taken off; that one hundred and eight of these Guns are still in the Magazine, but are useless without locks; that this House requests the Council to join them in an Address to his Excellency the Governour, desiring his Lordship will be pleased to communicate to the Council and this House, whether the locks were taken off by his Excellency's command; and, if they were, that his Lordship will be pleased to direct them to be returned to the Magazine, which will be in a fit condition to-morrow to receive them.

Ordered, That Mr. *Mercer* do carry the said Message to the Council.

Friday, June 16, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

The Order of the Day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House upon the Bill for appointing Commissioners to settle the Accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, and for making provision to pay the same,

Ordered, That the Governour's written Message to this House, and the Papers therein referred to, which, upon *Monday*, the fifth day of this instant *June*, were ordered to lie upon the table, be referred to the said Committee.

Then the House resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. *Bland* took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. *Bland* reported from the Committee, that they had made a progress in the Bill, and that he was directed by the Committee to move that they may have leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to consider further of the said Bill.

Mr. *Cary* reported to the House that their Address of *Monday* last had been presented to the Governour, and that his Excellency gave him a written answer thereunto; and he delivered the said answer in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:

It is with real concern I can discover nothing in your Address that I think manifests the smallest inclination to, or will be productive of a reconciliation with the mother Country.

Resolved, That an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governour, informing him the publick Magazine is now in fit condition for the reception of Arms and Ammunition, requesting his Lordship will be pleased to order the Powder, lately removed from thence by his Excellency's command, to be returned, agreeable to his promise.

To represent that it appears to this House, by a report of a Committee appointed to inspect the Magazine, that there are no Arms there fit for service; that in these critical times an *Indian* war is not improbable, and an insurrection of slaves may possibly be encouraged solely by the want of publick stores of Arms and Ammunition, which is now become a fact of publick notoriety; that the Legisla-



ture of this Colony have long since established a very ample fund for this necessary purpose, by granting His Majesty one shilling and three pence sterling upon the tonnage of vessels, which appears for several years to exceed three thousand Pounds sterling per annum; that the House of Burgesses heretofore, trusting that Government would provide means so essential for the preservation of this Colony, have not interfered in this business; but this House, finding that though this want was known to Government more than twelve months past, no means have been adopted to provide against it, conceive it their duty to remind Government of this great grievance, and to request that two thousand stand of Arms, five tons of Powder, and twenty tons of Lead, at the least, and a sufficient quantity of other articles, be immediately provided and lodged in the publick Magazine for the defence of this Colony, in case of any invasion or insurrection: assuring his Excellency that if the fund aforementioned shall prove insufficient, this House will cheerfully make further provision for these purposes.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address, to be presented to the Governour upon the said Resolution.

And a Committee was appointed, of Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Cary*, and Mr. *Braxton*.

Mr. Treasurer presented to the House, according to order, a Bill for appointing Commissioners to ratify and confirm the late Treaty of Peace with the *Ohio Indians*; and the same was received and read the first time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be now read a second time.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill be committed to Mr. Treasurer, Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Nelson*, Mr. *Jones*, and Mr. *John Walker*.

—  
Saturday, June 17, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

*Ordered*, That this House be called over upon *Monday* next.

The Order of the Day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider further of the Bill for appointing Commissioners to settle the Accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, and for making provision to pay the same,

The House resolved itself into the said Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. *Bland* took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. *Bland* reported from the Committee that they had gone through the Bill, and made several amendments thereunto, which they had directed him to report when the House will please to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the Report be now received.

Mr. *Bland* accordingly reported from the said Committee the amendments which the Committee had made to the Bill, and which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the Report in his place, and afterwards delivered the Bill, with the amendments, in at the Clerk's table, where the amendments were once read throughout, and then a second time, one by one; and, upon the question severally put thereupon, one of them was disagreed to, and the rest were, with amendments to several of them, agreed to by the House; and several amendments were made by the House to the Bill.

*Ordered*, That the Bill, with the amendments, be engrossed.

Mr. *Mercer* reported from the Committee, appointed on *Wednesday*, the seventh of this instant, *June*, to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governour, that the Committee had drawn up an Address accordingly, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Burgesses of *Virginia*, return your Lordship our sincere thanks for your kind tender of services expressed in your Message to this House of the 6th instant; as also for your Lordship's assurance that you will do every thing in your power to restore the publick tranquillity, upon a sure and firm foundation. This House, my Lord, have the high-

est sense of the services you rendered to this Country on the late *Indian* expedition; and, while they reflect on this part of your Lordship's conduct, sincerely lament that any event should disturb the happiness which your Lordship is pleased to say you have enjoyed among us. Wishing most ardently for a restoration of that harmony which subsisted between your Lordship and the People, we have directed an inquiry into the cause of the late disturbances and commotions which have arisen in some parts of this Colony; and we assure your Lordship that we will proceed to investigate this matter with due attention, and apply, on our parts, remedies the best our abilities can suggest.

The said Address being read a second time,

*Resolved*, That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Address to be presented to the Governour.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Wood*, Mr. *Jones*, and Mr. *Zane*.

A Message from the Council by Mr. *Blair*:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council do agree to join with this House in an Address to his Excellency the Governour, as this House have desired, concerning the locks taken off some of the Guns in the Magazine, and they have appointed two of their Members, to join the Members which may be appointed by this House, to prepare the same.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Munford*, and Mr. *Jones*, do join the Members appointed by the Council to prepare the said Address.

Mr. *Mercer* reported from the Committee appointed yesterday to draw up an Address, upon the Resolution of this House, to be presented to the Governour, that the Committee had drawn up an Address accordingly, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth:

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Burgesses of *Virginia*, beg leave to inform your Lordship that the publick Magazine is now repaired, and in fit condition for the reception of arms and ammunition. We therefore request your Lordship will be pleased to order the powder lately removed from thence to be returned, agreeable to your Lordship's promise contained in your written message to this House. We farther beg leave to inform your Lordship, that it appears to the House, from the report of their Committee appointed to inspect the publick magazine, that there are no arms therein fit for service, at this critical time. My Lord, when your Excellency assures us of the great probability of an *Indian* invasion, at a time, too, when an insurrection of our slaves may be encouraged merely from a notoriety of a total deficiency in our publick stores of arms and ammunition, it is a duty we owe to our Country and ourselves, to remind your Lordship that the Legislature of this Colony have long since made ample provision for the purchase of arms and ammunition, and established a competent fund for that purpose, by granting to His Majesty one shilling and three pence sterling upon the tonnage of all vessels trading to this Country. This fund, my Lord, has, for several years last past, exceeded three thousand Pounds sterling per annum; and our predecessors, in former Assemblies, trusting that Government would always make a necessary and adequate provision in a matter so essential to the immediate and future preservation of this Colony, have not interfered in this business. But, my Lord, this House, finding a total inattention in Government to this important provision, although it must have appeared essential more than twelve months ago, and still observing that no means are pursued to supply a deficiency so alarming, now conceive it to be their duty, not only to represent this grievance to your Lordship, but also to request that you will be pleased to order that two thousand stand of arms, five tons of powder, and twenty tons of lead at least, with a sufficient quantity of other military stores, be immediately provided for the defence of this Colony, in case of any invasion or insurrection, and that the same be lodged in the publick magazine. In case the fund aforementioned shall prove deficient, this House assure your Lordship that they will make such further or other provision as may be necessary to enable your Lordship to comply with this request.



The said Address being read a second time,

*Resolved*, That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Address to be presented to the Governour.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to the Governour by Mr. Cary, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Wood, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Zane.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council have agreed to the Address prepared by a Committee of the Council and of this House, and have appointed two of their Members to join such Members as this House may appoint to present the same to his Excellency.

And he presented the said Address at the bar.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

The said Address was read, and is as followeth, viz:

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council and Burgesses of *Virginia*, beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that as you have been pleased to leave the Palace, we are very apprehensive the publick Arms therein are too insecure and very much exposed, and therefore hope your Lordship will be pleased to order them to be removed, during your Lordship's absence, to the publick magazine; which is now, in our opinion, a secure depository.

*Resolved*, That this House doth agree with the Council in the said Address to be presented to the Governour.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by Mr. Cary, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Wood, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Zane, in conjunction with the Members appointed by the Council.

Monday, June 19, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

The Order of the Day being read,

*Ordered*, That the call of the House be adjourned till to-morrow.

Mr. Bland presented to the House copies of several Resolutions of the General Congress, which he delivered in at the Clerk's table; where the same were read, and are as followeth, viz:

"*Wednesday, May 17.*—That all exportations to *Quebeck*, *Nova-Scotia*, the Island of *St. John's*, *Newfoundland*, and *Georgia*, except the Parish of *St. John's*, and to *East* and *West-Florida*, immediately cease; and that no Provisions of any kind, or other necessaries, be furnished to the *British* Fisheries on the *American* coasts, until it be otherwise determined by the Congress."

"*Monday, May 29.*—That no Provisions or necessaries of any kind be exported to the Island of *Nantucket*, except from the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, the Convention of which Colony is desired to take measures for effectually providing the said Island, upon their application to purchase the same, with as much Provision as shall be necessary for its internal use, and no more. The Congress deeming it of great importance to *North America* that the *British* Fishery should not be furnished with Provisions from this Continent through *Nantucket*, earnestly recommend a vigilant execution of this Resolve to all Committees."

"*Friday, June 2.*—That no Bill of Exchange, Draught, or Order of any Officer in the Army or Navy, their Agents or Contractors, be received or negotiated, or any Money be supplied to them by any person in *America*; that no Provisions or necessaries of any kind, be furnished or supplied to or for the use of the *British* Army or Navy in the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and that no Vessel employed in transporting *British* Troops to *America*, or from one part of *North America* to another, or warlike Stores or Provisions for said Troops, be freighted or furnished with Provisions, or any necessaries, until further orders from this Congress."

The said Resolutions being read a second time,

*Resolved*, That this House doth approve of the same, and recommend it to the several Committees within this Colony for carrying into execution the Continental Association, to be vigilant in seeing the said Resolutions strictly complied with.

Mr. Treasurer reported, from the Committee appointed on *Thursday* last to draw up an Address to be presented

to the Governour, that the Committee had drawn up an Address accordingly; which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

MY LORD: The House of Burgesses received your Lordship's written Message of the tenth instant, in answer to the joint Address of His Majesty's Honourable Council and this House, with equal concern and amazement. We were totally unprepared for so severe and cruel a return to the respectful application made to your Lordship, solely dictated by our duty to His Majesty, and the most earnest desire of contributing every thing in our power towards promoting, as well your Lordship's own happiness, as that of your lady and whole family; this step we hoped would have proved the happy means of restoring that tranquillity and harmony you were pleased to flatter us with your earnest wishes to have established.

Who were the peculiar objects of your tenderness, that you so kindly, in favour to them, declined a particular enumeration, we know not; but are sorry that your Lordship had so little feeling for the honour and integrity of this House. You have now, my Lord, driven us to the disagreeable necessity of inquiring minutely into the causes of the late disturbances in this Country: It is not with the most distant inclination to give your Lordship the slightest umbrage that we engage in so irksome a task, but purely to do justice to our much injured Country, that we recur to different and some distant transactions.

The charges of disloyalty and disaffection in our countrymen to our most gracious Sovereign and his Government, as insinuated in your Lordship's message, and some other publick acts, are as grievous as they are unmerited. Words, we know, are too often but empty sounds. We appeal not to our professions, however sincere, but to facts of publick notoriety. The loyalty of this His Majesty's most ancient Colony, stands confessed, as recorded by many of your worthy predecessors. We will presume to carry your attention no further back than to the administration of a Governour immediately preceding your Lordship. Previous to his coming over to *Virginia*, there had arisen some unhappy disputes between *Great Britain* and the Colonies. His Majesty was graciously pleased to send over to us, from his immediate presence, the truly noble Lord *Botetourt*, who told us, that he had received it in command from His Majesty to do justice, and maintain the rights of all his subjects. He cheerfully entered upon the duties of his exalted station, in which he acted as a true representative of his royal master, at once supporting the dignity of his Crown, dispensing the utmost justice, and diffusing benevolence throughout the Country. By his exemplary conduct in all respects, he accomplished what he deemed a glorious work: he gave us tranquillity and happiness. Indeed, he was often heard to declare, that the business of a Governour of *Virginia* was much easier than he could have conceived, as he found that the Government almost executed itself. Matters were not at that time carried on and precipitated with so high a hand on the other side of the water, as at present. This probably was owing to his minutely examining every subject to the bottom himself—taking nothing upon trust; to his discountenancing tale-bearers and malicious informers; and, at last, making a faithful representation of things as he found them. In a short, too short a time, for the happiness of *Virginia*, it pleased *God* to remove him from us.

When we received the account of your Lordship's appointment, we indulged the pleasing hope that we should again be made happy in a ruler; and when you were pleased to honour us with your presence, we vied with each other in endeavouring to make your administration easy and agreeable. Upon the report that your lady and family were coming over to you, every one, we believe, who heard it, was eager in expectation of an event which was like to give addition to your happiness; we received her Ladyship and your children with every expression of heartfelt joy, and have considered our countrymen as exceedingly happy in having such respectable pledges amongst them.

Changes, my Lord, seldom happen without some sufficient cause. If, therefore, you have, or think you have, discovered any alteration in the sentiments or behaviour of



those you preside over, it may be worth your while, as well as ours, to search out the reason of it. Respect, my Lord, is not to be obtained by force from a free people. If genuine, it must be a perfect volunteer; and nothing is so likely to ensure it to one in your station as dignity of character, a candid and exemplary conduct. We decline, on this occasion, a discussion of the subject unhappily in dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies. We presume not to interfere with your authority in summoning or dissolving Assemblies, when, by advice of your Council, you think there is proper occasion. What we claim as an act of justice, is, that our conduct should be fairly and impartially represented to our Sovereign. We do not mean to insinuate that your Lordship would, designedly, misrepresent facts; but it is much to be feared that you too easily give credit to some designing persons, who, to the great injury of this community, possess much too large a share of your confidence.

We have seen, my Lord, the copy of a letter you were pleased to write to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, dated the 29th of *May*, 1774. The design of the then Assembly was entirely misconceived, and the ill impressions your Lordship's letter may have made on the minds of His Majesty and his Ministers, prove how dangerous it is, and how very unjust it may be, to attempt penetrating the thoughts of others, when they are not certainly known. Suspicions, we humbly conceive, can never justify direct and positive accusations. Men, we know, differ in religious sentiments; some may believe in the superintendence of a Providence, and that the care, especially of Nations, is an object of Divine goodness; whilst others may think, or affect to treat this, as well as other matters which our religion teaches, as things merely chimerical. We have likewise seen an authentick copy of extracts of another of your Lordship's letters to the same noble Earl, dated the 24th of *December*, 1774. The more injurious the unfavourable representations contained in this letter were likely to be to this Country, the more careful we should have hoped your Lordship would have been in examining the evidences of the facts stated. Your Lordship had been pleased to represent, in the first letter, our House of Burgesses as fond of having it thought that a determined resolution to deny and oppose the authority of Parliament, always originates with them. Whether this was intended to draw down the particular resentment of Parliament on this Country, your Lordship can best determine. They have, indeed, protested against the power of Parliament, when they thought it extended contrary to the principles of the Constitution; but we do not know that they ever affected to take the lead of the other Colonies in this, or any other measure. The times of entering their protestations were merely accidental, as circumstances happened; and it is notorious, that the subject of the present complaint had been under the consideration of some of the other Colonies before the *Virginians* took it up.

It would seem, from your Lordship's letter of the 24th of *December*, that the Association adopted by the General Congress was first recommended from *Virginia*; whereas the truth is, that in *Virginia* nothing more was resolved against, at first, than the importation and use of *East-India* commodities. The General Non-Export and Non-Import Agreement came first recommended to us from several of the Northern Colonies; this, we own, makes no difference now, as the several Colonies have united in the Association. It is only remarked, since this circumstance seems to have been thought material, as no strong testimony of a kind disposition in your Lordship towards this Country. That Committees were chosen, in the several Counties, is admitted: the design of them was to observe the conduct of those who were inimical to the interest of the Country. They were required to publish the names of all transgressors, that the Country might know their friends from their foes. This you were pleased to term "inviting the vengeance of a lawless mob to be exercised upon the unhappy victims."

You further represented these Committees as assuming an authority to inspect the books, invoices, and all the secrets of the trade and correspondence of merchants. This, my Lord, was high colouring of assumed facts; which we, who inhabit different parts of the Country, are strangers to. To close your narrative upon this head,

you were pleased to inform your noble correspondent, that every "County in this Colony was arming a company of men, whom they call an Independent Company, for the avowed purpose of protecting their Committees, and to be employed against Government, if occasion required; and that the Committee of one County had proceeded so far as to swear the men of their independent company to execute all orders which should be given them from their Committee." These, my Lord, are things entirely without our knowledge; and upon the strictest inquiry, we are convinced they deserve no credit. There were a few companies of gentlemen formed, who were desirous of perfecting themselves in military exercise; but we find not more than six or seven throughout the whole Colony, which consists of sixty-one Counties. This was done to distinguish them from the militia at large; the first and most considerable of these, was instituted for the better protection of the inhabitants of *Norfolk* Borough, and afterwards received your Lordship's approbation so far that you expressed the warmest wishes that the example might be followed throughout the country, and gave commissions to their officers. That these companies were connected with the Committees, or that they were ever designed to act against, or in any sort to interfere with, what you are pleased to call Government, we do not know, or believe; but, on the contrary, we are verily persuaded that they were always ready and willing to exert themselves to support the Laws and His Majesty's Government, to the utmost of their power.

Your Lordship's assertion, that "the power of Government was entirely disregarded, if not wholly overturned, and that there was not a Justice of the Peace in *Virginia* who acted except as a Committee-man," we cannot but consider as highly unjust, and extremely injurious to us. We have the greatest reason to believe, having it in full proof, that the Magistrates throughout the Colony duly attended their respective Courts; and though, for the reasons assigned in our former Address to your Lordship, they could not think themselves legally authorized to hear and determine civil suits, yet we are persuaded, that their former endeavours to preserve the peace and good order of Government were not interrupted, but exerted in the usual manner. The original cause of suspending the trials of civil disputes was, as your Lordship observes, the want of a Fee-Bill. This legal defect was much lamented, and not used, that we know of, as a popular argument, by any man of good sense; nor did the inhabitants of this Country join in what you are pleased to call an opprobrious measure, to engage their "*English* creditors to join the clamours of this Country." Your Lordship's assertion, that "not a few did it to avoid paying their debts, in which many of the principal people here are much involved," we can only answer for ourselves in the negative; and must consider so indiscriminate a charge as extremely injurious. We were so far from desiring to do injustice to creditors, that it gave us great pain to observe that such a step was thought necessary; and nothing but the hopes of being relieved from the arbitrary system of Colony Government attempted to be introduced, could have prevailed with us to submit to a stoppage of our exports. The merchants of *London*, in their written message, by a respectable member of their body, to the Committee of the House of Commons, have done us ample justice in this respect, by representing, that they should have no uneasiness about remittances from *America*, unless Parliament pursued such means as were likely to prevent them.

The Congress, my Lord, we consider as instituted on principles of publick necessity; we do not deny our having a proper respect for that body. We learn, from good authority, that their humble and dutiful Petition to His Majesty was graciously received, though it is with concern we are told it has hitherto produced no good effect. But that the inhabitants of *Virginia* treated with "marks of reverence the laws of the Congress, which they never bestowed on their legal Government, or the laws proceeding from it," is one of a great number of facts requiring proof; since we must take leave to say, with confidence, that His Majesty's subjects of *Virginia* have been second to none others, even to his dutiful and loyal subjects in any part of his wide extended Dominions, in all due respect to his Government, Governours, and all in authority under him.



We cannot but remind your Lordship of the General Congress held in *America*, with the royal approbation, in the last war. The united interest, indeed, of *Great Britain* and the Colonies, might have then demanded it. In imitation of so laudable an example, *America* resolved on a like measure, as equally, if not more necessary, at this critical juncture. Your Lordship's account of the effects the Association is likely to produce, considering it as a matter of opinion, we are little concerned to interfere with: time only can discover the consequences of it. But your heavy charge against those called people of fortune, "that they supply themselves and negroes for two or three years, to the distress of the middling and poorer sort," must have proceeded from your giving too easy credit to ill-founded reports. Some, but very few, may have supplied themselves, as opportunity offered, for the present year; this, we believe, is the most that has been done. And we are persuaded of a material mistake in another respect, it being the general opinion, founded on good grounds, that the middling and poorer sort will fare much better than those of fortune, who have large numbers of slaves to provide for. Engaged on this topic, we cannot refrain from observing how strangely our views have been misrepresented. By the Association we intend nothing that is illegal. We are only resolved to be content with our homespun manufactures, however mean in quality, unless things can be restored to their former channel; the only security we desire for what we know our excellent Constitution entitles us to. What your Lordship is pleased to represent as the arbitrary proceedings of the Committees, we trust will produce none of those very dreadful effects you have painted in such alarming colours. The whole Colony, very few excepted, is united; and from such union of sentiments, expectations must be exceedingly sanguine, indeed, in supposing that discord will arise.

How the proceedings of the General Convention, in the month of *March* last, may have been represented, we know not; but, from the foregoing specimens, it is to be presumed in no very favourable light. These meetings, my Lord, unless it can be supposed that a whole Country could entirely lose sight of its security and most essential interests, were rendered absolutely necessary; first, by the dissolution, and afterwards by repeated prorogations of the General Assembly. Upon inquiry into the state of the Colony, it was found that there had been almost a total inattention to the proper training and disciplining of our Militia. Various subsequent Acts of our Legislature, amendatory of the law of 1738, had expired; the Act providing against invasions and insurrections was near expiring, and it was uncertain whether an opportunity would be given the General Assembly to revive it. Taking a further view of our situation, it was found that our inhabitants were exposed to the incursions of a barbarous and savage enemy. From the best accounts received from *Great Britain*, there was too much reason to be convinced that His Majesty's Ministry were prosecuting the most rigorous and arbitrary measures towards subjugating the whole Continent of *America* to their despotick rule; which measures, it was more than probable, had been suggested from hence, and the other Colonies: that a scheme, the most diabolical, had been meditated and generally recommended by a person of great influence, to offer freedom to our slaves, and turn them against their masters. The Convention, to guard against these dangers not clearly seen into before that time, recommended a strict attention to the Militia Law of 1738; but, thinking this defective in many essential points, and considering that, under this law, the whole Militia were not obliged to exercise so frequently as might be necessary, it was recommended that volunteer companies should be formed in each County, for the better defence and protection of the whole Country. These proceedings, according to an usual style, it is more than probable, have been represented as designed to oppose Government: whereas, we are persuaded that nothing was farther from the intentions of the Convention. A review of their resolutions must convince every unprejudiced mind that the utmost respect was paid to His Majesty and his legal Government, and that the Convention had much pleasure in expressing their obligations to your Lordship for your late services. The truth is, my Lord, that His Majesty's dutiful subjects

in this Colony have the utmost attachment to their Sovereign; they admire, they love the Constitution, and will risk every thing most dear and valuable in support of it. These are principles imbibed in their infancy, and their constant care is to inculcate them upon the minds of their children; they meditate or design nothing in the least offensive; but, if it is expected that they should sit down supinely, and submit to yokes which neither they nor their forefathers were able to bear, they must acknowledge that they have the sensibility and feelings of freemen actuating them to a proper and justifiable defence of those rights which are guarantied by the laws and principles of the Constitution.

We have, my Lord, made the strictest and minutest inquiry into the causes of the late disturbances. We find, from the examination of many respectable merchants, natives of *Great Britain* residing in different parts of this Colony, and from other gentlemen of character, that the Country was in a perfect state of tranquillity till they received an account of your Lordship's removal of the gunpowder from the publick magazine to one of His Majesty's ships-of-war, and of your irritating and most unjustifiable threats.

The inhabitants of this Country, my Lord, could not be strangers to the many attempts in the Northern Colonies to disarm the people, and thereby deprive them of the only means of defending their lives and property. We know, from good authority, that the like measures were generally recommended by the Ministry, and that the export of powder from *Great Britain* had been prohibited. Judge, then, how very alarming the removal of the small stock which remained in the publick magazine for the defence of the Country, and the stripping the guns of their locks, must have been to any people who had the smallest regard for their security; the manner and time of doing it, made no small addition to the general apprehension of your Lordship's views. The reason assigned by your Lordship for taking this step, we should have thought the most likely, at any other time, to have directed a very different conduct. We should have supposed that a well-grounded apprehension of an insurrection of the slaves ought to have called forth the utmost exertions to suppress it. The world will probably judge your Lordship's method of doing this the least likely to effect the necessary purpose. Your Lordship having represented this powder as the King's peculiar property, supposing it to have been brought from one of his ships, we have made inquiry into that matter, and cannot find that there ever was any powder brought either from the *Rippon* or any other man-of-war; so that we presume your Lordship must have been misinformed as to this fact since the powder was removed, as it was not relied on in your answer to the Address of the Corporation of the City of *Williamsburgh*; be this, however, as it may, we conceive the case would not be materially altered. We must remind your Lordship, that by a very ancient law of this Country, enacted so long since as the thirty-second year of the reign of His Majesty King *Charles* the Second, for raising a publick revenue, and for the better support of this Government, amongst other provisions, an impost of one-half pound of gunpowder and three pounds of leaden shot, or one shilling and three pence sterling, was imposed on all ships or vessels coming into this Colony. In the ninth year of the reign of Queen *Anne*, the impost of one shilling and three pence on the tonnage of vessels was continued, for port duties. It is evident, my Lord, that the original and chief design of this particular impost was to provide, from time to time, a proper stock of munition for the defence of the Country. We have examined the produce of this fund for thirteen years past, and find that it yielded in that time twenty-eight thousand five hundred and three pounds, three shillings and nine pence sterling; which, on an average, amounted to two thousand one hundred ninety-two pounds eleven shillings sterling per annum; and it is observable, that for the four last years it yielded considerably more than three thousand pounds in each year. It may from hence be fairly submitted, whether it was not incumbent on the Executive part of Government to have provided, in the first place, from so large and ample a fund, a proper stock of arms and ammunition, which was so essentially necessary for the security of the Country. If, my Lord, instead of applying a rea-



sonable part of this money to such necessary purposes, the whole has been applied to other occasions of Government, and powder and arms had been procured through some other channel, we should presume that these, when stored in the publick magazine, built at the expense of the Country, and appropriated to the safe keeping of all military stores, ought there to have remained till the exigencies of the Country demanded them.

We find, my Lord, that the inhabitants of the City of *Williamsburgh*, in the midst of which the magazine is situated, upon discovering that the powder was removed, the time and manner of its being done—in the dead of the night, under an escort of armed marines, commanded by Captain *Henry Collins*, of the *Magdalen*—were exceedingly alarmed; that many of them were so exasperated that they had recourse to arms, intending, as we understand, to compel Captain *Collins* to restore the powder; but we cannot discover that the least insult was intended to your Lordship. We find that the Corporation of *Williamsburgh* presented a decent and very respectful address to your Excellency, desiring that you would be pleased to order the powder to be returned; and, on receipt of your verbal answer, amongst other things avowing that it had been removed by your orders, under which Captain *Collins* had acted, and promising it should be returned in case of an insurrection, the people assembled were soon appeased, returned quietly to their respective homes, and perfect tranquillity was restored in the City. That in the succeeding night, on a report that a number of armed men had landed at a ferry about four miles from this City, the inhabitants were again much alarmed; but, upon the interposition of some gentlemen, they were quieted, and nothing farther was done than strengthening the usual patrol for the security of the City. We farther find, that on the next day, when every thing was perfectly quiet, your Lordship sent a message into the City by one of the Magistrates, which you delivered with the most solemn asseverations, that if any insult was offered to Captain *Foy* or Captain *Collins*, you would declare freedom to the slaves, and lay the Town in ashes; and that you could easily depopulate the whole Country. What could have provoked your Lordship to this we cannot discover, as both Captain *Foy* and Captain *Collins*, and several other officers, had been frequently seen walking publickly in the streets, and no one offered either of them the least injury; nor can we discover any reason to believe that any thing of the sort was intended. The inhabitants, my Lord, could not but be exceedingly alarmed at so cruel a threat; many people considered it as part of that general plan they had heard was recommended in *England*, and which was discovered by your Lordship through accident; they, however, did nothing more, that we can learn, than continue their former patrols.

A report of these several matters having soon circulated throughout almost the whole Country, with this addition, that the most valuable guns in the magazine had been stripped of their locks, and that the inhabitants of *Williamsburgh* were in the most imminent danger, the minds of the people in general were much agitated; they assembled in different quarters, and a number of expresses were sent to inquire and obtain a true state of things. It appears that during this general uneasiness, an account was received from the northward of the engagement at *Concord*. The General, it seems, had sent an armed force to seize a Provincial magazine; this, your Lordship may suppose, increased the apprehensions of our people, as it held out to them an additional proof that the steps you had taken formed a part of that general system adopted to render the Colonies defenceless. If, upon such alarms, when the minds of the people were fretted to an extreme degree, some irregularities were committed, the causes may be found in those extraordinary attempts to stretch the powers of Government so much beyond their ancient and constitutional limits.

It gave the greatest concern, my Lord, to all acquainted with your most amiable lady and her distinguished character, to hear she had removed with her children to one of the King's Ships. We have inquired into the cause of this; and though we do not pretend to prescribe to her ladyship, yet we are persuaded, that had she known the sentiments of all the people in this Colony, every uneasiness would have been removed. We find, my Lord, that

from the great pains taken by the Magistrates, and other inhabitants of the City of *Williamsburgh*, there could have been no real ground for fear at the time of her ladyship's removal, unless it was produced from your Lordship's threats, which might have kept the minds of some of the citizens in suspense. A few ladies, it appears, left the City; but it was not through apprehensions of any other danger than what your Lordship held over them. The inhabitants certainly could have entertained no suspicions of injury from their friends in the country, who had kindly offered to come to their assistance; so that it was in the power of your Lordship alone to have removed her ladyship's uneasiness.

It gives us the greatest pain, my Lord, to find, in your Excellency's Message, so determined a resolution to pursue a course the most likely to revive the uneasiness of the people, and prevent that restoration of harmony so ardently wished for by all good men.

You are pleased to submit to our "judgment, whether you could reasonably have expected any good effect from communicating the ground of your uneasiness to us." We give it as our opinion, that your Lordship had the greatest reason, if you had viewed our conduct in its proper light, to have expected the best effects from such communication. As we met your Lordship in General Assembly with the sincerest disposition to do every thing in our power to provide for the tranquillity of the Country, the reasons assigned for your contrary apprehensions, we are persuaded, must have been suggested to your Lordship by some designing, malevolent informer. We can hardly suppose your Lordship could have had any well-grounded fear of personal danger, when it is notorious that you appeared publickly as usual; and it is in proof, that in the same night which you left the Palace, you walked alone to the Attorney General's, at the distance of upwards of a quarter of a mile, and returned, unmolested; and we cannot discover that even the slightest insult was offered. If you judge of the disposition of the House of Burgesses, as to publick matters, from their declining to accept an invitation to dine with your Lordship, (the instance of respect and civility alluded to, and which you say you had been forward in offering to them,) you have entirely mistaken their motives. A piece of civility of this sort had formerly its due weight with us; but we had little reason to suppose that such a ceremony would, at this time, be attended, on your Lordship's part, with that cordiality which we thought we had observed on former occasions. How could your Lordship think of admitting to your table a set of men who, together with the whole body of their constituents, you had endeavoured to paint in such despicable and odious colours? That the House of Burgesses ever countenanced the violent and disorderly proceedings of the people, we must, in justice to ourselves, take leave to deny. As to the magazine's being rifled, which you are pleased to insinuate was done with the approbation of this House, we must say, that in this also the greatest injustice is done to us. The House was sitting, closely engaged in publick business, when this affair happened. Some of our members, as we believe the truth is, upon hearing what was going forward at the magazine, went up in hopes of preventing it. We are informed that a great concourse of people, from different parts of the country, were assembled, and that many of the arms had been taken out of the magazine. Several of the members, as private gentlemen, remonstrated with all the people they met with against such proceedings, and prevailed with them to return what they had taken. When your Lordship was pleased to accuse the House of Burgesses of usurping the "Executive power," from what happened on this occasion, we presume it would have been well to have considered with what propriety they could have interfered. Had they made an order for apprehending the persons concerned, who were unknown, it would have been fruitless, and, moreover, a plain departure from the line of their authority. Such a step your Lordship might, indeed, have justly censured as an usurpation of the Executive power. Or, would your Lordship have recommended to the individual members to have acted as bailiffs, in seizing all offenders they met with? We never have, nor will we ever give countenance to such unjustifiable proceedings as happened that day.

Your acquaintance, my Lord, with mankind, must sug-



gest to you the difficulty there is in restraining an incensed multitude. Many people, the irritation of whose minds had but lately subsided, we understand, had been again greatly alarmed at a late unfortunate accident which happened to some inconsiderate young men, in their unlawful attempt to furnish themselves with arms out of the magazine; an attempt, my Lord, which we condemn as highly as your Lordship can. But whether some little apology may not be suggested, from that universal anxiety which all mankind have to prepare for the defence of their lives and property, we will not determine. The point is delicate, and we leave the world to judge of it. But the means contrived, in pursuance of your Lordship's orders, by which an unfortunate culprit might probably have been hurried into eternity, without a moment's time for reflection, we conceive can do no great honour to humanity, which, we should have supposed, would have dictated the necessity of at least giving public notice that spring-guns were prepared and fixed, which, it is imagined, would have answered every purpose of security to the magazine.

Your Lordship's reflections on our Committee, and, through them, upon this whole House, we think might have been spared, after what passed early in the session. Had the Committee misbehaved, we should not have been backward in taking proper notice of it. When we received your Lordship's very temperate message respecting their conduct, we addressed your Excellency, in hopes, by having matters properly explained, of removing all umbrage you might have taken. Your Lordship's reply to this message induced us to believe that you were satisfied; but it seems we must again enter on the same subject, or remain exposed to the weight of your Lordship's censure.

Reflecting on what had happened, the House judged it an indispensable duty they owed their constituents, to inquire into the state of the publick magazine; and, before they knew of the late disturbances, appointed a Committee for that purpose. The Committee, previous to their taking any other step, waited upon your Excellency, and in the most respectful manner desired that you would be pleased to direct the keeper of the magazine to give them access thereto. The key was delivered to them by your Lordship's orders; they at the same time informed your Excellency of the confusion that had happened; and that they had, to prevent the like depredations, requested some gentlemen of the Town to guard the magazine, till proper measures could be taken for its further security, which your Lordship did not make the least objection to. There had been, by your Excellency's permission, a considerable quantity of copper money, belonging to the country, lodged in the magazine. This was an additional reason for the Committee's taking a precaution which your Lordship is pleased to call "ordering and appointing guards, without consulting you, to mount in the City of *Williamsburgh*," and a design to usurp the "Executive power." The Committee did not pretend to any authority to mount guard; and had your Lordship disliked what they thought a prudent step in the then confused state of things, it would have been kind in your Lordship to have intimated as much. Upon the Committee's inquiry, they found, indeed, that there was little worth guarding in the magazine, the powder having been all removed, except about five half barrels, buried, by your Excellency's order, in the yard, for what purpose we cannot conceive, and all the valuable muskets having been spoiled of their locks.

Your Lordship speaks of a body of men assembled in the City of *Williamsburgh*, not only to the "knowledge, but with the approbation of every body, for the avowed purpose of attacking a party of the King's forces, which it was reported, though without foundation, was marching to your Lordship's protection." We know of no men, my Lord, assembled for the purpose you mention, though you are pleased to say it was done with the "knowledge and approbation of every body," in which number we suppose the House of Burgesses were particularly designed to be included. Upon the best information, the truth appears to be this: An account was brought into the City in the morning, that Captain *Collins*, of the *Magdalen*, had slipped his cable, and was come up the river with a number of boats, in which there were said to be a hundred armed men at least, intended to be marched into the City. It could not be conceived what was proposed by this manœu-

vre: the City was quiet, and we believe no man in it suspected that your Lordship could have the least apprehension that your person was in danger; nor had we the smallest suspicion of your fears, till the receipt of your former message, acquainting us of your removal. The citizens, however, as well as others, were astonished, and somewhat alarmed, not knowing what was intended. Your Lordship may remember, that His Majesty's Council, from their address to your Excellency, were not without their apprehensions. A number of the inhabitants, and we suppose some others, but how many we know not, assembled under arms, that they might be prepared to defend the City and its inhabitants, in case any thing hostile should be attempted. This, we are convinced, was their only view. Upon their being made acquainted with your Lordship's answer to the Council, we understood that they all immediately retired peaceably and quietly, without any disturbance. The City was again at rest, and continued composed till they heard of your Lordship's removal, with your family, in the dead of night, as if you could have supposed that any one would have attempted to offer you any obstruction, or to interfere with your inclination. This extraordinary step, which none could account for, occasioned great consternation in the City, and we believe would surprise the whole world, were they acquainted with it.

We have already, my Lord, in a former address, of which, according to custom, a copy was left with you, and which you directed to have presented on a certain day, long since passed, without your giving us an opportunity of doing it, assigned the reasons why we could not interpose our legislative authority respecting the Courts of Justice.

The occasion and design of forming Independent Companies at first, and the rise of Volunteer Companies afterwards, we have already explained, and cannot see the necessity of abolishing them. They are not designed to interfere with your Lordship's full exercise of the legal and constitutional powers of your Government, which we would wish to have supported on all occasions; and are of opinion, that the laws in force are competent to that end. But if it is expected that the Country should again be thrown into a defenceless state, self-preservation, the first law of nature, forbids it. If your Lordship were really apprehensive that your person was in danger, the tender of the Council and this House, of their most effectual assistance to remove every appearance of risk, we were hopeful would have quieted all your fears. A proper guard, at the publick expense, would have been at your service, had you judged it necessary. Your Lordship's declining to propose such a measure as we, consistent with our own security, could accept, and demanding what you must have known was not in our power to comply with, affords no strong evidence of your inclination to restore tranquillity to this Country. Those who have taken any of His Majesty's publick store of arms, are open to the law, which has its full operation as heretofore; and we wish not to interrupt its course. But surely your Lordship cannot expect us, by any new act, which would be *ex post facto* in the most odious sense of the words, to inflict other pains and penalties for offences already committed. This, we conceive, would be the greatest infringement of a fundamental principle of our excellent Constitution. Such a practice may, indeed, have obtained under another meridian, but it is not, my Lord, of *American* growth. Whether that spirit of persecution, which your Lordship has been pleased to describe, prevails in this Country, we appeal to the evidence which appears on our Journals. Were those, and those only, to be considered as persecuted men, who, from principles and duty, are attached to their King and his Government, we ourselves, my Lord, should fall under this predicament, and perhaps may, with justice, think humanity disgraced by such proceedings. That some few people may have been deluded, we shall not question. The utmost pains, we know, have been taken, in different Colonies, to alarm them with the "disfigured side of the *American*" story, and to render them deaf and blind to their true interest and political salvation. So far as our example can influence the people of this Country in preserving their loyalty to His Majesty, a proper respect to Government, and the good order of society, your Lordship may be assured that it shall be made as diffusive as possible.



We have, my Lord, the sincerest and most active desire to seize every opportunity of establishing the freedom of our Country upon a fixed "known foundation," and of uniting ourselves with our fellow-subjects of *Great Britain* in one common bond of interest and affection; but we have no "doubts" of what such freedom consists in; it is written as with a sun-beam on our hearts. We are equally sensible of those essentials which alone can admit us to the participation of a just proportion of the common interest; but for the variety of cogent reasons assigned in our address in answer to your Lordship's speech, we cannot view the proposal of the House of Commons in the same light your Lordship seems to do.

The important business of the Assembly, my Lord, has been not a little interrupted by your Excellency's removal from the proper seat of your Government. As to your Lordship's offer, that we might adjourn to the Town of *York*, we think this would be extremely improper, on several accounts: The Town of *York* could not afford tolerable accommodation for so numerous an assembly; and, what is of more consequence, we humbly conceive, that this, and this place alone is established by law for holding our General Assemblies. If there are any hopes left of your Excellency's compliance, we must reiterate our request, that you will be pleased to return, with your family, to the Palace, for the reasons assigned in our former address. We feel most sensibly the disagreeable situation your excellent lady must be in. But if, after all, your Lordship is determined to persist in your resolution of absence, we must endeavour to rest satisfied, conscious that, whilst we have been solicitous to do justice to our constituents and ourselves, we have not been wanting in the respect which is due to the representative of our most gracious Sovereign.

We cannot, my Lord, but consider the Representatives of the body of the people, when convened in Assembly, as part of that great and general council which our Constitution hath fixed for advising our Governours in all matters respecting the publick weal. His Majesty's honourable Council are especially appointed for this purpose. They are well acquainted with our Constitution; their duty to His Majesty will urge them to support the prerogative of the Crown, at the same time that their justice should lead them to maintain the rights of the People. We, therefore, (sincerely regarding your Lordship's tranquillity and happiness, as well as the important interests of this whole community,) think ourselves loudly called upon to give it as our best advice, that your Lordship will be pleased to advise with your proper and constitutional Council, in all matters of importance, and not suffer yourself to be influenced by designing men; but that you will banish all such from your presence, as the greatest enemies to your own repose, and the real happiness of this extensive Country.

The said Address being read a second time,

*Resolved nemine contradicente*, That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Address to be presented to the Governour.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by Mr. Cary, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Wood, Mr. Jones, Mr. Zane, Mr. Page, and Mr. Berkeley.

Mr. Treasurer reported from the Committee, to whom the Bill for appointing Commissioners to ratify and confirm the late Treaty of Peace with the *Ohio Indians* was committed, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the Report in his place, and afterwards delivered the Bill with the amendments in at the Clerk's table, where the amendments were once read throughout, and then a second time, one by one, and upon the question severally put thereupon, were, with an amendment to one of them, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the Bill, with the amendments, be engrossed.

Mr. Braxton reported, from the Committee to whom the Bill for appointing an Agent was committed, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made an amendment thereunto, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the Report in his place, and afterwards delivered the Bill, with the amendment, in at the Clerk's table.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Tuesday, June 20, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

The Order of the Day being read, for taking into consideration the Report which was made from the Committee to whom the Bill for appointing an Agent was committed,

*Ordered*, That the said Report be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The other Order of the Day being read,

*Ordered*, That the call of the House be further adjourned till to-morrow.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: I am commanded by the Council to deliver to this House a Paper, which they have received from the Governour, as his Excellency's answer to the last joint Address of the Council and of this House. And he presented the said Paper at the bar.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

The said Paper was read, and is as followeth, viz:

Experience having shewn the insecurity of the publick Magazine, and the Palace having hitherto been respected, I think it improper to give any other orders than that the arms belonging to the King, which have for so many years been lodged, may still remain there, and that they may on no account be touched without my express permission.

Mr. Cary reported that the joint Address of the Council and this House of *Saturday* last, and the two Addresses of this House of the same day, and likewise the Address of yesterday to the Governour, had been severally presented to his Excellency, who directed him to acquaint the House that he had sent his answer to the first to the Council, and delivered to him two Papers in answer to the second and third Addresses; which Papers he delivered in at the Clerk's table, and which were read, and are in the words following, to wit:

This Address, acknowledging the highest sense of the services I rendered to this Country on the late *Indian* expedition, though late,\* will still, I hope, do credit to the justice of the House of Burgesses.

As the care, custody, and disposal of publick stores of ammunition, belong alone to the King's representative, I cannot consent to return the powder, lately removed from the magazine, to *Williamsburgh*, which experience has demonstrated to me is an improper place for the residence of the Governour; therefore as I could not attend to its preservation, I could not consequently depend upon its being in security there. The powder in question, besides, you have already been acquainted, belonged to one of His Majesty's ships; I am therefore in a particular manner accountable for it; but, as I have before declared, I shall be ready to apply it, if I find it wanted, for the protection of the Colony.

The duty upon the tonnage of all vessels trading to this Colony has been applied, as I conceive the Act which imposes that duty authorizes, towards the regular and necessary charges of Government; which, without this fund, could not have been supported, and therefore requires it all. This Colony has hitherto been preserved from invasion and insurrection by the care and attention of Government; and you have a very late instance of its exertion, through the means of which the Country has been rescued from the destruction it was threatened with, which, as it proves the contrary of an inattention to any matters essential to the preservation of this Colony, so it exposes the injustice of your present attempt, if it does not induce you to forbear others, of bringing your legal and constitutional Government, at this unhappy conjuncture, into discredit among the people.

As to your request that I order a certain quantity of arms, powder, and other military stores, to be provided: when you have complied with the requisition submitted to your consideration, in consequence of the joint address of the Coun-

\* One cannot help remarking the injustice of this insinuation, for the Journal of the House of Burgesses proves the Resolution for the Address (to which the foregoing was intended as an answer) passed the House upon receipt of his Lordship's Message respecting the Powder, the day before he left the City; and the *Gazette*, published the day he went away, must have informed his Lordship of this generous disposition of the House. So, if the Address was really late, as his Lordship conceives, the reason must be found in his Lordship's going from the Seat of Government on board an armed vessel.—*Vir. Gaz.*



cil and House of Burgesses, offering to concur in any measure proper for my security, which requisition has been taken no notice of; and when the legal executive power of Government is restored, and I may with certainty rely that arms, powder, and other military stores, will be employed no otherwise than as I shall direct, who, as His Majesty's representative, have the sole authority in the case, then I shall be happy, with the means you furnish me, to provide every thing; and I promise you no attention shall be neglected which may be requisite for securing the inhabitants of *Virginia* from invasion and insurrection.

*Ordered*, That the said Papers in answer to the said Addresses, be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Mr. *Cary* also reported, that his Excellency directed him to acquaint the House, that he would send an answer to the last Address if he should find that it required one.

*Ordered*, That the thanks of this House be given to Captain *James Innis*, of the Volunteer Company of *Williamsburgh*, and the persons employed by him to guard the publick Magazine in this City, for the alacrity, fidelity, and activity with which they undertook and performed that service, and that Mr. *Braxton* do acquaint him therewith.

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Wednesday, June 21, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

The House, according to order, proceeded to take into consideration the Papers sent by the Governour in answer to the Address of the Council and this House, and to the Addresses of this House.

And the said Papers were read.

*Resolved*, That a free conference be desired with the Council upon several important matters respecting the state of this Colony, and the subject-matter of his Excellency the Governour's Message in answer to the joint Address of the Council and this House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Bland* do go to the Council, and desire the said free conference.

A Message from the Council by Mr. *Blair*:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council do agree to the free conference desired by this House, and have appointed three of their Members, who are now ready in the Conference Chamber, to meet the Managers for this House.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to manage the said conference.

And a Committee was appointed of Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Treasurer*, Mr. *Cary*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *Jones*, and Mr. *Nelson*.

*Ordered*, That the said Managers for this House do lay before the Managers for the Council the several Depositions taken by order of this House upon the inquiry into the causes of the late disturbances, and that they communicate to them the Address of this House, requesting his Lordship to return the Powder removed from the publick Magazine, by his order, and that he would be pleased to provide a proper quantity of Arms and Ammunition for the necessary security and defence of this Country, together with his Lordship's Answer thereto. To propose to the Council to join this House in a proper Address to his Excellency, in reply to his Message in answer to their former joint Address, and also on the subject of the several Papers to be communicated to them. To represent to his Excellency how much the important business of the session hath been impeded by his removal from the Palace, by which the necessary and free access to his Lordship, which we conceive the Constitution entitles us to, hath been cut off in a great measure; that there are several bills of the last importance to this Country now ready to be presented to his Excellency for his assent, and that though both Houses, in hopes of preserving that harmony which they wish ever to subsist between the different branches of the Legislature, have hitherto submitted to the great inconvenience of travelling twelve miles, and going on board one of His Majesty's ships, to deliver their several Addresses, yet they think it would be highly improper, and a step not warranted by any principle of the Constitution, to present their bills in the same manner. That they therefore desire his Lordship will be pleased to meet them in the Capitol, or, if he is determined not to do this, that he would be pleased at least to come on shore, and they will wait upon his Excellency

in *Yorktown*, upon having his pleasure signified to them. That as the advanced season of the year requires our speedy return to our several Counties, we hope his Lordship will be pleased to give us his ultimate answer, as soon as practicable.

Then the names of the Managers were called over; and they went to the conference.

And being returned,

Mr. *Bland* reported, that the Managers had been at the conference with the Council, and had laid before them the several depositions taken by order of this House upon the inquiry into the causes of the late disturbances, and communicated to them the Address of this House requesting his Lordship to return the Powder removed from the publick Magazine by his order, and that he would be pleased to provide a proper quantity of Arms and Ammunition for the necessary security and defence of this Country, together with his Lordship's answer thereto; and proposed to the Council to join this House in a proper Address to his Excellency, in reply to his Message in answer to their former joint Address, and also on the subject of the several Papers communicated to them. And that the Council agreed to join this House in the said Address, and that the managers for this House had drawn up a joint Address accordingly, which was carried to the Council for their concurrence.

A Message from the Council by Mr. *Blair*:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council have agreed to the joint Address to be presented to the Governour, prepared by the Committee of the Council and of this House. And he presented the said Address at the bar.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

The said Address was read, and is as followeth, viz:

*To His Excellency the Right Honourable Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant-Governour, General, and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony and Dominion of VIRGINIA, and Vice-Admiral of the same:*

*The joint Address of the Council and House of Burgesses:*

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council and House of Burgesses of *Virginia*, have received your Lordship's answer to our joint Address, by which we represented to your Excellency how very insecure we thought the publick arms in the Palace since your Lordship's removal from thence, and requested that your Lordship would be pleased to order them to be stored in the publick Magazine, judging this a repository of much greater security.

You are pleased to tell us that experience hath shewn the insecurity of the Magazine, and that as the Palace hath hitherto been respected, you thought it improper to give any other orders; that the arms belonging to the King, which have for so many years been lodged, may still remain in the Palace, and that they may on no account be touched without your express permission. Though these arms, my Lord, may be considered in some sort as belonging to His Majesty, as the supreme head of this Government, and that they are properly under your Lordship's direction, yet we humbly conceive that they were originally provided, and have been preserved for the use of the Country in case of emergency.

We would not wish to interfere with your Lordship's authority, (of this disposition we presume our former address afforded the strongest testimony,) but the reflection that these arms are so much exposed that they may easily be made the most improper and destructive use of, is to us extremely alarming.

The Palace, my Lord, hath indeed been hitherto much respected, but not so much out of regard to the building, as the residence of His Majesty's representative. Had your Lordship thought fit to remain there, we should have had no apprehension of danger; but, considering these arms at present exposed to your servants, and every rude invader, the security formerly derived from your Lordship's presence cannot now be relied on.

In your Lordship's answer to an address of the House of Burgesses, you are pleased to say, that experience has demonstrated to you that the City of *Williamsburgh* is an improper place for the residence of our Governour; and give it as a reason for not returning the powder according to your own voluntary promise made to the House, that



you could not attend to its preservation, nor depend on its security if returned to the Magazine. We should suppose, my Lord, that your Excellency's attention to the arms would be equally necessary for their security, as you know the Palace stands on the edge of the City, and we should, for this reason, imagine it more likely to be rifled than the Magazine in the midst of it; besides, should it be thought necessary, a proper guard might be kept at the Magazine, which we did not think so decent to propose for your Lordship's Palace. Our apprehensions, my Lord, have been not a little increased by considering the several depositions taken by order of the House of Burgesses; we decline commenting upon them, but submit to the world from whence the unhappy disturbances in this Colony took their rise. We must, my Lord, once more entreat your Excellency to order the arms to be removed to the publick Magazine.

We cannot, my Lord, decline representing to you that the important business of this Assembly hath been much impeded by your Excellency's removal from the Palace. This step hath deprived us of the necessary and free access to your Lordship, which we conceive the Constitution entitles us to. There are several bills of the last importance to this Country now ready to be presented to your Excellency for your assent.

We have hitherto, my Lord, in hopes of preserving that harmony which we wish ever to subsist between all the branches of our Legislature, submitted to the great inconvenience of sending our members twelve miles to wait on your Excellency on board one of His Majesty's ships-of-war, to present our several addresses; but we think it would be highly improper, and too great a departure from the constitutional and accustomed mode of transacting the business of the Assembly, to meet your Excellency at any other place than the Capitol, to present such Bills as have there been agreed to by the Council and House of Burgesses. We must therefore beseech your Excellency to return to us; and as the advanced season of the year requires our presence in our several Counties, we hope your Lordship will be pleased to favour us with your speedy and ultimate answer, that we may certainly know what to depend upon.

The said Address being read a second time,

*Resolved*, That the House doth agree with the Council in the said Address, to be presented to the Governour.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by Mr. Cary, Mr. Attorney General, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Christian, in conjunction with such of the Council as shall be appointed to join in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bland do go to the Council, and acquaint them that this House hath appointed four of their Members to present the said Address to the Governour, in conjunction with such of the Council as shall be appointed for that purpose.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council have agreed to the Bill intituled "An Act for appointing Commissioners to settle the Accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, and for making provision to pay the same," without any amendment.

*Ordered*, That the call of the House be further adjourned till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House upon the Bill to revive an act, intituled "An Act for the better regulating and disciplining the Militia."

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning ten of the clock.

Thursday, June 22, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

The Orders of the Day being read,

*Ordered*, That the call of the House be further adjourned till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of the Whole House, to whom the Bill to revive an act for reducing the several acts of Assembly for making provision against Invasions and Insurrections, into one act, was committed, be discharged from proceeding upon said Bill.

*Ordered*, That the said Bill do lie upon the table.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of the Whole House, to

whom the Bill to revive an act intituled "An Act for the better regulating and disciplining the Militia," was committed, be discharged from proceeding upon the said Bill.

*Ordered*, That the said Bill do lie upon the table.

*Ordered*, That the Order for taking into consideration the Report which was made from the Committee to whom the Bill for appointing an Agent was committed, be discharged.

*Ordered*, That the said Report do lie upon the table.

Mr. Cary reported, that the joint Address of the Council and this House, of yesterday, to the Governour, had been presented to his Excellency, who delivered to him an answer thereunto, which he delivered in at the Clerk's table, and which was read, and is in the words following, viz:

*Gentlemen of the Council, and House of Burgesses:*

I have already declared my intentions in regard to the arms at the Palace, and I conceive the Council and House of Burgesses are interfering in a matter which does not belong to them. I should be glad to be informed who they design by the terms "rude invaders," which they have made use of.

The disorders in *Williamsburgh* and other parts of the Country, drove me to the necessity of changing my place of residence; and if any inconvenience has arisen to the Assembly on that account, I am not chargeable with it; but they have not been deprived of any necessary nor free access to me. The Constitution invests me with an undoubted power to call the Assembly for the business of, to any place in the Colony exigency may require.

Not having been made acquainted with the whole proceedings of the Assembly, I know of no bills of importance which, if I were inclined to risk my person again among the people, the Assembly have to present to me, nor whether they be such as I could assent to. DUNMORE.

*Ordered*, That a Message be sent to the Council, to desire them to acquaint this House whether they have agreed to the Bill intituled "An Act for appointing Commissioners to ratify and confirm the late Treaty of Peace with the *Ohio Indians*;" and that Mr. Mercer do carry the said Message.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten of the clock.

Friday, June 23, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

The Order of the Day being read,

*Ordered*, That the call of the House be further adjourned till to-morrow.

Mr. Mercer reported, that he had, according to order, attended the Council, and desired them to acquaint this House whether they had agreed to the Bill intituled "An Act for appointing Commissioners to ratify and confirm the late Treaty of Peace with the *Ohio Indians*;" and that the Council will send an answer by a Messenger of their own.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: I am commanded by the Council to acquaint this House, that the Bill, intituled "An Act for appointing Commissioners to ratify and confirm the late Treaty of Peace with the *Ohio Indians*," is rejected.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

*Resolved*, That a free conference be desired with the Council on the subject-matter of the Treaty to be ratified with the *Indians*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Treasurer do go to the Council and desire the said free conference.

Mr. Treasurer reported, that he had, according to order, been at the Council, to desire a free conference, on the subject-matter of the Treaty to be ratified with the *Indians*; and that the Council will send an answer by a Messenger of their own.

A Message from the Council by Mr. Blair:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council do agree to a free conference with this House as desired; and have appointed two of their Members, who are now ready in the Conference Chamber, to meet the Managers for this House.

And then the Messenger withdrew.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to manage the said conference.

And a Committee was appointed of Mr. Treasurer, Mr. Bland, Mr. Braxton, and Mr. Mercer.



*Ordered*, That the Paper intituled "Substance of the Peace agreed to between the Earl of *Dunmore*, Governour of *Virginia*, on the part of that Colony, and the *Corn Stalk*, on the part of the *Shawanese Indians*, intended to be ratified at a general meeting of the *Ohio Indians* at *Fort Dunmore*," referred to in the Governour's written Message to this House, which, upon *Monday*, the fifth day of this instant, *June*, was ordered to lie upon the table, be communicated to the Council at the conference.

Then the names of the Managers were called over, and they went to the conference.

And being returned,

Mr. Treasurer reported that the Managers had been at the conference with the Council, and communicated to them the Paper intituled "Substance of the Peace agreed to between the Earl of *Dunmore*, Governour of *Virginia*, on the part of that Colony, and the *Corn Stalk* on the part of the *Shawanese Indians*, intended to be ratified at a general meeting of the *Ohio Indians* at *Fort Dunmore*," and that the Council proposed that an Address should be presented to the Governour, that his Excellency would appoint persons to ratify the Treaty with the *Indians*, and recommended it to this House to vote a sum of Money, not exceeding Two Thousand Pounds, for that business.

Mr. Attorney-General reported to the House that he had shewn the engrossed Bills and Resolves to the Governour, and that his Excellency was pleased to deliver to him a written Message, which he read in his place, and which is in the words following, to wit:

*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:*

The bill for appointing Commissioners to settle the accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, and for making provision to pay the same, inasmuch as it imposes duties upon slaves imported, I cannot assent to; which, by the royal disallowance of an Act of Assembly for that purpose, passed in the tenth year of his present Majesty's reign, you must have been sensible of; and as the bill has no suspending clause, though I made it my business to intimate, by several of your members, to the House, that, without such a clause, I could not pass an act for emitting paper money, the miscarriage of a bill I had very much at heart cannot be attributed to me. And if still those objections can be removed, I should be happy to concur in an act for the rewarding of the brave people who are the particular objects of it, without delay. If not, all I can do is to transmit the bill to His Majesty, and to desire leave to assent to it; though, in regard to the duty upon slaves, I should not, I think, obtain it.

I see no objection to any other of your bills or resolves, and I am therefore ready to give my assent to them whenever the House desires. If you have any other bills ready, I must desire they may be sent in like manner, that the whole may be passed together; and I must beg that your Clerk may be ordered to lay before me a copy of the Journals of the House, before the time fixed for passing the bills.

DUNMORE.

*Resolved*, That an Address be presented to the Governour, in answer to his said written Message.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governour, upon the said Resolution.

And a Committee was appointed of Mr. Treasurer, Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Banister*, Mr. *Digges*, and Mr. *Munford*.

Mr. Treasurer reported, from the Committee appointed to draw up an Address to be presented to the Governour, that the Committee had drawn up an Address accordingly, which they had directed him to report to the House; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth, viz:

MY LORD: We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Burgesses of *Virginia*, cannot sufficiently express our concern that your Lordship should be under any difficulty in giving your assent to the bill for appointing Commissioners to settle the accounts of the Militia lately drawn out into actual service, and for making provision to pay the same; which hath received the approbation of the other two branches of the Legislature. We beg leave to

remind your Excellency, that you particularly recommended those brave people, who are the objects of this bill, to our attention. Sensible of their important services, we seized with much pleasure the first opportunity afforded us of doing justice to their singular merit. Upon considering the most probable ways and means of effecting this desirable purpose, we soon found, from the extreme scarcity of cash in the country, that there was no possible method of doing it but by a speedy emission of paper money. The opinion has since been confirmed by transactions during the present meeting of the merchants, which have evinced, that the scarcity is even greater than we at first supposed.

We do not find, my Lord, any thing in the bill which contravenes any law, or royal instruction, which hath ever been communicated to us. A suspending clause, we conceive, would defeat the very purpose for which the bill was intended; as it would withhold that relief so immediately necessary to the comfort and support of many of our poor inhabitants, who are in the utmost distress for want of it.

In order to support the credit of our paper currency, we thought it incumbent on us to establish such funds as would effectually secure the redemption of it. In aid of others, we were of opinion that a duty of ten per cent. on slaves would be the least burdensome to the people. We do not know that such a duty was ever objected to by His Majesty; on the contrary, we understand that a duty not exceeding ten per cent. was perfectly agreeable to his royal will and pleasure. The five pounds per poll on slaves imported from the *West-Indies* was intended to prevent the many tricks which had been practised in this Country to avoid payment of all duties on such slaves, and amounts to no more than ten per cent., valuing them at the moderate average of fifty pounds current money.

We are pleased to find your Excellency approves the other bills and resolves submitted to your inspection. All others, which we propose to trouble your Lordship with, we have consented may undergo the earliest examination, and flatter ourselves that they will meet with the like approbation.

We still hope, my Lord, that upon reconsidering the matter, you will see sufficient reasons to alter your first opinion respecting the Militia Bill, which we have much at heart, considering it of the last importance.

We have before, in conjunction with his Majesty's Council, intimated to your Excellency how very necessary a recess is at this critical season, our harvest demanding our immediate presence at home. We must, therefore, entreat your Excellency to meet us at the Capitol to-morrow, in order to give your assent to such bills and resolves as are ready to be presented. We hope your Lordship cannot still entertain any groundless fears that your person can be in the least danger. If it is possible that you remain under such a strange influence, we pledge you our honours, and every thing sacred, for your security. Should your Lordship decline complying with this just request, we hope you will be pleased to grant your commission to the President of the Council to give your assent to such bills and resolves as you may approve, and we may present to him.

Since it hath been customary for our Governours to signify their pleasure as to adjournments, we wish not to take things out of their old channel; we therefore hope your Excellency will at the same time express your approbation that we adjourn ourselves to some convenient day in *October* next, when our convenience will best admit an absence from our homes, and the sickly season of the year will be over.

We do not wish to conceal from your Excellency one tittle contained in our Journals; but a full and immediate transcript of them would require more time than we can possibly devote to the publick business at present. We must observe, that this demand of us is unusual; however, we have ordered all such of our proceedings as have been printed, to be immediately transmitted to your Lordship.

The said Address being read a second time,

*Resolved*, That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Address to be presented to the Governour.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be presented to his Excellency by Mr. Attorney-General and Mr. *Lewis*.



And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning ten of the clock.

Saturday, June 24, 15 Geo. III, 1775.

Mr. Attorney-General reported, that the Address of yesterday had been presented to the Governour, residing on board the *Fowey*, one of His Majesty's ships-of-war riding at anchor in *York River*, and that his Excellency was pleased to deliver to him a written Answer thereto; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the Clerk's table, and which is in the words following, viz:

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses:*

As you have encumbered the bill for the payment of the officers and men employed upon the *Indian* expedition with an imposition which you know I could not assent to, and omitted a form (in no wise tending to defeat the purpose of the bill) which you were told I could not dispense with, the blame of its not passing now into a law cannot lie upon me; but I must adhere to the reasons I yesterday signified to you on this head. The well-grounded apprehension I had for believing my person not safe at *Williamsburgh*, has increased daily. I cannot therefore meet you at the Capitol as you entreat; but this day being too far spent, I shall be ready to receive the House on *Monday*, at twelve of the clock, at my present residence, for the purpose of giving my assent to such acts as I shall approve of.

Although the convenience of the members of the Assembly will always be a strong motive to determine me as to the time of your meeting or separating, yet it becomes necessary (from an expression in your Address, that you wish not to take things out of their old channel, as if you had such power) to assert the right of the Crown to adjourn, prorogue, dissolve, or assemble you, as it is thought fit by the Governour of the Colony. I do not mean, however, to oppose the request you make of being adjourned.

DUNMORE.

The House proceeded to take the said written Answer into consideration.

*Resolved*, That the House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to take into consideration the state of the Colony and the Governour's written Answer to the Address of this House of yesterday.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. *Bland* took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. *Bland* reported from the Committee, That the Committee having taken into their serious consideration the unhappy situation of this Colony, and considering the many obstructions given to the due and regular prosecution of the important business before the General Assembly by his Excellency the Governour, in first removing from the Palace on board one of the King's ships, whereby a free access to him, and that necessary intercourse between his Lordship and the other two branches of the Legislature hath been in a great measure cut off; considering that his Lordship hath withstood the repeated entreaties of the Council and Burgesses to return to the seat of his Government; and having this day received such an answer from his Lordship as, when compared with his different Messages and other parts of his conduct, convinces them of his determination not to do any thing that may be of advantage to this Colony, and particularly to the inhabitants on our frontiers, by his requiring the House to attend him on board the *Fowey*, man-of-war, in order to present such bills as are now ready for his assent; thought it a duty highly incumbent on them, for themselves and the whole body of their constituents, to make several Resolves, in maintenance of their just rights and privileges, and in hopes of removing those prejudices which have been already, and may be again attempted to be excited in the breasts of their most gracious Sovereign and of their fellow-subjects in *Great Britain*.

The said Resolves being reported to the House, and severally agreed to, are as follow:

*Resolved nem. con.* That his Lordship's Message, requiring this House to attend him on board one of His Majesty's ships-of-war, is a high breach of the rights and privileges of this House.

*Resolved nem. con.* That the unreasonable delays thrown

into the proceedings of this House by the Governour, and his evasive answers to the sincere and decent Addresses of the Representatives of the People, give us great reason to fear that a dangerous attack may be meditated against the unhappy People of this Colony. It is therefore our opinion, that they prepare for the preservation of their property, and their inestimable rights and liberties, with the greatest care and attention.

*Resolved nem. con.* That we do, and will, bear faith and true allegiance to our most gracious Sovereign *George* the Third, our only lawful and rightful King; that we will, at all times, to the utmost of our power, and at the risk of our lives and property, maintain and defend his Government in this Colony, as founded on the established laws and principles of the Constitution.

*Resolved nem. con.* That it is our most earnest desire to preserve and strengthen those bands of amity with all our fellow-subjects in *Great Britain*, which are so very essential to the prosperity and happiness of both Countries.

*Resolved nem. con.* That it is with the deepest concern we find ourselves deprived of an opportunity of making immediate provision for those gallant officers and soldiers who so nobly defended this Country against the incursions of the *Indians*, unless we would sacrifice their own and the inestimable rights and privileges of all other inhabitants of this Colony; that as we have already endeavoured to make the most ample provision for this necessary purpose, so will we gladly seize every opportunity afforded us of doing the utmost justice to those brave men, and all other publick creditors.

Certain information having been received of the great discontent of the *Ohio Indians*, by reason of the delay of the ratification of the late Treaty of Peace concluded upon by his Excellency the Governour, on the part of this Colony, and the *Corn Stalk*, on the part of the *Indians*, and that the inhabitants on our frontiers are under just apprehensions of a renewal of an *Indian* war; and no steps having been pursued by his Lordship for carrying on the said Treaty, or delivering up the *Indian* hostages, agreeable to the terms of the said Treaty:

*Resolved*, That the said Treaty be immediately entered upon, and that *George Washington*, *Thomas Walker*, *James Wood*, *Andrew Lewis*, *John Walker*, and *Adam Stephen*, Esquires, or any three or more of them, be, and they are hereby constituted and appointed Commissioners, on the part and behalf of this Colony, to meet the Chiefs or Headmen of the said *Ohio Indians*, as soon as the same can be done, at such place as they shall find most proper, to ratify and confirm the said Treaty on the part of this Colony, and to demand and receive of the said *Indians* the ratifications and full performance of the said Treaty on their parts. And that *Robert Carter Nicholas*, Esquire, Treasurer, or the Treasurer for the time being, shall, and he is hereby directed and required, to pay all such expenses and charges, out of the publick money in his hands, as may be incurred on account of such Treaty; provided the same do not exceed two thousand Pounds, for which the said Commissioners shall account to the next General Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Mercer* do carry the Resolution to the Council, and desire their concurrence.

A Message from the Council by Mr. *Blair*:

MR. SPEAKER: The Council have agreed to the Resolve for appointing Commissioners to ratify the Treaty of Peace with the *Ohio Indians*, and for defraying the expense thereof.

Whereas, several Companies of the Militia of this Colony have been drawn out into actual service by command of his Excellency the Governour, for the defence and protection of the Frontiers against the incursions and depredations of the *Indians*, and there are now due several large sums of Money, as well for the Pay of such Militia as for Provisions, Arms, and other necessities furnished them; and it will be a great saving to the Colony, as well as ease to the claimants, to have such Accounts adjusted by Commissioners in the country:

*Resolved, therefore*, That *Archibald Cary*, *William Cabell*, *William Fleming*, *John Winn*, and *John Nicholas*, Gentlemen, or any three or more of them, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners for the Counties



of *Fincastle, Botetourt, Culpepper, Pittsylvania, Halifax, and Bedford*, and for that part of the County of *Augusta* which lies to the eastward of the *Alleghany Mountains*; and that *Richard Lee, Francis Peyton, Josias Clapham, Henry Lee, and Thomas Blackburn*, Gentlemen, or any three or more of them, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners for the other Counties, and for that part of the County of *Augusta* which lies to the westward of the *Alleghany Mountains*, and for the Provinces of *Maryland and Pennsylvania*, to examine, state, and settle the Accounts of the Pay of the Militia, and of all Provisions, Arms, Ammunition, and other necessities furnished the said Militia of the Counties for which they are appointed Commissioners, and report the same to the General Assembly.

And then the House adjourned till *Thursday*, the twelfth day of *October* next, at ten of the clock in the morning.

#### NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

City of New-York, May 22, 1775.

A number of gentlemen, Deputies from several Counties in this Colony, assembled at the *Exchange*, in the City of *New-York*, for the purpose of forming a Provincial Congress; but as they conceived there were not a sufficient number of Members, they agreed to meet here at the *Exchange* to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M.

At a meeting of a Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*, at the *Exchange*, in the City of *New-York*, on *Tuesday*, the twenty-third day of *May*, 1775:

The Deputies of a majority of the Counties appearing, they proceeded to the choice of the following Officers, who were unanimously elected, viz:

*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President; *Volkerkt P. Douw*, Esquire, Vice-President; *John McKesson*, Esq., and Mr. *Robert Benson*, Secretaries; *Thomas Petit*, Doorkeeper.

The Deputies for the City and County of *New-York* produced the Poll List taken on the . . . day of . . . last, in the several Wards of the said City, certified under the hands of the Vestrymen of the respective Wards, and others before whom they were taken, by which it appears that the following persons were elected Deputies for the said City and County, viz:

*City and County of NEW-YORK*.—*Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Jos. Hallet, David Clarkson, Abraham Walton, Thomas Smith, Abraham Brasher, Benjamin Kissam, Isaac Roosevelt, John Morin Scott, John De Lancey, John Van Cortlandt, James Beekman, Jacobus Van Zandt, Sam'l Verplanck, John Marston, Richard Yates, George Polliott,\* and Walter Franklin.*

The Deputies for the City and County of *Albany* produced a Certificate of the Committees of the City, and nineteen out of twenty Districts of the County, by which it appears that the following persons were elected Deputies for the said City and County:

*City and County of ALBANY*.—*Robert Yates, Walter Livingston, Abraham Yates, Robert Van Rensselaer, Volkerkt P. Douw, Henry Glenn, Jacob Cuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, Peter Silvester, Francis Nicoll, Dirck Swart.\**

The Deputies of the County of *Dutchess* produced the Certificate of the Judges and sundry of the Justices, and two other persons, freeholders and inhabitants of the said County, whereby it appears that the following persons were elected Deputies for the said County for six months, viz:

*DUTCHESS COUNTY*.—*Dirck Brinckerhoff, Gilbert Livingston, Anthony Hoffman,\* Jona. Landon,\* Zephaniah Platt, Gysbert Schenck,\* Richard Montgomerie,\* Melancton Smith, Ephraim Paine,\* Nathaniel Sackett.*

The Deputies for the County of *Ulster* produced the Certificate of *Charles De Witt*, Esquire, Chairman of the several Committees of all the several Towns and Precincts in the said County, whereby it appears that the following persons were elected Deputies for the said County, viz:

*ULSTER COUNTY*.—Col. *Johannes Hardenbergh*, Col. *James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Esq., Christopher Tap-*

*Thursday, October 12, 15 Geo. III, 1775.*

The House met according to the adjournment, but no more than thirty-seven Members appearing, which was not a sufficient number to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till the first *Thursday* in *March* next.

*Thursday, March 7, 16 Geo. III, 1776.*

The House met according to the adjournment, but no more than thirty-two Members appearing, which was not a sufficient number to proceed to business,

The House adjourned to the first *Monday* in *May* next.

*Monday, May 6, 16 Geo. III, 1776.*

Several Members met, but did neither proceed to business nor adjourn, as a House of Burgesses.

*pen, Charles Clinton,\* John Nicholson, and Jacob Hornbeck.*

The Deputies for the Precinct of *Haverstraw*, in the County of *Orange*, produced a Certificate of *Johannes Isa Blauvelt*, Moderator of a meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the said Precinct, whereby it appears that the following persons were elected Deputies for the said Precinct, viz:

*Haverstraw in Orange*.—*John Coe and David Pye.*

The Deputies from *Goshen* Precinct, in the said County, produced the Certificate of *Balthazer De Haert*, Clerk of a meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the said Precinct, whereby it appears that the following persons were elected Deputies for the said Precinct, viz:

*GOSHEN*.—*Michael Jackson,\* Benj. Tusteen,\* Peter Cloves, and William Allison.*

The Deputies for the County of *Suffolk* produced the following Certificates, to wit: The Certificate of *Wm. Smith*, Esq., Chairman of the Committees of all the Towns in the said County, except *Brookhaven* and *Islip*; the Certificates of four Companies of the Militia of the said Town of *Brookhaven*; and the Certificate of the inhabitants of the said Town or District of *Islip*;† whereby it appears that the following persons were elected Deputies for the said County for one year, to wit:

*SUFFOLK COUNTY*.—Col. *Nathaniel Woodhull, Ezra L'Hommedieu, John Sloss Hobart,\* Thomas Wickham, Thos. Tredwell,\* James Haven,\* John Foster, and Selah Strong.*

The Deputies for the County of *Westchester* produced the Certificate of the Committee of the said County, whereby it appears that the following persons were elected Deputies for the said County, viz:

*WESTCHESTER COUNTY*.—*Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, Jas. Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, Robert Graham,\* and William Paulding.\**

The Deputies for the Township of *Brooklyn*, in *King's* County, produced the Certificate of *Leffert Leffertse*, Esq., chosen Clerk of a meeting of the Magistrates and Freeholders of the said Township, whereby it appears that the following persons were elected Deputies for the said Township, viz:

*BROOKLYN IN KING'S COUNTY*.—*Henry Williams, Esq. Jeremiah Remsen, Esq.*

The Deputies for the County of *Richmond* produced a Certificate of *Paul Mischeau*, Clerk of the County of *Richmond*, whereby it appears that the following persons were (at a meeting of the Freeholders of the said County for that purpose) elected Deputies for the said County, viz:

*RICHMOND COUNTY*.—*Paul Mischeau, John Journey, Rich'd Conner, Rich'd Lawrence,\* and Aaron Cortelyou.*

[Those gentlemen's names that are marked respectively with an Asterisk, have not appeared, and are absent.]

*Ordered*, That the sense of this Congress, upon every question, be taken and determined by a majority of the

† The Certificate of the Town of *Islip* was returned to Col. *Woodhull*, because it is annexed and subjoined to their Association.



votes of the Counties here represented; and that for the present the votes of the City and County of *New-York* be considered as *four*; the City and County of *Albany* as *three*; and that of each of the other Counties respectively as *two*; but that this arrangement shall continue only till some other arrangement shall be made and agreed on by this Congress.

The following Rules are agreed to, and resolved to be the Rules of this Congress, viz:

1st. That the President, and in his absence the Vice-President, and in the absence of both a President to be appointed *pro tempore*, shall preside at every meeting, and keep order and decorum, and that it shall be his duty to sign all letters from this Congress.

2d. That all Motions and Addresses be made to the Chair, and standing.

3d. That if more than one shall rise to speak at the same time, the President shall determine who shall first be heard.

4th. That the substance of every Motion made and seconded shall be entered on the Minutes.

5th. That no interruption shall be suffered while a Member is delivering his sentiments.

6th. That every question shall be determined by a majority of voices, and after the determination of any measure or thing, the same question shall not be reassumed but with the consent of a majority of the voices of this Board at a subsequent meeting; and that notice be given of the motion for reassuming such matter at least one day before such motion be made, and notice thereof given to the Members representing each County, who shall then be in the City of *New-York*.

7th. That when any question shall be determined upon a division, the names of the respective Counties shall be entered as they shall vote on each side; but any Member for any County may be at liberty to have his name and dissent from the vote of his County entered on the Minutes.

8th. That this Congress shall, from time to time, meet on their own adjournments for the present.

9th. That for the despatch of business, and to prevent interruptions, the doors at our meetings shall be shut, and that none but Members be permitted to take copies of the Proceedings of this Congress.

10th. That no question shall be determined on the day that it is agitated, if three Counties shall request that it be deferred to the next day.

11th. That no Member shall be at liberty to speak more than twice to the same point, without leave of the President for the time then being.

12th. That no Member shall absent himself from this Congress without leave of the Congress.

13th. That every Member of this Congress shall keep secret all such matters, proceedings and things in this Congress, as shall be enjoined from the Chair to be kept secret.

14th. That whenever the Proceedings of this Congress shall be published at the close of this session, all the Minutes shall be published, and no part concealed unless such as the unanimous voice of the Counties shall declare to be of a secret or unimportant nature; but that extracts of the Proceedings may nevertheless be published from time to time as the Congress shall think fit.

The Congress then adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

5 ho. P. M., May 23, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, and Walter Franklin.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Francis Nicoll, and Abraham Ten Broeck.

*For Dutchess County*.—Zephaniah Platt, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Col. Johannes Hardenbergh, Col. James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Esq., Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, Esq., and Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Orange County*.—John Coe, Esq., David Pye, Esq., William Allison, Esq., Mr. Peter Clowes, Col. Abraham Lent, John Herring, Esq.

*For Suffolk County*.—Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Esq., Thos. Tredwell, Esq., John Foster, Ezra L'Hommiedieu, Esq., Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Esquire, Lewis Graham, Esq., James Van Cortlandt, Esq., Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Col. Philip Van Cortlandt, Col. James Holmes, David Dayton, and John Thomas, Junior.

*For the Township of Brooklyn in King's County*.—Henry Williams, Esq., Jeremiah Remsen, Esq.

*For Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, and Richard Conner.

The Deputies for *Orange Town* produced a Certificate signed by Jacob Concklin, Esq., Chairman, and Thomas Outwater, Clerk, at a meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of *Orange Town*, there held on the third day of *May* instant, whereby it appears that Colonel *Abraham Lent* and *John Herring*, Esq., were unanimously chosen Deputies to represent them in this Provincial Congress, to be held at the City of *New-York*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Abraham Lent* and *John Herring*, Esq., take their seats.

Mr. *Isaac Low* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Morris*, that this Congress enter into a Resolution in the words following, viz:

*Resolved*, as the opinion of this Congress, That implicit obedience ought to be paid to every recommendation of the Continental Congress for the general regulation of the Associated Colonies; but that this Congress is competent to, and ought freely to deliberate and determine on all matters relative to the internal police of this Colony.

And debates arising thereon, Mr. *Scott*, seconded by Mr. *Clarkson*, moved for the Previous Question, to wit: Whether the question on Mr. *Low's* motion shall be now put? And the said Previous Question being put, was determined in the following manner, viz:

| <i>For the Previous Question.</i> | <i>Against the Previous Question.</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 4 City and County of New-York.    | 2 Richmond County.                    |
| 3 City and County of Albany.      | —                                     |
| 2 County of Dutchess.             | 2                                     |
| 2 County of Ulster.               | —                                     |
| 2 County of Orange.               | —                                     |
| 2 County of Suffolk.              | —                                     |
| 2 King's County.                  | —                                     |
| 2 Westchester County.             | —                                     |

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*Resolved*, therefore, That the question on Mr. *Low's* motion be not now put.

A copy of a recommendation and direction from the Continental Congress, signed by their Secretary, bearing date on the eighteenth instant, and certified by *Henry Remsen*, Deputy Chairman of the Committee of *New-York*, to be a true copy, relating to the Artillery and Stores now in *Ticonderoga*, was handed to the President and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, Thursday, May 18, 1775.

"Whereas there is indubitable evidence that a design is formed by the *British Ministry* of making a cruel invasion from the Province of *Quebeck* upon these Colonies, for the purpose of destroying our lives and liberties, and some steps have actually been taken to carry the said design into execution; and whereas several inhabitants of the Northern Colonies, residing in the vicinity of *Ticonderoga*, immediately exposed to incursions, impelled by a just regard for the defence and preservation of themselves and their countrymen from such imminent danger and calamities, have taken possession of that post, in which was lodged a quantity of cannon and military stores, that would certainly have been used in the intended invasion of these Colonies: this Congress earnestly recommend it to the Committees of the Cities and Counties of *New-York* and *Albany*, immediately to cause the said cannon and stores to be removed from *Ticonderoga* to the south end of *Lake George*, and, if



necessary, to apply to the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, and *Connecticut*, for such an additional body of forces as will be sufficient to establish a strong post at that place, effectually to secure the said cannon and stores, or so many of them as it may be judged proper to keep there; and that an exact inventory be taken of all such cannon and stores, in order that they may be safely returned when the restoration of the former harmony between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, so ardently wished for by the latter, shall render it prudent and consistent with the overruling law of self-preservation.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

"*New-York*, May 20, 1775.—A true copy:

"HENRY REMSEN, *Deputy Chairman*."

The President then gave some farther information relating to the matters mentioned in the said recommendation from the Continental Congress, and particularly what had been done by the Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, and also enjoined and gave it in charge from the Chair to the Members of this Congress, that the business concerning the Artillery and Stores at *Ticonderoga*, and every thing else relating thereto, is to be considered and kept as matters of secrecy.

The subject matter of the said recommendation or directions from the Continental Congress was then taken in consideration and debated; and thereupon

*Resolved*, That this Congress will immediately comply with the directions of the Continental Congress respecting the Cannon and Stores at *Ticonderoga*, and the other matters recommended in their order of the eighteenth of May instant; and

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *David Clarkson*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Walter Livingston*, *Robert Yates*, *Henry Glenn*, *Zephaniah Platt*, *Egbert Dumond*, *Peter Clowes*, *John Sloss Hobart*, *Paul Micheau*, and *Gouverneur Morris*, be a Committee to report to this Congress, with all convenient speed, the method best adapted to carry the above Resolution into execution.

*Benjamin Kissam*, Esq., dissented from the above Resolution, and prayed his dissent might be entered on the Minutes.

*Mr. McDougall* moved, and was seconded by *Mr. Gilbert Livingston*, that two Members of this Congress be directed to apply to all the Ministers in this City, who can pray in *English*, and to request them to make such an arrangement among themselves as will enable them alternately to open the Congress every morning with prayer; which was agreed to and ordered accordingly; and

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Beekman* and *Mr. Brasher* be a Committee for that purpose.

The following gentlemen dissented, viz: *Colonel Lispenard*, *Mr. John Van Cortlandt*, *Mr. Roosevelt*, *Mr. Micheau*, *Mr. Walton*, *Mr. Cortelyou*, *Mr. Conner*, *Mr. Journey*, *Mr. Low*, *Mr. Richard Yates*, *Mr. Gouverneur Morris*, *Mr. Lewis Graham*, *Colonel Van Cortlandt*, *Mr. Verplanck*, *Mr. De Lancey*, *Mr. Franklin*, *Mr. Clowes*, *Mr. Cuyler*, *Colonel Holmes*, *Mr. Ward*, and *Mr. Thomas*.

The Congress then adjourned to this place at nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

—  
Wednesday, 9 ho. A. M., May 24, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., *President*; *Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Leonard Lispenard*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Abraham Walton*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *James Beekman*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *Richard Yates*, *David Clarkson*, *Thomas Smith*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morin Scott*, *John Van Cortlandt*, *Jacobus Van Zandt*, and *John Marston*.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—*Volkert P. Douw*, *Vice-President*; *Robert Yates*, *Abraham Yates*, *Jacob Cuyler*, *Peter Silvester*, *Walter Livingston*, *Robert Van Rensselaer*, *Henry Glenn*, *Col. Abraham Ten Broeck*, and *Major Francis Nicoll*.

*For Dutchess County*.—*Anthony Hoffman*, *Zephaniah Platt*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Jonathan Landon*, *Melancton Smith*, and *Nathaniel Sackett*.

*For Ulster County*.—*Col. Johannes Hardenbergh*, *James Clinton*, *Egbert Dumond*, *Christopher Tappen*, *John Nicholson*, and *Jacob Hornbeck*.

*For Orange County*.—*John Coe*, *David Pye*, *Peter Clowes*, *William Allison*, *Abraham Lent*, and *John Herring*.

*For Suffolk County*.—*Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, *Thomas Tredwell*, *John Foster*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, *Thomas Wickham*, and *Selah Strong*.

*For Westchester County*.—*Gouverneur Morris*, *Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Stephen Ward*, *Joseph Drake*, *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *James Holmes*, *David Dayton*, and *John Thomas, Junior*.

*For the Township of Brooklyn in King's County*.—*Henry Williams* and *Jeremiah Remsen*.

*For Richmond County*.—*Paul Micheau*, *John Journey*, *Aaron Cortelyou*, and *Richard Conner*.

*John Williams* and *William Marsh*, from *Charlotte County*, appeared in Congress and produced a Certificate signed by fourteen gentlemen, the respective Committees of *White Creek*, *Camden*, *Arlington*, *Manchester*, *Dorset*, *Rupert*, *Pawlett*, and *Wells*, in *Charlotte County*, certifying that the said *John Williams* and *William Marsh* are appointed Deputies to attend this Congress. The same was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That they take their seats.

*Colonel Blackwell*, *Samuel Townshend*, Esq., Messrs. *Joseph Robinson* and *Jonathan Lawrence*, attending in Congress, produced a Certificate of *Daniel Kissam*, Esq., Chairman of a meeting of a number of the Freeholders of *Queen's County*, met at *Jamaica* pursuant to publick notice, certifying that *Colonel Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Daniel Rapalje*, Esq., *Zebulon Williams*, Esquire, *Samuel Townshend*, Esq., *Joseph French*, Esq., *Joseph Robinson*, *Nathaniel Tom*, *Thomas Hicks*, Esq., and Captain *Richard Thorne*, were unanimously chosen and elected Deputies for the said County, to meet in Provincial Congress with the Deputies from the other Counties in this Colony. The same was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That the gentlemen appointed Deputies from *Queen's County*, as they respectively attend, do take their seats.

*Mr. David Clarkson*, Chairman of the Committee appointed yesterday to report the methods best adapted to comply with the directions of the Continental Congress respecting the Cannon and Stores at *Ticonderoga*, and the other matters recommended in their order of the eighteenth instant, delivered in the Report of the said Committee, which was read. And the said Report being again read by paragraphs, was approved of and ordered to be entered on the Minutes, and is in the words following, to wit:

We do report that we conceive that it will be proper to appoint persons in whom this Congress can confide, to superintend the removal of the Cannon and Stores (mentioned in the Minutes of the Grand Continental Congress) to the south end of *Lake George*:

That it will be proper to furnish supplies of Provisions to the Garrisons now stationed, or hereafter to be stationed at those places:

That it will be proper to appoint a Committee to estimate the expense of these services, and a Committee to consider of ways and means for providing moneys for the purpose of defraying the same: And lastly,

That it will be proper to write a Letter to the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Connecticut*, on the matters recommended in the Minute aforesaid.

The said Committee had also prepared, and then reported a draft of the Letter above mentioned, which was also read, adopted, and entered in the Minutes of the afternoon.

*Benjamin Kissam*, Esq., dissented from the said Report and Letter, and desired that his dissent might be entered on the Minutes.

The Congress then adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

—  
4to ho. P. M., May 24, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., *President*; *Isaac Low*, *Alex-*



ander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, Jacobus Van Zandt, and John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Esq., Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, and Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Col. Johannes Hardenbergh, Col. James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, and Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Orange County.*—John Coe, David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Abraham Lent, and John Her-ring.

*For Suffolk County.*—Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Hommiedieu, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun., and William Paulding.

*For Brooklyn in King's County.*—Henry Williams and Jeremiah Remsen, Esq.

*For Richmond County.*—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Col. Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Samuel Townshend, and Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams and William Marsh.

The gentlemen who are Deputies from the City and County of *Albany*, at the request of the Congress, recommended, and the Congress nominated and appointed *John N. Bleeker, Henry J. Bogert, George Palmer, Dirck Swart, and Peter Lansing*, of the County of *Albany*, or any one or more of them, to superintend the removal of the Cannon and Stores (mentioned in the Minutes of the Grand Continental Congress) to the south end of *Lake George*; and in case of the inability or refusal of those gentlemen, this Congress does authorize and request the Sub-Committee of the City and County of *Albany* to appoint proper persons to superintend the removal of the said Cannon and Stores to the place aforesaid.

A Letter to the President, subscribed by *Nathaniel Wales, Thaddeus Burr, and Pierpont Edwards*, Esquires, informing the Congress that they are a Committee from the House of Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut*, appointed to wait on this Congress in order to procure intelligence of the measures that may be adopted by this Congress respecting the common cause of the *British Colonies*; to communicate a true state of the measures taken by that Colony, and to cultivate the friendship and harmony which subsists between this Colony and the Colony of *Connecticut*; and informing that they are attending in *New-York* for the purposes of their appointment; was read, and filed;

And thereupon, Mr. *Richard Yates* and Mr. *Morris* are appointed a Committee to wait on those gentlemen immediately, and to introduce them to this Congress.

*Nathaniel Wales, Thaddeus Burr, and Pierpont Edwards*, Esquires, before mentioned as a Committee from the House of Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut*, being introduced into this Congress, produced their Credentials, signed by the Honourable *William Williams*, Esq., the Speaker, and *Richard Law*, Esq., the Clerk of the said House of Representatives; and the same were read.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Woodhull*, Mr. *Low*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Richard Yates*, and Mr. *Morris*, be a Committee to confer with the said Committee from the House of Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut*, on the subject-matter of their Letter to this Congress, and of their commission from the said House of Representatives, and to report thereon to this Congress.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, before they rise, pro-

vide the best ways and means in their power, as Representatives of the People, for the discharge of such money as is now lent, or shall be subscribed or otherwise advanced or supplied on the publick faith, to defray the charges that are or shall be incurred in the present exigencies of the Colony, or that shall hereafter be expended or incurred by recommendation of the Continental or of this Provincial Congress.

*Ordered*, The last preceding Resolution be published in the publick Newspapers.

The Congress then took into consideration that part of the Report of the Committee concerning the removal of the Cannon and Stores, which relates to the estimate of the expense of removing the same, and the ways and means of raising money to defray the expense thereof.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *David Clarkson, Alexander McDougall, Walter Livingston, Jacob Cuyler, Henry Glenn, Richard Montgomerie, Egbert Dumond, Peter Clowes, John Sloss Hobart, Paul Micheau, Isaac Low, and Gouverneur Morris*, be a Committee for both those purposes; and that they make their reports on those respective matters with all convenient speed.

The draught of the Letter to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, being read, paragraph by paragraph, was approved of, and ordered to be entered in the Minutes; and is in the words following, to wit:

*To the Honourable the Governour and Company of the ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT:*

BRETHREN: By a minute of the Grand Continental Congress, of the eighteenth of *May*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, a copy whereof we do herewith transmit to you, we are informed that *Ticonderoga* hath been taken by sundry inhabitants of the Northern Colonies; and from the minute aforesaid, we are assured that this measure was for the common safety of the *American Colonies*. In pursuance of the directions contained in that minute, we have given the necessary orders for removing the Cannon and Stores (taken in that important fortress) to the south end of *Lake George*, and for securing them there; and we have appointed *John N. Bleeker, Henry J. Bogert, Dirck Swart, George Palmer, and Peter Lansing*, superintendents of this business.

There is no doubt but that our brethren in *Connecticut* will feel great reluctance at the idea of ordering any of their Troops to march within the bounds of this Colony, for the purpose of defending the Fort of *Ticonderoga*, and the Cannon and Stores above-mentioned at Fort *George*; but we pray you to cast away all fears of offending us on this occasion. We shall be happy to hear that you have placed a part of your forces in these posts, with intent to defend them until they shall be relieved by Troops from this Colony.

In further pursuance of the directions of the Grand Congress, we have ordered provisions to be conveyed to *Ticonderoga* and *Lake George*, and we shall continue to furnish such supplies as we shall deem necessary.

You will be pleased, gentlemen, to appoint trusty commanders over your forces destined for the purposes above mentioned; and we do assure you of our willingness that they shall take the command at those places while garrisoned by your Troops. We beg leave to assure you, that in this and all other matters we will pay the highest attention to every recommendation of the Grand Continental Congress; and that we have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servants.

P. S. We pray you to use every effort to preserve and improve the present peaceable dispositions of the *Canadians* and *Indians*, for which purpose we think it will be necessary to keep up the strictest vigilance to prevent any incursions from being made into the Province of *Quebeck*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted with all convenient speed.

*Ordered*, That the gentlemen who are Deputies from the City and County of *Albany*, be a Committee to prepare a draught of a Letter to *John N. Bleeker* and the other four Agents for superintending the removal of the Cannon and Stores from *Ticonderoga*; and also a draught of In-



structions to the said Agents; and that they prepare and bring in the same with all convenient speed.

The Congress then adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

—  
Thursday, 9 ho. A. M., May 25, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, James Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston, and Walter Franklin.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, and Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh, Col. James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, and Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Suffolk County.*—Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

*For Orange County.*—John Coe, David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Colonel Abraham Lent, and John Herring.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Colonel James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, and William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Richard Stillwell, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, Esquire, Nicholas Covenhoven, and John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Colonel Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, and Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

The draught of a Postscript to the Letter to be sent to the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Connecticut*, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"We pray you to use every effort to preserve and improve the present peaceable dispositions of the *Canadians* and *Indians*, for which purpose we think it will be necessary to keep up the strictest vigilance to prevent any incursions from being made into the Province of *Quebeck*."

And the same being approved of and agreed to,

*Ordered*, That the said Postscript be added to the said Letter.

The Committee appointed yesterday for that purpose, brought in and reported a draught of a Letter, and also a draught of Instructions to the Agents for superintending the removal of the Cannon and Stores from *Ticonderoga*.

Mr. Low informed the Congress that he had been informed that some of the inhabitants of the Northern Counties in this Colony have designs of making incursions into the Province of *Quebeck*; and that therefore he moved, (and was seconded by *Abraham Yates, Esq.*) that a Letter be wrote to the inhabitants of the Northern Counties, to the same purport as the Postscript to the Letter to the Governour and Company of *Connecticut*; and the same being unanimously agreed to,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Low, Mr. John Williams, Mr. Marsh, Mr. Robert Yates, and Mr. Morris, be a Committee to prepare and report to the Congress a draught of such Letter.

The Deputies for *King's County* produced a Certificate subscribed by *Abraham E. Lott*, Clerk of a meeting of the Deputies of the several Townships in *King's County*, assembled at *Flatbush*, on the 22d day of *May* instant,

whereby it appears that *Richard Stillwell, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, Nicholas Covenhoven, Johannes E. Lott, John Vanderbilt, Henry Williams*, and *Jeremiah Remsen*, Esquires, or any three of them, are appointed Deputies fully to represent and act in behalf of that County. The same was read, and filed.

*Ordered*, That those gentlemen take their seats.

A written Request from the gentlemen who are a Committee from the House of Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut*, requesting a conference with Mr. Scott and Colonel *Ten Broeck*, was read.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Scott and Colonel *Ten Broeck* have leave to wait on the said Committee immediately.

Mr. Nathaniel Tom, from *Queen's County*, one of the Deputies named in the Credentials from that County, filed with the Secretaries, appeared in Congress.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tom take his seat.

The Reverend Doctor *Auchmuty* and the Reverend Doctor *Rodgers*, attending at the door, were called in; and they delivered to the President an arrangement of the Clergy, who, in compliance with the request of this Congress, have agreed in the following order alternately to attend at nine o'clock every morning, to open this Congress with Prayer, viz: Doctor *Auchmuty*, Doctor *Rodgers*, Mr. *Gano*, Mr. *Inglis*, Dr. *Laidly*, Mr. *Mason*, Mr. *Treat*, Dr. *Livingston*, Mr. *Bowden*, Mr. *Moore*.

Messrs. *Ten Broeck* and *Scott*, who, with leave, went to confer with Messrs. *Wales, Burr*, and *Edwards*, the Committee of the House of Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut*, returned, and reported from their memory to this Congress, that they had conferred with those gentlemen, who informed them that they had detained Mr. President's Letter to their Governour and Company, relating to *Ticonderoga*, till this Congress could be informed of the following facts, to wit:

That their Assembly is not now sitting; that their recess was supplied by a Council of War, with limited powers; that the said Council have only authority to direct the movements of their Troops, but not to appoint any command; that their Assembly had destined three hundred men to be quartered at *Salisbury*, who probably would be allotted to assist in maintaining the fortress at *Ticonderoga*, if necessary; that the persons who had taken that post were not any part of their regular troops, but adventurers; that among these, Colonel *Arnold*, from *Massachusetts*, and Captain *Douglass*, who lives on the line between that Colony and this, were present at the capture; that Captain *Douglass* was a principal, and had great merit in the success of the enterprise; that almost all the rest of the adventurers were inhabitants of this Colony; that they were confident their Council of War would not take upon them to appoint any person to take the command of that post; that besides, they were apprehensive that the people now there probably would dispute the delivering up that Fortress to any person appointed by their Council of War; that it was impossible for the said Council of War to grant us any other assistance than the three hundred men above mentioned, which they judged insufficient to maintain that post; that Captain *Douglass* is guardian of the *Stockbridge Indians*, and has great influence over, and almost the entire direction of them; that he is a person of great influence in that quarter; that he had raised for the enterprise two hundred men, at his own expense, and could, in ten or twelve days, augment them to seven hundred, all of which, except about one hundred, would be inhabitants of this Colony; that they recommended Captain *Douglass* as meriting the attention of this Congress; that they thought it necessary for this Congress to appoint to the command of the above-mentioned post; and that in that case their Council of War would have it in their power to supply the above-mentioned assistance for that service.

Which Report being made, Mr. Scott moved that the Letter to the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Connecticut*, be withheld, and the subject-matter thereof reconsidered.

This motion being seconded, a debate thereon arose; after which the question was put, Whether the said Letter should be withheld, and the subject-matter thereof reconsidered?



And on a division, the said question carried in the negative.

*Dissentient.*—Mr. Scott, Mr. Sackett, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Allison, Mr. Silvester, Mr. Henry Williams, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Marsh, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Tom, Mr. Van Rensselaer, and Doctor John Williams.

The draught of a Letter to the Agents for superintending the removal of the Cannon and Stores from *Ticonderoga*, was read and approved; and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, May 25, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By the recommendation of the Continental Congress respecting *Ticonderoga*, already forwarded to the Committee of your County, and by our Resolution thereon, you will readily perceive the expediency of appointing proper persons to superintend the business therein mentioned, who will undertake it with cheerfulness, diligence, and despatch. This Congress being convinced that persons in the vicinage of *Albany* would be most proper to put in execution the directions of the Congresses, left it to the Deputies of your County, now here convened, to propose some fit men for the approbation of this Congress; and you, gentlemen, were accordingly nominated and appointed. We hope, therefore, that you will not hesitate, but enter upon what is enjoined you by both Congresses with all expedition; and in doing of which, you will please to have regard to the enclosed Instructions for your better government.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants.

To Messrs. John N. Bleeker and Henry J. Bogert, of the City of *Albany*, and George Palmer and Dirck Swart, of *Stillwater*, and Peter Lansing, of *Saratoga*, in the County of *Albany*.

N. B. You will please to be as secret as the nature of this work will allow you.

The draught of Instructions to the said Agents was also read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Instructions for John N. Bleeker, Henry J. Bogert, Dirck Swart, George Palmer, and Peter Lansing, Commissioners or Agents to superintend and put in execution the recommendation of the Grand Continental Congress, of the 18th of May, 1775, relative to *Ticonderoga*, &c.

1st. You will immediately endeavour to have a meeting together, if possible, and see which of you it will suit best, and can most conveniently, reasonably, and expeditiously discharge this trust reposed in you.

2d. After that is fixed upon among yourselves, that you will then immediately repair to those places, either by yourselves, or such fit persons as you know can and will complete the business effectually and reasonably.

3d. It will be necessary that you have an Armourer or Engineer, whose skill ought to determine which of the cannon are useless, that such may remain where they be, and no expense arise from them.

4th. One at least of you ought to attend from time to time at the different stations, as occasion may require.

5th. You will please, whenever you employ labourers, wagoners, or others in this service, that you engage none, if it possibly can be avoided, but industrious and sober men, and such as have or will sign the Association.

6th. You will agree with every man for the sum to be allowed him for his wages, and show the resolution of this Congress of yesterday respecting the mode of payment, that no person may be ignorant of that point. You will also keep books of accounts, and make exact entries, and take just and true vouchers of all the expenses and proceedings, so that you may be able to swear as to the rectitude of your conduct for the satisfaction of the publick, when thereunto required.

7th. You will endeavour, as much as in you lies, to cultivate harmony and friendship between the *New-England* Troops and all others that are or may be engaged by the Northern Governments in those services, and such persons as are or may be employed by this Government.

8th. That you will keep exact lists and inventories of all such artillery, ordnance, and stores, likewise their condition, as you may find on your arrival at those posts, viz: *Ticonderoga* and *Lake George*, of all such things as may be left there or removed from there.

9th. You will be also careful in providing boats and materials for water-carriage, in transporting such cannon as should, upon examination, be thought useful, to the south end of *Lake George*.

10th. It may be necessary to inform you that there are lately sent up from this City, for the use of the people at the garrison, and others engaged in these services, one hundred barrels of pork, and some stores and materials, of which an inventory will be handed to you. You will take all these things under your care, direction, and inspection, and see that they are forwarded and properly used and applied, according to the true intention; and also procure such other provisions, materials and things, as may be deemed by you absolutely necessary to fulfil the design the Grand Continental and this Congress have in view.

11th. It is the determination of this Congress not to countenance any person to make any incursions into *Canada*; and in order to prevent, as much as in us lies, any projects of that kind, you are hereby directed to withhold any succours or support from any person or persons whomsoever for such an expedition.

Ordered, That the said Letter and Instructions be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted with all convenient speed.

Benjamin Kissam, Esq., dissented to the said Letter and Instructions, and desired that his dissent might be entered on the Minutes.

The Congress then adjourned till five o'clock, P. M.

5 ho. P. M., May 25, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present: For the City and County of New-York.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, President; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Abraham Walton, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston, and Walter Franklin.

For the City and County of Albany.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., Vice-President; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, and Francis Nicoll.

For Dutchess County.—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

For Ulster County.—Col. Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, and Jacob Hornbeck.

For Orange County.—John Coe, David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, and Abraham Lent.

For Suffolk County.—Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Homedieu, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

For Westchester County.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, and William Paulding.

For King's County.—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, Nicholas Covenhoven, and John Vanderbilt.

For Richmond County.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, and Richard Conner.

For Queen's County.—Colonel Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townsbend, Joseph Robinson, and Nathaniel Tom.

For Charlotte County.—John Williams, William Marsh.

The Committee appointed this morning to prepare a draught of a Letter to the inhabitants of the Northern Counties, to the same purport as the postscript to the Letter to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, reported such draught; and the same being taken into consideration, and amended, was unanimously changed into a Resolution, in the words following, to wit:

Whereas, the enemies of *American* liberty are indefatigable in their endeavours to disunite these Colonies; and in the prosecuting of this measure, evil-minded persons may insinuate that the Northern Colonies have hostile intentions against our fellow-subjects in *Canada*:



*Resolved*, That this Congress do most earnestly recommend it to all persons whatsoever not to commit any hostilities against the people of that country; and do hereby declare to the world, that we do consider every such step as infamous, and highly inimical to all the *American Colonies*.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolution be published.

Whereas, this Congress has resolved to comply with the direction of the Continental Congress respecting the Cannon and Stores at *Ticonderoga*, and the other matters recommended in their Order of the 18th of *May* instant, and wrote a Letter to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, on that subject:

*Resolved*, That it is necessary that a Letter on the same subject be wrote to the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and a like Letter to the Colony of *New-Hampshire*; and

*Ordered*, That the Committee who drew and reported the draught of a Letter to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, be a Committee to prepare a draught of a Letter to the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and a draught of a like Letter to the Colony of *New-Hampshire*; and that they proceed to prepare and report such draughts immediately.

Mr. *Scott* moved, and was seconded by *Thomas Smith, Esq.*, in the words following, to wit:

As this Colony has not as yet given that publick testimony of their entire and cordial accession to the confederacy of the Colonies on this Continent, which has been given by the other Colonies in their express approbation of the proceedings of the last Continental Congress, I move that it be *Resolved*, That this Congress do fully approve of the proceedings of the said Congress.

Debates arose on the said motion, and it was thereupon deferred for further consideration.

A Letter to the President from the Committee of the Precinct of *Mamacoting*, in *Ulster County*, signed by *John Young*, their Chairman, informing that they had chosen a Committee, and signed the Association, and containing some matters on the subject of Militia Officers, and other things local to them, was read and filed.

The Congress adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—  
Friday, 9 ho. A. M., May 26, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Auchmuty*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lisenard, Joseph Hallet, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, Jas. Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, and John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, and Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County*.—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh, Col. James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, and Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Orange County*.—John Coe, David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Abraham Lent, and John Herring.

*For Suffolk County*.—Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, and William Paulding.

*For King's County*.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theo. Polhemus, John Leffertse, and John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, Aaron Cortelyou, and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County*.—Colonel Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, and Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County*.—John Williams, William Marsh.

Captain *Asa Douglass*, by a message in writing, directed and delivered to the President, requested to be admitted to the Congress, to communicate a matter of some moment.

*Ordered*, That the Doorkeeper desire Mr. *Douglass* to attend.

Mr. *Abraham Yates* moved, and was seconded by Col. *Woodhull*, in the words following, to wit:

As hostile measures have been carried on in the neighbourhood of *Canada*, I move that a Committee be appointed to draw up a Letter or Address, in order to convince the *Canadians* that nothing hostile is intended against their persons, liberty, or property.

And the same being unanimously agreed to,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Kissam*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Mr. *McDougall*, and Mr. *Clarkson*, be a Standing Committee of Correspondence; that the subject-matter of the last motion be referred to that Committee, and that they prepare a draught for the purpose above-mentioned, and report the same with all convenient speed.

Captain *Asa Douglass* attending at the door, was called in and heard; and Messrs. *Lewis Graham*, *Walter Livingston*, *Joseph Robinson*, and *Henry Williams*, are appointed a Committee to receive such further information from the said *Asa Douglass* as he may have to communicate, and to know what he expects of this Congress, and report the same to this Congress.

Mr. *Clarkson*, Chairman of the Committee appointed yesterday for that purpose, reported a draught of a Letter to the Committee of Safety for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and to the Committee of Correspondence for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*; and the same being read and approved of, is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, May 26, 1775.

BRETHREN: Having received a minute of the Grand Continental Congress, of which we send you a copy herewith, we wrote a letter to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, of which we also send you a copy. We do not doubt of your ready concurrence in the measures recommended by that august body, in which we do entirely acquiesce.

We pray you to act on this occasion with prudence and expedition, especially as we have received intimation from our brethren in *Connecticut*, that they cannot send a sufficient force for the purposes mentioned to them in our letter; and we beg leave to assure you that we are, affectionately, your friends and brethren in the generous cause of freedom.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

To *Joseph Warren, Esq.*, and others, the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

A copy of the above to the Committee of Correspondence for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

*Ordered*, That two copies of the said Letter be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted with all convenient speed; one directed to *Joseph Warren, Esq.*, and others, the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*; and the other to the Committee of Correspondence for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

*Benjamin Kissam, Esq.*, dissented from the said Letters.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Low*, Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Verplanck*, Mr. *Richard Yates*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Tappen*, Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, and Mr. *Foster*, be a Committee to take into consideration the expediency of emitting a Continental Paper Currency, and to make report thereon with all convenient speed.

A Letter to the Delegates representing this Colony in the Grand Continental Congress, was prepared, read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:



New-York, May 26, 1775.

**GENTLEMEN:** Upon considering the present state of these Colonies, it naturally occurred to this Congress that an uncommon levy of money will soon be necessary for Continental service, and that therefore an universal paper currency may probably become the subject of consideration in your respectable body. To this scheme it may naturally be objected, that it will be imprudent in one Colony to interpose its credit for the others. On the other hand, it is clearly impossible to raise any sum adequate to the service by tax; and the necessary intercourse of expenditures throughout the Colonies will be obstructed by separate emissions on the respective credits of the several Colonies, which cannot, in their nature, gain universal circulation. We have this important subject under serious deliberation, and are still at a loss for the best expedient most effectually to answer the purpose. We have, therefore, appointed a Committee of our body to give it their closest attention, and to report their opinion to us with all possible despatch; the result of which, and our final resolution thereon, we shall communicate to you without loss of time. In the mean time, should this matter be now in contemplation in the Continental Congress, we earnestly request that its determination may be so postponed as to furnish an opportunity of acquainting you with our more mature sentiments on this important point.

We beg leave, through our Delegates, to inform the grand representative body of the Continent, that we have, in the best manner in our power, executed their order to the Committees of *New-York* and *Albany*, respecting the post at *Ticonderoga*; and for further satisfaction, we enclose copies of our proceedings on that subject.

We are, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servants.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted to the Delegates now representing this Colony in Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That copies of the Proceedings of this Congress, in pursuance of the Minutes of the Continental Congress of the 18th *May*, instant, be transmitted to the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress.

Mr. *Williams*, from the Committee appointed to confer with *Asa Douglass*, returned a Report in the words following, to wit:

1. The purport of Mr. *Douglass's* desiring to be heard by this Congress, was to take the sense of this Congress whether they would choose to receive the Letter he brought from Colonel *Allen* for the Continental Congress, or whether he ought to proceed with the Letter to the Continental Congress.

2. He was requested by the Troops who took *Ticonderoga*, *Crown Point*, &c., to solicit this Congress would take their services into consideration, and reward them with money or provisions, as they shall think meet.

3. He was desired by a number of the Officers of *King's* District, to apply to this Congress to appoint him the Commander of such forces as are or may be raised in that District.

4. He begs leave to inform this Congress that he has expended eighteen Pounds, in advancing money to the Troops, and in defraying the charges of his journey in going to *Ticonderoga* and in coming here.

*Ordered*, That the said Report lay on the table for the perusal of the Members.

At the request of the Committee of the House of Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut*,

*Ordered*, That they be furnished with a copy of the Report made by Colonel *Ten Broeck* and Mr. *Scott*, of the conference between them, and of the determination of this Congress thereon.

And a copy thereof was accordingly delivered.

The Congress adjourned to four o'clock.

4to ho. P. M., May 26, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present: *For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, John De Lancey,

Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston, Walter Franklin.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Junior, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County*.—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Colonel Johannes Hardenbergh, Col. James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Orange County*.—John Coe, David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Abraham Lent, John Herring.

*For Suffolk County*.—Col. Nathaniel Woodhull, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Hommiedieu, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Colonel James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, Robert Graham, William Paulding.

*For King's County*.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County*.—Colonel Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom, Richard Thorne.

*For Charlotte County*.—John Williams, William Marsh.

Mr. *Gilbert Livingston* (seconded by Mr. *De Lancey*) moved that a Committee, consisting of a Member from each County, be appointed to draw up and report a proper Resolve of this Congress recommending to the different Counties in this Colony to form themselves into County Committees, and also into Sub-Committees, for their respective Townships and Districts, and recommending the signing of the General Association. And also to prepare and report to this Congress a draught of a Letter to be sent to the Committees and other persons in the several Counties for the above purposes, and with copies of such Resolution; which was unanimously agreed to. And

*Ordered*, That Mr. *De Lancey*, Mr. *Silvester*, Colonel *Hardenbergh*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Mr. *Allison*, Mr. *John Williams*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Zebulon Williams*, Mr. *Micheau*, Major *Philip Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*, and Mr. *Smith*, be, and are hereby, appointed a Committee to prepare draughts of such Resolve and Letter as above mentioned, and report the same with all convenient speed.

Mr. *Clarkson* (seconded by Colonel *Ten Broeck*) moved that every Member of this Congress be desired to sign the General Association; which was agreed to, and approved of.

The following Members had leave of absence, viz: Mr. *John Thomas*, Junior, till next *Monday* se'night; Doctor *David Dayton* till the same time; *Stephen Ward* and *David Clarkson*, Esq., respectively, until *Monday* next.

The Congress adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Saturnii, 9 ho. A. M., May 27, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Rodgers*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, Jacobus Van Zandt.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, Francis Nicoll.



*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Orange County.*—David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Abraham Lent, John Herring.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Homedieu, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, Rob. Graham, Wm. Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom, Richard Thorne.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

The Minutes, as far as the proceedings of *Thursday* morning, were read.

A Letter from *Abraham Lott*, Esquire, Contractor for supplying His Majesty's Ships in this Port, to this Congress, (covering an order of this day from the Purser of the Ship *Asia* for Provisions,) and requesting the favour that this Congress will be pleased to signify their opinion whether the order shall be complied with; and, also, whether he shall be at liberty to supply the said Ship with such other Provisions as she may, from time to time, have occasion for, *for her own use*, during her stay in this Colony, was read.

*Ordered*, That *Abraham Lott*, Esquire, be at liberty to comply with the order for Provisions now laid before the Congress. And the Congress declare that Mr. *Lott* shall be at liberty to furnish such other Provisions, as above mentioned, to the said Ship *Asia*, *for her own use*, while in this Port, he laying before this Congress (or the General Committee of *New-York* if this Board should not be sitting) a list of the Supplies so made from time to time.

To this amendments were proposed, to wit, to add the word *first* between the word *he* and the word *laying*, and to obliterate the words *so made*.

And debates arising thereon, and the question being put thereupon, it was carried against the amendment in the manner following, viz :

*For the Amendment.*

- 2 Orange County.
- 2 Dutchess County.—(Messrs. Hoffman and Platt dissented from their County.)
- 2 Ulster County.
- 2 Charlotte County.

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*Against the Amendment.*

- 3 Albany City and County.—(Messrs. Walter Livingston, Swart, Van Rensselaer, and Robert Yates, dissented from their City and County.)
- 2 Suffolk County.
- 2 Queen's County.
- 2 Richmond County.
- 2 Westchester County.—(Mr. Drake dissented from his County.)
- 2 King's County.
- 4 New-York City and County.—(Dissentients to the Vote of their City and County: Messrs. Smith, Brasher, McDougall, Hallett, and Beekman.)

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Therefore this Congress declares that Mr. *Lott* shall be at liberty to furnish such other Provisions as above mentioned, to the said Ship *Asia*, *for her own use*, while in this Port, he laying before this Congress (or the General Committee of *New-York*, if this Congress should not be sitting) a list of the Supplies so made from time to time.

Mr. *Smith*, Chairman of the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a draught of a Resolve recommending to the different Counties in this Colony the signing of the General Association, and the choosing of Committees and Sub-Committees; and also a draught of a Letter to be sent to the Committees of each County for that purpose.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration and report on the expediency of a Continental Paper Curren-

cy, delivered in their Report; which was read and received; and,

On motion of Mr. *Morris*, (seconded by Mr. *Low*,)

*Ordered*, That the subject-matter of the said Report be resumed on next *Tuesday* morning at nine o'clock; that the doors be open for the Merchants and others, of this City and Colony; and that the Merchants of this City be desired to attend at the bar of the House on that occasion.

Mr. *Micheau* has leave of absence till *Wednesday* next; Mr. *Pye* has like leave till *Tuesday* morning; and Mr. *Drake* has leave of absence all next week.

The Congress then adjourned till *Monday* next at four o'clock, P. M.

Die Lunæ, 4to ho. P. M., May 29, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present :

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Orange County.*—Peter Clowes, William Allison.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Homedieu, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, Robert Graham, William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Henry Williams, Nicholas Covenhoven.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

Mr. *Gysbert Schenck* and *Ephraim Payne*, Esquire, from *Dutchess County*, appeared in Congress.

*Ordered*, That they take their seats.

A Letter from the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey* to this Congress, dated at *Trenton*, on the 26th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit :

"In Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, }  
"Trenton, May 26, 1775."

"GENTLEMEN: We, the Deputies appointed by the inhabitants of this Province to meet in Provincial Congress, are now convened here for the purpose of pursuing such measures as may be thought expedient in the present unhappy situation to which the Colonies are reduced, and which the peculiar exigences of the times may require. As nothing can tend more to ensure success to the steps that may at this critical juncture be adopted by the several Provinces, than a uniform plan of conduct, we conceived it necessary to look up to the Continental Congress for their advice and direction, which we have accordingly applied for, and hope soon to receive. We also think it of consequence that a correspondence should be established with you and our other sister Colonies, and a free communication be had, from time to time, of such measures as may be judged most conducive to the interest of the common cause; and request that we may be favoured with such intelligence as occurs to you worthy of attention, and of which our situation may probably deprive us.

"We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

"HENDRICK FISHER, *President*.

"To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*."



*Ordered*, That the said Letter be committed to the Committee of Correspondence to prepare and report a draught of an answer with all convenient speed.

A Letter from the Grand Continental Congress, signed by *John Hancock*, Esquire, President, directed to this Provincial Congress, and bearing date on the 26th instant, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, May 26, 1775.

"*SIR*: I enclose you the Resolves of the Continental Congress respecting the measures they conceive more immediately necessary for the defence and safety of your City and Province, and which, it is expected, will be carried into execution with all possible despatch, and with as much secrecy, as to the particular operations intended, as the nature of the service will possibly admit of.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

"*JOHN HANCOCK, President.*

"To the President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York.*"

The said Resolves of the Continental Congress mentioned in the above Letter were also read, and are in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, May 25, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That a Post be immediately taken and fortified at or near *King's Bridge*, in the Colony of *New-York*; that the ground be chosen with a particular view to prevent the communication between the City of *New-York* and the country from being interrupted by land.

"2. *Resolved*, That a Post be also taken in the Highlands on each side of *Hudson's River*, and Batteries erected in such manner as will most effectually prevent any vessels passing that may be sent to harass the inhabitants on the border of said river; and that experienced persons be immediately sent to examine said river, in order to discover where it will be most advisable and proper to obstruct the navigation.

"3. That the Militia of *New-York* be armed and trained, and in constant readiness to act at a moment's warning, and that a number of men be immediately embodied and kept in that City, and so disposed of as to give protection to the inhabitants in case any insult should be offered by the Troops that may land there, and to prevent any attempts that may be made to gain possession of the City, and interrupt its intercourse with the country.

"4. That it be left to the Provincial Congress of *New-York* to determine the number of men sufficient to occupy the several Posts above mentioned, and also that already recommended to be taken at or near *Lake George*, as well as to guard the City, provided the whole do not exceed the number of three thousand men, to be commanded by such Officers as shall be thereunto appointed by the Provincial Congress, and to be governed by such rules and regulations as shall be established by said Congress, until further order is taken by this Congress; provided also, that if the said Provincial Congress should be of opinion that the number proposed will not be sufficient for the several services above recommended, that the said Congress report their sentiments upon this subject to this Congress as soon as may be.

"5. That it be recommended to the said Provincial Congress, that in raising those Forces, they allow no bounties or clothing, and that their pay shall not exceed the establishment of the *New-England* Colonies.

"6. That it be further recommended to the Provincial Congress aforesaid, that the Troops be enlisted to serve until the last day of *December* next, unless this Congress shall direct that they be sooner disbanded.

"7. That it be recommended to the Congress aforesaid to persevere the more vigorously in preparing for their defence, as it is very uncertain whether the earnest endeavours of the Congress to accommodate the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, by conciliatory measures, will be successful.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"*CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.*"

A Letter of the 27th instant, by express, from the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, in behalf of the General Assembly of that Colony, was read.

The copy of the Letter from Colonel *Arnold*, dated

*Crown Point*, May 23d, 1775, enclosed in the Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, was also read.

The Committee of Correspondence reported a draught of an answer to the Letter from the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*; which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, May 29, 1775.

*GENTLEMEN*: We have received your letter of the 26th instant, informing us that your body is formed. We agree with you in opinion that nothing can tend more to ensure success to the steps that may be taken by the several Colonies, at this critical juncture, than a uniform plan of conduct; and we are equally convinced, that to this end we ought to look up to the Continental Congress for advice and direction. We are ready to establish a correspondence with you and our other sister Colonies, and a free communication of such measures as may, from time to time, be judged most conducive to the common cause. Every intelligence to this end we shall most readily communicate. At the same time permit us to observe, that either the directions of the Continental Congress or the nature of a particular measure may render its secrecy absolutely necessary.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*, at *Trenton*.

*Ordered*, That the same be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted.

A draught of a Letter to the Delegates representing this Colony in the Grand Continental Congress, was prepared, read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, May 29, 1775.

*GENTLEMEN*: You will be pleased to communicate to the Continental Congress that we have received their letter of the 26th instant, with the resolves of the 25th therein enclosed, to which a proper attention will be given, and the Continental Congress informed of the result in due time. At the same time we beg leave to inform you that there is no powder to be purchased in this City, and scarce any in the whole Colony; and that a very considerable number of the inhabitants are without arms.

We beg to be informed whether we could be supplied with any powder from *Philadelphia*, or any other of the associated Colonies.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter we received this afternoon from Governour *Trumbull*, of *Connecticut*; dated the 27th instant; and also a copy of a letter to that Government from Colonel *Arnold*, dated at *Crown Point*, on the 23d instant.

To-morrow morning we are to take in consideration the expediency of a Continental Paper Currency, the result of which will be communicated to you.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

To the *New-York* Delegates at *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted to the Delegates now representing this Colony in Continental Congress, by a messenger for that purpose, and with all possible despatch.

The Committee of Correspondence (according to order) brought in and reported a draught of a Letter to the Governour and General Court of *Connecticut*, in answer to the Letter from Governour *Trumbull* above mentioned; which was read and approved.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted with all convenient despatch.

*Ordered*, That the Committee to report the ways and means for removing the Cannon and Stores from *Ticonderoga* do, without delay, and as privately as possible, direct one hundred barrels of Pork, two hundred barrels of Flour, and twenty barrels of Rum to be sent forward to *Albany*, towards supplying the Garrisons at *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*.

The draught of a Resolve reported by the Committee appointed for that purpose, recommending the choosing of Committees and Sub-Committees, and signing the Association, being read and amended, was approved, agreed to, and resolved, and is in the words following, to wit:



*Resolved*, That it be recommended, and it is hereby accordingly recommended, to all the Counties in this Colony (who have not already done it) to appoint County Committees, and also Sub-Committees, for their respective Townships, Precincts, and Districts, without delay, in order to carry into execution the Resolutions of the Continental and this Provincial Congress. And that it is also recommended to every inhabitant of this Colony who has hitherto neglected to subscribe the General Association, to do it with all convenient speed. And for these purposes, that the Committees in the respective Counties in which Committees have been formed do tender the said Association to every inhabitant within the several Districts in each County. And that such persons in those Counties or Districts who have not appointed Committees as shall be appointed by the Members of this Congress, representing such Counties and Districts respectively, do make such tender as aforesaid in such Counties and Districts respectively; and that the said Committees and persons respectively do return the said Association, and the names of those who shall neglect or refuse to sign the same, to this Congress by the fifteenth day of July next, or sooner, if possible.

The draft of a Letter to attend the said Resolution, and recommending to carry the measures therein mentioned into execution, was also read, amended, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

New-York, May 29, 1775.

**GENTLEMEN:** You will see by the enclosed Resolution of this Congress that it is recommended to such of the Counties as have not already formed Committees, to do it without delay; and that such of the inhabitants of this Colony as have hitherto neglected to subscribe the General Association, to do it, so as to enable you to make a return within the time limited in the Resolution.

As the execution of this Resolve is committed to your care, we request you to use your best endeavours to see that this recommendation be complied with. It may, nevertheless, be proper to inform you, that it is the sense of this Congress that no coercive steps ought to be used to induce any person to sign the Association. The propriety of the measure, the example of the other Counties, and the necessity of maintaining a perfect union in every part of this Colony, it is presumed are sufficient reasons to induce the inhabitants of your County to comply with this requisition.

*Ordered*, That five hundred copies of the said Resolve and of the said Letter be printed, and that as many copies of the said Letter as may be necessary be signed by the President, and delivered, with the copies of the said Resolve, to the Members of this Congress, to be by them directed.

The Congress adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Martis, 9 ho. A. M., May 30, 1775.

The Congress met, pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. Gano. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter V. B. Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallet, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, Jacobus Van Zandt, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Volkert P. Douw, Esquire, *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abram. Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County.*—Dirck Brinckerhoff, Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, John Nicholson, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Orange County.*—David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Abraham Lent.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Houmedieu, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, Robert Graham, William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertes, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

The mode of taking the Votes of this Congress for the present, and the Rules, were read.

The Order for the business of the Day being read, the Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the expediency of a Continental Paper Currency; which Report is in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee do most humbly report, that having made the best inquiry which the short time would admit of, they find that the proportion of Gold and Silver in this Colony, compared with her sister Colonies, does vary according to the price of Bills of Exchange in the several Colonies, (owing to the relative quantity of Paper Money circulating amongst them, their several debts, and the several balances of their trade,) but that upon the whole there is a smaller proportion of Gold and Silver in this Colony than in several others. That as to the mode of raising money for the exigency of our affairs, it will be impossible to collect a sufficient sum without issuing a Paper Currency of some sort or other. That the neighbouring Colonies of *Connecticut* and *New-Jersey* are indebted to this Colony in very considerable sums. That in the prosecution of measures necessary for our defence, large sums of the money levied or issued for that purpose must undoubtedly centre in this Colony, as an exchange for the necessities of life and other articles which this Colony must furnish. That considering the two facts last mentioned, it follows clearly that this Colony will at first possess a much greater proportion of the general Paper Currency than her sister Colonies. That of consequence it is necessary that the utmost precaution be used to give the highest credit to such emission, in order to prevent the depreciation of it. That it is also necessary the Paper Currency, when emitted, should be as much as possible general, that it may at once answer the purpose for which it is instituted, and with greater ease flow from one Colony to another, and preserve the commercial equality of money. That the emission of Paper Currency in any considerable quantity will necessarily tend to exclude from commercial circulation the Gold and Silver now current, either by sending it to *Britain* for payment of debts there, or by encouraging private persons to secrete it. That if the emission be very great, then exchange will undoubtedly rise, and consequently the Paper Money be depreciated. That these considerations will abate the disposition of the inhabitants of *America* to receive such Paper Money. That, therefore, whether it be a currency or not, will depend upon the security which can be given for the repayment of it. That the Gold and Silver being excluded, as is above mentioned, a general Paper Currency will naturally supply the place of it, provided it can obtain a general credit.

After premising these things, your Committee proceeded to observe, that a Paper Currency being necessary, there are but three modes by which it can be issued:

*First.* That every Colony should strike for itself the sum apportioned by the Continental Congress;

*Secondly.* That the Continental Congress should strike the whole sum necessary, and each Colony become bound to sink its proportionable part; or,

*Thirdly.* That the Continental Congress should strike the whole sum, and apportionate the several shares to the different Colonies, every Colony become bound to discharge its own particular part, and all the Colonies to discharge the part which any particular Colony shall be unable to pay.



Your Committee observe, upon the first mode, that if it be followed, this Colony may not perhaps be under the same necessity of receiving the emission of any Colony which may appear unable to sink the money issued by it, as in the other instances; that therefore there may not on that account be the same danger of subjecting this Colony to the risk of losing moneys issued by its neighbours, and circulating within this Colony. That, nevertheless, it is highly probable the debts due to this Colony will be eventually paid in the Paper Money so issued by the Colonies of *Connecticut* and *New-Jersey*, or that such moneys confined within the bounds of those Colonies will be so depreciated, that the persons in trade who are possessed thereof will be rendered unable to pay their debts in any other way. That your Committee have great reason to believe that emissions of those Colonies will be depreciated in such manner, by reason of the doubts which will arise in men's minds about the sinking of them, wherefore a very considerable loss will happen to this Colony from receiving such money. That your Committee, nevertheless, are of opinion that in order to answer the purposes of striking such Paper Money in these Colonies, it will be necessary for this Colony and all others to give a general credit to every emission. Your Committee do therefore disapprove of the first mode, because they conceive that moneys issued in that way will not have the necessary general credit aforesaid, but that this Colony in particular will be under the necessity of receiving very considerable sums of money from the Colonies of *Connecticut* and *New-Jersey*, which those Colonies may not be able to repay; and if so, that then the circulation of such money in this Colony will prevent the future admission of Gold and Silver, and consequently raise the par of exchange between this Colony and *Great Britain*, so as greatly to distress the general commerce of this Colony, besides the loss which must be sustained by those individuals who become possessed of such depreciated moneys.

As to the second mode, your Committee observe, that it will give much greater credit and currency to the moneys so issued than the first, and consequently will better answer the ends for which it is designed. That such credit and currency will also, in a great measure, prevent the accumulation of it in this Colony, and dissipate it through those channels of trade in which the Gold and Silver now flow, so as to preserve the commercial equality of money above stated. That, nevertheless, your Committee are of opinion that if any default shall happen in sinking the moneys issued by this mode, such default will be made by the adjacent Colonies of *Connecticut* and *New-Jersey*, or one of them, and that, therefore, although there are greater advantages attending this mode than the former, yet it is subject to all the same inconveniences with respect to this Colony.

Your Committee do now observe, upon the last mode, that it will be attended with the advantage of higher and more universal credit than either of the former, and consequently, as to the general cause, will best answer the great end of its institution. That this advantage is attended with a very great disadvantage as to this Colony, because this Colony may by that means be subjected to the payment of her own proportion, and also to a proportion of the part of such Colony as may become bankrupt by her over exertions in this controversy. Your Committee, however, do conceive, that if any Colony or Colonies shall be deficient in this respect, it will most probably be those which are immediately adjacent to this. That the greater part of the moneys designated for them to refund will necessarily circulate in this Colony, and therefore in it the deficiencies which shall so happen will be most sensibly felt. That in such case, if the Colonies are generally pledged for each other, and do severally perform their engagements, then this Colony will be greatly relieved by sinking a part thereof in *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, &c. That if such engagements are not performed, this Colony will not be in a worse situation by this than by either of the other modes, but continue precisely in the same predicament.

Before your Committee determine their choice, they pray leave to observe, that there are only two obstacles to an emission of Paper Money:

*First.* To give it an immediate and ready currency;

*Secondly.* To provide ways and means for sinking it.

As to the first, your Committee observe, that if the Continental Congress shall strike a Paper Currency, they have no doubts but that it will be very readily received throughout this Continent; yet they have very great doubts whether the same determination ought to be made with respect to moneys issued by a lesser authority.

As to the second point, your Committee observe, that whenever a Paper Currency has been emitted, and obtained a general credit, it will be a new bond of union to the Associated Colonies, and every inhabitant thereof will be bound in interest to endeavour that ways and means be fallen upon for sinking of it.

Now, therefore, since moneys issued in the last of those three modes above mentioned will afford higher security to those who receive them, and of consequence obtain a more ready, general, and confidential circulation, your Committee do approve of that mode. First, because it will most effectually answer the end of its emission; secondly, because most probably this Colony will not be burdened with so great a proportion of it; thirdly, because the other Colonies will be more deeply interested in preventing its depreciation; and, fourthly, because the losses to be apprehended by this Colony will be alleviated by the participation of others.

If this plan should be adopted, then, your Committee are of opinion that it will be necessary the moneys issued should, on one side, have some general device, and the moneys proportioned to any particular Colony have the arms, signature, &c., of such Colony on the other side; and that the proportion now established be stated as a fixed proportion to estimate, in case of deficiency in one Colony, the aids of the others.

All which is most humbly submitted.

The said Report of the Committee being fully debated and considered, and the question put thereon, whether the Congress does agree with their Committee in the said Report?

*Resolved, nemine contradicente,* That this Congress does agree with the said Committee in their Report.

*Ordered,* That a copy of the said Report be immediately transmitted to the Delegates representing this Colony in the Continental Congress, and that the Committee of Correspondence prepare and report a draft of a Letter to be sent to the said Delegates with the said Report.

And the Committee of Correspondence having reported a draught of such Letter to the said Delegates, the same was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress at New-York, May 30, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a copy of the Report of our Committee upon the expediency of a Paper Currency, and the approbation of that Report by this Congress. Upon a perusal of it you will readily perceive the impropriety of laying it before the Continental Congress. We send it to show you our sense, and the reasons on which it is founded, out of which you will select such for use as you may think proper.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants.  
To the Delegates for the Colony of *New-York*, now sitting in Continental Congress.

*Ordered,* That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted with all convenient speed.

The Congress adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

5 ho. P. M., May 30, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:  
*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Alexander McDougall, Abraham Walton, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, David Clarkson, Thos. Smith, Esquire, Benjamin Kissam, Esquire, John Morin Scott, Esquire, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, and Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah



Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Col. Johannes Hardenbergh, Col. James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, Esquire, Jacob Hornbeck, Esquire.

*For Orange County.*—David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Col. Abraham Lent.

*For Suffolk County.*—Col. Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Homedieu, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Col. James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Major Philip Van Cortlandt, Colonel James Holmes, Robert Graham, and William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Col. Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

Mr. *Scott* moved that the subject matter of the Resolves of the Continental Congress on the 25th of May instant, and transmitted to this Congress, be immediately taken into consideration.

And that part of the said Resolves which directs the fortifying a Post at *King's Bridge*, was accordingly taken into consideration.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Montgomerie*, Mr. *Glenn*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, and Col. *Holmes*, be a Committee to view the ground at or near *King's Bridge*, and report to this Congress whether the ground near *King's Bridge* will admit of making a Fortification there that will be tenable; and at what particular place the ground will admit of making the best and most tenable Fortification; and that they call to their assistance such persons as they shall think necessary, and make report to this Congress with all convenient speed.

The Congress then took into consideration that part of the Resolves of the Continental Congress which directs the erecting of Fortifications in the Highlands on *Hudson River*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Clinton* and Mr. *Tappen* be a Committee (and that they take to their assistance such persons as they shall think necessary) to go to the Highlands and view the banks of the *Hudson River* there, and report to this Congress the most proper place for erecting one or more Fortifications; and likewise an estimate of the expense that will attend erecting the same.

Mr. *Kissam* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Silvester*, in the words following, to wit:

Forasmuch as a reconciliation between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, on constitutional principles, is essential to the well-being of both Countries, and will prevent the horrors of a civil war, in which this Continent is now about to be involved, it is therefore the indispensable duty of this Congress to communicate to the Delegates of this Colony in Continental Congress their sentiments respecting the terms of such reconciliation: I therefore move, that a Committee be appointed to prepare and state the terms on which such reconciliation may be tendered to *Great Britain*, consistent with the just liberties and freedom of the subject in *America*, to the intent that the same, when approved of by this Congress, may be laid before the said Delegates as our sense on this important subject, to be humbly submitted to their consideration.

And debates arising on the said motion, at the request of the Deputies of the City and County of *Albany*, and the Counties of *Ulster*, *Suffolk*, and *Charlotte*,

*Ordered*, That the same be deferred.

Mr. *Clarkson*, from the Committee for that purpose, reported an estimate of the expense of removing the Cannon and Stores at *Ticonderoga*, which was read.

*Ordered*, That the same lie on the table for the perusal of the Members.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Dumond* be desired to purchase

two hundred barrels of Flour at *Kingston*, in *Ulster County*, and have the same transported to *Albany* with all possible despatch, and delivered to the agents appointed by this Congress to superintend the removal of the Cannon and Stores from *Ticonderoga*; and that Mr. *Dumond* have leave of absence for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *McDougall* be desired to purchase one hundred barrels of Pork, and have the same sent to *Albany* with all possible despatch, to be delivered to the same agents; and that Mr. *Dirck Swart* have leave of absence, to attend upon his agency in superintending the removal of the Cannon and Stores from *Ticonderoga*, and such other matters as are given in charge to him and the other agents for that purpose, by instructions from this Provincial Congress.

The Congress adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., May 31, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. *Inglis*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter V. B. Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Marston, Walter Franklin.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Volkert P. Douw, Esquire, *Vice-President*; Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Abraham Ten Broeck, Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County.*—Dirck Brinckerhoff, Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Col. Johannes Hardenbergh, Col. James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, and Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Orange County.*—David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Abraham Lent.

*For Suffolk County.*—Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Homedieu, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, Robert Graham, William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Col. Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, and Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

The Petition of *James Arden*, *Richard Outenbogert*, *John West*, and six other persons, setting forth their distresses, and praying for relief, was read.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition lie on the table for the perusal of the Members.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee to estimate the expense of removing the Cannon and Stores at *Ticonderoga*, and their Report on the ways and means for that purpose.

And after some time spent therein,

*Resolved*, That as Messrs. *David Clarkson*, *Leonard Lispenard*, and *Alexander McDougall*, have offered to become bound to *Abraham Lott*, Esquire, Treasurer of this Colony, for all such money (not exceeding One Thousand Five Hundred Pounds) as may be advanced to this Congress by the said Treasurer for the present exigency, all the Members of this Congress do agree to be responsible for their several proportions of such advance, in case those gentlemen should be called upon for it. Except Mr. *Henry Williams*, who dissents.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Resolves of the Continental Congress of the 25th of May instant, and particularly that part of the third Resolve



which directs that the Militia of *New-York* be armed and trained, and in constant readiness to act at a moment's warning. And thereupon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of this Colony in general, immediately to furnish themselves with necessary Arms and Ammunition, to use all diligence to perfect themselves in the military art, and, if necessary, to form themselves into Companies for that purpose, until the further order of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That this Resolve be printed in the Newspapers, and that five hundred copies thereof be printed in handbills.

This Congress then proceeded to the consideration of the residue of the third Resolve and of the fourth Resolve of the Continental Congress. And thereupon,

*Resolved*, That in compliance with the Resolution of the Continental Congress of the 25th instant, this Congress will use all possible diligence in embodying men according to the said Resolution.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lispenard*, Col. *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Holmes*, Colonel *Lent*, Captain *Hornbeck*, Colonel *Blackwell*, Colonel *Brinckerhoff*, Colonel *Woodhull*, Mr. *Polhemus*, Mr. *Micheau*, Mr. *John Williams*, Mr. *Montgomerie*, Mr. *Hobart*, and Mr. *Morris*, be a Committee to report an arrangement of the Troops to be embodied for the defence of this Colony; and to report such rules and regulations as would be proper to be established by this Congress for the government of such Troops.

A draught of a Letter to be directed to some gentlemen in *Tryon County*, was read and approved.

*Ordered*, That two copies thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President; and that one be directed and sent to *Christopher Yates*, Esquire, and the other to Major *Jellis Fonda*, in *Tryon County*.

*Ordered*, That Letters to the same purport be prepared, signed by the President, and sent to the following gentlemen, viz: To Colonel *James Rogers*, at *Kent*, in *Cumberland County*; to *Jacob Bayley*, Esquire, at *Newbury*, in *Gloucester County*; and to *John Taplin*, Esq., of *Newbury*, in *Gloucester County*; and that the draughts of such Letters respectively be filed.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Kissam's* motion of yesterday be deferred until to-morrow morning.

The Congress adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Jovis, 9 ho., June 1, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. *Laidley*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Abraham Ten Broeck, Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County*.—Dirck Brinckerhoff, Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson, Jacob Hornbeck.

*For Orange County*.—David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Abraham Lent.

*For Suffolk County*.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Houmeau, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, Robert Graham, William Paulding.

*For King's County*.—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams,

Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner, Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County*.—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County*.—John Williams, William Marsh.

Major *Richard Lawrence*, from *Richmond County*, appeared in Congress.

*Ordered*, That he take his seat.

A Letter, signed *Joseph Warren*, President, from the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, dated at *Watertown*, May 26, 1775, to this Congress, was read.

The copy of a Letter from *Benedict Arnold*, mentioned to be enclosed in the above, dated *Crown Point*, May 19, 1775, was read.

A Letter from *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esquire, on behalf of the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, dated *Hartford*, May 29, 1775, was read.

A Letter from the Committee at the City of *Albany*, dated May 26, 1775, covering the Papers therein mentioned, was read.

The several Papers referred to in the Letter from the said Committee at *Albany*, were read. The particular numbers and endorsements of them are as follows, to wit:

No. 2. A translation of a Letter from the *Mohawk Indians* to the *Oneidas*.

No. 3. A copy of a Letter from the *Palatine District* to the Committee at *Albany*, dated May 18, 1775; and an answer thereto, No. 3, a.

No. 4. Copy of affidavit of *Hendrick Eckler* and four other persons, dated May 19, 1775.

No. 5. Copy of a Letter from Colonel *G. Johnson* to Committee at *Albany*, dated May 18, 1775.

No. 6. A copy of a Letter from Colonel *G. Johnson* to the Magistrates of *Palatine*, *Canajoharie*, and other Districts, dated May 20, 1775.

No. 7. Copy of a Letter from Colonel *G. Johnson* to the Committee of *Schenectady*, and the Mayor and Corporation of *Albany*, without date.

No. 8. A copy of a Letter from the Committee of *Albany* to Colonel *Johnson*, May 23, 1775.

No. 9. A copy of the *Indian's Speech* translated; interpreted May 20, received at *Albany* 22d May.

No. 10. A copy of an Answer to the *Indian's Speech*, dated May 23.

No. 11. A copy of the *Mohawk's Reply*, dated May 25; a copy of the Committee's Speech in return; and of the *Mohawk's* concluding Speech.

No. 12. A copy of a Letter from Colonel *Arnold* to the Committee of *Albany*, May 22.

No. 13. A copy of a Letter from Colonel *Arnold* to Captain *Noah Lee*, dated at *Crown Point*, May 23.

No. 14. Extracts of sundry Letters from *Quebeck*; extracted May 25.

No. 15. A List of Officers and Men wanted for the two vessels on the Lake.

No. 16. The method proposed by the *Albany* Committee for raising Men.

A draught of a Letter to the Delegates representing this Colony in Continental Congress to attend copies of all the despatches this day received and before mentioned, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress at New-York, June 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We this morning received despatches from *Albany*, *Watertown*, and *Hartford*, which contain, as you will observe, very important intelligence. We think it our duty, through you, to lay it before the Continental Congress, and for that purpose have prepared copies of the several papers which we received as aforesaid. We shall make no comments on them, being convinced that your own good understanding, and the knowledge of the state of these Colonies, will render any such attempts useless. Our business proceeds with great heaviness for want of the sinews of war, which we have not, neither have we any powder. Money we cannot have until we receive the directions of your body, as you will easily believe. Besides this, we



would be extremely happy to know that your body had taken into their serious consideration the several circumstances of the associated Colonies, and that they in their wisdom had assigned the several quotas of men and money to each. This information will guide our deliberations to a proper object, for the want of which our present attention is distracted by the uncertainty of what shall be determined with respect to this Colony.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient and humble servants.

To the *New-York* Delegates at the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That a copy of this Letter be engrossed and signed by the President, and transmitted (with copies of all the despatches received this day) to the Delegates representing this Colony at the Continental Congress, by a messenger for that purpose.

A draught of a Letter to the Sub-Committee of the City and County of *Albany*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress at New-York, June 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to the minute of the Grand Congress, we (being unable, as you know, to garrison *Ticonderoga*, *Crown Point*, or *Fort George*) made application to the Eastern Colonies for their assistance. In our letter to Governor *Trumbull*, of *Connecticut*, we desired him to order Troops on that service, and informed him that it is our intention that the commanding officer of those Troops should be the commander of the forts by them garrisoned. We moreover requested him to give orders to such officer to use great diligence to prevent any inroads into *Canada*.

This morning we have received his Honour's and the Assembly's answer, of which we send you a copy. You will find that one thousand men are already on their way to the frontier country. Their commanding officer is Colonel *Hinman*, wherefore we beg you will inform all persons in that part of the country of his appointment. We have at present no powder in this City, nor can we possibly tell you when we shall have any. The reason of this uncertainty is, that the *British* Ministry have taken measures to prevent supplies of powder from coming to *America* from any part of *Europe*. But you will easily see that though such attempts may delay, they cannot prevent us from getting some. Should the *Indians* again mention their uneasiness on the subject of powder, it will, as we conceive, be proper to mention to them the endeavours of *Great Britain* to hinder both them and us from obtaining any. We have received your despatches of the twenty-sixth ultimo, and already forwarded copies to the Grand Congress.

We are, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants. To Doctor *Samuel Stringer*, Chairman of the Sub-Committee of the City and County of *Albany*.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter to the Sub-Committee at *Albany* be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted with all convenient despatch.

Mr. *Low* delivered a Petition of Captain *Samuel Tudor*, on behalf of himself and the Independent Company of Artillery in the City of *New-York*, setting forth that they have not any Carriages for such Cannon as they have pitched on to use until brass Field-Pieces be provided, and that they are destitute of Ammunition.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Samuel Tudor* be desired to provide Carriages, Rammers and Spunges, and such other things as are necessary for four Guns, for training his Company.

Mr. *Kissam*, with leave of the Congress, withdrew his Motion of the thirtieth of *May* instant, in order to amend the same.

The Congress adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., June 2, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Mason*. Present:

For the City and County of *New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., President; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck,

David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, and John Marston.

For the City and County of *Albany*.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., Vice-President; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Abraham Ten Broeck, Francis Nicoll.

For *Dutchess County*.—Dirck Brinckerhoff, Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

For *Ulster County*.—Col. Johannes Hardenbergh, John Nicholson, Jacob Hornbeck.

For *Orange County*.—David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, Abraham Lent, and Jeremiah Clarke.

For *Suffolk County*.—Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Homedieu, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

For *Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, Robert Graham, William Paulding.

For *King's County*.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt.

For *Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner, Richard Lawrence.

For *Queen's County*.—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom.

For *Charlotte County*.—John Williams, William Marsh.

Mr. *Jeremiah Clarke*, from *Cornwall* Precinct, *Orange County*, produced a Certificate signed by *Jesse Woodhull*, Esq., Chairman of a meeting of the Freeholders of *Cornwall*, in *Orange County*, whereby it appears that *Israel Seely*, *Jesse Woodhull*, Esquire, and *Jeremiah Clarke*, are chosen and appointed Deputies for that Precinct, to represent them in this Provincial Congress as part of the representation of the County of *Orange*. The said Certificate was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Clarke* take his seat.

A Letter from the Delegates representing this Colony in the Continental Congress, bearing date on the thirteenth day of *May* ultimo, was read.

*Jacob Shafer*, who was sent a messenger to *Philadelphia*, delivered in an account of his disbursements, amounting to four pounds ten shillings four pence.

*Ordered*, That the President pay to the said *Jacob Shafer*, for his disbursements and time, six pounds eight shillings.

The Committee of Correspondence, according to order, brought in and reported a draft of a Letter to the People of *Canada*, both in *French* and *English*, which drafts were read and approved of.

*Ordered*, That fifteen hundred copies of the said Letters be printed in *French*, and five hundred copies in *English*, with the name of the President printed to each of them, and that they be transmitted to be distributed among the People of *Canada* with all possible despatch.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Clarkson* wait upon *Abraham Lott*, Esq., Treasurer of this Colony, and obtain from him, on loan, any such sum of Money as he may be able to lend out of the Colony Treasury, that the same may be applied towards the present exigences of the Colony; and Mr. *Clarkson*, for the present, give his Note to the Treasurer, to be accountable to him for such sum as he may receive, until farther security shall be given for the same.

Mr. *Clarkson* returned, and reported that he had obtained Two Hundred Pounds from the Treasurer, upon his own Note given for that sum.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Clarkson* pay the said Two Hundred Pounds to *Dirck Swart*, and take his receipt for the same; and

*Resolved*, That all the Members of this Congress do agree to be responsible to Mr. *David Clarkson* for their several proportions of the said Two Hundred Pounds, until Mr. *Clarkson* shall be repaid or otherwise secured for the same.



Mr. *Kissam* moved (and was seconded) in the words following, to wit: "Forasmuch as a reconciliation between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, on constitutional principles, is essential to the well being of both Countries, and will prevent the horrors of a civil war, in which this Continent is now about to be involved, I move that a Committee be appointed to prepare a plan of such accommodation, and report the same to this House."

And debates arising thereon, Mr. *McDougall* (seconded by Mr. *Brasher*) moved for the Previous Question.

And the question being put, and the votes of the Counties represented taken, it was carried against the Previous Question in the manner following, to wit:

| For the Previous Question. | Against the Previous Question.             |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 2 Ulster County.           | 2 King's County.                           |
| 2 Orange County.           | 3 Albany City and County.                  |
| 2 Suffolk County.          | 2 Richmond County.                         |
| 2 Dutchess County.—Mr.     | 2 Queen's County.—Mr. <i>Robinson</i> dis- |
| — <i>Hoffman</i> dis-      | 2 Charlotte County. [senting.              |
| 8                          | 2 Westchester County.—Mr. <i>Phil. Van</i> |
|                            | <i>Cortlandt</i> dissenting.               |
|                            | 4 New-York—Dissentients: Messrs.           |
|                            | <i>Scott, McDougall, Van Zandt,</i>        |
|                            | 17 <i>Brasher, Lispenard, Beekman,</i>     |
|                            | <i>Hallet, John Van Cortlandt.</i>         |

The question was then put on the said motion, and it was carried for the motion, in manner following, to wit:

| For the Motion.                      | Against the Motion.                 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3 Albany City and County.            | 2 Suffolk County.                   |
| 2 King's County.                     | 2 Ulster County.                    |
| 2 Queen's County.                    | 2 Orange County.                    |
| 2 Richmond County.                   | 2 Dutchess County.—Mr. <i>Hoff-</i> |
| 2 Westchester County.— <i>Philip</i> | — <i>man</i> dissenting.            |
| <i>Van Cortlandt</i> dissenting.     | 8                                   |
| 2 Charlotte County.                  |                                     |
| 4 New-York City and County.          |                                     |

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Colonel *Woodhull* then moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Tredwell*, that an amendment be made to the said motion, by adding thereto the following words, to wit: "That we may be ready, if we shall think it necessary, to communicate our sentiments upon that subject to our Delegates at *Philadelphia*." Which amendment being read a second time, was approved of and agreed to.

*Resolved, therefore*, That although we would by no means presume to dictate to the General Continental Congress, yet it is highly necessary that this House be prepared to give our sentiments to our Delegates in the said Congress upon such plan of accommodation; and

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Low*, Mr. *McDougall*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Mr. *Kissam*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Thomas Smith*, Mr. *Silvester*, Mr. *Payne*, Col. *Woodhull*, Mr. *John Williams*, Mr. *Micheau*, and Mr. *Tredwell*, be a Committee for that purpose, and do make report with all convenient speed.

A Letter from *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress, being received, was read, and is in the words following:

"Philadelphia, May 31, 1775.

"SIR: I am directed by the Congress to transmit to your Convention their Resolve, and to desire an immediate compliance with it, so far as it respects the furnishing batteaus, provisions, stores, &c. I am, Sir, your most humble servant,  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

"To the Honourable the President of the Provincial Convention of *New-York*."

The Resolve of the Continental Congress received enclosed in the above Letter, was also read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, May 31, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That the Governour of *Connecticut* be requested immediately to send a strong re-enforcement to the Garrisons of *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, and that so many of the Cannon and other Stores be retained as may be necessary for the immediate defence of those Posts, until the further order of this Congress; and that the Provincial Convention of *New-York* be informed of this Resolve, and desired to furnish those Troops with Provisions and other necessary Stores, and to take effectual care that a sufficient number of Batteaus be immediately provided for the Lakes."

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

The Committee appointed to view the ground near *King's Bridge*, delivered in their Report, and a Map or Draught of a place thereto annexed.

*Ordered*, That the said Report lay on the table for the perusal and information of the Members.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Ten Broeck* and Mr. *Dirck Swart* wait on *Abraham Lott*, Esquire, Treasurer of the Colony, and obtain from him an order on the Loan Officers of the City and County of *Albany*, for a sum of Money, to be applied for the publick exigences of the Colony, in such manner as this Congress shall direct; and that Colonel *Ten Broeck*, for the present, give his Note to the Treasurer for such order, or the amount of the sum to be therein mentioned, until farther security shall be given for the same.

Colonel *Ten Broeck* returned and produced to this Congress an order on the Loan Officers at *Albany*, for the sum of Seven Hundred Pounds, payable to Mr. *Dirck Swart*, and informed that he had given his Note to the Treasurer for that sum.

*Resolved*, That all the Members of this Congress do agree to be responsible to Colonel *Abraham Ten Broeck* for their several proportions of the said Seven Hundred Pounds, until Colonel *Ten Broeck* shall be repaid or otherwise secured for the same.

In pursuance of the engagements made by this Congress in their Letter to the Governour and General Court of *Connecticut* of the twenty-ninth ultimo, and of the Resolve of the Continental Congress, bearing date on the thirty-first *May*, directing that this Congress furnish Provisions and Stores for the Garrisons at the Posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, it is conceived necessary to employ a Commissary at *New-York*, and Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius*, of the City of *New-York*, merchant, being mentioned and esteemed a proper person to be Commissary, the Congress sent for Mr. *Curtenius*, who attended; and being called in by order of the Congress, he was informed by the President that the Congress thought it necessary to have a Commissary to provide and forward Provisions and Stores of sundry kinds to the Commissioners at *Albany*, for the use of the Garrisons at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, and such other parts or places as may be necessary; and also to provide and forward materials for the building of Batteaus, and to provide Artificers and Mariners to proceed to *Lake Champlain*.

That if he would accept of that trust he should purchase such Provisions and Stores as the Congress should, from time to time, direct; and that he should be allowed a commission of one and a half per cent., until he shall be supplied with cash to purchase such Stores and Provisions with; and that after he is supplied with cash to purchase such Stores and Provisions, and to pay all such disbursements as may be necessary, that he shall be allowed a commission of one per cent.

Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* agreed to be Commissary, and to accept and perform that trust and business for the commission above mentioned: Whereupon it is

*Resolved*, That the said *Peter T. Curtenius* be and is hereby appointed the Commissary to purchase, procure, and provide such Provisions and Stores of every kind, and to engage such Artificers and Mariners as he shall, from time to time, be directed by this Congress, and to forward the same to the said Commissioners at *Albany*, or any other such place or places as he shall be directed by this Congress, or by any Committee they may appoint for that purpose.

And also *Resolved*, That the said *Peter T. Curtenius* shall have for his services the commissions above mentioned, beside all his disbursements: and

*Resolved*, That this Congress does agree to indemnify the said *Peter T. Curtenius* for all his disbursements and commissions in the premises; and that all the Members of this Congress do agree to become responsible to the said *Peter T. Curtenius* for their several respective proportions of all disbursements that shall be made by him, and of all moneys that shall become due to him as a Commissary, and in the execution of the trust aforesaid, until he shall be repaid or otherwise secured and indemnified for the same.

And it is further *Resolved and Agreed*, That for any sums of money that shall be advanced or lent by the said



*Peter T. Curtenius* for the services aforesaid, he shall be allowed a lawful interest until the same shall be repaid.

Messrs. *Clarkson*, Colonel *Holmes*, *Thomas Smith*, and Colonel *Lent*, have leave of absence.

The Congress adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Saturnii, 9 ho. A. M., June 3, 1775.

The Congress met. Opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. *Treat*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., *President*; *Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Abraham Walton*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *James Beekman*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Van Cortlandt*, and *Jacobus Van Zandt*.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—*Volkert P. Douw*, Esq., *Vice-President*; *Robert Yates*, *Abraham Yates*, *Jacob Cuyler*, *Peter Silvester*, *Walter Livingston*, *Robert Van Rensselaer*, *Henry Glenn*, *Abraham Ten Broeck*, and *Francis Nicoll*.

*For Dutchess County*.—*Dirck Brinckerhoff*, *Anthony Hoffman*, *Zephaniah Platt*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *Ephraim Payne*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Jonathan Landon*, *Gysbert Schenck*, *Melancton Smith*, and *Nathaniel Sackett*.

*For Ulster County*.—*Johannes Hardenbergh*, *John Nicholson*, and *Jacob Hornbeck*.

*For Orange County*.—*David Pye*, *Peter Clowes*, *William Allison*, and *Jeremiah Clarke*.

*For Suffolk County*.—*Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, *Thomas Tredwell*, *Ezra L'Homedieu*, and *Thomas Wickham*.

*For Westchester County*.—*Gouverneur Morris*, *Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, and *Stephen Ward*.

*For King's County*.—*Johannes E. Lott*, *Henry Williams*, *Jeremiah Remsen*, *Theodorus Polhemus*, *John Leffertse*, and *John Vanderbilt*.

*For Richmond County*.—*Paul Micheau*, *John Journey*, *Aaron Cortelyou*, *Richard Conner*, and *Richard Lawrence*.

*For Queen's County*.—*Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Zebulon Williams*, *Samuel Townshend*, *Joseph Robinson*, and *Richard Thorne*.

*For Charlotte County*.—*John Williams*, *William Marsh*.

Col. *Hardenbergh* and Captain *Hornbeck*, from *Ulster*, and Mr. *Townshend*, Captain *Williams*, and Mr. *Thorne*, have leave of absence.

Colonel *Ten Broeck* and three others, Members for *Albany*, have leave of absence, they always leaving seven Members.

The Congress ordered the stores, men, and things hereafter mentioned, to be provided by *Peter T. Curtenius* and forwarded to *Albany*, and that the several articles for that purpose, hereinafter mentioned, be provided by the Commissioners at *Albany*, that the whole may be forwarded to the south end of *Lake George*, viz:

A List of Men and articles to be procured by *Peter T. Curtenius*, and forwarded to the Agents at *Albany*:

Two mates for two vessels: 2 gunners: 2 carpenters capable of making carriages: 2 gunners' mates: 2 boatswains: 20 seamen: 200 barrels of pork: 10 barrels of pitch: 20 casks of rice: 4 barrels of tar: 500 pounds of powder, if so much can be got: 1000 pounds of oakum: 100 shovels, 50 spades, 12 crowbars, and 50 pick-axes, to be marked *New-York*: 3 casks of nails, one of 12d, 20d, and 24d, each: 100 camp kettles.

The following articles to be procured at *Albany*: spikes: a gin: rope: 6 grindstones: cart boxes: 100 *American* falling axes, marked *New-York*.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee who viewed the ground at *King's Bridge*, and places adjacent.

Ordered, That a copy of the said Report, with the Map annexed thereto, be transmitted to the *New-York* Delegates at *Philadelphia*, and that Mr. *Morris* and Captain *Montgomerie* be a Committee for draughting a Letter to the said Delegates on the subject matter of said Report.

Ordered, That the Committee of Correspondence

draught an answer to Governour *Trumbull's* Letter, dated May 29, 1775.

A Letter from *James Rivington*, Printer, directed to this Congress, as also a copy of his Address to the Continental Congress, and a copy of his Letter to the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, were read, and the subject matter taken into consideration.

Ordered, That the same be deferred.

Ordered, That the Committee of Correspondence draught an answer to the Letter of the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*, dated *Watertown*, May 26, 1775.

Ordered, That Mr. *Christopher Blundell* be desired to deliver one of the Gins under his care to *Abraham P. Lott*, Esq., and Mr. *Thomas Ivers*, and take their receipt for the same.

Whereas the Continental Congress, in their Resolution of the fifteenth ultimo, have recommended to the inhabitants of this City, that if the Troops which are expected should arrive here, this Colony act on the defensive so long as it may be consistent with their safety and security: And whereas the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, in their Address to the Lieutenant-Governour of this Colony, have requested that in case any Troops from *Great Britain* should arrive here, that he would endeavour to procure orders from General *Gage* to prevent their landing or encamping in this City and County: And this Congress being informed that orders have been received from the General for the embarkation of the Troops now in this City: We do, therefore, as well in conformity to what we conceive to be the spirit of the above order of the Continental Congress, as the intention of the above Address, earnestly recommend it to the inhabitants of this City and County, and all others, not to obstruct the embarkation of the said Troops, but to permit them to depart this City peaceably.

Ordered, That one thousand of the above Resolve be printed in handbills.

In pursuance of the Letter from the Delegates for this Colony, now at the Provincial Congress, of the 30th May, 1775, a draught of a Letter to the inhabitants of *Tryon* County was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We lately wrote to a few individuals of your County, representing the use and necessity of your appointing Deputies to associate with us in this present Convention, upon a presumption that you have already chosen Committees with a view that our thoughts on the subject might be made known to the publick, and the measure recommended carried into execution by a ready and speedy compliance, at least of those who are friendly to the liberties of the subject, and consequently foes to tyranny and oppression. Since those letters were sent up to your County, we yesterday received one from our Delegates in the Grand Congress at *Philadelphia*, in which, among other things, there is a paragraph in substance following: "That if there are any Counties in which no Committees have been chosen, as we are informed there are, that it would be proper to recommend that they be immediately elected. We observe that *Tryon* County has not sent up Deputies to your Convention, and would submit it to your consideration whether it would not be proper to send them a message, suggesting the inconveniences attending such conduct, and the necessity it will lay you under of breaking off all connections with them. The day rapidly approaches which will determine the important point of *American* freedom; and though there are but very few, comparatively speaking, who still have not signified their union with their brethren in this glorious cause, yet we would have every reasonable effort used to increase the numbers of our friends, as it will not only afford additional weight to the controversy, but probably will most effectually destroy the expiring hopes of our adversaries."

We once more call upon you, for your own reputation's sake, for the love of your Country, and as you tender your own happiness and welfare, the prosperity of the whole Continent, and of the millions yet unborn, that you will not separate from your brethren upon this momentous occasion, who are embarked and deeply engaged in this grand struggle. Permit us to entreat you not to omit or delay



this essential requisition, but co-operate with us cheerfully, by redoubled vigilance and activity, and make up for your long negligence and backwardness. Perhaps this will be the last application to you, as the time is almost come that we should be able to distinguish those who are inimical among us. We should with reluctance be compelled to hold your County up to the publick as a disjointed and disaffected part of the community.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants.

To Messrs. *John Fry, Peter Wagener, Jacob Clock, Anthony Van Veghten, Christopher Yates*, and the rest of the inhabitants of the County of *Tryon*.

*Ordered*, That four copies thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted.

A draught of a Letter to Colonel *G. Johnson* was also read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 3, 1775.

SIR: At a time when the *American* subjects on this extensive Continent are almost with one voice and united effort nobly exerting themselves in the glorious cause of liberty, and endeavouring to reconcile the unnatural and unhappy differences between the parent State and these Colonies upon permanent and constitutional principles, we cannot help lamenting that we have received disagreeable accounts from your quarter, that there are individuals officiously interrupting the mode and measures conceived necessary to bring about these salutary purposes.

On the one hand, you may depend upon it that we shall discourage and discountenance every attempt against your person and property, and shall use our utmost endeavours to render them safe and secure; but on the other hand, we expect you will not counteract any of the measures expedient for the common weal recommended by the Continental or Provincial Congress, or by the Committees formed or to be formed. Should you take so unfriendly a part, we cannot answer for the consequences of such a conduct; on the contrary, if you and our *Indian* brethren under your superintendency, do not interfere in this controversy, you may promise yourselves all the protection that this House can afford you. The dispute is become so serious now that we cannot silently suffer our plan to be frustrated by our own countrymen. We are, &c.

To Colonel *GUY JOHNSON*, &c.

*Ordered*, That the same be signed by the President, and transmitted.

*Ordered*, That the Resolve of this Board of the 26th of *May* ultimo, respecting the People of *Canada*, be translated into *French*, and that a copy thereof in *French*, and the copy of the Resolve in *English*, be prefixed to the printed copies of the Letters to the People of *Canada*.

A Letter from *John Lamb* to this Congress was read.

*Ordered*, that the said Letter be referred to the Committee appointed to make an arrangement of the Troops to be embodied in this Colony.

The Congress adjourned to next *Tuesday* morning nine o'clock.

Die Martis, 9 ho. A. M., June 6, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Doctor *Livingston*. Present:

*Volbert P. Douw*, Esq., *Vice-President*.

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallet, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Marston*.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—*Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn*.

*For Dutchess County*.—*Anthony Hoffman, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Gysbert Schenck, Nathaniel Sackett*.

*For Ulster County*.—*John Nicholson*.

*For Orange County*.—*Peter Clowes, William Allison, Jeremiah Clarke*.

*For Suffolk County*.—*Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, Ezra L'Homedieu, Thomas Wickham*.

*For Westchester County*.—*Stephen Ward, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun.*

*For King's County*.—*Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, John Vanderbilt*.

*For Richmond County*.—(None.)

*For Queen's County*.—*Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom.*

*For Charlotte County*.—*John Williams, William Marsh*.

A Letter from the Committee at *Albany* to this Congress being read, was in the words following, to wit:

"Albany Committee Chamber, June 2, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: In consequence of a letter from this Committee to Governour *Trumbull*, dated 27th ult., we received his answer of the 30th; whereof you have a copy enclosed, and from which it appears that you have sent them a resolve, with a request to send up forces to *Ticonderoga*, &c. In consequence whereof one thousand of them are now on their way. You will therefore be pleased to send up, with all possible despatch, a sufficient supply of provisions (except flour, peas and bread, which we can supply them with) and other necessities, for which purpose we send you enclosed copy of a list from Colonel *Arnold's* letter to us of the 29th ult.

"We have in the alarm above raised several companies to go up to *Ticonderoga*, &c., two of which are on their way up. This we did in consequence, first, of the resolution of the Continental Congress of the 18th ult.; secondly of the letter from the *New-York* Committee enclosing said Resolve, dated 20th ult.; and thirdly, Colonel *Arnold's* letter to us requiring immediate assistance. But on our receipt of the above letter from Governour *Trumbull*, we are in great doubts with respect to our men already raised in this County, and those who stand ready to march up, as we know not the nature of the resolve you have sent to Governour *Trumbull*; and his letter contains a clause that these one thousand forces are to continue at *Ticonderoga*, &c., until relieved by troops from this Colony, &c.

"We should be extremely glad to have plain explicit instructions from time to time, that we need not wander astray, and act counter to your intentions and the general good of the publick.

"There are some troops (twelve in number) taken by the Provincial Forces from *St. John's*, who are now in this City, and who daily call upon this Committee for the common necessities of life, but can give the Commissioners or Agents no directions in the premises, as their instructions from you will not warrant them to supply them with provisions, although they have been hitherto supplied out of the Provincial store. But we would be glad of your resolution on this matter, and let us know whether we should supply these troops any longer, or leave them to be supported from the provisions here in the King's store; and, upon the whole, what you would have us do with them, as they are only a burden to us.

"Please to take these matters into your immediate consideration, and send us your resolution in consequence thereof; and you will oblige, gentlemen, your most humble servant. By order of the Committee:

"SAMUEL STRINGER, *Chairman p. t.*"

The copy of a Letter from the Governour and Company of *Connecticut* to said Committee at *Albany*; and a list of men, implements of war, and stores, from Colonel *B. Arnold*, wanting at *Ticonderoga*, and enclosed by the Committee of *Albany*, were separately read and filed.

A Letter from *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Grand Continental Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, June 1, 1775, was read.

The Resolve of the Grand Continental Congress first above mentioned was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, Thursday, June 1, 1775.

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the Government of *Connecticut*, or the General of the Forces of that Colony, to appoint Commissaries to receive at *Albany* and forward the Supplies of Provisions for the Forces on *Lake Champlain* from the Provincial Convention of *New-York*; and that the said Convention do their utmost endeavours in facilitating and aiding the transportation thereof from thence to where the said Commissaries may direct."

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."



The Resolve to be transmitted to the Commander at *Ticonderoga* was read, and is in the words following :

" In Congress, June 1, 1775.

" As this Congress has nothing more in view than the defence of these Colonies, *Resolved*, That no expedition or incursion ought to be undertaken or made by any Colony or body of Colonists against or into *Canada*; and that this Resolve be immediately transmitted to the Commander of the Forces at *Ticonderoga*.

" A true copy from the Minutes :

" CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

A draught of an answer to the Governour and Company of *Connecticut* was read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit :

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 6, 1775.

*May it please your Honour :*

We take leave to enclose a resolution of the Grand Congress of the thirty-first of *May*, and at the same time to present you our acknowledgment for the letter which we had the honour to receive from you, dated the twenty-ninth. Be assured, Sir, that we are most gratefully sensible of the cheerfulness with which the Government of *Connecticut* has exerted itself to support the important posts of *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, until our abilities may enable us to execute that trust which the Continental Congress has on that subject thought proper in the first instance to repose in us.

We are sorry to present you with the very disagreeable intelligence that we have not a sufficient quantity of powder in this Colony to enable us at present to contribute in the least towards supplying those posts with that article, a circumstance which is the more distressing as we have great reason to believe that a very considerable quantity will be required for the defence of the Northern Frontier.

In compliance with the requisition made upon us, we have expedited our orders for the several things contained in the enclosed list, at the bottom whereof is an account of the several articles already sent for that service, and the persons employed in it.

We pray your Honour to believe that we feel the utmost desire of co-operating with our sister Colonies in executing the resolves of the Congress; and that we are, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient and humble servants. To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

*Ordered*, That the Powder which *Mr. Peter T. Curtenius* has in his custody, be sent to the Committee at *Albany*, to be by them retained, and that *Mr. Curtenius* write to the Committee and acquaint them therewith.

*Ordered*, That the gentlemen who are Deputies for the City and County of *Albany*, and *Mr. Richard Lawrence* be a Committee to prepare a draft of an answer to the Letter this day received from the Committee at *Albany*; and that they make report with all convenient speed.

*Henry Watkeys*, a Gunsmith, was sent for by order of the Congress, and attended; after conversing with him on the subject of making Gun-barrels, he agreed to go to *New-Windsor* to consult with *Mr. Robert Boyd* about the forging of Gun-barrels and making Muskets.

*Ordered*, That the said *Henry Watkeys* proceed to *New-Windsor*, and endeavour to fix a proper plan with *Robert Boyd*, for carrying on Gun and Musket making, and on his return report to this Board his proceedings in the premises: and

*Resolved*, That this Congress will defray the expenses of the said *Henry Watkeys* in his journey to *New-Windsor*, or allow him such daily wages during that time as he can usually earn at his trade.

A Letter from the *New-York* Delegates in the Continental Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, June 3, 1775, was received and read.

*Mr. Scott* (seconded by *Mr. Morris*) moved that that part of the Letter of the *New-York* Delegates in the Continental Congress, dated on the 3d instant, which respects the recommendation of a Major and Brigadier-General for the Continental Army, be immediately taken into consideration.

And debates arising thereon, it was postponed till the morning at the request of the Deputies of *Albany*, *Suffolk*, and *Richmond* Counties.

Dissentients—*Albany*, Col. *Van Rensselaer*, *Mr. Cuyler*; *Suffolk*, *Mr. Hobart*.

The Congress adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., June 7, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. *Mr. Bodin*. Present :

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Peter Van Brugh* Livingston, Esq., *President*; *Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Leonard Lispenard*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *James Beekman*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *David Clarkson*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morin Scott*, *Jacobus Van Zandt*, *John Marston*.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—*Volkert P. Douw*, Esq., *Vice-President*; *Robert Yates*, *Abraham Yates*, *Jacob Cuyler*, *Henry Glenn*, *Peter Silvester*, *Walter Livingston*, *Robert Van Rensselaer*.

*For Dutchess County*.—*Dirck Brinckerhoff*, *Anthony Hoffman*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *Gysbert Schenck*, *Ephraim Payne*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Jonathan Landon*, *Nathaniel Sackett*.

*For Ulster County*.—*John Nicholson*.

*For Orange County*.—*Peter Clowes*, *William Allison*, and *Jeremiah Clark*.

*For Suffolk County*.—*Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, *Thomas Tredwell*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, *Thomas Wickham*.

*For Westchester County*.—*Gouverneur Morris*, *Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Stephen Ward*, *Joseph Drake*, *James Holmes*, *David Dayton*, *John Thomas*, Junior.

*For King's County*.—*Johannes E. Lott*, *Henry Williams*, *Jeremiah Remsen*, *Theodorus Polhemus*, *John Leffertse*.

*For Richmond County*.—*John Journey*, *Richard Conner*, *Richard Lawrence*.

*For Queen's County*.—*Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Joseph Robinson*, *Nathaniel Tom*.

*For Charlotte County*.—*John Williams*, *William Marsh*.

*Mr. Morris*, from the Committee for that purpose, reported a draught of a Letter to the *New-York* Delegates at the Continental Congress, on the subject of erecting a Fortification at *King's Bridge*. The same was read and approved of, and is in the words following :

In Provincial Congress at New-York, June 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Upon receiving the resolutions of the Congress which relate to the fortifying *King's Bridge*, &c., we appointed Committees to view those places. Our Committee from *King's Bridge* made a report the third instant, of which we send you a copy. We have only to add, that by reason of the easiness of approach, which will arise from the great irregularity of the ground on *Manhattan's* Island, especially to the northward, no fortification can be so constructed as to be tenable for any length of time; and even if such thing were practicable, yet if the enemy are superior in the field, then, as they must necessarily command the rivers, such fortification might be reduced by famine, if not otherwise to be taken. It follows, therefore, that if the post is to be fortified, with a view to render it a magazine or place of arms, that no part of the island is properly adapted to that purpose.

Considering it in the light of a post for preserving the communication between the city and country, upon a supposition that the rivers are occupied by ships-of-war, then if the place marked A were strong and capable of sustaining a regular siege, still a body of forces on the island could as effectually cut off the communication in many other places. On the other hand, if the enemy should possess themselves of the post A, besides that it is commanded by the two heights marked B, particularly *Tippett's Hill*, yet it would by no means serve to cut off the communication, because it would be easy to cross *Harlem* River in boats, with a body of forces, in several places, where no vessel-of-war could lay without being exposed to fire from such very high grounds as to be quite



out of the reach of her artillery; and also because that river is fordable in places which are covered from any fire which can be made from the said post. And not only would the enemy's possession be ineffectual for their purposes, it would also bring on them certain destruction; for that it would be very easy to cut off their retreat to the Town, and, from the great elevation of ground above the river, to prevent any relief which they would receive from vessels-of-war; wherefore, if we have the superiority in the field, they would be with great ease driven from that post, or starved in it.

This place, therefore, (the only one which can secure the bridges,) being of little consequence to us, and of still less to them, we are of opinion that it would be very imprudent to fortify it at present, because the expense will be much greater than after we have troops embodied, who can perform much of the labour, and also for a reason mentioned in the report of our Committee.

You will take notice, gentlemen, that we have no ammunition, nor any Engineer—two most necessary implements of war, you will certainly acknowledge; the first we hope for from the endeavours of our merchants, the last you will take some care to procure, if to be had amongst you.

Be assured that we have the greatest willingness to obey the resolutions of the Grand Congress; and if in their wisdom they shall think fit to overrule the reasons which we have offered, doubt not that we shall use our utmost efforts to comply with their requisitions.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy of this Letter be engrossed, signed by the President, and, together with a copy of the Report therein mentioned, and a copy of a Draught or Plan therein mentioned, be transmitted by the first conveyance.

The Report above mentioned is in the words following, to wit:

We, your Committee appointed to view the ground in the environs of *King's Bridge*, do most humbly report:

That in obedience to your commands we have examined the heights in that neighbourhood, taking such assistance as the shortness of the notice permitted us to procure, and are of opinion that a post (capable of containing three hundred men) erected on the high ground adjoining Mr. *Hyatt's* house, marked A in the annexed map, will answer the purpose proposed by the Continental Congress in their requisition, so far as the occupying that bridge can contribute to the keeping up a communication between the country and this city; for we beg leave to observe, that an enemy may land and seize on several posts in this island capable of interrupting, though not totally cutting off that communication held up as a point of so much importance by the Continental Congress. We are farther of opinion that this work should be constructed by troops when embodied and ready to occupy it, your Committee being humbly of opinion it would be the highest imprudence to erect a fortification before we have the means of defending it. By this mode of proceeding the expense will also be very much reduced. We believe that though there be no water immediately on the spot proposed for this post, yet means may be fallen upon to cover those who go to a well sunk in the adjoining low ground, near Mr. *Hyatt's* house, especially as we conceive this post is not supposed to sustain any regular attack, or of many hours' duration, without relief. We think fascines the cheapest and best materials to face this work, and that an abattis or fallen wood will contribute much to the security of the post. With respect to the particular form and dimensions, your Committee dare not venture (without the assistance of an Engineer) to recommend any particular plan to your consideration, and therefore pray your attention to provide a person of experience in this line of military science. All which is most humbly submitted.

By order of the Committee:

JAMES VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman*.

The Order of the Day being read, the Congress resumed the consideration of the Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress; and after some time spent therein the Congress unanimously resolved and agreed that Colonel *Philip Schuyler* is the most proper person in

this Colony to be recommended as a Major-General, and *Richard Montgomerie*, Esq., as a Brigadier-General.

And *Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *Morris* be a Committee to prepare and report the draft of a Letter to our Delegates at the Continental Congress, informing them of our sentiments on this subject, and the reasons of our choice.

The Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a draft of a Report of additional Artificers and Stores to be forwarded to *Ticonderoga*. The same was read and agreed to, and is in the words and figures following, to wit:

The Committee having considered the requisition on this Colony made by Colonel *B. Arnold*, commandant at *Ticonderoga*, for provisions and stores, &c., transmitted to this Congress by the Committee of *Albany*, and at the same time compared it with the list of supplies already ordered to be sent, do report, that the following additional stores, &c., ought to be provided and sent: 10 men of the train of artillery: 12 ship carpenters and caulkers: 2 gunsmiths: 2 blacksmiths: 2 masons: 100 hatchets: 20 broadaxes: 50 spades: 50 hoes: the iron work for 4 gins and blocks; 8 falls for do, of 4½ inch rope: 1 coil 2½ inch rope, 1 coil 2 inch rope, 1 coil 1½ inch rope, 100 fathoms each: 4 pieces ravens duck: 40 pounds sewing twine: 10 dozen of sail and bolt rope needles: 1 dozen palms: 2 seines, 30 fathom long, cap 12 feet, and arms 6 feet deep, of coarse twine, meshes 1½ inch square: 2 dozen of nail hammers: 1 faggot of steel.

As to the oxen, carts, &c., mentioned in the said requisition, your Committee are of opinion that those can be procured in the neighbourhood of that post.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be made and delivered to *Peter T. Curtenius*, and that he be desired to obtain the said Artificers, Men, and Stores, and forward the same to *Albany* with all possible despatch.

The same Committee also reported a draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Albany*, which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

New-York Provincial Congress, June 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Before this comes to hand you will be furnished with our directions, dated 1st instant. We are convinced of the necessity of giving you explicit instructions respecting your conduct; but the variety of business in which this Congress has been engaged, and the time which is necessarily taken up in our friendly intercourse with the Continental Congress and the Colony of *Connecticut*, does necessarily occasion at times an apparent delay in our directions to you.

We highly approve of your zeal and activity in raising troops, but request you not to proceed in making farther levies until further orders. The two companies raised in your County and already on their march, you will suffer to proceed to join the forces at *Ticonderoga*; but must observe to you, that by the direction of the Continental Congress, their pay will stand on the same footing with that of the Eastern Colonies, without allowing bounties or clothing to the men; and that they are to continue in the service until the last day of *December* next, unless the Continental Congress shall direct that they be sooner disbanded.

Those companies who are under your direction formed, and not sent up, you will continue in pay, if your engagement with them will not justify your discharging them; and request that you send to this Congress a return of the officers and men in each company.

The troops taken at *St. John's* who are with you, should remain at liberty, and they may probably be of service in instructing your inhabitants the military exercise. If they refuse earning their bread in this, or any other way, it is however the intention of this Congress that they shall receive their subsistence out of the Colony provisions.

Enclosed we send you a copy of a letter from the Continental Congress, and their resolve respecting the appointment of Commissaries for receiving supplies of provisions at *Albany*.

Enclosed is also a copy of a resolve of the Grand Congress to discourage any incursions into *Canada*; but this has in some measure been anticipated by a former resolution of this House, already published, as well as your request respecting our letter to Governour *Trumbull*



a copy of which has been sent you by Colonel *Ten Broeck*. We are, &c.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter to the Committee of *Albany* be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted.

The gentlemen appointed a Committee for that purpose, reported draughts of two several Letters to the Delegates of this Colony at the Grand Continental Congress, which were severally read and approved, and are in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the third instant we have received, and are happy to find that we have the honour of your concurrence in our sentiments on the subject of emitting a Paper Currency. We pray leave to add, that unless your respectable body shall make some speedy order with relation to the levying of money, it will be impossible for us to comply with their further requests. Publick faith has been stretched as far as it will go, and the pledge of a future fund to be hereafter devised, hath been trusted to its full value. We have engaged ourselves personally, and further we cannot proceed, unless every private gentleman amongst us will consent to sacrifice his own property to the pressing calls made upon him by the publick.

The importance, the necessity of attention to *Indian* affairs, is deeply impressed on our minds, because our publick peace is more endangered by the situation of the barbarians to the westward of us, than it can be by any inroads made upon the sea-coast. *Britain* will spare the last for her own sake, and policy will teach her Ministers to light up an *Indian* war upon our frontiers, that we may be driven for protection to embrace their terms of slavery. To obviate such evils will, we hope, occupy a considerable share of your wise attention. We do not presume to dictate any measure to you, being confident of your prudence and knowledge; at the same time we submit it to your consideration whether it is proper to leave the management of the numerous tribes of *Indians* entirely in the hands of persons appointed and paid by the Crown. If it be not, then you will best be able to determine the proper remedy for this evil, and whether it will not be both politic and just to nominate a Continental Superintendent of *Indian* affairs, and provide ways and means to defray the expenses of his office; or whether we may not have greater cause to apprehend danger from such appointment than by suffering these things to flow in their former channel, seeing that the *Indians* have already declared their willingness to preserve peace unless their Superintendent shall be molested.

We have hitherto received no sufficient supply of powder or other ammunition for the defence of our Colony; and whilst we regret our present inability, we beg leave to assure you, that if *Connecticut* can furnish a sufficient store for the garrisons of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, (posts which are necessary for our mutual protection,) as soon as it is in our power we shall gladly replace the expenditure.

The extensive qualifications necessary to form the General, are far beyond the reach of our humble abilities, and better fitted to the wisdom of the Continental Congress. We feel ourselves under the deepest obligations to you for enabling us to recommend persons to the offices of Major and Brigadier-General. We are sensible of the extent of this condescension, and are equally affected by the honour of the trust, and our incapacity to execute it.

Courage, prudence, readiness in expedients, nice perception, sound judgment and great attention, these are a few of the natural qualities which appear to us to be proper. To these ought to be added an extensive acquaintance with the sciences, particularly the various branches of mathematick knowledge, long practice in the military art, and, above all, a knowledge of mankind. On a General in *America*, fortune also should bestow her gifts, that he may rather communicate lustre to his dignities than receive it, and that his country in his property, his kindred, and connexions, may have sure pledges that he will faithfully perform the duties of his high office, and readily lay down his power when the general weal shall require it.

Since we cannot do all that we wish, we will go as far towards it as we can, and therefore you will not be surprised to hear that we are unanimous in the choice of Colo-

nel *Philip Schuyler*, and Captain *Richard Montgomerie*, to the offices of Major and Brigadier-General. If we knew how to recommend them to your notice more strongly than by telling you that, after considering the qualifications above stated, these gentlemen were approved of without a single dissent, our regard to the publick service would certainly lead us to do it in the most forcible terms; nor will we enter into a minute detail of the character and situations of two gentlemen with whom our Delegates cannot but be acquainted. In a word we warmly recommend them, because we have no doubt but their appointment will give general satisfaction.

We beg leave to assure you, gentlemen, that we are, &c.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The Colonies of *Massachusetts* and *Connecticut* have formed their respective armies, and nominated to the general command of them; the supposition that in case a Continental Army should be established by authority of your respectable body, their officers will be permitted to preserve their respective ranks, appears to us highly probable. In this view, we think it not improbable that we should be called on for a recommendation to fill the offices in the military appointment of this Colony. We take the liberty for the present to furnish you with our sentiments on the appointment of a Major and Brigadier-General; and submit them to your superiour wisdom, either for use or concealment. Our only motive is to prevent a delay that might otherwise be occasioned by an opinion you may entertain of the necessity of asking our sentiments on that subject.

Courage, prudence, readiness in expedients, nice perception, sound judgment, and great attention, these are a few of the natural qualities which appear to us to be proper. To these ought to be added, an extensive acquaintance with the sciences, particularly the various branches of mathematick knowledge, long practice in the military art, and, above all, a knowledge of mankind. On a General in *America*, fortune also should bestow her gifts, that he may rather communicate lustre to his dignities than receive it, and that his country in his property, his kindred, and connexions, may have sure pledges that he will faithfully perform the duties of his high office, and readily lay down his power when the general weal requires it.

Since we cannot do all that we wish, we will go as far towards it as we can, and therefore you will not be surprised to hear that we are unanimous in the choice of Colonel *Philip Schuyler* and Captain *Richard Montgomerie* to the offices of Major and Brigadier-General. If we knew how to recommend them to your notice more strongly than by telling you that, after considering the qualifications above stated, these gentlemen were approved of without a single dissent, our regard to the publick service would certainly lead us to do it in the most forcible terms; nor will we enter into a minute detail of the characters and situations of two gentlemen with whom our Delegates cannot but be acquainted. In a word, we warmly recommend them, because we have no doubt but their appointment will give general satisfaction.

We beg leave to assure you, gentlemen, that we are, with the profoundest respect, &c.

*Ordered*, That a copy of each of the said Letters be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted to the Delegates from this Colony in the Continental Congress, by *Joseph Stevens*, as a messenger for that purpose; and that the President write a private Letter to the Delegates, to inform them of the reason of sending both these Letters, and requesting them to produce either, and suppress the other, as they may see fit.

*Resolved*, That whensoever doubts shall arise with respect to the Recommendations or Resolutions of the Continental Congress, or of this Board, in the minds of private persons, it is the duty of such persons to apply to this Board for an explanation thereof; and that any attempts to raise tumults, riots, or mobs, either under colour of a dubious interpretation of such Recommendations or Resolutions, or for any other reasons or purposes, is a high infraction of the General Association, and tends directly to the dissolution of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That this Resolution be published in the



Newspapers; and that two thousand copies thereof be printed in handbills.

The Congress adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

—  
Die Mercurii, 4to ho. P. M., June 7, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, Jacobus Van Zandt, and John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County.*—Dirck Brinckerhoff, Anthony Hoffman, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—John Nicholson.

*For Orange County.*—Peter Clowes and William Allison.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, Ezra L'Hommedieu, and Thomas Wickham.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, and John Thomas.

*For King's County.*—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, and John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Richard Conner, and Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Joseph Robinson, and Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Montgomerie*, Colonel *Holmes*, and Mr. *Hallett*, be a Committee to examine the list of sundry articles retained by the Merchants of *New-York* at the request of the City Committee, and report whether any and what part of those Goods may be necessary to be retained for the use of this Colony.

Mr. *Kissam* reported a draught of a Letter to *Joseph Warren*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Safety for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*; which was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The multiplicity of business brought before us by the Continental Congress, and a short adjournment of our body from *Saturday* till *Tuesday* morning, have rendered it impossible for us to give a more early attention to your favour of the 26th ultimo. We have little to say upon the principal subject of your letter, as we conceive that the Provincial Congresses of both Colonies are concluded from any discretionary provision relative to the ordnance and other stores taken at *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, of which you must be fully convinced by the acts of the Continental Congress on that subject, copies of which are enclosed.

We are fully apprised of the dangerous consequences that would await this Capital of our Colony, either from supineness, or a confidence in the honour of those who, being the avowed instruments of ministerial vengeance, we cannot expect will hold any faith with us. Whatever articles we are now possessed of that may be used to the injury of this City in particular, or of the Continent in general, we shall be studious to prevent, if possible, from falling into the hands of our enemies.

In sympathizing with you for the unhappy Town of *Boston*, we shall do every thing in our power to prevent this City from being reduced to the same deplorable situation, and shall watchfully attend to every means of defence which our present or future circumstances may enable us to improve.

We are, gentlemen and brethren, with great respect and sincere affection, your most obedient humble servants.

To *Joseph Warren*, Esq., and the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Watertown*.

*Ordered*, That the above Letter be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted by the first opportunity.

Captain *Montgomerie*, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, brought in a Report of such parts of the Goods retained by the Merchants of this City, at the request of the Committee of the City of *New-York*, as may be necessary to be retained at the expense of the Colony.

*Ordered*, That the said Report lay on the table for the perusal of the Members.

Whereas, *James Rivington*, of this City, Printer, hath signed the General Association, and has lately published a handbill declaring his intention rigidly to adhere to the said Association; and also asked the pardon of the publick, who have been offended by his ill-judged publications:

*Resolved*, therefore, That the said *James Rivington* be permitted to return to his house and family; and that this Congress doth recommend it to the inhabitants of this Colony not to molest him in his person or property.

The Congress then took into consideration the case of *Robert* and *John Murray*, which lies before this Congress by a general reference from the Continental Congress; and after some time spent therein, it was ordered to be deferred for further consideration.

The Congress adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

—  
Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., June 8, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Reverend Mr. *Moore*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, John Marston, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, David Clarkson, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, and Jacobus Van Zandt.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County.*—Dirck Brinckerhoff, Anthony Hoffman, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—John Nicholson.

*For Orange County.*—David Pye, Peter Clowes, William Allison, and Jeremiah Clarke.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, Ezra L'Hommedieu, and Thomas Wickham.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun., and William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, Nicholas Covenhoven, and John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Richard Conner, and Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Joseph Robinson, and Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

A Letter, dated *Cambridge*, June 4, 1775, from *Artemas Ward*, General of the *Massachusetts Army*, *Joseph Warren*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety, and *Moses Gill*, Chairman of the Committee of Supplies, was read.

An answer to the said Letter was read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 8, 1775.

BRETHREN AND COUNTRYMEN: Your letter of the 4th instant hath afflicted and astonished us. We did console ourselves in our want of ammunition, with an assurance that you were possessed of a very ample quantity for your defence. We expected a supply with patience, because we had a good hope that the absolute necessity would not arise before it was provided against; and incautiously, the whole of what was in the Colony of *New-York*, hath been so disposed of that there is not now one hundred weight to be purchased for any price. We have forwarded your



letter to the *American Congress*, and hope that the Colony of *Pennsylvania* may be able to succour you, though we cannot. You have our warmest wishes in the great cause of *American* liberty, and we pray you to believe that we are firmly resolved to withstand the encroachments of Ministerial tyranny to the utmost of our abilities, and to labour for the restoration of that harmony between these Colonies and the parent State, which is essential to the peace, the glory, the existence of the whole *British Empire*.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,  
To the Hon. *Artemas Ward*, General of the *Massachusetts Army*; *Joseph Warren*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety; *Moses Gill*, Chairman of the Committee of Supplies, at *Cambridge, Massachusetts-Bay*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed, and transmitted.

The President, with the leave of the Congress, left the Chair, and went to *Elizabethtown*, to confer with the Committee there on the above-mentioned Letter from General *Ward*; and the Vice-President took the Chair.

A draught of a Letter to the honourable the Continental Congress, to attend a copy of the above-mentioned Letter from General *Ward* and Messrs. *Warren* and *Gill*, was read and approved.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the Vice-President, and transmitted.

Whereas, by an Order of the Continental Congress of the 15th of *May* ultimo, and the explanation of the Continental Delegates of this Colony accompanying the said Order, it appears that the inhabitants of this City are directed not to remove any Military Stores belonging to the Crown: And whereas, this Congress is well informed that some persons have lately seized and removed the Military Stores belonging to the Crown at *Turtle-Bay*, this Congress doth *Resolve*, That such a step is a direct breach of the Continental Order, and tends to destroy the weight of their and our authority, is inimical to the true interest of the Colonies, and tends to involve this City in the utmost confusion and distress: and also,

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John Van Cortlandt*, *Alexander McDougall*, *David Clarkson*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *Gouverneur Morris*, and *Isaac Low*, be a Committee to repair immediately to *Turtle-Bay*, to signify this Resolution to the persons that may be assembled there for the purpose aforesaid, and to order them immediately to disperse, and desist from the further execution of the said measure.

And *Resolved also*, That such of the said Stores as may have been removed, be immediately replaced.

The Congress then adjourned till four o'clock, P. M.

Die Jovis, 4to ho. P. M., June 8, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:  
*Volkert P. Douw*, Esq., *Vice-President*.

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *James Beekman*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *David Clarkson*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morin Scott*, *Jacobus Van Zandt*, and *John Marston*.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—*Robert Yates*, *Abraham Yates*, *Jacob Cuyler*, *Peter Silvester*, *Walter Livingston*, *Robert Van Rensselaer*, and *Henry Glenn*.

*For Dutchess County*.—*Dirck Brinckerhoff*, *Anthony Hoffman*, *Ephraim Payne*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Jonathan Landon*, *Gysbert Schenck*, and *Nathaniel Sackett*.

*For Ulster County*.—*James Clinton*, *Christopher Tappen*, and *John Nicholson*.

*For Orange County*.—*David Pye*, *Peter Clowes*, *William Allison*, *Abraham Lent*, and *Jeremiah Clarke*.

*For Suffolk County*.—*Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, *Thomas Tredwell*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, and *Thos. Wickham*.

*For Westchester County*.—*Gouverneur Morris*, *Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Stephen Ward*, *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *James Holmes*, *David Dayton*, *John Thomas, Junior*, and *William Paulding*.

*For King's County*.—*Henry Williams*, *Jeremiah Remsen*,

*Theodorus Polhemus*, *Nicholas Covenhoven*, and *John Vanderbilt*.

*For Richmond County*.—*John Journey*, *Richard Conner*, and *Richard Lawrence*.

*For Queen's County*.—*Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Joseph Robinson*, and *Nathaniel Tom*.

*For Charlotte County*.—*John Williams*, *William Marsh*.

*Mr. Scott*, seconded by *Mr. McDougall*, moved in the words following, to wit:

*Mr. President*, as I am of opinion that it is absolutely necessary to dismantle the fort, and to secure certain implements and other accommodations for war in this City, to the end that they may not be hostilely used against us, I move that application be immediately made to the Continental Congress, to authorize this Congress to exercise a discretionary power with respect to every measure that may appear to us necessary to prevent the said fort and other fortifications, implements, and accommodations for war in this City, from being offensively used against it.

Debates arose on the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the negative, in the following manner, to wit:

*For the Motion.*

2 Orange County,  
2 Ulster County,  
2 Suffolk County,  
2 Dutchess County,  
2 Charlotte County.

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*Against the Motion.*

2 King's County,  
2 Richmond County,  
4 New-York County,  
3 Albany County,  
2 Westchester County.

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*Mr. McDougall*, *Walter Livingston*, *Colonel Hoffman*, dissentients against the vote of the Counties they respectively represent.

*Mr. Kissam*, from the Committee who went to *Turtle-Bay*, reported, that the Committee went to *Turtle-Bay*, and found no person there; that having been informed that sundry persons were at the house of *David Devore*, the Committee went there, and found some persons there armed; that upon informing them of the Resolve of this Congress, in consequence of which the said Committee was appointed, the persons there armed acknowledged that some Military Stores had been removed from *Turtle-Bay*; and they did engage that the said Stores should be returned, if carts were sent up to *Turtle-Bay* for that purpose. And *Mr. Kissam* farther reported, that *Mr. Low* and himself had sent up cartmen with carts to *Turtle-Bay*, to carry back and replace the said Stores.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee who were appointed to examine the list of the Goods retained by the Merchants, at the request of the Committee of the City of *New-York*; and, after some time spent therein, it was deferred till to-morrow morning.

*Thomas Wickham* having the care of *Gardner's Island*, which is much exposed to having the stock taken off by armed vessels for the use of the King's Troops at *Boston*, or elsewhere; and the said Island being in a defenceless state, desires the advice of this Board, whether he be permitted to take pay for said stock, in case it is not in his power to prevent their taking the same.

After some time spent in consideration thereof, it was deferred for further consideration.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 9 ho., June 9, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Auchmuty*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, *President*; *Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Leonard Lispenard*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Abraham Walton*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *James Beekman*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *David Clarkson*, *Thomas Smith*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morin Scott*, *Jacobus Van Zandt*, *John Marston*, *Isaac Sears*.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—*Volkert P. Douw*, Esq., *Vice-President*; *Robert Yates*, *Abraham Yates*, *Jacob Cuyler*, *Peter Silvester*, *Walter Livingston*, *Robert Van Rensselaer*, and *Henry Glenn*.

*For Dutchess County*.—*Dirck Brinckerhoff*, *Anthony Hoffman*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *Ephraim Payne*, *Gilbert*



Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, and John Nicholson.

*For Orange County.*—David Pye, William Allison, Abraham Lent, and Jeremiah Clarke.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, Ezra L'Hommedieu, and Thomas Wickham.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun., and William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, John Leffertse, and John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Richard Conner, and Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Joseph Robinson, and Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

Mr. Isaac Sears attending at the door, was called in, and produced a Certificate from the General Committee of Association for the City and County of New-York, signed by Henry Remsen, Deputy Chairman; which being read, is in the words following, to wit:

New-York Committee Chamber, June 8, 1775.

In pursuance of an order of this Committee, at their last meeting, a poll was this day opened at the City-Hall for the election of a Deputy to represent this City and County in Provincial Congress, in the place of Mr. George Folliot, who declines serving; and by a return of the said poll, it appears that Mr. Isaac Sears was elected by a great majority as a Deputy for the purpose above-mentioned.

A true copy from the Minutes:

HENRY REMSEN, *Dep. Chairman.*

*Ordered,* That the said Certificate be filed, and that Mr. Sears take his seat accordingly.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Sears, Mr. De Lancey, and Mr. McDougall, be a Secret Committee to examine what quantity of Saltpetre is in the hands of the Apothecaries in this City, and to make report with all convenient speed.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to examine the list of Goods retained by the Merchants of this City, at the request of the General Committee; and after some time spent therein,

*Ordered,* That Captain Montgomerie, Colonel Holmes, Mr. Hallett, Mr. Brasher, Mr. Glenn, and Mr. Cuyler, be a Committee to estimate and report to this Congress the quantity of every article necessary for equipping three thousand effective men, including officers; and that they make report with all convenient speed.

The Congress resumed the case of Robert and John Murray; and after some time spent therein,

*Ordered,* That it be deferred for further consideration.

Mr. Sears informed this Congress, that the following small quantities of Gunpowder, formerly delivered out of the Magazines in this City for sale, yet remain unsold, to wit: one hundred weight in the care of Messrs. Woodward and Kip; one hundred weight in the care of Jeremiah Platt; one hundred pounds of damaged powder in the care of Comfort Sands; and fifty pounds do., in the care of Messrs. Berrian and Fish; about twenty pounds in the care of Thomas Hazard.

*Ordered,* That those several gentlemen who have the care of the said Powder, be respectively directed to keep the whole now in their custody until the farther order of this Congress.

*Ordered,* That all the damaged Powder now in this City, and also the damaged Powder at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, be sent to the Powder-Mill near Hudson's River, in *Rhynbeck* Precinct, to be remanufactured.

And the following Letter to the Commander-in-Chief at *Ticonderoga*, and also the following Letter to the Commissioners at *Albany*, appointed to superintend the removal of the Cannon and Stores from *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, being respectively read, were approved of.

And the said Letter to the said Commander-in-Chief is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 9, 1775.

SIR: This Congress have received credible information that there is a very large quantity of damaged gunpowder under your care at *Ticonderoga*, which can be so cured and manufactured as to render it fit for use. There is a mill erected near the east side of *Hudson's* River, in *Rhynbeck* Precinct, in *Dutchess* County, for the purpose of making gunpowder. We have therefore requested our Commissioners at *Albany*, with all diligence and despatch, to send the said damaged powder to that place; and we request that you will, on their application, assist in forwarding it; and that this matter may be kept as secret as possible.

By order and in behalf of the Provincial Congress.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

P. S. We enclose a Resolve of the Continental Congress, certified by their Secretary, enclosed to us to be forwarded.

And the said Letter to the Commissioners at *Albany*, is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 9, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We are well informed that there is a large quantity of damaged gunpowder at *Ticonderoga*, which may be rendered fit for use, and that there is a mill erected in *Rhynbeck* Precinct, near *Hudson's* River, for that purpose. That article is now become an object of great importance. This Congress do therefore request, that you will, without delay, give directions that all the damaged powder at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point* be immediately brought down to the said manufactory; and that you acquaint us with the quantity which you shall have sent to the said manufactory.

By order and on behalf of the Provincial Congress.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

To Messrs. John N. Bleeker, Henry J. Bogert, George Palmer, Dirck Swart, and Peter Lansing, at *Albany*.

*Ordered,* That a copy of each of the said Letters be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted with all convenient speed; and that a copy (certified) of the above Order of this Congress for the removal of the said damaged Powder, be enclosed to the Commander-in-Chief at *Ticonderoga*; and also that a certified copy thereof be sent to the said Commissioners at *Albany*.

Whereas, sundry Mills and other Manufactories for the making of Gunpowder and Muskets, are now erected and about to be erected within this Colony; and forasmuch as all such Manufactories will greatly tend both to the immediate defence and the future wealth of this Colony,

*Resolved, therefore,* That for every hundred weight of good Gunpowder which, upon due proof, shall be certified by the Committee of the County where any Powder-Mill is or shall be erected, to have been manufactured within this Colony, and to have been delivered to the said Committee, the bounty of five Pounds shall be paid to the manufacturer thereof, over and above the price of such Powder; and for every hundred good Muskets, of proof so certified, the bounty of twenty Pounds; the bounties abovesaid to continue for twelve months from the date of this Resolve.

Mr. Tredwell made a motion, in the words following, to wit:

As it may hereafter be necessary to dismantle the Fort in this City, for the preservation of the inhabitants from the insults of the soldiery, in case of the arrival of Troops from *Great Britain* or *Ireland*; and as the Cannon and other implements of war in the said Fort, and upon the Battery, and in other parts of this City, will be necessary for the completing those fortifications which the Continental Congress have ordered us to erect; and as, by an early order from that respectable body, we conceive that we are not at liberty to take possession of any of the King's munitions or stores of war, I move that we do immediately despatch a Letter to the Continental Congress, praying their most speedy advice and directions in the premises.

The said motion being seconded by Mr. Scott, debates arose thereon; and it was insisted by those Members who opposed the motion, that it was the same in substance with a motion made, voted on, and carried in the negative on yesterday.

And the question being put thereon, Whether this motion is the same in substance with that of yesterday?



It was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, viz :

| That it is the same Motion. | That it is not the same Motion. |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 3 Albany,                   | 2 Dutchess,                     |
| 2 King's,                   | 2 Orange,                       |
| 2 Westchester,              | 2 Charlotte,                    |
| 2 Richmond,                 | 2 Ulster.                       |
| 2 Suffolk,                  | —                               |
| 4 New-York.                 | 8                               |

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Queen's County Deputies being equally divided, could not vote.

Mr. Tredwell, Colonel Hoffman, and Mr. Henry Williams, respectively, dissented from the votes of their respective Counties, and desired their dissents to be entered.

The President of this Congress, who went to *Elizabethtown* to confer with the Committee there on the subject-matter of the Letter received yesterday from General Ward, returned, and reported to this Congress, that the Committee at *Elizabethtown* have only eight quarter casks of Gunpowder, which they are ready to spare for the Provincial Army of *Massachusetts-Bay*; that the said Committee of *Elizabethtown* have expectations to obtain a farther supply of Powder at *Brunswick*, which, if obtained, shall be sent to *New-York* for the use of the said Provincial Army of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Ordered, That Mr. Peter T. Curtenius, as Commissary of this Congress, give a receipt for the said eight quarter casks of Powder; and also, that the said Commissary give a receipt for such farther quantity of Powder as may be received from the said Committee of *Elizabethtown*, or from *Brunswick*, and put the same into the Powder-House in this City, until the farther order of this Congress.

Mr. Scott moved, that the motion made by Mr. Tredwell this day, as before entered on the Minutes, be taken into consideration to-morrow; and the same being seconded by Mr. Tredwell, debates arose thereon; and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, viz :

| For the Affirmative. | For the Negative.                  |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2 Suffolk,           | 2 King's.—Mr. Williams dissenting. |
| 2 Orange,            | 2 Richmond.                        |
| 3 Albany,            | —                                  |
| 2 Charlotte,         | 4                                  |
| 2 Westchester,       | Queen's County Deputies being      |
| 2 Dutchess,          | equally divided, could not vote.   |
| 2 Ulster,            |                                    |
| 4 New-York.          |                                    |

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Ordered, That Colonel Van Cortlandt, Major Van Cortlandt, and Colonel Van Rensselaer, be added to the Committee of Arrangement of the Troops to be raised in this Colony; and that the said Committee sit this afternoon.

Colonel Van Cortlandt and Mr. David Clarkson obtained leave of absence for to-morrow.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Saturnii, 9 ho., June 10, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Doctor Rodgers. Present :

For the City and County of New-York.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, President; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Sam'l Verplanck, Richard Yates, Thomas Smith, Benj. Kissam, John Morin Scott, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston, and Isaac Sears.

For the City and County of Albany.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., Vice-President; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

For Dutchess County.—Dirck Brinckerhoff, Anthony Hoffman, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, and Nathaniel Sackett.

For Ulster County.—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, and John Nicholson.

For Orange County.—David Pye, Abraham Lent, and Jeremiah Clarke.

For Suffolk County.—Nathaniel Woodhull, Thomas Tredwell, and Thomas Wickham.

For Westchester County.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, and William Paulding.

For King's County.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, Nicholas Covenhoven, and John Vanderbilt.

For Richmond County.—John Journey, Richard Conner, and Richard Lawrence.

For Queen's County.—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, and Nathaniel Tom.

For Charlotte County.—John Williams, William Marsh.

The President informed the Congress that the Committee of *Elizabethtown* had been so alert as to send the addition of six quarter casks and two half barrels of Powder for the use of the *Massachusetts Army*; and a Letter from *Abraham Clarke*, which attended the same, was read and filed.

Ordered, That the said Powder, together with that received yesterday, be committed to the care of Mr. McDougall, to be forwarded; and ordered that he purchase such other quantity as he can get, for the same purpose, and forward the whole in such a manner as he shall think most safe and prudent.

Colonel Tusteen appeared in Congress as a Member for *Orange County*, in pursuance of his election and return, as appears by a Certificate formerly read and filed.

Ordered, That he take his seat.

Ordered, That any Cooper in this City of *New-York* be at liberty to go to *Turtle-Bay*, or any place adjacent thereto, and cooper and put in order the Crown Stores which were lately removed from thence, in such a manner as *Francis Stevens*, Esq., shall direct.

The Mayor of the City of *New-York* attending at the door, was called in, and informed the Congress that application had been made to him respecting some Arms lately taken out of the baggage-carts of the Troops lately embarking from this City; and he delivered a Letter from his Honour the Lieutenant-Governour to him on that subject; which was read: And thereupon,

Mr. Morris moved, and was seconded by Mr. Low, in the words following, to wit :

I move that the Arms and Military Accoutrements taken from His Majesty's Troops on *Tuesday* last, be restored; and for that purpose that a Resolve of the Congress be made, as follows :

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Congress, that every inhabitant of this Colony who is possessed of any of the said Arms and Accoutrements, should immediately deliver them to the Mayor of *New-York*; and that a Committee be appointed to see that this Resolve be complied with.

And debates arising on the said motion; and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit :

| For the Affirmative. | For the Negative. |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 3 Albany,            | 2 Charlotte,      |
| 2 Westchester,       | 2 Richmond,       |
| 2 King's,            | 2 Dutchess.       |
| 2 Queen's,           | —                 |
| 4 New-York,          | 19                |
|                      | 2 Orange,         |
|                      | 2 Ulster.         |
|                      | —                 |
|                      | 4                 |

Messrs. Scott, McDougall, Lispenard, and Sears, dissented from *New-York*; Mr. Tom from *Queen's County*; Mr. Tappen from *Ulster*; and Messrs. Landon, Payne, and Sackett, from *Dutchess County*.

Resolved, therefore, That it is the sense of this Congress, that every inhabitant of this Colony who is possessed of any of the said Arms or Accoutrements taken from His Majesty's Troops on *Tuesday* last, should immediately deliver them to the Mayor of the City of *New-York*; and,

Ordered, That Mr. Isaac Roosevelt, Mr. John De Lancey, and Mr. John Marston, be a Committee to see this Resolution complied with.

Ordered, That a copy of this Resolve be delivered to the Mayor of the City of *New-York*.

A draught of a Letter to Governour Trumbull, of the Colony of *Connecticut*, on the subject of our supply of Powder to the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, was read, and approved.



*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and delivered to Mr. *McDougall*, to be forwarded.

This Congress then resumed the consideration of the case of *Robert* and *John Murray*; and the Memorial of *Robert* and *John Murray*, on the subject of their breach of the Association of the late Continental Congress, and the several papers annexed to it, whereby they pray to be restored to their former commercial privileges, being read, on a reference thereof to us by the Continental Congress; and it appearing that they, the said *Robert* and *John Murray*, have published a printed handbill expressing their contrition for their said offence, and their resolution for the future strictly to adhere to the said Association, and to the further orders of the Continental Congress, the Provincial Congress of this Colony, and the General Committee of Association for this City and County, with a saving for the said *Robert*, (who is one of the people called Quakers,) as to his religious principles; and they having voluntarily paid the expenses that accrued for boat-hire, and otherwise, in the attendance of the Committee of Observation, for the purpose of preventing any goods from being landed from on board the said ship *Beulah*; and they having also, by letter under their hands, requested the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, in *New-Jersey*, to keep in their custody, at the cost and risk of them, the said *Robert* and *John Murray*, the several goods by them landed from on board the said ship, contrary to the said Association, until two vessels shall arrive from *London* with goods into this Colony, after a general importation from *Great Britain* to the Colonies shall take place:

*Resolved*, therefore, That the said *Robert* and *John Murray* shall be, and they are hereby fully restored to their commercial privileges, and declared to be entitled to the forgiveness of the publick.

*Ordered*, That *Robert* and *John Murray* may have a copy of this Resolve.

Colonel *Clinton* and Mr. *Tappen*, who were a Committee to examine the banks of *Hudson's* River through the Highlands, and report the most proper place for erecting one or more fortifications, and an estimate of the expense of erecting the same, delivered in their Report, with a Map or Plan of the said River through the Highlands; which Report was read.

*Ordered*, That the said Report lay for the perusal and farther consideration of the Members of this Congress; and that a copy of the said Report, and of the said Map or plan of *Hudson's* River, together with a Letter on that subject to accompany the same, be forwarded to the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress; and that Colonel *Clinton* and Mr. *Tappen* be a Committee to prepare and report a draught of such Letter.

Mr. *Abraham Brasher*, from the Committee appointed to report an estimate of articles necessary to complete three thousand effective men, including officers, delivered in their Report and Estimate; which was read.

*Ordered*, That the same remain for farther consideration.

This Congress having this morning received intimation that Provisions were lading on board of a vessel, whereof one *Coffin* is master, for the use of the Army and Navy at *Boston*, a draught of a Letter to the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress, on that subject, being prepared, was read and approved of.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and sent by the first conveyance.

The Congress adjourned to four o'clock next *Monday* afternoon.

Die Lunæ, 4to ho. P. M., Monday, June 12, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., President; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, Thomas Smith, John Morin Scott, Jacobus Van Zandt, and Isaac Sears.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Volkert P. Douw, Vice-President; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County*.—Dirck Brinckerhoff, Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, and John Nicholson.

*For Orange County*.—David Pye, Benjamin Tusteen, Abraham Lent, and Jeremiah Clarke.

*For Suffolk County*.—Thomas Tredwell.

*For King's County*.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polheimus, and John Leffertse.

*For Westchester County*.—Joseph Drake, James Holmes, and Robert Graham.

*For Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Rich'd Conner, and Rich'd Lawrence.

*For Queen's County*.—Samuel Townshend and Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County*.—John Williams, William Marsh.

The President informed this Congress that he had received a Letter from the *New-York* Delegates at the Continental Congress, the contents and subject-matter whereof ought to be kept a profound secret. And the said Letter being read, is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, June 10, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: We are now to acknowledge the honour of your despatches of the 7th instant. We have long foreseen the difficulties you must be reduced to for want of money. They will not be lessened by the resolution of the Congress of yesterday, recommending it to you to procure and forward five thousand barrels of flour for the use of the Army at *Boston*. We communicated the paragraph of your letter, in which you complain that unless the Congress shall make some speedy order with relation to the levying of money, it will be impossible for you to comply with their farther requests. They, however, seem persuaded that their vote of credit, which accompanies the order for the supply, will remove every obstruction; and relying on your zeal for the common cause, they hope you will be able to throw in this provision, which we are apprehensive will soon become highly necessary. We may venture to hint to you, that the emission of paper money will be discussed on *Monday*, and we expect, in the course of next week, to be able to present you with a determination of this important business, which will free us from much anxiety. We shall not fail to attend to what you suggest concerning the *Indians*. This is an object to our Colony of the highest moment, and we hope, in due time, it will be considered by the Congress. We think the *Indians* will not be disposed to engage in this unhappy quarrel, unless deceived and deluded by misrepresentations; and this, with vigilance and care on our part, can be prevented; as one step towards it, which we much applaud, are the assurances you have given the Superintendent of his safety. From the temper and customs of the *Indians*, they would illy brook the extinguishing of their council fire; and had it been damped by any violence to Colonel *Johnson's* person or property, they must have been alarmed, and very probably excited to extremities.

"It is much to be lamented that we are still destitute of ammunition. The Government of *Connecticut* have been more provident, or more fortunate, and will be able to supply the forces at *Ticonderoga* with powder.

"We commend your caution in addressing two letters to us upon the subject of General Officers to command our Troops. What we wrote to you was in the character of your own immediate Delegates, and with a view to discover the sense of our Colony, that we might, when this matter came to be debated in Congress, be fortified with your opinion and arguments, which having obtained, we shall, to the utmost of our power, enforce your recommendations.

"Your remarks on the resolution of the Continental Congress relative to the taking post at *King's Bridge*, appears to us to be conclusive. We shall, however, lay them before our body, as soon as the other important matters under consideration are determined.

"We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

"PHIL. LIVINGSTON, WM. FLOYD,

"FRANCIS LEWIS, JNO. ALSOP.

"JAS. DUANE,

"To the Provincial Congress at *New-York*."



The President having also received a Letter from the Continental Congress, desired that the contents and subject-matter thereof be kept a profound secret. And the same was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, June 10, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: The enclosed resolution of this Congress I am directed to transmit you, and to desire you will order it to be executed in as expeditious and secret a manner as possible, referring to your judgment the most suitable places for landing it, and where there will be the least risk of interruption from the ships-of-war. You will please to consign it to the Committee of Correspondence in each place, with a direction to forward the flour to the Army as soon as possible.

"I have it also in charge to recommend to you that the flour be transported in small quantities, as there may be danger of the enemy. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

"To the Honourable Members of the Provincial Congress of New-York."

The Resolutions mentioned in the above Letter from the Congress being also read, are in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, June 9, 1775.

"Resolved, That the Provincial Convention of New-York be requested to convey, as soon as possible, to Providence, in Rhode-Island, or to any port in the Government of Massachusetts-Bay, five thousand barrels of Flour, for the use of the Continental Army.

"Resolved, That the Committee of Correspondence at Providence, and in the Government of Massachusetts-Bay, where the said Flour may be carried, be desired to receive and forward it to the camp before Boston, as soon as may be, and to lodge such part thereof as cannot be immediately sent thither, in places of security.

"Resolved, That this Congress will make provision for defraying any expense incurred for this service.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

A Letter from Robert Boyd, at New-Windsor, dated the 10th instant, on the subject of making Muskets, was read and filed.

William Ustick, attending at the door, sent in a Bill of Exchange, appearing by its date to be drawn at Boston, on the 14th ultimo, May, on the said William Ustick, by John Montreson, in favour of Jonathan Hampton, for thirty Pounds, New-York currency, endorsed by Jonathan Hampton to Jonathan Blake, and appearing to be accepted by the said William Ustick, on the 3d day of June instant. And the said William Ustick desired the sense of this Congress, whether he could pay the said Bill consistent with the Resolve of the Continental Congress of the 2d of June instant.

And the said Resolve of the Continental Congress being read, it is declared to be the sense and opinion of this Congress, that the said Bill comes within the intent and meaning of the said Resolve.

The Congress then proceeded to the consideration of ways and means to carry into execution the Resolution, Request, and Order of the Continental Congress of the 9th instant, for supplying five thousand barrels of Flour for the use of the Continental Army, and forwarding the same towards the camp before Boston: And, thereupon,

Ordered, That Messrs. Isaac Sears, Abraham Walton, and Joseph Hallett, be a Committee to purchase the said quantity of Flour for the purpose aforesaid, or so much thereof as they can obtain, and to ship and forward the same agreeable to the said Resolution.

And it is now Resolved and Agreed, nem. con., That every Member of this Congress will be responsible to Messrs. Sears, Walton, and Hallett, for their respective proportion of all moneys that they may disburse, or hereafter be obliged to pay, by means of the purchase of the said Flour, or of their appointment, to comply with the said Resolution and Request of the Continental Congress.

Ordered, That Mr. Peter T. Curtenius, as Commissary of this Congress, be directed to purchase, and he is hereby directed to purchase three hundred barrels of Pork of such persons as will sell the same, on the credit of this Congress,

and to forward the same to Albany, in parcels, with all possible despatch.

Mr. Scott, from the Committee appointed to confer with Mr. Price, of Montreal, reported a draught of a Letter to the Merchants of Canada; which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 12, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. Price, one of the inhabitants of your Province, has signified to us the absolute necessity of keeping up a communication between New-York and Canada, by the establishment of a regular post. The friendly sentiments which we feel for our brethren in the northern parts of this Continent, commanded our ready acquiescence in those reasons which that gentleman assigned in favour of such a communication as the necessary commercial intercourse between you and the rest of the world seems evidently to require. You may easily conceive that our ability is equal to our wishes, to support that communication up to Crown Point. To establish that place or Ticonderoga for the exchange of the mails between your country and ours, is the most proper expedient to obtain the end proposed; and the means of communication between Montreal and the place to be agreed on for exchange of the mails, rest entirely with you. Upon the first information you may be pleased to afford us of an establishment in your quarter, we shall not fail in conspiring with you by a similar establishment on our part.

We should be extremely sorry should the misrepresentations of the enemies of America impress our brethren in Canada with an opinion that the Confederate Colonies on this Continent aim at independence. Our allegiance to our Prince, and our attachment to the illustrious House of Hanover, we rank among our most singular blessings. A due subordination to Parliament, in matters for which they alone are competent, we wish firmly to maintain. Our resistance to Ministerial measures proceeds not either from a desire to oppose the rightful authority of our Sovereign, or the constitutional acts of the supreme Legislature of the British Empire. But while we are contented that Great Britain should enjoy that pre-eminence alone which properly belongs to the parent State, as individuals we are resolved to stand on the same secure basis of liberty with our fellow-subjects on the other side of the Atlantick, which can never be obtained under taxations by authority of Parliament. In prosecuting this idea of freedom, we include our brethren the inhabitants of the Province of Quebec, as far as will consist with the utmost of their wishes.

For a further evidence of the sincerity of our intentions, we beg leave to refer you to Mr. Price, and to assure you that we are, gentlemen and brethren, with the most undissembled friendship, your very humble servants.

By order and on behalf of the Congress.

To the Gentlemen Merchants of the Province of Quebec.

Ordered, That two copies of the said Letter be engrossed, signed by the President, and delivered to Mr. Price unsealed, to be by him sealed at such time and place as he shall think most prudent.

Ordered, That one half of the printed Letters to the inhabitants of Quebec be delivered to Mr. Price, and that he be requested to have them distributed in the most advantageous manner.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Martis, 9 ho. A. M., June 13, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. Gano. Present:

For the City and County of New-York.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, and Isaac Sears.

For the City and County of Albany.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

For Dutchess County.—Dirck Brinckerhoff, Anthony Hoff-



man, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, and John Nicholson.

*For Orange County.*—David Pye, Abraham Lent, and Jeremiah Clarke.

*For Suffolk County.*—Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, and Ezra L'Hommedieu.

*For Westchester County.*—Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, Robert Graham, and William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Jonathan E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, and John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Rich'd Lawrence, and Rich'd Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, and Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

Colonel Clinton and Mr. Tappen, a Committee for that purpose, reported a draught of a Letter to the *New-York* Delegates; which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of one of your Resolves, we appointed a Committee to view the Post in the Highlands, whose Report, with a Map thereto annexed, you have enclosed, which is all as yet we have been able to do respecting that matter. As soon as the proper measures on that head are concluded, we will transmit them to you.

We are, gentlemen, with esteem, your most obedient and humble servants.

To the *New-York* Delegates in the Continental Congress.

The Report mentioned in the above Letter, is in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee, in obedience to your order of the 10th ultimo, do most humbly report: That, taking to their assistance Captain *Samuel Bayard* and Captain *Erasmus Williams*, they proceeded to the Highlands, and made a survey of the ground adjoining to *Hudson's* River, for the purpose mentioned in the said order, and do report it as their opinion, that a Post, capable of containing three hundred men, erected on the east bank of *Hudson's* River, marked A, and another on the west side of said River, to contain two hundred men, marked B, in the annexed map, will answer the purpose proposed and directed by the Continental Congress, as it is not only the narrowest part of the said river, but best situated, on account of the high hills contiguous to it, as well on the west as east side of the river which cover those parts; so that without a strong easterly wind, or the tide, no vessel can pass it; and the tide on said part of the river is generally so reverse, that a vessel is usually thrown on one side of the river or the other, by means whereof such vessel lay fair and exposed to the places your Committee have fixed on. Your Committee are further of opinion, that the cheapest and best materials to face these works, would be stone and lime, as there are plenty of stone on the same, and adjoining to it; and lime can be had from a little distance up the river. Your Committee beg leave to observe, that they are informed that by means of four or five booms chained together on one side of the river, ready to be drawn across, the passage can be closed up, to prevent any vessel passing or repassing. Your Committee are further of opinion, that if the last measure should be adopted, it would be requisite and highly prudent to place one or two cannon at the mouth of the Highlands, under the care and inspection of a faithful man, to alarm the Troops to be embodied at the places proposed, in time of danger. Your Committee are also further informed, and are of opinion, that there is on the east side of the said river, near the place fixed on in the said annexed map, marked A, a good and convenient place to build a magazine for the lodgment of gunpowder and other stores. We believe that though there is no fresh water on the spot proposed for the east post, yet a good spring is near it, so that it can be conveyed thereto with a very small expense. We think it would be also necessary to build a number of small boats for maintaining a communication between the two posts.

Your Committee are unable to make a true estimate of the expense that will attend the erecting the said fortifications; but from the best computation they are able to make, it will at least amount to one thousand five hundred Pounds. All which is most humbly submitted by your Committee.

JAMES CLINTON,  
CHRIST. TAPPEN.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Letter to the *New-York* Delegates be engrossed, signed by the President, and, together with a copy of the above Report, transmitted by the first opportunity.

The Congress took into consideration the Letter from *Robert Boyd*, and the Proposals of *Henry Watkeys*, relating to the making of Muskets and Bayonets; and after some time spent therein,

*Resolved*, That this Congress will agree with *Robert Boyd* and *Henry Watkeys*, that they shall make one thousand good Muskets, with steel ramrods and Bayonets with scabbards, at the price of three Pounds fifteen Shillings, *New-York* money, for each good Musket with a steel ramrod, and Bayonet with a scabbard, including the bounty agreed to be allowed by this Congress; and

*Resolved*, That this Congress will immediately advance the sum of one hundred Pounds, *New-York* money, to assist them in procuring necessary tools and materials for carrying on the said business; and

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lispenard*, Captain *Montgomerie*, and Colonel *Clinton*, be a Committee to treat with the said *Robert Boyd* and *Henry Watkeys*, and agree with them accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lispenard* and Mr. *McDougall* be a Committee to agree with any person in this City for importing, without delay, any quantity of Gunpowder not exceeding thirty tons, allowing such importer one hundred per cent. upon the first cost, for the quantity to be imported, he being at all charges and risk; and the Powder to be delivered in good and merchantable order.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Graham* and Mr. *Verplanck* be a Committee to confer with Messrs. *Van Vleeck* and *Kip*, on the subject of making Saltpetre, and to know what encouragement they would expect from this Congress, for carrying on a manufacture of Saltpetre.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *McDougall* apply to the General Committee of *New-York* for two hundred Pounds of the money raised by subscription; and that when he has received that sum, he pay one hundred Pounds thereof to *Robert Boyd* and *Henry Watkeys*, to enable them to carry on the business of Musket and Bayonet making, after the Committee for that purpose above-mentioned shall have perfected an agreement with them; and that he pay the other one hundred Pounds to the President of this Congress, to expend in paying Messengers and other necessary disbursements.

Mr. *Gilbert Livingston* has leave of absence for a few days.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho., June 14, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Inglis*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston, and Isaac Sears.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, and John Nicholson.



*For Orange County.*—David Pye, Benjamin Tusteen, Abraham Lent, and Jeremiah Clarke.

*For Suffolk County.*—James Tredwell, John Foster, and Ezra L'Hommiedieu.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, Robert Graham, and William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Henry Williams, Theodorus Polhemus, and John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner, Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, and Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams, William Marsh.

Messrs. *Christopher Miller* and *Patrick Dennis* attending at the door, were called in; when they informed this Congress that they were requested by a number of the Members of the Marine Society of this City, to inform this Congress that they were about to form themselves into an Artillery Company, and they had nominated Mr. *Anthony Rutgers*, of this City, for their Captain; and pray the approbation of this Congress in the nomination.

The Congress having taken the same into consideration, do unanimously approve of the nomination of Mr. *Anthony Rutgers* to be Captain of the said company; and recommend to the said Society to nominate, for the approbation of this Congress, such persons for their other officers as may be confided in.

The Congress this day received sundry informations, that one *Angus McDonald* is giving a bounty and enlisting men to be employed against the liberties of the inhabitants of this Country; and therefore the Congress does appoint Mr. *McDougall* to have the said *Angus McDonald* brought before this Congress; and they direct an order to Colonel *Lasher*, signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretaries, to be issued and sent to Colonel *Lasher*, in the words following, to wit:

Colonel LASHER:

You are desired to furnish Mr. *Alexander McDougall* with a Sergeant's guard, properly appointed, to attend him, and in all things to obey him, immediately.

By order of the Congress:

PETER V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

Done in Congress:

JOHN MCKESSON, }  
ROBERT BENSON, } *Secretaries*.

Captain *Thompson*, at the request of this Congress, attended at the door, and being called in, gave the following information in substance, to wit:

That he left *Cove*, near *Cork*, in *Ireland*, on the 6th of *May* last; that six Regiments had sailed in twenty-four transports for *Boston*, including a Regiment of Horse; and three Regiments had embarked, and a fourth was embarking, or ready to embark, for *New-York*; that it was reported that the Regiments coming to *New-York* had been wrote for by persons here to support people's property and assist against mobs. And the other parts of the information given by Captain *Thompson* appears in the short notes taken thereof and filed among the papers of this Congress.

Thereupon, a draught of a Letter to the *New-York* Delegates at *Philadelphia*, was read and approved.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the President, and, together with the notes of Captain *Thompson's* information, sent by the first conveyance.

A draught of a Letter to the Governour of *Connecticut*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 14, 1775.

SIR: Captain *Thompson* arrived here in a ship from *Cork* last evening, and as we understood he had reported that several Regiments had sailed from thence for *Boston*, and four other Regiments were embarked and embarking for *New-York*, this Congress desired him to attend their Board this morning, to examine him upon the subject. Upon his attendance we took notes of the intelligence he gave, and enclose a copy thereof to you, and beg you will

forward the same to the Camp at *Cambridge*. We have forwarded the intelligence to the Continental Congress; and are, Sir, your very humble servants.

By order and on behalf of the Provincial Congress.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and, together with the notes of Captain *Thompson's* information, be transmitted by the first conveyance.

A draught of a Letter to *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, was read and approved.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, signed by the President, and, together with a copy of the Resolve therein mentioned, transmitted by the first conveyance.

*William Duer*, Esq., sent in a Letter to the President and Congress; which was read. He therein complains of sundry insinuations against his conduct, with relation to the Northern Frontier of this Colony; and of such reports having been industriously circulated as deeply to endanger his person and property; and praying that a Committee may be appointed to examine into his conduct this afternoon.

The Congress, considering that Mr. *Duer* must attend a Court in *Charlotte County*, which is speedily to sit, and cannot conveniently be held without his attendance, do therefore appoint Mr. *Montgomerie*, Mr. *Silvester*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Marsh*, and Mr. *John Williams*, a Committee to hear and examine into the case of Mr. *Duer*, and report thereon to this Congress.

Mr. *McDougall* returned into Congress, and reported that *Angus McDonald*, who had been armed and made resistance when called on by him, was in custody of a Sergeant's Guard; and a Letter found in his custody from him to *Alexander McDonald*, was read.

The said *Angus McDonald* being brought before the Congress and examined, confessed that he had taken the names of upwards of forty men who had promised to enlist in a battalion, to wear *Highland* dress; and also confessed sundry other matters, of which short notes are taken and filed.

And the said *Angus McDonald* having consented voluntarily to make oath to the substance of the information by him given to this Congress, his affidavit was drawn, and to which he subscribed and was duly sworn, and which is in the words following, to wit:

"*City of New-York*, ss.—*Angus McDonald*, of this City, being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, deposeth and saith: That some time last fall this deponent was at the Town of *Boston*, and had a conversation with Major *John Small* upon the subject of raising a Regiment in *America*, to serve against the inhabitants of *America* in the present contest. That the plan laid for that purpose was, that such officers as are now on half pay in the several Colonies should be promoted in consequence of enlisting such persons as had formerly served as soldiers in this Country. That Major *Small* informed this deponent that the deponent should be taken notice of, and promoted, if the scheme should take place, and mentioned to this deponent the being sutler to the regiment so raised. That this deponent then told him that he was not possessed of sufficient property to engage in that business, and therefore could not accept of that; whereupon the said Major told this deponent that he (deponent) should be taken notice of if called upon; and this deponent further saith, that in consequence of the plan so laid, a number of men have engaged themselves in the service; but that they have not yet received any bounty money for their enlistment. And this deponent further saith, that he verily believes many half-pay officers are acquainted with the aforesaid plan. That the said plan cannot take place without orders from home; and this deponent believes that no such orders will be obtained. That Captain *Alexander McDonald* is also concerned in the said scheme, and hath corresponded with Major *Small* on that subject. That this deponent hath seen and read one of the said Major *Small's* letters to the said *Alexander McDonald*, which letter came by the *Asia*, man-of-war. That



one encouragement held up to those soldiers who should enlist was, that they should have each of them one hundred acres of land when the troubles in *America* should be over. That the deponent does not believe any men are engaged in the County of *Albany*, because that there is no person there to engage them. That this deponent is unwilling to serve against his countrymen and fellow-subjects in *America*, and is sorry the disturbances have risen to so great a height. And further this deponent saith not.

“ANGUS McDONALD.

“Sworn this 14th of *June*, 1775, before me:

“JOHN MCKESSON, *Notary Publick*.”

It appearing to this Congress by a Letter found in the custody of *Angus McDonald*, and by the Deposition of the said *Angus McDonald*, and by the examinations of sundry witnesses before this Congress, that *Alexander McDonald*, now, or late of *Richmond* County, has been concerting measures and employing agents to enlist men to be employed against the liberties of *America*,

*Ordered, therefore*, That the said *Alexander McDonald* be secured and kept in safe custody, and that all his papers be secured and examined; and that Messrs. *Abraham Brasher*, *Zephaniah Platt*, and *Melancton Smith*, be a Committee for that purpose; and that Colonel *Lasher* be desired to send a Sergeant's Guard (with those gentlemen) properly appointed, to attend them, and to obey Mr. *Brasher* in all things.

Whereas, from the information of Captain *Thompson*, received this day, there is reason to apprehend that Troops may soon arrive here from *Ireland*; and from the evidence before this Congress, it appears that it would be very unsafe and imprudent to permit or suffer so dangerous a person as *Angus McDonald* to remain in this Colony, and enjoy his liberty at this juncture:

*Ordered, therefore*, That the said *Angus McDonald* be sent to General *Wooster's* camp, with a request from this Congress that he may be put in such a state of security as may effectually prevent any mischief that might arise from his being left at large.

And *Ordered*, That a request be sent to Colonel *Lasher* to send a guard of twelve trusty men, properly equipped and armed, to take the custody and charge of *Angus McDonald*, and to convey him to General *Wooster's* camp at *Greenwich*, in *Connecticut*. And that the whole guard go with the said *Angus McDonald* to *King's Bridge*; that half of the guard be at liberty to return from thence, and that the other half of the said guard proceed with the said *Angus McDonald*, by the way of *White Plains*, to General *Wooster's* camp.

A Letter to General *Wooster*, covering a copy of the Affidavit of the said *Angus McDonald*, was read, and approved of; and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 14, 1775.

SIR: From the enclosed affidavit you will be able to collect the design of sending *Angus McDonald* to you under guard. We have received information by Captain *Thompson*, who arrived here last night from *Cork*, in *Ireland*, that four full Regiments have embarked in *Ireland* for this City, and may be expected here every hour; we therefore think it unsafe to suffer so dangerous a person to enjoy his liberty at this juncture; and beg leave to recommend it to you to put him in such a state of security as may effectually prevent any mischief that might arise from his being left at large.

We are, Sir, with great respect, your most humble servants.

To Major-General *Wooster*.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter to General *Wooster* be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted with the said Guards.

Mr. *Foster* (seconded by Colonel *Clinton*) moved in the words following, to wit: I move that a message be immediately despatched to Major-General *Wooster*, commanding a body of Troops in the southern part of *Connecticut*, requesting him forthwith to march the said Troops to the distance of five miles of this City.

Agreeable to the tenth Rule of this Congress, at the

request of the Deputies of three Counties, to wit: the Counties of *Albany*, *Richmond*, and *Charlotte*,

*Ordered*, That this matter be deferred till to-morrow morning.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., June 15, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Reverend Mr. *Mason*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lisenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, Jacobus Van Zandt, Isaac Sears.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Volkert P. Douw, Esq., *Vice-President*; Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County*.—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Ephraim Payne, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson.

*For Orange County*.—David Pye, Benjamin Tusteen, Jeremiah Clarke.

*For Suffolk County*.—Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Hommedieu.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, Robert Graham, William Paulding.

*For King's County*.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt.

*For Queen's County*.—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County*.—John Williams, William Marsh.

A Letter from *Ethan Allen*, bearing date at *Crown Point*, June 2d, instant, with a small addition wrote on the cover, was read:

Also another Letter from *Ethan Allen* and *James Easton*, which appears to be a copy of a Letter by them sent to the People of *Canada*, was read.

*Ordered*, That the said Letters be filed.

Mr. *Sears* informed the Congress, that there is reason to believe that there is Ammunition in a store near the Battery, and delivered in a certificate of *George Campbell*, which was read.

*Ordered*, That *George Campbell* and his servant maid, *Elizabeth Randon*, be sent for.

Mr. *Silvester*, from the Committee appointed to examine into the case of *William Duer*, delivered in their Report, which being read, is in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee do report: That, agreeable to your order of the day, they have made a full inquiry into Mr. *Duer's* case, which they conceive to be of a most delicate nature. They are fully of opinion that insinuations against his conduct, with relation to the Northern Frontier of this Colony, have by some means been circulated, which in their nature deeply endanger his person and property. That nevertheless they are fully convinced that those insinuations are entirely groundless; that they are altogether satisfied of his integrity and attachment to *American* liberty; and do therefore recommend him as really meriting the publick countenance and protection of this Congress. The above are the sentiments of your Committee, which is nevertheless submitted to the better opinion of the Congress.

By order:

P. SILVESTER, *Chairman*.

New-York, June 14, 1775.

The Congress agree with the Committee in their said Report; and *Ordered*, That it be recommended by this Congress to all persons within this Colony, and other the inhabitants of *America*, not to injure *William Duer*, Esq., either in his person or property.



*Ordered*, That Mr. *Clarkson* and Mr. *Vanderbilt*, wait on Mr. Alderman *Filkin* and desire him to get two Constables and search a store near *Bowden's* house, to see whether there is any Gunpowder lodged there contrary to law, and to report to this Congress.

The Congress resumed the consideration of Mr. *Foster's* motion of yesterday; and thereupon,

*Ordered*, That a message be immediately despatched to Major-General *Wooster*, now commanding a body of Troops in the southern part of *Connecticut*, requesting him forthwith to march the said Troops, with their tents and other necessaries, to the distance of five miles from this City, to be subject to the orders and directions of the Continental or this Congress, while the said Troops shall continue in this Colony.

And *Resolved*, That we will assist the Commissaries of the said Forces in procuring such necessaries for their accommodation as shall be to be procured within this Colony.

A draught of a Letter to Gen. *Wooster* on that subject being read and approved of, is in the words following:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 15, 1775.

SIR: You will see by the enclosed order, that this Congress think it expedient to request you to march to this Colony with the Troops under your command. If you are not at liberty to comply with the terms of this order until you consult the Governour and Company of *Connecticut* on this subject, we beg you would immediately despatch this requisition to them, and transmit to us their determination as soon as possible.

As we have at present but few tents, we beg you would direct such as you have, to be sent to the place intended for their encampment, and make such other disposition for the support of your Troops as is in your power.

We are, Sir, your most obedient humble servants.

To Major-General *Wooster*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and, together with a certified copy of the said order, transmitted by the first conveyance.

Mr. *Sears* had leave of absence for a few days.

*Joseph Stephens* delivered to the President his account, amounting to twelve pounds, for going a messenger to *Philadelphia* at two different times.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, pay the said account, and take his receipt for the same.

Messrs. *Clarkson* and *Vanderbilt* returned, and reported that Alderman *Filkin*, with a Constable, had attended them; that they had searched *Bowden's* house and cellar, and a store adjoining, and that they found no Powder or Ammunition there.

Mr. *Brasher*, from the Committee appointed to go to *Staten Island*, reported, that they had executed the order of the Congress; that they had searched the house of *Alexander McDonald*, and found no papers relating to the raising of Troops; that they did not find *Alexander McDonald*, and were informed that he is gone to *Boston*. He also informed the Congress that the expense of the boat, and provisions for the men who attended on the said Committee, amounts to three pounds five shillings; which was disbursed by Mr. *Melancton Smith*.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, repay Mr. *Smith* the said three pounds five shillings, and take his receipt.

All which he did immediately.

The Memorial and Petition of *Ebenezer Hazard*, relating to a Post-Office, and praying to be appointed Postmaster, was read.

Also a Letter from *William Goddard* (covering several large packages of Papers) on the same subject, was read.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Verplanck*, *Roosevelt*, and *Richard Yates*, be a Committee to take the said Petition, Letter, and Papers into consideration, and report thereon to this Congress with all convenient speed.

*Ordered*, That no person whatsoever presume to inoculate for the Small-Pox within this Colony before the first day of *December* next, and that the several Committees within their respective Districts carefully observe that there be a punctual compliance with this order.

*Ordered*, That a copy of this order be published in the Newspapers.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Marsh* have leave of absence, and it is agreed that Mr. *Williams* shall have a vote, and represent *Charlotte* County.

*Ordered*, That two Members of those present from *Albany* County have leave of absence.

The Congress adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

Die Jovis, 5 ho. P. M., June 15, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

*Thomas Smith*, Esq., obtained leave of absence during the remainder of this week.

The Congress then adjourned to meet at the *City-Hall* at nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., June 16, 1775.

The Congress met at the *City-Hall* pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Reverend Mr. *Treat*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., *President*; *Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Leonard Lispenard*, *Abraham Walton*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *James Beekman*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *David Clarkson*, *John Morin Scott*, *John Van Cortlandt*, *Jacobus Van Zandt*, *John Marston*.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—*Abraham Yates*, *Peter Silvester*, *Walter Livingston*, *Robert Van Rensselaer*, *Henry Glenn*.

*For Dutchess County*.—*Anthony Hoffman*, *Zephaniah Platt*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *Ephraim Payne*, *Jonathan Landon*, *Gysbert Schenck*, *Melancton Smith*, *Nathaniel Sackett*.

*For Ulster County*.—*James Clinton*, *Christopher Tappen*, *John Nicholson*.

*For Orange County*.—*David Pye*, *Benjamin Tusteen*, *John Herring*.

*For Suffolk County*.—*Thomas Tredwell*, *John Foster*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*.

*For Westchester County*.—*Gouverneur Morris*, *Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Joseph Drake*, *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *James Holmes*, *Robert Graham*, *William Paulding*.

*For King's County*.—*Henry Williams*, *Jeremiah Remsen*, *John Leffertse*, *Nicholas Covenhoven*, *John Vanderbilt*.

*For Richmond County*.—*Paul Micheau*, *John Journey*, *Aaron Cortelyou*, *Richard Conner*, *Richard Lawrence*.

*For Queen's County*.—*Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Zebulon Williams*, *Samuel Townshend*, *Joseph Robinson*, *Nathaniel Tom*.

*For Charlotte County*.—*John Williams*, *William Marsh*.

Mr. *John N. Bleecker* sent in a return of Stores and Provisions which have been received at *Albany* from *New-York*; of the quantities forwarded to *Fort George*; and of such as yet remain at *Albany*, or have been there expended. The said return was read and filed.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the proposal of *Robert Boyd* and *Henry Watkeys*; and after some time spent therein, a draught of a Letter to *Robert Boyd* on the subject of making Gun-Barrels was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 16, 1775.

SIR: It will be impossible for us to give the due encouragement to the business which you mention in your letter, without first conversing with you on the subject. We beg, therefore, you would come to *New-York* with the utmost despatch, and then, when we shall have heard what are the expenses of the undertaking, and what work can be performed in a given time, we shall be able to contract with you for such number as will render the business practicable. We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

By order and on behalf of the Provincial Congress.

To Mr. *Robert Boyd*, *New-Windsor*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted.



*Ordered*, That Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Commissary of this Congress, be desired to purchase the following quantities of Ravens Duck, Ticking, and Bell Tents, of such persons as will sell the same on the publick credit, to wit: 427 pieces of good Ravens Duck; 182 yards of Ticking, fit to make Bell Tents; and twenty-six Bell Tents, which are at *Hayman Levy's*, if they are of a proper fashion, good, and of a cheap or reasonable price.

And *Ordered*, That Mr. *Curtenius* examine a number of Haversacks which are at *Hayman Levy's*; that if he find them of good quality and proper shape, and cheap, that he purchase them if to be sold on the publick credit.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Montgomerie*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Beekman*, and Mr. *Brasher*, be a Committee to get as many Tents as they shall think necessary made with all possible despatch.

Mr. *Payne* and Mr. *Platt* have obtained leave of absence.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Hoffman*, Mr. *Glenn*, Mr. *McDougall*, and Mr. *Paulling*, be a Committee to inquire into the depth of water in *Hudson's River*, from the City of *New-York* to *New-Windsor*.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

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Die Saturnii, 9 ho. A. M., June 17, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Livingston*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lisperard, Joseph Hallett, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, Benjamin Kissam, Jacobus Van Zandt.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County*.—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson.

*For Orange County*.—David Pye, Benjamin Tusteen, John Herring, Jeremiah Clarke.

*For Suffolk County*.—Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Hommedieu.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, Robert Graham.

*For King's County*.—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, John Leffertse, Nicholas Covenhoven.

*For Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner, Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County*.—Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend.

*For Charlotte County*.—John Williams.

The President mentioned that a gentleman who is a member of a Committee in *New-Jersey*, and a Delegate to *New-Jersey* Congress, has informed him that he conceives it will be of great use in some parts of the Colony of *New-Jersey*, to let him have a copy of the Affidavit of *Angus McDonald*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be delivered to that gentleman by the President.

Mr. *Van Zandt*, from the Committee appointed to get as many Tents made as they shall think necessary, reported, that they had agreed with sundry Upholsterers to make two hundred and fifty Tents, and to furnish all materials (Duck excepted) for making the said Tents, with Tent Poles, Mallets, and other necessities for the said Tents, at the rate of fifteen Shillings for each Tent. That the said Upholsterers have agreed with them to have the said two hundred and fifty Tents finished by the latter end of next week; and some of them will be finished fit for use by next *Wednesday* or *Thursday*.

Mr. *McDougall* informed the President in publick Congress, that, in pursuance of the order of this Congress, of the ninth instant, he had applied to the Committee of the City of *New-York*; and received of the said Committee

the sum of Two Hundred Pounds; and Mr. *McDougall* immediately paid One Hundred Pounds of the said money to *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., the President, and took his receipt for the same.

A Letter received from Major-General *Wooster*, dated Camp at *Greenwich*, June 15, 1775, was read and filed.

Doctor *Graham* and Mr. *Van Vleeck* delivered in the Proposals of Messrs. *Van Vleeck* and *Kip* for undertaking Saltpetre works in this City.

*Ordered*, That the said Proposals lay for further consideration.

Captain *Jeffrey*, the captain of the Packet, being requested to attend this Congress, and attending at the door, was called in; and, in substance, informed the Congress, that on *Tuesday* last, about thirty leagues to the southeast of *Sandy-Hook* he saw the *Spry*, man-of-war, now a transport, with part of the Forty-Fourth Regiment on board. That he was informed by some of the officers of the Troops on board the *Spry*, that the *Mercury*, man-of-war, had ordered the *Spry* transport to *Boston*, and was cruising thereabout to order all the transports with Troops, which were destined to *New-York*, to proceed to *Boston*; that he has also had the like information from some of the officers of the *Mercury*.

Thereupon, a draught of a Letter to Major-General *Wooster* was read, and approved of; and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 17, 1775.

SIR: Being well informed that four Regiments, containing near three thousand effective men, were sailed in transports for this City, we took the liberty to request the assistance of those brave sons of freedom who are under your command. We are this instant further informed that the *Mercury*, ship-of-war, was cruising upon our coast, and is now at *Sandy-Hook*, to order those transports to *Boston* immediately; and did, on *Tuesday* last, thirty leagues to the southeast of the *Hook*, deliver his orders to the *Old Spry*, man-of-war, now a transport, with part of the Forty-Fourth Regiment on board, which immediately altered her course. From hence we conclude that a very capital stroke is meditated against our brethren of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. You best can determine, Sir, whether it is proper on this occasion for the forces under your command to march westward; but we are led to believe that it is of more important consequence to secure the several passes with which nature hath bounteously fortified the eastern country; that if some unexpected chance of war should prove fatal to us in the first contest, the enemy may, by such means, receive a check in his career of vengeance.

We beg you to transmit this intelligence to the Provincial Camp with the utmost despatch. We are, Sir, your most obedient humble servants.

By order and on behalf of the Provincial Congress.  
To Major-General *Wooster*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted by *Jacob Shafer* as a messenger for that purpose.

A draught of a Letter to the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress, was also read and approved.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President; and that a copy of the Resolve and Order of this Congress of the 15th instant, for introducing the *Connecticut* Forces, under the command of General *Wooster*; a copy of the Letter to General *Wooster* from this Congress of the same date; and the before written Letter to General *Wooster* of this day, be enclosed to the said Delegates; and that the same be forwarded by the messenger from the *Massachusetts-Bay* now on his way to *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to prepare a Plan of Accommodation between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, in order to be prepared to give the sentiments of this Congress thereon to the Delegates of this Colony, bring in their Report on *Wednesday* next.

The Congress then adjourned to *Monday* next, at four o'clock, P. M.



Die Lunæ, June 19, 1775, 4to ho. P. M.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Martis, 9 ho. A. M., June 20, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. Bowden. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lisenard, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen.

*For Orange County.*—John Coe, David Pye, Benjamin Tusteen, Peter Clowes, John Herring, Jeremiah Clarke.

*For Suffolk County.*—Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster, Ezra L'Hommedieu, Thomas Wickham.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun.

*For King's County.*—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse.

*For Richmond County.*—Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County.*—Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams.

**TRYON COUNTY.**—The Deputies from Tryon County attending at the door, were called in, and produced a Certificate signed by Nicholas Herkimer, Chairman *pro tempore*, and Andrew Finck, Junior, Clerk of a meeting of the Committee of Tryon County, held on the eleventh of June, instant, whereby it appears that Christopher P. Yates and John Marlett, Esquires, were appointed Deputies to attend this Provincial Congress without delay, and to act, in conjunction with the Members thereof, upon this very alarming and calamitous situation of *British America*.

The said Certificate being read and filed,

*Ordered*, That those gentlemen take their seats.

The President informed the Congress that he had received sundry Letters from *Philadelphia*, by a messenger returned from thence, and who had been sent there with despatches from this Congress by John Jay, Esquire.

*Ordered*, That Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, the President, pay the said messenger. And it is further ordered, that the President, for the future, pay all messengers who shall be employed by this Congress, taking their respective receipts for the sums paid to them.

A Letter from James Duane, Esquire, on behalf of himself and the other Delegates from this Colony, dated *Philadelphia*, June 17, 1775, was read and filed.

The Resolution of the Continental Congress therein mentioned, of the 16th instant, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, June 16, 1775.

"Resolved, That the Provincial Convention of *New-York* be desired immediately to apply to Governour Trumbull to order the *Connecticut* Troops now stationed at *Greenwich*, *Stamford*, and parts adjacent, to march towards *New-York*; and that part of them occupy such Posts upon that Island as the said Provincial Convention shall judge best adapted to prevent the communication between the town and country from being cut off; the remainder of the Troops to be employed in securing the navigation of *Hudson's River*, by erecting Batteries at such places as the said Convention shall judge the most proper to answer that purpose.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

A Letter from Major-General Wooster, dated the 17th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Greenwich, June 17, 1775.

"SIR: Your favour of the 15th instant, in behalf of the Provincial Congress, with the enclosed order, I received yesterday morning, and immediately despatched the requisition to the Governour, who, together with the Council of War, are empowered by our Assembly to order the destination of the Troops. I shall hold myself in readiness to march whenever I receive the Governour's orders.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

"DAVID WOOSTER.

"To Peter V. B. Livingston, Esquire."

Another Letter from Major-General Wooster, of the 18th instant, was also read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Greenwich, June 18, 1775.

"SIR: Your favour, in behalf of your Congress, I have just received; a copy of which I have transmitted by express both to the Camp near *Boston*, and to our Governour. I should be very glad to hear that your proportion of men, for the defence of the Country, were raised and well equipped, as it is of the utmost importance that a place of such consequence as *New-York* should be put in the best posture of defence.

"I am, in haste, your most obedient humble servant,

"DAVID WOOSTER, Major-General.

"To Peter V. B. Livingston, Esquire."

The President informed the Congress that about thirteen hundred weight of Gunpowder is brought to this City, and that the Congress may have it to purchase, if they think fit.

*Ordered*, That Mr. McDougall agree for and purchase the said Powder; and that he forward one thousand weight thereof to the Colony of *Connecticut*, for the use of the Provincial Army near *Boston*, with a Letter to Governour Trumbull, enclosing a copy of the Resolve of the Continental Congress of the 16th instant, and therein request of him to forward from their most easterly magazine the like quantity to the Camp of the Provincial Army of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

And *Ordered*, That Mr. McDougall forward the remaining three hundred weight of the said Powder to the Agents at *Albany*, to be forwarded to *Ticonderoga*.

A draught of a Letter to Governour Trumbull, on the subjects above mentioned, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 20, 1775.

SIR: We enclose you a letter forwarded from the Congress to our care, a part of the contents whereof we are made acquainted with. You will observe, Sir, that the resolutions of the Congress, on the subject of marching your Troops hither, are previous to the important intelligence communicated to General Wooster last Saturday. How the Congress would have determined if they had known that the Troops intended for this post were ordered to *Boston*, we know not. But we desire you, Sir, to use your own good judgment upon the whole of the intelligence conveyed to you, and be confident that we shall heartily acquiesce. We have lately received a small supply of gunpowder, and shall very soon forward to General Wooster half a ton for the Provincial Army near *Boston*, that it may be despatched with the utmost speed. We pray you to send so much thither from your easternmost magazine.

We are, Sir, your most obedient servants.

By order and on behalf of the Congress.

To the Hon. Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and, together with a copy of the Resolve of the Continental Congress of the 16th instant, to be therein enclosed, sent by Mr. Bradford, who offers his service as a messenger for that purpose.

A draught of a Letter to Major-General Wooster was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:



In Provincial Congress, June 20, 1775.

SIR: We have received your favours of the 17th and 18th instant, and beg leave to testify to you our high sense of the readiness which you shew to assist our Colony. That honest zeal which inspirits the bosoms of our countrymen in *Connecticut* commands our admiration and praise. With the warmest affection for them, the most fervent attention to the publick welfare, and the greatest respect, Sir, for you, we are your very humble servants.

By order and on behalf of the Provincial Congress.

To Major-General *Wooster*.

P. S. We enclose a letter for you received by our messenger from *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and sent by Mr. *Bradford*.

A Letter from *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress, bearing date on the 12th inst., was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Philadelphia, June 12, 1775.

“GENTLEMEN: By order of the Congress I forward you the enclosed Resolves, passed on the 10th instant, the importance and propriety of which you will readily perceive, as the safety of *America* greatly depends on our having it in our power to supply ourselves with the means of defence. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

“To the Members of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.”

The Resolves of the Continental Congress, received, enclosed in the above Letter, were also read and filed.

The Mayor of the City informed the President that without the aid of this Congress, Captain *Vanderput*, of the Ship *Asia*, cannot get any small necessaries for himself or his Ship; and that Captain *Vanderput* requests such aid of this Congress as may give him relief in the premises.

*Ordered*, That *Abraham Lott*, Esquire, be at liberty to supply Captain *Vanderput* and the Ship *Asia* with such small necessaries as may be wanted from time to time.

A Letter from Mr. *Brook Watson* to the President, setting forth that he is going into *Canada*, mentioning his suite, and the Letters in his custody, and requesting such Letter from Congress as may facilitate his journey; and also a card from Lord and Lady *Chatham*, were read:

And thereupon a draught of a recommendatory Passport for the said *Brook Watson* and his suite, was prepared, read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 20, 1775.

To all Officers in the service of the Colonies, Members of Committees, and others of the friends of AMERICAN liberty, greeting:

BRETHREN: Take notice that Mr. *Brook Watson*, now about to depart hence for the Province of *Quebeck*, having applied to this Congress for a passport, we, well convinced that the said *Brook Watson* is a true friend to this Country and its rights, do desire you to give him every assistance, and shew him all the civilities in your power, and that you forward him and his suite, being Messieurs *Joseph Marie Tonnencour* and *Louis Perras*, companions of the said *Brook Watson*, and *Daniel McKinzie*, his servant. We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

By order and on behalf of the Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and countersigned by the Secretaries, and delivered to Mr. *Brook Watson*; and that Messrs. *Morris*, *Richard Yates*, *Clarkson*, and *Low*, be a Committee to wait on him, and receive of him such information as he can give that may be useful for the interest of *America*.

A copy of a Letter bearing date at *Newport*, on the 14th instant, from *Jonathan Otis*, Chairman of the Committee of Inspection there, was read and filed.

A draught of a Letter to the Committees of *East* and *South-Hampton*, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 20, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: A copy of the Letter from the Committee of *Newport* to your Committee, concerning certain persons now under inoculation in your Town, being laid before us, we earnestly recommend to you that you would be very careful that they be so secured and sent off as not to have it in their power to spread the infection. You have enclosed the resolution of this Congress prohibiting inoculation for the small-pox until the first of *December* next. We are, &c.

To the Committees of Observation of the Towns of *East* and *South-Hampton*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and, with a copy of the Resolve of this Congress against Inoculation for the Small-Pox, be delivered to Mr. *L'Hommedieu* to be forwarded.

A Certificate from *Jonathan Wells*, *Samuel Wadsworth*, and *Epaphras Bull*, the Committee of *Hartford*, bearing date the 13th instant, certifying that *Richard Sharpless*, the bearer, is one of the soldiers lately taken at *Ticonderoga*, and was coming to *New-York* to collect money due to him, was read; and the soldier mentioned in the said Certificate attending at the door, and being lame,

*Ordered*, That the Doorkeeper provide Lodging for him at the cheapest rate, until the further order of this Congress.

Mr. *Verplanck* (seconded by Mr. *Melancton Smith*) moved in the following words, to wit:

I move that the sum of £2,000, when we receive the Continental Currency, be lent to Messrs. *Van Vleck* and *Kip*, at five per cent., for the term of two years, they giving security for the same, to enable them to manufacture Saltpetre; and that this Congress engage to take from them any quantity of Saltpetre, under twenty tons, that they may manufacture in this Colony within a twelve-month, at the rate of 2s. 6d. per pound.

And debates arose thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the negative in the manner following, to wit:

For the Motion.

County of *Dutchess*,  
County of *Ulster*,  
County of *Suffolk*,  
County of *Orange*.—8.

Against the Motion.

City and County of *Albany*,  
County of *Richmond*,  
County of *Charlotte*,  
County of *King's*,  
County of *Westchester*,  
County of *Tryon*,  
City and County of *New-York*,  
County of *Queen's*.—19.

A Letter from *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress, bearing date the 15th instant, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Philadelphia, June 15, 1775.

“GENTLEMEN: Your letter, of 10th instant, to the Delegates of *New-York*, has been laid before the Congress, in consequence of which I am directed to return you the thanks of the Congress for your vigilance in the case of Captain *Coffin's* vessel, and to recommend to you that the vessel be unloaded, and the cargo safely stored, until all just suspicions concerning the destination of it shall be removed. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

“To the Members of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.”

A Letter from the Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire*, together with a certified copy of a Resolve of that Congress, were read and filed.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Tappen* and Mr. *Christopher P. Yates* be added to the Committee for the arrangement of Troops to be raised in this Colony.

The Congress adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., June 21, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Moore*. Present:

For the City and County of *New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., President; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lisenard, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard



Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissing, John Morin Scott, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Abraham Yates, Jun., Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Jonathan Landon, Gysbert Schenck, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, Christopher Tappen.

*For Orange County.*—John Coe, Benjamin Tusteen, John Herring.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Wickham, Thomas Tredwell, John Foster.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun., William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Theodorus Polhemus, John Lefertse, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—Paul Micheau, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County.*—Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams.

*For Tryon County.*—Christopher P. Yates, John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County.*—John Hazeltine, Paul Spooner, William Williams.

A Letter from John Hazeltine, Chairman of the Committee of Cumberland County, was read and filed.

The gentlemen who are Deputies from Cumberland County, produced a set of Resolves entered into by the Delegates of the several Towns in the said County, convened at the Court-House at Westminster, on the sixth instant, signed by John Hazeltine, Chairman, and Sol. Phelps, D. Clerk; and by the conclusion of the sixth and last Resolve it appears and is certified that Colonel John Hazeltine, Doctor Paul Spooner, and William Williams, Esquire, were voted and elected Deputies for that County to attend, meet, and join in this Congress; the said Resolves and Certificate were read and filed:

And Ordered, That these gentlemen take their seats.

The Petition of Joseph Johnson, on behalf of himself and three other Indians therein named, praying for a Passport and letter of safe conduct for himself and the said three other Indians to New-London, in Connecticut, and some small aid in money, to assist them in their journey, was read and filed.

Ordered, That a Passport and letter of safe conduct be made and delivered to the said Joseph Johnson and his three companions, by name, in their journey to New-London, and that the President give him Ten Pounds to assist him and his companions in their journey.

A Letter from John Bay, Secretary of the Committee of Albany, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, June 16, 1775.

"SIR: By order of the Committee of this City and County, of the 15th instant, you have enclosed a copy of a letter from the Reverend Samuel Kirkland, Missionary among the Oneida Indians. I am, Sir, your humble servant,

JOHN BAY, Secretary pro tem.

"To Peter V. B. Livingston, Esquire, President of the Provincial Congress, New-York."

The copy of the Letter from Mr. Kirkland, therein enclosed, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Cherry Valley, June 9, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: This acknowledges the receipt of your favour, with an enclosed paper, the authenticity of which I have no doubt. I am much embarrassed at present. You have doubtless heard Colonel Johnson has orders from Government to remove the dissenting Missionaries from the Six Nations, till the difficulties betwixt Great Britain and the Colonies are settled. In consequence of which he has forbid my return to my people at Oneida. He has since given encouragement that I may revisit them after the Congress; but, to be plain, I have no dependance

at all upon his promises of this kind in particular. He appears unreasonably jealous of me, and has forbid my speaking a word to the Indians, and threatened me with confinement if I transgress. All he has against me I suppose to be this: a suspicion that I have interpreted to the Indians the doings of the Continental Congress, which has undeceived and too much opened the eyes of the Indians for Colonel Johnson's purposes. I confess to you, gentlemen, that I have been guilty of this, if it be any transgression. The Indians found out that I had received the abstracts of said Congress, and insisted upon knowing the contents. I could not deny them, notwithstanding my cloth, though in all other respects I have been extremely cautious not to meddle in matters of a political nature.

"I apprehend my interpreting the doings of the Congress to a number of their Sachems, has done more real service to the cause of the Country, or the cause of truth and justice, than five hundred pounds in presents would have effected. If you think proper, you may acquaint your Provincial Congress with the contents of this, but you must be cautious in exposing my name; you cannot but be sensible my situation is extremely difficult. You may expect either to see or hear from me again very soon; wishing you the blessings of peace, and that we may all be disposed to acquiesce in the Divine Government.

"In utmost haste subscribe, gentlemen, your obedient and very humble servant,

SAMUEL KIRKLAND.

"To the Committee of Albany.

"A true copy: JOHN BAY, Sec'y pro tem."

Ordered, That Mr. Abraham Yates, Colonel Hardenbergh, Mr. Silvester, Mr. Glenn, and Mr. Christopher P. Yates, be a Committee to consider of such directions as may be proper for this Congress to give, and such measures as may be useful to be by them adopted, with respect to the Oneidas, and other Indian Nations, and that they report with all convenient speed.

Ordered, That Colonel Tusteen and Colonel Hazeltine be added to the Committee for arrangement of the Forces to be raised in this Colony.

A Letter from the following gentlemen, to wit: Benjamin Carpenter, Chairman of the Committee of New-Marlborough; Samuel Brewster, Chairman of the Committee of New-Windsor; and Isaac Belknap, Chairman pro tem. of the Committee of Newburgh, was read and filed.

Ordered, That Mr. Thomas Smith, Mr. John Williams, Mr. Richard Yates, and Mr. Verplanck, be a Committee to consider of the best methods to carry into execution the Resolve of the Continental Congress with relation to Saltpetre and Sulphur, and to make report with all convenient speed.

Mr. McDougall reported a list of the persons in the City of New-York who have got Saltpetre, and of the quantity that each person has on hand, by which it appears that the whole quantity of Saltpetre now in Town amounts to two hundred and eighty-seven pounds.

A draught of a Letter to the Committee of the City of New-York to attend a copy of the Resolve of the Continental Congress of the 10th instant, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 21, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: You will see from the enclosed order, that the Committees of the respective Counties are requested to collect all the Saltpetre, Sulphur, and Brimstone in their several Towns and Districts, and to transmit the same with all possible despatch to this Congress. We recommend this matter to your immediate attention, and beg you will purchase up all the Saltpetre in this City and County, and communicate to this Congress the quantity of Brimstone and Sulphur that may be purchased in Town, that we may be able to carry into execution the Resolve of the Continental Congress. We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order and on behalf of the Provincial Congress.

To the General Committee of Association for the City and County of New-York.

Ordered, That the state of Queen's County be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.



*Ordered*, That the Committee for preparing a draught of the sentiments of this Congress on the terms of a reconciliation with *Great Britain*, at their request be indulged in bringing in their said Report till to-morrow morning.

The Congress adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., June 22, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Auchmuty*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, John Marston, Isaac Sears.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County*.—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, Christopher Tappen.

*For Orange County*.—John Coe, Benjamin Tusteen, John Herring.

*For Suffolk County*.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, John Foster, Thomas Wickham, James Havens, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun., William Paulding.

*For King's County*.—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County*.—Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County*.—John Williams.

*For Tryon County*.—Christopher P. Yates, John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County*.—John Hazeltine, William Williams, Paul Spooner.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerard Bancker* be requested to have all the Barracks in this City immediately cleansed and made wholesome, so that they may be ready to receive such Troops as this Congress shall direct.

A draught of a Passport for Mr. *Joseph Johnson* and his *Indian* companions, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 22, 1775.

To all Officers in the service of the Colonies, Members of Committees, and others, the friends of AMERICAN liberty, greeting:

BRETHREN: Know ye, that Mr. *Joseph Johnson*, an *Indian* of the *Mohegan* tribe, and a licensed Preacher of the Gospel amongst the *New-England* and *Oneida Indians*, having applied to this Congress for a passport for himself and three other *Indians*, his companions, now here, on a journey from the *Oneida* Country to *New-London*, in *Connecticut*, we, well convinced of the friendly disposition of the said *Joseph Johnson* to the inhabitants of the *American* Colonies, and of his intentions and good offices to preserve and maintain peace and harmony between them and the *Indian* Nations, do request and desire you to afford all necessary aid and protection to the said *Joseph Johnson* and his three *Indian* companions, being *James Shattock*, *John Skesuck* and *Samuel Tallman*, and to permit them to pass freely and safely in their journey to *New-London* aforesaid.

We do also hereby request of the said *Joseph Johnson*, in our names and on behalf of the whole Colony of *New-York*, to assure the *Oneida* Nation, and all other our old friends and allies of the confederated *Indian* Nations, that we love and esteem them as our brethren; that we desire to maintain with them the old friendship which subsisted between us from the time of our forefathers, and that the path be-

tween us may be kept free and open at all times; and that we desire they do not give ear to any false reports whatsoever to the contrary.

By order and on behalf of the Provincial Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and countersigned by the Secretaries, and delivered to the said *Joseph Johnson*.

It is recommended by this Congress to the General Committee of Association of the City and County of *New-York*, that they do immediately take the most effectual means in their power to prevent the Small-Pox from spreading in this City or County, and for securing the City as much as possible from the danger of infection from that disease.

The Order of the Day, for consideration of the state of *Queen's* County, being read, and after some time spent therein,

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Hicks*, *Joseph French*, and *Daniel Rapalye*, Esquires, who were elected Deputies to represent *Queen's* County in this Congress, and have not as yet attended, be requested to take their seats in this Congress, on *Tuesday* next, or assign their reasons for neglecting to attend.

And it is *Ordered*, That Captain *Richard Thorne*, who has neglected to attend this Congress for some time past, be also requested to attend on *Tuesday* next.

*Ordered*, That the Members for *Queen's* County do, on *Tuesday* morning next, report to this Congress their opinion of the conduct of their constituents with regard to the controversy now subsisting between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies, and what steps have been taken by any of the inhabitants of that County to defeat the measures adopted or necessary to be adopted by the Continental and this Congress for the preservation of our rights and privileges.

The Committee appointed to report the subject-matter of a proper Plan of Accommodation with *Great Britain*, delivered in their Report, which was read, and the same being read a second time,

*Ordered*, That the same be taken into consideration on *Saturday* morning next; that the Members of each County have leave to take one copy thereof, each copy to be numbered by one of the Secretaries, who shall take a memorandum of the name of the Member who shall take with him such copy, and the number of the copy by him taken, that all the said copies may on *Saturday* next be returned to and filed with the Secretaries. And all the Members are directed by the President from the chair to take the utmost care to preserve the said copies secret, and to keep secret the subject-matter thereof. And it is agreed that no Member shall transcribe the said Report, or take any copy from the copies taken out of the House for the use of the Members of each County, and that all the said copies shall on *Saturday* next be returned to the Secretaries.

Mr. *Thomas Wickham* delivered the General Association, in a book signed by the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of *East Hampton*, with a certificate thereto, subscribed by *John Chatfield*, Chairman, certifying that every male in the Town of *East Hampton*, capable of bearing arms, has signed the said Association.

Mr. *McDougall* moved (and was seconded by Mr. *Yates*) that the sense of this Congress be taken, whether the Troops to be raised in this Colony shall be clothed in Uniform.

Debates arose thereon, and it was deferred for farther consideration.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., June 23, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Rodgers*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, Isaac Sears.



*For the City and County of Albany.*—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, Christopher Tappen.

*For Orange County.*—John Coe, Benjamin Tusteen, John Herring.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun., William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen.

*For Richmond County.*—Paul Micheau, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County.*—Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townsend, Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams,

*For Tryon County.*—Christopher P. Yates, John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County.*—John Hazeltine, Paul Spooner, William Williams.

A Memorial of *William Elphinston*, a conductor of Ordnance Stores taken at *Ticonderoga*, setting forth his poverty and want of subsistence, and praying for relief, received.

*Ordered*, That the President advance twenty shillings per week to the said *William Elphinston* for his subsistence, until the further order of this Congress, and that the said *William Elphinston* have leave to take the use of a room in the lower Barracks.

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of this Colony ought not to kill any Lamb until the first day of *November* next.

Mr. *Morris* moved (and was seconded by several Members from the Northern Counties) that this Congress enter into and publish a Resolution to restrain the killing of Sheep until the first day of *November* next.

Debates arose thereon, and, according to a rule of this Congress, at the request of the Deputies of *Albany*, *Suffolk* and *New-York*,

*Ordered*, That the same be postponed till *Wednesday* next.

And *Ordered*, That the above Resolution, with respect to Lamb, shall not be published until *Wednesday* next.

*Robert Boyd*, in pursuance of the Letter from this Congress of the sixteenth instant, attending at the door, was called in. He informed this Congress that he could set on foot a manufactory of Gun-Barrels, Bayonets, and steel Ramrods, and deliver them at the price of thirty-five shillings for each Barrel, Ramrod, and Bayonet.

*Henry Watkeys* attending at the door, was also called in, and offered to furnish Locks for the muskets, and to mount, stock and finish them in complete workman-like manner, as the sample shewn to him, at the rate of forty-five shillings each.

And a Sadler attending at the door, was called in, and informed the Congress that the expense of making Scabbards for Bayonets would be two shillings, and Straps and Buckles for the Muskets would be one shilling and six pence.

*Ordered*, That the former Committee appointed to agree with *Robert Boyd*, to wit: Colonel *Lispenard*, Mr. *Montgomerie*, and Colonel *Clinton*, together with *Thomas Smith*, Esq., be a Committee to agree with the said *Robert Boyd* for all the Musket-Barrels, Ramrods, and Bayonet that he shall make within six months. And that the same Committee agree with *Henry Watkeys* for such of the said Muskets as he shall stock and finish in manner aforesaid within the same time.

Mr. *Sears* has leave of absence (after to-morrow noon) to go to *Philadelphia*.

Mr. *John Williams* has the like leave to go home.

Mr. *McDougall* moved (seconded by Mr. *Morris*) in the words following: "I move that this Congress recognize the Act of the Provincial Convention of this Colony, which elected *Philip Livingston*, Esquire, and others, Delegates to represent the Colony in the Continental Congress, now sitting in *Philadelphia*."

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The subject-matter of the said motion being unanimously agreed to and approved of,

*Resolved nemine contradicente*, That this Congress does fully recognize the act of the Provincial Convention of this Colony which elected *Philip Livingston*, *James Duane*, *John Alsop*, *John Jay*, *Simon Boerum*, *William Floyd*, *Henry Wisner*, *Philip Schuyler*, *George Clinton*, *Lewis Morris*, *Francis Lewis*, and *Robert R. Livingston*, Junior, Delegates to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress now sitting in the City of *Philadelphia*.

The Congress adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

Die Veneris, 4to ho. P. M., June 23, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Isaac Roosevelt, James Beekman, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, Isaac Sears.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen.

*For Orange County.*—Benjamin Tusteen, John Herring.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, John Foster, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen.

*For Queen's County.*—Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson.

*For Richmond County.*—Paul Micheau, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Lawrence.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams.

*For Tryon County.*—Christopher P. Yates, John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County.*—Paul Spooner and William Williams.

The Congress being informed that General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces raised and to be raised in the *American* confederated Colonies, is on his way from *Philadelphia* to this City, and expected to be near at hand,

*Ordered*, That the Doorkeeper wait on Colonel *Lasher*, and request him to attend this Congress immediately.

And Colonel *Lasher* attending at the door, being called in by desire of the Congress, the President requested Colonel *Lasher* to send one of his Field Officers to meet General *Washington*, and to know when he will be in this City. And further requested Colonel *Lasher* to make such orders as to have his Battalion ready to receive Gen. *Washington* when he shall arrive.

The Committee appointed to make and report an arrangement of the Troops to be raised in this Colony, delivered in their Report; which was read.

The Congress immediately proceeded to the consideration thereof, and after some time spent therein, *Ordered*, that the same be deferred for further consideration.

Doctor *Dayton* had leave of absence.

The Congress then adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Saturnii, 9 ho. A. M., June 24, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Gano*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, Jacobus Van Zandt, Isaac Sears.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Henry Glenn, Robert Van Rensselaer.



*For Dutchess County.*—Anthony Hoffman, Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Nathaniel Sackett, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith.

*For Ulster County.*—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson.

*For Orange County.*—John Coe, Benjamin Tusteen, John Herring.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, John Foster, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, John Leffertse.

*For Richmond County.*—Paul Micheau, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Lawrence.

*For Queen's County.*—Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams.

*For Tryon County.*—Christopher P. Yates, John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County.*—Paul Spooner and William Williams.

A Letter from Governour *Trumbull* to the President, dated *Lebanon, June 19, 1775*, was read and filed.

The extract of an Act of the Legislature of *Connecticut*, (enclosed in the last before mentioned Letter,) mentioning the particular provisions enacted to be made for their Troops, was read and filed.

The Order of the Day being read, the Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the subject-matter of a Plan of Accommodation with *Great Britain*. The same was read; and, by order, being again read, paragraph by paragraph, the first paragraph is in the words following, to wit: "That all the Statutes and parts of Statutes of the *British* Parliament, which were held up for repeal by the late Continental Congress in their Association, dated the twentieth day of *October, 1774*, and all the Statutes of the *British* Parliament passed since that day, restraining the Trade and Fishery of the Colonies on this Continent, ought to be repealed."

The said first paragraph being read, debates arose thereon; and Mr. *Morris* moved, and was seconded, that the words following be substituted instead of the whole first paragraph, to wit: "That such Acts of Parliament as the present Congress think fatal to the liberties of *America*, ought to be repealed."

And debates arising on the said amendment, and the question being put, it was carried against the amendment, in manner following, to wit:

| <i>For the Amendment.</i> | <i>Against the Amendment.</i>                |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 2 King's County.          | 2 Dutchess.                                  |
| 2 Richmond County.        | 2 Suffolk.                                   |
| 2 Westchester County.     | 2 Ulster.                                    |
| 2 Orange County.          | 2 Queen's.                                   |
| 8                         | 3 Albany.                                    |
|                           | 2 Cumberland.                                |
|                           | 4 New-York.—Mr. <i>De Lancey</i> dissenting. |
|                           | 2 Charlotte.                                 |
|                           | 19                                           |

*Resolved, therefore*, That the said Amendment be rejected.

The said first paragraph being again read, and the question put, whether the Congress does agree to the said first paragraph, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

| <i>For the Affirmative.</i> | <i>For the Negative.</i>                    |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 2 Westchester.              | 2 Cumberland.                               |
| 2 King's.                   | 2 Suffolk.                                  |
| 4 New-York.                 | —                                           |
| 3 Albany.                   | 4                                           |
| 2 Tryon.                    | Dissentients, Mr. <i>Sackett</i> , Col.     |
| 2 Orange.                   | onel <i>Woodhull</i> , Mr. <i>Sears</i> ,   |
| 2 Charlotte.                | Mr. <i>Scott</i> , Mr. <i>Brasher</i> , and |
| 2 Dutchess.                 | Mr. <i>Beekman</i> .                        |
| 2 Queen's.                  |                                             |
| 2 Richmond.                 |                                             |
| 23                          |                                             |

*Resolved, therefore*, That this Congress does agree with their Committee in the first paragraph of the said Report.

Then the second, third, and fourth paragraphs of the said Report being read, are in the words following, to wit:

"That from the necessity of the case *Britain* ought to regulate the Trade of the whole Empire. And that from the natural right of property the powers of Taxation ought to be confined to the Colony Legislatures respectively; therefore that the Moneys raised as duties upon the regulations of Trade ought to be paid into the respective Colony Treasuries, and be subject to the disposal of their Assemblies."

Debate arose thereon, and the question being put, whether the Congress does agree to the said second, third, and fourth paragraphs; it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

| <i>For the Affirmative.</i> | <i>For the Negative.</i>                             |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 3 Albany.                   | 2 Suffolk.                                           |
| 2 Dutchess.                 | 2 Ulster.                                            |
| 2 Westchester.              | 2 Cumberland.                                        |
| 2 King's.                   | —                                                    |
| 2 Tryon.                    | 6                                                    |
| 2 Richmond.                 | Dissentients, Colonel <i>Woodhull</i> ,              |
| 2 Queen's.                  | Mr. <i>Sackett</i> , Mr. <i>Sears</i> , Mr.          |
| 4 New-York.                 | <i>Scott</i> , Mr. <i>Brasher</i> , Mr. <i>Beek-</i> |
| 2 Orange.                   | man.                                                 |
| 2 Charlotte.                |                                                      |
| 23                          |                                                      |

*Resolved, therefore*, That this Congress does agree with their Committee in the second, third, and fourth paragraphs, of the said Report.

The fifth paragraph of the said Report being then read, is in the words following, to wit: "That in those Colonies whose Representatives in General Assembly are now chosen for a greater term than three years, such Assemblies for the future ought in their duration not to exceed that term."

And the same being read, debates arose thereon, and the question being put, whether the Congress agrees to the said fifth paragraph, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

| <i>For the Affirmative.</i> | <i>For the Negative.</i>     |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 4 New-York.                 | 2 Ulster.                    |
| 2 Charlotte.                | 2 Tryon.                     |
| 2 Dutchess.                 | 2 Cumberland.                |
| 2 Richmond.                 | 2 Suffolk.—Dissentient, Col. |
| 2 Westchester.              | <i>Woodhull</i> .            |
| 2 Queen's.                  | 3 Albany.                    |
| 2 King's.                   | 11                           |
| 2 Orange.                   |                              |
| 18                          |                              |

*Resolved, therefore*, That this Congress does agree with their Committee in the fifth paragraph of the said Report.

The sixth paragraph of the said Report being then read, is in the words following, to wit: "That the Colonists are ready and willing to support the civil Government within the respective Colonies; and on proper requisitions, to assist in the general defence of the Empire, in as ample a manner as their respective abilities will admit of."

The same being read, debates arose thereon, and the question being put, whether the Congress does agree to the said sixth paragraph, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

| <i>For the Affirmative.</i>             | <i>For the Negative.</i>             |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2 Westchester.                          | 2 Ulster.                            |
| 2 Charlotte.                            | 2 Suffolk.—Colonel <i>Woodhull</i> , |
| 2 Dutchess.                             | dissenting.                          |
| 2 Queen's.                              | 2 Cumberland.                        |
| 2 King's.                               | —                                    |
| 2 Tryon.                                | 6                                    |
| 2 Orange.                               |                                      |
| 2 Richmond.                             |                                      |
| 3 Albany.                               |                                      |
| 4 New-York.—Dissentients                |                                      |
| — Messrs. <i>Sears</i> , <i>Scott</i> , |                                      |
| 23 <i>Brasher</i> and <i>Beekman</i> .  |                                      |

*Resolved, therefore*, That this Congress does agree with their Committee in the said sixth paragraph of their Report.

The seventh paragraph of the said Report being then read, is in the words following, to wit: "The Colonies are ready and willing to assent to a Continental Congress, deputed from the several Assemblies, to meet with a President appointed by the Crown, for the purpose of raising and apportioning their general aids, upon application made by the Crown, according to the advice of the *British* Parliament, to be judged of by the said Congress."

On reading the same, debates arose, and on motion of Mr. *Platt*, seconded by Messrs. *Hobart* and *Scott*, the following amendments were proposed and agreed to, to wit: the word "*from*" between the word "*deputed*" and the



word "*the*" obliterated, and the word "*by*" there inserted. And that the word "*Assemblies*" be obliterated, and the word "*Colonies*" inserted in its stead.

And the question being put, whether the Congress does agree to the said seventh paragraph, with these amendments, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

| For the Affirmative.                                                                    | For the Negative.                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 2 King's.                                                                               | 2 Ulster.                                        |
| 2 Dutchess.—Mr. <i>Sackett</i><br>dissenting.                                           | 2 Orange.                                        |
| 2 Richmond.                                                                             | 2 Cumberland.                                    |
| 2 Charlotte.                                                                            | 2 Suffolk—Colonel <i>Woodhull</i><br>dissenting. |
| 2 Tryon.                                                                                | —                                                |
| 3 Albany.                                                                               | 8                                                |
| 4 New-York.—Dissentients<br>Messrs. <i>Sears, Brasher,</i><br><i>Scott and Beekman.</i> |                                                  |
| 2 Westchester.                                                                          |                                                  |
| 2 Queen's.                                                                              |                                                  |
| 21                                                                                      |                                                  |

*Resolved, therefore,* That this Congress does agree with their Committee in the said seventh paragraph of their Report, as now amended.

Mr. *Morris* (seconded by Colonel *Woodhull*) then moved that a Resolution be entered into by this Congress, and added to those mentioned in the said Report of the Committee on the Plan of Accommodation with *Great Britain*, to wit:

"*Resolved,* That no one article of the aforesaid Report be considered as preliminary to another, so as to preclude an accommodation without such article; and that no part of the said Report be deemed binding or obligatory upon the Representatives of this Colony in Continental Congress; the same being merely intended to testify our sense of a mode by which the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and *America* may be finally accommodated, and of the propriety of an overture for that purpose."

And the same being read a second time, was unanimously resolved and agreed to.

The Congress being informed by several Members, that nothing has as yet been done towards cleansing the Barracks in this City,

Therefore *Ordered,* That Messrs. *Garret Roorback* and *John Lamb* be requested to have all the Barracks in this City immediately cleansed and made wholesome, so that they may be ready to receive such Troops as this Congress shall direct.

Mr. *Melancton Smith* (seconded by Mr. *Hobart*) then moved in the words following, to wit: I move for the following addition to the Report; "And as the free enjoyment of the rights of conscience is of all others the most valuable branch of human liberty, and the indulgence and establishment of Popery all along the interior confines of the old Protestant Colonies tends not only to obstruct their growth, but to weaken their security, all concerns of a religious and ecclesiastical nature, so far as they may be under the cognizance and control of civil authority, ought to remain exclusively with the respective Colony Legislatures, as the most inestimable object of their internal police."

The said motion being delivered in at the table, and read a second time, Mr. *Thomas Smith* moved for the following amendment, to wit: that from the word "*security*" to the end of the said motion, be obliterated, and instead thereof the following words inserted, to wit: "that the Parliament of *Great Britain* cannot constitutionally or of right interfere or interpose in any wise howsoever in the religious and ecclesiastical concerns of the Colonies."

Which amendment being read, Mr. *Morris* proposed the following additional amendment, which was read and agreed to, to wit: That between the words "*that*" and "*the*," the word "*neither*" be inserted, and that the words "*cannot constitutionally or,*" be obliterated; and instead thereof the words "*nor any other earthly legislature or tribunal ought or can,*" be inserted in their stead.

And both the amendments being together read and agreed to, *nemine contradicente*, the said motion, as before amended, was again read, and is in the words following, to wit: "And as the free enjoyment of the rights of conscience is of all others the most valuable branch of human liberty, and the indulgence and establishment of Popery all along the inte-

rior confines of the old Protestant Colonies tends not only to obstruct their growth but to weaken their security, that neither the Parliament of *Great Britain*, nor any other earthly legislature or tribunal, ought or can of right interfere or interpose in any wise howsoever in the religious and ecclesiastical concerns of the Colonies."

And debates arising on the said motion, as now amended, and the question being put thereon, whether the Congress agrees thereto, and will order it to be added to, and made a part of their said Plan of Accommodation, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

| For the Affirmative.                                                                                                              | For the Negative.                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 2 Westchester.—Dissenting,<br>Messrs. <i>Morris, Thomas,</i><br><i>and Ward.</i>                                                  | 2 King's.—Mr. <i>H. Williams</i><br>dissenting. |
| 2 Suffolk.                                                                                                                        | 2 Richmond.                                     |
| 2 Tryon.                                                                                                                          | 3 Albany.                                       |
| 2 Charlotte.                                                                                                                      | 2 Cumberland.                                   |
| 2 Dutchess.                                                                                                                       | —                                               |
| 2 Orange.                                                                                                                         | 9                                               |
| 4 New-York.—Dissenting,<br>Messrs. <i>Verplanck,</i><br><i>Kissam, Low, De</i><br><i>Lancey, Lispenard,</i><br><i>and Walton.</i> |                                                 |
| 2 Ulster.                                                                                                                         |                                                 |
| 18                                                                                                                                |                                                 |

*Ordered, therefore,* That the same motion, as amended, and last read, be added to and made a part of the said Plan of Accommodation; and that it be inserted therein, immediately following that part of the said Plan of Accommodation which was reported by the Committee, and preceding the Resolution last before made and entered into.

Mr. *McDougall* then made a motion (which was seconded by Mr. *Brasher*) in the words following, to wit: "As I conceive it would be presumptuous in this Congress to offer our sentiments either directly or indirectly to the Continental Congress, on a Plan of Accommodation with *Great Britain*, until the same be called for by that honourable body, I move that our Committee's Report on that subject be not transmitted to our Delegates until a private Letter be wrote to them, signifying that we have digested our sentiments on that subject, and are ready to furnish them to those gentlemen, when called for by them or by the Continental Congress, or until we have received their answer to such Letter."

This Congress being about to adjourn,

*Ordered,* That the said motion be postponed for further consideration.

Colonel *Hoffman* obtained leave of absence.

The Congress then adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Solis, 9 ho. A. M., June 25, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Ingles*. Present:

*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President.

List of the Members was not called.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, dated at *New-Brunswick*, June 24, 1775, informing this Congress that General *Washington*, with his retinue, would be at *Newark* this morning, and requesting this Congress to send some of its Members to meet him there, and advise the most proper place for him to cross *Hudson's River* in his way to *New-York*,

*Ordered,* That Messrs. *Thomas Smith, Hobart, Morris* and *Montgomerie*, go immediately to *Newark*, and recommend to General *Washington* the place which they shall think most prudent for him to cross at.

And information being received that Governour *Tryon* is at the *Hook*, and will land at about one o'clock: Colonel *Lasher* was called in, and requested to send one company of the Militia to *Paulus Hook* to meet the Generals; that he have another company at the side of the ferry for the same purpose; that he have the residue of his Battalion ready to receive either the General or Governour *Tryon*, which ever shall first arrive, and to wait on both as well as circumstances will allow.

A Letter from *Joseph Warren*, President of the Provincial Congress at *Watertown*, was read, and is in the words following:



"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 13, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: Considering the exposed state of the frontiers of some of the Colonies; the danger that the inhabitants of *Canada* may possibly have disagreeable apprehensions from the military preparations making in some of the other Colonies; and the rumours that there are some appearances of their getting themselves in readiness to act in a hostile way, this Congress have made application to the honourable Continental Congress, desiring them to take such measures as to them shall appear proper, to quiet and conciliate the minds of the *Canadians*, and to prevent such alarming apprehensions.

"We also have had the disagreeable accounts of methods taken to fill the minds of the *Indian* tribes, adjacent to those Colonies, with sentiments very injurious to us; particularly we have been informed that Colonel *Guy Johnson* has taken great pains with the *Six Nations*, in order to bring them into a belief that it is designed by the Colonies to fall upon them and cut them off. We have therefore desired the honourable Continental Congress, that they would, with all convenient speed, use their influence in guarding against the evil intended by this malevolent misrepresentation. And we desire you to join with us in such application.

JOSEPH WARREN, *President*.

"Attest: SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary*."

"To the Honourable Delegates of the Congress of the Province of *New-York*."

A Letter from the Committee at *Albany* was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*Albany*, June 17, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: You have enclosed, by order of the Committee, a request of *Adonijah Strong* (Deputy Commissary) to the Committee of this City and County.

"I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

"JOHN BAY, *Secretary p. 1.*"

The request of *Adonijah Strong*, mentioned and enclosed in Mr. Bay's Letter, being read,

Ordered, That the same be put on file.

A Letter from the Committee at *Albany* was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*Albany Committee Chamber*, June 21, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Dirck Swart*, a member of this Board, who is just returned from *Crown Point*, brings us the following intelligence: "That one Mr. *Kay*, who lives about forty miles up *Lake Champlain*, came down to *Crown Point*, who told Colonel *Benedict Arnold* and others, that he had been at *Montreal* for some flour; that Governour *Carleton* had him seized and confined for several days; that by the interposition of the *English* merchants of that place, he received liberty to return home, and that the merchants who procured him the pass from the Lieutenant-Governour, desired him to go down to *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, with all speed, and communicate to the commander of those fortresses, that the *French Caughnewaga Indians* had taken up the hatchet, but that they refused to go out upon any scouts until nine of their men, who were then out, returned, and that Governour *Carleton* was giving them presents daily.

"We are very sorry to inform you that, from a number of corroborating circumstances, we have but too much reason to believe the above information to be true; and more especially as the Troops, which amount to about six hundred men, suffer no persons coming up the lake to pass *St. John's* if they can avoid it, where they are building floating batteries and boats. Mr. *Swart* also acquaints us that Mr. *Kay* said, that Governour *Carleton* had asked the *English* merchants to take up arms against the *Yankees*, (to make use of his own phraseology,) and that the merchants refused; upon which he told them he would set the town on fire, which the merchants said he was welcome to do; and added, that they could carry as much fire as himself. Mr. *Kay* also desired Mr. *Swart* if he should happen to meet Mr. *Price*, he should request him not to proceed, as the *English* merchants in *Canada* conceive it unsafe for him.

"The forces above are in no proper state of defence, principally owing to the scarcity of powder, of which article

we have not been able to send up more (with the supply we have received from you) than three hundred and fifty pounds; which quantity is altogether insufficient to answer the purpose intended, and of little service in case of an attack. We can further inform you, this City is not half supplied, nor have the frontier inhabitants either powder or arms, for which application have been and daily are making to us; we must therefore beg you will afford us all the assistance in your power, and send us, per the first opportunity, such an additional quantity as you can conveniently spare.

"We must also beg of you to send seventy-eight blankets for so many of the men enlisted in this County who are now at Fort *George* without any, as also some money to pay the companies, as they are very uneasy, and threaten to desert. Two of their officers are now in Town, and declare they dare not return without some cash to satisfy their men.

"We thought it our indispensable duty to inform you of these matters, therefore send them to you per express. By order of the Committee.

"We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

"SAMUEL STRINGER, *Chairman*."

"To the Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*."

Ordered, That Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* purchase seventy-eight Blankets, and forward the same to the Committee at *Albany* with all possible despatch. And

Ordered, That Mr. *Abraham Yates* write a private Letter to the Committee in answer to their Letter.

A Petition from *William A. Forbes* and *John Hoogland* was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *NEW-YORK*: The Petition of *Wm. A. Forbes* and *John Hoogland*, of the City of *NEW-YORK*, *Saddlers*, humbly sheweth:

"That your petitioners have been informed that the Congress hath in contemplation the ordering of making a number of cartridge-boxes, slings, and belts, for the use of the Provincial Troops. That your petitioners are well able to make the same, in as cheap and workmanlike a manner as any of their calling in this City, and willing to do the same with the utmost expedition. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray this honourable Board to be employed in this work; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

"WILLIAM A. FORBES,

"JOHN HOOGLAND.

"*New-York*, June 24, 1775."

The Congress then adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Lunæ, 9 ho. A. M., June 26, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Doctor *Laidley*. Present:

For the City and County of *New-York*.—Peter V. B. Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, Jas. Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thos. Smith, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, and Jacobus Van Zandt.

For the City and County of *Albany*.—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

For *Dutchess County*.—Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

For *Ulster County*.—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, and John Nicholson.

For *Orange County*.—John Coe and Benjamin Tusteen.

For *Suffolk County*.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, John Foster, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

For *Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, and William Paulding.

For *King's County*.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen,



Theodorus Polhemus, Nicholas Covenhoven, and John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell and Joseph Robinson.

*For Charlotte County.*—John Williams.

*For Tryon County.*—Christopher P. Yates and John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County.*—Paul Spooner and William Williams.

The Committee appointed to contract with *Robert Boyd* and *Henry Watkeys*, reported the draughts of Contracts with the said *Robert Boyd* and *Henry Watkeys*, which were read and approved of by the Congress. Whereupon

It is Resolved and Ordered, That *Leonard Lispenard*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *James Clinton*, and *Thomas Smith*, Esquires, execute the same on behalf of this Congress, and that this Congress will provide the money necessary to discharge the said Contract.

Ordered, That Mr. *McDougall* apply to Mr. *Gabriel W. Ludlow* for fifty Pounds of the Money raised by the Committee of the City of *New-York*, and that he deliver the said fifty Pounds to the Committee appointed to agree with *Henry Watkeys*, for his use, in pursuance of the said agreement.

Mr. *McDougall* then informed the Congress that he had received of *Gabriel W. Ludlow* the said fifty Pounds, and by order of the Congress delivered one hundred Pounds to the said Committee, to be given to *Robert Boyd* agreeable to an order of the thirteenth instant, and delivered to the said Committee the said fifty Pounds, for the use of *Henry Watkeys*.

Ordered, That the Letter from *Joseph Warren*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress at *Watertown* of the thirteenth instant; also the Letter from the Committee at *Albany*, of the twenty-first instant, be referred to the Committee of this Congress, appointed for *Indian* affairs on the twenty-first instant.

A draught of an Address to his Excellency General *Washington*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

To His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Generalissimo of all the Forces raised and to be raised in the confederated Colonies of AMERICA: The Address of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: At a time when the most loyal of His Majesty's subjects, from a regard to the laws and constitution by which he sits on the throne, feel themselves reduced to the unhappy necessity of taking up arms to defend their dearest rights and privileges, while we deplore the calamities of this divided Empire, we rejoice in the appointment of a gentleman from whose abilities and virtue we are taught to expect both security and peace. Confiding in you, Sir, and in the worthy Generals immediately under your command, we have the most flattering hopes of success in the glorious struggle for *American* liberty, and the fullest assurance, that whenever this important contest shall be decided by (that fondest wish of each *American* soul) an accommodation with our Mother Country, you will cheerfully resign the important deposit committed into your hands, and resume the character of our worthiest citizen.

June 26, 1775.

Ordered, That Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Low* be a Committee to wait on General *Washington*, and know when he will be waited on by this Congress with their Address.

Messrs. *Morris* and *Low* returned, and informed the Congress that General *Washington* would be ready to receive this Congress, with their Address, at half an hour past two this afternoon.

Ordered, That a copy of the Address be engrossed to deliver.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee of Arrangement, and proceeded to the examination of the three first columns of the arrangement of officers, and approved of many gentlemen for officers, whose names are marked on the margins of the columns.

The Congress being informed by sundry Members, that they have viewed the ground about five miles from this City, where it was first intended that General *Wooster's* Troops should encamp, and find that the ground is damp and unfit for the purpose.

Colonel *Lispenard*, Mr. *McDougall*, and Mr. *Beekman*, informed the Congress, that they have viewed an orchard, part of the estate late of *Elbert Herring*, deceased, which they conceive to be a proper place for an encampment, and that the owner is willing that General *Wooster's* Troops may encamp there.

Ordered, That Mr. *Beekman* wait on General *Wooster*, or any other officer that he may appoint for that purpose, to shew him the ground in the orchard above mentioned.

The Congress then adjourned to five o'clock, and went to wait on General *Washington* with their Address.

5 ho. P. M., June 26, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, President; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Abraham Walton, Isaac Roosevelt, Samuel Verplanck, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, and Jacobus Van Zandt.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County.*—Zephaniah Platt, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—James Clinton, Christopher Tappen, and John Nicholson.

*For Orange County.*—John Coe and Benjamin Tusteen.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, John Foster, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Lewis Graham, Stephen Ward, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun., and William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, and John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, and Nathaniel Tom.

*For Tryon County.*—Christopher P. Yates.

*For Cumberland County.*—Paul Spooner and William Williams.

The President informed the Congress, that to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of the answer of General *Washington* to the Address of this Congress. The same was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

GENTLEMEN: At the same time that, with you, I deplore the unhappy necessity of such an appointment as that with which I am now honoured, I cannot but feel sentiments of the highest gratitude for this affecting instance of distinction and regard.

May your warmest wishes be realized in the success of *America* at this important and interesting period; and be assured that every exertion of my worthy colleagues and myself will be equally extended to the re-establishment of peace and harmony between the Mother Country and these Colonies, as to the fatal but necessary operations of war. When we assumed the soldier we did not lay aside the citizen; and we shall most sincerely rejoice with you in that happy hour when the establishment of *American* liberty, on the most firm and solid foundations, shall enable us to return to our private stations in the bosom of a free, peaceful, and happy Country.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

June 26, 1775.

Ordered, That the Address and Answer be published.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee of Arrangement, and proceeded to the consideration of the fourth column, and approved of such gentlemen as are marked on the Report for that purpose.

Mr. *McDougall* had leave to withdraw.



*Ordered*, That Mr. *Roosevelt* and Mr. *Walton* call on the gentlemen of the City of *New-York*, who are named by the Committee to be Captains of Companies, to know whether they will consent and agree to accept of that service, and that the said Committee report with all convenient speed.

*Ordered*, That the Deputies from *Albany* County write to the Committee of *Albany*, and request them to have the Arms belonging to the Colony cleansed and put in good repair, at the expense of the Colony, with all convenient despatch.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Martis, 9 ho. A. M., June 27, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Livingston*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, and John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County*.—Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, and John Nicholson.

*For Orange County*.—John Coe and Benjamin Tusteen.

*For Suffolk County*.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, John Foster, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Stephen Ward, Philip Van Cortlandt, William Paulding, James Holmes, David Dayton, John Thomas, Junior, and Robert Graham.

*For King's County*.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, and Theodorus Polhemus.

*For Richmond County*.—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County*.—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Joseph Robinson, and Nathaniel Tom.

*For Charlotte County*.—(None.)

*For Tryon County*.—Christ. P. Yates, John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County*.—Paul Spooner and William Williams.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Montgomerie* and *McDougall* be a Committee, and that they take to their assistance Messrs. *Anthony Rutgers* and *Samuel Tuder*, for superintending and employing some person in trying the experiment of casting one brass Field-Piece.

A Letter from the Committee of Intelligence for *Charlestown*, *South-Carolina*, enclosing a copy of an intercepted Letter from General *Gage*, dated at *Boston*, April 12, 1775, directed to Governour *Martin* of *North-Carolina*; also a printed copy of the Association entered into by the Provincial Congress of *South-Carolina*, were read, filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"Charlestown, South-Carolina, June 6, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: We are to thank you for your intelligence of the fifth ultimo, and do most heartily congratulate you upon that proper spirit which now appears in your Colony. The apprehension of a defection in you, which we are happy to find was unjustly formed, occasioned in us, and must undoubtedly have given to all *America* inexpressible anxiety, and at the same time have encouraged Ministry to proceed in their measures. As a proof of the confidence which our enemies placed in you, and as a means to prevent their diabolical purpose, we are ordered by Provincial Congress, now sitting, to transmit to you an authentick copy of an original letter from General *Gage* to Governour *Martin*, which has just fallen into our hands. We have also received intelligence that the latter, by his agents, has been secretly enlisting a number of those men in the back parts of this Province, formerly called *Regu-*

*lators*, whose vengeance against the lower inhabitants may induce them to oppose in return for past injuries. We are not apprehensive that he will succeed to any great degree, but depend upon your vigilance to prevent his getting arms and ammunition for them through your Province, as intended. We also enclose a copy of the Association entered into on the fourth instant, by the fullest representation of this Colony ever known, which has been signed by every member. We would hint to you the necessity of sending your letters by some particular person, and not trusting them to the fate of common letters in a ship's bag. We also beg leave to recommend to you secrecy in relation to the above letter, as we would not wish to put them upon their guard in future.

"We have the honour to be, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

"WM. H. DRAYTON, JOHN LEWIS GERVAIS,

"ARTHUR MIDDLETON, CHARLES C. PINCKNEY,

"WILLIAM TENNETT,

"Committee of Intelligence.

"To the Grand Committee of *New-York*, to the care of Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq."

The following is the copy of General *Gage's* Letter:

"Boston, April 12, 1775.

"SIR: Your letter of the sixteenth *March* I have had the pleasure to receive, and am glad to hear that many of the people in your Province are beginning to find they have been misled, and that they seem inclined to disengage themselves from the arbitrary power of the Continental Congress and of their Committees. I wish I could say as much for the people of this Province, who are more cool than they were, but their leaders, by their arts and artifices, still keep up that seditious and licentious spirit that has led them on all occasions to oppose Government, and even to acts of rebellion. The late accounts from *England* have embarrassed their councils much. They have applied to the *New-England* Governments, and doubtless will to those to the southward, to assist them; but I hope the madness of the latter is wearing off, and that they will get no encouragement from thence. This Province has some time been, and now is, in the new-fangled Legislature termed a Provincial Congress, who seems to have taken the Government into their hands. What they intend to do I can't pretend to say, but they are much puzzled how to act. Fear in some, and want of inclination in others, will be a great bar to their coming to extremities, though their leaders use every measure to bring them into the field. I am very sorry it is not in my power to supply you with the number of arms you request. I have them not to spare in the present conjuncture of the service here. I may assist you with some powder, but can get no safe opportunity from this to send it to you. I shall order you a supply by way of *New-York*; and whatever may be in my power to assist you, to keep up the present good disposition of the loyal part of your Province, I shall be happy to do, and am sorry I cannot at present do more.

"I have the honour to be, with great esteem, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

"THOMAS GAGE.

"His Excellency Governour *Martin*."

The above copy of the Letter from General *Gage* having been recommended by the Committee of *Charlestown*, *South-Carolina*, as necessary to be kept secret, the President recommended to the Members of this Congress that the subject-matter of the said copy of the said Letter be kept a profound secret.

*Ordered*, That copies of the Letter from the *Charlestown* Committee, and the Letter from General *Gage* to Governour *Martin*, be transmitted to the Continental Congress.

A draught of a Warrant to such gentlemen as are intended to be Officers of the Troops to be raised in this Colony, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress at New-York, June —, 1775.

To . . . . ., Gentleman, greeting:

Know you, that the Grand Continental Congress of the associated Colonies have resolved and ordered, that a certain number of Troops should be embodied in this Colony, to



give protection to the inhabitants, and to be employed as part of the *American Continental Army*. We, therefore, reposing special confidence in your prudence, courage, and affection to the liberties of this Country, do request and authorize you to enlist and raise a company of seventy-two able-bodied, sober men, of good reputation, (including three sergeants, three corporals, one drummer, and one fifer,) to serve as part of the said Troops; and that from time to time you report your progress in the premises to this Congress, for which this shall be your warrant. And we hereby give you assurance that you will be appointed a . . . . . in the said Troops when raised and embodied, if the number of men enlisted by you, (and . . . . . intended to be the other officers of one company,) and received into the said Troops by such proper officer or muster-master as shall be appointed for that purpose, shall amount to the number above-mentioned.

A draught of Instructions to the several Officers to be employed in raising Troops, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

*Instructions of the Enlisting of Men.*

First. You are not to enlist any man who is not able-bodied, healthy, and a good marcher; but as men of good appearance may have ruptures and venereal complaints, which render them incapable of soldier's duty, you must give attention that you be not imposed upon, and take the opinion of a surgeon where there is room for suspicion.

Second. You will have great regard to moral character, sobriety in particular; let our manners distinguish us from our enemies, as much as the cause we are engaged in.

Third. Those who engage in defence of their Country's liberties, shall be enlisted till the last day of *December*, of the present year, unless sooner discharged by the Continental Congress.

Fourth. You shall appoint such men sergeants and corporals as recommend themselves by their ability, activity, and diligence.

Fifth. You will use all diligence in completing your Company, and report to the President of the Provincial Congress, to the end that you may receive orders to join your Regiment.

Sixth. During the time you are filling up your Company, you will engage, at the cheapest rate, for the provisions of such men as are already enlisted, (if there be no publick magazine of provisions from whence you may be supplied,) not exceeding eight shillings per week.

Seventh. You will lose no time in disciplining your men, so far as your situation will admit.

Eighth. You will take notice that proper persons will be appointed to inspect your men, and reject such as do not answer to your instructions.

Ninth. You will furnish the subalterns appointed to your Company with a copy of these instructions, who are hereby ordered to put themselves under your command.

Tenth. You will observe that the Troops raised by this Colony will be placed precisely upon the same footing as to pay, clothing, &c., with other the Continental Troops now raised, or hereafter to be raised for the general defence.

Eleventh. No apprentice or servant to be enlisted, without the consent of his master.

*Ordered*, That five hundred copies of the said Warrant, and as many copies of the said Instructions, be printed.

Colonel *Holmes* has leave of absence.

*Ordered*, That all the Muskets and Bayonets belonging to this Colony, which are in the different Counties in this Colony (except *Albany*) be sent to the Committee of the City of *New-York*, with all convenient speed, and in such manner as that they may come with the greatest safety; and the Committees of the respective Counties, where any such Muskets and Bayonets now are, are hereby requested and desired to take all such Arms into their care, and to see that this order be complied with immediately.

The Congress then adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

Die Martis, 4to ho. P. M., June 27, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander

McDougall, Abraham Brasher, John De Lancey, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, and John Marston.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County*.—Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, and John Nicholson.

*For Orange County*.—John Coe and Benjamin Tusteen.

*For Suffolk County*.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, John Foster, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Stephen Ward, James Holmes, John Thomas, Junior, Robert Graham, and William Paulding.

*For King's County*.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, and Theodorus Polhemus.

*For Richmond County*.—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County*.—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom, and Richard Thorne.

*For Charlotte County*.—(None.)

*For Tryon County*.—Christopher P. Yates, and John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County*.—Paul Spooner and William Williams.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the subject-matter of a Plan of Accommodation with *Great Britain*.

The same was read, and after some time spent therein, Mr. *Scott* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Verplanck*, that the following words be added to the second paragraph, at the end thereof, to wit: "For the general benefit of the whole, and not for the separate interest of any particular part."

The same was unanimously approved of and agreed to.

*Resolved and Ordered, therefore*, That this addition be made to the said second paragraph.

Mr. *Scott* then moved, and was seconded by Colonel *Hardenbergh*, in the words following, to wit: I move that the following article be added to the Report of the Committee upon the Plan of Accommodation with the Mother Country, viz: "That the Colonies, respectively, are entitled to a free and exclusive power of legislation within themselves, respectively, in all cases of internal polity whatsoever, subject only to the negative of their Sovereign, in such manner as has been heretofore accustomed."

And the same was unanimously resolved and agreed to, and ordered to be added to and made a part of the said Plan of Accommodation; and that it be inserted therein previous to the Resolution of this Congress on that subject, entered into on the 24th instant, "That no one article thereof shall be considered as preliminary to another."

Mr. *McDougall*, with the unanimous leave of the Congress, withdrew his motion of the 24th instant, "for retaining the copy of the Plan of Accommodation until the Delegates from *New-York* can be written to and their answer received."

The Report of the Committee, as amended, with the Resolution subjoined thereto, are as follow:

Your Committee appointed to prepare a Plan of Accommodation between *Great Britain* and *America*, do report:

That all Statutes and parts of Statutes of the *British* Parliament, which are held up for repeal by the late Continental Congress in their Association, dated the 20th day of *October*, 1774; and all the Statutes of the *British* Parliament passed since that day, restraining the Trade and Fishery of the Colonies on this Continent, ought to be repealed.

That from the necessity of the case, *Britain* ought to regulate the trade of the whole Empire, for the general benefit of the whole, and not for the separate interest of any particular part; and that from the natural right of property, the powers of taxation ought to be confined to the Co-



lony Legislatures respectively; therefore, that the moneys raised as duties upon the regulations of Trade, ought to be paid into the respective Colony Treasuries, and be subject to the disposal of their Deputies.

That in those Colonies whose Representatives in General Assembly are now chosen for a greater term than three years, such Assemblies for the future ought in their duration not to exceed that term.

That the Colonists are ready and willing to support the civil Government within the respective Colonies, and on proper requisitions, to assist in the general defence of the Empire, in as ample a manner as their respective abilities will admit of.

That if objections be made, that a resort to a variety of Colony Legislatures for general aids is inconvenient, and that large unappropriated grants to the Crown from *America* would endanger the liberty of the Empire: then the Colonies are ready and willing to assent to a Continental Congress, deputed from the several Colonies, to meet with a President appointed by the Crown, for the purpose of raising and apportioning their general aids, upon application made by the Crown, according to the advice of the *British* Parliament, to be judged of by the said Congress.

And as the free enjoyment of the rights of conscience is of all others the most valuable branch of human liberty, and the indulgence and establishment of Popery all along the interior confines of the old Protestant Colonies tends not only to obstruct their growth, but to weaken their security, that neither the Parliament of *Great Britain*, nor any other earthly legislature or tribunal, ought or can of right interfere or interpose in any wise howsoever in the religious and ecclesiastical concerns of the Colonies.

That the Colonies, respectively, are entitled to a free and exclusive power of legislation within themselves, respectively, in all cases of internal polity whatsoever, subject only to the negative of their Sovereign, in such manner as has been heretofore accustomed.

*Resolved*, That no one article of the foregoing Report be considered preliminary to another, so as to preclude an accommodation without such article; and that no part of the said Report be deemed binding or obligatory upon the Representatives of this Colony in Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the state of *Queen's* County be deferred till to-morrow morning.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., June 28, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. *Treat*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Van Cortlandt, and Jacobus Van Zandt.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, and Henry Glenn.

*For Dutchess County*.—Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, and John Nicholson.

*For Orange County*.—John Coe, Benjamin Tusteen, and Michael Jackson.

*For Suffolk County*.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Wickham, and Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Joseph Drake, David Dayton, John Thomas, Jun., Robert Graham, and William Paulding.

*For King's County*.—Henry Williams and Theodorus Polhemus.

*For Richmond County*.—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County*.—Jonathan Lawrence, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom, Thomas Hicks, and Richard Thorne.

*For Charlotte County*.—(None.)

*For Tryon County*.—Christopher P. Yates and John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County*.—Paul Spooner and William Williams.

The Order for taking into consideration the state of *Queen's* County, being read, the Congress took into consideration the state of *Queen's* County; and it appearing that a great number of inhabitants of the said County are not disposed to a representation at this Board, and have dissented therefrom,

*Resolved*, That inasmuch as the people of this Colony have appointed us to watch over their preservation and defence, and delegated unto us the power necessary for that purpose, such dissent ought not to be of any avail, considered as an objection to the exercise of those powers, but that the said County, as well as every other part of this Colony, must necessarily be bound by the determination of this Congress; and therefore, inasmuch as the Members chosen for the said County were elected by a considerable part of the inhabitants of the same, and the dissent of others is not to the persons chosen, but to the choice of any persons,

*Ordered*, That the Members do take and hold their seats at this Board, notwithstanding such dissent.

*Ordered*, That the Members of *Queen's* County, who have not attended this Congress, be served with a copy of the above Resolution and Order.

Mr. *Beekman* reported, that in pursuance of the Order of this House of *Monday* last, he had shown the ground therein mentioned to the proper officer of the *Connecticut* Troops, appointed for that purpose; that the ground is approved of; that fifteen hundred of the said Troops are arrived, and that he has procured covering for them in barns and other out-houses near the ground.

A Letter from *Peter T. Curtenius*, was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That the affidavit of *Angus McDonald* be published in the Newspapers.

The Order of the Day being read, for taking into consideration Mr. *Morris's* motion of last *Friday*, to restrain the killing of Sheep,

*Ordered*, That the same be postponed till to-morrow morning; and,

*Resolved*, That the Congress will then reconsider the Resolution made on *Friday* last, to restrain the killing of Lamb.

Mr. *Morris* has leave of absence for two days.

Mr. *Roosevelt* reported, that Mr. *Walton* and himself, by order of this Congress, had called on the gentlemen in this City, mentioned in the Report of the Committee of Arrangement for Officers in the Troops to be raised; that several of them had consented to accept of the service; that Messrs. *Helme* and *Stockholm* had declined the service; that several others had desired some time to consider of the proposal; and that some of the gentlemen named for Lieutenants were very anxious that their particular situations as to the Captains they were to serve under might be changed.

And the Congress being informed that *John Quackenboss* is a proper person, and very anxious to be in the service,

*Ordered*, That the name of *John Quackenboss* be inserted in the room and stead of *Andrew Stockholm*; and,

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lispenard*, with Messrs. *Roosevelt* and *Walton*, be a Committee to consider the present arrangement of the Lieutenants, and to make such arrangements or alterations in the stations of the Lieutenants as they may think will give the most satisfaction to the officers; and that they report to this Congress what they shall have done in the premises.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Committee's Report for estimating the articles necessary to complete three thousand effective men; and after some time spent therein,

*Ordered*, That *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Commissary of this Congress, be desired to purchase on the publick credit the following quantities of coarse broadcloths, viz: coarse



blue broadcloth, sufficient to make 712 short coats, and crimson cloth sufficient for cuffs and facings for the said coats; and that if blue cloth cannot be had, that in such case he purchase blue coating for that purpose; light brown coarse broadcloth sufficient to make 712 short coats, with blue cloth sufficient for cuffs and facings; grey coarse broadcloth sufficient to make 712 short coats, with green cloth sufficient for cuffs and facings; dark brown coarse broadcloth sufficient to make 712 short coats, with scarlet cloth sufficient for cuffs and facings for the same; and that he be also desired to purchase 1,000 stand of arms, 20,000 oil flints, 8,000 pounds of lead, 40 reams of cartouch paper, 2,852 gun-worms, 2,852 screw-drivers, ticking or Russia drilling to make 14 bell-tents, 169 pieces of ravens duck as soon as it can be got, and also 520 camp kettles, 2,852 canteens, 2,852 haversacks, 800 small hatchets, 400 falling axes, 80 pickaxes, and 400 spades; and that he be desired to get all the ravens duck which he has on hand made up into soldiers' tents.

A draught of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, to accompany the Resolves of this Congress on the subject of a Plan of Accommodation with *Great Britain*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Deeply impressed with the importance, the utility, and necessity of an accommodation with our Parent State, and conscious that the best service we can render to the present and all future generations, must consist in promoting it, we have laboured without intermission to point out such moderate terms as may tend to reconcile the unhappy differences which threaten the whole Empire with destruction.

We now take the liberty of enclosing to you the result of our deliberations; and although we have not the presumption to suppose that our weak ideas on this momentous subject will be entirely approved of by you, much less by that august body of which you are members; yet we take leave to observe, that the breach has been much widened since our first dispute on the subject of taxation; and as this was the source of all our grievances, so we have the hope that the temptation being taken away, our civil and religious and political rights will be easily adjusted and confirmed.

You will observe, gentlemen, that by a resolution of the House, subjoined to the report of our Committee, we consider the whole as entirely subjected to your better judgment, and each article as far independent of each other as you may think most proper or convenient. We must now repeat to you the common and just observation, that contests for liberty, fostered in their infancy by the virtuous and wise, become sources of power to wicked and designing men; from whence it follows, that such controversies as we are now engaged in frequently end in the demolition of those rights and privileges which they were instituted to defend. We pray you, therefore, to use every effort for the compromising of this unnatural quarrel between the parent and child; and if such terms as you may think best shall not be complied with, earnestly to labour, that at least some terms may be held up, whereby a treaty shall be set on foot to restore peace and harmony to our Country, and spare the further effusion of human blood; so that if even at the last our well-meant endeavours shall fail of effect, we may stand fair, and stand unapproachable by our own consciences in the last solemn appeal to the God of battles.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants.

To the Delegates for the Colony of *New-York* in Continental Congress.

Ordered, That two copies of the above Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President; that one copy thereof, together with a copy of the Report of the Committee of Accommodation, be sent to-morrow by express to our Delegates at the Continental Congress, and the other copy of the said Letter and Report be sent by *Francis Lewis*, Esquire.

Ordered, That the Commissary deliver any articles which he shall at any time have purchased and have in his custody for the use of the Continental Army, to Gen-

eral *Schuyler*, on his request, taking his receipt for the same.

A Letter to *John Alsop*, Esquire, at *Philadelphia*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 28, 1775.

SIR: We are informed that you have engaged the refusal of a number of Blankets. We have now to tell you, that for the three thousand men we are desired to raise, we shall want two thousand eight hundred and fifty-two Blankets, and that there are not any to be purchased here. We beg, therefore, that you will procure so many, which may be paid for out of the publick money with you.

We are, Sir, your most obedient servants.

To *John Alsop*, Esq., at *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and sent by the first opportunity.

The Congress adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

Die Mercurii, 5 ho. P. M., June 28, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President.

A Letter from *Elisha Phelps*, Commissary for the *Connecticut* Troops at *Ticonderoga*, &c., bearing date at *Albany*, June 22, 1775, was read, and filed.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* be desired to purchase fifty firkins of Butter and ten hogsheads of Molasses, and forward the same to *Elisha Phelps*, Commissary at *Albany*, by the first conveyance.

The Warrants for the purpose of raising Troops in this Colony being prepared,

Ordered, That the President sign the same on behalf of this Congress.

The Congress adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., June 29, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Bowden*. Present:

For the City and County of *New-York*.—*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President; *Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Leonard Lisenard*, *Abraham Walton*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *James Beekman*, *John Marston*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *Richard Yates*, *David Clarkson*, *Thomas Smith*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morin Scott*, *John Van Cortlandt*, and *Jacobus Van Zandt*.

For the City and County of *Albany*.—*Abraham Yates*, *Peter Silvester*, *Walter Livingston*, *Robert Van Rensselaer*, and *Henry Glenn*.

For *Dutchess County*.—*Zephaniah Platt*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Jonathan Landon*, *Melanc-ton Smith*, and *Nathaniel Sackett*.

For *Ulster County*.—*Johannes Hardenbergh*, *James Clinton*, and *John Nicholson*.

For *Orange County*.—*Michael Jackson* and *Benjamin Tusteen*.

For *Suffolk County*.—*Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, *John Foster*, *Thomas Wickham*, and *Selah Strong*.

For *Westchester County*.—*Gouverneur Morris*, *Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Stephen Ward*, *Joseph Drake*, *Robert Graham*, and *William Paulding*.

For *King's County*.—*Johannes E. Lott*, *Henry Williams*, *Jeremiah Remsen*, *Theodorus Polhemus*, *John Leffertse*, and *John Vanderbilt*.

For *Richmond County*.—*John Journey*, *Aaron Cortelyou*, and *Richard Conner*.

For *Queen's County*.—*Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Samuel Townshend*, *Joseph Robinson*, *Nathaniel Tom*, *Thomas Hicks*, and *Richard Thorne*.

For *Tryon County*.—*Christopher P. Yates* and *John Marlett*.

For *Cumberland County*.—*Paul Spooner* and *William Williams*.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, dated *New-York*, June 29, 1775, was read.



Mr. Mayor attending at the door, was called in, and informed the Congress that Mr. *Francis Stephens*, the King's Storekeeper in this City, had applied to his Excellency Governour *Tryon*, declaring his apprehensions that the Stores at *Turtle-Bay* are not in a state of safety, and his inclination to remove them. That the Governour had expressed to the Mayor his wish and inclination, that Mr. *Stephens* might, at his own expense, be permitted to remove those Stores without tumult or opposition, and put them on board a vessel; and that Mr. Mayor now applies to this Congress for their countenancing that measure.

And thereupon, *Ordered*, That an offer be made to the Mayor, that this Congress will (if it be agreeable to Government) request Major General *Schuyler* to keep a sufficient command at *Turtle-Bay* to guard the King's Stores which are now there; and that in case the said offer be accepted of, and such guard can be obtained, the said Stores be delivered into their care by inventory; and that in such case this Congress will be accountable for the re-delivery of the said Stores when the present unhappy commotions in *North America* shall be at an end.

*Ordered*, That one of the Secretaries wait on his Worship the Mayor, and serve him with a copy of the foregoing Order.

In pursuance of the Order of the Day, the Congress resumed the consideration of Mr. *Morris's* motion for restraining the killing of Sheep, and the Order for reconsidering the Resolution to restrain the killing of Lamb.

And after some time spent therein, Mr. *McDougall* moved, in the following words: "I move that the killing of Lamb be restrained to the first of *August* next, instead of the first of *November*, as determined by a Resolution of the Congress on the 23d day of *June* instant."

And the said motion being read, Mr. *Morris* moved that the said motion be amended thus: "that the question be put, whether it is the sense of this House that the killing of Sheep and Lambs be restrained to a certain time."

And the question being put on the said amendment, it was carried against the amendment, in manner following:

| Against the Amendment. | For the Amendment. |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 3 Albany.              | 2 Westchester.     |
| 2 Suffolk.             | 2 Tryon.           |
| 2 Dutchess.            | 2 Orange.          |
| 4 New-York.            | 2 Cumberland.      |
| 2 King's.              | —                  |
| 2 Ulster.              | 8                  |
| 2 Queen's.             | —                  |
| 2 Richmond.            | —                  |

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*Ordered, therefore*, That the said amendment be rejected.

The question being then put on Mr. *McDougall's* motion, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

| For the Affirmative. | For the Negative. |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 2 Suffolk.           | 2 Tryon.          |
| 2 Orange.            | 3 Albany.         |
| 2 Queen's.           | 2 Cumberland.     |
| 2 King's.            | 2 Ulster.         |
| 2 Richmond.          | 2 Westchester.    |
| 4 New-York.          | 2 Dutchess.       |

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*Resolved, therefore*, That no person in this Colony kill any Lambs until the first day of *August* next. And

*Ordered*, That five hundred copies of this Resolution be published in handbills, and that it be also published in the Newspapers.

A draught of a Letter to the Continental Congress, to cover a copy of the Letter of the 6th of *June*, from the Committee of Intelligence at *Charlestown*, in *South-Carolina*, and a copy of General *Gage's* Letter to Governour *Martin*, of the 12th of *April* last, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We lately received a Letter from the Committee of Intelligence at *Charlestown*, in *South-Carolina*, covering a copy of a letter from General *Gage* to Governour *Martin*. From the importance of the contents of those Letters, we have thought it our indispensable duty to transmit copies of them to your respectable body.

We are, gentlemen, most respectfully, your faithful friends and humble servants. By order.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the President, and, together with copies of the Letters therein mentioned, be sent by the first conveyance.

A draught of a Letter to *Elisha Phelps* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 29, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the twenty-second instant was this day received in Congress, and the contents observed. The embarrassments you and the Troops stationed at *Lake Champlain* might have met with, in respect to the Provisions and Stores at *Albany*, we are persuaded did not arise from any other design than that of fulfilling the orders the Commissaries appointed by this Provincial Congress received previous to your appointment as Commissary, in consequence of a later order of the Continental Congress. Your difficulties, if they are not already, will now, we trust, be removed; and that you may have no farther trouble on that head, we have wrote a letter and order to the Commissaries heretofore appointed by this Board, to deliver up all the Provisions and Stores in their custody for that service to you, and have enclosed to them a copy of the order of the Continental Congress, by which they will perceive they are superseded in that business.

We also received a letter, dated 15th instant, from your Deputy, *Adonijah Strong*, directed to the Committee of *Albany*, couched in terms not so very suitable. However, for answer to the most necessary parts, we remark, that two of the articles mentioned in it as wanting, to wit, Rice and Rum, were sent up some time ago. A sufficiency of Peas we suppose can be procured at *Albany*; you will please, therefore, to buy there as much as is requisite on the publick credit of this Colony. Butter and fresh meat we know to be scarce commodities at *Albany*; the former we shall endeavour to send you a proper supply of from this City, and the latter article we imagine you do not for the present stand so much in need of, as it appears, by Governour *Trumbull's* letter of the 19th instant to us, that a drove of fat cattle was forwarded up to you. We shall also send you from hence ten hogsheads of Molasses, to brew beer with.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants. By order.

To Mr. *Elisha Phelps*, Commissary of Provisions.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted.

A draught of a Letter to *John N. Bleecker*, and four other persons, formerly appointed agents at *Albany*, was read and approved, and is in the words following:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, June 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have received a letter from Mr. *Elisha Phelps* of the 22d instant, informing us that, in the absence of Mr. *Bleecker*, he was refused the Provisions and Stores left in his custody, and designed for the Troops at *Lake Champlain*, &c. You will perceive by the enclosed copy of an order of the Continental Congress, that the appointment of Commissary in that department is left to the disposal of that Government, or the General of the Forces of *Connecticut*. And it appears to us, by a letter from Governour *Trumbull*, dated the 19th instant, that Mr. *Phelps* is appointed Commissary, and that he doubts not he will conduct with prudence and good satisfaction; that he had directed him to correspond with Colonel *Hinman*, to employ persons already engaged, especially *George Palmer*, Esq. You will please, therefore, to deliver up to him or his order all the supplies of Provisions and Stores in your hands and custody for the said Forces, and take his receipt for every thing you deliver him; and send us an account of all such Stores as you have issued to the Troops, or shall deliver to the said Commissary, and your account of expenses to this time.

To the Commissaries at *Albany*, appointed by the Provincial Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

The Congress adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.



Die Jovis, 5 ho. P. M., June 29, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Isaac Roosevelt, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Abraham Yates, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County.*—Zephaniah Platt, Gilbert Livingston, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, John Nicholson.

*For Orange County.*—John Coe, Michael Jackson, Benjamin Tusteen.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, John Foster, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Robert Graham, William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Henry Williams, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Samuel Townshend, Thomas Hicks, Richard Thorne.

*For Tryon County.*—Christopher P. Yates.

*For Cumberland County.*—Paul Spooner, William Williams.

A memorandum from *Abraham Lott*, Esquire, of the articles by him supplied to His Majesty's Ship between the 23d day of *April* and the 16th day of *May* last, was read and filed. Mr. *Lott* also sent in a memorandum or list of Provisions now wanted for His Majesty's Ship the *Kingfisher*, to wit: two thousand pounds of Bread, two barrels of Beef, two barrels of Pork, one barrel of Flour, and four barrels of Butter.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lott* be at liberty to supply the above quantities of Provisions to the said Ship *Kingfisher*.

A draught of a Letter to the Continental Congress on the subject of Saltpetre and Sulphur, was read and approved.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., June 30, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Moore*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, *President*; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, John Van Cortlandt, John Marston, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thos. Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, Jacobus Van Zandt.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—Abraham Yates, Peter Silvester, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glenn, Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County.*—Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County.*—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, John Nicholson.

*For Orange County.*—John Coe, Michael Jackson, Benjamin Tusteen.

*For Suffolk County.*—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, John Foster, Thomas Wickham, Selah Strong.

*For Westchester County.*—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, James Van Cortlandt, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Robert Graham, William Paulding.

*For King's County.*—Johannes E. Lott, Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Theodorus Polhemus, John Leffertse, John Vanderbilt.

*For Richmond County.*—John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County.*—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Samuel Townshend, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom, Thomas Hicks, Richard Thorne.

*For Tryon County.*—Christopher P. Yates.

*For Cumberland County.*—Paul Spooner, Wm. Williams.

The President informed the Congress that General *Schuyler* had been under the necessity to send the messenger (who was provided yesterday) to *Philadelphia*, and therefore was under a necessity of having another messenger to go to *Albany*, which the President was desired to order and to pay, in pursuance of the former order of this Congress.

Mr. *Walter Livingston* has leave of absence.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Verplanck*, *Van Zandt*, and *Beekman*, be a Committee for auditing all accounts that may be brought into this Congress, and that the report of them, or any two of them, on any account of the sum that ought to be paid thereon, shall be a sufficient warrant to the President to pay the same.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the arrangement of the Battalions. And thereupon,

*Agreed and Ordered*, That the *New-York* Regiment be considered as the First Regiment, and have rank accordingly.

*Albany*, *Ulster*, and *Tryon* Counties dissented.

The Congress then unanimously approved of *Alexander McDougall* for Colonel, *Rudolphus Ritzma* for Lieutenant-Colonel, and *John Brogden* for Adjutant of the First Regiment.

A Letter from General *Schuyler* was read, requesting a small Committee from this Congress to meet him as soon as possible. Thereupon,

*Ordered*, That General *Montgomerie*, Mr. *Hicks*, and Mr. *Clarkson* be a Committee to wait on General *Schuyler* immediately, and bring their report in writing.

*Agreed and Ordered*, That Colonel *Rooseboom's* Regiment be the Second Regiment, and take rank accordingly.

The Congress unanimously agreed and approved of *Myndert Rooseboom* for Colonel, *Goosie Van Schaack*, Lieutenant-Colonel, *Barent T. Ten Eyck*, Adjutant, and *John W. Wendal*, Quartermaster of the Second Regiment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gabriel W. Ludlow* pay into the hands of *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., the balance of the money subscribed on the publick faith, and by him collected; and that the receipt of the said *Peter Van Brugh Livingston* be a sufficient discharge to Mr. *Ludlow* for the same.

*Samuel Cook*, *Ebenezer Haviland*, and *John Williams* were respectively approved as Surgeons, if they respectively shall be found properly and sufficiently qualified for those stations, and that they be examined by the Doctors *John Jones* and *Samuel Bard*, who are requested to make such examination.

*Agreed and Ordered*, That Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment be the Third Regiment, and take rank accordingly.

The Congress then unanimously approved of Col. *James Clinton* for Colonel, *Edward Flemming* for Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Cornelius D. Wynkoop* for Major of the Third Regiment.

The Committee who waited on General *Schuyler* returned, and their Report was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

Major General *Schuyler* is directed by the Continental Congress to repair as soon as conveniently he can to the Posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, to examine into the state thereof, and of the Troops now stationed there, and how they are supplied with Provisions and necessary Stores; into the state, also, of the Sloop and other navigation on the Lakes; also, to obtain the best intelligence he can of the disposition of the *Canadians* and *Indians* in *Canada*; and that he give orders for the necessary preparation of Boats and Stores for securing the United Colonies the command of those waters adjacent to *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*. In order to carry this service into execution, he will require the Stores of which General *Schuyler* will furnish the Congress with an estimate, as soon as possible. As it is probable the Troops which are



now here will be ordered to the northward, and as some of their arms are out of repair, he wishes that Armourers may immediately be provided to put those arms which may require it into repair.

*Ordered*, That every Gunsmith in the City of *New-York* be requested to repair, with all possible despatch, any arms of the Troops from the Colony of *Connecticut* now here, which may be brought to them by the Quartermaster of the said Troops, or either of them, for that purpose.

*Agreed and Ordered*, That Colonel *Holmes's* Regiment be the Fourth Regiment, and take rank accordingly.

The Congress then unanimously approved of *James Holmes* for Colonel, *Philip Van Cortlandt* for Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Barnabas Tuthill* for Major of the said Fourth Regiment.

Mr. President, at his request, has leave of absence till *Monday* next, and Mr. *Lispenard* is unanimously chosen President *pro tem.* Mr. *Thomas Smith* has leave of absence, to depart to-morrow evening. And Mr. *Walton* has leave of absence, to depart this evening, and to return early on *Monday* morning.

Mr. *Thomas Smith*, from the Committee appointed to treat with *Robert Boyd* and *Henry Watkeys*, reported the draught of an Article of Agreement in the following words, to wit:

Articles of Agreement made and concluded this . . . . day of *June*, 1775, between *Henry Watkeys*, of the City of *New-York*, Gunsmith, of the one part, and *Leonard Lispenard*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *James Clinton*, and *Thomas Smith*, Esquires, by order and on behalf of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, of the other part:

*First.* The said *Henry Watkeys* doth hereby agree to and with the said *Leonard Lispenard*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *James Clinton*, and *Thomas Smith*, that he, the said *Henry Watkeys*, shall and will use his utmost diligence to finish all the muskets (the barrels, ramrods, and bayonets being first provided by the Congress) in the following manner, to wit: The lock to be made agreeable to the lock now delivered to him, marked *Grice*, 1760; and the stock and mounting to be finished, and the musket barrel polished, agreeable to the musket now delivered to him, marked No. 20. And the said *Henry Watkeys* agrees to deliver the said muskets in small parcels, as they are finished, and complete the whole work with all possible despatch.

*Second.* The said *Leonard Lispenard*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *James Clinton*, and *Thomas Smith*, in behalf of the said Congress, doth agree to pay to the said *Henry Watkeys*, for every musket which he shall deliver, within six months, completely finished in manner aforesaid, the sum of two Pounds five Shillings, provided the number doth not exceed one thousand. And in order to enable the said *Henry Watkeys* to comply with this contract, it is agreed to advance to him the sum of fifty Pounds, which sum is to be accounted for out of money that may be due to him on the first parcel of muskets that shall be delivered by him. And it is understood by the parties, that the said *Henry Watkeys* is not to be entitled to the bounty offered by the Congress to encourage the making of muskets in this Colony, upon the muskets to be delivered by virtue of this contract.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Clinton*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Brasher*, Colonel *Woodhull*, Colonel *Tusteen*, Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *Van Rensselaer*, Col. *Blackwell*, Capt. *Platt*, Mr. *Christopher Yates*, Col. *Cortelyou*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*, and Major *Williams*, be a Committee to form and determine the rank of the Captains and Inferiour Officers in each Regiment, and of the Captains and Inferiour Officers of the several Regiments.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Saturnii, 9 ho. A. M., July 1, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. *Auchmuty*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York.*—*Leonard Lispenard*, President *pro tem.*; *Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Abraham Walton*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Isaac*

*Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *Richard Yates*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morin Scott*.

*For the City and County of Albany.*—*Abraham Yates*, *Peter Silvester*, *Robert Van Rensselaer*, *Francis Nicoll*.

*For Dutchess County.*—*Zephaniah Platt*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Jonathan Landon*, *Melanton Smith*, *Nathaniel Sackett*.

*For Ulster County.*—*Johannes Hardenbergh*, *James Clinton*, *John Nicholson*.

*For Orange County.*—*Michael Jackson*, *Benj. Tusteen*.

*For Suffolk County.*—*Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, *John Foster*, *Thomas Wickham*.

*For Westchester County.*—*Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *William Paulding*.

*For King's County.*—*Henry Williams*, *Jeremiah Remsen*, *Theodorus Polhemus*, *John Vanderbilt*.

*For Richmond County.*—*John Journey*, *Aaron Cortelyou*, *Richard Conner*.

*For Queen's County.*—*Jacob Blackwell*, *Samuel Townshend*, *Richard Thorne*.

*For Tryon County.*—*Christ. P. Yates* and *John Marlett*.

*For Cumberland County.*—*Paul Spooner*, *Wm. Williams*.

A Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, *June 24*, 1775, was read, and filed.

The Resolves mentioned and enclosed in the foregoing Letter, were also read.

Another Letter from the President of the Continental Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, *June 27*, 1775, was read.

The List of Officers mentioned and enclosed in the above Letters, was also read.

A Letter from *Edward Flemming*, Esq., signifying to this Congress his reasons for declining to accept of a commission appointing him Lieutenant-Colonel in the Regiment whereof *James Clinton*, Esq., is Colonel, and raised for the defence of *American* liberty.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, and Colonel *Clinton*, be a Committee to meet and confer with Messrs. *Ethan Allen* and *Seth Warner*, and report the same with all convenient speed.

Mr. *Glenn* has leave of absence to go home, and return as soon as he conveniently can.

The Congress adjourned to four o'clock, P. M., on *Monday* next.

Die Lunæ, 4to ho. P. M., July 3, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*Leonard Lispenard*, Esq., President *pro tempore*.

A Letter from the *New-York* Delegates at the Continental Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, *June 30*, 1775, was read.

Mr. *Pye* offered to go to *Dobbs's Ferry* to take care of the Powder mentioned in the Letter from the *New-York* Delegates; and thereupon, an order was signed by the President *pro tempore*, and delivered to Mr. *Pye* as the bearer, directing the person or persons who shall have the said Powder, to deliver it to Mr. *Pye*, taking his receipt for the same; and also another order was made, signed as aforesaid and delivered to Mr. *Pye*, directing him to deliver the said fifty quarter casks of Powder to such person or master of a sloop as may have an order from this Congress for that purpose.

A draught of a Letter to the Committee of the City of *Albany*, concerning the said fifty quarter casks of Powder, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, July 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: You will receive by the bearer fifty quarter casks of Gunpowder, sent from *Philadelphia* by the Continental Congress, for the use of the forts at *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*. You are sensible of the necessity of forwarding it with all possible despatch and safety, and will doubtless duly attend to a matter of so much importance. We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

By order of the Provincial Congress.

To *Samuel Stringer*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee at *Albany*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President *pro tempore*, and delivered to the *Albany*



Members, to be transmitted by such skipper as they shall direct to stop and receive the said Powder.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

—  
Die Martia, 9 ho. A. M., July 4, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, and opened with prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Rodgers*. Present :

*Leonard Lispenard*, Esq., President *pro tempore*.

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *Richard Yates*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morin Scott*.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—*Abraham Yates*, *Peter Silvester*, *Francis Nicoll*.

*For Dutchess County*.—*Zephaniah Platt*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Jonathan Landon*, *Melanton Smith*, *Nathaniel Sackett*.

*For Ulster County*.—*Johannes Hardenbergh*, *James Clinton*, *Egbert Dumond*.

*For Orange County*.—*David Pye Benjamin Tusteen*.

*For Suffolk County*.—*Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, *Thomas Wickham*.

*For Westchester County*.—*Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Joseph Drake*, *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *Robert Graham*, *William Paulding*.

*For King's County*.—*Henry Williams*, *Jeremiah Remsen*, *Theodorus Polhemus*, *John Vanderbilt*.

*For Richmond County*.—*Paul Micheau*, *John Journey*, *Aaron Cortelyou*.

*For Queen's County*.—*Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Zebulon Williams*, *Joseph Robinson*, *Nathaniel Tom*, *Richard Thorne*.

*For Tryon County*.—*Christopher P. Yates*, *John Marlett*.

*For Cumberland County*.—*Paul Spooner*, *Wm. Williams*.

A Letter from General *Schuyler* was read, and is in the words following, to wit :

“ New-York, July 3, 1775.

“ GENTLEMEN : I do myself the honour to enclose you an estimate of such stores, &c., as at present appears to me necessary to be forwarded to *Albany*. The pitch, oakum, and nails, I wish to have sent with all possible despatch. I am very certain that a variety of other articles will be wanted, which I shall be better able to ascertain after my arrival at *Albany*, for which place I propose setting out to-morrow. I am informed that a considerable quantity of lead was found at *Ticonderoga* ; but if it should not equal my expectations, I may be exposed to insurmountable difficulties. I therefore wish that at least half of the quantity which I have estimated may be ordered up without delay, together with fifty casks of powder, which I am advised will be sent you from *Philadelphia*.

“ As it is probable, from the manœuvres of Governour *Carleton*, that I shall speedily want a re-enforcement of Troops at *Ticonderoga* ; and not being at liberty to remove the *Connecticut* Troops from hence, I entreat that you will be pleased to forward whatever men may be levied in this Colony immediately to *Albany*, without waiting until the corps are completed.

“ I hope, gentlemen, on every occasion, to be favoured with your advice ; and, indeed, as the important charge conferred on me by the Continental Congress, was done in deference to your polite and honourable (yet altogether unmerited) recommendation of me, I shall, with the fullest confidence, look up to you for your aid and countenance, at once to promote the publick service, and to prevent me from sinking under the weighty concerns of my office ; and give me leave to assure you, that though I have the clearest conviction that I shall never be able to equal the high opinion you have induced the Congress to entertain of me, yet no effort shall be wanting on my part to deserve it as far as possible, that I may not draw disgrace on you, my country, or myself.

“ I am, gentlemen, with sentiments of the most profound respect, your most obedient and most humble servant.

“ PH. SCHUYLER.

“ The Gentlemen of the *New-York* Provincial Congress.”

The Estimate of Stores, &c., mentioned in the foregoing Letter of General *Schuyler*, was read, and filed.

*Mr. Henry Williams* then moved, seconded by *Mr. John Van Cortlandt*, in the words following, to wit : “ I move that orders be immediately issued by this Congress for making uniform Coats for all the men to be raised in this Colony.”

And debates arising on the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in the following manner, to wit :

*For the Affirmative.*

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 2 Dutchess,    | 2 Cumberland, |
| 2 Richmond,    | 2 Ulster,     |
| 2 Westchester, | 2 King's.     |
| 4 New-York,    | —             |
| 2 Queen's,     | 20            |
| 2 Tryon,       | —             |

*For the Negative.*

|                                        |
|----------------------------------------|
| 3 Albany,                              |
| 2 Suffolk.                             |
| —                                      |
| 5                                      |
| Orange County equally divided—no vote. |

*Ordered, therefore*, That *Mr. Peter T. Curtenius* get uniform Coats made for all the non-commissioned officers and men to be raised in this Colony ; that the Coats of each Regiment be made with different cuffs and facings.

And *Ordered*, That *Mr. Curtenius* be at liberty to purchase any goods for the use of this Colony of *Robert and John Murray*, which were directed by this Congress to be kept in store until the second ship shall arrive from *Great Britain* with goods, after the Non-Importation Agreement is dissolved, if Messrs. *Murray* will consent to wait for their money until that time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *Low*, *Clarkson*, and *Kissam*, be a Committee to wait on General *Schuyler*, and confer with him on the subject of his Letter received and read this day, and the List of Stores therein enclosed ; and inform him that it may be disadvantageous to remove the new levied Troops immediately.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Peter T. Curtenius* send to *Philadelphia* for proper Parchments for Drum-heads ; and when he obtains them, that he get good Drums made for the Regiments now raising in this Colony, in such manner as the Field-Officers shall direct.

*Ordered, also*, That *Mr. Peter T. Curtenius* (for the present) provide Provisions for the men now enlisted and raising in this City, and deliver the same in such quantities as may be necessary, to the Quartermaster of the First Regiment ; and that he deliver out such Tents as he has or may have ready, to Colonel *McDougall*, or his order, for the use of his men.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* have leave to nominate such persons to fill up the vacancies in his Regiment, below the rank of Captain, as he may think proper ; and that he report to this Congress such persons as he shall nominate.

A Receipt from *Philip Lansing* to *Egbert Dumond*, Esq., for two hundred barrels of Flour, to be by him conveyed to *Albany*, for the use of the Troops at *Ticonderoga*, was read, and filed.

The Committee appointed to wait on General *Schuyler*, returned, and reported in substance, that General *Schuyler* having conceived that it might be disadvantageous to remove the new levied men immediately, had wrote to the Congress on that subject, and received positive orders not to remove from hence the *Connecticut* Troops under the command of General *Wooster* ; but that he will leave the new levied men here for the present ; that with respect to the List of Stores delivered in by General *Schuyler*, he had made a list of all the stores of the several kinds therein mentioned, that he conceived necessary for the present, and that such quantities of the several articles therein mentioned as are already sent, are to be considered as part of the stores mentioned in the said List.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Resolves of the Continental Congress, bearing date the 23d ult. ; and after some time spent therein, the Congress was informed that *Ethan Allen* was at the door, and desired admittance.

*Mr. Sears* then moved, seconded by *Mr. Melancton Smith*, in the following words : “ I move that *Ethan Allen* be permitted to have an audience at this Board.”

And debates arising thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following :

*For the Affirmative.*

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 2 Suffolk,     | 2 Dutchess,   |
| 2 Queen's,     | 2 Tryon,      |
| 2 King's,      | 2 Cumberland. |
| 2 Ulster,      | —             |
| 2 Orange,      | 18            |
| 2 Westchester, | —             |

*For the Negative.*

|             |
|-------------|
| 3 Albany,   |
| 2 Richmond, |
| 4 New-York. |
| —           |
| 9           |



*Ordered, therefore, That Ethan Allen* be admitted. He delivered a List of Officers, which is filed.

*Seth Warner* was also admitted at the same time.

*Ethan Allen* and *Seth Warner* having been heard, they withdrew.

*Ordered*, That in consequence of a recommendation from the Continental Congress, a body of Troops, not exceeding five hundred men, officers included, be forthwith raised, of those called *Green-Mountain Boys*; that they elect all their own Officers, except Field-Officers; that Major General *Schuyler* be requested to forward this Order to them, and receive from them a list of such Officers as they shall elect, to be communicated to this Congress; and that General *Schuyler* be further requested, without delay, to procure the sense of those Troops concerning the persons who will be most agreeable to them for Field-Officers, and to make other inquiry; and upon the whole advise this Congress what persons will be most proper to be appointed as Field-Officers to command those Troops; that the said Troops, when raised, be considered as an independent body, their Field-Officers taking rank after the Field-Officers of the other Troops to be raised by this Colony for the Continental service; that their corps of Officers consist of one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, seven Captains, and fourteen Lieutenants; and that the General be furnished with blank Warrants, to be filled up by him agreeable to such election, as above mentioned.

The County of *Albany*, and Mr. *John De Lancey*, dissented to the above Order and Resolve.

*Ordered*, That a certified copy of the above be given to General *Schuyler* by the Secretaries.

The Congress then adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

Die Martis, 5 ho. P. M., July 4, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*Leonard Lispenard*, Esq., President *pro tempore*.

A Letter from General *Schuyler* was received and read, and is in the words following:

"New-York, July 4, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: As I am ordered by the Continental Congress to liquidate the accounts of the people employed at the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, that they may be paid; and as Messrs. *Allen* and *Warner* were concerned, there will be money due to them; and as they are in want of some, I could wish you to advance them thirty Pounds, and to make it a Continental charge, for which shall debit them in their account with the publick.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

"PH. SCHUYLER.

"To the Gentlemen of the *New-York* Provincial Congress."

Thereupon, an Order was made to the President, in the words following, to wit: Whereas, General *Schuyler* has requested that this Congress would advance thirty Pounds to *Ethan Allen* and *Seth Warner*, and make a Continental charge thereof, for which he will debit them in their account with the publick,

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, be requested to advance thirty Pounds to the said *Ethan Allen* and *Seth Warner*, and take their receipt for the same.

*Ordered*, That every person who has any one or more of the Muskets, Bayonets, and Accoutrements belonging to the Corporation of the City of *New-York*, and lately delivered out of the City-Hall of the said City, bring the same to the house of *Abraham Van Dyck*, in the Broadway, and deliver them to Messrs. *Abraham Walton* and *Isaac Sears*, or their order, who are appointed a Committee to receive the same; and that each person deliver to those gentlemen, at the same time, an account of the expense they have been at for Iron Ramrods for the said Muskets, that this Congress may make provision for the payment thereof; and

*Ordered*, That this Order be published in handbills, and distributed about this City.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., July 5, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Gano*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President; *Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Leonard Lispenard*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Abraham Walton*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *John De Lancey*, *James Beekman*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *Richard Yates*, *David Clarkson*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morin Scott*, *John Van Cortlandt*, *John Marston*, and *Isaac Sears*.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—*Peter Silvester* and *Francis Nicoll*.

*For Dutchess County*.—*Zephaniah Platt*, *Richard Montgomerie*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Jonathan Landon*, *Melanton Smith*, and *Nathaniel Sackett*.

*For Ulster County*.—*Johannes Hardenbergh*, *James Clinton*, and *Egbert Dumond*.

*For Orange County*.—*Michael Jackson* and *Benjamin Tusteen*.

*For Suffolk County*.—*Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, and *Thomas Wickham*.

*For Westchester County*.—*Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Joseph Drake*, *Philip Van Cortlandt*, *Robert Graham*, and *William Paulding*.

*For King's County*.—*Johannes E. Lott*, *Henry Williams*, *Jeremiah Remsen*, and *John Vanderbilt*.

*For Richmond County*.—*Paul Micheau*, *John Journey*, and *Richard Conner*.

*For Queen's County*.—*Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Zebulon Williams*, *Joseph French*, *Joseph Robinson*, *Nathaniel Tom*, and *Richard Thorne*.

*For Tryon County*.—*Christopher P. Yates* and *John Marlett*.

*For Cumberland County*.—*Paul Spooner* and *William Williams*.

*Joseph French*, Esq., one of the members of *Queen's* County, who hitherto has neglected to attend this Congress, appeared and took his seat; and was charged by the President from the chair, that sundry matters in this Congress are to be kept secret, particularly all such as relates to *Ticonderoga* and the Northern Posts.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that a number of men enlisted in this City, as part of the Troops to be raised in this Colony, are ready to be encamped, but that tents and other necessities for the Officers, and many articles for the Soldiers, are yet wanting; that part of the upper Barracks are ready for use, and that a Muster-Master is wanting to muster the men now enlisted.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Abraham Brasher* and Dr. *Lynn* proceed immediately to muster the men who are enlisted; and that such men as pass muster, and such others as shall be enlisted, be lodged in the Barracks in this City, until their tents and other necessities are ready, or until the further order of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Curtenius* wait on Doctor *John Jones* and Doctor *Treat*, and request them to make and deliver to him a list of such Medicines and Instruments as will furnish a complete Medicine-Chest for a Regiment of seven hundred and fifty men, officers included; and that Mr. *Curtenius*, when he has received such list, provide a Medicine-Chest agreeable thereto.

Mr. *Curtenius* attending at the door, was called in, and produced to the Congress an order of General *Schuyler* to supply sundry utensils (which are mentioned in a list attending the said order) for an Armourer of the *Connecticut* Troops.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Curtenius* supply the sundry articles mentioned in the said list and order, to the said Armourer; and that he keep a separate account of the amount of those articles, and charge them as supplied to the Troops of the Colony of *Connecticut*, that it may be placed to the account of that Colony in a settlement of the Continental expenses.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Curtenius* be supplied with a copy of the List or Inventory of Stores sent to this Congress on the 4th instant; and that he be requested to compare that Inventory with the Inventories of the Provisions and Stores already forwarded to *Albany*; and that he purchase on the



publick credit, and forward to *Albany*, such quantities of the respective articles, matters and things, mentioned in the said List or Inventory, as are not already purchased and forwarded to *Albany*.

This Congress being informed that the Corporation of the City of *New-York* intends to address his Excellency Governour *Tryon*,

*Resolved*, Though this Congress entertains the highest respect for his Excellency, yet it will be altogether improper for the said Corporation, or any other body corporate, or individuals, in this Colony, to address his Excellency at this most critical juncture.

*Resolved, also*, That one of the Secretaries of this Congress do forthwith serve his Worship the Mayor with a copy hereof.

Mr. *De Lancey* dissented to the foregoing Resolutions.

A Certificate from *Daniel Tillinghast*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety at *Providence, Rhode-Island*, bearing date the 27th of *June* last, certifying that *Asher Cook* had that day imported there in the Sloop *Liberty*, *Henry Palmer*, Master, one hundred and sixty-eight barrels of Flour and forty-four casks of Bread, and disposed of them to the Committee of Safety; was read, and filed.

*William Tapp* was mentioned to this Congress as a proper person for Quartermaster of the First Regiment of the Troops now raising in this Colony; and the Congress being informed that Lieutenant-Colonel *Ritzma* recommends him as a proper person for that office,

*Agreed*, That he is approved of, and that he be appointed to the said office.

*John Van Cortlandt*, Esq., informed the Congress that the Artillery Company of the Marine Society, agreeable to the recommendation of this Congress, had nominated their Officers to serve under Captain *Anthony Rutger*, to wit: *Christopher Miller*, for their Captain-Lieutenant; *Patrick Dennis*, First Lieutenant; *Anthony Griffiths*, Second Lieutenant; and *William Ritchie*, Third Lieutenant; and request the approbation of this Congress in the said nominations.

The Congress are of opinion that those gentlemen will be proper Officers, and do approve of and confirm the choice of the said Company in their Officers.

The Report of the Committee for *Indian Affairs*, which was brought in last *Saturday*, was read; and the draught of a Speech proposed to be made to the *Indians*, was also read, and in sundry places amended: And thereupon,

*Ordered*, That the said Report of a Speech to be made to the *Indians*, be recommitted to such Members of the said Committee as are now present, together with Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *Hobart*, who are added to the said Committee for that purpose; and that they proceed to take the same into consideration immediately.

*Resolved*, That no Vessel now in port, nor any that may hereafter arrive, belonging to any port in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or the Isles of *Guernsey* or *Jersey*, which sends vessels to the *Newfoundland* Fishery, be permitted to load any Bread or Flour, Beef or Pork, unless the property of those articles be in some merchant or inhabitant of this Colony, and not intended for *Newfoundland*, until it shall be otherwise ordered by this or the Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy of this Resolution be published in the Newspapers; and that the Resolution of the Committee of the City of *New-York* be republished at the same time, immediately preceding this Resolution.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., July 6, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Mason*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., President; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Benjamin Kissam, John Van Cortlandt, Jacobus Van Zandt, and Isaac Sears.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Peter Silvester and Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County*.—Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, and Egbert Dumond.

*For Orange County*.—Michael Jackson and Benjamin Tusteen.

*For Suffolk County*.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, and Thomas Wickham.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, Robert Graham, and William Paulding.

*For King's County*.—Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen.

*For Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County*.—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Joseph French, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom, and Richard Thorne.

*For Tryon County*.—John Marlett.

*For Cumberland County*.—Paul Spooner and William Williams.

Application having been made to the President, and also to the Deputy Chairman of the General Committee of *New-York*, for the payment of a Messenger who was sent to *Albany* by General *Schuyler*, and is returned, it is agreed that nine Pounds be a stated allowance to a Messenger for going to *Albany*; and that the President pay the said Messenger who has been to *Albany* nine Pounds.

*Resolved*, That the Reverend *John Peter Tetard* be employed as *French* Interpreter to General *Schuyler*, and as Chaplain for the Troops of this Colony; and that his pay as Interpreter and Chaplain be equal to a Major's pay.

Messrs. *Melancton Smith*, *Gilbert Livingston*, and *Henry Williams*, dissent from the appointment of Mr. *Tetard* as Chaplain.

Mr. *McDougall* moved (seconded by Mr. *Sears*) that a Committee be appointed to convene all the Blacksmiths in Town, and inquire of them whether they can make Gun-barrels, Bayonets, and Iron Ramrods, and what number any of them can make in a given time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Van Zandt*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Lispenard*, and Mr. *Hallett*, be a Committee for that purpose, and that they report with all convenient speed.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Van Zandt* be authorized, and he is hereby authorized and requested, on behalf of this Congress to contract with any such person as he shall think proper, for procuring two thousand good Gun-Locks, such as are used for the King's Muskets, to be procured with all possible despatch, not to exceed the price of sixteen shillings each; and

*Resolved*, That the same shall be paid for by this Congress.

Mr. *McDougall* moved (was seconded) that a Committee be appointed to write to *Great Britain* for four complete sets of Lock-Smiths to make Gun-Locks, and that the same Committee agree to pay the passages of Smiths from *Britain* to *America*.

And the same being agreed to,

*Ordered*, That Col. *Lispenard*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, and Colonel *McDougall*, be a Committee for that purpose, and that they are hereby authorized and requested to write for four sets of good Lock-Smiths, to make Gun-Locks, and to engage to pay the expense of their passages from *Britain* to this Colony.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the Committee of Correspondence write a Letter to the Continental Congress on the subject of Saltpetre, and informing them of the proposals of Messrs. *Kip* and *Van Vleeck*, that the Continental Congress may give such encouragement and directions in the premises as they in their wisdom shall think proper.

*Resolved*, That Ten Shillings shall be allowed to every Soldier that shall enlist in the Continental Army in this Colony, for the present campaign, who shall furnish himself with a good Musket, to be approved of by the Muster-Master and Armourer for each Regiment.

Mr. *Morris* moved, and was seconded, that the Congress reconsider their Resolve of yesterday to prevent any Ad-



dress being delivered to his Excellency Governour Tryon. Debates arose thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the negative, in the manner following:

## For the Affirmative.

4 New-York,  
3 Albany,  
2 Richmond,  
2 Queen's,—Mr. Robinson  
dissenting.  
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## For the Negative.

2 Suffolk,  
2 Westchester,—Mr. Morris  
dissenting.  
2 Dutchess,  
2 Cumberland,  
2 Ulster,  
2 King's,  
2 Tryon,  
2 Orange.

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Resolved, therefore, That this Congress will not reconsider their Resolution of yesterday to prevent any Address being delivered to his Excellency Governour Tryon.

A Letter from Mr. Scott to the President, informing him of the distressed state of his family, was read, and praying that some person be put in his stead on the Committee of Indian Affairs.

Ordered, That Mr. Morris be added to that Committee in the stead of Mr. Scott.

The Congress adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

Die Jovis, 4to ho. P. M., July 6, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

For the City and County of New-York.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, President; Alexander McDougall, Abraham Walton, James Beekman, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Benjamin Kissam, Jacobus Van Zandt, and Isaac Sears.

For the City and County of Albany.—Peter Silvester and Francis Nicoll.

For Dutchess County.—Zephaniah Platt, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

For Ulster County.—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, and Egbert Dumond.

For Orange County.—Michael Jackson and Benjamin Tusteen.

For Suffolk County.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, and Thomas Wickham.

For Westchester County.—Gouverneur Morris, Stephen Ward, Joseph Drake, Robert Graham, and William Paulding.

For King's County.—Henry Williams and Jeremiah Remsen.

For Richmond County.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, and Aaron Cortelyou.

For Queen's County.—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Joseph French, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom, and Richard Thorne.

For Cumberland County.—Paul Spooner, Wm. Williams.

Ordered, That Mr. Gerard Bancker, the Barrack-Master, deliver to Colonel McDougall all such Beds, Blankets, and other utensils for Soldiers, now in the custody of the said Barrack-Master, and belonging to this Colony, as Col. McDougall shall call for, for the use of the Troops now raising in this Colony.

A Letter from John Alsop, Esq., at Philadelphia, in answer to the Letter from this Congress on the subject of Blankets, was read and filed.

A Letter from Isaac Thompson, of Islip, covering a copy of the General Association, signed by the greatest part of the inhabitants of that District, was read and filed.

The said General Association, signed as aforesaid, and also a list of the names of such persons as have refused to sign the same subjoined thereto, was read and filed.

A Letter from Charles Thomson, Esquire, on behalf of the Committee of the City of Philadelphia, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Philadelphia, July 4, 1775.

“GENTLEMEN: The enclosed was yesterday intercepted by the Committee of this City, and laid before the Congress, who have recommended that it be forwarded to you.

“I am, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

“CHARLES THOMSON,

“In behalf of the Committee of Philadelphia.

“Provincial Convention or Congress of New-York.”

A Letter from Governour Martin (enclosed in the foregoing Letter from Charles Thomson) to Henry White, Esq., was read, and is in the words following:

“Cape Fear, North-Carolina, June 13, 1775.

“DEAR SIR: I take the liberty to enclose herewith a letter to Mrs. Martin, whose safe arrival I am most anxious to learn, the winds having been easterly almost ever since her departure.

“I shall be extremely obliged to you if you can contrive to send me, with the royal standard I mentioned to you some time ago, or without it if that is not to be had, a good tent and marquee, of the size of the Colonels' tents in the Army, with a tent-bed to fit the boot of it, and furniture, viz: mattress, bolster, and pillows, to be sent by any vessel bound to Cape Fear River, or in default thereof to Newbern, directed to the care of Mr. Cornell. I should rejoice to see a prospect of a happy termination of the present deplorable times, that more or less threaten the happiness of every man throughout the British Dominions. My compliments and warmest wishes attend you and Mrs. White, and all your family. I am, dear Sir, ever yours,

“JO. MARTIN.

“The Honourable Henry White, Esq.”

“I forbear to give you your due additions on the outside of my letter, to obviate prying curiosity.”

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., July 7, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. Ingles. Present:

For the City and County of New-York.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., President; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lisenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Benjamin Kissam, Jacobus Van Zandt, and Isaac Sears.

For the City and County of Albany.—Peter Silvester and Francis Nicoll.

For Dutchess County.—Zephaniah Platt, Richard Montgomerie, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

For Ulster County.—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, and Egbert Dumond.

For Orange County.—Michael Jackson.

For Suffolk County.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, Ezra L'Hommedieu, and Thomas Wickham.

For Westchester County.—Gouverneur Morris, Joseph Drake, Lewis Graham, Philip Van Cortlandt, Robert Graham, and William Paulding.

For King's County.—Henry Williams and John Vanderbilt.

For Richmond County.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, and Richard Conner.

For Queen's County.—Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Zebulon Williams, Joseph French, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom, and Richard Thorne.

For Tryon County.—John Marlett.

For Cumberland County.—Paul Spooner and William Williams.

The Letter from Charles Thomson, and the Letter from Governour Martin to Henry White, Esquire, therein mentioned, were again read, and thereupon

Ordered, That Messrs. Sears, Morris, and Low, be a Committee to wait on Mr. White, and receive from him such intelligence as they can obtain, and report to this Congress with all convenient speed.

Mr. Pye returned from Dobbs's Ferry, and reported to the Congress that he had proceeded to the said Ferry, and waited there until last evening; that no Powder is arrived; that the Sloop which was to have taken in the said Powder was gone to Albany, and that he has left the order of this Congress with Mr. . . . , and ordered the Powder, when it arrives, to be left at Jonathan Lawrence's.

The Congress being informed that a quantity of Powder lately passed through Hackinsack in wagons,



*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pye* be requested to inquire of some gentlemen of the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, now in *New-York*, whether they can give any information of the said Powder; and also, that Mr. *Pye*, if he find it requisite, go to *Bull's Ferry*, to receive and forward the said Powder to *Albany*, if it should be there.

A Letter from General *Wooster* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Camp near New-York, July 7, 1775.

"SIR: We have among the *Connecticut* Troops a number of apprentices and indented servants, who ran away from their masters in this City, and have enlisted themselves and received their pay in *Connecticut*. Since our arrival at this place many of them have been detained in Town by their masters. As the Governour of *Connecticut* has subjected me, and the Troops under my command, to the direction of the Continental and this Provincial Congress, I desire you to take the opinion of your Congress, and advise me what plan of conduct I shall pursue with regard to such persons, and you will oblige, Sir, your humble servant,

"DAVID WOOSTER.

"To Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress."

The Congress took the same into consideration, and resolved to advise General *Wooster* that the Masters of such Servants or Apprentices, belonging to this Colony, as are enlisted in his Troops, be restored to their Masters; provided the Masters pay to him the disbursements, deducting therefrom the pay, if any be due.

A draught of a Letter to General *Wooster*, signifying the sense of this Congress on the subject of Apprentices and Servants, was read and approved.

The Committee appointed to wait on Mr. *White* returned, and reported that *Henry White*, Esquire, informed them that he had received the former letter from Governour *Martin*, mentioned in the letter of Governour *Martin* now before this Congress; that he never sent the standard therein mentioned, and did not intend to send it; that he has at present mislaid Governour *Martin's* first letter; that he will send the letter when he can find it to this Congress; that he is not privy to Governour *Martin's* intentions as to the matters suspected from his letter; and that he will send in writing to this Congress an account of the correspondence and transactions between him and Governour *Martin*, and attest it upon oath if desired.

A Sub-Committee from the Committee of the City and County of *New-York* being at the door, were admitted, and delivered to the President a Letter (which was read) from the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, setting forth that *William McLeod*, an Ensign in the Fifty-Second Regiment of Foot, now at *Boston*, who had resided at or near *Elizabethtown* for some time past, was about embarking for *Boston* in order to join his Regiment; that the said Committee of *Elizabethtown* had stopped his baggage, and that he was now in the City of *New-York* waiting for a passage to *Boston*.

The Congress took the same into consideration, and thereupon

*Ordered*, That the Committee of the City and County of *New-York* do take the body of *William McLeod*, Ensign in the Fifty-Second Regiment of Foot at *Boston*, and send him in safe custody to the Committee of the Town of *Elizabethtown*. And it is recommended to the Committee of *New-York* not to use unnecessary violence, but to treat him with all possible lenity as a gentleman and soldier.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Brasher*, Mr. *McDougall*, and Major *Williams*, be a Committee to form a proper method for an arrangement of the Militia of this Colony, and proper instruction for the Militia of this Colony, and that they report with all convenient speed.

Major *Williams* and Doctor *Spooner*, agreeable to a notice for that purpose given yesterday, proceeded to inform the Congress of the state of *Cumberland County*, which they represent; and after some time spent therein,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Low*, and Mr. *Silvester*, be a Committee to receive information of the Members of that County, and of any other persons, of the state of that County, and report thereon to this Congress.

Whereas this Congress, on the fourth day of *July* instant, published a Resolution, ordering that the Arms belonging to the Corporation of this City be returned to Messrs. *Abraham Walton* and *Isaac Sears*, who were appointed a Committee to receive them; and whereas few of those Arms have as yet been returned, and it is essentially necessary for the publick service that a compliance with that order be no longer delayed:

*Resolved*, That every person to whom such Arms were originally delivered, or who is now possessed of any of them, and does not on or before *Friday*, the fourteenth instant, deliver the same to the Committee aforesaid, or their order, at the Upper Barracks, shall be deemed and treated as an enemy to his Country.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Saturnii, 9 ho. A. M., July 8, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. *Laidley*. Present:

*For the City and County of New-York*.—Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, President; Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Walton, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Benjamin Kissam, Jacobus Van Zandt, and Isaac Sears.

*For the City and County of Albany*.—Peter Silvester and Francis Nicoll.

*For Dutchess County*.—Zephaniah Platt, Gilbert Livingston, Jonathan Landon, Melancton Smith, and Nathaniel Sackett.

*For Ulster County*.—Johannes Hardenbergh, James Clinton, and Egbert Dumond.

*For Orange County*.—Michael Jackson.

*For Suffolk County*.—Nathaniel Woodhull, John Sloss Hobart, Thomas Tredwell, Ezra L'Homedieu, and Thomas Wickham.

*For Westchester County*.—Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Joseph Drake, Philip Van Cortlandt, Robert Graham, and William Paulding.

*For King's County*.—Henry Williams, John Vanderbilt, and Theodorus Polhemus.

*For Richmond County*.—Paul Micheau, John Journey, and Richard Conner.

*For Queen's County*.—Zebulon Williams, Joseph French, Nathaniel Tom, and Richard Thorne.

*For Cumberland County*.—Paul Spooner and Wm. Williams.

A Letter from *Henry White*, Esq., was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Saturday, July 8, 1775.

"SIR: Three gentlemen of the Provincial Congress called upon me with an intercepted letter from Governour *Martin* of *North-Carolina*, dated the thirteenth *June*, to send him a royal standard from hence. They desired to know if I had complied with his request, and whether I could inform them respecting the measures he was now pursuing. In answer to which I have to observe, that he some time ago wrote to me to send him such a standard, which I declined to do, lest it might be disagreeable to the people of this place; and I wrote him to that purport, which letter I apprehend miscarried, or he must have received it before the thirteenth of last month. With regard to the steps he is now taking in his Government I am utterly unacquainted; he has not communicated to me any particulars. Governour *Martin* is a gentleman I am intimately acquainted with, and have transacted business for him ever since he has been at *North-Carolina*, which accounts for his applying to me for the above standard. I imagine it will be believed that I did not solicit the commission. I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

HENRY WHITE.

"To Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq."

A draught of a Letter to *Charles Thomson*, Esquire, in answer to his Letter read yesterday, was read, and approved of, and is as follows, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 8, 1775.

SIR: The Congress received yours enclosing Governour *Martin's* letter to Mr. *Henry White*, and immediately



appointed a Committee to confer with him on the subject. From the answer he gives to the Committee, and a letter received from him, (a copy of which is enclosed,) the Congress are fully satisfied that Mr. *White's* conduct in this matter has been unexceptionable, and such as becomes the character of a good citizen.

I am, Sir, your humble servant.

To *Charles Thomson*, Esquire.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and, together with a copy of Mr. *White's* Letter of this day, be transmitted by the first opportunity.

It being suggested to the Congress that Priming Wires and Brushes are wanting for the *Connecticut* Troops,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Curtenius* be requested to assist the Quartermaster of the *Connecticut* Troops to get Priming Wires and Brushes for the said Troops, the said Quartermaster paying for the same.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, President of this Congress, be Treasurer for this Congress of all Money received or to be received in this Colony for the general defence of *America* or the Continental service, until some other Treasurer be appointed by the Continental Congress.

The Continental Congress having recommended it to the inhabitants of the Colonies to keep the twentieth day of *July*, instant, as a Day of Fasting and Prayer, this Congress does strictly enjoin all persons in this Colony religiously to observe the said recommendation. And we being taught by that holy Religion declared by the merciful *Jesus*, and sealed by his blood, that we ought to acknowledge the hand of *God* in all publick calamities, and being thoroughly convinced that the Great Disposer of events regardeth the hearts of his creatures, do most earnestly recommend it to all men to conform themselves to the pure dictates of Christianity, and by deep repentance and the sincere amendment of their lives, to implore of our Heavenly Father that favour and protection which he alone can give.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will adjourn until next *Tuesday* fortnight, and that a Committee of Safety be appointed during the recess of this Congress in manner following, to wit: That *New-York* appoint three Members to give two Votes, and every other County each one to give one Vote. And that such other Members of the several Counties as shall attend, may join in the vote of their respective Counties, or give such vote in the absence of the Member or Members so appointed. And *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, Colonel *Lispensard*, and Colonel *McDougall*, being appointed for the City and

County of *New-York*; Mr. *Morris* for the City and County of *Albany*; *Jonathan Landon* for *Dutchess* County; *Egbert Dumond* for *Ulster* County; *David Pye* for *Orange* County; *Abraham Brasher* for *Suffolk* County; *Gouverneur Morris* for *Westchester* County; *Henry Williams* for *King's* County; *Richard Lawrence* for *Richmond* County; Colonel *McDougall* for *Queen's* County; *Peter Van Brugh Livingston* for *Tryon* County; and *John Morin Scott* for *Cumberland* County:

*Resolved*, That all the said Votes, or a major part thereof, shall constitute such Committee. And that the said Committee, when met, shall be empowered to open all Letters directed to the said Congress, and to answer the same; that they be farther empowered to take such measures as they shall think proper to carry into execution all orders of the Continental Congress, and all Resolutions and recommendations of this Congress, and to comply with any requisitions made by the Generals of the Continental Army, or any of them, as far as they shall think proper. That they be authorized to give directions to General *Wooster*, or the Commander and Commanders, for the time being, of the Continental Troops stationed in this Colony, as from this Congress: *Provided*, That such directions do not contravene the orders of the Continental Congress, or of his or their superiour officers respectively. And lastly, that they have authority to appropriate such Moneys of the Continental Congress as may arrive in payment of the debts already contracted for the publick service, and for the use of the said service, as they shall think necessary, the accounts being first audited and allowed by the Committee of Accounts.

*Ordered and Agreed*, That *Jacobus Swartwout* be, and is appointed by this Congress Mustermaster of the Troops which shall be raised in defence of *American* liberty by the following Captains, to wit: *Lewis Dubois*, *Andrew Billings*, *Henry B. Livingston*, and *Rufus Herrick*.

A copy of this Order was made, and signed by *P. V. B. Livingston*, President.

*Ordered and Agreed*, That Colonel *Phineas Fanning*, *David Melford*, Esquire, of *East-Hampton*, and Captain *Timothy Earle*, be, and are appointed by this Congress Mustermasters of the Troops that shall be raised in *Suffolk* County in defence of *American* liberty.

The Committee of Safety agreed to meet at the City-Hall of the City of *New-York*, on *Tuesday* next, at nine o'clock, A. M.

The Congress then adjourned until next *Tuesday* fortnight, then to meet again at the City of *New-York*, at nine of the clock in the morning of that day.

#### MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

May 31, 1775.

The Committee met by adjournment at *Watertown*, being the day appointed by Charter for the election of Counsellors, when the Congress convened, and had a suitable discourse delivered them by Mr. President *Langdon*, at the Meeting-House, where the Committee attended in the afternoon. Afterwards they met, and adjourned to meet at *Cambridge*, *Tuesday* morning, eight o'clock.

June 1, 1775.

On a motion made by Mr. *Samuel Whittemore*, of *Gloucester*, that the Forces now raised in said Town and *Manchester* should remain there for the present, for the security of the Seaports:

*Voted*, That there be returns immediately required of the number of men now in Camp; and if it shall then appear that the safety of the whole will permit it, the request will be granted.

June 2, 1775.

A Gun taken from *Samuel Flagg*, of *Grafton*, for the use of the Colony, was appraised by a Committee appointed for that purpose, at forty Shillings, lawful money, which Gun was delivered to Captain *Luke Drury*, for the use of his Company, and a receipt taken for the same, in the rough minutes.

Colonel *John Nixon* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment is in good forwardness, he had a certificate thereof, and a recommendation to the Provincial Congress that such Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 2, 1775.

This Committee have taken into their most serious consideration the state of the *New-England* Army proposed to be raised for the defence and security of the lives, liberties, and properties of the *Americans*, and find that the several Colonies have not, collectively, raised more than 24,500 men,\* whereas 30,000 were supposed necessary. And said Committee also find a considerable number of Officers of Minute-men now at Head-Quarters, who, with their men, cannot find room for employment in the Army upon the present establishment of this Colony. And as our enemies have determined to distress us upon our sea-coast, by taking our Vessels with Provisions, Salt, Molasses, &c., as well as by plundering our islands and coasts of Live Stock, which will require a greater number of men to guard said coasts than was at first estimated; and as said Army, or any part thereof, may be disbanded at any future time, when the publick safety will admit thereof; and as the publick military spirit now runs high, it is therefore

*Resolved*, That the consideration of these premises be recommended to the Honourable Congress, and that Col.



*Palmer* be directed to attend said Congress with this Resolve, in order to know whether they will make any addition to their present establishment.

BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman*.

June 3, 1775.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Devens* be a Committee to join Col. *Putnam*, from the Council of War, as a Committee to wait upon the Committee of Supplies for a conference, and to desire their attendance at Head-Quarters.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Gridley* be required to make immediate return of the Regiment of Artillery.

The honourable the Provincial Congress having, by their Committee, inquired of this Committee what progress had been made in raising a Regiment for the Train,

*Resolved*, That the honourable Congress be informed that this Committee have given out Enlisting Orders to raise nine Companies; that they will immediately procure a return and forward it to the Congress.

June 5, 1775.

A number of Officers belonging to Colonel *John Nixon's* Regiment were recommended to the Congress to be commissioned, and a list of said Officers ordered to be put on file.

June 7, 1775.

Colonel *Glover* having satisfied this Committee that he has about four hundred and sixty men in his Regiment, a Certificate was given him to that purport, and it was recommended to the honourable Congress that said Regiment may be commissioned accordingly.

June 9, 1775.

A number of Officers belonging to Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment were recommended to the Congress to be commissioned, as per copy of the list on file.

Two Small-Arms, taken from General *Brattle's* house, were appraised by Captain *White* and Mr. *Devens*, a Committee appointed for that purpose, at one Pound six Shillings and eight Pence; which Guns were delivered to Captain *Joseph Stebbins*, for the use of his Company, and a receipt taken for the same in the rough minute-book.

*Resolved*, That the Armourers repair no Fire-Arms for any Soldier without a certificate from his Commanding Officer; and that they keep an exact account what Arms they repair, and the soldiers' names to whom they belong, and what Regiments they belong to; and also, that the Arms that first come be first repaired. And that this Vote be transmitted to the several Armourers in the Colony service.

Captain *Hall*, of *Mistick*, having informed that a parcel of Spars were brought on this side *Mistick* Bridge,

*Voted*, That Mr. *Hall* be desired to remove them to such a place of security as he shall judge proper, till the further order of this Committee.

*Voted*, That Captain *Ebenezer Winship* have the recommendation of this Committee to the Honourable Congress for his being commissioned with his Subalterns in Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment.

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 9, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Colonel *Paul Dudley Sergeant*, late of *New-Hampshire*, having applied to this Committee for directions respecting four Companies enlisted under him in the service of this Colony, we beg leave to state the facts to your Honours.

From the exigences of the times, on the 25th of *April* last past Colonel *Sergeant* received encouragement from this Committee to command a Regiment, and received beating orders for the raising the same, on the following conditions, viz: Should he fill said Regiment, and the Province of *New-Hampshire* aforesaid would not take him, with his Regiment, into their service, in that case he should be established in the service of the Colony of the *Massachusetts*.

It appears to this Committee, by the account Colonel *Sergeant* has given them, that he has only four Companies at Head-Quarters, and that some more are enlisted and in *Hampshire*; he therefore desires he may be directed whether to hold or discharge said men. This Committee

apprehend, should said four Companies be discharged from the service of this Colony, they would immediately enter the service of *New-Hampshire*, and as we conceive the Army of thirteen thousand six hundred men will be complete without said four Companies, are of opinion it would be prudent said Companies be dismissed from the service of this Colony. The whole of this matter we submit to your Honours; you will act thereon as to you in your wisdom shall seem meet.

We are, with great respect, your most humble servants,  
BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman*.

The Honourable the Provincial Congress at *Watertown*.

June 10, 1775.

Whereas, a return has been made by Col. *John Glover* of the state of his Regiment, now at *Marblehead*, and it appears to this Committee to be for the safety of this Colony said Regiment should continue at present at *Marblehead*; therefore,

*Resolved*, That Colonel *John Glover* be, and he hereby is, directed to continue said Regiment under his command at *Marblehead* until further orders, and that he hold them in readiness to march at a minute's warning to any post where he may be directed, and that he fill said Regiment as soon as possible.

Whereas, sundry pieces of mowing land, belonging to persons who have left this Town, have upon them considerable quantities of grass, which, if not cut soon, must diminish much in quantity; and as Hay will be wanted for the use of this Colony; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the honourable Provincial Congress, that they appoint a Committee of Congress to view said pieces of land, and act thereon as to them in their wisdom shall seem meet.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Learned* be empowered to appoint one Armourer and an assistant for the Army at *Roxbury*, provided he can obtain tools and accommodation for them.

A list of the gentlemen who have been commissioned, or that have received any encouragement for commission, was sent to Congress, a copy of which is on file.

The following Return was sent in to the Provincial Congress:

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 10, 1775.

In obedience to a Resolve of the honourable Provincial Congress "to certify to their Congress the names of such gentlemen as are candidates for the command of a Regiment, with the number of privates, &c., that have been enlisted under them, and any other claims or pretensions that any gentleman may have to a commission," this Committee would now certify, that, besides twenty gentlemen to whom they have given certificates, (viz: Colonel *Asa Whitcomb*, General *Ward*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Doolittle*, Colonel *Glover*, Colonel *Frye*, Colonel *Learned*, Colonel *Read*, Colonel *Nixon*, Colonel *Fellows* of General *Pomeroy's* Regiment, General *Thomas*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Bayley*, Colonel *Bridge*, Colonel *Cotton*, Colonel *Walker*, Colonel *Prescott*, Colonel *Scammon*, Colonel *Donaldson*, Colonel *Patterson*, Colonel *Gardner*, Colonel *Mansfield*, Colonel *Gerrish*,) General *Heath* early took out ten sets of orders, and raised a full Regiment, which has done duty for several weeks, as he has informed this Committee, but has made no return in writing, nor applied for a certificate. Colonel *David Brewer*, who received ten sets of orders, has made us no return, though we hear he has enlisted a number of men as Rangers. Colonel *Robinson* has applied to this Committee for a recommendation, in consequence of a petition signed by ten Captains, a copy of which accompanies this Report. The Committee promised Colonel *Robinson* that they would recommend him, if there should be a vacancy. Colonel *Woodbridge* informs this Committee, and it appears by the return he has made, that three hundred and sixty men stand ready to go under him. We would observe that Colonel *Woodbridge* has been in Camp with his Minute-Men doing duty ever since the battle, but did not apply to this Committee for enlisting orders until the Committee had issued orders sufficient to complete the Army, and therefore the Committee did not give him orders, but promised they would



June 13, 1775.

recommend him if there should be a vacancy. Colonel *Porter* was, in conjunction with Colonel *Patterson*, and by agreement with Colonel *Patterson*, to have the chief command in that Regiment, and officiated some time in that capacity, waiting for the men raised by Colonel *Porter's* orders to arrive; but they not arriving so soon as expected, and another officer with several companies arriving, and offering to join and fill Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment, Colonel *Porter* said he was willing to resign rather than the publick service should be hindered. Since this, we are informed by Colonel *Porter* that the men raised by his orders are upon their march to *Cambridge*. Col. *Joseph Henshaw* expected to have the command of Lieutenant-Colonel in General *Ward's* Regiment, and the dispute between him and Colonel *Ward* having been already laid before Congress and acted upon, we would only represent that he has signified to this Committee that a number of companies incline to go under him, as will appear by his return, which accompanies this Report.

About five or six weeks past Mr. *Greenleaf* applied to the Committee of Safety, desiring that the men raised in and about *Newbury* might not be annexed to Colonel *Gerrish's* Regiment, or any other where it would be disagreeable to them. He afterwards applied to this Committee respecting said men, and desired that the eight companies enlisted upon orders issued by this Committee, through Colonel *Gerrish's* hands, who have since petitioned in favour of Colonel *Little's* taking the command of them, might be put under him as Colonel of a Regiment. We then found we had given orders for as many Regiments as would complete the Establishment made by this Colony, and therefore did not give said Colonel *Little* any orders to raise a Regiment, but promised that if any vacancy should happen, he should have the preference. We find said companies were early in the field, and have done duty ever since, and are very well equipped.

Early after the 19th of *April* this Committee sent ten sets of beating orders to the Honourable General *Preble*, desiring him to give out said orders to such persons as he thought suitable for commissions, in order to form a Regiment; and Colonel *March* was also supplied with ten sets of orders, for the purpose of raising a Regiment to be commanded by him. Soon after it was represented to us by the Committee of Correspondence for *Falmouth*, that it would be inconvenient to that County, in their exposed situation, to raise men for the Army, and the same was agreed to by Colonels *Finney* and *March* in the Committee; on which we wrote to General *Preble*, informing him of the same, but heard nothing further until about six days past, we received a return from Colonel *Finney* of about five hundred men, enlisted in a Regiment to go under his command, and Colonel *March* certified that he had agreed to come in as his second; the copy of which letter to General *Preble* accompanies this. Colonel *Sergeant's* case having been represented to Congress, the copy of said representation accompanies this Report.

The Committee beg leave to represent that the reason why more enlisting orders were delivered out than were sufficient to enlist the number of men established by Congress, was an apprehension that the Province was in the utmost danger for want of men, the Committee not being able to prevail on the Militia and Minute-Men to tarry in Camp; and but very few men being at that time enlisted, we were obliged to issue further orders.

BENJAMIN WHITE, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress at *Watertown*.

June 12, 1775.

The Committee not apprehending that it was necessary to detain *Eliphalet Hill*, of *Newbury*, any longer as a Rider in the Colony service, he was dismissed therefrom on the yesterday.

*Shubael* and *Joseph Sever*, of *Framingham*, entered into the Colony service as Armourers, the 10th instant.

Captain *Lawrence*, in Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, offering to act as an Armourer without any pay for his labour, and to return home for some tools which are necessary to effect the repairs of the Muskets, it was consented to by the Committee, and the said *Lawrence* was desired to procure his tools as soon as may be.

*Jonathan Stickney*, in Colonel *Woodbridge's* Regiment, received a Small-Arm of one *Guillam*, a scholar, for which he gave a receipt in the rough minute book, to deliver the same again to this Committee when so required.

Whereas, it is daily expected that General *Gage* will attack our Army now in the vicinity of *Boston*, in order to penetrate into the country, it is of the utmost importance that said Army be in every respect prepared for action as soon as possible; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the General be desired to order each Colonel in the Army to make immediate return to him of the state and equipment of their respective Regiments, setting forth what number of men are destitute of arms, and what arms are fit for immediate service; and that this vote be laid before the Committee as soon as may be.

Mr. *Devens* appointed a Committee to inquire of the Committee of Supplies relative to the quantity of Powder in their possession, and where the same is.

On motion made,

*Resolved*, That the debates and determinations of this Committee be kept a profound secret by its members and their attendants, until further order of this Committee.

Whereas *Daniel Adams*, of *Boston*, a lunatick now in Camp at *Cambridge*, occasions great disorder in said Camp; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Woburn* be, and they hereby are directed and empowered to take into their custody and care the above-mentioned *Daniel Adams*, and make such provision for him, at the expense of this Colony, as his circumstances, being peculiar, may require, and also for the guards while there.

Whereas, frequent complaints have been made to this Committee of the waste and destruction of the property of some persons who have left their habitations in sundry Towns in this Colony, and taken refuge in the Town of *Boston*; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the honourable Congress now sitting at *Watertown*, that they take the above into their consideration, and act thereon as to them in their wisdom shall seem meet.

The Committee earnestly recommend to the honourable Congress, that the representations from the Quarter-master-General be taken into immediate consideration, especially as the Committee, from their own knowledge, find the rooms too much crowded, and the health and lives of the Soldiers thereby greatly exposed; and if tents cannot be immediately furnished, that some barracks be forthwith erected.

June 14, 1775.

Whereas this Committee are informed that Dr. *How*, of *Andover*, is prepared to receive, and well skilled in such disorders as *Daniel Adams*, of *Boston*, sent on the 13th instant to the Town of *Woburn*, is affected with; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Woburn* be, and they hereby are released from the keeping said *Daniel Adams* in the Town of *Woburn*, and they are required to provide a horse and carriage, with provisions, to forward the said *Adams* to *Andover*, the expense of which will be paid by this Colony.

*Resolved*, That *Daniel Adams*, a lunatick now at *Woburn*, be carried to the Town of *Andover*, and committed to the care of Dr. *How*; and the said Dr. *How* is hereby desired to take proper care of the said lunatick, at the expense of this Colony.

The following Vote passed this Committee the 4th of *May* last, viz:

*Moved and Voted*, That the vote passed the 2d of *May*, respecting the raising of two Companies in *Braintree*, be reconsidered, and that the copy of said vote, together with the two enlisting papers, be ordered to be returned into the hands of said Committee of Safety.

And whereas a petition from the Town of *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, hath this day been presented to this Committee, setting forth the exposed situation of those Towns, and praying for such relief and protection as may be thought proper; therefore,

*Voted*, That the Town of *Braintree* be hereby empowered to raise one Company, the Town of *Hingham* another



Company, and the Town of *Weymouth* half a Company, for the immediate defence of the sea-coast of said Town; the said two Companies and a half to be joined to such Regiment in future as they may be ordered to, should there be occasion, or discharged from service on the last day of *December* next, or sooner, if the publick safety will admit of it; and that the Selectmen of said Towns be respectively furnished with a copy of this vote and one set of beating orders.

A number of men belonging to the company of Captain *Drury*, having petitioned that they might be permitted to join, some the Regiment commanded by Colonel *Gardner*, and others the Regiment commanded by Colonel *Nixon*; and the Committee having considered their several requests,

*Voted*, As the opinion of this Committee, that said company be joined to such Regiment as it shall appear the major part of said company are in favour of when called upon for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That Captain *White* and Mr. *Devens* be a Committee to proceed to the house of *Thomas Ireland*, of *Charlestown*, and find out whether a certain infamous woman, who calls herself . . . *Jackson*, be there, and if she can be found, order her to Head-Quarters, they being sent furnished with an order from the General for a file of men for that purpose.

General *Heath* having satisfied this Committee that his Regiment is near full, a certificate was given him thereof, and it was recommended to the honourable Congress that his Regiment be commissioned accordingly.

Mr. *Nathaniel Mullikin* having represented to this Committee, that on the 19th of *April* last his house was plundered and burned by the Soldiery; at which time he lost a pair of silver shoe-buckles, which, he says, he is well informed is in the possession of a Sergeant of the Fifty-Second Regiment, now in *Concord* jail: It is the desire of this Committee that the Committee of Correspondence for said Town (with whom they think it properly belongs) would make inquiry into this matter; and if they find it to be as has been represented, that they would use their endeavours that the said *Mullikin* may have justice done him, by the delivery of said buckles.

Two Guns taken from *John Boreland*, Esquire's house for the Colony service, were appraised by Messrs. *Devens*, *Watson*, and *Orne*, at twenty-seven Shillings and thirty-three Shillings; which Guns were delivered *William Hudson Ballard*, for the use of his Company, and a receipt taken for the same in the rough minute book.

Upon reading a Letter from General *Thomas*, in favour of Captain *Israel Henrick*,

*Resolved*, That this Committee do not think the matter contained in said Letter comes within the commission of this Committee, therefore refer it to the honourable Congress.

June 15, 1775.

The following Resolve respecting the allowance for Provisions for the Soldiers in the *Massachusetts* Army, passed at the Congress, *June 10, 1775*:

*Resolved*, That each Soldier in the *Massachusetts* Army shall have the following allowance per day, viz:

One pound of Bread; half a pound of Beef, and half a pound of Pork, and if Pork cannot be had, one pound and a quarter of Beef, and one day in seven they shall have one pound and one quarter of salt Fish, instead of one day's allowance of Meat; one pint of Milk, or if Milk cannot be had, one gill of Rice; one quart of good spruce or malt Beer; one gill of Beans or Peas, or other sauce equivalent; six ounces of good Butter per week; one pound of good common Soap for six men per week; half a pint of Vinegar per week per man, if it can be had.

Whereas, the Committee lately applied to the honourable the Congress of this Colony for an augmentation of the Army now in the vicinity of *Boston*, and as some circumstances have since taken place which strengthened the arguments then used in favour of the said augmentation; particularly that many of the then expected re-enforcements for General *Gage's* Army are arrived; that General *Gage* has issued a very extraordinary Proclamation, in which the inhabitants of *Massachusetts-Bay* are in the most explicit

manner declared Rebels; and various accounts have been brought to this Committee of the movements of Mr. *Gage's* Army, and that he intends soon to make another attempt to penetrate into the country. From the consideration of all which premises, together with that of our Army,

*Resolved*, That the good and welfare of the Colony requires that there be an immediate augmentation of said Army; that such soldiers in the Army as are destitute of arms, be immediately supplied therewith; that such Regiments of Militia as are in any degree destitute of officers, be immediately filled up in such manner as the honourable Congress may direct; and that all the Militia in the Colony be ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice, completely equipped, having thirty rounds of cartridges per man; all which is earnestly recommended to the immediate consideration of the honourable Congress now sitting at *Watertown*; to which the Committee would beg leave to add a general recommendation to the people to go to meeting armed on *Lord's* day, in order to prevent being thrown into confusion.

Whereas, it appears of importance to the safety of this Colony, that possession of the hill called *Bunker's Hill*, in *Charlestown*, be securely kept and defended, and also some one hill or hills on *Dorchester Neck* be likewise secured; therefore

*Resolved unanimously*, That it be recommended to the Council of War, that the above mentioned *Bunker's Hill* be maintained by sufficient force being posted there; and as the particular situation of *Dorchester Neck* is unknown to this Committee, they desire that the Council of War take and pursue such steps respecting the same as to them shall appear to be for the security of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Benjamin White* and Colonel *Joseph Palmer* be a Committee to join with a Committee from the Council of War to proceed to *Roxbury* Camp, there to consult with the General Officers on matters of importance, and to communicate to them a Resolve this day passed in this Committee respecting *Bunker's Hill* in *Charlestown*, and *Dorchester Neck*.

June 16, 1775.

The Committee took into consideration the Resolves of Congress relative to Barracks; whereupon,

*Voted*, That Mr. *Watson*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Doctor *Holten*, be a Committee to make inquiry whether any Houses or Tents are to be obtained for the Troops that want cover.

The Commissary-General was directed to furnish Messrs. *Joseph* and *Thomas Austin*, armourers in the Colony service, with Provisions as wanted.

Colonel *Gridley's* Captains and Subalterns for the Train were this day recommended to Congress to be commissioned.

Mr. *Burbeck* was recommended as Lieutenant-Colonel in Colonel *Gridley's* Train of Artillery; Mr. *Scarborough Gridley* as First Major, and Mr. *David Mason* as Second Major in said Regiment of Artillery.

June 17, 1775.

Colonel *David Brewer* and *Jonathan Brewer* having made returns of the Field-Officers and the officers of nine Companies of their respective Regiments, it was recommended to the Provincial Congress, that they might be commissioned accordingly.

The following Order was issued to the Towns in the vicinity of *Boston*:

"To the Selectmen of the Town of . . .

"GENTLEMEN: You are ordered instantly to send all the town-stock of powder you have to the Town of *Watertown*, saving enough to furnish one pound to each soldier."

The following was voted to be sent to Mr. *John Badger*, viz:

"SIR: As the safety of the Colony Army demands that any person or persons suspected of having the small-pox be immediately placed in such place as may prevent its spreading in said Army, and your house is thought proper for that purpose, you are directed immediately to quit said house, that the person suspected may be placed therein."



The following Vote was laid before the Committee of Supplies, viz:

"As in consequence of our late movements a constant fire is kept on the Colony Troops, we think it necessary that there should be quick intelligence brought to Headquarters from the scene of action: we therefore desire that this Committee may be immediately furnished with four of the riding horses for the service aforesaid."

The following was voted to be sent Mr. John Badger, Jun., viz:

"SIR: As the safety of the Colony Army demands that any person or persons suspected of having the small-pox immediately requires their being placed in such place as may prevent its spreading in said Army, and your house is thought proper for that purpose, you are directed immediately to quit said house, that the person now suspected may be placed therein."

June 18, 1775.

A Letter was forwarded to the Commanding Officers of the Militia in the neighbouring Towns for the march of their respective Regiments, as per copy on file, which is as follows:

"Cambridge, June 18, 1775.

"To the Commanding Officer of the Militia of the Town of . . . . .

"SIR: As the Troops under General Gage are moving from Boston into the country, you are, on the receipt of this, immediately to muster the men under your command, see them properly equipped, and march them forthwith to Cambridge. By order of the Committee of Safety:

"BENJAMIN WHITE, Chairman."

A Letter, countermanding the above orders, was forwarded to the several Colonels in the neighbouring Towns, as per copy on file, which is as follows:

"It is thought by this Committee that those companies of the Militia which have not been called into the camp at Cambridge, by written orders, should remain at their respective Towns, and that those companies of them which have been so called, and are on their march, should return, and hold themselves in complete readiness to give us assistance when called upon."

The Selectmen of the Town of Waltham were ordered forthwith to send all the town-stock of Powder to the Town of Watertown, save enough for one pound for each soldier.

June 19, 1775.

Resolved, That the house of the Reverend Mr. Samuel Cook, of Monotony, be improved as a Hospital for the Colony Army; and that Mr. William Eustis be and hereby is appointed to the care of the sick and wounded in said Hospital till the further order of this Committee.

Ordered, That Doctor Isaac Foster be and he hereby is directed to take up and improve as Hospitals so many houses in Monotony as he may find necessary for the safety of the sick and wounded of the Colony Army; and that he employ such person or persons as may be necessary, to carry such provisions and other necessaries as may be wanted for the use of the aforesaid sick and wounded; and further, that he take such precaution respecting the Small-Pox Hospital as may be necessary for the prevention of the spreading of that epidemical disorder in the Camp or elsewhere.

A Letter was received from Mr. William Eustis, which is as follows:

"GENTLEMEN: As the general hospital is in Mr. Cook's house, it undoubtedly falls to Doctor Foster to take the care of it. I think it my duty to return this appointment immediately. I will assist to the utmost of my ability in dressing the wounded. I see their distress, feel for them, and will relieve them in every way in my power.

"I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your very humble servant,

W. EUSTIS.

"To the Committee of Safety."

Pursuant to a Resolve of the Provincial Congress sent to this Committee respecting the nomination of four Conductors, two Clerks, and one Overseer for a company of Artificers in the regiment of Artillery; they beg leave to

recommend the following persons to the office affixed to their names, viz: Mr. John Ruddock, Mr. John Austin, Mr. John Kneeland, Mr. Thomas Uran, Conductors; Mr. Nathaniel Barber, Jun., Mr. Isaac Peirce, Clerks; Joseph Ains, Overseer of the Artificers.

It being very desirous to obtain the most certain accounts of the names and places of abode of the persons who have been killed or wounded in the Battle of Lexington, so called, on the 19th of April past, and at any time since; and also of all such as may be killed or wounded at any future time during the present unnatural contest between Great Britain and the American Colonies, in order to transmit to future generations the names of such who have gloriously suffered in the cause of liberty and their Country; to effect which,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the honourable Congress to order that the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts in this Colony transmit, from time to time, to this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives, the names and addition of all such persons who have been or may be killed or wounded as above, within their respective Towns and Districts; and that they severally cause the same to be fairly entered upon the Town and District books.

June 20, 1775.

The following was sent the Provincial Congress, viz:

"The Committee being informed that Capt. John Wiley, who was recommended as a proper person for the command of a company in the Train, has not skill for such a trust, and that the company will leave the Army unless some other person is appointed to said command; your Honours will please take this matter into consideration, and act thereon as you in your wisdom shall judge necessary."

Resolved, That no more of the Militia of this Colony march than are called for by express orders from this Committee on any alarm that may take place.

Ordered, That Mr. Abner Graves, who came down as a Minute-man on the 20th of April to defend his Country, be discharged, and he accordingly is discharged.

Voted, That a Certificate be given Samuel Pool, of Boston, to pass the Guards to the Town of Littleton.

The following Receipt was taken from Benjamin Lincoln, Esq., viz:

"Received of the honourable the Committee of Safety thirty-seven Blankets, which they received into their hands and gave their receipt for them to Mr. William Vance.

"Received by me, BENJAMIN LINCOLN."

June 21, 1775.

The following Resolve was transmitted to the Selectmen of Newbury, viz:

"Resolved, That Joseph Adams, driver of the stage from Newbury, be and he hereby is directed to transport back to Newbury, Elizabeth Royal and her child, who, as she says, is wife to William Royal, First Sergeant in the Sixty-Third Regiment of Foot, now in Boston, and deliver her to the care of the Selectmen of said Newbury, who are hereby directed to provide for her and her child at the expense of this Colony."

Voted, That the Quartermaster-General be directed to order nine Horses, in the Colony service, to be stabled at Mr. Hastings's barn this night.

Mr. Thomas Williams, on the Colony service to Marblehead, had an order on the Taverners and Innholders for the necessary supply of Provisions for man and horse.

Colonel Woodbridge having satisfied this Committee that eight Companies belonging to his Regiment were in good forwardness, it was recommended to the honourable Congress that they be commissioned accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. James Monroe, an armourer in the Province service, take into his keeping a parcel of old iron, saved out of the Cutter burned at Winnisimit Ferry, he to be accountable to the Committee for the same.

Stephen Frost, Ensign in Captain Lock's Company of Colonel Gardner's Regiment, was recommended to the honourable Congress for a commission.



Two half barrels of Powder were received from *Bille-rica*, for which Colonel *Palmer* gave a receipt; said Powder was delivered Major *Barber* of the Train.

Whereas, a great number of Horses have been from time to time put into the stables and yard at Mr. *Hastings's*, at Head-Quarters, not belonging to the Colony, to the Committee of Safety, or the General Officers, their Aids-de-Camp, or Post-Riders, to the great expense of the publick and inconvenience of the Committee, Generals, &c.; therefore,

*Resolved*, That no Horses be hereafter admitted into said stables or yard, or be taken from thence, but only by order of said Committee or General Officers.

As it is thought of great importance that intelligence of the state and situation of the Army, or any part thereof, should, at all times, be known to the General Officers, and that such orders as may be sent by the Generals may be communicated with all speed; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the honourable Congress, that they make such establishment for Aids-de-Camp to the Generals, as to them in their wisdom shall seem meet.

June 22, 1775.

*Samuel Patch*, in Colonel *William Prescott's* Regiment, was recommended to the honourable Congress to be commissioned as a Captain; and *Zachary Walker* and *Joshua Brown* as Lieutenants in said Regiment.

*Resolved*, That it be and it hereby is recommended to the Town of *Medford*, that they immediately supply Major *Hale* with as many Spades and Shovels as they can spare, as it is of importance for the safety of this Colony that the works begun on *Winter Hill* be finished; and will be retarded unless soon supplied with tools of that kind.

A number of Colonel *Donaldson's* Officers were recommended to the honourable Congress to be commissioned, as per copy on file.

June 23, 1775.

Agreeable to a Resolve of the Provincial Congress, orders were issued to the Colonels of the several Regiments that they forthwith make return of the officers in their respective Regiments, that those who are not commissioned may immediately receive their commissions, and that the vacancies, if any such there are, may be filled up.

A Letter from General *Thomas*, recommending a Supervisor for the Armourers at *Roxbury*, is referred over to Congress.

The following was voted to be sent to the Provincial Congress, viz:

"This Committee beg leave to represent to the honourable the Provincial Congress, that they apprehend it absolutely necessary for the safety of the Colony that two persons of ability and prudence be appointed to superintend the regular supply of our two camps; one of them to be placed in the camp near this place, and the other at *Roxbury*; whose duty it shall severally be constantly to attend said camps, and examine into the supplies of each Regiment, to see that such supplies are properly delivered out in time, quantity and quality, and timeously to advise the Commissary-General when, and what articles of supplies are wanted at the respective camps; all which is hereby submitted."

Colonel *Palmer* and Colonel *Orne* appointed a Committee to join a Committee from the Council of War, to view the encampment on *Prospect Hill*, and the works carrying on there.

This day was lodged with this Committee, by Captain *Cyprian How*, thirty Fire-Arms, sent by Captain *Josiah Stone*, of *Framingham*, for which a receipt was given by the Secretary of this Committee.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Joseph Jones*, of *Lancaster*, be supplied with Provisions till the further orders of the Committee, he being well skilled in the Train.

The following Fire-Arms were received from the Town of *Attleborough*, viz:

One Gun from *Henry Richardson*, appraised at 1*l.* 16*s.*; one of *Jacob Perry*, at 1*l.* 13*s.*; one of *George Stanley*, at 2*l.*; one of *Amos Stanley*, at 1*l.* 10*s.*; one of *Samuel Freeman*, Jun., at 2*l.*; one of *Benjamin Allen*, at 1*l.* 16*s.*;

one of ditto, at 1*l.* 4*s.*; one of *David Richardson*, at 2*l.* 2*s.*; one of *Ebenezer Lane*, at 1*l.* 7*s.*; one of *Elisha Gay*, at 2*l.* 14*s.*; one of *Daniel Dagget*, 2*l.* 2*s.* Total, 20*l.* 4*s.*

The following Fire-Arms were received from the Town of *Rehoboth*, viz:

One Gun from *James Daggett*, appraised at 2*l.* 8*s.*; one of *Benjamin Ridge*, at 2*l.* 14*s.*; one of *Elisha Carpenter*, at 1*l.* 4*s.*; one of *Nathan Rounds*, at 2*l.* 8*s.*; one of *Richard Whitteker*, at 1*l.* 19*s.*; one of *James Dogget*, at 2*l.* 2*s.*; one of *Benjamin Ridge*, at 1*l.* 13*s.*; one of *John Wheeler*, at 1*l.* 13*s.*; one of *William Cole*, at 1*l.* 13*s.*; one of *Stephen Bullock*, at 2*l.* 8*s.* Total, 20*l.* 2*s.*

June 24, 1775.

*Ordered*, That the Commanding Officer who has the charge of the Hay on *John Vassal*, Esquire's estate, be directed to supply Mr. *Seth Brown*, who has the care of the Colony Horses, with as much Hay as they may need for their consumption.

A Gun, taken up after the late action, was appraised by the Committee at thirty Shillings, and delivered Colonel *Brewer*, for the use of his Regiment; for which he gave his receipt, to be accountable to this Committee, in the rough minute book.

A Gun, appraised at two Pounds, fourteen Shillings, was delivered *Elisha Frizel*, of Captain *Robert Oliver's* Company, in Colonel *Doolittle's* Regiment, he having had his Gun split in the late engagement; a receipt was taken for the same in the rough minute book.

A number of Colonel *Prescott's* officers were recommended to the honourable Congress to be commissioned, as by list on file.

Captain *Badlam*, of a Company in the Train, and four Lieutenants, were recommended to the honourable Congress to be commissioned, as by the Captain's return on file.

Captain *Samuel McCobb*, of Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, had twenty Fire-Arms delivered him, appraised by the Towns who sent them at thirty-seven Pounds, twelve Shillings, for which he gave his receipt in the rough minute book, to be accountable to this Committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Brown*, the keeper of the Colony Horses, do not admit any Horses into the Stables of *John Vassal*, Esquire, but such as are the property of this Colony.

*Resolved*, That the Overseer, and such a part of the Company of Artificers under his direction as may be necessary, be posted in *Newton*, in buildings of Mr. *John Pigeon*, for the purpose of carrying on their business; and what loss said *Pigeon* shall sustain in consequence of said Artificers being placed there, this Committee will use their influence that the damage so sustained be reimbursed by this Colony.

*Resolved*, That the Cannon in this and the Town of *Watertown*, not mounted, and all other Military Stores not wanted for present use, be removed forthwith to the Town of *Newton*, where the Artificers are to carry on their works.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Pigeon*, the Commissary-General, have the care and direction of removing the spare Military Stores to *Watertown*.

A Gun, said to have belonged to *James Boynton*, was delivered to *Eliphalet Cole*, in Captain *Parly's* Company, in Colonel *Fry's* Regiment.

A Gun was delivered to *Aaron Cromby*, in Captain *Gridley's* Company of the Train.

Eighty-four Fire-Arms, collected from several Towns, were received of Mr. *Thomas Cowden*, for the use of this Colony, for which a receipt was given him by Mr. *Watson* of this Committee.

June 25, 1775.

The following Letter was sent to the Provincial Congress:

"In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, June 25, 1775.

"Whereas, Mr. *Pigeon*, the Commissary-General, has represented to this Committee that the publick service will be promoted by a faithful person being appointed as a



supervisor of the camp, for reasons offered: upon consideration of which, and for other reasons, this Committee beg leave to represent to the honourable Congress that they apprehend it absolutely necessary, for the safety of this Colony, that two persons of known ability and prudence be appointed to superintend the regular supply of our two camps, (one of them to be placed in the camp near this place, and the other at or near *Roxbury*,) whose duty it shall severally be, constantly to attend said camps and examine into the supplies of each Regiment, to see that such supplies are properly delivered out in time, quantity, and quality, and timeously to advise the Commissary-General when and what articles of supplies are wanted at the respective camps, and also to take care that the empty casks are saved and returned to the Commissary-General's office for further service, and in general to do all the service to the publick which such appointment requires. All which is humbly submitted. **BENJ. WHITE, Chairman.**

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress, *Watertown*."

June 26, 1775.

Twenty Small-Arms were delivered Capt. *Lemuel Prescott*, of Colonel *Jonathan Brewer's* Regiment, for the use of his Company, for which he gave a receipt in the minute book, to be accountable when called upon therefor.

Sixty Small-Arms were delivered Capt. *William Hudson Ballard*, for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Fry's* Regiment, for which he gave a receipt, to be accountable when called upon therefor.

Colonel *Moses Little* having made return to this Committee of a Lieutenant-Colonel, Major, ten Captains, and twenty Lieutenants, it was recommended to the honourable Congress that they be commissioned accordingly.

Three Small-Arms were delivered Capt. *John Nutting*, for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, amounting, by appraisement, to seven Pounds, ten Shillings, for which he gave a receipt in the minute book, to be accountable when called upon therefor.

Six Small-Arms were delivered Lieutenant *Whitney* for the use of Captain *Farwell's* Company, in Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, for the use of said Company, amounting as by appraisement to thirteen Pounds, twelve Shillings, for which a receipt was given by the Lieutenant in the minute book.

Six Small-Arms were delivered Captain *Joshua Parker*, of Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, for the use of his Company, amounting as by appraisement to thirteen Pounds, eight Shillings, for which he gave a receipt, to be accountable to the Committee when called upon therefor.

Ten Small-Arms were delivered Captain *Asa Lawrence* for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, appraised at nineteen Pounds, three Shillings, for which he gave a receipt to be accountable to this Colony, which receipt is on file.

Three Small-Arms for the use of Captain *Wyman's* Company, in Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, was delivered his Lieutenant, amounting by appraisement to five Pounds, for which he gave a receipt in the minute book, to be accountable when called upon therefor.

Three Small-Arms, for the use of Captain *Oliver Parker's* Company, in Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, were delivered said *Parker*, amounting, as per appraisement, to four Pounds, nine Shillings, and four Pence, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Whereas, this Committee find the publick Hospital in this Town has been much neglected, to the great injury of the patients in said Hospital, occasioned for the want of some suitable persons being placed there as Surgeon; therefore,

*Resolved*, That Doctor *John Warren* be, and he hereby is appointed to the oversight of said Hospital, and that he take proper care such provision be made as may be necessary for the comfortable support of the patients in said Hospital, until further orders.

Fifty-eight Small-Arms, amounting by appraisement to one hundred and nine Pounds, fifteen Shillings, were delivered Colonel *Asa Whitcomb*, for the use of his Regiment, and a receipt taken for the same in the minute book.

June 27, 1775.

Passed upon *John Chandler Williams's* account, employed as a Rider in the service of this Colony, amounting to four Pounds, four Shillings, and six Pence, as by copy thereof on file.

The following vote, passed the seventeenth instant, was laid before the Committee of Supplies, viz:

"As in consequence of our late movements a constant fire is kept up on the Colony Troops, we think it necessary that there should be quick intelligence brought to Head-Quarters from the scene of action. We therefore desire that this Committee may be immediately furnished with four of the best riding Horses for the service aforesaid."

It was recommended to the honourable the Provincial Congress that *William Dana* be commissioned as Captain-Lieutenant, Mr. *Treadwell* as First Lieutenant, *Jonas Simons* Second Lieutenant, and *William Stevens* as Third Lieutenant, in Captain *Edward Craft's* Company of the Train, in Colonel *Gridley's* Regiment.

A Gun was taken for the use of the Colony, which was owned by *Aaron Barr*, of *Merryfield*, who died of the wounds he received in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*, which Gun has been valued by this Committee at thirty-six Shillings, lawful money.

One hundred and twenty-four Small-Arms were received of Mr. *Abiah Sadler*, and ten of Captain *Stone*, collected by them for the service of this Colony, amounting by appraisement to two hundred and fifty-one Pounds, fourteen Shillings, and eight Pence, for which receipts were given by Mr. *Watson*.

June 28, 1775.

Two Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Samuel Gerish*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, as by appraised value, to three Pounds, three Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

The following is a Resolve of the Provincial Congress relative to supplying the Army with Small-Arms, viz:

"In Provincial Congress, *Watertown*, June 26, 1775.

"Whereas, this Congress has ordered a number of Fire-Arms to be furnished from several Towns and Districts in this Colony, to be forwarded to the Army to supply those who are destitute of Arms; but no provision is made for delivering them out and taking proper receipts for the same; therefore

"*Resolved*, That all the Small-Arms that are or may be procured by the above order, be delivered to the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, they to give their receipts for the same to the person from whom they receive them; that the same be delivered out to such Officers as shall produce orders therefor from the Honourable General *Ward*, they giving receipts for the same to the said Committee of Safety; to be returned in good order, unless lost in the service of the Colony. And every Soldier who shall receive any such Fire-Arms, shall give his receipt for the same to the Officers from whom he shall receive it, to be returned as aforesaid, and the Officer shall return the said receipt to the Committee of Safety. And in case the same shall not be returned at the close of the campaign, or sooner, the value of the said Fire-Arms shall be deducted out of the wages of the person receiving the same; and that the Committee of Safety shall appraise all such Arms as have not already been appraised, and take an account of the whole.

"By order of Congress:

"**JAMES WARREN, President.**"

The following was received from General *Ward* in consequence of the above vote of Congress, viz:

"[GENERAL ORDERS.] Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, June 28, 1775.

"That the commanding officer of each Regiment make application to the Committee of Safety for so many Fire-Arms as their respective Regiments stand in need of, each commanding officer to give his receipt for the Fire-Arms he may receive; and the Committee of Safety are hereby ordered to deliver out Arms to such commanding officers as make application to them for the same. Per order:

"**SAMUEL OSGOOD, Major of Brigade.**"

In consequence of the above order of the Council of War, the following Protest was entered, and a copy of the same, together with the other proceedings, were, by a



vote of this Committee, laid before the honourable Congress, viz:

Whereas, the Provincial Congress did, on the twenty-sixth instant, pass a Resolve, "That all the Small-Arms that are or may be procured by the above order (mentioned in said Resolve) be delivered to the Committee of Safety at Cambridge, they to give their receipt for the same to the person from whom they received them, *that the same may be delivered out to such officers as shall produce orders therefor from the Honourable General Ward, &c.*:"

And whereas the Honourable General Ward, in consequence of that part of the above quotation which is scored, this day issued General Orders, in which are these words: "*And the Committee of Safety are hereby ordered to deliver out Arms to such commanding officers as make application to them for the same.*:"

And whereas this Committee apprehend that said Resolve does not empower the General to order them to deliver said Arms, but only to order his officers to receive from the Committee such Arms as they are ordered by the honourable Congress to deliver to the General's orders to his officers:

And whereas the Committee apprehend that it is of vast importance that no orders are issued by the military, or obeyed by the civil powers, but only such as are directed by the honourable Representative Body of the People, from whom all military and civil power originates; and though this Committee are satisfied that General Ward has misunderstood said Resolve, and does not mean or intend to set up the military power above the civil; yet, lest this order of the General's should be adduced as a precedent in future, we think it our indispensable duty to protest against the General's said order. Notwithstanding which protest, we also think it our indispensable duty to deliver said Arms agreeable to the spirit of said Resolve, and as the exigency of the publick requires, and submit our conduct to the honourable Congress.

Forty-three Small-Arms, amounting as by appraisement to seventy-nine Pounds, two Shillings, and four Pence, were delivered to Colonel Gardner for the use of his Regiment, and a receipt taken for the same in the minute book from Lieutenant-Colonel Bond.

Thirty Small-Arms were delivered Major Brooks for the use of Colonel Bridges's Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to fifty-five Pounds, nineteen Shillings, and six Pence, for which he gave a receipt to be accountable to this Colony, which receipt is on the files of the Committee.

Nine Small-Arms were delivered Colonel William Prescott for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to seventeen Pounds, nine Shillings, for which a receipt was given in the minute book.

Twenty-five Small-Arms were delivered Colonel Frye for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to forty-nine Pounds, eight Shillings, and two Pence, for which he gave a receipt to be accountable to this Colony, which receipt is on the minute book.

Twenty-five Small-Arms were delivered Colonel John Glover for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to forty-six Pounds, twelve Shillings, and eight Pence, for which he gave a receipt in the minute book to be accountable to this Colony.

Received of Major Barber, Storekeeper for the Trains, by order of the Provincial Congress, thirty-two Small-Arms, amounting as by appraisement to . . . . .

June 29, 1775.

Mr. Devens and Colonel Orne, appointed to draw up a Vote relative to Captain Trevet and Company, reported the following, which was accepted, viz:

Whereas, from a mistake made by one of the General Officers, Capt. Samuel Russell Trevet has been put under arrest, which mistake is set forth in a Certificate by order of the General; and upon examination it appears that said Trevet has approved himself a good officer, but said mistake has unhappily operated to the dispersion of his Company; therefore

Resolved, That said Captain Trevet be directed to collect his said Company as soon as possible, and then apply to this Committee in order to be commissioned.

This Committee being greatly alarmed at the danger of the Small-Pox spreading in the American Army, which, should it take place, we fear may be attended with very fatal consequences to this Colony and Continent; therefore,

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the honourable Congress to take such speedy and effectual measures to prevent a communication of that very dangerous and distressing distemper from the Small-Pox Hospital to the Army, or to the inhabitants of this Colony, as to them in their wisdom may seem meet.

Whereas, sundry persons, who in the exigences of our publick affairs have been employed in the service of this Colony, are from time to time exhibiting their Accounts to this Committee in order for payment; therefore

Resolved, That said Accounts be transmitted to the honourable Congress, that this matter be taken into their consideration, and that such order pass thereon as their wisdom may dictate.

June 30, 1775.

One hundred and fifty-two Small-Arms were received of Captain William Gage, collected by him for the use of this Colony, amounting as by appraised value to . . . . ., for which a receipt was given him by Mr. Watson.

Mr. Samuel West was recommended to the honourable Congress to be commissioned as Second Lieutenant in Captain Abner Cranson's Company, in Col. Asa Whitcomb's Regiment.

Forty Small-Arms were delivered Colonel John Patterson, for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement, to seventy-eight Pounds, sixteen Shillings, and four Pence, for which a receipt was given in the minute book.

Fifty-one Small-Arms were delivered Colonel James Scammon, for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to ninety-seven Pounds, eighteen Shillings, and eight Pence, for which Guns a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Three Small-Arms, for the use of this Colony, were received of Colonel Simeon Spalding, amounting as by appraisement to five Pounds, four Shillings.

Whereas, the honourable Provincial Congress has this day passed a Resolve appointing this Committee to be a Committee to consider of a further emission of Notes or Bills of Credit, as mentioned in said Resolve; but the Committee finding themselves unable to proceed in this business without a more perfect knowledge of the emissions lately made, both in quantity and circumstances of payment; and also for want of sufficient knowledge of the demands made, or to be made upon the Colony, do

Resolve, That Colonel Palmer attend the honourable Congress to-morrow, in order to obtain all necessary light in the premises.

Whereas, a considerable number of Whale-Boats have been procured for the service of this Colony, and many of them are said to be now in the Towns of Braintree and Weymouth, and unless proper care be taken of said Boats they will probably sustain great damage; therefore

Resolved, That it be recommended to the honourable Congress that such order be taken respecting said Boats as their wisdom may direct.

This Committee beg leave to suggest to the honourable Congress, whether the Magazine, wherein Gunpowder is deposited, ought not to be guarded by Electrical Points. As any considerable loss in that article would deeply affect the publick, this is humbly submitted.

Twenty-seven Small-Arms, for the use of this Colony, were received of Mr. Benjamin Ely, for which a receipt was given by the Secretary of this Committee; which Guns were collected by order of Congress, and amount by appraisement to . . . . .

Forty-four Small-Arms, for the use of this Colony, were received of Mr. Bliss, for which a receipt was given him by the Secretary of this Committee; which Guns were collected by order of Congress, and amount by appraisement to . . . . .

Voted, That the Commissary-General be directed to supply Head-Quarters with Provisions as usual, till the further order of this Committee.



July 1, 1775.

Forty-nine Small-Arms, for the use of the Colony, were received from the Rev. Mr. *Lemuel Kellock*, for which a receipt was given by Mr. *Devens*; which Guns were collected by order of Congress, and amount by appraisement to . . . . .

Fifteen Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Ruggles Woodbridge*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to twenty-nine Pounds, sixteen Shillings, and eight Pence, for which Guns a receipt was taken in the minute book.

*Voted*, That two thirds of the Hay under the care of Mr. *David Sanger* be brought to Head-Quarters, and one third carried to the Committee of Supplies at *Watertown*.

Six Small-Arms were received of Mr. *Abner Ellis*, for the use of this Colony, amounting as by appraisement to . . . . , for which a receipt was given by the Secretary of this Committee.

Forty-four Small-Arms were received of *Benjamin Ely*, by the hands of Mr. *Solomon Edwards*, for the use of this Colony, for which a receipt was given by the Secretary; which Arms were collected by order of Congress, and amount as by appraisement to . . . . .

Eight Small-Arms were received of Colonel *John Dickinson*, by the hands of *Benjamin Scott, Jun.*, for the use of this Colony, amounting by receipt to . . . . ., for which a receipt was given by the Secretary.

Captain *Jacob Miller* was recommended to the honourable Congress as a Captain in Colonel *Doolittle's* Regiment, in the room of Captain *Leeland*, who has resigned.

Seventy-one Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *David Brewer* for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to one hundred and thirty-eight Pounds, six Shillings, which Guns he engaged should be returned in good order, unless lost in the service of this Colony, as per his receipt in the minute book.

Thirteen Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Jonathan Brewer* for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to twenty-six Pounds, seven Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

July 2, 1775.

One hundred Small-Arms were delivered Col. *Glover* for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to one hundred and ninety-two Pounds, eleven Shillings; which Guns he engaged should be returned in good order, unless lost in the service of this Colony, as by his receipt in the minute book.

One hundred and seven Small-Arms were received of *Daniel Hemmingway*, by the hands of Mr. *John Elder*, for the use of this Colony, for which a receipt was given by Mr. *Abraham Watson*.

July 3, 1775.

Twenty-six Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *James Fry* for the use of his Regiment, amounting by appraisement to fifty-five Pounds, four Shillings, for which a receipt was given in the minute book.

Ten Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Ephraim Doolittle* for the use of his Regiment, amounting as by appraisement to twenty-two Pounds, eighteen Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

One Gun, for the use of Colonel *Gardner's* Regiment, was delivered Lieutenant-Colonel *Bond*, amounting by appraisement to two Pounds, fourteen Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Ten Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Moses Little* for the use of his Regiment, amounting by appraisement to twenty-two Pounds, one Shilling, and four Pence, for which a receipt was given in the minute book.

Two Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Moses Little*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, as by appraisement, to four Pounds, four Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Thirteen Guns were received of Mr. *Benjamin Ely*, by the hands of Mr. *John Eaton*, collected by order of Congress, for which a receipt was given him.

Fifteen Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *William*

*Prescott*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, by appraisement, to twenty-nine Pounds sixteen Shillings, for which a receipt was given in the minute book.

A number of officers in Colonel *Woodbridge's* Regiment were recommended to the honourable Congress to be commissioned, as by return on file.

Whereas, Mr. *Edmund Quincy*, of *Stoughtonham*, represented to this Committee that sundry household goods and other effects, now or late the property of *Thomas Hutchinson, Esq.*, and other persons publickly known to be also enemies to the rights and liberties of *America*, are hid in several places in and near *Milton*, which property will probably be lost or wasted, unless proper care is taken of the same for such persons as may hereafter justly claim the same; therefore,

*Resolved*, That said *Quincy* be, and hereby is empowered to receive and convey to this Committee, at *Cambridge*, all such goods and effects as aforesaid, for the use of such person or persons as the honourable Congress, or some future Congress or House of Representatives of this Colony may order; he also producing to this Committee, the Congress, or House of Representatives, an account of all the articles he may so receive, the names of the persons from whom he may receive the same, and an account of the charges that may arise from such salvage and removal; and he also is hereby empowered to press, if necessary, such teams as may be needed for removing such effects.

Also, *Resolved*, That this be immediately transmitted by the hands of said *Quincy* to the honourable Congress now sitting at *Watertown*, for their approbation or disapprobation.

*Henrius Vomhavi*, an *Indian*, having represented to this Committee, that he had taken two horses at *Noddle's Island*, one a little horse, which he is desirous of retaining as some recompense for his fatigue and risk in that action, in which it is said he behaved with great bravery: It is the opinion of this Committee that said *Indian* should be gratified in his request, which will be an encouragement to others in the service, provided the honourable Congress should approve thereof.

Passed upon Mr. *William White's* Account, a person employed by this Committee as a Rider in the Colony service, which account amounted to six Pounds, thirteen Shillings, and four Pence, and a certificate was given him accordingly.

Thirty-nine Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Jonathan Brewer*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, by appraisement, to sixty-eight Pounds, eighteen Shillings, and eight Pence, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

July 4, 1775.

Mr. *George Armstrong*, who brought in a company of Minute-Men, and has been in the Army since the first alarm, having desired leave of absence from the camp for some time, leave was accordingly granted him; and an order was given the said *Armstrong* on the *Taverners* and *Innholders* on the road to *Murraysfield*, to supply him with the necessary provisions on his return home.

Mr. *Eleazer Wier* was directed to deliver *Benjamin Willing* one dozen and a half of Files, for the use of the *Armourers* now working at Mr. *Gideon Frost's* shop.

*Voted*, That Mr. *David Sanger* be directed to fill the Widow *Vassal's* barn with Hay.

Nine Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Joseph Read*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, as by appraisement, to seventeen Pounds, fourteen Shillings, for which Guns a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Four Guns were delivered Colonel *Moses Little*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, as by appraisement, to nine Pounds, two Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

July 5, 1775.

Thirty-seven Fire-Arms were received from Major *Ebenezer White*, which Guns were collected by order of Congress, and amount, as by appraisement, to eighty-five Pounds, seven Shillings.

Thirty-seven Small-Arms, valued at eighty-five Pounds,



seven Shillings, were delivered General *Thomas*, for the use of his Regiment, as by his receipt on file.

Six Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *William Prescott*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, by appraisement, to eleven Pounds, six Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Four Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *William Prescott*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, as per appraisement, to eight Pounds, fourteen Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Ten Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Moses Little*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, by appraisement, to eighteen Pounds, seven Shillings, and four Pence, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Passed upon *John Bulfinch* and twelve other persons' Accounts, who worked with *Jeremiah Russell*, amounting, in the whole, to forty-four Pounds, eight Shillings, and eight Pence, for which a certificate was given them for the Committee of Accounts.

*Voted*, That *Joseph Bates* have liberty to cut thirty hundred of Hay on *John Vassal*, Esquire's estate in *Cambridge*, he to be accountable therefor; and that *Samuel Sanger*, who has the care of the Hay, be directed accordingly.

Eight Guns, collected in *Princeton*, were received of Mr. *Ephraim Woolson*, by the hand of *Sylvanus Oak*, amounting, by appraisement, to fourteen Pounds, seven Shillings, for which a receipt was given him by the Secretary.

July 6, 1775.

*Voted*, That *Joseph* and *Parsons Smith* be allowed to cut, each, one ton of *English Hay* and one ton of black Grass, on the estate of *John Vassal*, Esq., in *Cambridge*, they to be accountable therefor; and that Mr. *David Sanger* be directed accordingly.

A Hand Vice, Screw Plate and Pins, were purchased of Mr. *Richard Estes*, for the use of the Armourers, amounting, as by receipt in the minute book, to eight Shillings.

Mr. *Seth Brown* was directed and empowered to clear the Widow *Vassal's* barns for the reception of Hay and Horses in the Colony service; and also to prevent Horses feeding in the pastures owned by said widow.

Mrs. *Elizabeth Hicks* was paid four Shillings by Mr. *Devens* for bringing up a Boat from *Charlestown*, as by receipt on file.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Fisk*, who has the care of *Jonathan Sewall's* farm, have liberty to cut on said farm one ton of *English* and two tons of salt Hay; and that Mr. *David Sanger* be directed accordingly.

*Voted*, That it be recommended to the honourable Provincial Congress to pass the following Resolve:

Whereas, the exigences of this Colony require that there should be, as soon as possible, an emission of Bills of Credit; therefore,

*Resolved*, that there be immediately issued on the credit of this Colony, and deposited in the Treasury, a sum not exceeding One Hundred Thousand Pounds, lawful money, in Bills of Credit, of the following denominations, viz: Of one Shilling, of two Shillings, of three Shillings and six Pence, of four Shillings, of five Shillings, of seven Shillings and six Pence, of eight Shillings, of eleven Shillings, of thirteen Shillings, of seventeen Shillings, of nineteen Shillings, of thirty Shillings, of forty Shillings, of sixty Shillings, of eighty Shillings, and of one hundred Shillings; to be five thousand of each denomination, and no more, and to be of the form following, viz:

"Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

"No. 109. July 18, 1775.

"The possessor of this bill shall be paid by the Treasurer of this Colony two Shillings and six Pence, lawful money, by the 18th day of *July*, 1777, and shall be received in all payments at the Treasury at all times.

"By order of the Congress: A. D. }  
B. E. } Committee."  
C. F. }

Which said Bills shall be paid and received in the publick Treasury, and in all payments in this Colony, without

any abatement or discount, upon any pretence whatsoever, under the penalty of treble damages to both the payer and receiver, which penalty shall be applied to the discharge of the publick debts of this Colony. And said bills shall also be printed on the back, with the Colony seal, the value of the bill, and its date; around the seal these words: *Issued in defence of AMERICAN liberty.* Also,

*Resolved*, That *A, B,* and *C,* be a Committee to sign or authenticate all said bills of one Shilling to eleven Shillings inclusively; and that *D, E, F,* be another Committee to sign or authenticate all other the said bills, which are of thirteen Shillings to one hundred Shillings inclusively.

|                        |                          |        |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| Five thousand bills of | 1 Shilling, is           | £ 250  |
| Five thousand bills of | 2 Shillings, is          | 500    |
| Five thousand bills of | 2 Shillings, 6 Pence, is | 625    |
| Five thousand bills of | 4 Shillings, is          | 1,000  |
| Five thousand bills of | 5 Shillings, is          | 1,250  |
| Five thousand bills of | 7 Shillings, 6 Pence, is | 1,875  |
| Five thousand bills of | 8 Shillings, is          | 2,000  |
| Five thousand bills of | 11 Shillings, is         | 2,750  |
| Five thousand bills of | 13 Shillings, is         | 3,250  |
| Five thousand bills of | 17 Shillings, is         | 4,250  |
| Five thousand bills of | 19 Shillings, is         | 4,750  |
| Five thousand bills of | 30 Shillings, is         | 7,500  |
| Five thousand bills of | 40 Shillings, is         | 10,000 |
| Five thousand bills of | 50 Shillings, is         | 15,000 |
| Five thousand bills of | 80 Shillings, is         | 20,000 |
| Five thousand bills of | 100 Shillings, is        | 25,000 |

£ 100,000

The following Letter was sent to General *Washington*:

"May it please your Excellency:

"The bearer, Captain *Brown*, is the officer who took the horses that came off from *Bunker's Hill*; you will please to direct said horses being delivered to his care.

"To his Excellency General *Washington*."

This Committee have, with great concern, considered the advantages our enemies will derive from General *Gage's* misrepresentations of the battle of *Charlestown*, unless counteracted by the truth of that day's transactions being fairly and honestly represented to our friends and others in *Great Britain*; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be humbly recommended to the honourable Congress now sitting at *Watertown*, to appoint a Committee to draw up and transmit to *Great Britain*, as soon as possible, a fair, honest, and impartial account of the late battle of *Charlestown* on the 17th ultimo, so that our friends and others in that part of the world may not be in any degree imposed upon by General *Gage's* misrepresentations of that day's transactions, and that they also be a Standing Committee for that purpose.

With hearts deeply affected by the sufferings of our friends in the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, now under the cruel hand of tyrannick power; and reflecting upon the advice of the late Continental Congress respecting our enemy's seizing any of our friends, it is

*Resolved*, By this Committee, that it be recommended to the honourable Provincial Congress now sitting at *Watertown*, to recommend to the Grand *American Congress*, that every Crown Officer within the United Colonies be immediately seized and held in safe custody, until our friends who have been seized by General *Gage* are set at liberty, and fully recompensed for their loss and imprisonment.

*Voted*, That Mr. *John Steel* and his two sons be appointed Armourers for this Colony's Forces.

Eight Small-Arms were delivered to Colonel *Ebenezer Bridges*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, as by appraisement, to seventeen Pounds, six Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Whereas, the honourable Congress have made an establishment for a company of Artificers, which consists of Carpenters, Blacksmiths, and Wheelwrights, and a Captain is appointed for the Carpenters, but no provision is made for Captains or master workmen for the Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the premises be recommended to the consideration of the honourable Congress now sitting at *Watertown*.



July 7, 1775.

Two Guns were received from Captain *Josiah Stone*, of *Framingham*, for the use of this Colony, amounting, by appraisement, to three Pounds, sixteen Shillings, for which a receipt was given by Mr. *Devens*.

Forty Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Scammon*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, by appraisement, to seventy-four Pounds, thirteen Shillings, and four Pence, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

One Small-Arm was delivered Colonel *Gridley*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting, by appraisement, to two Pounds, four Shillings, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

Passed upon *Matthew Clark's* Account, amounting to nine Pounds, three Shillings, and six Pence, and a certificate was delivered him for the Committee on Accounts.

Whereas, Mr. *Seth Brown*, who has had the care of the Horses for the Cannon, has resigned that employment, and as *Thomas Organ*, who was in the service of the late General *Warren*, is willing to undertake the service; looking upon him to be a person well qualified for that trust, we desire he may be appointed accordingly.

The above was directed to the gentlemen the Committee of Supplies.

Passed upon Mr. *Isaac Bissel*, a Post-Rider's Account, amounting, as by copy on file, to two Pounds, one Shilling, and a certificate was given him for the Committee on Accounts.

Whereas, a number of Soldiers in the *American Army* are from time to time observed to be much disguised with Spirituous Liquors, and should not some effectual measures be taken to put a stop to this disorder, not only the morals and health, but also the lives and liberties of this People will be endangered; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to his Excellency General *Washington*, that an order be issued to suppress retailers of Spirituous Liquors within and near the camps, in such manner as to him may seem meet.

Upon application made to this Committee by Captain *Rogers*, and due examination into the matter, the following was voted to be sent to the Selectmen, &c., of the Town of *Reading*, to be communicated to the adjacent Towns:

GENTLEMEN: Whereas, Captain *Jacob Rogers*, late an inhabitant of *Charlestown*, but now, through the necessity of the times, has been obliged to quit *Charlestown*, and has since taken up his residence in the Town of *Reading*; but some licentious persons of the Town of *Stoneham*, as it is represented to us, have threatened to raise a mob and drive him out of said *Reading*, to the great terrour of his family, and this without any cause that we can find, evidence having appeared of his good behaviour while in *Charlestown*; and in order to put a stop to such disorderly conduct, it is

*Resolved*, That all the inhabitants of this Colony are desired, as they regard the peace and welfare of the Country, to behave peaceably and quietly towards the said Captain *Rogers*; and if his conduct should hereafter be unworthy a friend to *American* liberty, he is then to be orderly complained of to such authority as may then exist within this Colony, but by no means to be proceeded against in any disorderly manner.

Twenty-eight Guns, for the use of the Colony, collected by order of Congress, were received of Mr. *John Ingraham*, July 3.

Passed upon Mr. *John Barber's* Account, amounting to seven Pounds, thirteen Shillings, and eight Pence, and a certificate was given him for the Committee on Accounts.

July 8, 1775.

Two Small-Arms were received of Colonel *Sineon Spalding*, for the use of this Colony, amounting, by appraisement, to two Pounds, twelve Shillings.

Two Small-Arms, appraised at four Pounds, four Shillings, were delivered Captain *Job Cushing*, of Colonel *Ward's* Regiment, as per receipt on file.

Fifteen Small-Arms were delivered, for the use of Colonel *Sergeant's* Regiment, amounting, as by appraisement,

to twenty-seven Pounds, three Shillings, for which a receipt has been taken in the minute book.

The honourable the Provincial Congress having acquainted this Committee that Mr. *James Winthrop*, Post-master in *Cambridge*, had declined serving any longer in that office, and desired that another might be recommended to them for that place,

*Voted*, That Mr. *Jonathan Hastings*, Junior, be recommended to the honourable Congress as a suitable person for the trust aforesaid.

Two Small-Arms were received of Mr. *Seth Stone*, of *Cambridge*, for the use of this Colony, amounting, as by appraisement, to three Pounds, eighteen Shillings, for which a receipt was given him by the Secretary.

Passed upon Mr. *John Gill*, Junior, a Post-Rider's Account, amounting to six Pounds, seventeen Shillings, and eight Pence, for which a certificate was given.

Whereas, many complaints have been made to this Committee, that the Armourers frequently deliver the Arms out of their shops unfit for service, and delay the work unnecessarily; in order to prevent occasion for such complaints in future, and to hasten the publick service in an orderly manner, which has not yet been provided for, it is

*Resolved*, That it be, and it hereby is recommended to the honourable Congress, to make an establishment for at least four Master Armourers, each one of whom shall work and superintend one shop, each of which shops, as we apprehend, may well accommodate eight men, including the master.

*Resolved*, That the instructions to be given to the Officers of the Regiments, be sent to the Council of War, and if approved be forwarded. They are as follow:

Instructions for the Officers of the several Regiments of the *Massachusetts-Bay* Forces, who are immediately to go upon the recruiting service.

You are not to enlist any deserter from the Ministerial Army, nor any stroller, negro, or vagabond, or person suspected of being an enemy to the liberty of *America*, nor any under eighteen years of age.

As the cause is the best that can engage men of courage and principle to take up arms, so it is expected that none but such will be accepted by the Recruiting Officer; the pay, provision, &c., being so ample, it is not doubted but the officers sent upon this service will, without delay, complete their respective corps, and march the men forthwith to camp.

You are not to enlist any person who is not an *American* born, unless such person has a wife and family, and is a settled resident in this Country.

The persons you enlist must be provided with good and complete arms.

One Small-Arm was received of Mr. *Samuel Haynes*, of *Sudbury*, for the use of this Colony, amounting, by appraisement, to thirty Shillings, for which a receipt was given him by the Clerk.

Whereas, considerable uneasiness has arisen in some part of the Army, from some of the Soldiers enlisting a second time into other companies than those which they first enlisted into, and, if not prevented, will be attended with great inconvenience; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the honourable Provincial Congress, to pass such an order as may cause those Soldiers who have conducted as above to return to their respective companies into which they were first enlisted, or otherwise order, as to them in their wisdom shall seem meet.

Whereas, it is necessary that the house of Mr. *John Vassal*, ordered by Congress for the residence of his Excellency General *Washington*, should be immediately put in such condition as may make it convenient for that purpose; therefore,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Timothy Austin* be, and hereby is empowered and authorized to put said house in proper order for the purposes above-mentioned, and that he procure such assistance and furniture as may be necessary to put said house in proper condition for the reception of his Excellency and his attendants.



July 11, 1775.

The following commission from the honourable Congress to this Committee was this day received from said Congress, viz: (Commission recalled.)

The following Letter was received from General *Washington*, by his Secretary, Mr. *Reed*:

"July 10, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: I am directed by the General to put into your hands a *Frenchman*, who will be delivered to you with this. His companions, after being in our camp some days, went off to the enemy, which has led to suspicions of this man; but there is no express charge against him. As he is not properly charged with any military offence, the General apprehends the detention of him will fall most properly in your department, and if you should be of opinion that sending him into the country would be sufficient, the General would be quite satisfied. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JAS. REED, Secretary."

His Excellency General *Washington* having signified to this Committee that they send Monsieur *Viart* to the Town of *Worcester*,

*Resolved*, That a Post immediately proceed with said *Viart* to *Worcester*; and that Mr. *Devens* provide a horse for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence in the Town of *Worcester* are hereby required and directed to take into their custody Monsieur *Viart*, a *Frenchman*; that they suffer him on his parole to have the liberty to walk for his health to a convenient distance about the Town, but to guard against his escape till they shall receive further orders on this subject, either from the General or this Committee.

The following order was issued:

"Cambridge, July 11, 1775.

"To the Taverners and Innholders on the road between CAMBRIDGE and WORCESTER:

"You are hereby required to supply with necessary provisions Mr. . . . , and a *Frenchman* with him, (he being on the publick service,) and charge the same to this Colony."

Two Small-Arms were delivered Colonel *Mansfield*, for the use of his Regiment, amounting to five Pounds, eight Shillings, and four Pence, for which a receipt was taken in the minute book.

The honourable the Congress of this Colony having passed a Resolve that this Committee be appointed to draw up and transmit to *Great Britain* a fair and impartial account of the late Battle of *Charlestown*, as soon as possible; this Committee being exceedingly crowded with business; therefore

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. *Cooper*, Rev. Mr. *Gardner*, and the Rev. Mr. *Peter Thatcher*, be desired to draw up a true state of said action, as soon as may be, and lay it before this Committee.

The Committee of Safety at *Marblehead* were advised by this Committee that five Ships sailed this day from *Boston*, their destination unknown.

The Taverners and Innholders on the road to *Marblehead* were required to supply Mr. *Thomas Williams*, an Express in the Colony service, with necessary Provisions, and to transmit an account of the charge thereof to this Committee.

Whereas, a number of Horses have been taken from the enemy by our Soldiers, and a difficulty arises whose property the Horses in justice ought to be: therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be, and it is hereby, recommended to the honourable Congress to take such order respecting the same as to them in their wisdom shall seem meet.

Colonel *Doolittle* had one set of Enlisting Papers delivered him.

The following Letter was received from General *Washington's* Secretary, Mr. *Reed*:

"July 12, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: A number of persons taken up last night upon the Island near *Boston*, have been brought here. As the General is absent, it is thought best to refer them to your care. You will please, therefore, to do what is

proper with them. I am, gentlemen, most respectfully, your very humble servant,

J. REED, Secretary.

"To the Committee of Safety."

Whereas, his Excellency General *Washington*, by his Secretary, Mr. *Reed*, has sent to this Committee fifteen persons taken at *Long-Island*; this Committee apprehending that by their commission they have no power to dispose of said persons: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the above fifteen persons be immediately sent to the honourable the Congress at *Watertown*, and that Mr. *Richard Devens* and Colonel *Orne* be a Committee to go to the Congress with this Resolve.

July 12, 1775.

Whereas, frequent complaints have been made to this Committee that many of the Arms returned from the Armourers have not been sufficiently repaired; which error may have arisen from ignorant or careless persons being employed as Armourers, or for want of a Master Workman or Superintendent in each shop: therefore,

*Resolved*, That *Benjamin Guillam*, an Armourer in the shop belonging to *Gideon Frost*, be, and hereby is, directed to work as a Master Armourer in said shop, and to superintend the other Armourers in that shop: whose duty it shall be to receive into said shop such Arms as may at any time be sent there, by any of the Colonels in that part of the *American Colony Army* belonging to this Colony, in order to be repaired; to see that such Arms are properly repaired; to deliver the same, when so repaired, to the persons from whom they were received; to see that no persons who are employed in said shops as Armourers, are either ignorant of said business, or careless, or idle; and if any such should be employed in the shop, said *Guillam* shall, without delay, inform this Committee thereof; and that he suffer no more than eight Armourers, including himself, to be employed at any one time in said shop.

Captain *Samuel Fletcher* is permitted to cut off Mr. *Thomas Oliver's* Farm three tons of *English Hay*, and all the black Grass and salt Hay growing on his Farm, and that Mr. *Sanger* be directed accordingly.

July 13, 1775.

A Resolve relative to Prisoners from *Machias*, passed, as on file.

Mr. *Benjamin Guillam*, an Armourer, had an order on the Committee of Supplies for two hundred of Iron and what Files and old Brass he has occasion for, for himself and others that work in his shop.

Mr. *Monroe* recommended *Seth Johnston*, of *Old Rutland*, and *Enoch Putnam*, of *Granby*, as proper persons for Armourers.

"Received of the Committee of Safety one Small-Arm for the use of my Company in Colonel *Ward's* Regiment; which Gun I promise to return, unless lost in action, said Gun being appraised at forty-two Shillings.

"SETH WASHBURN, Captain."

Received of the Selectmen of the Town of *Mendon*, by the hands of *Stephen Partridge*, six Small-Arms, appraised at fifteen Pounds.

"Received of the Committee of Safety four Pounds each, by an order on *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, Receiver-General; said four Pounds to be paid us as Recruiting Officers in the late Colonel *Gardner's* Regiment.

"SOLOMON BOWMAN, Lieutenant.

"CALEB BROOKS, Lieutenant."

His Excellency General *Washington* having this day ordered to the direction of this Committee ten prisoners, taken some time past at *Machias*, on board an armed Cutter, the Committee, apprehending from their commission of the 8th instant that they are altogether restricted from acting as a Committee but only in the recess of Congress, except in conformity to certain special Resolves of Congress, or for making provision for the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, and guarding against the Small-Pox, as mentioned in said commission, have resolved that the said prisoners be sent to Congress for their orders, and that Dr. *Church* be directed to attend Congress with this Resolve.



Whereas, Lieutenant *Ely Stiles* has represented to this Committee that he has been at considerable expense in conducting the prisoners from *Machias* to Head-Quarters, and desires to be repaid; but this matter not being within the powers with which this Committee is vested, they beg leave to recommend the consideration of this case to the honourable Congress.

July 14, 1775.

Passed upon Mr. *Ingerfield's* Account, amounting to one Pound, four Shillings, for which an order was given him on the Committee of Supplies.

Whereas, some evil-minded persons, taking advantage of the confusion occasioned by the Battles of *Lexington* and *Charlestown*, have plundered and carried off into several parts of this and the neighbouring Colonies sundry Goods and Household Furniture, belonging to some of the unhappy sufferers of *Boston* and *Charlestown*: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence in the several Towns and Districts within this Colony, and also the Town Officers in the neighbouring Colonies, be, and they hereby are, severally and earnestly requested to inspect their several Towns and Districts, and if they should discover any such Goods or Household Furniture, such officers are desired to send all such effects to the office of Mr. *Joseph Peirce Palmer*, Quartermaster-General, in *Cambridge*, for the benefit of the true and rightful proprietors.

Passed upon *Edward Goodwin, Jr.'s* Account, amounting to eleven Pounds, nine Shillings, and four Pence, and a certificate was given him accordingly.

"Received of the Committee of Safety, for the use of Colonel *Doolittle's* Regiment, one Small-Arm, appraised at two Pounds, fourteen Shillings, for which I promise to account with the Colony, unless it should be lost in action.

"*BENJ. HOLDEN, Lieutenant-Colonel.*"

"Received of the Committee of Safety, for the use of my Regiment, five Small-Arms, amounting, by appraisement, to twelve Pounds, six Shillings; which Guns I promise to account for, unless lost in action.

"*J. BREWER, Colonel.*"

The Commissary-General is directed to supply *Jonathan Blaisdel, Daniel Call, and Obadiah Bagor*, Armourers in the Colony service, with Provisions.

July 15, 1775.

Mr. *Sanger* was directed to put as much Hay into the General's barns in this Town as they will receive; any orders to the contrary notwithstanding.

Passed upon *Richard Hunnewell's* Account, amounting, as by copy on file, to nine Pounds, nine Shillings, and gave him a certificate for the Committee on Accounts.

"Received of the Committee of Safety, for the use of my Regiment, five Small-Arms, amounting, as by appraisement, to nine Pounds, twelve Shillings; which Guns I promise to account for, unless lost in action.

"*MOSES LITTLE, Colonel.*"

Complaint having been made to this Committee by the Hon. General *Ward*, and other officers in the Army, that several men were dangerously sick, and their lives would be greatly hazarded except immediate application of Medicine be made to them, and that the Surgeons of some of the Regiments had applied but could not obtain any, a Sub-Committee was therefore chosen to visit the Hospital, and to see the Surgeons; and, upon inquiry, found there were no such Medicines as are immediately wanted: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the lives of some part of the Army are in great danger for want of Medicines; and notwithstanding the commission of the Committee of Safety does not admit of direction in this matter, that Mr. Commissary *Craigie* be desired to procure, at the expense of the Colony, such Medicines as may be immediately and absolutely necessary.

In consequence of which, the following Order was given Mr. Commissary *Craigie*, viz:

"*SIR*: You are hereby desired immediately to supply the store under your care with such Medicines as are absolutely necessary for the present relief of the sick in the Army."

"Received of the Committee of Safety, as Recruiting Officers for the *Massachusetts* Forces, an order on *Henry Gardner, Esq.*, Receiver-General, for four Pounds each, which, when paid, we promise to be accountable for said sum, respectively, to this Colony.

STEPHEN JEWIT, Lieut. in Col. Woodbridge's Regiment.  
ROBERT HAMILTON, of Col. Woodbridge's Regiment.  
M. PEASE, Ensign in Col. Woodbridge's Regiment.  
WILLIAM SMITH, Lieut. in Col. Woodbridge's Regiment.  
TIMOTHY READ, Lieut. in Col. Woodbridge's Regiment.  
NATH'L CUSHING, Lieut. in Col. Jona. Brewer's Regiment.  
BENJ. BOWNE, Capt. in the late Col. Gardner's Regiment.  
JOSIAH WARREN, Lieut. in the late Col. Gardner's Reg't.  
ZEBADIAH SABIN, Lieut. in Col. Patterson's Regiment.  
MOSES ASHLEY, Lieut. in Col. Patterson's Regiment.  
WM. BODEN, Lieut. in Col. Patterson's Regiment.  
ELIPHALET HASTINGS, Lieut. in Col. Jona. Brewer's Reg't.  
WM CLARK, Lieut. in Col. Patterson's Regiment.  
BARTHO. TROW, Lieut. of the late Col. Gardner's Reg't.  
CHARLES DIBBELL, Capt. in Col. Patterson's Regiment.  
JOHN WYMAN, Lieut. in Col. Patterson's Regiment.  
WILLIAM GOODRICH, Capt. in Col. Patterson's Regiment.  
JEHOIAKIM MTOJHKSIN, Capt. in Col. Patterson's Regiment.  
DAVID GOODENOUGH, Lieut. of the late Col. Gardner's Reg't.  
MOSES HARVEY, Capt. in Col. Jonathan Brewer's Regiment.  
JOSHUA L. WOODBRIDGE, Lieut. in Col. Woodbridge's Reg't.  
BENJAMIN BROWN, Lieut. of Col. Prescott's Regiment.  
THOMAS BUTLER, of Col. Scammon's Regiment.  
JAMES MATTHEWS, Second Lieut. in Col. Mansfield's Reg't.

Whereas, Mr. *Seth Brown*, who lately had the care of the Artillery Horses at *Cambridge*, resigned that employment, upon which this Committee recommended to the Committee of Supplies to appoint Mr. *Thomas Organ* to the care of said Horses instead of said *Brown*; but the said Committee of Supplies having signified to this Committee that such appointment was not within their commission; but was, as they apprehended, within ours, and accordingly returned said recommendation with their reply upon the back thereof: And whereas, the publick safety requires that said Horses should be taken proper care of, and always kept in readiness for use upon the shortest notice; therefore,

*Resolved*, That although said appointment is not within, but even contrary to the commission of this Committee, yet, apprehending that it is absolutely necessary for the publick service that an Hostler should be appointed for that employment, and no other mode of appointment appearing in this time of the recess of Congress; do, for the reasons assigned, appoint said *Organ* to the care of said Horses, for the purpose aforesaid, until further orders.

"Mr. *Thomas Organ* :

"*Cambridge, July 15, 1775.*

"At your request, and confiding in your fidelity and diligence, we hereby appoint you to the care of the Artillery Horses at *Cambridge*, until further orders.

"You are not only to take care of said horses, but are to hold them at all times, by night as well as by day, in readiness for immediate service, with their harnesses complete, and not to be used in any service but such as the General shall direct."

July 16, 1775.

"Received of the Committee of Safety, as Recruiting Officers for the *Massachusetts* Forces, an order on *Henry Gardner, Esq.*, Receiver-General, for four Pounds each, which, when paid, we promise to be accountable for said sum, respectively, to this Colony.

JOHN GOSS, Lieut. in Col. Prescott's Regiment.  
CHRISTOPHER GRANT, Lieut. in Col. Bond's Regiment.  
JEDEDIAH THAYER, Lieut. in Col. Bond's Regiment.  
JOHN MAYO, Lieut. in Col. Woodbridge's Regiment.  
JOHN BACON, Lieut. in Col. Patterson's Regiment.  
ROBERT OLIVER, Capt. in Col. Doolittle's Regiment.  
JONATHAN HILL, Lieut. in Col. Nixon's Regiment.  
JOSEPH MIXER, Lieut. in Col. Nixon's Regiment.  
CHARLES SMITH, Lieut. in Col. Sergeant's Regiment.

July 17, 1775.

The following Resolution was adopted, and transmitted to the Provincial Congress:

In Committee of Safety, Cambridge, July 17, 1775.

Whereas, the honourable Provincial Congress by a commission issued to this Committee, bearing date *July 8th*, have authorized and empowered this Committee to make such further provision for the reception, sustenance, and support of the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown* as have or may come out of said Towns, as shall appear necessary for their comfortable support, according to the intention of Congress: this Committee, although ever ready to obey



all the orders and directions of the honourable Congress that they may receive, are, notwithstanding, of opinion, that the above order respecting the poor inhabitants of the Towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown* is of such importance, and requires such attention to carry it into execution, that this Committee presume, with permission, that it will better answer the purposes designed, should a special Committee for that purpose be appointed by the honourable Congress, the business already before this Committee being such as will not admit of their attending to this matter unless they should neglect other business of importance. The Committee therefore pray the honourable Congress would take this affair under consideration, and conduct therein as to them in their wisdom shall seem meet.

Attest: WILLIAM COOPER, *Secretary*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress.

July 18, 1775.

"Received of the Committee of Safety, for the use of my Regiment, two Fire-Arms, amounting, as by appraisement, to five Pounds, which I promise to account for unless lost in battle.

JOHN MANSFIELD, *Colonel*."

July 20, 1775.

"Received of the Committee of Safety, for the use of my Regiment, two Fire-Arms, amounting, as by appraisement, to the sum of four Pounds, ten Shillings, which I promise to account for to the Colony, unless lost in the service.

"JOHN MANSFIELD, *Colonel*."

"Received of the Committee of Safety, for the use of my Regiment, three Fire-Arms, amounting, as by appraisement, to the sum of six Pounds, eight Shillings, which I promise to account for to the Colony, unless lost in the service.

JOHN MANSFIELD, *Colonel*."

"Received of the Committee, for delivering out Fire-Arms, for the use of my Regiment, seven Fire-Arms, amounting, as by appraisement, to the sum of twelve Pounds, thirteen Shillings, and four Pence, which I promise to account for to the Colony unless lost in the service.

"JOHN MANSFIELD, *Colonel*."

July 25, 1775.

The following account of the late battle of *Charlestown*, prepared in obedience to a Resolution of the Provincial Congress, was presented, accepted, and ordered to be transmitted to *Great Britain*:

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, July 7, 1775.

"In compliance with a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, recommending that a Committee be appointed to draw up, and transmit to *Great Britain*, a fair and impartial account of the late battle of *Charlestown*, as soon as possible,

"Ordered, That the said Committee of Safety be a Committee for that purpose, and that they likewise be a Standing Committee for that and like purposes."

"A true extract from the Minutes:

"SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary*."

In Committee of Safety, July 25, 1775.

In obedience to the above order of Congress, this Committee have inquired into the premises, and upon the best information obtained, find that the commanders of the *New-England* Army had, about the 14th ult., received advice that General *Gage* had issued orders for a party of the Troops under his command to post themselves on *Bunker's Hill*, a promontory just at the entrance of the peninsula of *Charlestown*, which orders were soon to be executed. Upon which it was determined, with the advice of this Committee, to send a party, who might erect some fortifications upon said hill, and defeat this design of our enemies. Accordingly, on the 16th ult. orders were issued that a detachment of one thousand men should that evening march to *Charlestown*, and intrench upon that hill. Just before nine o'clock they left *Cambridge*, and proceeded to *Breed's Hill*, situated on the farther part of the peninsula next to *Boston*; for by some mistake, this hill was marked out for the intrenchment instead of the other. Many things being necessary to be done preparatory to the intrenchments being thrown up, (which could not be done before lest the enemy should discover and defeat the

design,) it was nearly twelve o'clock before the works were entered upon; they were then carried on with the utmost diligence and alacrity, so that by the dawn of the day they had thrown up a small redoubt, about eight rods square. At this time a heavy fire began from the enemy's ships, a number of floating batteries, and from a fortification of the enemy's upon *Copp's Hill* in *Boston*, directly opposite to our little redoubt. An incessant shower of shot and bombs was rained by these upon our works, by which only one man fell; the Provincials continued to labour indefatigably till they had thrown up a small breast work, extending from the east side of the redoubt to the bottom of the hill, but were prevented completing it by the intolerable fire of the enemy.

Between twelve and one o'clock a number of boats and barges, filled with the Regular Troops from *Boston*, were observed approaching towards *Charlestown*. These troops landed at a place called *Moreton's Point*, situated a little to the eastward of our works. This Brigade formed upon their landing, and stood thus formed till a second detachment arrived from *Boston* to join them. Having sent out large flank guards, they began a very slow march towards our lines. At this instant smoke and flames were seen to arise from the Town of *Charlestown*, which had been set on fire by the enemy, that the smoke might cover their attack upon our lines, and perhaps with a design to rout or destroy one or two Regiments of Provincials who had been posted in that Town. If either of these was their design, they were disappointed, for the wind shifting on a sudden, carried the smoke another way, and the Regiments were already removed. The Provincials, within their intrenchments, impatiently awaited the attack of the enemy, and reserved their fire till they came within ten or twelve rods, and then began a furious discharge of small-arms. This fire arrested the enemy, which they for some time returned, without advancing a step, and then retreated in disorder, and with great precipitation, to the place of landing; and some of them sought refuge even within their boats. Here the officers were observed by the spectators on the opposite shore, to run down to them, using the most passionate gestures, and pushing the men forward with their swords. At length they were rallied, and marched up with apparent reluctance towards the intrenchment. The *Americans* again reserved their fire until the enemy came up within five or six rods, and a second time put the Regulars to flight, who ran in great confusion towards their boats. Similar and superiour exertions were now necessarily made by the officers, which, notwithstanding the men discovered an almost insuperable reluctance to fighting in this cause, were again successful. They formed once more, and having brought some cannon to bear in such a manner as to rake the inside of the breastwork from one end of it to the other, the Provincials retreated within their little fort. The Ministerial Army now made a decisive effort; the fire from the ships and batteries, as well as from the cannon in the front of their Army, was redoubled. The officers in the rear of their Army were observed to goad forward the men with renewed exertions, and they attacked the redoubt on three sides at once. The breastwork on the outside of the fort was abandoned; the ammunition of the Provincials was expended, and few of their arms were fixed with bayonets. Can it then be wondered that the word was given by the commander of the party, to retreat? But this he delayed till the redoubt was half filled with Regulars, and the Provincials had kept the enemy at bay some time, confronting them with the butt-end of their muskets.

The retreat of this little handful of brave men would have been effectually cut off, had it not happened that the flanking party of the enemy, which was to have come up on the back of the redoubt, was checked by a party of Provincials, who fought with the utmost bravery, and kept them from advancing farther than the beach. The engagement of these two parties was kept up with the utmost vigour; and it must be acknowledged that this party of the Ministerial Troops evidenced a courage worthy of a better cause. All their efforts, however, were insufficient to compel the Provincials to retreat, till their main body had left the hill. Perceiving this was done, they then gave ground, but with more regularity than could be expected of troops who had no longer been under discipline, and many of whom never before saw an engagement.



In this retreat the *Americans* had to pass over the neck, which joins the peninsula of *Charlestown* to the main land. This neck was commanded by the *Glasgow* man-of-war and two floating batteries, placed in such a manner as that their shot raked every part of it. The incessant fire kept up across this neck, had, from the beginning of the engagement, prevented any considerable re-enforcement from getting to the Provincials upon the hill, and it was feared would cut off their retreat, but they retired over it with little or no loss.

With a ridiculous parade of triumph, the Ministerial Troops again took possession of the hill, which had served them as a retreat in their flight from the battle of *Concord*. It was expected that they would prosecute the supposed advantage they had gained, by marching immediately to *Cambridge*, which was distant about two miles, and which was not then in a state of defence. This they failed to do. The wonder excited by such conduct soon ceased, when, by the best accounts from *Boston*, we were told that of three thousand men who marched out upon this expedition, no less than fifteen hundred, (ninety-two of whom were commissioned officers,) were killed or wounded, and about twelve hundred of them either killed or mortally wounded. Such a slaughter was perhaps never before made upon *British* Troops in the space of about an hour, during which the heat of the engagement lasted, by about fifteen hundred men, which were the most that were at any time engaged on the *American* side.

The loss of the *New-England* Army amounted, according to an exact return, to one hundred and forty-five killed and missing, and three hundred and four wounded. Thirty of the first were wounded and taken prisoners by the enemy. Among the dead was Major General *Joseph Warren*, a man whose memory will be endeared to his countrymen, and to the worthy in every part and age of the world, so long as virtue and valour shall be esteemed among mankind. The heroick Colonel *Gardner*, of *Cambridge*, has since died of his wounds; and the brave Lieutenant-Colonel *Parker*, of *Chelmsford*, who was wounded and taken prisoner, perished in *Boston* jail. These three, with Major *Moore* and Major *McClary*, who nobly struggled in the cause of their country, were the only officers of distinction which we lost. Some officers of great worth, though inferior in rank, were killed, whom we deeply lament; but the officers and soldiers in general who were wounded, are in a fair way of recovery.

The Town of *Charlestown*, the buildings of which were in general large and elegant, and which contained effects belonging to the unhappy sufferers in *Boston* to a very great amount, was entirely destroyed; and its chimneys and cellars now present a prospect to the *Americans*, exciting an indignation in their bosoms which nothing can appease but the sacrifice of those miscreants who have introduced desolation and havock into these once happy abodes of liberty, peace, and plenty.

Though the officers and soldiers of the Ministerial Army meanly exult in having gained this ground, yet they cannot

but attest to the bravery of our troops, and acknowledge that the battles of *Fontenoy* and *Minden*, according to the numbers engaged, and the time the engagements continued, were not to be compared with this; and, indeed, the laurels of *Minden* were totally blasted in the battle of *Charlestown*. The ground purchased, thus dearly purchased by the *British* Troops, affords them no advantage against the *American* Army, now strongly intrenched on a neighbouring eminence. The Continental Troops, nobly animated from the justice of their cause, sternly urge to decide the contest by the sword; but we wish for no farther effusion of blood, if the freedom and peace of *America* can be secured without it. But if it must be otherwise, we are determined to struggle. We disdain life without liberty.

Oh, *Britons*! Be wise for yourselves before it is too late, and secure a commercial intercourse with the *American* Colonies before it is forever lost; disarm your Ministerial assassins; put an end to this unrighteous and unnatural war, and suffer not any rapacious despots to amuse you with the unprofitable ideas of your right to tax and officer the Colonies, till the most profitable and advantageous trade you have is irrecoverably lost. Be wise for yourselves, and the *Americans* will contribute to and rejoice in your prosperity. J. PALMER, per order.

"In regard to what I know of the setting fire to *Charlestown*, on the 17th of June, is: I was on *Copp's Hill* at the landing of the Troops in *Charlestown*; and about one hour after the Troops were landed, orders came down to set fire to the Town, and soon after a carcass was discharged from the hill, which set fire to one of the old houses just above the ferryways; from that the meeting-house and several other houses were set on fire by carcasses; and the houses at the eastern end of the Town were set on fire by men landed out of the boats. WILLIAM COCKRAN."

"MIDDLESEX, ss., August 16, 1775:

"Then *William Cockran* personally appeared before me, the subscriber, and made solemn oath to the truth of the within Deposition. JAMES OTIS,

*A Justice of the Peace through the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England."*

[The foregoing account of the battle of *Charlestown* was transmitted to *London* soon after the date, accompanied with a letter to *Arthur Lee*, Esq., of which the following is a copy, viz:]

"In Committee of Safety, Watertown, July 25, 1775.

"SIR: The Committee of Safety of this Colony having been ordered by the honourable Provincial Congress to draw up and transmit to *Great Britain* a fair and impartial account of the late battle of *Charlestown*, beg leave to enclose the same to you, desiring you to insert the same in the publick papers, so that the *European* world may be convinced of the causeless and unexampled cruelty with which the *British* Ministry have treated the innocent *American* Colonies. We are, Sir, with great respect, your most humble servants, J. PALMER, per order.

"To *Arthur Lee*, Esq., at *London*."

#### MASSACHUSETTS PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

At a Congress of Delegates from the several Towns and Districts in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, began and held at the Meeting-House in *Watertown*, the thirty-first day of May, 1775:

Mr. *Samuel Freeman* was unanimously chosen Secretary, and the Hon. *Joseph Warren*, Esquire, President.

Resolved, That the Congress will now proceed to hear the Returns and consider the qualifications of the Members.

The Returns being read, it appeared that the following gentlemen were elected by the inhabitants of their respective Towns to represent them in this Congress, viz:

#### FOR THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK.

BOSTON.—The Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., Mr. *Samuel Adams*, Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., *Joseph Warren*, Esq., Mr. *John Pitts*, *Benjamin Church*, Jun., Esq., Mr. *Oliver Wendall*.

ROXBURY.—Captain *Aaron Davis*.

DORCHESTER.—Colonel *Robinson*, Mr. *James Robinson*.

MILTON.—Captain *Daniel Vose*.

BRAINTREE.—Colonel *Joseph Palmer*.

WEYMOUTH.—Deacon *Nathaniel Bailey*.

HINGHAM and COHASSET.—*Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq.

DEDHAM.—Hon. *Samuel Dexter*, Esq., Mr. *Abner Ellis*.

MEDFIELD.—Mr. *Daniel Perry*.

WRENTHAM.—Mr. *Jabez Fisher*, Mr. *Lemuel Kollock*.

BROOKLINE.—Captain *Benjamin White*.

STOUGHTON.—Mr. *Thomas Crane*.

MEDWAY.—Captain *Jonathan Adams*, Mr. *Moses Adams*.

NEEDHAM.—Colonel *William McIntosh*.

WALPOLE.—Mr. *Enoch Ellis*.

BELLINGHAM.—Dr. *John Corbet*.

CHELSEA.—Deacon *John Sale*.

#### COUNTY OF ESSEX.

SALEM.—Hon. *Richard Darby*, Mr. *John Pickering*, Jun., Captain *Samuel Williams*, Mr. *Daniel Hopkins*.

DANVERS.—Dr. *Samuel Holten*, Capt. *William Shillaber*.

IPSWICH.—Col. *Michael Farley*, *Dummer Jewett*, Esq.

NEWBURY.—*Joseph Gerrish*, Esquire.



NEWBURYPORT.—Captain *Jonathan Greenleaf*, Mr. *Stephen Cross*.  
 MARBLEHEAD.—*Azor Orne*, Esq., Mr. *Elbridge Gerry*,  
 Captain *Jonathan Glover*, Mr. *Joshua Orne*.  
 LYNN.—Mr. *Edward Johnson*.  
 ANDOVER.—Mr. *Samuel Phillips*, Junior.  
 BEVERLEY.—Captain *Josiah Batchelder*, Junior.  
 ROWLEY.—Mr. *Nathaniel Mighill*.  
 SALISBURY.—Major *Nathaniel Currier*.  
 HAVERHILL.—Mr. *Jonathan Webster*, Junior.  
 GLOUCESTER.—Col. *Peter Coffin*, Maj. *Sam'l Whittemore*.  
 BOXFORD.—Captain *Asa Perley*.  
 ALMSBURY.—Captain *Caleb Pillsbury*.  
 WENHAM.—Mr. *Benjamin Fairfield*.  
 TOPSFIELD.—Deacon *John Gould*.  
 METHUEN.—Mr. *James Ingalls*.  
 MIDDLETON.—Mr. *Archelaus Fuller*.  
 BRADFORD.—Deacon *Thomas Kimball*.  
 MANCHESTER.—(None.)

## COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.

CAMBRIDGE.—Mr. *Abner Watson*,† Capt. *Charles Fuller*.‡  
 CHARLESTOWN.—Messrs. *Richard Devens*, *David Cheever*.  
 WATERTOWN.—Captain *Jonathan Brown*.  
 WOBURN.—*Josiah Johnson*, Esquire.  
 CONCORD.—Colonel *James Barrett*.  
 NEWTON.—*Abraham Fuller*, Esquire.  
 READING.—Mr. *John Temple*.  
 MARLBOROUGH.—Mr. *Peter Bent*.  
 BILLERICA.—*William Stickney*, Esquire.  
 FRAMINGHAM.—*Joseph Haven*, Esq., Capt. *Josiah Stone*.  
 LEXINGTON.—Deacon *Jonas Stone*.  
 CHELMSFORD.—Colonel *Simeon Spaulding*.  
 SUDBURY.—Deacon *Thomas Plympton*.  
 MALDEN.—Captain *Ebenezer Harnden*.  
 WESTON.—Colonel *Braddyl Smith*.  
 MEDFORD.—Mr. *Benjamin Hall*, Mr. *Stephen Hall*, 3d.  
 HOPKINTON.—Captain *John Holmes*.  
 WESTFORD.—Captain *Joseph Read*.  
 GROTON.—Hon. *James Prescott*, Esquire.  
 PEPPERELL.—Captain *Edmund Bancroft*.  
 WALTHAM.—Mr. *Jacob Bigelow*.  
 STOW.—*Henry Gardner*, Esquire.  
 SHERBURN.—Mr. *Daniel Whitney*.  
 LITTLETON.—Mr. *Abel Jewett*.  
 TOWNSHEND.—Mr. *Israel Hobart*.  
 STONEHAM.—Captain *Samuel Sprague*.  
 WILMINGTON.—Captain *Timothy Walker*.  
 DRACUT.—Deacon *Amos Bradley*.  
 HOLLISTON.—Colonel *Abner Perry*.  
 ACTON.—Mr. *Josiah Hayward*.  
 TEWKSBURY.—Mr. *Ezra Kendall*.  
 DUNSTABLE.—*John Tyng*, Esq., *James Tyng*, Esq., Mr.  
*Joel Parkhurst*.  
 LINCOLN.—Major *Eleazer Brooks*.

## COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.

SPRINGFIELD.—Mr. *John Hale*, Mr. *Edward Chapin*.  
 WEST-SPRINGFIELD.—Major *Benjamin Ely*, Dr. *Chauncey Brewer*.  
 NORTHAMPTON.—*Joseph Hawley*, Esq., Mr. *Elias Lyman*.  
 WILBRAHAM.—Major *John Bliss*.  
 SOUTH-HADLEY and GRANBY.—Captain *Phineas Smith*,  
 Mr. *Noah Goodman*.§  
 HATFIELD.—*Jno. Dickenson*, *Jno. Hastings*, *Elihu White*.  
 WESTFIELD.—Col. *John Mosely*, Col. *Elisha Parks*.  
 GREENFIELD.—Mr. *Samuel Hinsdale*.  
 HADLEY.—Colonel *Elisha Porter*.  
 SUNDERLAND and MONTAGUE.—Captain *Israel Hubbard*,  
 Doctor *Moses Gunn*.  
 BRIMFIELD, MONSON, and SOUTH-BRIMFIELD.—Colonel  
*Timothy Danielson*.  
 NORTHFIELD.—Mr. *Phineas Wright*.  
 BLANFORD.—Deacon *William Boies*, Capt. *William Knox*.  
 GRANVILLE.—*Timothy Robinson*, Esq., Mr. *Nathan Barlo*.  
 PALMER.—Captain *David Spear*.  
 NEW-SALEM.—Lieutenant *Amos Foster*.  
 BELCHERTOWN.—Captain *Nathaniel Dwight*.

\* Col. Daniel Thurston.—*Lincoln*, p. 274.† Mr. Abraham Watson.—*Lincoln*, p. 274.‡ Captain Samuel Thatcher.—*Lincoln*, p. 274.§ *Lincoln*, p. 275.

COLRAIN.—Lieutenant *Hezekiah Smith*.  
 GREENWICH.—Mr. *Joseph Hendrick*.  
 AMHERST.—*Nathaniel Dickinson*, Junior.  
 CHESTERFIELD.—Captain *Benjamin Bonney*.  
 SHUTESBURY.—Mr. *John Hamilton*.  
 WILLIAMSBURGH.—Mr. *Josiah Dwight*.  
 SHELBURNE.—Deacon *Samuel Fellows*.  
 WARE.—*Joseph Foster*, Esquire.  
 LUDLOW.—Captain *Joseph Miller*.  
 WORTHINGTON.—Doctor *Moses Morse*.  
 WHATELEY.—Mr. *Noah Wells*, Mr. *Salmon White*.  
 WARWICK.—Colonel *Samuel Williams*.

## COUNTY OF BERKSHIRE.

SHEFFIELD, GREAT-BARRINGTON, EGREMONT, and AL-  
 FORD.—Mr. *William Whiting*.  
 TYRINGHAM.—Major *Giles Jackson*.  
 STOCKBRIDGE.—*Timothy Edwards*, Esquire, *Jerathmiel*  
*Woodbridge*, Esquire.  
 LENOX.—Captain *Caleb Hyde*.  
 WILLIAMSTOWN.—Mr. *Samuel Kellogg*.  
 RICHMOND.—Captain *Elijah Brown*.  
 SANDISFIELD.—Deacon *Samuel Smith*.  
 TYRINGHAM.—Mr. *Elijah Warren*, *John Chadwick*, Esq.  
 LEVERETT.—(None.)

## COUNTY OF WORCESTER.

WORCESTER.—Mr. *David Bancroft*.  
 LANCASTER.—Dr. *William Dunsmore*, Deacon *Thomas*  
*Fairbanks*.  
 BROOKFIELD.—*Jedediah Foster*, Esquire.  
 OXFORD.—*Edward Davis*, Esquire.  
 SUTTON.—Captain *Henry King*, Mr. *Amos Singletary*.  
 RUTLAND.—Mr. *John Fessenden*.  
 HUTCHINSON.—*John Caldwell*, Esquire.  
 OAKHAM.—Captain *Isaac Stone*.  
 LEICESTER and SPENCER.—Deacon *Oliver Watson*.  
 PAXTON.—Reverend *Alexander Thayer*.  
 WESTBOROUGH.—Captain *Stephen Maynard*.  
 SHREWSBURY.—Mr. *Daniel Heminway*.  
 LUNENBURGH.—Doctor *John Taylor*.  
 FITCHBURGH.—Mr. *Joseph Fox*.  
 UXBRIDGE.—Mr. *Abner Rawson*.  
 HARVARD.—Mr. *Joseph Wheeler*.  
 BOLTON.—Captain *Samuel Baker*.  
 STURBRIDGE.—Captain *Timothy Parker*.  
 HARDWICK.—Captain *William Page*.  
 GRAFTON.—Doctor *Joseph Batchelder*.  
 NEW-BRAINTREE.—Major *James Woods*.  
 DUDLEY.—Major *William Learned*.  
 SOUTHBOROUGH.—Lieutenant *William Collins*.  
 UPTON.—Mr. *Abiel Sadler*.  
 LEOMINSTER.—Deacon *Israel Nichols*.  
 HOLDEN.—Mr. *John Child*.  
 WESTERN.—*Simeon Dwight*, Esquire.  
 DOUGLASS.—Deacon *Jeremiah Whiting*.  
 ATHOL.—Captain *John Haven*.  
 PETERSHAM.—Colonel *Jonathan Grout*.  
 WESTMINSTER.—Deacon *Nathan Wood*.  
 TEMPLETON.—Mr. *Jonathan Baldwin*.  
 PRINCETON.—Mr. *Moses Gill*.  
 ROYALSTON.—(None.)  
 HUBBARDSTON.—Lieutenant *William Muzzy*.  
 CHARLTON.—Reverend *Caleb Curtis*.  
 NORTHBOROUGH.—Mr. *Levi Brigham*.

## COUNTY OF PLYMOUTH.

PLYMOUTH.—Hon. *James Warren*, Mr. *Isaac Lothrop*.  
 SCITUATE.—*Nathan Cushing*, Esquire.  
 DUXBURY.—Mr. *George Partridge*.  
 MARSHFIELD.—Mr. *Benjamin White*.  
 BRIDGEWATER.—Colonel *Edward Mitchell*.  
 MIDDLEBOROUGH.—Captain *Joshua White*.  
 PEMBROKE.—Mr. *John Turner*, Mr. *Jeremiah Hall*, Mr.  
*Edward Thomas*.  
 ROCHESTER.—Major *Ebenezer White*.  
 PLYMPTON.—Captain *Seth Cushing*.  
 KINGSTON.—Honourable *William Sever*, Esquire, Deacon  
*Ebenezer Washburn*.  
 HANOVER.—Colonel *Joseph Cushing*.  
 ABINGTON.—Doctor *David Jones*.  
 HALIFAX.—Mr. *Ebenezer Thompson*.



## COUNTY OF BARNSTABLE.

BARNSTABLE.—Colonel *Joseph Otis*, *Daniel Davis*, Esq.  
 YARMOUTH.—Captain *Elisha Basset*.  
 SANDWICH.—Mr. *Stephen Nye*, Col. *Nathaniel Freeman*.  
 EASTHAM.—Mr. *Amos Knowles*.  
 WELLFLEET.—Colonel *Elisha Cobb*.  
 HARWICH.—Mr. *Joseph Nye*.  
 FALMOUTH.—Mr. *Moses Swift*.  
 CHATHAM.—Colonel *Joseph Doan*.  
 TRURO.—Mr. *Samuel Harding*.

## COUNTY OF BRISTOL.

TAUNTON.—Robert *Treat Paine*, Esq., Colonel *George Williams*, Captain *Simcon Williams*.  
 REHOBOTH.—Capt. *Thompson Carpenter*, Mr. *Ephraim Starkweather*.  
 SWANZEY.—Col. *Jerathmiel Bowers*, Mr. *Philip Slead*.  
 DARTMOUTH.—Hon. *Walter Spooner*, Esquire, and *Benjamin Aikin*, Esquire.  
 ATTLEBOROUGH.—Captain *John Stearns*.  
 DIGHTON.—*Ezra Richmond*, Esquire, and Doctor *William Baylies*.  
 FREETOWN.—Mr. *Thomas Durfee*.  
 NORTON and MANSFIELD.—Captain *William Holmes*.  
 EASTON.—Mr. *Benjamin Pettingil*.  
 RAYNHAM.—Mr. *Benjamin King*.  
 BERKLEY.—Mr. *Samuel Tobey*, Junior.

## COUNTY OF YORK.

YORK.—Mr. *Daniel Bragdon*.  
 KITTERY.—*Edward Cutt*, Esquire.  
 WELLS.—(None.)  
 BERWICK.—Major *Ichabod Goodwin*.  
 ARUNDEL.—Mr. *John Hovey*.  
 BIDDEFORD.—*James Sullivan*, Esquire.

## COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.

FALMOUTH and CAPE ELIZABETH.—Mr. *Samuel Freeman*.  
 GORHAM.—Captain *Bryant Morton*.  
 BRUNSWICK.—Colonel *Samuel Thompson*.  
 NORTH-YARMOUTH.—*David Mitchell*, Esquire.

## COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

POWNALEBOROUGH.—Mr. *Timothy Langdon*.  
 GEORGETOWN and WOOLWICH.—Capt. *Samuel McCobb*.  
 TOPSHAM.—Mr. *James Fulton*.  
 GARDINERSTON.—Mr. *Joseph North*.

## COUNTY OF DUKES COUNTY.

CHILMARK.—(None.)  
 TISBURY.—*James Athearn*, Esquire.  
 EDGARTON.—Mr. *Beriah Norton*.

## COUNTY OF NANTUCKET.—(None.)

Wednesday, May 31, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Holten*, Mr. *Watson*, and Colonel *Lincoln*, be a Committee to wait on the Rev. Dr. *Langdon*, and inform him that this Congress are now ready to attend divine service, and request his attendance.

*Resolved*, That four o'clock this afternoon be assigned for the consideration of the return of Members from *Hardwick*, *Eastham*, and several other Towns.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Brown*, Dr. *Taylor*, and Colonel *Sayer*, be a Committee to wait on the Commanding Officer of the Militia of this Town, to thank him for his polite offer to escort the Congress to the Meeting-House, and to inform him that as this Congress are now sitting, the Congress think it needless to withdraw for that purpose; but will, with the Reverend Gentlemen of the Clergy, attend them to Mrs. *Coolidge's*, if they please to escort them thither, when the Congress adjourns.

Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gill*, Dr. *Whiting*, Mr. *Pitts*, Mr. *Jewett*, and Col. *Lincoln*, be a Committee to return the thanks of this Congress to the Rev. Dr. *Langdon* for his excellent Sermon delivered to the Congress in the forenoon, and to desire a copy of it for the press.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Mr. *Greenleaf*, be a Committee to consider some method for supplying the Soldiers immediately with advance Pay, and also to consider a Letter from General *Thomas* on that subject.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the Resolve of the last Congress relative to providing the Army with Chaplains, be laid before the Reverend Gentlemen of the Clergy, now in convention at *Watertown*.

The Order of the Day moved for.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Fisher*, Col. *Bowers*, Col. *Gerrish*, Mr. *Bayley*, and Mr. *Slead*, be a Committee to consider the two returns of Members from *Eastham*.

The returns of three Members from *Hardwick*, who are to attend this Congress severally, (each two months,) was approved of.

The Committee appointed to consider General *Thomas's* Letter reported verbally; the Report was accepted, and ordered to be committed to writing, and one copy sent to the Camp at *Cambridge*, and another to the Camp at *Roxbury*.

*Ordered*, That Col. *Palmer*, Mr. *Williams*, and Deacon *Cheever*, be a Committee to introduce to this Congress a Committee from the Reverend Gentlemen of the Clergy, in convention at *Watertown*, now at the door.

The Committee were accordingly introduced, and informed the Congress that the said Convention would be glad of the use of the Meeting-House to-morrow morning, eight o'clock. Then the said Committee withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Col. *Palmer*, Mr. *Williams*, and Deacon *Cheever*, be a Committee to inform the Reverend Gentlemen of the Convention that this Congress comply with their request; and that the Committee lay before the said Convention a copy of the Resolve of the last Congress respecting Chaplains.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Hastings*, who attended the last Congress as Doorkeeper, be desired to attend this Congress till further orders.

*Ordered*, That the Papers relative to the Fortresses at *Ticonderoga*, &c., be laid before the Congress.

The Papers being read,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Phelps*, who was the bearer of some of them, be introduced to the Congress.

After information from Mr. *Phelps*,

*Ordered*, That the President, Mr. *Glover*, Col. *Nicholson*, Dr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Edwards*, Colonel *Dwight*, Dr. *Wheeler*, Mr. *Hale*, and Dr. *Whiting*, be a Committee to take the said Papers into consideration, to sit forthwith, and report as soon as may be.

*Ordered*, That the Hon. Mr. *Spooner*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Greenleaf*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Colonel *Otis*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence of the Colony of *New-Hampshire* to the Committee of Correspondence of *Newburyport*.

The Congress then adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, June 1, 1775.

The Committee appointed to consider General *Thomas's* Letter, brought in the following Report; which was accepted, and a copy of it ordered to be sent to the Muster-Master at *Cambridge*, and another to the Muster-Master at *Roxbury*, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider a letter from General *Thomas*, relative to immediately paying the Army the advance pay, have attended that service, and beg leave to report, that they have waited on the Receiver-General, to know of him how soon he can furnish the Muster-Masters with the Notes proposed for the Army; and were informed by the Receiver-General he now had several hundred Notes ready to deliver, and that he had provided all necessary helps, and would make the greatest despatch possible, and that he should be able to pay off at least one Regiment every day, and perhaps more; and that he would, from day to day, deliver one half of said Notes to the Muster-Master at *Cambridge*, and the other half to the Muster-Master at *Roxbury*.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above be sent to the Muster-Masters.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Jones* and Mr. *Orne* be added to the Committee who were appointed to consider the returns of Members from *Eastham*.

*Resolved*, That the following Members be, and hereby



are, appointed Monitors in the Congress, viz: 1. Colonel *Gerrish*; 2. Mr. *Durfee*; 3. Col. *Farley*; 4. Dr. *Taylor*; and that the division of the House be as follows, viz:

*First Division.* The pews at the right hand of the pulpit, and all the pews on the west and south part of the meeting-house, from the aisle that bounds the seats and body pews.

*Second Division.* The pews on the left hand of the pulpit, and all the pews on the north and east part of the house, from the aisle that bounds the seats and body pews.

*Third Division.* All the body pews and seats on the left hand of the broad aisle.

*Fourth Division.* All the body pews and seats on the right hand of the broad aisle.

*Resolved,* That this Congress will adopt and observe the Rules and Orders established by the last Congress.

*Ordered,* That Col. *Prescott*, Mr. *Slead*, Col. *Barrett*, Mr. *Thatcher*, and Mr. *Partridge*, be a Committee to consider what number of the Poor of the Town of *Boston* should be sent to the Town of *Ashby*, or other Towns, not mentioned in the schedule annexed to a Resolve passed in the last Congress.

The Committee presented the following Report, which was read, and accepted:

Whereas, the Poor of the Town of *Boston*, by a Resolve of Congress passed the first day of *May* last, are confined to a certain number of Towns and Districts in this Colony, as appears by a schedule annexed to said Resolve; and some of said Poor having relations and connexions in other Towns and Districts than are mentioned in said schedule, and being desirous to go and reside in such places, it is therefore *Resolved*, That the Poor of *Boston* may be removed into any other Town or District in this Colony, where the Selectmen of such Town or District shall see fit to receive them, all such Towns and Districts observing the rules, regulations, and directions given in the Resolve aforesaid, and shall be entitled to the same rewards and privileges as mentioned in said Resolve.

*Ordered,* That Dea. *Fisher*, Mr. *Spaulding*, Mr. *Stickney*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Major *Perley*, be a Committee to consider the Proposal of the Reverend Gentlemen of the Clergy, now in convention at *Watertown*.

*Ordered,* That Major *Fuller*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Major *Whittemore*, be a Committee to inquire how many Armourers are already appointed in the *Massachusetts* Army, and how many more are necessary.

*Ordered,* That Major *Brooks*, Captain *Stone*, and Mr. *Crane*, be a Committee to consider the Letter from the Selectmen of the Town of *Hopkinton*; and that they sit forthwith.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from the Committee of Correspondence for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, reported, verbally, that it was their opinion that it would be expedient to forward forthwith a copy of said Letter to the Committee of Correspondence for the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, and another to the Colony of *Connecticut*; and that the several Members of the seaport Towns, or of the Towns adjacent, should write to the Committee of such seaport Towns, informing them of the subject of said Letter.

*Ordered,* That Colonel *Thompson*, Colonel *Freeman*, and Mr. *Jewett*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from the Committee of Safety for the Town of *Salem*, and report.

The Committee on the *Eastham* Returns reported, that in their opinion neither of the Members were legally chosen. The Report, after debate, was not accepted.

*Resolved,* That this last vote be reconsidered, and that a recommendation be sent to the Town of *Eastham*, to choose one or more Members, as to them shall seem meet, to represent them in this Congress.

—  
Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from the Committee of Safety of the Town of *Salem*, reported; which Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed by the honourable Provincial Congress to take into consideration the letter from the

Committee of Safety and Town Clerk of the Town of *Salem*, respecting the answers of Mr. *Stephen Higginson* to questions asked him before the House of Commons of *Great Britain*, &c., beg leave to report, that they have critically examined that matter, and are of opinion that the intentions of said *Higginson*, in those answers, were friendly to the inhabitants of *Salem* and *Marblehead*, and to the Colonies in general; and that he ought to be honourably acquitted by this Congress, and recommended to the favour of the publick.

*Ordered,* That the Hon. Mr. *Dexter* be directed to inquire of the Receiver-General if he has received the Money from the Hon. Mr. *Russell*, agreeable to the Resolve of the last Congress.

*Ordered,* That Deacon *Bayley*, Captain *Holmes*, and Colonel *Thompson*, be a Committee to draw up a Resolve recommending to the Town of *Eastham* to choose a new Member or Members to represent them in this Congress.

*Ordered,* That three hundred Passes, of the following form, be printed, viz:

"To the Guards of the Colony Army:

"Pursuant to a Resolve of the Provincial Congress, you are hereby ordered to permit . . . . , a Member of said Congress, to pass and repass with such as may accompany him, at all times.

. . . . , President.

"June . . . , 1775."

Hon. Mr. *Dexter* reported to the Congress that he had made inquiry of Mr. *Gardner*, the Receiver-General, as directed, and that the Receiver-General informed him he had not seen Mr. *Russell* since the order of Congress respecting his paying the publick moneys he has in his hands to Mr. *Gardner*.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from the Selectmen of *Hopkinton* reported; the Report was recommitted, and Mr. *Phillips*, Mr. *Partridge*, Colonel *Richmond*, and Mr. *Sawyer*, added to the Committee.

*Ordered,* That Dr. *Taylor*, Hon. Mr. *Dexter*, and the Hon. Colonel *Bowers*, be a Committee to consider the application made to this Congress by Colonel *Barrett*, in behalf of the Rev. Mr. *Emerson*, for the use of one of the horses taken from the Regulars, during the absence of the Hon. *Thomas Cushing*, Esquire, who has Mr. *Emerson's* horse now in the publick service.

The Committee appointed to consider the request of Mr. *Emerson*, reported; the Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider the request of the Rev. *William Emerson*, of *Concord*, respecting the use of a horse taken upon the 19th of *April* last, from one of the Regulars, by Mr. *Isaac Kitteridge*, of *Tewksbury*, Captain *Nathan Barrett*, and *Henry Flint*, of *Concord*, beg leave to report, by way of resolve: That said horse be delivered to said *Emerson* by the person or persons in whose-soever possession he may be found, he, the said *Emerson*, paying a reasonable price for keeping said horse; and Mr. *Emerson* is hereby permitted to keep and use said horse till further order of this Congress.

The Committee appointed to consider the Papers relating to *Ticonderoga*, &c., reported a Letter to Colonel *Arnold*; another to the Hon. *William Williams*, Esquire, Speaker of the Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*; and another to the Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire*; which were read and accepted, and ordered to be authenticated and sent forward, and are as follow, viz:

Letter to Colonel BENEDICT ARNOLD.

"SIR: This Congress have received yours of the 19th and 23d of *May*, ult., per Captain *Brown* and Captain *Phelps*, a copy of which has been sent to *New-Hampshire*. They highly approve of, and take great satisfaction in the acquisitions you have made at *Ticonderoga*, *Crown Point*, on the Lake, &c. As to the state you are in respecting men, provisions, &c., we have advices from *Connecticut* and *New-York*, that ample preparation is making, with the greatest despatch, in those two Colonies, from whence you may depend on being seasonably supplied. They are sorry to meet with repeated requests from you, that some gentleman be sent to succeed you in command;



they assure you, that they place the greatest confidence in your fidelity, knowledge, courage, and good conduct, and they desire that you at present dismiss the thoughts of quitting your important command at *Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Lake Champlain, &c.*; and you are hereby requested to continue your command over the forces raised by this Colony, posted at those several places, at least until the Colony of *New-York* or *Connecticut* shall take on them the maintaining and commanding the same agreeable to an order of the Continental Congress.

“To Colonel *Benedict Arnold, Ticonderoga.*”

“P. S. We have just received intelligence, by a letter from Governour *Trumbull*, that the General Assembly have ordered a thousand men to march immediately to re-enforce the Army now at *Crown Point, Ticonderoga, &c.*, as also five hundred pounds of powder, and also that each soldier is furnished with one pound of powder, &c. The Congress further advise that in case your present necessity requires it, you make use of the one hundred and sixty Pounds you found on board the sloop, for the service of this Colony, you accounting for the same to this or some other Congress, or House of Representatives of this Colony; and they hereby assure you that this Colony will repay it whenever it shall be ordered by the Continental Congress; and that you also complete the raising the number of four hundred men, in the pay of this Colony, if you judge it necessary.”

*To the House of Assembly of CONNECTICUT.*

“GENTLEMEN: We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 27th ultimo. We fully concur in opinion with you, that maintaining a post at *Ticonderoga* or *Crown Point*, is of the utmost importance; therefore take particular satisfaction that you have on this subject so early and repeatedly expressed your minds to the Continental Congress. By private intelligence of the 29th ultimo, sent to Captain *Joseph Trumbull*, we are informed that the Provincial Congress of *New-York* do not understand the resolve of the Continental Congress, concerning said fortresses, to extend so far as wholly to dismantle them, but so far only as to supply any fortification that may be built at the south end of *Lake George*; which resolve, in this sense of it, they are with despatch executing. Therefore, in our present distressing situation, we have postponed sending further assistance to Captain *Arnold*, especially since *New-York* have not requested it.

“To the Hon. *William Williams*, Speaker of the House of Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut.*”

*To the Provincial Congress of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.*

“GENTLEMEN: We send you enclosed a copy of a letter from Colonel *Arnold*, commander of the troops at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, together with a copy of a letter from the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the Colony of *Connecticut*, by which you will be acquainted with the present situation of those fortresses, and the measures necessary to be taken for securing and defending so valuable acquisitions. You will doubtless agree with us in sentiment, that it is a matter of the greatest importance that those places remain in our possession, in order to secure our frontiers from the depredations of our enemies, if they should attempt to attack us from that quarter, of which there appears to be great danger.

“It was the agreement of this Colony, that four hundred men, and one hundred pounds in money, should be raised for the reduction of the place; and it is our determination to contribute our full proportion toward securing the acquisition. By the letter from the Speaker of the House of Representatives for *Connecticut*, you will find that that Colony have voted to send immediately to their assistance four companies, and five hundred pounds weight of powder, and we suppose that the troops are upon the march there. And we most earnestly request that you would contribute your endeavours likewise for the speedy and effectual security of the aforementioned places, which, considering the importance of the affair, and the ready disposition which you have discovered for the defence of the common cause, leaves us no room to doubt of your compliance therewith.

“To the Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire.*”

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be, and hereby is, empowered to appoint some person to assist him in his office.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, June 2, 1775.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve recommending the Town of *Eastham* to choose one or more Members to represent them in this Congress, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, this Congress, upon examination, judge that the persons returned as Delegates for *Eastham*, in the County of *Barnstable*, were not legally chosen; and that the allowing either of them a seat in this House would be attended with many inconveniences: therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to the said Town of *Eastham*, that they forthwith elect and depute one or more persons to serve for and represent said Town in Provincial Congress, now held at the Meeting-House in *Watertown*, (to be chosen by such only as are qualified to vote for Representatives in the General Assembly,) and to be continued by adjournment as they shall see cause, until the expiration of six months from the first sitting of this Congress, and no longer; and consult and deliberate and resolve upon such further measures as, under *God*, shall be effectual to save this people from impending ruin, and to secure those inestimable liberties derived to us from our ancestors, and which it is our duty to preserve for posterity.

*Resolved*, That ten o'clock this forenoon be assigned for the choice of a Chaplain for this Congress.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Fisher*, Colonel *Barrett*, Captain *Holmes*, Colonel *Bowers*, and Colonel *Sawyer*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for making further provision for distributing the Poor of *Boston* to such Towns in the Colony as the Committee may think convenient.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gerrish*, Mr. *Spooner*, Mr. *Sever*, Colonel *Bowers*, and Mr. *Fisher*, be a Committee to take into consideration the Petition and Memorial of the several Committees of Correspondence for the County of *Worcester*, and report.

The Committee appointed to consider the Resolve and Proposals of the Reverend Gentlemen of the Clergy, reported.

The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, it is of great importance that our Colony Army be furnished with gentlemen to act as Chaplains, on whose virtue, firmness, and patriotism, they can safely rely; and whereas, the Reverend Convention of the Clergy of this Colony have most nobly, and without reward, tendered their services in their Country's cause: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the General and Field Officers be, and they hereby are empowered and directed to choose nine gentlemen of the Clergy of this Colony, to act as Chaplains to said Army: provided that not more than two of them belong to any one County; and the General Officers of said Army are hereby empowered to determine the Regiments to which each Chaplain shall be desired to officiate; and also the Committee of Supplies are hereby directed to make suitable provision for said Chaplains during their continuance in camp.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Spooner*, Colonel *Richmond*, and Colonel *Dwight*, be a Committee to take into consideration the expense Captain *Phelps* has been at in supplying the *Massachusetts Forces* at *Ticonderoga*, and report.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Whiting* and Doctor *Bailies* be added to the Committee which was appointed by the last Congress to examine those persons who might be nominated for Surgeons of the *Massachusetts Army*.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Bayley*, Honourable *Joseph Gerrish*, Esq., *Josiah Johnson*, Esq., Mr. *John Hale*, Honourable *William Sever*, Esq., Colonel *Joseph Otis*, Honourable *Jerathmiel Bowers*, Col. *Cutt*, Capt. *Stephen Maynard*, Colonel *Thompson*, Mr. *Joseph North*, and *Timothy Edwards*, Esq., be a Committee to take into consideration the situation and circumstances of the seaport Towns and Islands in this Colony, which are exposed to the incursions and ravages of the enemy; and in particular to consider the Letter of Mr. *Stephen Nye* to Colonel *Freeman*, the Petition from the Town of *Kittery*, the Resolve



of the last Congress in relation to the invasion of the enemy on our sea-coasts, &c., and a Petition from some inhabitants of *Deer Island*; and sit forthwith, and report as soon as may be.

Order of the Day moved for.

Ordered, That Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Bliss*, and Mr. *Toby*, be a Committee to receive, sort, and count the Votes for a Chaplain.

The Committee having attended that service, reported that the Reverend Mr. *Gordon* was chosen.

Ordered, That Colonel *Davis*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to wait on the Reverend Mr. *Gordon*, informing him that this Congress have made choice of him to officiate as their Chaplain during its session in this place.

The Committee appointed to inquire how many Armourers were appointed, &c., reported, that the Committee of Safety informed them that there were thirteen appointed, and several others nominated; and that the General Officers had agreed that thirteen was a sufficient number, but that they were in want of tools and stock.

— Afternoon.

Ordered, That Commissions be given to the Officers of Colonel *Scammon's* Regiment, (except such Captains as have already received their Commissions,) agreeable to the list by him exhibited.

Ordered, That Colonel *Prescott*, Colonel *Freeman*, Honourable Mr. *Spooner*, Mr. *Partridge*, Colonel *Cushing*, Colonel *Spaulding*, and Colonel *Sayer*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of Captain *Jacob Gerrish* and seven other Captains in the *Massachusetts* Army.

Ordered, That Colonel *Richmond* be, and hereby is appointed to countersign the Notes which were ordered to be prepared for the Soldiers' advance pay, in the room of Major *Fuller*, who declines serving further in that business.

Ordered, That Deacon *Baker*, Major *Brooks*, Mr. *Nichols*, and Colonel *Grout*, be added to the Committee who were appointed by the last Congress to draw up some easy and concise method of making Saltpetre.

Ordered, That the Officers of Col. *Gardner's* Regiment be commissioned agreeable to the list by him exhibited.

Ordered, That Captain *Parker*, Captain *Thatcher*, Mr. *Jewett*, Colonel *Porter*, and Mr. *Singletary*, be a Committee to consider what is best to be done with the Horses lately taken from *Noddle's* Island.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of Captain *Jacob Gerrish*, and others, reported verbally, that they think it expedient that Colonel *Gerrish* be notified to attend said Committee to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock, at the house of Mr. *Learned*, in *Watertown* (if he sees cause). Thereupon,

Ordered, That the same Committee be directed to bring in a short Resolve for this purpose.

The Committee appointed to consider what is best to be done with the Horses taken from *Noddle's* Island, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider what shall be done with the horses taken by our forces from *Noddle's* Island, which belong to our enemies, beg leave to report, that the same horses be delivered to the Committee of Supplies, to be by them used and improved for the benefit of the Colony, as they shall think fit, until further orders from this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives.

Ordered, That Colonel *Farley*, Deacon *Baker*, and Mr. *Batchelder*, be a Committee to inquire of the Committee of Safety what progress has been made in the raising a Regiment for the Train.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve, whereby to notify Colonel *Gerrish* to appear before said Committee to-morrow morning, reported the following; which was read and accepted; and Captain *Thatcher* was desired to carry it to Col. *Gerrish* this evening. It is as follows, viz:

To Colonel SAMUEL GERRISH:

A number of gentlemen have presented a Petition to this Congress, in behalf of themselves and the men they

have enlisted, praying that Captain *Moses Little* and Mr. *Isaac Smith* may be appointed and commissioned as two of the Field-Officers over them. Six of the said petitioners are returned by you as Captains, as appears by your Return; and the Petition has been committed to a Committee to hear the petitioners, and report to the Congress; and it is, therefore,

Ordered, That the said Colonel *Samuel Gerrish* be notified, and he is hereby notified, to attend the said Committee at the house of Mr. *Learned*, in *Watertown*, the third day of *June* instant, at eight o'clock in the forenoon.

Read, accepted, and Captain *Thatcher* was desired to carry this Resolve to Colonel *Gerrish* this evening.

The Committee appointed to consider the subject of the Letter from the Selectmen of *Hopkinton*, again reported. The consideration of the Report was ordered to be put off till to-morrow morning, eleven o'clock.

The Committee appointed to wait on the Reverend Mr. *Gordon*, reported, that they had informed Mr. *Gordon* that this Congress had appointed him their Chaplain; and that Mr. *Gordon* told them he would attend this Congress to-morrow morning.

The Committee appointed to consider the expense Mr. *Phelps* had been at in supplying the *Massachusetts* Forces at *Ticonderoga*, exhibited an account which they looked upon was not supported by any vouchers, and therefore submitted the matter to Congress.

Ordered, That the consideration of the same be put off to to-morrow morning.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Saturday, June 3, 1775.

Ordered, That Colonel *Palmer*, Colonel *Davis*, Mr. *Glover*, Deacon *Gould*, and Mr. *Webster*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety respecting a person in *Brookline* who is broke out with the Small-Pox; and that they sit forthwith.

The Committee appointed to consider the situation and circumstances of the Islands and Sea-Coasts, reported:

1st. That the Petition of Colonel *Lithgow* be committed to the Committee of Supplies.

2d. A Resolve on the subject of Mr. *Nye's* Letter; which is as follows:

Whereas, the forces under the command of General *Gage* are frequently plundering and making depredations on the islands and sea-coasts of this Province, particularly on the Island of *Naushan*, and others adjacent, whereby not only individuals, but the publick are much injured, and our enemies strengthened:

Resolved, therefore, That it be recommended to all those persons occupying the islands or sea-coasts aforesaid, which are exposed to be ravaged or plundered, and cannot be defended by the inhabitants, to remove all their Hay, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, &c., so far into the country, or otherwise dispose of them, that they may be out of the way of our implacable enemies; also, that it be recommended to the Committee of Correspondence in each Town and District, or Selectmen, (where no such Committee is chosen,) to take effectual care that this Resolve be immediately, strictly, and fully executed; and that all persons who refuse to comply herewith be viewed as disposed to furnish our enemies with such unremoved Hay and Stock, and shall therefore be held as inimical to the liberty and rights of this Country.

The Committee appointed to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, reported the following Resolution; which was accepted, viz:

Whereas, a person is now broke out with the Small-Pox at *Brookline*, on the road between *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, whereby the publick in general, and the camps in particular, will be greatly endangered, if said person is suffered to remain in said house: therefore,

Resolved, That said person be immediately removed to the house of *Ebenezer Smith*, in *Little Cambridge*, wherein the Small-Pox has lately been; and that the Selectmen of *Brookline* are hereby directed to remove said person to said house in the most careful manner, at the expense of the said Town of *Brookline*; and the Selectmen of *Cam-*



bridge are hereby directed to receive said person into said *Smith's* house.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Honourable Mr. *Spooner*, Major *Bliss*, Honourable Mr. *Sever*, Colonel *Freeman*, Colonel *Farley*, and Colonel *Richmond*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety relative to a re-enforcement of the *Massachusetts* Army, for the protection of the sea-coasts, &c.; and that this Committee be directed to confer with the Committee of Safety on the subject of it; and that those gentlemen who have been appointed and commissioned as General Officers be invited to the conference; also,

*Resolved*, That eight o'clock, on *Monday* morning next, be assigned for such conference, to be held at *Cambridge*; and that the Committee of Safety and the said General Officers be served with a copy of this Resolve.

A number of Papers from the Committee of Safety, respecting Col. *Jonathan Brewer*, were read.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the Papers relative to Colonel *Jonathan Brewer*, be referred to the afternoon, three o'clock.

—  
Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That a Commission be prepared and delivered to Colonel *John Nixon*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Greenleaf*, Captain *Bragdon*, and Mr. *Sawyer*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of a number of persons of the Town of *Dartmouth*.

The Committee on the Petition of *Jacob Gerrish* and others, reported verbally; agreeable to which Report,

*Resolved*, That the Petition be so far granted, as that the petitioners be directed to apply to the Committee of Safety for a recommendation to this Congress to commissionate Captain *Moses Little* as Colonel of a Regiment in the *Massachusetts* Army.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Dwight*, Honourable Mr. *Sever*, Colonel *Farley*, Major *Bliss*, and Mr. *Edwards*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Letter from Col. *James Easton*, and report.

Order of the Day moved for.

The Papers respecting Colonel *Brewer* were read. After debate,

*Moved*, That the matter subside.

The question being put, it passed in the negative.

*Moved*, That the Petitioner be admitted on the floor.

The question was put, and it passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That *Tuesday* next, at eight o'clock, A. M., be assigned for hearing Colonel *Jonathan Brewer*, on the subject of certain Papers laid before this Congress by order of the Committee of Safety; and that the Committee of Safety, as also Colonel *Brewer*, be served with a copy of this Resolve; and that Colonel *Brewer* be directed to bring with him a return of the number of men enlisted in his Regiment, distinguishing how many are present at Headquarters, and how many are absent.

Agreeable to an order of Congress, a Colonel's commission was delivered to Colonel *John Nixon*.

The Committee on the Petition from *Dartmouth*, reported. The Report being amended, was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

On the Petition of *David Shepherd* and others, from *Dartmouth*, representing that uneasiness has arisen on account of said petitioners fitting out sundry vessels for whaling voyages, and for the *West-Indies*,

*Resolved*, That the petitioners be informed that this Congress know of no objection to their pursuing the above voyage or any other, where they are willing to risk their interest, provided that the owners and masters of such vessels strictly adhere to the Resolutions of the Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a Messenger be forthwith sent to the Receiver-General, with the following Letter, viz:

"*Sir*: The absolute necessity of paying the Colony Forces immediately, having been duly considered by this Congress; and not being able to make necessary payments, to prevent the Troops from returning home, without your being present, you are therefore directed, upon the receipt of this order, immediately to repair to this place,

and make the utmost despatch in completing the signing the bills wanted for the above purposes.

"P. S. The Congress is just informed that a gentleman at *Salem* has five hundred Pounds, which he is willing to lend the Province, which would be of the greatest importance to pay immediately to the Soldiers, and might prevent the greatest mischiefs."

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Philips* be desired to repair to *Salem* to Mr. *Becket*, desiring him to bring or send the Money he has offered to lend the Province, to this place, to-morrow morning, and take a note therefor from the Receiver-General.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone* be directed to apply to Mr. *Revere*, desiring him to attend the business of stamping the Notes for the Soldiers, all the ensuing night, if he can, and to finish them with the greatest despatch possible; and also to despatch a messenger to Major *Fuller*, desiring him to attend to countersign them.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

—  
Sunday, June 4, 1775.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Henshaw* be admitted to give an account of his proceedings at *Connecticut*, where he was sent by the last Congress, on the affair of *Ticonderoga*.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Asa Whitcomb* be directed to pay the advance pay to those Companies of Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment who came from the County of *Berkshire*, out of the first money he may receive from the Receiver-General.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Lemuel Robinson* be directed to pay the advance pay to the three Companies of Colonel *Fellows's* Regiment which came from the County of *Berkshire*, out of the first money he may receive from the Receiver-General.

*Ordered*, That the Papers exhibited by Col. *Henshaw* be put into the hands of the Committee of Safety and the Committee of this Congress, who are appointed to confer with them to-morrow morning.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Honourable Mr. *Spooner*, and Colonel *Prescott*, be a Committee to inquire what number of Colony Notes are struck off; how many are signed; whether the press is now going; and to make a thorough inquiry in this respect, and report at the adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Whiting* be appointed to employ a messenger to be sent to Major *Fuller*, directing his attendance to the countersigning the Notes immediately.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Bragdon* and Colonel *Thompson* be appointed to attend Mr. *Revere* while he is striking off the Notes for advance pay to the Soldiers, night and day, alternately, till they are all struck off.

The Committee on Colonel *Easton's* Letter, reported that it was their opinion it would be best to commit it to the Committee who were appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety to-morrow morning.

It was accordingly given to the Hon. Mr. *Spooner*.

*Ordered*, That the Key and Billet delivered to this Congress from Major *Fuller*, by Captain *Stone*, be put into the hands of the Committee who were appointed to make inquiry concerning the Colony Notes.

Adjourned to twelve o'clock.

Met at twelve o'clock.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Richmond* be excused from serving on the Committee who were appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety (being engaged in countersigning the Notes); and that Colonel *Gerrish* attend that service in his stead.

Adjourned to four o'clock, afternoon.

Met at four o'clock, and adjourned to *Monday* morning, eight o'clock.

—  
Monday, June 5, 1775.

A Petition from *Truro* for Powder, was read.

*Resolved*, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.



*Ordered*, That Colonel *Foster* be, and hereby is appointed to countersign the Twenty Shilling, Fourteen Shilling, and Six Shilling Notes.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pickering*, Mr. *Philips*, and Mr. *Goodwin*, be appointed to number the Notes which are preparing for advance pay for the Soldiers: Mr. *Pickering* to number the sheets struck off on the first plate; Mr. *Philips* those of the second, and Mr. *Goodwin* those of the third.

*Ordered*, That the Letter from Governour *Trumbull* just received and read, be committed to the Committee of Safety and the Committee appointed to confer with them.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Foster* bring in a Resolve, appointing some persons to examine and inspect the Mineral Earth brought by him to this place.

Colonel *Foster* brought in a Resolve accordingly; which was accepted, and is as follows:

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Whiting*, Deacon *Baker*, and Colonel *Grout*, be a Committee to inquire into the nature and quality of the said Mineral Earth; and in such inquiry to consult the Honourable *Joseph Warren*, Esq., and Mr. Professor *Sewall*, and such other persons as they may think proper, and report to this Congress as soon as may be.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Mr. *Greenleaf*, Mr. *Partridge*, Colonel *Cushing*, and Mr. *Edwards*, be a Committee to hold a conference with the General Officers of the *American Army*, and to inquire of them whether there is any thing this Congress can do to preserve the health of said Army.

A Petition signed by *Philip Hubbard* and others, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Cushing*, Captain *Holmes*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Mr. *Currier*, be a Committee to consider what order it would be proper for this Congress to take relative to any Letters which have been or may be intercepted.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Edwards*, and Mr. *Stone* of *Lexington*, be appointed to inquire what is become of a Letter said to be sent by the *Stockbridge Indians* to this Congress.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve respecting intercepted Letters, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, it has been represented to this Congress, that several Letters and packets of Letters, of publick concernment, wrote to and by the avowed enemies of this Country, have fallen into the hands of sundry persons in this Colony; and whereas, it appears absolutely necessary that all such Letters should be immediately laid before this Congress for their consideration: therefore,

*Resolved*, That all persons who now are or shall hereafter be possessed of such Letters, shall lay them as soon as may be before this or some future Congress for their advisement thereon.

—  
Afternoon.

*Resolved*, That the Resolve which passed this Congress relative to accommodating the Reverend Mr. *Emerson* with one of the horses taken from the Regulars, be so far reconsidered as that it be recommended for a plainer description of the horse intended to be delivered to him; and that Captain *Batchelder* and Colonel *Dwight* be added to the Committee, in the room of Doctor *Taylor* and Colonel *Bowers*, who are absent.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers of Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, agreeable to the list by him exhibited.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Fisher*, Colonel *Barrett*, Captain *Holmes*, Colonel *Bowers*, and Colonel *Sawyer*, be a Committee to consider the proposal of Captain *Foster*, relative to removing the Poor and the Goods of the Poor of the Town of *Boston* into the country.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be directed to lay before this Congress, in writing, an account of their proceedings with respect to the memorandum of General *Ward* for sundry military stores, committed to them by the last Congress.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone*, Captain *Smith*, and Colonel *Goodrich*, be a Committee to inquire of the Com-

mittee of Supplies if they have sent to *New-York* for any of the Powder which it is said is lately arrived there.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Fisher*, Captain *Holmes*, Mr. *Sawyer*, Colonel *Grout*, and Mr. *Webster*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, in addition to the Resolve of the last Congress, respecting the Poor of the Town of *Boston*, passed the first ultimo, which shall extend to such of the Poor of said Town (sufferers by the *Boston Port Bill*) as were removed out of that Town before the date of the said Resolve.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the nature and qualities of the Mineral Earth brought by Colonel *Foster* from *Brookfield*, reported, that it was their opinion, and the opinion of those with whom they conversed with thereon, that it contains a matter useful for the production of Nitre, but that there was too small a quantity for an experiment. Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That this Committee be directed to appoint some suitable person to repair to *Brookfield* to make some experiment with the Mineral Earth which is said to be there in large quantities.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Dexter*, Colonel *Otis*, Colonel *Porter*, Captain *Stone* of *Oakham*, and Captain *Stone* of *Framingham*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of giving a currency to the Bills of Credit of all the Governments on the Continent.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve descriptive of the Horse designed for Mr. *Emerson*, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows:

Whereas, in a Resolve of this Congress passed on the 1st instant, the horse appointed for the use of the Rev. Mr. *Emerson*, of *Concord*, was not so fully described as that *Thomas Reed*, of *Woburn*, the keeper of said horse, could with safety deliver him to said *Emerson*: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That said *Reed* be, and hereby is directed to deliver a certain Sorrel Horse that was taken by the Guards at *Roxbury* from an officer of General *Gage's* Troops, on the 20th of *April* last, to said *Emerson*, he paying a reasonable sum for the keeping said horse; and said Mr. *Emerson* is hereby permitted to keep and use said horse until the further order of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Porter*, Captain *Stone* of *Oakham*, Captain *Partridge*, Colonel *Otis*, and Deacon *Baker*, be a Committee to consider the Letter from Mr. *Gridley* to the Committee of Safety, and to confer with them thereon; and also on the state of the Artillery in general.

*Resolved*, That the four Prisoners brought to this Congress by Sergeant *John Parker*, be committed to the custody of the guard which is appointed to guard the publick stores in *Watertown*, till the further order of this Congress; and that the Commissary be directed to provide what provisions they may stand in need of till to-morrow morning.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan* bring in a Resolve for the purpose of discouraging and preventing persons from taking any Notes or Bills of Credit of this or the other Colonies, under the value specified therein.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for giving currency to the Notes of the other Governments, reported as follows, viz:

Whereas, the Officers and Privates of the Regiments from the adjoining Colonies have brought with them some of the Notes and Bills of Credit of the respective Colonies to which they belong, with which they may have occasion to purchase articles for their support and comfort:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be, and it hereby is recommended to all the good people of this Colony to give a ready currency to such Notes and Bills of Credit, as it will be for the benefit of the Army, and tend to a continuance of the happy union at present subsisting among the Colonies; and any person who shall ask discount on such Notes and Bills, shall be deemed inimical to his Country.

The Report was ordered to lie on the table till Mr. *Sullivan* had brought in the Resolve for which he was just now appointed.

*Ordered*, That Col. *Cutt*, Captain *Parker*, Mr. *Page*, Captain *Morton*, and Captain *Stone* of *Oakham*, be a Committee to make some Establishment for an allowance of Provisions for the Soldiers of the *Massachusetts Army*.



*Resolved*, That *Friday* next, at three o'clock, P. M., be assigned for the consideration of the Report of Colonel *Thompson*, relative to his proceedings at *Kennebeck*.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, June 6, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Cushing*, Mr. *Partridge*, Mr. *Greenleaf*, and Colonel *Glover*, be a Committee to devise some means whereby the Army may be more regularly supplied with the necessaries procured for it by the Colony.

Order of the Day moved for.

*Resolved*, That those Members who are out upon Committees, be directed to attend.

*Resolved*, That three o'clock, P. M., be assigned for the choice of a Vice-President.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Thompson*, Major *Brooks*, and Col. *Cutt*, be a Committee to inquire into the circumstances of bringing the four Prisoners to this place yesterday.

*Moved*, That the Congress take some order at this time relative to the Prisoners.

The question being put, it passed in the negative.

The Papers respecting Colonel *Brewer* were read, and Colonel *Brewer* was then admitted; and, on his request,

*Resolved*, That Captain *Butler*, Captain *Edwards*, Lieutenant *Tuckerman*, Colonel *Buckminster*, Mr. *Cudworth*, Thomas *Withington*, and Captain *Gray*, be admitted on the floor of this House as evidence in the case.

The complaint of the Committee being read, and Col. *Brewer* having had leave of making his defence, he was fully heard therein, as were also the witnesses by him produced; the galleries being first opened for any who were inclined to hear the cause. Colonel *Brewer* having offered what he saw fit, withdrew with his witnesses; and the galleries being cleared,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of this matter be referred to the afternoon.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for giving currency to the Bills of Credit of the other Governments, reported as follows:

Whereas, a former Congress of this Colony, holden at *Watertown*, on the 20th day of *May* now last past, resolved, "That for the payment of advance pay to the *Massachusetts* Army, there should be issued by the Receiver-General, on the credit of this Colony, a sum not exceeding Twenty-Six Thousand Pounds, lawful money, in notes of the following denominations, to wit: of Twenty Shillings, of Eighteen Shillings, of Sixteen Shillings, of Fifteen Shillings, of Fourteen Shillings, of Twelve Shillings, of Ten Shillings, of Nine Shillings, and of Six Shillings; to be four thousand three hundred and thirty-three of each denomination, and no more."

And whereas, it is absolutely necessary that the Bills aforesaid should have free currency, and be supported in full credit: It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That no person within this Colony shall purchase or take in payment any of the Bills aforesaid at any discount, or for a less sum than what is specified on the face of them; and that every person so offending, shall be deemed an enemy to his Country, and shall be punished by fine or imprisonment, at the discretion of any Congress of this Colony before whom he or she shall be convicted thereof.

And whereas it is expedient, for divers reasons, that the Bills of the other Colonies on this Continent, except those that have been or may be issued by the Governments of *Quebeck* and *Nova-Scotia*, should have full credit and free currency in this Colony: It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That the above Resolution respecting the Bills of the Colony, shall be extended to have as full force with respect to the Bills of the other Colonies on this Continent, (excepting *Quebeck* and *Nova-Scotia*,) as to the Bills of this Colony; and it is also

*Resolved*, That the Bills of the other Colonies, excepting as aforesaid, shall be received in all payments, and have equal credit as those of this Colony; and it is also

*Resolved*, That any person who shall inform this or any future Congress of this Colony, against any person who

shall violate either of these Resolutions aforesaid, shall, on conviction of such person, be entitled to receive out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, in reward for such information, the sum of . . . ; and it is also

*Resolved*, That any person who shall inform against persons violating either of the aforesaid Resolutions to any Committee of Correspondence in this Province, shall, on the conviction of any person offending as aforesaid, be entitled to the same reward as if the said complaint had been made to any Congress of this Colony; and all the Committees of Safety in this Colony are strictly enjoined, when any such complaint shall be made to them, that they, as soon as may be, send the same complaint, with the name or names of the witness or witnesses of the fact, to the Congress of this Colony.

The Report was ordered to lie upon the table till the afternoon.

Afternoon.

*Voted*, That the Resolve which passed in the forenoon for choosing a Vice-President, be reconsidered.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the case of Mr. *Brewer*; and after a long and full debate, it was moved that the question be put, Whether the President should be directed to deliver a Commission to Mr. *Brewer*, as Colonel of a Regiment in the *Massachusetts* Army?

And it passed in the negative; the number of Members present being 150, and but 70 for the question.

Mr. *Cushing* informed the Congress, that Mr. *Benjamin Edwards*, on hearing at the door of this House, of the determination of the Congress respecting Mr. *Brewer*, made use of the following expression, viz: "By God, if this Province is to be governed in this manner, it is time for us to look out; and it is all owing to the Committee of Safety, a pack of sappy-headed fellows; I know three of them myself." Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Edwards* be directed to attend this House to make answer to the above charge.

Mr. *Edwards* being called in, and having heard the charge alleged against him, it was

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Edwards* have leave to withdraw, and that he be directed to attend this Congress to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

The Petition of Major *Baldwin* being read and considered, it is thereupon

*Ordered*, That the Reverend President *Langdon* be requested to furnish Major *Baldwin*, out of the College apparatus, with such instruments as he stands in need of to perform the publick services therein mentioned, he giving his receipt therefor to return the same in good order as soon as the said services shall be performed.

A Resolve of the Committee of Safety, relative to the inadmission of Slaves into the Army, was read, and ordered to lie on the table for further consideration.

The Committee appointed to bring in an additional Resolve relative to making provision for the Poor of *Boston*, reported. The Report was read, amended, and accepted, and ordered to be printed in the *Cambridge*, *Watertown*, and *Worcester* Papers; and is as follows:

Whereas, the provision already made for the removal of the Poor of *Boston*, suffering by the cruel hand of arbitrary power, has not answered the salutary purposes intended, and it becomes necessary that further provision be made:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That such suffering Poor shall be allowed to remove into any Town or District in the Colony, other than such Towns or Districts as are already ordered to provide for and receive the number of said Poor to them assigned; and every Town and District in the Colony that shall receive and provide necessary support for such suffering Poor, shall be indemnified in every respect as fully as any other Town or District in the Colony, provided they observe and comply with directions already given relative to said Poor.

And whereas, in the present distressed circumstances and confusion of the Town of *Boston*, some of said Poor have or may remove out of said Town without a proper certificate from the Committee of Donations, and the Town to which such persons may remove may refuse to receive them for want of the same,



*Resolved*, That it is recommended to the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts in this Colony, to which such persons may remove, that such provision be made as is necessary to prevent their suffering, until such certificate can be procured; and such Town or District shall be indemnified as before provided, they observing the directions given in the Resolve passed by the last Congress relative to said Poor; and such persons shall be considered as part of their assignment.

And whereas, it is found extremely difficult for the Committees at *Charlestown* and *Roxbury* to remove said Poor to the several Towns and Districts to which they are destined, for want of teams to go such a distance as is necessary in many cases, it is further recommended to the Selectmen of each Town and District in this Colony, that they assist in removing said Poor upon every necessary occasion, when it is in their power, to the several places of their assignment, keeping a particular account of their trouble and expense, and the names of the persons they assisted; and they shall be paid in manner as before provided. And the Committees at *Charlestown* and *Roxbury*, who were appointed by this Congress to make provision for such Poor as might come out of the Town of *Boston*, are desired to procure a list of said Poor from the Committee of Donations for future use; and also to take the advantage of the teams that may come from the westward, for the removal of said Poor by every opportunity in their power.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to inquire into the circumstances of bringing four Prisoners from *Cambridge*, be directed to make such provision for them as is necessary, till further orders from this Congress; and that Mr. *Robinson* be added to the Committee; and that said Committee report what they think would be best to be done with them.

Adjourned to *Wednesday* morning, eight o'clock.

—  
Wednesday, June 7, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Parker*, Mr. *Webster*, Major *Fuller*, and Colonel *Prescott*, be a Committee to wait on General *Ward*, requesting him to exhibit to this Congress a Return of the number of men in the *Massachusetts* Army; and that Mr. *Sullivan*, Dr. *Holten*, and Mr. *Cushing*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for this purpose.

The Committee appointed to consider what is best to be done with the four Prisoners brought from *Dartmouth* via *Cambridge*, reported. The Report was recommitted.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of *Machias*, was read, and committed to Mr. *Batchelder*, Col. *Otis*, Mr. *Nichols*, Mr. *Lothrop*, and Mr. *Webster*, to consider thereon, and report.

The Committee appointed to inquire what is become of the original Letter from the *Stockbridge Indians*, reported, that they think it probable, from what they have on inquiry heard, that it is still in the hands of the Honourable Mr. *Hancock*.

The Committee appointed to consider of Colonel *Gridley's* Letter to the Committee of Safety, beg leave to report in part, that an Ordnance Storekeeper be immediately appointed, and recommend that Major *Nathaniel Barber* be appointed to that employment; and beg leave to sit again to report a proper establishment, as also to report what further steps are necessary to be taken, as requested in Colonel *Gridley's* Letter.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the Lieutenants and Ensigns of Colonel *Mansfield's* Regiment, agreeable to the list by him exhibited.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Edwards*, Colonel *Porter*, Doctor *Whiting*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Mr. *Goodridge*, be a Committee to consider the Letters from the *Stockbridge Indians*, and report.

A Petition from Colonel *Brewer*, and another from several nominal Captains under him, were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Two Resolves from the Continental Congress were read, and ordered to be printed in handbills, and dispersed throughout the Colony.

Colonel *Porter*, Colonel *Tyng*, and Mr. *Jewett*, were

appointed a Committee to prepare a Resolve for the purpose of carrying into execution the said Resolves.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Edwards* be called in and admonished by the President; which was accordingly done.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to Colonel *Fellows*, and the Officers of his Regiment, agreeable to the list exhibited by his Lieutenant-Colonel.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve expressive of the duty of the Committee who were appointed this day to wait on General *Ward*, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Parks*, Mr. *Webster*, Major *Fuller*, and Colonel *Prescott*, be a Committee to wait on the Honourable General *Ward*; hold a conference with him on the state of the Army, and desire him to make a Return, as soon as may be, to this Congress, of the number and equipments of the Troops raised by this Colony, and now in the camps at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, and stationed elsewhere, that due advisement be had thereon.

The Honourable Mr. *Spooner*, Honourable Mr. *Sever*, and the Hon. Col. *Bowers*, appointed to consider a Memorial from the Convention at *Worcester*, being absent,

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Dexter*, Colonel *Dwight*, and Captain *Stone*, be appointed in their stead.

A Memorial from the Selectmen of the Town of *Salem*, was read, and committed to Colonel *Glover*, Dr. *Taylor*, and Mr. *Wheeler*.

The Report of the Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for giving currency to the Bills of Credit of the other Governments, was read, and recommitted.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Orne*, Colonel *Porter*, and Mr. *Whittemore*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of *Benjamin Ames*, and seven other Companies of Colonel *Fry's* Regiment, and report.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of *Machias*, reported. The Report was ordered to lie on the table for further consideration.

—  
Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Warren*, Honourable Mr. *Dexter*, Colonel *Gerrish*, Colonel *Otis*, and Colonel *Farley*, be a Committee to confer with the two gentlemen, Members of the Congress of *New-Hampshire*, who have just brought a Letter from that Congress to this.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow, four o'clock, P. M., be assigned for the choice of two gentlemen to act as Major-Generals in the *Massachusetts* Army.

The Report of the Committee on the Letter from *Hopkinton*, was read. The consideration of it was put off to five o'clock this afternoon.

On the Representation of the Town Clerk of *Lanenburg*, (by his Letter to Doctor *Taylor*), respecting their Town stock of Powder, &c.,

*Resolved*, That that Town be excused from delivering out of their stock any more than one half barrel, the Resolve of the former Congress directing the Selectmen of said Town to deliver two barrels to the order of the Committee of Supplies, notwithstanding.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Orne* and Mr. *Vose* be of the Committee appointed to collect the Letters of the late Governor *Hutchinson*, in the room of Doctor *Perkins* and Mr. *Ellis*, who are absent.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the circumstances of the four Prisoners, reported. The Report was amended and accepted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the circumstances of four Prisoners brought to this Congress on the 2d day of *June* instant, said to be taken at *Dartmouth* since the 19th of *April* last, beg leave to report, that it is the opinion of this Committee, that the said four prisoners, viz: *Richard Luckus*, Mate of the Ship *Falcon*, *John Dunkinson*, Surgeon's Mate, *Jonathan Lee*, and *Robert Cady*, be sent to *Concord*, to the care of the Selectmen of said Town, to be by them secured and provided for, agreeable to their rank, at the expense of this Colony, until they receive some further order from this or some



other Congress or House of Representatives of this Colony.

The Committee appointed to confer with the gentlemen from the *New-Hampshire* Congress, reported verbally.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That said Committee be directed to reduce their Report to writing.

The Report of the Committee on the Petition from the Inhabitants of *Machias*, being again read, was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of the Inhabitants of *Machias*, beg leave to report, that it be recommended by this Congress to the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Salem*, or to the like Committees of any other Town within this Province, to supply Messrs. *Gardner* and *Smith*, of said *Machias*, for the present relief of the said inhabitants, with the following articles, viz: one hundred bushels of *Indian* Corn, ten barrels of Pork and Beef, one cask of Molasses, and one cask of Rice, and take in return for the same, Wood, or such other payment as the said *Gardner* and *Smith* may be able to make; and in case they or their constituents (the above-said inhabitants) shall not make satisfaction for the same in a reasonable time, it shall be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Province; and the said inhabitants shall refund the same as soon as may be.

Your Committee further report, that a recommendation go forth from this Congress to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, to suffer the inhabitants of the eastern parts of this Colony to purchase and carry out of said Colony of *Connecticut* such Provisions as their necessitous circumstances may require.

The Committee appointed to confer with the gentlemen from *New-Hampshire* having reduced their Report to writing, the same was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That an application be made by this Congress to the Continental Congress, desiring them to take such measures as to them shall appear proper, to quiet and conciliate the minds of the inhabitants of *Canada*, and the several tribes of *Indians* adjacent to these Colonies, and prevent any unfavourable apprehensions from the military preparations of the several Colonies in *America*; and that the other three *New-England* Colonies, with the Colony of *New-York*, be desired to join in such an application.

*Resolved*, That Letters be immediately wrote to the Colonies of *Connecticut*, *Rhode-Island*, and *New-Hampshire*, desiring them, severally, to appoint Committees to meet a Committee appointed by this Congress, at the Town of *Worcester*, in this Colony, on *Wednesday*, the 28th day of *June* current, in order to settle and determine the number of men to be raised on the present emergency by each of the *New-England* Colonies; and likewise to determine where they shall be stationed and employed.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That the President, Honourable Mr. *Sever*, and the Honourable Mr. *Dexter*, be a Committee to prepare an application to the Continental Congress, and a Letter to each of the Colonies of *Connecticut*, *Rhode-Island*, and *New-Hampshire*, and a Letter to *New-York*, agreeable to the foregoing Resolve.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow, five o'clock, P. M., be assigned for the choice of three Members of this Congress as a Committee to meet Committees from the Colonies of *Connecticut*, *Rhode-Island*, and *New-Hampshire*, agreeable to the foregoing Resolve.

The Committee appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety on the subject of their Resolve relative to a re-enforcement of the Army, reported as follows:

The Committee appointed to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety of the second instant relative to a re-enforcement of the *Massachusetts* Army, have attended that service; and having, agreeable to the order of Congress, conferred with the Committee of Safety and General Officers upon the subject-matter of the Resolve, beg leave, upon mature deliberation, to report, that it appears to the Committee inexpedient and unnecessary for this Colony to augment at present the Forces already voted by it to be established for the defence of this and the other *American* Colonies. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That to-morrow, nine o'clock, be assigned for the consideration of the said Report: and that the Com-

mittee of Safety, the Committee of Supplies, and the several Committees of this Congress, be notified of this assignment, and be desired to attend at that time, if they can with conveniency.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Pitts*, Mr. *Gerry*, the President, Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Pickering*, Mr. *Batchelder*, Honourable Mr. *Dexter*, and Mr. *Greenleaf*, be a Committee to consider the expediency of establishing a number of small armed Vessels to cruise on our sea-coasts for the protection of our trade and the annoyance of our enemies; and that the Members be enjoined by order of Congress to observe secrecy in this matter.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Porter*, Honourable Mr. *Sever*, Mr. *Greenleaf*, and Mr. *Partridge*, be a Committee to consider at large on some measure for commissionating the Officers of the Army.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary be directed to serve General *Ward* with a List of the Officers of the Army commissioned by this Congress.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Thursday, June 8, 1775.

An account of the taking a Sloop which sailed from *Boston* for *Annapolis* for Hay and other stores for the use of the Army at *Boston*, from the Committee of the Town of *Arundel*, was read; as also several Letters which were found on board said Sloop: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be given to said Committee for their care and judicious conduct in this affair.

The Order of the Day moved for.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

Which was done accordingly.

The Committee of the Whole House, by Col. *Warren*, their Chairman, reported, that the Committee have not sufficient time to deliberate on a matter of such importance; and therefore desire leave to sit again; which Report was accepted by the Congress.

— Afternoon.

The Committee of the Whole House reported, that it was the opinion of said Committee, that the Report of the Committee who were appointed to confer with the Committee of Safety on the augmentation of the Army, be accepted; which Report was accordingly accepted by this Congress.

*Ordered*, That a Commission be delivered to *Thomas Poor*, Esq., as Major of a Regiment under the command of Colonel *Fry*.

*Resolved*, That the choice of two Major-Generals be deferred to four o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to consider the expediency of establishing several small armed Vessels, sit forthwith.

The Committee appointed to consider on some measures for commissionating the Officers of the Army, reported the following Resolve; which was read and accepted, and a hundred of them ordered to be printed and dispersed among the Army. It is as follows, viz:

Whereas, it is necessary to have, as soon as may be, a Return of the number and equipments of the Forces raised by this Colony; and whereas, it is of the utmost importance that such Returns should be consistent with the strictest truth: It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That if any Officer now commissioned in the Forces aforesaid, or that shall hereafter be commissioned therein, shall wittingly and willingly, after his being so commissioned, make any false returns of the numbers or equipments of the men under his command, and shall be thereof convicted before this or any future Congress of this Colony, or before a General Court Martial of the Army raised by this Colony, such Officer shall be immediately cashiered. And every person now under nomination, or that shall hereafter be nominated to any office in said Forces, who shall wittingly and willingly make such false return, shall be deemed incapable of holding any commis-



sion or command in the Forces aforesaid, until the last day of *December* next.

The Petition of Col. *Henshaw* was read, and committed to the Committee who were appointed to consider on some measure for commissioning the Officers of the Army.

*Resolved*, That the choice of three Delegates to meet Delegates from the other Colonies in *New-England*, at *Worcester*, be put off to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Cushing* of *Hanover*, Capt. *Stone* of *Oakham*, and *Dummer Jewett*, Esq., be a Committee to take into consideration a Petition from the Committee of Correspondence for the County of *Cumberland*; and that they sit forthwith.

*Ordered*, That Major *Bliss*, Major *Brooks*, and Mr. *Sayer*, be a Committee to consider the Account of Captain *Phelps*; and to consider what sum is necessary to supply Captain *Phelps* with for transporting to *Ticonderoga* the *Pork* he has purchased for our Forces there, and bringing the Cannon from thence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wheeler* be appointed to number the small Colony Notes, in the room of Mr. *Goodwin*, who has leave to go home.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from the *Stockbridge Indians*, reported the following; which was accepted, and ordered to be authenticated by the Secretary, if the President is not in *Watertown*, and sent forward:

"To the MOHEAKOUNUCK Tribe of Indians, living in and about STOCKBRIDGE:

"*Brothers*: We this day, by the Delegate from *Stockbridge*, first heard your friendly answer to our speech to you by Captain *William Goodrich*; which answer we are told you made to us immediately by a letter which we have not yet received. We now reply.

"*Brothers*: You say that you were once great, but that you are now little; and that we once were little, but are now great. The Supreme Spirit orders these things. Whether we are little or great, let us keep the path of friendship clear, which our fathers made, and in which we have both travelled to this time.

"The friends of the wicked counsellors of our King fell upon us and shed some blood, soon after we spake to you last by our letter. But we with a small twig killed so many, and frightened them so much, that they have shut themselves up in our great Town, called *Boston*, which they have made strong.

"We have now made our hatchets and all our instruments of war sharp and bright. All the chief counsellors who live on this side the great water, are sitting in the grand Council-House in *Philadelphia*. When they give the word, we shall all, as one man, fall on and drive our enemies out of their strong fort, and follow them till they shall take their hands out of our pouches, and let us sit in our council-house, as we used to do, and as our fathers did in old times.

"*Brothers*: Though you are small, yet you are wise; use your wisdom to help us. If you think it best, go and smoke your pipe with your *Indian* brothers towards the setting of the sun, and tell them all you hear and all you see, and let us know what their wise men say. If some of your young men should have a mind to see what we are doing here, let them come down and tarry among our warriors. We will provide for them while they are here.

"*Brothers*: When you have any trouble, come and tell it to us, and we will help you.

"Signed by order of Congress:

"SAMUEL FREEMAN, Secretary.

"To Captain *Solomon Uhhaunauwauumut*, Chief Sachem of the *Moheakounuck* Tribe of *Indians* at *Stockbridge*."

Whereas, it appears to this Congress, that great benefit may arise to the *American* cause, should our friends of the *Stockbridge* or *Moheakounuck* Tribe of *Indians* send belts and messengers to the several tribes connected with them; and as the same may be attended with expense: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Stockbridge*, for the time being, be a Committee to promote the forwarding such messengers and belts; and that the Committee aforesaid be allowed to draw out of the publick

moneys in the hands of *Stephen Nash*, late Collector for the Town of *Stockbridge* aforesaid, any sum or sums, not exceeding fifteen Pounds, for which said Committee shall account to this or some future Congress or House of Representatives, and be allowed all reasonable charges that have or may arise for promoting and forwarding the premises.

The Committee appointed to establish an allowance of Provisions for the Soldiers, reported. The further consideration of the Report was put off to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

A Colonel's commission was delivered to Colonel *John Fellows*.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, June 9, 1775.

A Petition from the Selectmen, and others, of the Town of *Manchester*, was read, and committed to the Committee who were appointed to consider the circumstances of the Seaport Towns.

Col. *Bowers* and Mr. *Fisher*, who were of the Committee appointed to consider the Petition of the Convention of Committees of the County of *Worcester*, being absent,

*Ordered*, That Major *Bliss* and Doctor *Taylor* be appointed in their room.

Colonel *Bowers*, who was on the Committee appointed to consider the situation and circumstances of the sea-coasts, being absent,

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Spooner* be appointed in his room.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone* of *Oakham*, Deacon *Hovey*, Colonel *Prescott*, Colonel *Farley*, and Colonel *Grout*, be a Committee to consider what is proper to be done with the Prisoners brought to this place from *Arundel*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Goodrich*, Mr. *Mitchell*, and Mr. *Johnson*, be a Committee to consider a Petition from *Abiathar Angel*, and report.

A Petition from the Town of *Berwick* was read and committed to the Committee appointed to consider the situation and circumstances of the sea-coasts.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of enforcing two Resolves of the Continental Congress, reported. The Report was accepted, and, with the said Resolves of Congress, here follow, viz:

"In Congress, at Philadelphia, May 17, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That all exportations to *Quebeck*, *Nova-Scotia*, the Island of *St. John's*, *Newfoundland*, *Georgia*, (except the Parish of *St. John's*), and to *East* and *West-Florida*, immediately cease; and that no Provisions of any kind, or other necessities, be furnished to the *British* Fisheries on the *American* coasts, until it be otherwise determined by the Congress.

"May 29, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That no Provisions or necessities of any kind be exported to the Island of *Nantucket*, except from the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. The Convention of the Colony is desired to take measures for effectually providing the said Island, upon their application to purchase the same, with as much Provision as shall be necessary for its internal use, and no more.

"The Congress deeming it of great importance to *North America* that the *British* Fishery should not be furnished with Provisions from this Continent through *Nantucket*, earnestly recommend a vigilant execution of this Resolve to all Committees.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

The foregoing Resolves of the Continental Congress being read and considered,

*Resolved*, That the same be forthwith printed in hand-bills, together with this Resolve, and dispersed in the several seaport Towns in this Colony, that due obedience may be paid to the same.

Further *Resolved*, That the inhabitants of the Island of *Nantucket* have liberty to purchase such Provisions as are necessary for the internal use of the said Island in any of the *New-England* Governments: *Provided*, nevertheless, that no Provisions or necessities of any kind be exported



to the said Island of *Nantucket*, without a permit in writing from the Committee of Safety of this Colony, or such person or persons as they shall appoint to give such permit, expressing the quantity so to be transported, be first had and obtained, and that the same be exported from such port only (in this Colony) as shall be expressed in the same permit.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

The Report of the Committee on the establishment of an allowance of Provisions for the Soldiers was read and considered, and after debate thereon, was recommitted.

The Committee on the Petition from the County of *Worcester* reported, that it is the opinion of the Committee that the Delegates chosen by the Districts of *Paxton* and *Charlton*, as mentioned in said Petition, have not a right to seats in this House.

Moved, That a commission be delivered to Col. *John Glover*, as Colonel of a Regiment in the *Massachusetts* Army.

Afternoon.

The Report of the Committee on the Petition from the County of *Worcester* was considered, and, after much debate, the question was put, whether said Report be accepted; and it passed in the negative.

Ordered, That the Guard who has in custody the Prisoners from *Arundel* be relieved by a Guard from the Town of *Watertown*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sayer* be added to the Committee who were appointed to consider some measures for commissioning the Officers of the Army, in the room of Col. *Porter*, who has leave of absence.

Leave of absence was granted to the Rev. Mr. *Thayer* and the Rev. Mr. *Curtis*; and it being moved, that they be directed to return as soon as may be, the question was put, and it passed in the negative.

Colonel *Porter*, who was of the Committee to consider the Letter of Mr. *Gridley* to the Committee of Safety relative to the Train, being absent, Mr. *Partridge* was appointed in his room.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety be required, as soon as may be, to certify to this Congress the names of such gentlemen as are candidates for the command of a Regiment, with the number of privates that have been enlisted under them, and any other claims or pretensions that any gentleman may have to a commission in the service.

Ordered, That the Papers exhibited to this Congress by Captain *Phelps* be returned to him by Major *Bliss*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, June 10, 1775.

Ordered, That the Committee of Safety be directed to make return, in writing, to this Congress, as soon as may be, of the names of all those persons who claim or offer themselves to be commissioned as Colonels of Regiments in the Colony Army and are not commissioned, with any agreement that may have been made with any such persons by the Committee of Safety, as also a state of those Regiments which such persons claim the command of, as to their numbers, equipments, and the time they have been engaged in the service.

The Committee appointed to consider what is proper to be done with the Prisoners brought from *Arundel*, reported as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to examine the persons and papers sent to this Congress by the Committee of the Town of *Arundel*, have attended that service, and after due perusal of said papers, *Josiah Jones* and *Jonathan Hicks*, therein referred to, were brought before them. Said *Jones*, in his defence, says, he had no concern with the Sloop *Polly*, otherwise than as a passenger in her to *Nova-Scotia*; notwithstanding which it appears clearly to this Committee, by said papers, as also by the evidence of Captain *Smith*, master, herewith transmitted, that said *Jones* went on board said sloop as supercargo, in the service of General *Gage*, to bring hay and other articles to *Boston*, to supply our enemies. We find by said *Jones's* account of himself, that

he went to *Boston* soon after the memorable *Lexington* battle, on the 19th of *April* last, in company with *John Ruggles*, of *Hardwick*, who was ordered by a Committee to the said Town of *Hardwick*; and that said *Jones* was knowing to the proceedings of said Committee against said *Ruggles* before they set out together from *Weston* to take refuge in *Boston*; that they left the common road, and went in the woods and difficult places, to pass the Town of *Roxbury*. This Committee, upon the whole, have not the least reason to doubt of said *Jones's* being a notorious enemy to his Country, and of his having been in the actual employment of our enemies against the just liberties of the people; therefore beg leave to report the following Order, viz:

Ordered, That *Josiah Jones*, taken from the Sloop *Polly*, be sent with a sufficient guard to the Town of *Concord*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and committed to the common jail, there to remain until the further orders of the Congress, or House of Representatives of this Colony.

Said *Jonathan Hicks*, in his defence, says, that since the publick disputes respecting the liberties of the Country, he has not liked the part that has been acted, in many respects, on either side, therefore could not see his way clear to join with any.

Upon examination the Committee find, by evidence, that at *Gardinerston*, while he lived there, he expressed himself highly against Committees of Correspondence, &c., calling them rebels, and using other opprobrious language against the people who appeared for liberty, and endeavoured to hinder their unity. That also, while he, the said *Hicks*, lived at *Plymouth*, he was esteemed by the good people there inimical to the liberties of his Country by his general conduct, and that at certain times he appeared very high, and once drew his sword or spear upon certain persons. Said *Hicks*, upon the whole, owns his general conduct has been such as the people for liberty call a tory, but still says he is against the oppressive acts.

Said *Hicks* confesses that the evening after the battle of *Lexington*, aforesaid, he left *Plymouth* and took shelter with the Troops at *Marshfield*, not thinking himself safe in the country; that he went with them to *Boston*, and there remained until he went on board the Sloop *Polly* with *Jones*, and says he designed for *Halifax*, there to tarry, if he could find business, in order to be out of the noise. Captain *Smith*, master of said sloop, can give no account of *Hicks's* business on board. All he can say is, he in general appeared inimical, calling the liberty people rebels, &c. The Committee, therefore, beg leave to report the following Order:

Ordered, That *Jonathan Hicks*, taken from the Sloop *Polly*, be sent with a sufficient guard to the Town of *Concord*, in the County of *Middlesex*, and committed to the common jail, there to remain until the further orders of the Congress, or House of Representatives of this Colony.

Resolved, That the Keeper of the Jail in the County of *Middlesex* be directed to receive Messrs. *Jones* and *Hicks*, who were taken prisoners from the Sloop *Polly*, at *Arundel*, and keep them in safe custody till further order, and provide them necessaries for their subsistence whilst in jail; and that the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Watertown* be directed to see that the Resolves of Congress respecting the said *Jones* and *Hicks* be forthwith carried into execution, and to take such guard as they think necessary for that purpose.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. *Sever*, Colonel *Otis*, and Mr. *Davis*, be added to the Committee who were appointed to consider the expediency of establishing a number of armed Vessels for the protection of the sea-coasts.

Ordered, That Major *Hawley*, Captain *Stone* of *Framingham*, Colonel *Parks*, Hon. Mr. *Sever*, Mr. *Johnson*, Hon. Mr. *Spooner*, and Deacon *Plympton*, be a Committee to take into consideration the Artificers which may be necessary for the Army in the pay of this Colony, and that they report, as soon as may be, in what way such Artificers shall be established, the numbers wanted for the Army at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, of each kind, and the sum that is proper to be allowed them per month.

Ordered, That Mr. *Whittemore*, Captain *Dwight*, and Mr. *Kollock*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the



appointment of a number of Armourers for the *Massachusetts Army*, and for the establishment of their pay.

The Resolve for establishing an allowance of Provisions for the Soldiers was again read, and accepted, and ordered to be printed in handbills, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to make an establishment for the allowance for Provisions for the Soldiers of the *Massachusetts Army*, beg leave to report the following Resolve, viz :

*Resolved*, That each Soldier in the *Massachusetts Army* shall have the following allowance per day, viz : one pound of Bread ; half a pound of Beef and half a pound of Pork, and if Pork cannot be had, one pound and a quarter of Beef, and one day in seven they shall have one pound and one quarter of salt fish, instead of one day's allowance of meat ; one pint of Milk, or if Milk cannot be had, one gill of Rice ; one quart of good spruce or malt Beer ; one gill of Peas or Beans, or other sauce equivalent ; six ounces of good Butter per week ; one pound of good common Soap for six men per week ; half a pint of Vinegar per week per man, if it can be had.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the Army reported, that in order to execute their commission, it is necessary that they should be furnished with a copy of all recommendations for commissions sent to this Congress by the Committee of Safety, and a list of all Officers commissioned by the Congress ; and asked leave to sit again. The Report was accepted.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sayer*, Mr. *Edwards*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to consider the proposal of the Hon. General *Ward* respecting furloughs for the Soldiers, and report.

Afternoon.

The Petition of a number of the Freeholders of *Williamsburgh* was read, and committed to Mr. *Hale*, Mr. *Lyman*, and Colonel *Danielson*.

The Petition of *Davis* and *Coverly* was read, and committed to Mr. *Fairbank*, Mr. *Webster*, and Col. *Sawyer*.

*Monday* next, three o'clock, P. M., was assigned to make choice of three Delegates, to meet those that may be sent from the other *New-England Colonies*.

The choice of two Major-Generals referred to *Monday*, five o'clock, P. M.

Hon. Colonel *Warren*, Hon. Mr. *Spooner*, Dr. *Taylor*, Captain *Stone*, Mr. *Edwards*, Colonel *Cobb*, and Colonel *Thompson*, were appointed a Committee to consider the expediency of establishing a number of armed Vessels.

Sunday, June 11, 1775.

The Congress met at eight o'clock, and adjourned to half past three, P. M.

*Resolved*, That the Hon. Major *Hawley*, Hon. Mr. *Spooner*, Hon. Colonel *Warren*, and Hon. Colonel *Foster*, have leave to offer for the consideration of this Congress an Address which they have prepared to the Continental Congress.

The same being read and amended, was accepted, and ordered to be transcribed and signed by the Hon. Major *Hawley*, as Vice-President, and sent immediately by express to *Philadelphia*, and that the Committee of Supplies be desired to procure some person to carry it. It is as follows, viz :

*May it please your Honours* :

The situation of any Colony or People perhaps was never before such as made it more necessary for fully exercising the powers of civil Government, than the present state and situation of the Colony of the *Massachusetts Bay*.

The embarrassments, delays, disappointments, and obstructions in executing every undertaking necessary for the preservation of our lives, and much more of our property, are so great and many, as that they cannot be represented or enumerated ; and that is chiefly to be attributed to our want of a settled civil polity or government. Besides, every thing necessary for the abovesaid most important purposes, which is in some degree effected, is done in the most expensive manner ; in short, although the times we

are fallen into, and the prospects before us, are such as require the utmost economy, yet nothing of the kind can be preserved in our present state.

There are in many parts of this Colony alarming symptoms of the abatement of the sense in the minds of some people of the sacredness of private property, which is plainly assignable to the want of civil government ; and your Honours must be fully sensible that a community of goods and estate will soon be followed with the utter waste and destruction of the goods themselves. Besides, the necessity of civil government appears more and more apparent, from the extreme difficulty of maintaining the public peace without it ; although we can truly say much fewer enormities and breaches of the peace have happened among us, than it was natural to expect from the contemplation of such a state as we have been cast into.

*May it please your Honours* : The pressing weight of our distresses has necessitated the sending a special post to obtain your immediate advice upon this subject ; and we do most earnestly entreat that you would as soon as possible despatch the messenger with such advice.

Our former application to you of the 16th of *May* last, has rendered it unnecessary that we should further enlarge upon this subject ; and to prevent repetition, we beg leave to refer you to our letter of that date.

The Army under the command of General *Gage* we estimate to amount at least to five thousand men, well appointed, under the command of Generals of character and experience, and prepared with every thing necessary for action, exclusive of the additional strength derived from negroes, which the General has taken into his service, and disaffected *Americans*. We have great reason to apprehend that a re-enforcement of at least eight regiments of foot, and one of horse, may be hourly expected. We enclose a copy of an intercepted letter from Major *Sheriff*, (dated *May* 29, 1775,) which exhibits to you one ground of this apprehension. We have had under our consideration the propriety and necessity of augmenting our Army, notwithstanding our embarrassments, and though we have not yet adopted it, nothing perhaps but the more ample provision of the neighbouring Colonies will relieve that necessity.

The depredations and piracies frequently committed on our sea-coasts, and the little trade which remains to us, whereby, among other capital articles, the importation of ammunition and provision is almost totally obstructed and threatens our ruin, have also occasioned our contemplating steps to prevent these inconveniences, by fitting out a number of armed vessels with sufficient strength to encounter their small though numerous cutters.

We shall only add, that as the seat of war, with all its attendant distresses, have for the present taken their principal residence here, we should consider it as a happy event, if you should think proper to adjourn to some part of the Continent not so far distant, that the advice and aid of the Continent may be more expeditiously afforded upon any emergency.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, June 12, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wheeler*, Deacon *Baker*, and Mr. *Webster*, be a Committee to consider some measures for preventing the violation of the *Sabbath*, and to bring in a Resolve for this purpose.

*Resolved*, That five o'clock in the afternoon be assigned for the consideration of the Report of the Committee who were appointed to bring in a Resolve for giving a free currency to the Bills of Credit of this and the other Colonies.

*Ordered*, That the Hon. Mr. *Spooner*, Hon. Colonel *Gerrish*, and Dr. *Whiting*, be a Committee to consider the Petition from the Committee at *Charlestown*, and report.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary have liberty to procure such assistance from time to time as he shall think necessary.

*Resolved*, That two persons be appointed to repair to the Fortress of *Ticonderoga*, to examine into the state of that Fortress, and of affairs there, and to act in such a manner as they shall be directed by this Congress, and that four o'clock in the afternoon be assigned for the choice of such persons by ballot ; and that the Hon. Major *Hawley*,



Hon. Colonel *Warren*, and Mr. *Sullivan*, be a Committee to prepare instructions for such Delegates.

The Committee who were appointed to consider the expediency of establishing a number of armed Vessels, reported. The consideration of the Report was put off to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Hon. Mr. *Dexter*, one of the Committee who were appointed to prepare Letters to the Continental Congress, *New-York*, and the *New-England* Governments, being absent,

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. *Spooner* be appointed in his room.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sayer* be directed forthwith to fill up and deliver commissions to the Officers of Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment.

Ordered, That Mr. *Holten*, Mr. *Mitchell*, and Mr. *Colville*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of Mr. *Ebenezer Prout*.

Ordered, That Dr. *Whiting*, Dr. *Taylor*, and Mr. *Parks*, be a Committee to consider some method of supplying the several Surgeons of the Army with Medicines.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Continental Congress, &c., reported the following, which was accepted, viz :

*May it please your Honours :*

The views of Administration having been made evident, by their conduct for some years past; and the late regulations of civil and ecclesiastical polity of *Quebeck* having clearly discovered an intention to make use of the *Canadians* as engines to reduce this Continent to slavery, it has been found absolutely necessary, for the preservation of the liberties of *America*, to take possession of the important pass of *Ticonderoga*, and to send forward a sufficient force to hold the same against any attempt which may be made to retake it, and to prevent General *Carleton* from sending off forces by the way of the Lakes to annoy and distress the frontiers. But as we apprehend there never has been any intention to give the least disturbance to our brethren of *Canada*, to whom we most sincerely wish the full and free enjoyment of their civil and religious rights, we humbly request that your Honours would take such steps to prevent any false impressions which our enemies may attempt to make on their minds concerning our designs, or to remove any such as have already been made, as you in your wisdom shall think most expedient, as we look upon it to be of the utmost importance that there should no jealousies subsist between them and the other Colonies. We also have had the most disagreeable accounts of methods taken to fill the minds of the *Indian* tribes adjacent to these Colonies with sentiments very injurious to us; particularly, we have been informed that Colonel *Guy Johnson* has taken great pains with the *Six Nations*, in order to bring them into a belief that it is designed by the Colonies to fall upon them and cut them off. We therefore pray you would, with all the speed convenient, use your very great influence in guarding against the evil intended by this malevolent misrepresentation. And we have wrote to our sister Colonies in *New-England* and to *New-York*, requesting they would make a similar application to you respecting these matters.

We are your most obedient humble servants.

Resolved, That the vote for choosing two persons to repair to the Fortress of *Ticonderoga*, be so far reconsidered as that there be three persons chosen, instead of two, for that service.

Afternoon.

Ordered, That Colonel *Farley*, Major *Brooks*, and Mr. *Cross*, be a Committee to consider and report what is proper to be done with the Grass growing on the estates of the Refugees at *Cambridge*, *Charlestown*, *Roxbury*, and *Milton*. Who reported as follows :

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Resolve of the Committee of Safety relative to certain quantities of Grass growing on the lands of the Refugees in and about *Cambridge*, have attended that service, and beg leave to report by way of Resolve :

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of

Safety that they appoint some person or persons in the Towns hereafter mentioned, viz : *Cambridge*, *Charlestown*, *Roxbury*, and *Milton*, to cut the Grass and secure the Hay growing on the estates of the Refugees in the above mentioned Towns, in some convenient place, for the benefit of the Colony, as to them shall seem meet.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Hon. Colonel *Warren*, and Colonel *Gerrish*, be a Committee to consider what is best to be done with respect to a Vessel said to be going from *Salem* to *New-Providance* for Fruit and Turtle for the Army at *Boston*, and report.

Resolved, That Mr. *Gerry* have leave to bring in a Resolve for preventing the exportation of Fish and other Provisions.

This Resolve was accordingly read and accepted, and ordered to be printed in handbills, and sent to the several maritime Towns in this Colony, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, the enemies of *America* are multiplying their cruelties towards the inhabitants of the *New-England* Colonies, by seizing Provision Vessels, either the property of, or intended to supply them, and also by plundering the stock of Cattle, Sheep, &c., on their sea-coasts :

Resolved, That it be, and it is hereby recommended to the inhabitants of the Towns and Districts in this Colony, that they forthwith exert themselves to prevent the exportation of Fish, and all other kinds of provision, excepting such only as shall be intended to supply the inhabitants of the Colonies aforesaid, and as in the opinion of the Selectmen, and Committees of Correspondence, and Committees of Safety, of the Towns where the same shall be stored, may with prudence be shipped for conveyance by water, for the purpose aforesaid ; and it is strongly recommended to the Selectmen, Committees of Correspondence, and Committees of Safety, throughout the Colony, that they cause this Resolve to be strictly executed.

The Committee appointed to consider some method for supplying the Surgeons in the Army with Medicines, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a complaint that the Surgeons in the Army are not properly furnished with Medicines, have attended that service and beg leave to report :

Whereas, it appears that there is not as yet a sufficient number of Medicine Chests provided to furnish each Regiment with a distinct Chest ; and whereas, the Committee of Supplies are making provision for the supplying of each Regiment with such Medicine Chests as soon as possible : therefore

Resolved, That the Committee of Supplies be, and hereby are directed, immediately to furnish the Surgeon of the First Regiment at *Cambridge*, and also the Surgeon of the First Regiment at *Roxbury*, each of them, with a Medicine Chest for the present, and that all the other Surgeons in the Armies at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* have free recourse to the said Chests, and be supplied from them from time to time as they shall find occasion, until more ample provision shall be made for them. All which is humbly submitted, and the Committee beg leave to sit again.

WM. WHITING, per order.

Ordered, That the same Committee be appointed to examine into the Medical Stores, and make a list of what is necessary for the supplying each Regiment, that the same may be laid before the Committee ; and that the same Committee consider what Medicines are necessary, and bring in a list of what Medicines are in the Medicinal Store, and that they be directed to report what Instruments are necessary for the Surgeons of the Army.

The Committee appointed to consider what is best to be done relative to a Vessel going from *Salem* to *New-Providance*, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows :

Whereas, this Congress has been informed that a Schooner belonging to the *Irvings* in *Boston*, is fitted out under colour of being chartered by one *Thompson*, who has lately fled from *Medford* to *Boston*, but is really destined to *Salem*, and from thence to *New-Providance*, to get Fruit, Turtle, and Provisions of other kinds, for the sustenance and feasting of those Troops who are, as pirates and robbers, com-



mitting daily hostilities and depredations on the good people of this Colony and all *America* :

*It is therefore Resolved*, That Captain *Samuel McCobb*, a Member of this Congress, be immediately despatched to *Salem* and *Marblehead*, to secure said *Thompson*, and prevent said Vessel from going said voyage, and cause the said *Thompson* to be brought to this Congress. And the Committees of Correspondence, Safety, and Inspection, of said Towns, and all the good people of this Colony, are directed to give the said Capt. *McCobb* all needed assistance therein.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Captain *Stone*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for three gentlemen as a Committee, to meet Committees from the other Governments of *New-England*, at *Worcester*, on the twenty-eighth of *June* current.

The Committee having attended that service, reported, that the Hon. Mr. *Dexter*, the Hon. Major *Hawley*, and the Hon. Mr. *Sever* were chosen. The Hon. Major *Hawley* and the Hon. Mr. *Sever* having desired to be excused, and having offered their reasons therefor, they were excused accordingly; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That ten o'clock to-morrow morning be assigned for the choice of two persons, in the room of Major *Hawley* and Mr. *Sever*, to attend the said Convention at *Worcester*, on the twenty-eighth of *June* current.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sullivan*, Captain *Stone*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for three gentlemen to go to *Ticonderoga*.

The Committee having attended that service, reported that the Hon. Mr. *Spooner*, Hon. Colonel *Foster*, and Mr. *Sullivan*, were chosen.

*Resolved*, That the choice of two Major-Generals be referred to to-morrow morning, eleven o'clock.

*Ordered*, That the Petition from the County of *Cumberland* (laid on the table by the Committee who were appointed to consider of it) be committed to the Committee who were appointed to consider the circumstances of the sea-coasts.

The Report of the Committee of Safety, relative to the claims of those who stand as candidates for commissions in the Army, &c., was read, and, with the papers accompanying it, was committed to the Hon. Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Farley*, Captain *Greenleaf*, Doctor *Taylor*, Captain *Stone*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Colonel *Sayer*.

The Committee on Mr. *Prout's* Petition reported, that he have leave to withdraw it. The Report was accepted.

It was moved and seconded, that the Resolve for choosing Committees to meet Committees from the other Governments in *New-England* at *Worcester*, the twenty-eighth current, be reconsidered; and it was thereupon

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of this motion be referred to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Petitions of Colonel *Brewer* and his officers being read, were committed to the Committee to whom were this day committed the Report of the Committee of Safety, and the papers accompanying it.

The Committee on the Petition of *Davis* and *Coverly*, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows:

Whereas, application has been made to this Congress by Messrs. *Davis* and *Coverly*, merchants of *Boston*, representing that they have a quantity of *English* Goods now in *Boston*, and that *Henry Barns*, of *Marlborough*, has a quantity of *English* Goods, nearly of the same quality, in said *Marlborough*, and therefore pray that they may have leave to make an exchange:

*Resolved*, That the prayer of said Petition be granted, and that the petitioners have leave to make the exchange asked for.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for appointing a number of Armourers reported. The Report being read and amended, was accepted, and is as follows:\*

Tuesday, June 13, 1775.

A Letter from Governour *Trumbull* was read, inclosing a Letter from Colonel *Arnold*, and three Resolves of the

\* This Report has not been entered on the Journal, nor is it preserved on the files.—*Lincoln*.

Continental Congress; all which were committed to the Committee who were appointed to prepare instructions to the Committees that are to repair to *Ticonderoga*.

*Resolved*, That there be twenty-three Regiments commissioned, exclusive of the Regiment of Matrosses.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Webster*, Colonel *Richmond*, and Major *Wood*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of *Abner Graves* and others, and that they hear the petitioners, and notify Captain *Dexter* of time and place.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

Absent Members were directed to attend.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the Report relative to the establishment of armed Vessels, be put off to three o'clock in the afternoon, and that the Committee of Safety, and Committee of Supplies, be notified of this Resolve.

*Ordered*, That Col. *Otis* and Col. *Grout* be added to the Committee who were appointed to deliver out Commissions.

*Resolved*, That the Resolve for the appointment of a Convention of Committees from the several Governments, at *Worcester*, be reconsidered, as well as the vote whereby a Committee was appointed by this Congress, and the vote assigning a time for the choice of two Members in the room of two Members of that Committee who were excused.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Partridge*, Mr. *Sayer*, and Major *Brooks*, be a Committee to receive and count the votes for the Major-Generals.

*Ordered*, That only one Major-General be chosen at a time, and that the gentleman first chosen be the first Major-General.

*Resolved*, That the Committees who may at any time be appointed to receive and count votes for the choice of any person to any office or appointment, be strictly enjoined to allow no Member to shift or change a vote after it is put into the hat.

The Committee appointed to receive the votes for the first Major-General, reported that Colonel *John Whitcomb* was chosen.

*Resolved*, That the choice of the second Major-General be referred to five o'clock in the afternoon.

An Account of Mr. *Charles Colton* was read, and committed to Mr. *Pickering*, Mr. *Batchelder*, and Mr. *Dwight*.

An Account from Mr. *Taylor* was likewise exhibited, and committed to Colonel *Richmond*, Mr. *Singletary*, and Mr. *Hale*, to examine, consider of, and report upon.

Two Accounts of Mr. *John Brown* were also read, and committed to Mr. *Hale*, Mr. *Edwards*, Mr. *Vose*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Major *Bliss*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lothrop*, Mr. *Fox*, and Mr. *Fessenden*, be a Committee to consider the expediency of appointing Ensign *Falley* to be an Armourer in the *Massachusetts* Army, in addition to the number which this Congress have ordered to be appointed, and to consider what his pay shall be, if they think it proper he should be appointed.

The Committee on *Charles Colton's* Account reported; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to pay to Mr. *Charles Colton*, out of the publick Treasury, the sum of thirteen Pounds, eighteen Shillings, and eight Pence, in full, for his account this day exhibited to, and allowed by this Congress.

The Committee appointed yesterday to consider the Report of the Committee of Safety, reported the following Resolve, which was accepted; and Captain *Stone*, Captain *Dwight*, and Mr. *Kollock*, were ordered to give due information thereof to the Colonels therein mentioned, viz:

*Resolved*, That Colonels *Glover*, *Heath*, *David Brewer*, *Robinson*, *Woodbridge*, *Henshaw*, *Little*, and *Jonathan Brewer*, be directed, by next *Thursday* morning at eight o'clock, to make a true return to the Committee, on the claims and pretensions of the several gentlemen claiming to be commissioned as Colonels; of the number of Captains who, with their respective Companies, do choose to serve under the above named gentlemen respectively as Colonels; and of the number of men, and of the number of effective fire-arms in each Company, and of the place or places where



said Companies are, on pain of forfeiting all pretensions to a commission of a Colonel, in case of making a false return.

—  
Afternoon.

An Account of Mrs. *Dorothy Coolidge* was read, and committed to Doctor *Taylor*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Mr. *Bent*.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

The Report of the Committee on the expediency of establishing a number of armed Vessels was considered, and, after a very long debate, the further consideration of it was referred to *Friday* next, at eleven o'clock, A. M.

The Committee who were appointed to prepare instructions to the gentlemen chosen by this Congress to repair to *Ticonderoga*, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

“To *WALTER SPOONER, JEDEDIAH FOSTER, and JAMES SULLIVAN, Esquires.*

“You are directed to proceed, as soon as may be, to the posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, by the road through the new settlements called the *New-Hampshire Grants*; that you carefully observe the quality of the said road, and judge of the feasibility of transporting provisions by the said road to the waters of *Lake Champlain*; that you take with you copies of the commission and instructions of the Committee of Safety to Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, and inform yourselves as fully as you shall be able, in what manner the said Colonel *Arnold* has executed his said commission and instructions.

“That you make and give to the said *Arnold*, and any men whom he shall, by virtue of the said commission and instructions, retain in the service of this Colony, such orders as to you shall seem meet, provided always that you do not authorize the said *Arnold* to engage and retain in the pay of this Colony, as soldiers, a greater number than that specified in his said commission and instructions, and provided that the said *Arnold*, and the men whom he has retained, are free, and willing to remain at one or both of the said posts, under the command of such chief officer as is or shall be appointed by the Government of *Connecticut*; and in case you shall order such number of men to be continued at or near the said posts, in the pay of this Colony, as you shall judge it necessary there should be, that you appoint a Committee of one or more persons, in the pay of this Colony, to provide supplies for such men, and a Commissary to deal out such supplies to them; which Committee and Commissary you are to appoint in writing under your hands.

“And you are to determine and order respecting the said *Arnold's* continuing in the commission and pay of this Colony, as to you shall appear most for the general service and safety, after having made yourselves fully acquainted with the spirit, capacity, and conduct of the said *Arnold*.

“And in case you shall judge it proper to discharge the said *Arnold*, that you direct him to return to this Colony, and render his account of the disposition of the money, ammunition, and other things, which he received at his setting out upon his expedition, and also of the charges he has incurred, and the debts which he has contracted in behalf of this Colony, by virtue of the commission and instructions aforesaid.

“And in case you shall find any men at the said posts properly retained and engaged there in the service of this Colony, that you cause them and their arms to be mustered, and that to such as shall pass muster, you pay, out of the moneys which you shall receive from our Receiver-General for that purpose, the same advance pay as is, by order of Congress, paid to such men as are retained and mustered to serve within this Colony; and in case you shall not find any men at the said posts, properly engaged and retained in the service of this Colony, or that the number which you shall find so retained shall be much short of the number which said *Arnold* was empowered to enlist, that then you, if you shall judge that the effectual security of said posts shall require it, and if you shall also find a proper person in those parts fit and suitable for the command of four hundred men, or such less number, as together with such men as you shall find ordered and posted there by any other Colony or Colonies, and shall also find that soldiers

can be raised in those parts so seasonably, as that thereby the effectual maintenance of the said posts may be served or promoted; you are to appoint meet persons to be officers and commanders for such a number of men as you shall order to be enlisted, and give the necessary orders for raising, enlisting, and maintaining them, for such term as you shall judge necessary for defence of said posts, and also appoint some sufficient and faithful man as Muster-Master and Paymaster of such men, and leave sufficient moneys in his hands for that purpose, taking proper receipts and his security that the money so left shall be applied to that use.

“And you are to take a careful survey of the ordnance stores and ordnance at those posts, together with all other articles necessary for the maintenance thereof, and report the state thereof to this Congress.

“And if you shall find it necessary to purchase powder for the men who shall be retained there on the part of this Colony, that you procure the same, and so much as you shall judge needful, in the best and most expeditious way you can, on the credit of this Colony.

“And in general, you are fully empowered to do every thing in behalf of this Colony for the effectual securing and maintaining those posts, which you shall judge necessary equal to the importance of the same.

“You are further directed, when you shall have transacted what you are, by the foregoing instructions, authorized to do and transact at the posts aforesaid, by the very first opportunity to advise the General American Congress thereof, as also of your opinion of the necessity and importance of maintaining the said posts for the general defence of these Colonies; and when you shall have made yourselves fully acquainted with the state and condition of the said posts, and the dispositions and establishments which you shall find are made for maintaining of them, if you shall judge that any further provisions are necessary for securing and maintaining them, you are directed, fully and respectfully, to signify your thoughts thereon to the General Congress. You are also directed to advise the General Convention of the Colony of *New-York*, and the Governor of the Colony of *Connecticut*, respectively, of what you shall order and transact by virtue of the said instructions.”

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of appointing Ensign *Fally* an Armourer, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of appointing Ensign *Fally*, of Colonel *Danielson's* Regiment, an Armourer in the *Massachusetts Army*, in addition to the number already ordered, and to consider what his pay shall be, if it is thought proper by this Congress he should be appointed, have attended that service, and beg leave to report as follows, viz:

That whereas it has been represented to your Committee that the Armourers (or many of them) who are already established, are very imperfect in the business they profess, and that the abovesaid *Fally* is a complete master of the same; in consideration of which your Committee think it of the highest importance that he (the said *Fally*) should be employed in said department, and be allowed and paid forty Shillings per month, in addition to his pay as an Ensign, and be under the same rules and regulations as the other Armourers already appointed or to be appointed; all which is humbly submitted.

Ordered, That the President, Colonel *Warren*, Colonel *Palmer*, Mr. *Sever*, and Doctor *Taylor*, be a Committee to consider the subject-matter of a late extraordinary Proclamation of General *Gage*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Sullivan* have liberty to use the Horse in Mr. *Fowl's* pasture in this Town, which was taken lately from *Noddle's Island*, for his journey to *Ticonderoga*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

—  
Wednesday, June 14, 1775.

Resolved, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed, to pay the sum of four hundred Pounds to the Committee who have been appointed by this Congress to repair to *Ticonderoga*; to be by said Committee appropriated as advance pay to the men enlisted under Col. *Benedict Arnold*, said Committee to be accountable therefor.



*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to advance the sum of twenty Pounds to the Committee who have been appointed by this Congress to go to *Ticonderoga*, in cash, or bills of credit, at the option of said Committee, for their expenses, they to be accountable therefor.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of *Abner Graves* and others, reported, that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. The Report was accepted.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone*, Colonel *Warren*, Colonel *Grout*, Mr. *North*, and Colonel *Otis*, be a Committee to consider the Report of Colonel *Thompson*, and the Petition of Mr. *Parry*, and report.

*Resolved*, That the first *Thursday* in *July* next be appointed to be observed as a Day of Fasting and Prayer throughout this Colony, and that the Hon. Colonel *Palmer*, Hon. Mr. *Sever*, and Mr. *Hopkins*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for this purpose.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Robinson*, Mr. *Webster*, Major *Fuller*, Captain *Holmes*, and Mr. *Edwards*, be a Committee to consider some way and means of furnishing those who are destitute of Arms in the *Massachusetts* Army.

*Ordered*, That the Committee who were chosen to repair to *Ticonderoga*, be directed to revise the papers that respect the Fortress there, and take such as they think they shall want, and that this Congress will not have occasion for.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Phillips*, Mr. *Jewett*, and Mr. *Hopkins*, be a Committee to devise some means for securing the Library and Apparatus of *Harvard* College.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gerrish*, Mr. *Barker*, and Mr. *Caldwell*, be a Committee to consider the request of *Joseph Palmer*, Quartermaster-General, for providing Tents or Barracks for the Army at *Cambridge*.

*Ordered*, That three o'clock this afternoon be assigned for the choice of a second Major-General, and the Committees, who are now out, be notified of the same.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the Report for giving a currency to the Bills of Credit of the other Governments, be referred to four o'clock this afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Chadwick*, Mr. *Lothrop*, Colonel *Smith*, Mr. *Stearns*, and Captain *Ellis*, be a Committee to consider the propriety of supplying the Generals of the *Massachusetts* Army at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* with some necessary Household Furniture.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Coffin*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Mr. *Pickering*, be a Committee to disperse the Resolves of Congress relative to the embargo laid upon the exportation of Fish, &c.

Afternoon.

Upon a motion made, Colonel *Prescott* was chosen to countersign the Notes, instead of Colonel *Foster*, absent, who was appointed for that purpose.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

Mr. *Lothrop*, Captain *Cushing*, and Captain *Dwight*, were chosen a Committee to count and sort the votes for a second Major-General, who reported that Doctor *Joseph Warren* was chosen.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Grout*, Colonel *Berry*, and Colonel *Otis*, be a Committee to wait on the Hon. *John Whitcomb*, Esq., and inform him this Congress have made choice of him for first Major-General of the *Massachusetts* Army, and desire his answer to this Congress of his acceptance of said trust; also to wait on the Hon. *Joseph Warren*, Esq., and inform him this Congress have made choice of him for second Major-General of the *Massachusetts* Army, and desire his answer to this Congress of his acceptance of said trust.

The Committee appointed to consider some measures for preventing the violation of the Sabbath, reported. The Report was recommitted.

The Committee appointed to devise some means for securing the Library and Apparatus of *Harvard* College, reported. The Report was recommitted for amendment.

Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Lothrop*, and Maj. *Brooks*, were chosen

on the Committee appointed to take into consideration the Artificers which may be necessary for the Army, in pay of this Colony, instead of Major *Hawley*, Captain *Stone* of *Framingham*, and Hon. Mr. *Spooner*, absent.

Major *Davis* was chosen (instead of Hon. Mr. *Spooner*, absent) on the Committee appointed to consider a Petition from *Charlestown*.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for a Day of Fasting and Prayer, reported. The Report was recommitted for amendment, viz. that the following things might be mentioned: blessing on the Continental Congress, unity of the Colonies, health, fruitful seasons, &c., &c.

Colonel *Richmond*, per order, reported the following Resolve:

Whereas, it appears to this Congress that it is absolutely necessary that proper officers be put in commission to command the Train of Artillery, and that it be done without delay,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be directed, forthwith, to recommend such officers to this Congress as they shall think proper for the purpose aforesaid.

The consideration of the currency of the Notes for payment of Soldiers, was assigned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Mr. *Samuel Thatcher* was appointed to number the Notes, instead of Mr. *Samuel Phillips*, who is otherwise engaged.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to supply Colonel *Robinson*, to-morrow, with such Money for advance pay for the Soldiers, as he was to have received this day.

Thursday, June 15, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gridley's* Letter respecting officers of the Train and Artificers, be committed to the Committee who were appointed the tenth instant to consider how many Artificers were necessary.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Barrett*, Captain *Dwight*, and Captain *Page*, be a Committee to consider what measures it would be proper to take, that the Army may be supplied with no Provisions but what are good in kind.

The Resolve relative to securing the Library and Apparatus of *Harvard* College was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, it is expedient that those apartments in *Harvard* Hall, under the immediate charge of the Professor of Philosophy, and Librarian of *Harvard* College, be evacuated:

*Resolved*, That the Library, Apparatus, and other valuables of *Harvard* College, be removed, as soon as may be, to the Town of *Andover*; that Mr. *Samuel Phillips*, Mr. *Daniel Hopkins*, and *Dummer Jewett*, Esq., be a Committee to consult with the Reverend the President, the Honourable Mr. *Winthrop*, and the Librarian, or such of them as may be conveniently obtained, and, with them, to engage some suitable person or persons in said Town to transport, receive, and take the charge of the above mentioned effects; that said Committee join with those gentlemen in employing proper persons for packing said Library, Apparatus, and such other articles as they shall judge expedient, and take all due care that it be done with the greatest safety and despatch; and as the packages shall be completed, that they give notice to those engaged to receive them; the charges to be laid before this or some future Congress, or House of Assembly of this Province.

*Ordered*, That the Letters prepared for the Continental Congress, *New-York*, and the several Governments in *New-England*, be authenticated and sent forward as soon as may be. They are as follow, viz:

Considering the exposed state of the frontiers of some of the Colonies, the danger that the inhabitants of *Canada* may possibly have disagreeable apprehensions from the military preparations making in several of the other Colonies, and the rumours that there are some appearances of their getting themselves in readiness to act in a hostile way; this Congress have made application to the honourable Continental Congress, desiring them to take such measures as to them shall appear proper to quiet and conciliate the minds of the *Canadians*, and to prevent such alarming



apprehensions. We have also had the most disagreeable accounts of methods taken to fill the minds of the *Indian* Tribes, adjacent to these Colonies, with sentiments very injurious to us; particularly, we have been informed that Colonel *Guy Johnson* has taken great pains with the *Six Nations*, in order to bring them into a belief that it is designed by the Colonies to fall upon them and cut them off. We have therefore desired the honourable Continental Congress that they would, with all convenient speed, use their influence in guarding against the evil intended by this malevolent misrepresentation, and we desire you to join with us in such application.

To the Continental Congress, *New-York*, and the several Governments in *New-England*.

*Voted*, To accept the Report for directing the Committee of Safety to take immediate care to provide Houses for the Soldiers near the camp in *Cambridge* (if Tents cannot be had) at the expense of the Colony. It is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to take under consideration the Petition of the Quartermaster-General and Committee of Safety, have attended that service, and report, that the Committee of Safety be directed to take immediate care to provide Houses for the Soldiers near the camp in *Cambridge*, (if Tents cannot be had,) at the expense of the Colony.

*Ordered*, That to-morrow, at three o'clock in the afternoon, be assigned for the choice of four Brigadier-Generals, two Adjutant-Generals, and two Quartermaster-Generals.

*Ordered*, That the Petition of *Ephraim Perry* and four others, inhabitants of *Fox Island*, be committed to the Committee appointed to consider the circumstances of the sea-coasts.

*Voted*, To accept the Report for advising a number of Towns and Districts (as per schedule annexed to the Report) who have Fire-Arms, to deposite the same with their respective Town or District Treasurers, for the use of the Army. It is as follows, viz:

Whereas, some of the inhabitants of the plantations in this Colony, not incorporated, and some of the inhabitants of the neighbouring Colonies, together with a number of the late inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, have enlisted into the Army now raising in this Colony, therefore not provided with Arms by a resolve of Congress, dated *May 9th*, 1775, empowering the Selectmen to supply the inhabitants of their respective Towns with Arms, &c.: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of the several Towns and Districts in the Counties of *Worcester*, *Hampshire*, and other Counties, specified in a list hereunto annexed, who may have good and sufficient Fire-Arms and Bayonets, be advised hereby immediately to deposite the same with the respective Town or District Treasurers, to the number at least of so many in each Town or District as is specified in said list. For which Arms and Bayonets (or Arms alone, where Bayonets are not to be had) each owner shall receive so much as his Arms and Bayonets shall be valued by the Selectmen of the Town or District in which he dwells, of the Treasurer of said Town or District, in bills of credit of this Colony, within thirty days after the Arms are delivered; for which, bills are to be taken in the name of this Colony, attested by the Selectmen aforesaid. And the amount of such bills, with an order from such Treasurer, the Committee of Supplies of this Colony are hereby directed to pay, together with the expense of transporting said Arms to the store of said Committee in *Watertown*. And further, the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence, together with the Treasurer of the Towns and Districts aforesaid, are hereby directed to give their aid in collecting and transporting said Arms with the greatest despatch.

| County of Worcester. |   | Paxton, | -              | - | 6  |
|----------------------|---|---------|----------------|---|----|
| Worcester,           | - | 30      | Rutland,       | - | 15 |
| Lancaster,           | - | 32      | Oakham,        | - | 6  |
| Mendon,              | - | 24      | Hubbardston,   | - | 2  |
| Brookfield,          | - | 31      | New-Braintree, | - | 10 |
| Oxford,              | - | 11      | Southborough,  | - | 12 |
| Charlton,            | - | 11      | Westborough,   | - | 12 |
| Sutton,              | - | 31      | Northborough,  | - | 8  |
| Leicester,           | - | 12      | Shrewsbury,    | - | 22 |
| Spencer,             | - | 10      | Lunenburg,     | - | 16 |

|              |   |     |                   |   |       |
|--------------|---|-----|-------------------|---|-------|
| Fitchburgh,  | - | 6   | Belchertown,      | - | 8     |
| Uxbridge,    | - | 16  | Colrain,          | - | 5     |
| Harvard,     | - | 16  | Ware,             | - | 4     |
| Dudley,      | - | 10  | Warwick,          | - | 3     |
| Hutchinson,  | - | 13  | Bernardston,      | - | 4     |
| Bolton,      | - | 15  | Murrayfield,      | - | 5     |
| Upton,       | - | 6   | Charlemont,       | - | 3     |
| Sturbridge,  | - | 12  | Ashfield,         | - | 4     |
| Leominster,  | - | 12  | Worthington,      | - | 2     |
| Hardwick,    | - | 17  | Shutesbury,       | - | 4     |
| Weston,      | - | 11  | Chesterfield,     | - | 6     |
| Holden,      | - | 8   | Southwick,        | - | 6     |
| Douglass,    | - | 7   |                   |   |       |
| Grafton,     | - | 12  |                   |   | 334   |
| Petersham,   | - | 12  | Suffolk County.   |   |       |
| Royalston,   | - | 2   | Wrentham,         | - | 25    |
| Westminster, | - | 10  | Medway,           | - | 10    |
| Athol,       | - | 6   | Bellingham,       | - | 6     |
| Templeton,   | - | 8   | Walpole,          | - | 8     |
| Princeton,   | - | 8   |                   |   | 49    |
| Ashburnham,  | - | 3   |                   |   |       |
| Winchendon,  | - | 3   | Middlesex County. |   |       |
|              |   | 514 | Marlborough,      | - | 20    |
|              |   |     | Littleton,        | - | 10    |
|              |   |     | Hopkinton,        | - | 10    |
|              |   |     | Westford,         | - | 10    |
|              |   |     | Stow,             | - | 7     |
|              |   |     | Groton,           | - | 8     |
|              |   |     | Shirley,          | - | 4     |
|              |   |     | Pepperel,         | - | 6     |
|              |   |     | Townshend,        | - | 5     |
|              |   |     | Dracut,           | - | 7     |
|              |   |     | Holliston,        | - | 8     |
|              |   |     | Acton,            | - | 5     |
|              |   |     | Dunstable,        | - | 4     |
|              |   |     |                   |   | 102   |
|              |   |     | Plymouth County.  |   |       |
|              |   |     | Bridgewater,      | - | 25    |
|              |   |     | Middleborough,    | - | 16    |
|              |   |     |                   |   | 41    |
|              |   |     | Bristol County.   |   |       |
|              |   |     | Attleborough,     | - | 10    |
|              |   |     | Rehoboth,         | - | 15    |
|              |   |     |                   |   | 25    |
|              |   |     | Worcester County, |   | 514   |
|              |   |     | Hampshire County, |   | 334   |
|              |   |     | Suffolk County,   |   | 49    |
|              |   |     | Middlesex County, |   | 102   |
|              |   |     | Plymouth County,  |   | 41    |
|              |   |     | Bristol County,   |   | 25    |
|              |   |     | In all,           |   | 1,065 |

*Voted*, To accept the Report for providing a Magazine of Fire-Arms for this Colony; also, that said Report be printed in the several Newspapers, viz:

Whereas, it is necessary that this Colony be provided with a Magazine of Arms, which are good and sufficient; therefore,

*Resolved*, That any person or persons who may have such to sell, shall receive so much for them as the Selectmen of the Town or District in which he or they may dwell, shall appraise said Arms at, upon the delivery of the same to the Committee of Supplies at *Watertown*, and exhibiting a certificate of said appraisement, attested by said Selectmen, to the Committee aforesaid, provided said delivery be made within one month from the date hereof.

Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Parker*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Mr. *Aikin*, be a Committee to apply to the Committee of Supplies and the Generals of the Army, and inquire whether the Army is sufficiently supplied with Ammunition.

*Ordered*, That *Daniel Davis*, Esq., be on the Committee appointed to take care of the Estates of the Refugees, in the room of Mr. *Partridge*, who is absent.

The Committee appointed to examine and consider two accounts exhibited to this Congress by Mr. *John Brown*,



reported. The report on each of them was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to examine the within account, beg leave to report, that the same be laid upon the table, till Mr. *Brown* exhibits an account of particulars, with his journal. *JOHN HALE, per order.*

The Committee appointed to examine the within account, beg leave to report, that it does not appear to them that the within mentioned services were rendered in consequence of an application by any person employed by this Colony. *JOHN HALE, per order.*

*Ordered,* That Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Sever*, and Colonel *Otis*, be a Committee to consider the application of the Rev. Dr. *Langdon*, President of *Harvard College*, and report thereon.

The Committee appointed to consider the claims and pretensions of several Colonels in the Army, reported; which Report was accepted. Whereupon,

*Ordered,* That Colonels *Glover*, *David Brewer*, *Woodbridge*, *Little*, and *Jonathan Brewer*, be commissioned as Colonels in the *Massachusetts Army*; and that *Joseph Haven*, Esquire, administer the oath prescribed by Congress. The Report is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to consider the claims and pretensions of the several gentlemen hereafter named, who suppose that they have just ground to expect of this honourable Congress that they should receive commissions, appointing them severally to be chief Colonels in the *Massachusetts Army*, now raising for the defence of the rights of this and the neighbouring Colonies, viz : Col. *Glover*, General *Heath*, Colonel *David Brewer*, Col. *Robinson*, Colonel *Woodbridge*, Colonel *Little*, Colonel *Henshaw*, and Colonel *Jonathan Brewer*, beg leave to report the following state of facts to this Congress, viz : That the said Colonels *Glover*, *David Brewer*, *Woodbridge*, *Little*, *Henshaw*, and *Jonathan Brewer*, have exhibited their claims to your Committee; and, according to the returns which the said gentlemen have respectively made to us, the said Colonel *Glover* has levied ten companies, making, in the whole, five hundred and five men, inclusive of officers, and about three quarters of the said number armed with effective firelocks, who are willing and choose to serve in the said Army under him, the said *Glover*, all now at *Marblehead*.

That the said *David Brewer* has levied nine companies, amounting, inclusive of officers, to the number of four hundred and sixty-five men, who choose to serve under him as their Colonel, and that three hundred and seven of the said men are armed with effective fire-arms, and that said companies, excepting thirty-four men, who are on their way to Head-Quarters, are posted at *Roxbury*, *Dorchester*, and *Watertown*.

That the said *Woodbridge* has levied eight companies, amounting, inclusive of officers, to the number of three hundred and fifty-four men, who choose to serve under him as their chief Colonel, and that two hundred and seventy-three of the said men are armed with good effective firelocks, and that all the said men, excepting seven, are now in the Camp in *Cambridge*; the said seven men are on the road hither.

And that the said *Little* has raised eight companies, (according to General *Ward's* return,) amounting, inclusive of officers, to the number of five hundred and nine men, who choose to serve under him as their chief Colonel, and all the said men are armed with good effective firelocks, and three hundred and eighty-two of them with good bayonets fitted to their firelocks, and that seven of the said companies are at the Camp in *Cambridge*, and one company at *Cape Ann*, by order of the Committee of Safety.

And that the said *Jonathan Brewer* has levied eight companies, amounting, inclusive of officers, to the number of three hundred and ninety-seven men, who choose to serve under him, the said *Jonathan*, as their chief Colonel, and that three hundred and two of the said men are armed with good firelocks, and that all the said men, excepting twenty-seven who are on the road hither, are posted at *Cambridge* and *Brookline*; and the said *Brewer* supposes, from accounts he has received, that one Captain *Murray* is on the road from *Hatfield* hither with a full company.

And that the said Colonel *Henshaw* has returned to us that he has a prospect of several companies arriving shortly here, who he supposes would be inclined to serve under him as their chief Colonel.

And that General *Heath* and Colonel *Robinson* have made no returns to us, your Committee, of their levies, or whether they are willing to serve in the said Army as Colonels.

And upon these facts your Committee are clearly of opinion, that the safety of the Country, and the promoting the publick service, make it highly necessary and expedient that the said Colonels *Glover*, *David Brewer*, *Woodbridge*, *Little*, and *Jonathan Brewer*, be, without delay, commissioned as chief Colonels in the Army aforesaid, and that their Field-Officers, Captains, and Subalterns be also commissioned as soon as a list of them can be settled, inasmuch as your Committee are fully satisfied, from good documents, that all the men contained in the nineteen Regiments already organized, together with all the men levied by the said Colonels *Glover*, *David Brewer*, *Woodbridge*, *Little*, and *Jonathan Brewer*, together with an allowance of four hundred and fifty men which may have been enlisted by General *Heath*, and the like number by Colonel *Robinson*, will fall considerably short of amounting to thirteen thousand six hundred men; and also because your Committee apprehend that this Congress may, without any injustice to the Field-Officers already commissioned, or any other, make such orders, that the amount of the pay of the whole Army may not be unreasonably enhanced, by a greater number of Regiments than by the last establishment it was intended the Army should consist of. All which is most humbly submitted by your Committee.

*JOSEPH HAWLEY, per order.*

Adjourned to *Friday* morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, June 16, 1775.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will take into consideration a Resolve offered to the Congress by the Committee of Supplies, (through the hands of Major *Fuller*,) relative to supplying the Soldiers with Rum.

The Resolve was accordingly considered and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, by a Resolve of Congress, relative to the allowance of Soldiers, no provision is made for the delivery of Rum or Spirituous Liquors, upon extraordinary occasions;

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer of the Army, the Lieutenant-General, the Major-Generals, and the Brigadier-Generals, be, and hereby are respectively empowered to draw on the Commissary for Spirituous Liquors for such Soldiers as from time to time they may think necessary to supply therewith, provided always that the said General Officers shall not allow any Soldiers Spirituous Liquors as aforesaid, unless upon extraordinary duty, or otherwise particularly circumstanced.

*Ordered*, That the Hon. Major *Hawley*, Hon. Colonel *Gerrish*, Hon. Colonel *Warren*, Colonel *Prescott*, Colonel *Farley*, Mr. *Aikin*, and Dr. *Hall*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee relative to an augmentation of the Army, a supply of Arms to the Soldiers, &c., and report thereon.

The Order of the Day moved for, for further considering the Report of the Committee respecting the expediency of fitting out some armed Vessels.

*Voted*, That there be a further assignment thereof, viz : to three o'clock, P. M.

*Ordered*, That *John Row*, Captain; *Mark Pool*, Lieutenant; *Ebenezer Cleaveland*, Ensign, be commissioned in Colonel *Bridge's* Regiment.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Richmond*, Dr. *Taylor*, and Mr. *Partridge*, be a Committee to prepare a complaisant Letter to General *Whitcomb*, to desire a more explicit answer respecting his acceptance of the post of First Major-General, who reported the following :

In Provincial Congress, June 16, 1775.

SIR: Your letter, wherein you express yourself willing to continue in the service of this Colony until the Army is regulated and properly encamped, and then rely on a discharge, was read with much concern by this Congress, who earnestly hope you will continue in office till the conclusion



of the campaign, and must beg your further and more explicit answer.

To General *Whitcomb*.

Which was accepted; and the Secretary directed to sign the Letter.

Colonel *Jonathan Brewer* was sworn and commissioned.

Colonel *David Brewer* was sworn and commissioned.

Colonel *Glover* was sworn and commissioned.

The Committee on Colonel *Henshaw's* Petition for an allowance for his journey to *Connecticut* reported; which Report was amended and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider the within account beg leave to report, that they think it reasonable to allow Col. *Joseph Henshaw*, for his expenses, 4*l*. 7*s*.; horse travel for him and servant, 1*l*. 5*s*.; time, 2*l*. 16*s*.—8*l*. 8*s*. Deduct 2*s*. per day from the sum charged for the time of Colonel *Henshaw* and his servant, 14*s*.—7*l*. 14*s*.

Receiver-General directed to pay it.

SAMUEL HARDING, *Chairman*.

Dr. *Hall* and Dr. *Jones* were added to the Committee to examine Surgeons for the Army.

*Resolved*, That any three of said Committee shall be a quorum.

*Ordered*, That commissions be delivered to two Companies in Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, agreeable to his list exhibited.

— Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Otis* and Mr. *Johnson* be added to the Committee who were appointed to consider the late extraordinary Proclamation of General *Gage*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Benjamin Ely* be appointed to obtain of the Committee of Safety, as soon as possible, a list of such gentlemen as they can recommend to be commissioned as Officers of the Train.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to pay to Colonel *Joseph Henshaw* the sum of seven Pounds, fourteen Shillings, in full for his account, reported and accepted by the Congress.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the following officers of Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, viz: Captain *Ebenezer Winship*, Lieut. *William Warren*, Ensign *Richard Buckminster*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Orne*, Mr. *Glover*, and Major *Brooks*, be a Committee to consider what may be done with respect to such Vessels as are now ready to sail with Fish on board, there being a Resolve of this Congress against the exportation of Fish, &c.; and in particular the case of Mr. *Ellis Gray* and *Richard Hinckley*, which has been laid before this Congress.

The Committee on the violation of the *Sabbath* reported; which Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

As it has pleased *Almighty God*, in his Providence, to suffer the calamities of an unnatural war to take place among us, in consequence of our sinful declensions from him, and our great abuse of those invaluable blessings bestowed upon us; and as we have reason to fear that unless we become a penitent and reformed people, we shall feel still severer tokens of the divine displeasure; and as the most effectual way to escape those desolating judgments which so evidently hang over us, and, if it may be, obtain the restoration of our former tranquillity, will be that we repent and return, every one from his iniquities, unto him that correcteth us, which, if we do in sincerity and truth, we have no reason to doubt but he will remove his judgments, cause our enemies to be at peace with us, and prosper the work of our hands:

And as among the prevailing sins of this day, which threaten the destruction of this land, we have reason to lament the frequent profanations of the *Lord's* day or *Christian Sabbath*; many spending their time in idleness or sloth, others in diversions, and others in journeying, or business, which is not necessary on that day:

And as we earnestly desire that a stop might be put to this great and prevailing evil: It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended by this Congress to the people of all ranks and denominations throughout this Colony, that they not only pay a religious regard to that

day, and to the publick worship of *God* thereon, but that they also use their influence to discountenance and suppress any profanation thereof in others.

And it is further *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Ministers of the Gospel to read this Resolve to their several congregations, accompanied with such exhortations as they shall think proper.

And whereas, there is great danger that the profanation of the *Lord's* day will prevail in the Camp, we earnestly recommend to all the officers not only to set a good example, but that they strictly require of their soldiers to keep up a religious regard to that day, and attend upon the publick worship of *God* thereon, so far as may be consistent with other duties.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Resolve be printed in handbills, and sent to the several Ministers of each Town and District in this Colony.

General *Heath* and Colonel *Robinson* returned a list of their Companies. And whereas there are several of the same Companies returned in each,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Batchelder*, Mr. *Durfee*, Major *Perley*, Major *Fuller* of *Middleton*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to consider of the same, and report.

A further time was assigned to make choice of Brigadier-Generals, Quartermasters-General, and Adjutants-General, viz: to-morrow morning, eleven o'clock.

Colonel *Coffin*, Mr. *Stephen Hall*, and Col. *Davis* were chosen a Committee to consider the Petition of *James Kirkwood*.

The Committee on the Petition of *Ellis Gray* and *Richard Hinckley*, &c., reported. The two Reports were accepted, and are as follow:

The Committee appointed to take under consideration the Petition of Messrs. *Ellis Gray* and *Richard Hinckley*, relative to eighty hogsheads of *Jamaica* Cod-Fish laden on two vessels bound to the *West-Indies*, the one of which would have sailed before the Resolve of this honourable Congress, forbidding the exportation of Fish, was published, had she not been detained by the elopement of her hands, beg leave to report, that being fully convinced by the accounts given us by Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Hinckley*, that the Fish those two gentlemen were about to export is of such a kind (being old *Jamaica* Fish) as, if detained, cannot possibly be of any advantage to this Colony, but must perish, this Colony being plentifully supplied with new Fish, that permission be given by this Congress to the owners of said vessels for their proceeding on their voyage, provided there is no other kind of provision on board, except what is for the ship's use. And further, that toleration be given to all other owners of vessels for their departure, who shall convince this Congress, or a Committee thereof, that their vessels and cargoes are in the same predicament; as no possible advantage can accrue from their detention.

J. ORNE, *per order*.

The Committee appointed to examine the bearer of a certificate from *Newburyport*, setting forth that *Jonathan Titcomb* and *Stephen Hooper*, Esquires, of *Newburyport*, have shipped on board two vessels one hundred and thirty hogsheads *Jamaica* Fish, which is said to be old Fish, beg leave to report, that they are fully convinced the Fish above mentioned is of such a kind as is expressed in the certificate, and that the vessels who have laded it have no other provisions but a supply for the ship's use, and as such, are of opinion that the owners of said vessels be tolerated to despatch them on their voyages, agreeable to a Resolve of this Congress just now passed, granting indulgence to the owners of vessels in such a predicament for so doing.

J. ORNE, *per order*.

The Committee appointed to consider the late extraordinary Proclamation, signed *Thomas Gage*, reported as follows:

*Resolved*, That the following Proclamation be signed by the President, printed, and published throughout this Colony:

BY THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

The confidence which our countrymen have reposed in us, lays us under the strongest obligation to watch and guard against all the malignant designs of their inveterate enemies.



That the *British* Administration have formed, and have been for several years executing a plan to enslave this and the other *American* Colonies, is a proposition so evident, that it would be an affront to the understanding of mankind to adduce proofs in support of it. We shall therefore only advert to those unhappy circumstances which have been the immediate causes of plunging this People into the horrors of war and desolation. When a Fleet and Army were sent forth to deprive us of every thing that man holds dear; when the Capital of this Colony became a garrison, and fortifications were erected upon the only land entrance into the Metropolis; when the Commander of the Army so far manifested his designs against us as to send out his soldiers in the night to remove the publick magazines of the Colony from their safe lodgment in the country, and place them under the command of a foreign Army; when he evidenced his enmity to the liberties of this Country, by sending a detachment from that Army against the peaceable inhabitants of one of our principal Towns, only because they were assembled quietly to concert measures to save themselves from ruin; when we were totally deprived of the benefit of a legislative body; when the whole system of distributive justice was so mutilated that there could be no reason to hope for any advantages from it; when an Act of Parliament was passed, which the General of the Army resolved to execute, by which our countrymen were given up as a prey to a lawless soldiery, who were screened from punishment here for the murders they might commit; in fine, when the Army and Navy breathed nothing but blood and slaughter, and all our accounts from *England* but too strongly proved the inhuman intentions of those in power: it became us as men, as freemen, and as Christians, to take some steps to preserve our own lives and properties, as well as to secure the inheritance purchased at no less a price than the blood of many thousand of our brave ancestors, entire and undiminished for succeeding generations. The Congress, whom this people then chose, recommended it to them to provide themselves with such articles for their defence as the law of the land required; and further recommended it to them to appropriate some part of their property for the purchasing such stores, to be laid up in publick magazines, as might be useful for the general defence, in case an attack should be made upon us by the Army. The recommendation was cheerfully complied with, and stores were procured in the most peaceable and quiet manner, and deposited in magazines, where they were to have continued without the least injury or disturbance to any one, unless drawn out by necessity to save the Country from destruction. But the possibility of our making resistance to the bloody schemes of our adversaries was the source of continual terror to the traitors, whose aim was to enslave this Country; and General *Gage*, after many little pilferings and several humiliating disappointments in his attempts to rob the people, at length determined to destroy the magazines at *Concord*; he sent the *Grenadiers* and detachments of Light-Infantry of every Regiment, about one thousand in number, secretly by night over *Charles River*. On their way some of the officers captured and otherwise infamously abused several of the inhabitants; and when the body arrived at *Lexington* meeting-house, which was very early in the morning of the ever-memorable nineteenth of *April*, they, in a most barbarous and infamous manner, fired upon a small number of the inhabitants, and cruelly murdered eight men. The fire was returned by some of the survivors, but their number was too inconsiderable to annoy the regular Troops, who proceeded on their errand, and, upon coming up to *Concord*, began to destroy by fire and water the stores and magazines, until a party of them again fired upon and killed two more of the inhabitants. The native bravery of our countrymen could now no longer be restrained; a small party, consisting of about two or three hundred men, attacked them with such spirit and resolution, as compelled them soon to retreat. At *Lexington* they met a re-enforcement of regular Troops, consisting of about eight hundred, with two field-pieces, commanded by Lord *Percy*; this, however, did not encourage them to keep their ground, but they continued their route towards *Charlestown*, marking their way with every species of desolation and cruelty which their haste would permit. The burning and robbing of houses, the abuses and barbarities offered to defenceless

women and children, the wanton slaughter of the aged and helpless, will be perpetual memorials of the base spirit which actuated the perpetrators. Upon their arrival at *Charlestown* our countrymen quitted the pursuit, and the next day suffered them, without annoyance, to cross the river and return to *Boston*.

This action of the Troops destroyed every hope of coming to any accommodation with them; we therefore were compelled to raise an Army to prevent such bloody excursions in future. An Army is therefore raised and appointed for that purpose, and we are, with the greatest reluctance, obliged to declare, that we have now nothing to depend upon, under *God*, to preserve *America* from slavery and destruction but our own arms. To these we have been forced to make our appeal, and by these we are determined to maintain our rights. And we are obliged to declare, and do now publickly declare all persons who shall afford any aid, assistance, or relief, or hold any manner of communication of any kind whatsoever with General *Gage*, Admiral *Graves*, or the Army, or Navy, or any one of those now under their command, who are stationed in our Metropolis and the harbour of *Boston*, or elsewhere, or any persons who are known or shall hereafter be known to have afforded such aid, or to have had such communication with them, or either of them, to be enemies and traitors to their Country, and they shall be proceeded against and treated as such; excepting only such of the unhappy inhabitants of *Boston* as have, by a treacherous and most infamous breach of faith in General *Gage*, been prevented from removing out of the Town of *Boston*, whose peculiar circumstances this Congress will, at all times, make due allowance for, so long as they shall avoid doing any thing to obstruct or counteract such steps as this Congress shall think fit to take. But the said inhabitants are strictly forbidden, whatever may be the consequence of their refusal, to be in any the least degree instrumental in assisting the enemy, or opposing the Country, as they would avoid the penalties due to the enemies thereof.

From a real tenderness to our fellow-men, we most sincerely regret the unhappy situation of the soldiery and sailors in the Army and Navy now stationed in the Town and harbour of *Boston*, and assure them, upon that faith which never has been, and we trust never will be violated, that upon their quitting the infamous service in which they are (as we must in charity suppose, contrary to their own inclinations and principles) engaged, we will receive them as brethren and fellow-subjects, and protect them against every attempt that may be made by our enemies to force them again into the disgraceful and inhuman service in which they are now employed.

And that our earnest desire to discover our tender regard to our few misguided fellow-countrymen, and our readiness to forgive even those who have knowingly offended, we do promise and engage a full and free pardon to all persons who have fled to the Town of *Boston* for refuge, and to other publick offenders against the rights and liberties of this Country, of what kind or denomination soever; excepting only from the benefit of such pardon, *Thomas Gage*, *Samuel Graves*; those Counsellors who were appointed by mandamus and have not signified their resignation, viz: *Jonathan Sewall*, *Charles Paxton*, *Benjamin Halliwell*; and all the natives of *America* not belonging to the Navy or Army who went out with the regular Troops on the nineteenth of *April* last, and were countenancing, aiding, and assisting them in the robberies and murders then committed; whose offences are of too flagitious a nature to admit of any other consideration than that of condign punishment; provided they take the benefit hereof by making a surrender of themselves to any General Officer belonging to the *Massachusetts* Army, and subscribe a declaration of their readiness to comply with, support, and abide by all the resolutions and determinations which are already made by this or any former Congress, or that shall hereafter be made by this or any future Congress or House of Representatives of this Colony, within thirty days from the date hereof. And it is earnestly enjoined upon the Selectmen, Committees of Correspondence, Committees of Safety, and all other officers of every Town in this Colony, that they use their utmost diligence to discover and make known to this Congress any person or persons who shall, in any respect, attempt to do any thing tending to render in-



effectual their designs and doings. And we trust that the *God of Armies*, on whom we rely for a blessing upon our arms, which we have taken up in support of the great and fundamental principles of natural justice, and the common and indefeasible rights of mankind, will guide and direct us in our designs, and at last, in infinite goodness to this his injured people, restore peace and freedom to the *American world*.

*Voted*, That *Tuesday* next, ten o'clock, before noon, be assigned for the further consideration thereof.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Lothrop*, Colonel *Grout*, and *Mr. Crane*, be a Committee to fill commissions for the Field-Officers of the Regiment of Artillery, as recommended by the Committee of Safety.

*Resolved*, That a Commission be made out for *Mr. Heath*, as Colonel of a Regiment of the *Massachusetts Army*.

*Resolved*, That *Deacon Plympton* be appointed to countersign the small Notes, instead of *Col. Richmond*.

The Committee appointed to consider the application of President *Langdon*, reported; which Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That it be, and hereby is, recommended to as many of the Overseers of *Harvard College* as can be called together, under the present circumstances of the College and the Country, to meet and join with the Corporation of said College in conferring Academical Degrees at the approaching season of the Annual Commencement on such candidates as may offer themselves and be judged qualified for the same, and to transact any other important matters relative to that Society, in the same manner and to all intents and purposes that the whole body of the Overseers might do, if present.

*Voted*, That the Receiver-General, *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, as also *Deacon Plympton*, have leave of absence from to-morrow afternoon until *Monday* morning.

Adjourned till eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Saturday, June 17, 1775.

The Committee, on the account of *Mrs. Coolidge*, reported; the Report was ordered to lie on the table till the President came into Congress.

The Congress granted leave of absence to *Mr. J. Orne*, being bound on a journey to *Philadelphia*.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the property of some persons who have left their habitations in sundry Towns in this Colony, and also have discovered themselves to be enemies to the rights of this Colony and the Continent, &c., reported.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Edwards*, *Col. Thompson*, and *Col. Glover*, be a Committee to consider upon the expediency and means of procuring Fire-Arms and Powder from *Philadelphia* and elsewhere, which Committee reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider upon the expediency and means of procuring Fire-Arms and Powder from *Philadelphia* and elsewhere, and to report in the form of a Resolve, report accordingly:

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supply be directed to employ *Mr. Joshua Orne*, a member of this Congress, for this end, and that they, by letter, desire that the Honourable Continental Congress would be pleased to grant to *Mr. Orne* their aid in the premises.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Resolve of the Committee of Safety, respecting the augmentation of the Army, and supplying the Army with Arms, &c., reported in part. The Report was considered and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, the hostile incursions this Country is exposed to, and the frequent alarms we may expect from the military operations of our enemies, make it necessary that the good people of this Colony be on their guard and prepared at all times to resist their attacks, and to aid and assist their brethren:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be, and hereby is, recommended to the Militia in all parts of this Colony to hold themselves in readiness to march at a minute's warning to the relief of any place that may be attacked, or to the support of our Army, with at least twenty cartridges or

rounds of powder and ball. And to prevent all confusion or delay, it is further recommended to the inhabitants of this Colony living on the sea-coasts, or within twenty miles of them, that they carry their arms and ammunition with them to meeting on the Sabbath, and other days when they meet for publick worship.

*Resolved*, That all vacancies occasioned by the officers going into the Army, or otherwise, in the several Regiments of Militia, be immediately filled up; and it is recommended to the Regiments, where such vacancies are, to supply them in manner and form as prescribed by the Resolutions of Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Resolve aforementioned, brought in by said Committee last mentioned, be immediately printed in handbills, and that the number be three hundred.

*Voted*, That *Capt. Goodman*, *Mr. Brown*, and *Major Bliss*, be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to get said three hundred handbills printed, and distribute the same to the several Towns and Districts in this Colony.

*Resolved*, That *Doctor Moses Gunn* be, and hereby is appointed to countersign the large Notes, instead of the *Hon. Joseph Warren*, Esq.

Colonel *Jonathan Brewer's* list of Officers in his Regiment was presented.

*Ordered*, That a Commission be delivered to each of the said Officers, except to *Joseph Stebbins*, who has but twenty-one men in his Company.

Colonel *David Brewer's* list of Officers in his Regiment was presented.

*Ordered*, That a Commission be delivered to each of said Officers.

*Resolved*, That *Captain Holmes*, *Major Brooks*, and *Captain Smith*, be a Committee to confer with the Printers *Edes*, *Hall*, and *Thomas*, and know of them respectively upon what terms they will print handbills, and also such pieces as may be desired by this Congress to be put in the weekly Papers, and make report to this Congress, in writing, with all convenient speed.

The Petition of sundry persons from *Egagon Reach* was read, and committed to the Committee on the state of the sea-coasts.

On the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of *Egagon Reach*, No. 4, so called, praying for a small supply of Provisions:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended by this Congress to the Committee of Safety of the Town of *Salem*, or to the like Committee or Committees of Correspondence of any other Towns within this Province, to supply Messrs. *Robert Byard* and *Alexander Greenlaw*, of said *Egagon Reach*, No. 4, for the present relief of the said inhabitants, with the following articles, viz: forty bushels of *Indian Corn* and five barrels of *Pork*; and take in return for the same, cord *Wood*, or such other payment as the said *Robert Byard* and *Alexander Greenlaw* may be able to make. And in case they, the said *Byard* and *Greenlaw*, should not make satisfaction for the same in a reasonable time, it shall be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Province, and the said *Byard* and *Greenlaw* shall refund the same as soon as may be.

Several of the Committees who were appointed to consider the state and circumstances of the sea-coasts, viz: *Hon. Mr. Sever*, *Hon. Mr. Spooner*, *Colonel Cutt*, and *Captain Maynard*, being absent,

*Ordered*, That *Major Hall*, *Mr. Aikin*, *Captain Morton*, and *Captain King*, be appointed in their stead.

*Resolved*, That the vote for choosing Brigadier-Generals from the Colonels who have been commissioned by this Congress, be so far reconsidered as that *Colonel Heath*, though he has not yet received his commission, may be eligible to that office.

The Committee appointed to consider the Resolutions of the Committee of Safety, reported the following Resolve and Schedule, which were accepted:

Whereas, some of the inhabitants of the new plantations in this Colony, not incorporated, and some of the inhabitants of the neighbouring Colonies, together with a number of the late inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, have enlisted into the Army now raising in this Colony, to



whom the Resolve of Congress, dated *May 9, 1775*, empowering the Selectmen to supply the inhabitants of their respective Towns with Arms, &c., did not extend, and by that means many of such men are not provided with sufficient Arms: therefore,

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of the several Towns and Districts in the Counties specified in a list hereunto annexed, who may have good and sufficient Firelocks, be, and hereby are, most earnestly advised, as soon as possible to provide and deliver to such person or persons as are to be now appointed by this Congress to receive the same, the full number of good effective Firelocks specified in the said list for each Town and District to supply; for which Firelocks every owner thereof shall receive such sum, in the bills of credit of this Colony, as the person or persons now to be appointed by this Congress to receive such Firelock, and the owner thereof, shall agree to be the value of the same, within forty days after the delivery of such Firelock; for all which Firelocks, delivered as aforesaid, the person to be appointed by this Congress to receive the same, shall give his receipt therefor, in the form following:

"The . . . . day of . . . . , 1775.

"Received of *A B* . . . . Firelock, to the use of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, of the value of . . . . , which sum the Receiver-General of the said Colony is directed, in forty days after the date hereof, to pay to the said *A B*, or order, in bills of credit of this Colony."

And the Receiver-General, upon such receipt being produced to him, is empowered and required to pay out of the Treasury of this Colony the sum specified in such receipt, in the bills of credit aforesaid, to the person named therein, or his order; and, furthermore, the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence of the several Towns and Districts aforesaid, are hereby most earnestly requested to afford all possible aid and assistance to the persons to be appointed by this Congress to procure the said Firelocks, that so the said Arms may be supplied to our Army with the greatest expedition. And the persons to be appointed to procure said Firelocks are hereby severally empowered and directed to employ such Wagoners and Teamsters as shall be necessary, with great despatch to convey the same to the Army, and to order the Receiver-General of this Colony to pay out of the Treasury of the same, in bills of credit as aforesaid, such sums as they shall agree on and draw for; and the said Receiver-General is hereby authorized and directed to pay the orders so drawn.

| <i>Worcester County.</i> |   |   |                          |                   |        |
|--------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Worcester,               | - | - | 30                       | Holden,           | - - 8  |
| Lancaster,               | - | - | 32                       | Douglass,         | - - 7  |
| Mendon,                  | - | - | 24                       | Grafton,          | - - 12 |
| Brookfield,              | - | - | 31                       | Petersham,        | - - 12 |
| Oxford,                  | - | - | 11                       | Royalston,        | - - 2  |
| Charlton,                | - | - | 11                       | Westminster,      | - - 10 |
| Sutton,                  | - | - | 31                       | Athol,            | - - 6  |
| Leicester,               | - | - | 12                       | Templeton,        | - - 8  |
| Spencer,                 | - | - | 10                       | Princeton,        | - - 8  |
| Paxton,                  | - | - | 6                        | Ashturnham,       | - - 3  |
| Rutland,                 | - | - | 15                       | Winchendon,       | - - 3  |
| Oakham,                  | - | - | 6                        |                   |        |
| Hubbardston,             | - | - | 2                        |                   | 514    |
|                          |   |   | <i>Hampshire County.</i> |                   |        |
| New-Braintree,           | - | - | 10                       | Springfield,      | - - 26 |
| Southborough,            | - | - | 12                       | West-Springfield, | - - 25 |
| Westborough,             | - | - | 12                       | Wilbraham,        | - - 11 |
| Northborough,            | - | - | 8                        | Northampton,      | - - 25 |
| Lunenburg,               | - | - | 16                       | Southampton,      | - - 10 |
| Fitchburgh,              | - | - | 6                        | Hadley,           | - - 11 |
| Uxbridge,                | - | - | 11                       | South-Hadley,     | - - 9  |
| Northbridge,             | - | - | 5                        | Amherst,          | - - 12 |
| Harvard,                 | - | - | 16                       | Granby,           | - - 7  |
| Dudley,                  | - | - | 10                       | Hatfield,         | - - 14 |
| Hutchinson,              | - | - | 13                       | Westfield,        | - - 19 |
| Bolton,                  | - | - | 15                       | Deerfield,        | - - 15 |
| Upton,                   | - | - | 6                        | Greenfield,       | - - 10 |
| Shrewsbury,              | - | - | 22                       | Sunderland,       | - - 9  |
| Sturbridge,              | - | - | 12                       | Montague,         | - - 8  |
| Leominster,              | - | - | 12                       | Northfield,       | - - 10 |
| Hardwick,                | - | - | 17                       | Brimfield,        | - - 15 |
| Western,                 | - | - | 11                       | South-Brimfield,  | - - 10 |

|            |   |     |             |   |     |
|------------|---|-----|-------------|---|-----|
| Monson,    | - | 8   | Acton,      | - | 5   |
| Pelham,    | - | 14  | Dunstable,  | - | 5   |
| Blanford,  | - | 9   | Tewksbury,  | - | 4   |
| Palmer,    | - | 11  | Chelmsford, | - | 7   |
| Granville, | - | 16  | Billerica,  | - | 7   |
| New-Salem, | - | 9   | Stow,       | - | 4   |
| Warwick,   | - | 5   | Framingham, | - | 3   |
| Ashfield,  | - | 8   | Wilmington, | - | 4   |
| Southwick, | - | 8   |             |   | 102 |
|            |   | 334 |             |   |     |

#### *Suffolk County.*

| Wrentham,   | - | 25 | Bridgewater,           | - | 25 |
|-------------|---|----|------------------------|---|----|
| Medway,     | - | 10 | Middleborough,         | - | 16 |
| Bellingham, | - | 6  |                        |   | 41 |
| Walpole,    | - | 4  | <i>Bristol County.</i> |   |    |
| Medfield,   | - | 4  | Attleborough,          | - | 10 |
|             |   | 49 | Rehoboth,              | - | 15 |
|             |   |    |                        |   | 25 |

#### *Middlesex County.*

|              |   |    |            |   |      |
|--------------|---|----|------------|---|------|
| Marlborough, | - | 20 |            |   |      |
| Littleton,   | - | 6  | Worcester, | - | 514  |
| Hopkinton,   | - | 9  | Hampshire, | - | 334  |
| Westford,    | - | 6  | Suffolk,   | - | 49   |
| Groton,      | - | 7  | Middlesex, | - | 102  |
| Shirley,     | - | 2  | Plymouth,  | - | 41   |
| Pepperel,    | - | 4  | Bristol,   | - | 25   |
| Townshend,   | - | 4  | Total,     |   | 1065 |
| Dracut,      | - | 5  |            |   |      |

*Resolved*, That four o'clock, P. M., be assigned for choosing Committees to receive and purchase Fire-Arms, agreeable to the foregoing Resolve.

Afternoon.

A Letter from the President of the Continental Congress, and a Resolve containing several recommendations to this and the other Colonies, and two Letters, (one to the Lieutenant-Governour of *Rhode-Island*, and one to the Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire*,) brought express by Mr. *Fessenden*, were read; whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Captain *Morton* take charge of the Letter to *New-Hampshire*, and Mr. *Slead* that to *Rhode-Island*, to deliver them immediately, and return to Congress as soon as may be.

*Resolved*, That the Hon. Colonel *Warren*, Hon. Major *Hawley*, Hon. Colonel *Gerrish*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Prescott*, Deacon *Cheever*, Captain *Brown*, Captain *Robinson*, and the Secretary of the Congress, be a Committee to notify and call together the Members of this Congress in any extraordinary emergency, at any other time, or to any other place than that to which it may stand adjourned.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

Whereupon, Committees were chosen to purchase Arms agreeable to the Resolve passed in the forenoon. The names of the Committees chosen are expressed in the following Resolve, viz:

*For the County of WORCESTER.*—Captain *William Page*, of *Hardwick*; Captain *Abiel Sadler*, of *Upton*; Mr. *Hemenway*, of *Shrewsbury*.

*For the County of HAMPSHIRE.*—Maj. *Benjamin S. Ely*, of *West-Springfield*; Major *John Bliss*, of *Hadley*.

*For the County of SUFFOLK.*—Captain *Lemuel Kollock*, of *Wrentham*.

*For the County of MIDDLESEX.*—Col. *Simeon Spaulding*, of *Chelmsford*; Capt. *Josiah Stone*, of *Framingham*.

*For the County of PLYMOUTH.*—Major *Ebenezer White*, of *Rochester*.

*For the County of BRISTOL.*—Colonel *George Williams*, of *Taunton*.

Adjourned to Sunday morning, eight o'clock.

Sunday, June 18, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the Records and Papers of the Provincial Congress be secured and taken care of, at the discretion of the Secretary; and that the Committee of Supplies be, and hereby are directed to procure a horse for the Secretary, that he may have one ready for that purpose on any emergency.

A Petition from the Committee of *Waldoborough* for Powder, was read; whereupon,



*Resolved*, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lothrop* appoint some Messenger to go to Dr. *Church* for the Letters it is said he has brought from *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Kollock*, Mr. *Edwards*, Colonel *Gerrish*, Doctor *Church*, and Colonel *Otis*, be a Committee to prepare a Letter to the Continental Congress on the late attack of the King's Troops at *Bunker's Hill*, &c., and such other matters as they may think proper, and report to this Congress. And also, that they take into consideration a Letter from the President of the Continental Congress, and several recommendations of the said Continental Congress therein enclosed, received by Mr. *Fessenden*; and another Letter from the said President, with a Resolve enclosed, relative to a mode of Government for this Colony; and also to inquire of the Committee of Supplies what steps they have taken to procure Powder from the other Governments of *New-England*.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Supplies be directed to write to *Rhode-Island* and *New-Hampshire*, touching the article of Powder; also to send to each of said Governments a copy of the recommendation of the Continental Congress.

— Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Thurston*, Colonel *Parks*, and Doctor *Corbet*, be a Committee to consider a Petition from *Egamagon Reach*, and also a Petition from *Deer Island*.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning, eight o'clock.

— Monday, June 19, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Bonney*, Mr. *Foster*, and Colonel *Thompson*, be and hereby are appointed a Committee to repair immediately to *Cambridge*, and inquire what methods are taken to supply the Army at the Intrenchments with Victuals and Drink, and take effectual care that they be well supplied without delay.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Parks*, Deacon *Fairbanks*, and Doctor *Whiting*, be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to take into consideration a Letter from General *Ward* respecting the supplying the soldiers with Blankets and other articles lost in battle; also for providing Spears for defence.

Doctor *Hall*, Doctor *Jones*, and Mr. *Bigelow*, were appointed a Committee to consider the expediency of establishing another Hospital for the sick and wounded of the Army, and ordered to sit forthwith.

Deacon *Bailey*, Captain *Goodman*, and Mr. *Fisher*, were appointed a Committee to inquire of the Committee of Supplies how far they have proceeded to supply the soldiery with Blankets, &c., and make report.

Captain *Goodrich*, Mr. *Aikin*, and Doctor *Dwight*, are appointed to consider a Letter from the Hon. *Jedediah Preble* and Hon. *Enoch Freeman*, respecting Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment being commissioned for the defence of the sea-coasts.

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of establishing certain officers for taking care of the Ordnance Stores, viz: Storekeeper, Conductors, and Clerks; also the establishment of a Company of Artificers, &c., reported. The Report was amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of establishing certain officers for taking care of the Ordnance Stores; also, what Artificers, and the number that may be necessary for the Army, and in what way they shall be established, have attended that service, and beg leave to report as follows:

That in addition to the Storekeeper already appointed by this Congress, there be established four Conductors of Stores, and two Clerks, for the Ordnance Department; and a company of Artificers, to consist of a Master Carpenter or Overseer, with forty-nine Privates; and the Committee of Safety be desired to recommend to this Congress fit persons for the offices abovenamed; and if any such Privates who are now engaged in either of the Regiments

of the *Massachusetts* Army, are inclined to join the above-said company, they may have leave so to do, they relinquishing their pay as Soldiers from the time they engage as Artificers, and be equipped with fire-arms and Accoutrements; and the Overseer (when appointed) be ordered to consult the Chief Engineer with respect to the number of each kind of Artificers that may be necessary, and that he complete his Company, and make return thereof to this Congress, with all possible despatch. Your Committee, furthermore, beg leave to report an establishment for the Officers and Privates abovementioned, viz:

The Storekeeper, 80 shillings per month; four Conductors, each 48 shillings per month; one Master Carpenter, or Overseer, 80 shillings per month; two Clerks, each 48 shillings per month; forty-nine Privates, (they to find their own tools,) each 50 shillings per month.

All which is humbly submitted.

ELISHA PARKS, per order.

*Resolved*, That three o'clock, P. M., be assigned for the choice of a President of this Congress, in the room of the Hon. *Joseph Warren*, supposed to be killed in the late battle at *Bunker's Hill*.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Resolve of the honourable Continental Congress, respecting the method of establishing Civil Government in this Colony, reported. The Report was read, and debated, and

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the said Report be put off until Dr. *Church*, who was at *Philadelphia* at the time said Resolve of the Continental Congress passed, shall be present.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a Letter from General *Ward* respecting supplying the soldiers with Blankets, &c., lost in battle, and providing Spears, &c., reported. The Report was recommitted.

Colonel *Prescott* and Mr. *Wheeler* were added to the Committee chosen to fill up Commissions for the Officers of the Army.

— Afternoon.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Prescott*, Doctor *Hall*, and Colonel *Otis*, be a Committee to receive, sort, and count the votes for a President.

The Committee having attended that service, reported, that the Hon. *James Warren* was chosen.

*Resolved*, That nine o'clock to-morrow morning be assigned for the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the establishing armed Vessels.

The Committee appointed to inquire of the Committee of Supplies what they had done relative to providing Blankets and Coats, reported verbally, that they had conformed to the Resolve of Congress relative thereto, and looked upon it to be their duty to pay such orders as the Selectmen might draw on them for the Blankets they should purchase, but that they had only paid one Town as yet.

*Resolved*, That the same Committee report to this Congress the price proper to be given for Blankets throughout the whole Colony; and that the Committee of Supplies be directed to suspend the payments for Blankets till some further day; and that the said Committee bring in a Resolve expressive of the reason thereof.

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of establishing another Hospital for the Army, reported, that a house belonging to Doctor *Spring*, of this place, may be had for that purpose: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That said Committee be directed to inquire at what rate per month Doctor *Spring* will let the same.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be directed to subscribe the name of the late President to all the Commissions that are to be delivered out to the officers of the Army, bearing date the 19th of *May*.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider General *Ward's* Letter relative to Spears, was again read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a Letter from the General, informing that a number of the soldiers in the late action lost their clothes and blankets; and also proposing that the Soldiers in the intrenchments



be furnished with Lances or Spears, have attended to that service, and beg leave to report by way of Resolve:

That the Committee of Supplies be, and they are hereby directed to furnish those destitute soldiers with Clothes and Blankets, as soon as may be, who shall produce from the Colonel of the Regiment they belong to certificates of their having lost such clothes and blankets in the late engagement; and that a Committee be chosen immediately to procure from such as can most speedily and conveniently supply them, a sufficient number of good Spears, not exceeding fifteen hundred, either by purchase or hire; and that the same be transmitted to the Army at Cambridge, as soon as possible. All which is humbly submitted.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, June 20, 1775.

The Committee appointed to consider the request of Colonel *Phinney*, reported as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the request of Colonel *Phinney*, with respect to establishing a Regiment in the pay of this Colony to guard the sea-coast within and adjacent to the County of *Cumberland*, have attended to that service, and beg leave to report: That it appears to us necessary that there should be a Regiment, consisting of five hundred men, stationed there for their proper defence, provided said Regiment can be furnished with ammunition, as it appears that those parts are greatly exposed to the ravages of Cutters, &c. All which is humbly submitted.

The Report was ordered to lie on the table till the matter respecting armed Vessels is considered.

Ordered, That Major *Brooks*, Colonel *Mitchell*, Mr. *Ellis*, Mr. *Kollock*, Deacon *Fairbanks*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to purchase Spears, agreeable to a Resolve which passed the Congress yesterday; said Committee to proceed on the business forthwith, to consult with and receive directions from the General respecting the form, &c., of the Spears, and to engage payment for the same in bills of credit of this Colony.

The Committee on the Resolve of the Continental Congress respecting Government, reported a Letter to the several Towns in the Colony; which was read and accepted, and ordered to be printed in handbills, with the Resolve of the Continental Congress at large; and Mr. *Whitney*, Colonel *Freeman*, Captain *Stone*, Doctor *Church*, and Deacon *Cheever*, were appointed a Committee to ascertain the number to be printed, to get them printed, and to disperse the same to the several Towns and Districts in this Colony; and also to consider in what manner the late inhabitants of the Towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown* should choose Members to represent them.

The Resolve of the Continental Congress, and the Letter to the Towns, follow, viz:

"In Congress, Friday, June 9, 1775.

"Resolved, That no obedience being due to the Act of Parliament for altering the Charter of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, nor to a Governour and Lieutenant-Governour who will not observe the directions of, but endeavour to subvert that Charter, the Governour and Lieutenant-Governour are to be considered as absent, and their offices vacant. And as there is no Council there, and the inconveniences arising from the suspension of the powers of Government are intolerable, especially at a time when General *Gage* hath actually levied war, and is carrying on hostilities against His Majesty's peaceable and loyal subjects of that Colony: That in order to conform as near as may be to the spirit and substance of the Charter, it be recommended to the Provincial Congress to write Letters to the inhabitants of the several places which are entitled to Representatives in Assembly, requesting them to choose such Representatives; and that the Assembly, when chosen, should elect Counsellors, which Assembly and Council should exercise the powers of Government, until a Governour of His Majesty's appointment will consent to govern the Colony according to its Charter.

"By order of the Congress:

"JOHN HANCOCK, President.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

### Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

In observance of the foregoing Resolve of the honourable Continental Congress, now sitting at *Philadelphia*, these are to request you forthwith to cause the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of your Town that have an estate of freehold in land within this Province or Territory, of forty Shillings per annum at the least, or other estate to the value of forty Pounds sterling, to assemble at such time and place as you shall appoint, then and there to elect and depute one or more Freeholders, resident in the same Town, according to the numbers set and limited by an Act of the General Assembly, intituled "An Act for ascertaining the number, and regulating the House of Representatives," to serve for and represent them in a Great and General Court or Assembly, to be convened, held, and kept for the service of the said Colony, until the end of the day next preceding the last *Wednesday* of *May* next, if necessary, and no longer, at the meeting-house in *Watertown*, upon *Wednesday*, the 19th day of *July* next ensuing the date hereof; and to warn the person or persons so elected by the major part of the electors present at such election, to be timely notified by one or more of the Constables of your Town to attend the service of this Colony in the said General Court or Assembly, on the day above prefixed, by nine o'clock in the forenoon, and so from day to day during their session and sessions. Hereof we desire you not to fail; and make return of this letter, with the name or names of the person or persons so elected or deputed, and of their being notified, unto the said General Assembly, at the time and place above-mentioned for its meeting. Given under my hand this 19th day of *June*, Anno Domini 1775.

By order of the Congress:

....., President.

Attest: ..... , Secretary.

To the Selectmen of the Town of . . . .

Resolved, That three o'clock, P. M., be assigned for the choice of a Major-General, in the room of the late Doctor *Warren*; and also for the choice of one Brigadier-General.

Several Letters from *Penobscot*, viz: from Mr. *John Lane* and others, were read, and committed to Captain *Webster*, Colonel *Farley*, Captain *Holmes*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Major *Perley*.

Doctor *Gunn* was appointed to report a Resolve on the proposal made by the Committee of Safety relative to the killed and wounded in the late battle.

A Petition from the District of *Woolwich* was presented and read: And thereupon,

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

Upon a motion made, Resolved, That the House of Mr. *Hunt*, at *Cambridge*, be hired for a Hospital; and that the Committee appointed to treat with Doctor *Spring* be a Committee to hire the same.

Ordered, That Doctor *Church*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Doctor *Whiting*, be a Committee to consider what method is proper to be taken to supply the Hospitals with Surgeons; and that the same gentlemen be a Committee to provide Medicines and all other necessities for the Hospitals.

The Report of the Committee on the expediency of establishing armed Vessels, was considered. The Report is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That a number of armed Vessels, not less than six, to mount from eight to fourteen carriage guns, and a proportionable number of swivels, &c., &c., be with all possible despatch provided, fixed, and properly manned, to cruise as the Committee of Safety, or any other person or persons who shall be appointed by this Congress for that purpose, shall from time to time order and direct, for the protection of our trade and sea-coasts against the depredations and piracies of our enemies, and for their annoyance, capture, or destruction.

After debate, the matter was ordered to subside for the present.

The Committee appointed to confer with Doctor *Spring* relative to the use of his house for another Hospital, re-



ported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider of the expediency of establishing another Hospital for the sick and wounded of the Army, have attended that service, and beg leave to report, that they judge it is really expedient to have another established; and they judge that the house of Dr. *Spring*, in *Watertown*, is convenient for that purpose; and that he is willing said house should be improved by the Province for that use; but that he cannot at present ascertain the damage it may be to him, but is willing to submit that matter to the judgment of a Committee to be hereafter appointed by this honourable Congress or House of Assembly.

Ordered, That Doctor *Church*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Mr. *Pickering*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of Mr. *Pidgeon*, Commissary-General.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wheeler*, Dr. *Whiting*, and Captain *Filsbury*, be a Committee to consider a Petition of Colonel *John Patterson*; who reported as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of Colonel *Patterson*, have attended that service, and beg leave to report by way of Resolve: That the Committee of Supplies be directed to give immediate orders for supplying said destitute Soldiers with Blankets, agreeable to the said Petition.

The Committee on the Petition of Mr. *Pidgeon*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That Mr. *John Pidgeon*, Commissary-General, requesting a dismissal from his said office, being under a mistake, have liberty to withdraw his Petition; that the conduct of said Commissary-General in his office has been such as to merit the approbation of this Congress, and of the publick in general; and that said *John Pidgeon* be desired to attend his business as Commissary-General in the service of this Province.

At the request of Mr. *Pidgeon*, the Commissary-General, Ordered, That Doctor *Holten*, Mr. *Devens*, and Col. *Palmer*, be a Committee to consult, and with their advice assist Mr. *Pidgeon* in such matters as appertain to his office.

Resolved, That there be one Deputy-Commissary appointed to each Regiment; and that Mr. *Pidgeon*, the Commissary-General, be desired to lay before the Congress a list of persons proper to be appointed for this business, and to propose an establishment for their pay.

Ordered, That Mr. *Edwards*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Batchelder*, and Doctor *Church*, be a Committee to confer with four *Indians* this day arrived from *Penobscot*, under the conduct of Mr. *John Lane*, and to provide proper entertainment for them while in this place, and for their return home.

Ordered, That Mr. *Pickering*, Mr. *Langdon*, and Col. *Sawyer*, be a Committee to consider the desire of Captain *George Dodge*, for liberty to export a quantity of old *Jamaica* Fish.

On a motion made in behalf of Captain *Thomas Mason* and Captain *George Dodge*, that they might have liberty from this Congress to ship off for the *West-Indies* one hundred and thirty hogsheads of last year's *Jamaica* Cod-Fish, or a quantity not exceeding the same,

Resolved, That it appears to this Congress that the detention of said Fish can be of little or no service to this Colony, and that they be allowed to export the same; and the Committee of Safety for the Town of *Salem* is directed to see that this Resolve be effectually carried into execution; and that no other Provisions, except for the vessel's use, be shipped off in the same.

Resolved, That five o'clock, P. M., be assigned for the choice of some person to preach an Election Sermon on the 19th of *July* next.

—  
Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to consider a Petition from the Committee chosen to take care of the Poor at *Charlestown*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee chosen to take the within Petition into consideration, report, that it is their opinion that the Poor

of the Town of *Charlestown* be provided for by the Selectmen of the several Towns to which they remove, until the further order of this or some future Congress or House of Representatives.

Ordered, That Colonel *Cushing*, Major *Perley*, Col. *Prescott*, Colonel *Barrett*, and Deacon *Fisher*, be a Committee to inquire into the grounds of a report which has prevailed in the Army, that there has been treachery in some of the Officers; and that if they find that such report is without foundation, they bring in a Resolve for quieting the minds of the people in respect thereof.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to consider the request of Captain *George Dodge*, should likewise consider a request made by Deacon *Cheever*, in behalf of Mr. *Russell*, for a similar purpose.

On a motion made in behalf of Mr. *Thomas Russell*, merchant, that he might be allowed to ship off from this Colony one hundred hogsheads of last year's *Jamaica* Fish for the *West-Indies*,

Resolved, That it appears to this Congress that the detention of said Fish can be of little or no service to this Colony, and that he be allowed to export the same; and as part of the said Fish is now at *Salem*, and part at *Newburyport*, it is further

Resolved, That the said *Russell* be allowed to send or transport the Fish which is at *Salem* to *Newburyport*, in order to be shipped off as aforesaid; and the respective Committees of Safety of both said Towns are directed to take care in their own departments that this Resolve be effectually carried into execution; and that no other Provisions, except for the vessel's use, be shipped off in the same.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

Ordered, That Captain *Webster*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Mr. *Fox*, be a Committee to receive and count the votes for a Major-General.

The Committee having attended that service, reported that Colonel *Heath* was chosen.

Resolved, That eleven o'clock to-morrow morning be assigned for the choice of four Brigadier-Generals.

A Return of a Member, viz: Mr. *Beriah Norton*, from *Edgartown*, was read and considered; and the question being put, Whether Mr. *Norton* be regularly returned a Member for said Town? It passed in the negative.

Ordered, That the Secretary transmit to General *Heath* a certificate of his being chosen by this Congress a Major-General in the *Massachusetts* Army, and to desire his acceptance; and that he would attend this Congress as soon as may be, to receive his Commission.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wheeler*, Mr. *Lothrop*, and Mr. *Sayer*, be a Committee to make out a Commission for Major-General *Heath*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Webster*, and Dr. *Taylor*, be a Committee to prepare the form of a Return to be printed on the back of the letter to be sent to the several Towns and Districts for choosing Representatives.

Ordered, That Deacon *Fisher*, Captain *Stone*, and Captain *Thatcher*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from the Committee of Safety, relative to their recommendation of Mr. *John Wiley*, as Captain of a Company of the Train of Artillery; and that they notify the said *Wiley* to be heard thereon.

Ordered, That Captain *Batchelder*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to consider a Petition from *Robert Haskell*.

Ordered, That Captain *Brown* be of the Committee in the room of Major *Hull*, to agree with Mr. *Hunt* for his house in *Watertown*, to be used as a Hospital.

Ordered, That Deacon *Nichols*, Deacon *Fisher*, and Mr. *Hinsdale*, be a Committee to distribute Doctor *Langdon's* Sermons, one to each Minister in the Colony, and one to each Member of the Congress.

The Committee appointed to prepare the form of a Return, to be printed on the back of the letters to the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts, &c., reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:



Pursuant to the letters within written, the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of . . . , qualified as is therein directed, upon due warning given, assembled and met together the . . . day of . . . , 1775, and did then elect and depute . . . to serve for and represent them in the session and sessions of the Great and General Court or Assembly, appointed to be convened, held, and kept at the meeting-house in *Watertown*, upon *Wednesday*, the 19th day of *July*, 1775; the said person being chosen by the major part of the electors present at said meeting.

Dated at . . . aforesaid, the . . . day of . . . , *Anno Domini* 1775.

} *Selectmen of* . . . . .

The person chosen as aforesaid, notified thereof and summoned to attend accordingly, by me,

*Constable of* . . . . .

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Continental Congress, reported. The Report was read, paragraph by paragraph, and accepted, and ordered to be transcribed, authenticated, and sent forward, and is as follows:

*To the Honourable the Continental Congress, now sitting at PHILADELPHIA:*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Having been favoured with your Resolve respecting the assumption of Government in this Colony, we seize the earliest opportunity to express our grateful sentiments for that compassion, seasonable exertion, and abundant wisdom evidenced in your recommendation to this people on that head, and for the generous provision you have made for our support in our efforts for the defence of the common liberty and essential rights of the whole Continent.

As we are plunged into the accumulated distresses of a domestick war, our constant attention to the calls of our brethren in the field will leave us but little time to contemplate the acts of ordinary legislation; but as we are impressed with the indispensable necessity of rescuing this people from the danger they are in of falling into a state of anarchy, and that our publick resolutions may be taken and executed with the greater despatch, we shall apply ourselves with all diligence to fulfil your benevolent intentions, and establish the form of Government recommended by your Honours, that so order and government may be restored to this disturbed community.

We think it our indispensable duty to inform you that re-enforcements from *Ireland*, both of Horse and Foot, being arrived, (the number unknown,) and having good intelligence that General *Gage* was about to take possession of the advantageous posts in *Charlestown* and on *Dorchester Point*, the Committee of Safety advised that our Troops should prepossess them, if possible. Accordingly, on *Friday* evening, the 16th instant, this was effected by about twelve hundred men. About daylight on *Saturday* morning, their line of circumvallation, on a small hill south of *Bunker's Hill*, in *Charlestown*, was closed. At this time the *Lively*, man-of-war, began to fire upon them. A number of our enemy's ships, tenders, cutters, and scows or floating batteries soon came up, from all which the fire was general by twelve o'clock. About two the enemy began to land at a point which leads out towards *Noddle's Island*, and immediately marched up to our intrenchments, from which they were twice repulsed, but in the third attack forced them. Our forces which were in the lines, as well as those sent for their support, were greatly annoyed on every side by balls and bombs from *Copp's Hill*, the ships, scows, &c. At this time the buildings in *Charlestown* appeared in flames in almost every quarter, kindled by red-hot balls, and are since laid in ashes. Though this scene was most horrible, and altogether new to most of our men, yet many stood and received wounds by swords and bayonets before they quitted their lines. At five o'clock the enemy were in full possession of all the posts within the isthmus. In the evening and night following, Gen. *Ward* extended his intrenchments before made at the Stone-House over *Winter Hill*. About six o'clock, P. M., of the same day, the enemy began to cannonade *Roxbury* from *Boston Neck* and elsewhere, which they continued twenty-four hours, with little spirit and less effect.

The number of killed and missing on our side is not

known, but supposed by some to be about sixty or seventy, and by some considerably above that number. Our most worthy friend and President, Doctor *Warren*, lately elected a Major-General, is among them. This loss we feel most sensibly. Lieutenant-Colonel *Parker* and Major *Moore*, of this Colony, and Major *McClary*, from *New-Hampshire*, are also dead. Three Colonels, and perhaps one hundred men, are wounded. The loss of the enemy is doubtless great. By an anonymous letter from *Boston*, we are told that they exult much in having gained the ground, though their killed and wounded amount to about one thousand; but this account exceeds every other estimation. The number they had engaged is supposed to be between three and four thousand. If any error has been made on our side, it was in taking a post so much exposed.

As soon as an estimate can be made of publick and private stocks of gunpowder in this Colony, it shall be transmitted without delay, which we are well assured will be very small, and by no means adequate to the exigences of our case. We apprehend that the scantiness of our stock of that article, cannot fail to induce your Honours still to give your utmost attention to ways and means of procuring full supplies of it. We feel ourselves infinitely obliged to you for your past care in this respect.

We beg leave humbly to suggest, that if a Commander-in-Chief over the Army of the United Colonies should be appointed, it must be plain to your Honours that no part of this Continent can so much require his immediate presence and exertions as this Colony.

Ordered, That the Honourable Major *Hawley* and Mr. *Phillips* be a Committee to draw up a Resolve to be sent to General *Ward*, suggesting to him the expediency of drawing part of the Forces stationed at *Roxbury* to the Camp at *Cambridge*.

The said Committee reported the following Letter, which was accepted, and ordered to be sent by Mr. *Thaxter* to the Camp at *Cambridge* immediately:

SIR: This Congress, considering the present situation of the enemy and that of the division of our Army at *Cambridge*, think proper to suggest to your serious consideration, whether it is not proper and expedient that there should be an immediate draught of a Regiment or more from the *Roxbury* Camp to that at *Cambridge*. Your good sense will undoubtedly incline you to consult General *Thomas* before you determine absolutely on this measure; but we conceive the consideration of this matter ought not to be delayed a moment.

To the Hon. General *Ward*.

Adjourned to *Wednesday* morning, eight o'clock.

— Wednesday, June 21, 1775.

Resolved, That the vote of this Congress, for ranking the Major-Generals agreeable to the order of their choice, be reconsidered.

The Commission prepared for General *Heath* was presented to Congress, read and accepted, and is as follows:

"The Congress of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to the Honourable *William Heath*, Esq., greeting:

"We, reposing especial trust and confidence in your courage and good conduct, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, the said *William Heath*, to be a Major-General of all the Forces raised by the Congress aforesaid, for the defence of this and the other *American* Colonies. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a Major-General, in leading, ordering, and exercising the said Forces in arms, both inferior Officers and Soldiers, and to keep them in good order and discipline; and they are hereby commanded to obey you as their Major-General. And you are yourself to observe and follow such orders and instructions as you shall from time to time receive from the General and Commander-in-Chief of said Forces, or any other your superiour Officers, and to demean yourself according to military rules and discipline established by said Congress, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you.

"Dated at *Watertown*, the 21st of *June*, 1775.

"By order of Congress:

" . . . . . , President."



*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gerrish*, Major *Hawley*, Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Durfee*, and Mr. *Jewett*, be a Committee to consider the expediency of directing General *Ward* to call Colonel *Glover's* Regiment, now stationed at *Marblehead*, to the Camp at *Cambridge*, and report.

The Committee on the Petition of *Robert Haskell*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of *Robert Haskell*, beg leave to report by way of Resolve :

*Resolved*, That the petitioner, *Robert Haskell*, be, and he hereby is permitted to proceed from *Beverly* to *Nova-Scotia*, in a fishing vessel about seventeen years old, that he hath procured for that purpose ; also, to carry three or four persons with him, and the following Provisions, viz : one barrel of Pork, two of Bread, sixteen gallons of Molasses, sixteen gallons of Rum, half a bushel of Beans or Peas, and two bushels of Salt ; but no more provisions of any kind whatever. And that such proceeding will not be contrary to the Resolve passed by the Grand American Congress, the 17th of *May* last, or any other Resolve that honourable Congress have yet published.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Phinney* be admitted into this House, to inform the Congress of the state of the Regiment enlisted in the County of *Cumberland*.

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of directing General *Ward* to call to the Camp at *Cambridge* the Regiment at *Marblehead*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz : [This Report is not to be found.]

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Sayer* wait on General *Ward* with it.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sayer* draw, in the form of a Resolve, the Report of the Committee relative to the Estates of the Refugees.

*Ordered*, That the President sign the Resolve relative to the violation of the *Sabbath*, which passed the 16th instant.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Jones*, Capt. *Stone*, and Capt. *Bragdon*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of *Thomas Twining*.

Mr. *Sayer* reported a Resolve relative to the Estates of the Refugees ; which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the *Cambridge*, *Watertown*, and *Worcester* Papers, and is as follows,\* viz :

Whereas, the property of some persons who have left their habitations in sundry Towns in this Colony, and have discovered themselves to be enemies to the rights of this Colony, and the Continent of *America* in general, and have taken refuge in *Boston* and other places, under the protection of the enemies to said Colony and Continent :

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence of the several Towns and Districts of this Colony, where any property is to be found belonging to any of the aforesaid persons, that they take the same into their care, and make the best improvement thereof in their power ; and also, that it be recommended to the said Committees or Selectmen, to use their endeavours that no strip or waste be made on such property, and to keep an account of all the rents and profits arising from the same, and to be accountable for the same to this or some other Congress or Assembly of this Colony, when thereunto required, they having a reasonable allowance made for their trouble.

\* The following is a copy of the Resolution, as printed under this order of the Congress. The Resolution in the text is recorded on the manuscript Journal :

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, *Watertown*, June 21, 1775.

Whereas, a number of our inveterate enemies have taken shelter under the protection of General *Gage* and his Troops, and have left a considerable interest, whereby it becomes necessary that some provision should be made for the disposal of the same :

*Resolved*, therefore, That the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence of the several Towns and Districts of this Colony, be directed to take under their care the effects and estates of the several persons who have fled for protection to *Boston* or elsewhere, and to improve the same to the best advantage, and render a true account of the profits arising therefrom, to this Congress, or some future House of Representatives of this Colony, they being allowed a reasonable consideration for their trouble.

J. A. WARREN, President,

A true copy from the Minutes :

Attest :

SAM. FREEMAN, Secretary.

Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of calling the General Assembly at another time than that at which it is to be held, if the exigences of the times shall make it necessary.

*Resolved*, That another Major-General be chosen by this Congress, in addition to the two already chosen, and that six o'clock this afternoon be assigned for such choice.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller*, Colonel *Farley*, and Mr. *Wheeler*, be a Committee to inquire how and where materials for making good Paper, proper for Bills of Credit, may be had, if any such bills shall be emitted.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Bragdon* and Colonel *Davis* be a Committee to apply to Mr. *Paul Revere*, desiring him to take care that he does not leave his Engraving Press exposed when he is absent from it ; and said Committee are directed to take the Plates into their hands, and deliver them to this Congress, when the Notes are all struck off.

The Committee who were appointed to confer with the *Indians*, reported as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed by the honourable Colony Congress now sitting, to treat with the *Indian* Chief from the *Penobscot* Tribe, after an introduction on their part, received from the *Indian* the following Address, viz :

The representation he now makes, and the engagements he enters into, are in behalf of the whole Tribe he represents. His heart is good, honest, and upright in all he says. The *English* are a people old and strong, but they are children and weak. They have a large tract of land which they have a right to call their own, and have possessed accordingly for many years. These lands have been encroached upon by the *English*, who have for miles on end cut much of their good timber. They ask that the *English* would interpose and prevent such encroachments for the future, and they will assist us with all their power in the common defence of our country ; and they hope, if the *Almighty* be on our side, the enemy will not be able to deprive us of our lands. They request that Captain *Lane* be an agent for them to settle all matters relative to the above difficulties respecting their lands. They desire a Commissary may be sent among them, of whom they may purchase goods. They desire provisions, powder, &c., may be sent them, which they will buy at a reasonable rate. They say they have been much imposed upon by our traders, and desire such evils may be by us prevented.

*Ordered*, That the request of the *Indians*, as mentioned in said Report, be considered by the Committee aforesaid.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Haven* administer the oaths to General *Heath* as Colonel, and as Major-General in the *Massachusetts* Army.

The President then delivered General *Heath* a Commission as Colonel, and another as a Major-General of the *Massachusetts* Army.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pickering*, Mr. *Lothrop*, and Mr. *Pitts*, be a Committee to deliver Commissions to the following Officers in General *Heath's* Regiment, viz : *Jotham Loring*, Second Major ; *Charles Cushing*, Captain ; *Elias Whitton*, Lieutenant ; *Benjamin Beal*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That the President, Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Gerry*, Colonel *Thompson*, Captain *Goodman*, Colonel *Lincoln*, and Colonel *Freeman*, be a Committee to inquire into the reason of the present want of discipline in the *Massachusetts* Army, and to report to this Congress what is the most proper way to put said Army into a proper regulation.

A Commission was delivered to Colonel *Benjamin Ruggles Woodbridge*, as Colonel of a Regiment in the Colony Army.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers of Colonel *Woodbridge's* Regiment, agreeable to a list by him exhibited to the Committee of Safety.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lincoln*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Mr. *Lothrop*, be a Committee to receive, sort, and count the votes for another Major-General.



Which Committee reported, that they had attended that service, and that *Joseph Fry, Esq.*, was chosen.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Phillips* be appointed forthwith to wait on Colonel *Fry* to inform him of such choice, and to know if he will accept that trust.

The Committee appointed to consider the request of the *Indians* now in *Watertown*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

We, the Delegates of the People of this Province, assembled in Congress, being appointed to transact the public business, have no doubt that any engagement we shall make for and in behalf of our constituents will, on their part, be faithfully ratified and adhered to. We do not doubt of the integrity and honest intentions of our brethren of the *Penobscot* Tribe, and hope, on their parts, that they entertain no jealousy of the uprightness and fidelity of their brethren.

The inhabitants of this Colony disdain to make use of unjustifiable force or artifice to rob their unsuspecting brethren of their rights, and are heartily disposed to prevent any injuries and encroachments upon their neighbours, and to restrain and chastise such invaders as have evidenced any such unjustifiable dispositions. And we hereby strictly forbid any person or persons whatsoever from trespassing or making waste upon any of the lands and territories or possessions beginning at the head of the tide on *Penobscot* River, extending six miles on each side of said river, now claimed by our brethren the *Indians* of the *Penobscot* Tribe, as they would avoid the highest displeasure of this Congress.

We thank our brethren of the *Penobscot* Tribe for their generous offers of friendship and assistance in our present war with our brethren in *Great Britain*, who are endeavouring, by murder and violence, to rob us of our lands and property, and hereby engage to defend their just claims against every invader.

As soon as we can take breath from our present fight, we will take care that our brethren, the *Penobscot* Tribe, shall be furnished with a proper Commissary, who shall be directed to furnish them with provisions, ammunition, and goods, at a reasonable rate; and proper and effectual measures shall then be taken to prevent any dishonest persons from carrying on a fraudulent traffick with them.

We accept of Captain *Lane* as an agent appointed by our brethren of the *Penobscot* Tribe, who is hereby authorized and empowered to take cognizance and make report to this Congress, or any future Assembly of this Colony, of any molestation or depredations which the *Indians* of the *Penobscot* Tribe may hereafter sustain from any person whatsoever, so that seasonable and effectual measures may be taken to afford those our brethren such redress as their circumstances may require. To the Fountain of all Justice we dare appeal, that our intentions are equitable towards all our neighbours, and on that Almighty Being we rely, that while we are struggling against rapine and tyranny, we shall be supported in the conflict, and our just endeavours be finally crowned with success.

The Committee likewise reported, verbally, that it is their opinion, the said *Indians* should have, each of them, two yards of blue Broadcloth and one piece of Ribbon, and have their expenses paid out and home; which Report was accepted, and the Committee of Supplies directed to furnish said *Indians* with the said Ribbon and Cloth.

A copy of a Letter from the President of the *New-York* Congress to Major-General *Worcester*, at *Greenwich*, forwarded to Head-Quarters at *Cambridge*, was read, and committed to the Committee just now appointed to consider some methods for regulating the Army immediately.

*Ordered*, That Commissions for the several Officers of the Train of Artillery, hereafter mentioned, be prepared and delivered, viz: To Col. *Richard Gridley*, Colonel; Mr. *William Burbeck*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *David Mason*, First Major; Mr. *Scarborough Gridley*, Second Major.

*Resolved*, That Commissions be delivered to the several Officers of the Train of Artillery, agreeable to the list exhibited by the Committee of Safety, except to Mr. *John Wiley's* Company; and that the said Committee be desired to recommend some persons for that Company anew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lothrop*, Mr. *Pickering*, and Col.

*Sawyer*, be a Committee to prepare Commissions for the several Officers of the Train, agreeable to the foregoing Resolve of Congress.

*Ordered*, That Major *Whittemore* wait upon Colonel *Gridley*, to desire him to attend this Congress to-morrow, to receive his commission.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Nichols*, Mr. *Bent*, and Deacon *Fisher*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of Captain *Bryant Morton*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gridley's* list of Staff Officers be committed to the Committee just now appointed to prepare commissions for the Officers of the Train.

Adjourned to *Thursday* morning, nine o'clock.

—  
Thursday, June 22, 1775.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary, Colonel *Cushing*, and Mr. *Wheeler*, be a Committee to make a list of such Officers of the Army as have been commissioned, and also to inquire who have not yet received their commissions.

*Ordered*, That an Ensign's Commission be delivered to Mr. *Stephen Frost*, of Captain *Lock's* Company in Colonel *Gardner's* Regiment.

*Ordered*, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Ashby* be directed to deliver the Selectmen of the Town of *Townshend* one half barrel of Powder, provided they have two half barrels; the Selectmen of *Townshend* giving a receipt for the same.

*Ordered*, That the Petition of Colonel *Paul Dudley Sergeant*, be committed to Colonel *Parks*, Major *Fuller* of *Middleton*, and Mr. *Nye*.

*Ordered*, That the Petition from *Penobscot* be recommended.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Francis Kittredge* be desired to attend the Hospital as a Surgeon till the further order of Congress; and that Mr. *Kendall* be desired to inform Dr. *Kittredge* of his appointment.

*Ordered*, That the Colonels of the several Regiments in the *Massachusetts* Army be directed to recommend, immediately, suitable persons for Surgeons and Surgeons' Mates.

*Ordered*, That a recommendation from the Committee of Safety, respecting Aids-de-Camp, be committed to Col. *Glover*, Major *Goodwin*, and Dr. *Whiting*.

*Ordered*, That Major *Whittemore*, Mr. *Davis*, and Deacon *Gould*, be a Committee to distribute the handbills respecting the due observance of the *Lord's* Day.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pickering* be appointed, in the room of Col. *Coffin*, to consider the Petition of Mr. *Kirkwood*, Keeper of the Light-House on *Thatcher's Island*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hinsdale*, Col. *Farley*, and Capt. *Batchelder*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Petition from *George Vincent*, of *Salem*.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Whiting* be appointed to draught a Resolve, that application be made to the Committee of Safety by every person that is to be appointed a Military Officer.

*Ordered*, That the Proclamation for a Fast be recommended for amendment, and that Mr. *Webster* and Deacon *Fisher* be added to the Committee.

*Ordered*, That a Hospital be provided for the Camp at *Roxbury*, and that Colonel *Davis*, Dr. *Taylor*, and Dr. *Whiting*, be a Committee to provide one accordingly, and to supply the same.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller*, of *Newton*, be appointed to take care of the Plates, until further order of this Congress, or some future House of Representatives of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Webster*, and Col. *Gerrish*, be a Committee to take into consideration Col. *Phinney's* Regiment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Goodman* be appointed, in the room of Colonel *Grout*, on the Petition of Mr. *Parry*.

—  
Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Paul Revere's* Account be committed to Colonel *Farley*, Mr. *Hall*, and Mr. *Bailey*.



*Ordered*, That Captain *Batchelder*, Major *Goodwin*, and Mr. *Hobart*, be a Committee to consider the propriety of commissioning the Officers of Colonel *Gerrish's* Regiment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pickering* be appointed to fill up commissions for *Samuel Patch* as Captain, and *Zach. Walker* and *Joshua Brown* as Lieutenants, in Colonel *William Prescott's* Regiment.

*Ordered*, That a Letter be sent to General *Ward*, in answer to his Letter, and that Colonel *Lincoln* be appointed for that service.

*Voted*, That a particular number of men shall be settled, to entitle Colonel *Phinney* to the command of a Regiment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Phinney* be directed to bring up to camp four hundred men with effective fire-arms, and that a time be limited to bring up one hundred more, at least, with effective fire-arms; he in that case to be entitled to a Colonel's commission, and not otherwise.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pickering* be appointed to make out commissions to the Officers in Colonel *Gerrish's* Regiment.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Safety be directed, as soon as possible, to prepare and transmit to this Congress perfect lists of the names of such gentlemen as they judge fit and worthy to be commissioned in the several Regiments granted by this Congress, and for which the said Committee have not already transmitted lists, that so our Army may be organized as soon as possible.

On the Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of *Townshend*,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Selectmen of the Town of *Ashby* to deliver to the Selectmen of *Townshend* one half barrel of Gunpowder for the use of the inhabitants of said *Townshend*, which shall be replaced in the Town of *Ashby* by this Congress, or a House of Representatives, so soon as the state of our magazines will admit, or otherwise said Town of *Ashby* shall be fully paid for said Powder out of the publick Treasury, provided the said Town of *Ashby* have two half barrels, as has been represented to this Congress.

The Committee appointed to consider by what means the Army before *Boston* may be effectually and most expeditiously strengthened, beg leave to report, in part, that they judge it absolutely necessary that the eight companies stationed in the County of *Plymouth*, belonging partly to General *Thomas's* Regiment, and partly to Col. *Cotton's* Regiment, be immediately ordered to join the Army as soon as possible, and that directions be immediately given to General *Ward* for that purpose.

JOSEPH HAWLEY, per order.

*Resolved*, That each Colonel in the *Massachusetts* Army be, and hereby is directed immediately to inform the Committee appointed by this Congress to examine the Surgeons for said Army, whom they recommend for the Surgeons and Surgeons' Mates of their respective Regiments, and send them to said Committee for examination, without delay, except such as have been examined.

*Resolved*, That *George Vincent* be, and he hereby is permitted to export from *Salem* to the *West-Indies* about forty-one barrels of Alewives; and said *Vincent* is also permitted to take on board his vessel Provisions sufficient for his voyage to the said *West-Indies*, and no more; and the Committee of Safety of the Town of *Salem* are hereby directed to see this Resolve strictly complied with.

On the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants settled on *Penobscot* River, the inhabitants of *Belfast*, *Majabigwau-duce*, and *Benjamin* River, representing the difficulties and distress said inhabitants are under in respect to the scarcity of Corn and Ammunition, and praying for some relief,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended by this Congress to the Committee of Safety of the Town of *Gloucester* or *Newburyport*, or to the Committees of Safety or Correspondence of any other Towns within this Colony to supply Captain *Jonathan Buck*, one of the petitioners, for the use of said inhabitants, for their present relief, with two hundred bushels of *Indian* Corn, or to that amount in Corn and Rye, and take in return for the same cord Wood, or

such other payment as the said *Buck* may be able to make, on his security therefor; and in case the said *Buck* shall not make satisfaction for the same in a reasonable time, it shall be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, and the said *Buck* shall refund the same as soon as may be; and that Colonel *Goldthwait* deliver up all the publick Arms and Ammunition in his possession to the petitioners, or a Committee appointed by them for that purpose; and as to the Powder, they shall be reasonably supplied therewith as soon as the state of our Magazine will admit thereof.

Friday, June 23, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Cushing*, Mr. *Lothrop*, Mr. *Pickering*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Mr. *Langdon*, be a Committee to fill up Commissions, and that no one of said gentlemen quit the House without leave.

*Ordered*, That the Officers in Colonel *Glover's* Regiment be commissioned, except Captain *Lee* and his Subalterns.

*Ordered*, That the pay of the Ensigns be augmented to three Pounds ten Shillings, and those that are returned as Ensigns, be commissioned as Second Lieutenants.

*Ordered*, That the Petition of *Bridget Phillips* be dismissed; that directions be given to General *Ward* not to permit *Bridget Phillips*, wife to an officer in *Boston*, to go into *Boston*, nor any other person whatever; and that Major *Goodwin* be directed to bring in a Resolve for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That a commission be given to Col. *Gridley* as Chief Engineer and Colonel, with the rank of Major-General, and that the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Train have the rank of Colonel; and that the Majors have the rank of Lieutenant-Colonels; and the Captains the rank of Majors; Captain-Lieutenants and First Lieutenants the rank of Captains; and that the rank of the other officers be suspended for the present.

*Ordered*, That the Report respecting Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment be recommitted, in order to bring in a Resolve, directing Colonel *Phinney* to bring to the camp four hundred men with effective fire-arms, and in that case to be commissioned as First Colonel, with a Major under him; and in case he brings up five hundred men, all the Officers to be appointed; and in case he brings up but three hundred men, to receive a commission as Lieutenant-Colonel; also, that his men be brought up to camp at the expense of the Government.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to disperse the handbills respecting the due observance of the *Lord's* Day, be directed to make a computation of what number are wanted, and order them to be printed, and that one be struck off for each Parish.

*Ordered*, That General *Fry* be commissioned as a Major-General, and that the President be directed to administer the oath to him.

*Ordered*, That the oath for General Officers be altered, and that the words "or House of Representatives or Legislative body of said Colony," be added.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lane's* Account for bringing up the *Indians* be committed to Mr. *Langdon*, Captain *Goodman*, Captain *Holmes*, Captain *Parker*, and Captain *Carpenter*, to take the same into consideration, and report thereon.

The Committee appointed to provide a Hospital for the Camp at *Roxbury*, reported as follows:

That they have appointed the house belonging to *Joshua Loring*, in said *Roxbury*, for a Hospital, and for the use of said camp. The Report was accepted.

*Ordered*, That the Account of Captain *Kirkwood* be recommitted to the Committee appointed to take that matter into consideration, and that Major *Whittemore* and Mr. *Glover* be added to the Committee.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the appointment of Quartermaster-Generals and Adjutant-Generals be deferred to four o'clock, P. M., and that Mr. *Hobart* be appointed to wait on General *Ward* to nominate an Adjutant-General.

*Ordered*, That to-morrow, eleven o'clock, A. M., be assigned to come to the choice of four Brigadier-Generals.



*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to draw up the form of Warrants for Staff Officers, and that the Committees appointed to deliver out Commissions be appointed for that purpose.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Edmund Phinney*, heretofore authorized by the Committee of Safety to raise a Regiment for the service of this Colony, but has not yet effected it, be directed to proceed with the greatest diligence and despatch in that business ; and in case he shall, on or before the fifteenth of *July* next, join the Army of this Colony now before *Boston* with four hundred effective men, each armed with a good effective firelock, the said *Phinney* shall be entitled to be commissioned as a Colonel, on the pay established by this Congress for a chief Colonel ; and that there shall be also allowed to the said body one Major, and no other Field-Officers. And in case the said *Phinney* shall procure an addition of one hundred effective men, or upwards, and each armed with an effective firelock, by the last day of *July* next, that in such case the said one hundred men shall be joined to the aforesaid four hundred men, and both the said numbers shall constitute one Regiment, and then the choice of Field-Officers shall be completed, and a proper number of subordinate officers commissioned. But in case the said *Phinney* shall fail of procuring four hundred effective men, armed as aforesaid, but shall procure to be enlisted and brought to the said Army by the said fifteenth day of *July* next a number of effective men, all armed as aforesaid, less than four hundred and not less than three hundred, he shall be entitled to be commissioned as Lieutenant-Colonel, and that allowance shall hereafter be made of all reasonable expenses in marching said men to the said Army. And that the said *Phinney* be specially instructed not to march any man to the said camp who is not furnished with a good effective firelock, and that no man without a firelock shall be accounted or reckoned as going to constitute the numbers above mentioned, which shall entitle him to either of the aforesaid commissions proposed for him.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary be directed to make out a copy of the Resolve respecting Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the price of Blankets to be given to the Soldiers reported as follows, which was accepted, viz :

*Resolved*, That the sum of twelve Shillings, lawful money, be the stated price for each Blanket allowed to the Soldiers in the *Massachusetts* Army; and such Soldiers as have or shall be supplied with Blankets of less value, as may appear by the appraisement of the Selectmen, shall have the overplus made up to them by those who supplied said Soldiers, and the abovesaid twelve Shillings shall be allowed out of the publick Treasury for each Blanket.

*Ordered*, That nine o'clock to-morrow morning be assigned to take into consideration an establishment for the Brigadier-Generals, and Quartermaster-Generals, and Adjutant-Generals.

*Ordered*, That the time assigned for the choice of Quartermaster-Generals and Adjutant-Generals be referred till to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, A. M.

*Ordered*, That a Letter from Mr. *Hooper*, of *Newburyport*, be referred to the Committee of Supplies, they to make report.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Daniel Noyes*, of *Ipswich*, be appointed a Postmaster, in the room of Mr. *James Foster*, who has resigned that office.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller*, of *Middleton*, be directed to wait on General *Whitcomb*, and desire him to attend this Congress and receive his commission.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Taylor*, Major *Fuller* of *Middleton*, and Colonel *Thompson*, be a Committee to take into consideration the Regiment that was moved from *Marblehead* to *Cambridge*, immediately, and that the Committee be directed to go to *Cambridge* and inquire into it, and make report.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to fill up commissions, be directed to fill up a commission for General *Whitcomb*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Nye* be appointed to number the Notes signed by Deacon *Plympton*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Sprague*, Captain *White*, and Dr. *Whiting*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Petition from the Town of *Malden*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hopkins*, Captain *Bragdon*, and Mr. *Philips*, be a Committee to take into consideration the circumstances of the Rev. Dr. *Langdon*, President of the College, and make report thereon.

*Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to consider of proper expedients to augment the Army, and in particular to write to the other *New-England* Governments on the subject, and that they be directed to attend the service immediately.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Nye* be excused from attending the service in numbering the Notes signed by Deacon *Plympton*, and that Mr. *Holmes* be appointed in his room, and be directed to attend that service immediately.

The Committee who were appointed on the 20th instant to inquire into the misconduct in the late engagement, reported as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to inquire into the grounds of a report which has prevailed in the Army, that there has been treachery in some of the Officers, beg leave to report facts : Your Committee proceeded to *Cambridge*, waited upon the General, and made him acquainted with their business. He informed your Committee that General *Putnam* had made complaint of an officer in the Train, but by a mistake in the name, the wrong officer was confined. We applied to General *Putnam*, and other officers, who were in the heat of the engagement, for further intelligence. General *Putnam* informed us, that in the late action, as he was riding up *Bunker's Hill*, he met an officer of the Train drawing his cannon down in great haste ; he ordered the officer to stop and go back ; he replied, he had no cartridges ; the General dismounted and examined his boxes, and found a considerable number of cartridges, upon which he ordered him back ; he refused, until the General threatened him with immediate death, upon which he returned up the hill again, but soon deserted his post and left the cannon. Another officer, who had the direction of another cannon, conducted much in the same manner. The relation of this matter from General *Putnam* was confirmed by several other officers of distinction, as to what is most material relative thereto. These officers' names are, Captain *Gridley* and Captain *John Kallander*. General *Putnam* declared to your Committee, as his opinion, that the defeat of that day was owing to the ill-behaviour of those that conducted the artillery, and that one of these officers ought to be punished with death, and that unless some exemplary punishment was inflicted, he would assuredly leave the Army. That upon the defeat of the officers of the Train, the re-enforcements ordered up the hill could not be prevailed upon to go ; the plea was, the Artillery was gone, and they stood no chance for their lives in such circumstances, declaring they had no officers to lead them. An officer of rank affirmed to your Committee that he absolutely knew that some of the cartridges and balls were too large for the cannon, and that it was necessary to break the cartridges before they could be of use.

*Ordered*, That the Report lie on the table till they are ready to report in full.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Safety be directed to make out a new list for Officers of the Train of Artillery, and that no person unworthy of the office be appointed.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration Captain *Lane's* Account for bringing up the *Indians* from *Penobscot*, reported as follows, viz :

The Committee for examining the Account of Mr. *John Lane*, have attended that service, found the said *Lane's* Account well supported, excepting a few inaccuracies in casting. They therefore beg leave to report, by way of Resolve, viz :

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to Mr. *John Lane*, the sum of forty-



seven Pounds, eighteen Shillings, eleven and a half Pence, for his expenses in bringing up to the Congress four of the Chiefs of the *Penobscot* Tribe of *Indians*, with an Interpreter; and the Receiver-General of this Colony is hereby directed to pay the said *John Lane*, or order, the aforesaid sum of forty-seven Pounds, eighteen Shillings, eleven and a half Pence; and likewise that the sum of nineteen Pounds, ten Shillings, and eight Pence, lawful money, be paid by the Receiver-General to Captain *Lane*, to defray his expenses in carrying the *Indians* back to *Penobscot*, and that Mr. *Langdon* be appointed to draught a Resolve for that purpose.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a Letter from Mr. *Stephen Hooper*, of *Newburyport*, reported as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That those of the Committee of Donations of the Town of *Boston*, who have left said Town, viz: Messrs. *Benjamin Austin*, *Nathaniel Barber*, and . . . *Proctor*, be advised to sell the fifty barrels of Flour sent from *Baltimore* for the use of the Poor of *Boston*, now in the hands of the Committee of Correspondence of *Plymouth*, to the same Committee, for the use of the *New-Hampshire* Troops.

The Committee appointed to consider by what means the Army before *Boston* may be effectually and most expeditiously strengthened, reported as follows, which was accepted, viz:

That they judge it absolutely necessary that the eight companies stationed in the County of *Plymouth*, belonging partly to General *Thomas's* Regiment and partly to Col. *Cotton's* Regiment, be immediately ordered to join the Army as soon as possible, and that directions be immediately given to General *Ward* for that purpose.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the request from the Town of *Malden*, reported as follows, which was accepted, viz:

The Committee beg leave to report, that the inhabitants of the Town of *Malden* be directed to make the best use of their Artillery they can for their defence, in case they shall be attacked by the enemy, and that they make their application for assistance to the General of the Army, who doubtless will furnish them with such detachments from the Army as they shall judge necessary and expedient.

The Committee appointed to draught a Resolve for the Receiver-General to pay to Captain *Lane* nineteen Pounds, ten Shillings, and eight Pence, for defraying the expense of carrying the *Indians* back to *Penobscot*, reported as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to Mr. *John Lane*, or order, the sum of nineteen Pounds, ten Shillings, and eight Pence, to pay the expenses of himself, four *Indian* Chiefs, and an Interpreter, from *Watertown* to *Penobscot*, and the Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay the same accordingly.

*Voted*, That the former vote respecting the removal of the Library, Apparatus, and other valuable effects of *Harvard* College be reconsidered, and that the following Resolve be accepted, viz:

Whereas, it is expedient that those apartments in *Harvard* Hall, under the immediate charge of the Professor of Philosophy, and Librarian of *Harvard* College, be evacuated,

*Resolved*, That the Library, Apparatus, and other valuables of *Harvard* College, be removed as soon as may be; that Mr. *Samuel Phillips*, Mr. *Daniel Hopkins*, and *Dummer Jewett*, Esquire, be a Committee to consult with the Reverend the President, the Hon. Mr. *Winthrop*, and the Librarian, or such of them as may be conveniently obtained, and with them to engage some suitable person or persons in the Town of *Andover*, and such other places as they may think best, to receive and take the charge of the above mentioned effects; that said Committee join with those gentlemen in employing proper persons for packing said Library, Apparatus, and such other articles as they shall judge expedient, and take all due care that it be done with the greatest safety and despatch; and as the packages shall be completed, that they take due care for their transportation; the charges to be laid before this or some future Congress, or House of Assembly of this Province.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hale*, Captain *Parker*, and Capt.

*Braddon*, be a Committee to take Capt. *Lane's* Account of his time into consideration, and report thereon.

*Resolved*, That *Winthrop Sergeant*, of *Gloucester*, merchant, be allowed to ship off for the *West-Indies* a quantity of old *Jamaica* Fish, not exceeding forty hogheads, it appearing to this Congress that the said Fish, if stopped, will be of little or no service to this Colony, and the Committee of Safety for *Gloucester* are directed to cause this Resolve to be so carried into execution as that no other Provisions except for the vessel's use, be shipped off in the same.

*Voted*, That the Receiver-General be directed to pay to the Rev. Dr. *Langdon*, President of the College, one hundred Pounds, lawful money, in bills of credit of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to consider by what means the Army before *Boston* may be effectually and most expeditiously strengthened, be directed to write a Letter to General *Ward*; who reported a Letter to General *Ward*, directing him to call in the eight companies stationed in the County of *Plymouth*.

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 23, 1775.

"SIR: As it appears to this Congress highly probable that the Army of our enemies will speedily make the utmost efforts to force your lines, and penetrate into the country, they have judged it absolutely necessary, for the strengthening the Army before *Boston*, that the eight companies now posted in the County of *Plymouth*, belonging partly to General *Thomas's* Regiment and partly to Col. *Cotton's* Regiment, should immediately join the said Army. You are therefore directed, without delay, to give the orders necessary for marching the said eight companies to the said Army as soon as may be.

"General *Ward*."

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of *Robert Haskell*, beg leave to report, by way of Resolve:

*Resolved*, That the Petitioner, *Robert Haskell*, be permitted to proceed from *Beverly* to *Nova-Scotia* in a fishing vessel about seventeen years old, that he hath procured for that purpose; also, to carry three or four persons with him, and the following Provisions, viz: one barrel of Pork, two hundred pounds of Bread, sixteen gallons of Rum, and sixteen gallons of Molasses, half bushel of Beans or Peas, and two bushels of Salt, but no more Provisions of any kind whatever; and that such proceeding will not be contrary to the Resolve passed by the Grand *American* Congress the 17th of *May* last, or any other Resolve that honourable Congress have yet published.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be directed to make out a new list for Officers of the Train of Artillery, that no person unworthy of office be appointed.

— Saturday, June 24, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Taylor*, Col. *Sawyer*, and Captain *Batchelder*, be a Committee to consider some method for regulating Trade with the *Indians*.

Major *Fuller*, Dr. *Bailey*, and Captain *Goodman*, appointed a Committee to consider the expediency of part of Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment being stationed in the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Lincoln*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Langdon*, Colonel *Sawyer*, and Captain *Goodman*, be a Committee to consider what is further necessary to be done respecting the Bills of Credit of this Colony.

*Voted*, That there shall be two Surgeons and two Mates appointed for each Hospital, and commissioned accordingly.

*Ordered*, that the Committee appointed to examine the Surgeons be desired to report an establishment for Surgeons of Hospitals.

The Committee appointed to consider an establishment for the Surgeons of Hospitals, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

That it is their opinion that the establishment of the chief Surgeons should be at the rate of eight Pounds per month each, and each Mate four Pounds, ten Shillings, per month.



*Ordered*, That Colonel *Freeman*, Colonel *Farley*, and Captain *Stone*, be a Committee to get the Resolve for a Fast printed, and one sent to each religious Society in this Colony.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the wages of Captain *John Lane* and Mr. *Gilman*, for their attendance in bringing up four *Indians* from *Penobscot*, reported.

Mr. *Freeman* and Captain *Bragdon* were added to the Committee appointed to consider the expediency of stationing part of Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment in the County of *Cumberland*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Lane* be admitted on the floor of the House, in order to answer such questions as the Congress shall propose to him.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Supplies be directed to supply the four *Indians*, brought up by Captain *Lane*, with a pair of shoes each.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Mighill*, Mr. *Hobart*, Captain *Webster*, and Mr. *Lothrop*, be added to the Committee to consider the Petition of *Edward Parry*.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the circumstances of the Reverend Doctor *Langdon*, President of the College, reported as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of one hundred Pounds, lawful money, in bills of credit of this Colony, to the Rev. Doctor *Langdon*, President of *Harvard College*, in part for his services in that station since his appointment thereto ; and the Treasurer and Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay the said sum in bills of credit accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the Report of the Committee to consider Captain *Lane's* services, be recommitted.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gerrish*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Colonel *Farley*, be a Committee to consider and report what is to be done with the overplus Bills.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Fisher* be appointed in the room of Captain *Bragdon*, to consider the services of Captain *Lane*, in bringing up four *Indian* Chiefs.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of *James Kirkwood*, Keeper of the Lights on *Thatcher's Island*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury to Capt. *James Kirkwood*, sixty Pounds, for one year's salary as Keeper of the Light-Houses on *Thatcher's Island* ; and also eighteen Pounds, thirteen Shillings more, being for his disbursements in repairing buildings and other work done there, box of Medicines, and several other necessities, as per his account herewith exhibited. And the Receiver-General is accordingly hereby directed to pay the said Captain *Kirkwood* the aforesaid sums, amounting to seventy-eight Pounds, thirteen Shillings, the same to be paid in bills of credit of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That three o'clock, P. M., be assigned to come to the choice of a gentleman to preach the Election Sermon.

The Committee appointed to draft a Resolve respecting *Bridget Phillips*, wife of an officer in Gen. *Gage's* Army, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That General *Ward* do not suffer or permit *Bridget Phillips*, wife to an officer under General *Gage*, to go into *Boston*, (nor any other person whatsoever,) without leave first obtained of this Congress, or some future House of Representatives ; and that an express be forthwith sent to the Committee of Safety for the Town of *Newburyport*, to order them to take the most effectual measures to prevent the said *Bridget* from going out of this Province or to *Boston*.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration and report the form of a Commission for Brigadier-Generals, Quartermaster-Generals, and Adjutant-Generals, Adjutants, Quartermasters, and Surgeons, reported a form, which was accepted.

*Ordered*, That the form of a Commission lie on the table.

The Committee appointed to hire a house of *John Hunt*,

Esq., for a Hospital, reported the following proposal, which was accepted, viz :

"GENTLEMEN: With respect to the hire of the house belonging to *John Hunt*, Esq., for a Hospital, the proprietor only expects such a consideration from the Colony as will be a satisfaction for the necessary damage to the house, expecting proper care will be taken that the out-houses, &c., be kept in good order.

W. HUNT,

"In behalf of the Proprietor."

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to procure Spears for the Army, be directed to use their discretion in procuring Poles for the handles of the Spears.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Lieutenant-Governour and Company of *Rhode-Island*, reported. The Report was accepted, and similar Letters, so far as circumstances will admit, ordered to be sent to *Connecticut* and *New-Hampshire*.

*Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Gerrish*, and the President, be a Committee to take into consideration and report thereon a Letter from General *Ward*, informing of the desertion of Lieutenant *Cox*, of *Salem*, and a number of men.

*Ordered*, That Major *Hawley* and the President be excused, and that Colonel *Porter* and Doctor *Church*, be appointed in their room.

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of stationing part of Col. *Phinney's* Regiment in the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Lincoln*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, it appears to this Congress to be necessary that some provision should be made for the defence and protection of the Sea Coasts in the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Lincoln* ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Resolve which passed yesterday, relative to Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment, be so far reconsidered as that the remainder of said Regiment (after four hundred thereof have marched to the camp at *Cambridge*) be immediately raised and stationed in such places in the said Counties, as shall be thought best by General *Preble*, Col. *Enoch Freeman*, and Major *Wheaton*, of *St. George's*, until they receive further orders from the Congress, or a General Assembly of this Colony ; and that after they are at first stationed, they shall be under the direction of Colonel *Enoch Freeman*, who is hereby empowered to order and dispose of them, as in his opinion will most conduce to the general interest.

And the Committee of Supplies are hereby directed to supply said Troops with Provisions, agreeable to the allowance as established by this Congress.

And it is recommended to the Selectmen of the several Towns in the Counties aforesaid, to supply the said Troops with Ammunition, which shall be replaced as soon as the Colony Magazine can be supplied, or paid for out of the publick Treasury. And that Colonel *Freeman* be and hereby is appointed to muster the said men, and to see that they are all well prepared with Fire-Arms and other accoutrements.

Mr. *Hubbard* was appointed in the room of Colonel *Farley*, on Mr. *Revere's* Account.

*Ordered*, That the Proclamation for a Fast be suspended.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from General *Ward*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to General *Ward* immediately to take effectual measures to apprehend Lieut. *Cox*, and such Privates as have been induced by the said Lieut. *Cox* to desert their duty, and forthwith to bring said *Cox*, and such other deserters as may be apprehended, to their trial, that the said Lieutenant *Cox* and his accomplices may receive such condign punishment for their aggravated offences, as in the rules and orders of war is provided for ; and it is further recommended to the Committees of all denominations, and the Selectmen of any Town where said deserters may be, to afford all possible aid and assistance to the General in apprehending them.

*Ordered*, That the President, Mr. *Gerry*, Major *Haw-*



ley, Deacon Cheever, Colonel Gerrish, Colonel Lincoln, and Colonel Porter, be a Committee to consider what steps are proper to be taken for receiving General Washington with proper respect, and to provide a house for him accordingly.

The Committee appointed to consider what allowance is adequate to the services of Captain John Lane, &c., in bringing up four *Indians* from *Penobscot*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to consider what allowance is adequate to the services of Captain John Lane and Mr. Gilman, for their attendance in bringing up to this Town four *Indians*, of the *Penobscot* Tribe, beg leave to report, that the said Mr. Lane proceed to raise a Company of fifty-six effective men, including sergeants, to join the Army at *Cambridge*, agreeable to the order of the Committee of Safety; and upon his raising said men, that he be entitled not only to a Captain's commission, but to the pay established for Captains: to commence at the time he received his orders from the Committee of Safety.

That Mr. Gilman be allowed, for forty days attendance as an interpreter to Mr. Lane, at three Shillings per day, six Pounds; and that the said Mr. Gilman be presented with an honorary commission, with the rank of Lieutenant, and be desired to use his influence to cultivate a peaceable disposition in the *Indians* at *St. François* and other parts adjoining, and give intelligence of their temper and dispositions from time to time, as he shall have opportunity, and as the importance of affairs may require; and besides all necessary charges and trouble for any important intelligence, he shall be suitably rewarded.

The Committee for giving out Commissions were directed to make out an honorary commission for Mr. Gilman, agreeable to the foregoing Report.

Mr. Pickering appointed to draw a Resolve, directing the Treasurer to pay Mr. John Lane and Andrew Gilman, agreeable to said Report.

Colonel Porter was appointed to procure a Scythe, and carry it to a Blacksmith to be fixed for a Spear, in such a manner as he thinks fit, and bring it before this Congress when fixed.

Mr. Pickering brought in a Resolve as directed, which was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Mr. Andrew Gilman, the sum of six Pounds, in bills of credit of this Colony, for forty days attendance as an interpreter to four *Indians* of the *Penobscot* Tribe, in their late attendance at an embassy to this Congress; and the Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay the same sum of six Pounds to Mr. Gilman, in bills of credit accordingly.

*Ordered*, That any one of the Committee appointed to procure Spears, be empowered to order the Blacksmith to work on the Sabbath, to complete the same as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to our good brothers, the *Indians* of the *Penobscot* Tribe, immediately to apply to General Preble and Colonel Freeman, of *Falmouth*, for a supply of Provisions and all other necessary goods, and would recommend said gentlemen as the most suitable persons to supply the *Indians*, who will undoubtedly do them justice. And it is hereby recommended to General Preble and Colonel Freeman, to supply said *Indians* with Provisions and all other necessary articles, upon the most equitable terms, and to receive their Furs and other Skins in payment; and the said General Preble and Colonel Freeman are hereby desired to supply said *Indians* at the Truck House at *Penobscot*.

*Ordered*, That Captain Stone, Colonel Thompson, and Captain Bragdon, be a Committee to consider the request of Colonel Freeman, to have the Minute Company of the Town of *Sandwich* stationed at *Naushan Island*.

Monday morning, nine o'clock, was assigned, agreeable to a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, to choose a proper person to superintend the Armourers in the camp, and to see that they do their duty.

A Letter from George Stillman to Colonel Otis was read, and committed to Mr. Goodwin, Mr. Langdon, and Doctor Whiting.

Mr. Lothrop, Mr. Dickerson, and Mr. White, were appointed a Committee to get the Proclamation of the Continental Congress for a Fast reprinted and dispersed, one to each religious Assembly in the Colony.

Mr. Lothrop, Deacon Fisher, and Mr. Parker, were appointed a Committee to count and sort the votes for some person to preach an Election Sermon on the nineteenth of July next.

The Committee reported that Mr. Gordon was unanimously chosen, and the President was appointed to inform him of the choice.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Sabbath Day, June 25, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Captain Brown, Major Fuller, Mr. Bigelow, Major Brooks, Colonel Smith, and Deacon Stone, be a Committee to procure four hundred Spades and Shovels for the use of the Army, immediately; and the said Committee is directed to make a list of such persons of whom they may procure said Spades and Shovels, with the number received of each person, and the value thereof; and when procured, that they immediately forward them to the Army at *Cambridge*.

The Committee appointed to prepare an honorary Commission for Mr. Gilman, reported a form, which being amended, was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

"The Congress of the Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, to ANDREW GILMAN, Gentleman, greeting:

"We, entertaining a good opinion of your prudence, courage, and good conduct, do appoint, and you, the said Andrew Gilman, are hereby appointed to the honorary title of Lieutenant. And you are to be considered of that rank, not only among the good people of this Province, but also among all our friends and brethren through the Continent; and we confide in your readiness to promote the common cause of America among our good brothers, the *Indians* of the several Tribes, which you may have opportunity to be acquainted with, as well as with the inhabitants of the Province of *Quebeck*. By order of the Congress.

....., President."

The Petition of John Lane was read, the prayer whereof was granted, and Colonel Lincoln appointed to draw up a Resolve thereon.

Colonel Lincoln drew up a Resolve accordingly, which was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That Henry Gardner, Esq., Receiver-General, be and he is hereby directed to pay unto Captain John Lane, or his order, the sum of twelve Pounds, lawful money, being two months' pay for a Captain in the Colony service; he the said Lane to be accountable for that sum to this or some future Congress, or constitutional assembly of this Colony.

*Resolved*, That Captain John Lane proceed to raise a Company of fifty-six effective men, including sergeants, to join the Army at *Cambridge*, agreeable to the order of the Committee of Safety; and upon his raising said men, that he be entitled not only to a Captain's commission, but to the pay established for Captains, to commence at the time he received his orders from the said Committee of Safety.

*Ordered*, That Deacon Fisher draw, in form of a Resolve, the Report of the Committee relative to Andrew Gilman.

*Ordered*, That Colonel Lincoln draw up a Resolve, empowering Mr. Grannis to employ thirty men to protect the *Elizabeth Islands*.

Mr. Fisher, agreeable to order, presented the following Resolve, which was accepted, viz :

*Resolved*, That Lieutenant Andrew Gilman be and hereby is ordered and instructed to use his utmost influence to cultivate a friendly and peaceable disposition in the *Indians* at *St. François*, and all other parts adjoining, and to give intelligence of their temper and disposition, from time to time, as he shall have opportunity; and as the importance of affairs may require; and also of the *Canadians* at *Quebeck*, and other adjacent parts of *Canada*, so often as it may be in his power; for which service he shall receive a proper reward.



Colonel *Lincoln*, agreeable to order, presented the following Resolve, which was accepted:

*Resolved*, That Captain *John Grannis* be and hereby is empowered immediately to engage thirty good able-bodied effective men, to be paid by this Colony, well provided with arms and ammunition, and to cause them to be provided with suitable provisions, to repair without delay to the *Elizabeth Islands*, so called, in the County of *Dukes County*, there to protect the stock; and to impress such a number of boats, &c., as he shall want, to transport the men to and from said Islands as occasion may require, from time to time, until the further order of this or some future Congress, or constitutional assembly of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Commissions for the Officers of the Train be immediately sent to the Committee of Safety, and that they be directed to deliver them to such Officers to whom there is no exception; and that Colonel *Porter* be appointed to carry said Commissions to the Committee of Safety, with this order, immediately.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to certain officers of Col. *Prescott's* Regiment, agreeable to the recommendation of the Committee of Safety.

—  
Afternoon.

A draught of a Letter to Governour *Trumbull* was presented by the Committee appointed to prepare one, and was read and accepted; and the Committee of Supplies directed to forward it by express, and is as follows, viz:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: From advices received divers ways, we have the greatest reason to determine that all the *British* Troops already destined, or that may be yet ordered to *America* this season, will come to *Boston*, it being evidently their design, if possible, to rout our Army before that place, destroy all our magazines, and thereby to strike terror and faintness into the hearts of all the friends to right and liberty throughout the Continent; to revive and animate their scattered friends, and break the union of the Colonies, and in that way insure final success to their tyranny. This being undoubtedly the plan of our enemies, it is of inexpressible consequence that the ground which we have taken should at all events be maintained. Your Honour is no doubt fully sensible that our Army, for the present, is unavoidably checked, with regard to offensive operations, for a reason of which you are not unapprized; but, however, we have the means of acting on the defensive.

"As *Boston* is impregnable against every thing but great artillery, very few troops are sufficient to keep it; and as there are two passes at least, very distant from each other, by which the enemy will probably attempt to advance into the country, it is thereby rendered necessary that we should throw our Army into at least two grand divisions, each of which ought to be able to withstand almost the whole strength of the enemy. Your Honour is acquainted that it was at first supposed to be necessary that thirty thousand men should be raised and stationed to act for this season in the environs of *Boston*. Thirteen thousand six hundred was the number supposed by our Congress to be this Colony's proportion of such an Army, and that number we have to our utmost been endeavouring fully to complete; but because there are deficiencies in our Regiments, (as your Honour well knows there always will be in such cases,) in order to make that quota good, we have been obliged to increase the number of the Regiments, but still there is a deficiency; and because of the inexpressible importance of having our Army effectually strong, we are, by unremitted efforts, and by every device, at vast expense, labouring to make that number fully complete, or rather to exceed it.

"May it please your Honour: Because we are so vastly apprehensive of the fatal consequences of a general defeat of this Army to the whole *American* cause, and are so unutterably solicitous to have it effectually strengthened, we have called in every individual of our levies, from all our outposts, to join the Army; although by that measure we expose all our Towns on the sea-coasts to the rage and depredations of the enemy, and run the dreadful risk of the best of our Towns being reduced to ashes, and taking the miserable fate of *Charlestown*.

"We beg leave to acquaint your Honour, that it is most

clearly our opinion, and that we have the best grounds to suppose, that as soon as the enemy have recovered a little breath from their amazing fatigues of the seventeenth of *June*, and the surprising losses which they then undoubtedly sustained shall be made up by arrivals of new Troops, which is almost daily taking place, they will direct all their force to some one point, and make the utmost efforts to force our lines, destroy our magazines, and thereby strike general terror and amazement into the hearts of the inhabitants of the whole Continent.

"From this view of the case we cannot a moment longer forbear addressing your Honour, and most earnestly suggesting to the immediate consideration of your General Assembly, not only the expediency, but indispensable necessity of an immediate augmentation of the Troops from your Colony, for the more effectual strengthening of the Army. What the number of the augmentation ought to be, we most cheerfully submit to the good judgment of your Assembly, not in the least doubting but their wisdom and justice will direct and dispose them to do all that is proper in so important a crisis as we really consider the present.

"We need not express to your Honour the indispensable necessity of despatch in making re-enforcements, nor the propriety and advantage of marching any new levies, which your Assembly may order, with all possible speed, without the first raised companies waiting for the completing of others, inasmuch as your Colony has here on the spot all the proper officers to make the necessary disposition for their reception. And as the season of their being of any advantage for the support of our Army may be irrevocably lapsed before their arrival, if the least unnecessary delay should be indulged, we have made a representation to the Lieutenant-Governour of *Rhode-Island*, similar to the foregoing, and are about to make a like representation to the Congress of *New-Hampshire*, and to send the same by special express.

"We suppose the whole number of our enemy's land forces, when joined with the four regiments which were ordered to *New-York*, will amount to upwards of ten thousand, exclusive of negroes and tories, who are every way provided and furnished in the best manner for action.

"We have the fullest confidence that your Honour's zeal and ardour for the salvation of our Country, and the preservation of our inestimable rights, will render any importunity unnecessary to induce you to take all the requisite steps to effect the proposed augmentation for which we are most solicitous."

The Committee appointed to consider what steps are proper to be taken for the reception of General *Washington*, reported. The Report was ordered to lie on the table.

A Letter from the Committee of *Machias*, dated *June 14, 1775*, was read, (respecting the capture of a King's Cutter,) and committed to the Committee which was yesterday appointed to consider a Letter on the same subject to Colonel *Otis*.

Mr. *Holmes* was appointed in the room of Col. *Sawyer*, on the Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for making the Notes of this Colony a currency and tender for payment in all cases.

Mr. *Davis* was appointed in the room of Captain *Stone*, on the Committee who were appointed to consider the Petition from *Edward Parry*.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning, eight o'clock.

—  
Monday, June 26, 1775.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to consider the Petition of Mr. *Edward Parry*, and the Report of Colonel *Thompson* relative to his conduct at *Kennebeck*, be directed to consider his, the said *Thompson's*, conduct at *Falmouth*, with respect to Captain *Mowatt* and Captain *Coulson*, and his laying Mr. *Bernard* under bonds.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to deliver out Commissions, be directed to draw a fair list of all those officers in the Army who have been commissioned, which list shall be attested by the Secretary and transmitted to General *Ward*.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety, proposing that the Congress should appoint two persons to superintend the



supply of the Army, was read, and committed to the Committee who have under consideration the regulation of the Army.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pickering*, Mr. *Nye*, and Mr. *Fisher*, be a Committee to inquire into the state of the Towns' stocks of Ammunition, in the Counties of *Worcester* and *Hampshire*, and that said Committee sit forthwith.

*Ordered*, That all the Commissions for the Officers of the Train be forthwith signed by the Secretary, (except *John Wiley's*, *Samuel Gridley's*, and *John Callender's*,) and sent to the Committee of Safety.

*Ordered*, That no Handles be made to Spears or other weapons of war, or any tools for the use of the Army, of Chestnut, or any other brittle wood.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to inquire into the grounds of a report which has prevailed, that there has been treachery in some of the Officers of the Army, be directed to proceed in their inquiries.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Porter*, Colonel *Gerrish*, and Captain *Thatcher*, be a Committee to consider and report to whom the Arms obtained by a Committee of Congress shall be delivered, and when distributed, how the person receiving them shall be made accountable.

*Resolved*, That every person who has in possession any of the Precepts lately issued by this Congress for calling a General Assembly, be desired to delete the word "*warn*," and in its stead insert the word "*cause*," and that Mr. *Edes* be desired, in his next Paper, to give notice of the mistake made, by printing the said word "*warn*," instead of the word "*cause*."

*Resolved*, That Major *Fuller* be desired immediately to go home to get the returns of the Towns' stocks of Ammunition.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider what steps are proper to be taken for the reception of General *Washington*, was again considered, amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Benjamin Church* and Mr. *Moses Gill*, be a Committee to repair to *Springfield*, there to receive Generals *Washington* and *Lee*, with every mark of respect due to their exalted characters and stations; to provide proper escorts for them from thence to the Army before *Boston*, and the house provided for their reception at *Cambridge*, and to make suitable provision for them in manner following, viz: by a number of gentlemen of this Colony from *Springfield* to *Brookfield*; and by another company, raised in that neighbourhood, from there to *Worcester*; and by another company, there provided, from thence to *Marlborough*; and from thence, by the troop of Horse in that place, to the Army aforesaid: and their company at the several stages on the road, and to receive the bills of expenses at the several inns where it may be convenient for them to stop for refreshment, to examine them and make report of the several sums expended at each of them for that purpose, that orders may be taken by the Congress for the payment of them; and all inn-keepers are hereby directed to make provision agreeable to the requests made by the said Committee; and that General *Ward* be notified of the appointment of General *Washington* as Commander-in-Chief of the *American* Forces, and of the expectation we have of his speedy arrival, with Major-General *Lee*, that he, with the Generals of the Forces of the other Colonies, may give such orders for their honourable reception as may accord with the rules and circumstances of the Army, and the respect due to their rank, without, however, any expense of powder, and without taking the Troops off from the necessary attention to their duty at this crisis of our affairs.

*Resolved*, That three o'clock in the afternoon be assigned for the purpose of choosing three persons as a Committee to repair to *Springfield* to receive Generals *Washington* and *Lee*, agreeable to the foregoing Resolution.

The Committee appointed to consider what preparations are proper to be made for the reception of General *Washington*, reported the following Resolve; which was accepted, and Capt. *Partridge*, Captain *Thatcher*, Mr. *Phillips*, Major *Goodwin*, and Mr. *Caldwell*, appointed a Committee for the purpose therein mentioned:

*Resolved*, That the President's house in *Cambridge*, excepting one room reserved by the President for his own use, be taken, cleared, prepared, and furnished, for the reception of General *Washington* and General *Lee*; and that a Committee be chosen immediately to carry the same into execution.

Mr. *Crane* was appointed in the room of Mr. *Hall* on the Committee chosen to consider Mr. *Revere's* Account.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to prepare Letters to the several Governments in *New-England* for a re-enforcement of men, omit preparing one for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Taylor*, Captain *Goodman*, and Mr. *Phillips*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of preventing all imposition on the Committee who have been heretofore directed to examine those persons who may be suspected as inimical to their Country, by any person whatever.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from *Machias* reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be, and are hereby given to Captain *Jeremiah Obrian* and Captain *Benjamin Foster*, and the other brave men under their command, for their courage and good conduct in taking one of the Tenders belonging to our enemies, and two Sloops belonging to *Ichabod Jones*, and for preventing the Ministerial Troops being supplied with Lumber; and that the said Tender, Sloops, their appurtenances and cargoes, remain in the hands of the said Captains *Obrian* and *Foster* and the men under their command, for them to use and improve as they shall think most for their and the publick's advantage, until the further order of this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives. And that the Committee of Safety for the Western Parish of *Pownalborough* be ordered to convey the prisoners taken by the said *Obrian* and *Foster* from *Pownalborough* Jail to the Committee of Safety or Correspondence for the Town of *Brunswick*, and the Committee for *Brunswick* to convey them to some Committee in the County of *York*, and so to be conveyed from County to County till they arrive at this Congress.

Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to *Ezra Badlam*, Captain of the Train of Artillery, in the room of *John Wiley*; *John Sibley*, Lieutenant; *Samuel Dagget*, Second Lieutenant; and *John Blanchard*, Second Lieutenant; agreeable to the recommendation of the Committee of Safety.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Foster*, Mr. *Fisher*, and Captain *Goodridge*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from General *Ward* this day received.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Fisher*, Doctor *Whiting*, and Major *Brooks*, be a Committee to receive, sort, and count the votes for three gentlemen to go to *Springfield*, to meet Generals *Washington* and *Lee*.

The Committee having attended that service, reported, that Doctor *Church*, Mr. *Gill*, and the Hon. Major *Hawley*, were chosen.

The Hon. Major *Hawley* moved that he might be excused from that service; and having offered his reasons, the question was put, and he was excused accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the vote for choosing three persons to go to *Springfield*, to meet Generals *Washington* and *Lee*, be reconsidered, so far as that only two persons should be appointed to repair thither on that service.

*Resolved*, That Captain *McKenster* and Captain *Porter*, who have each of them raised a Company at *New-York* and *Connecticut*, be permitted to join Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment, provided their Companies are complete and equipped, and that Major *Goodwin* bring in a Resolve for this purpose.

*Resolved*, That General *Whitcomb's* Commission be dated the 21st day of *June*.

*Resolved*, That the President be desired to administer to General *Whitcomb* the Oath appointed to be administered to the General Officers of the Army.



The President delivered to General *Whitcomb* a Commission as a Major-General of the *Massachusetts Army*.

A Petition from the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Plymouth*\* was read; whereupon

*Resolved*, That the prayer thereof be granted, and that General *Ward* be directed to countermand his orders for drawing off the forces stationed at *Plymouth*.

On a motion made,

*Voted*, That this last Resolve be reconsidered, and

*Ordered*, That the Petition from *Plymouth* be committed to Capt. *Parker*, Colonel *Lincoln*, Colonel *Davis*, Mr. *Phillips*, and Mr. *Webster*.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the Officers of Colonel *Little's* Regiment, agreeable to a list recommended by the Committee of Safety.

A list of the Officers and Soldiers of Captain *Samuel Sprague's* Company was presented to the Congress; whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to the said Officers, viz: *Samuel Sprague*, Captain; *Joseph Cheever*, Lieutenant; *William Oliver*, Ensign; and that the Company be joined to Colonel *Gerrish's* Regiment.

Mr. *Goodwin*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve; which was accepted, viz:

Whereas, Captain *Mackinster*, of *Spencer*, and Captain *Porter*, of *Becket*, have enlisted, each a Company of men on the establishment of this Colony, and not joined as yet to any Regiment:

*Resolved*, That the said Companies be joined to Colonel *John Patterson's* Regiment, now stationed at *Cambridge*, immediately: provided said Companies are full, or near full, and that each man is equipped with a good and sufficient Firelock; and that they join their Regiment as soon as may be.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to Captain *Reuben Dow* and Lieutenant *John Goss*, as officers, agreeable to the respective titles affixed to their names, in Col. *Prescott's* Regiment.

The Committee appointed to consider and report to whom the Arms, procured by a Committee of this Congress, should be delivered, &c., reported the following Resolve; which was read, and accepted, viz:

Whereas, this Congress have ordered a number of Fire-Arms to be furnished from several Towns and Districts in this Colony, to be forwarded to the Army to supply those who are destitute of Arms, but no provision is made for delivering them out, and taking proper receipts for the same:

\* PETITION FROM THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE OF PLYMOUTH.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress, now sitting at WATERTOWN: The Petition of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of PLYMOUTH humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners have this day received intelligence that a vote passed your House the . . . instant, determining to remove to Head-Quarters that part of Colonel *Cotton's* Regiment which has been, by order of your most respectable body, stationed in this place for the security and protection of the lives and property of this greatly exposed and much threatened Town. We, your petitioners, have lately received undoubted intelligence, by one of our townsmen, who has been taken by a tender, and carried into *Boston*, that Admiral *Graves* made particular inquiry into the circumstances of this Town, and said that we were a rebellious people, and that, in consequence of our building a fort in opposition to the King's Troops, it should not be long before he would blow the Town about our ears. Your petitioners are very sensible that, should the troops be called away from this station, the Town of *Plymouth*, as well as the adjacent Villages, will lie open to the ravages of our enemies; and that it will be no difficult matter for them to plunder and destroy us. The poor of this Town are already much distressed, by reason of the stop put to the Fishery, and can scarcely subsist upon what they get out of the clam banks, and by fishing in boats; and should they be driven from their huts into the barren country that surrounds us, they must (for aught we see) perish with hunger and for want of habitations, there not being houses within twenty miles sufficient to receive them. These poor people consist principally of women and children, their husbands and parents having enlisted themselves into the service of the Colony. Your petitioners are very far from desiring to create any unnecessary expense to the Colony; but, at the same time, think it necessary that said troops remain with us, and are of opinion that, should they be withdrawn, the Town will be immediately evacuated. And, for the above reasons, your petitioners, as in duty bound, &c.

For and by order of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Plymouth*:

ANDREW CROSWELL, Clerk,  
GAMALIEL BRADFORD, JUN.,  
JOHN GRAY.

P. S. The Committee of Correspondence for the Towns of *Duxbury* and *Kingston*, which lie on *Plymouth Bay*, join in the general prayer of the above Petition.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That all the Small-Arms that are or may be procured by the above order, be delivered to Major *Nathaniel Barber*, Military Storekeeper at *Cambridge*, he to give his receipt for the same to the person or persons from whom he receives them; that the same be delivered out to such officers as shall produce orders therefor from the Hon. General *Ward*, they giving receipts for the same to the said Major *Barber*, to be returned in good order, unless lost in the service of the Colony. And every soldier who shall receive any such Fire-Arm, shall give his receipt for the same to the officer from whom he shall receive it, to be returned as aforesaid; and in case the same shall not be returned at the close of the campaign, or sooner, the value of the said Fire-Arm shall be deducted out of the wages of the person receiving the same; and that the sum of six shillings shall be deducted out of the wages of each soldier who shall receive such Fire-Arm, for the use of the same, in case he returns it again in good order.

The Committee on the Petition of *Edward Parry*, &c., reported. The Report was read, amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz.\*

The Committee on the Petition from *Plymouth*, reported. The Report was read, but not accepted.

*Ordered*, That the Hon. Colonel *Gerrish*, Captain *Bragdon*, Colonel *Thompson*, Colonel *Freeman*, and Mr. *Lothrop*, be a Committee to consider what measures are proper to be taken for the defence and protection of the sea-coasts.

*Ordered*, That the Committee last chosen consider several Petitions which were committed to the Committee some time since appointed to consider the state of the sea-coasts; and that said Committee first consider the case of the Town of *Plymouth*, as represented in the Petition from that Town.

The Committee appointed to consider the conduct of Colonel *Thompson*, at *Falmouth*, with respect to Captain *Mowatt*, reported. The Report was ordered to subside; it was as follows:

The Committee appointed to consider the conduct of Colonel *Thompson*, at *Falmouth*, with respect to Captain *Mowatt*, &c., and his laying Mr. *Barnard* under bond, are of opinion that said *Thompson's* conduct was friendly to his Country and the cause of liberty, and that said *Barnard's* conduct appears to have been inimical to both. All which we humbly submit to this Congress.

Adjourned to *Tuesday* morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, June 27, 1775.

A Letter from the Committee of *Albany*, dated *June 23, 1775*, was read; whereupon,

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Whiting*, Mr. *Greenleaf*, and Mr. *Hopkins*, be a Committee to consider the same, and prepare an answer thereto.

*Resolved*, That four persons be added to the Committee of Supplies, and that eleven o'clock this forenoon be assigned for the choice of them.

The Committee appointed yesterday to consider General *Ward's* Letter, reported a Resolve; which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in handbills, and dispersed throughout the Colony. And thereupon,

*Ordered*, That Captain *Goodridge*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Mr. *Caldwell*, be a Committee for that purpose.

A Letter from *Isaac Stone*, relative to *Francis Moore*, a baker, was read, and is as follows, viz:

"June 25, 1775.

"MR. PRESIDENT: I am, Sir, now upon my return to visit my family; have just been informed by Mr. *Isaac Shearman*, a baker at *Marlborough*, that he has been employed by one *Francis Moore*, of *Cambridge*, a baker for our Army, for a considerable time; that the said *Moore* bakes one or two batches of biscuit every day out of the flour belonging to the Colony, to the value of twenty shillings, lawful money, per batch; which biscuit, together with some quantity of eight-penny loaves, are sold constantly for private use to any body who wants to purchase, and no account is kept of the flour used for that purpose, or of the biscuit

\* The report referred to in the text is neither entered on the Journal, nor preserved on the files of Congress.—*Lincoln*.



or bread thus sold. He, the said *Shearman*, says he inquired of Mr. *Fenno*, *Moore's* foreman, upon what conditions *Moore* baked for the Army, and he told him the Colony made Mr. *Moore* debtor for the flour he received of them, and *Moore* made the Colony debtor for the bread he delivered to the Army; that there could be no other way. *Shearman* says, if that is the case, *Moore* must make a very large advance; that the bread made with thirty pounds worth of flour would amount to forty pounds; that *Moore* supplies about that quantity every day: so that if he took some of the Colony flour for private use, and is honest in the weight of the bread, he would advance ten Pounds, lawful money, per day. Besides, he says one of *Moore's* boys reported, that the loaves were not weight, and the Commissary examined and found it so; that *Moore* severely corrected the boy for telling. Upon the whole, *Shearman* supposes *Moore* is in a way of making money fast. *Shearman* says he is personally knowing to these facts, and they may be sufficiently proved. Thus far, Sir, I thought it my duty, as a member of the honourable Congress, to inform, and hope every unfaithful servant will be dismissed. All which is humbly submitted. Yours, &c. ISAAC STONE.

"To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esquire, President of Congress, at *Watertown*."

Ordered, That the said Letter be immediately transmitted to the Committee of Supplies.

Ordered, That Deacon *Fisher*, Captain *Batchelder*, Captain *Stone* of *Framingham*, join with Mr. *Pidgeon* in an inquiry into the conduct of said *Moore*, and report to this Congress.

Ordered, That the Resolve just now past, in consequence of General *Ward's* Letter, be reconsidered, and that it be recommitted, together with the Resolve passed relative to absconding soldiers, to Mr. *Partridge*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Captain *Goodrich*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Thatcher* be appointed to apply to the brother of our late President for such Papers belonging to this Congress as he may have in his possession.

Ordered, That Dr. *Taylor*, Colonel *Coffin*, and Captain *Webster*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from General *Thomas*, respecting a petition for liberty to permit Provisions to be carried to those who were taken prisoners by *Gage's* Troops, on the 17th instant, now in *Boston*.

A number of Letters were presented to the Congress by Mr. *Palfrey*, lately arrived from *England*; some of which were read, and then the whole were committed to Dr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Captain *Brown*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Bigelow* be appointed to go to *Cambridge* to inquire if there are any blank Commissions at the Committee of Safety's room.

Ordered, That Mr. *Webster*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Captain *Goodman*, be a Committee to receive and sort the votes for four gentlemen to be added to the Committee of Supplies.

The Committee having attended that service, reported, that Colonel *James Prescott*, Colonel *Elisha Porter*, Major *Brooks*, and Captain *Vose*, were chosen.

Major *Brooks* having requested that he might be excused, was excused, and Colonel *Barrett* was chosen in his room.

Ordered, That the Secretary make out a proper certificate of the choice of the above-named four gentlemen on the Committee of Supplies.

The Committee on the account of Mr. *Paul Revere*, reported. The Report was recommitted.

A Letter from General *Ward* was read, nominating Colonel *William Henshaw* to be an Adjutant-General in the *Massachusetts* Army; whereupon,

Ordered, That a Commission be made out for him accordingly.

Ordered, That the Hon. Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Pickering*, and Col. *Porter*, be a Committee to prepare Letters to the Continental Congress, requesting their aid in furnishing us with Gunpowder; and also to prepare another Letter to Governour *Trumbull*, requesting him to take some steps for collecting Powder from the several Towns

in the Colony of *Connecticut*, to be sent to Head-Quarters at *Cambridge*, as this Colony is now doing.

A Letter from General *Thomas* was read, nominating Mr. *Samuel Brewer* to be an Adjutant-General in the *Massachusetts* Army; whereupon,

Ordered, That a Commission be made out for him accordingly.

Resolved, That Mr. *Ezekiel Cheever* be appointed Storekeeper of the Ordnance, in the room of Major *Barber*, who has declined accepting of that trust; and that five o'clock, P. M., be assigned for considering the expediency of augmenting the Pay of the Storekeeper of the Ordnance.

Ordered, That Captain *Holmes*, Captain *Brown*, and Captain *Batchelder*, be a Committee to examine Ensign *Robert Campbell*, lately arrived from *England*, and now a prisoner in this Town, and to report what is proper to be done with him.

Afternoon.

Ordered, That Captain *Farley*, Captain *Dwight*, and Mr. *Webster* be a Committee to prepare an Address to the several Towns in the Colony who may be applied to to furnish the Army with Powder.

Resolved, That Mr. *Edes* be desired to print three hundred blank Commissions, agreeable to the form lately made use of for the Officers of the Army.

A Petition from *Jonathan Hicks* and *Josiah Jones*, prisoners in *Concord* Jail, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Letter from S. L. was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from the Committees of the several Townships of *Goldsborough*, *Narragaus*, and *Number Four*, was read,\* and committed to Captain *Parker*, Colonel *Smith*, and Captain *Ellis*, who are directed to consider the propriety of supplying the inhabitants of *Machias* with some three-pounders and some swivel balls.

The Committee made report as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of the Towns of *Goldsborough*, *Narragaus*, and the Township *Number Four*, beg leave to report, that it be recommended to the Committee of Correspondence and Committee of Safety, in the County of *Essex*, that they supply the three Towns abovementioned with one hundred bushels of Grain, five barrels of Pork, and one cask of Molasses, to each Town; and take security of *William Shaw*, *Joseph Wallis*, and *Phineas Whilden*, petitioners, for the pay in Lumber, or such other things as may suit for pay best; and if not paid in a reasonable time, it shall be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony.

Ordered, That Captain *Shillaber* be directed to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of assuring the officers and soldiers that, notwithstanding the date of the officers' commissions, the Pay of both officers and soldiers shall commence at the time of their enlistment.

Ordered, That Commissions be made out to the subaltern officers of Captain *Edward Craft's* Company, in the

\* To the Honourable Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress for the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

GENTLEMEN: The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of *Goldsborough*, *Number Four*, and *Narragaus*, in the County of *Lincoln*, in said Province, humbly shews: That the particularly alarming situation of this County, as well as the whole Continent, induces us to address your Honours, and particularly to lay before you the distressed situation of said Towns, holding ourselves as true friends to the cause that all *America*, as well as ourselves, are now supporting. At present we are almost destitute of all kinds of provisions, as well as ammunition; and the many reports we have that we may expect the *Indians* on our backs, and the tenders in our harbours to distress us, oblige us to pray that your Honours may assist us in that way that you in your wisdom may think best; for which we shall be always ready to make you full satisfaction. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

WILLIAM SHAW,

B. GLESHNER,

Committee of the Township of *Goldsborough*.

JOSEPH WALLIS,

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL,

Committee of the Township of *Narragaus*.

JOHN STEVENS,

PHINEAS WHILDEN,

Committee of the Township *Number Four*.



Train, agreeable to the recommendation of the Committee of Safety.

A Letter from *Elisha Phelps*, dated June 12, 1775, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Letter from Mr. *Isaac Stone*, which was this day transmitted to the Committee of Supplies, was, by that Committee, returned, and again read, and thereupon,

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller* be directed to notify the Commissary-General to attend this Congress on the subject thereof.

The Committee appointed to consider in what way the sea-coasts should be protected, reported; whereupon,

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Supplies and all Committees of the House now out, be directed immediately to give attendance.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to provide Hospitals for the Army be directed to provide another Hospital to be appropriated solely for such of the Army as may be taken with the Small-Pox, and to consider what measures can be taken to prevent the spreading of that distemper; and that Doctor *Rand* and Doctor *Foster* be added to the Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Resolve passed yesterday, directing how the Fire-Arms should be distributed, be reconsidered. The same being amended, was again accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, this Congress has ordered a number of Fire-Arms to be furnished from several Towns and Districts in this Colony, to be forwarded to the Army to supply those who are destitute of Arms, but no provision is made for delivering them out, and taking proper receipts for the same: therefore,

*Resolved*, That all the Small-Arms that are or may be procured by the above order, be delivered to the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, they to give their receipt for the same to the person from whom they receive them, that the same be delivered out to such officers as shall produce orders therefor from the Hon. General *Ward*, they giving receipts for the same to the said Committee of Safety, to be returned in good order, unless lost in the service of the Colony. And every soldier who shall receive any such fire-arm, shall give his receipt for the same to the officer from whom he shall receive it, to be returned as aforesaid, and the officer shall return the said receipts to the Committee of Safety; and in case the same shall not be returned at the close of the campaign, or sooner, the value of the said fire-arm shall be deducted out of the wages of the person receiving the same; and that the Committee of Safety shall appraise all such arms as have not already been appraised, and take an account of the whole.

*Ordered*, That Col. *William Henshaw*, an Adjutant-General, take the oath appointed to be taken by the Officers and Soldiers of the *Massachusetts* Army, and that a commission as Adjutant-General be delivered to him.

The Committee appointed to examine Ensign *Robert Campbell*, reported the following Resolve, which was accepted:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the case of a Prisoner bound to *Boston* to join the Army under the command of General *Gage*, have examined said Prisoner; and his account of himself is, that his name is *Robert Campbell*, about seventeen years old, son of Lieutenant-Colonel *Alexander Campbell*, who is now Lieutenant-Governor of *Fort George*, in *Inverness*, and is one of the first families in *Scotland*. Said *Robert Campbell* further says, he was born in the Army, and now has a recommendation for an Ensign's commission in the Thirty-Fifth Regiment.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Campbell* be sent immediately to the care of the Selectmen of *Concord*, to be by them put under keepers or into prison, and provided for as their prudence shall direct, until the further order of this Congress, or some future House of Representatives, and that he be delivered to Colonel *Barrett*, to be conveyed to said Selectmen of *Concord*.

An Account of *Simeon Fish* and *John Toby*, of the expenses of bringing Ensign *Robert Campbell* from *Falmouth*

to this Congress, was read, and committed to the Committee who were appointed to examine said *Campbell*.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the several Towns' stocks in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Worcester*, reported a schedule, containing an account of the stocks of the several Towns in said Counties, which was committed to Mr. *Singleton*, Mr. *Nye*, and Mr. *Cutt*, who were directed to consider what quantity should be drawn from each Town for the use of the Army.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter of General *Thomas*, relative to the request of a number of our wounded friends in captivity in *Boston*, reported. The Report was accepted, and a copy of it ordered to be sent to General *Thomas*, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider the request of a number of our wounded friends now in captivity in *Boston*, beg leave to report, that General *Thomas* be requested moderately to supply said Prisoners with fresh Meat, in case he can convey it to them, and them only.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider some means for protecting the sea-coasts was again read and considered, and, after debate, the further consideration of it was put off till to-morrow morning.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Wednesday, June 28, 1775.

The Committee appointed to prepare an answer to the Letter from *Albany*, reported.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lincoln* bring in a Resolve making five of the Committee of Supplies to be a quorum, or in defect of five, that three may be a quorum, provided the Chairman be one of the three.

Colonel *Lincoln* reported a Resolve, which was read, accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, the publick interest often makes it necessary that a very considerable number of the Committee of Supplies should be absent on business of the Colony, and as no orders can be paid by the Receiver-General but such as are signed by the said Committee, or the major part of them, by reason whereof the publick service may be obstructed and greatly delayed; for the prevention of which, it is

*Resolved*, That three of said Committee of Supplies, the Chairman, *David Cheever*, Esquire, being always one of the three, shall, when there are less than five present, be considered as a quorum; and all orders, bargains, and contracts by them made, shall be held good to all intents and purposes, as fully as though the whole of said Committee were present and assenting to such orders, bargains, and contracts, and that the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and hereby is directed to govern himself accordingly.

The Letter prepared to be sent to the Committee of *Albany* was accepted, and is as follows:

"GENTLEMEN: This Congress have received your very obliging letter by Mr. *Price*, of the 23d ultimo, and they cheerfully embrace the opportunity to forward to you by the same hand, as particular an account of the late engagement with the enemies of *America* as we, in the present hurry of our publick affairs, are able to do. On the night of the 16th of *June* instant, a body of our Troops took possession of a hill in *Charlestown*, where they began some intrenchments; but as soon as the morning light appeared, they were fired upon by some of the ships in *Boston* harbour, and also from a battery on *Copp's Hill*, which is on *Boston* side. Soon after, several ships and floating batteries drew up as near as possible on each side of *Charlestown Neck*, in order, with their cannon, to annoy our people, and prevent any recruits going from our main body to their relief. About two o'clock, P. M., a large body of regular Troops, consisting of several thousands, commanded by Lord *Howe*, suddenly crossed *Charles River*, and landed near the hill on which our people were posted. They immediately marched up, in order to force our infant intrenchments; but our people gave them so warm a reception, that they thought best to retreat, but soon renewed their attempts, but were repulsed the second time with great slaughter; but on their third attempt our people (being almost destitute of ammunition, as the enemy's con-



stant fire from their ships and floating batteries had prevented any supplies from our main Army) were obliged to retreat, with the loss of about fifty men killed, and two hundred wounded, as near as has yet been ascertained, and about thirty taken prisoners, many of whom were wounded, and some are since dead of their wounds. The loss on the part of our enemies is much greater. Some persons who were on the field of battle soon after the fight, affirm that they saw eight hundred men dead on the ground, and that there were as many more wounded. The lowest accounts we have had is one thousand killed and wounded, among which are eighty four commissioned officers. On the same day the Town of *Charlestown*, consisting of near five hundred houses and other buildings, was, by those bloody incendiaries, set on fire and consumed to ashes. We cannot, however, but assure you, gentlemen, that, notwithstanding our present distressed situation, we feel a peculiar satisfaction in finding our patriotick brethren of the City and County of *Albany* so cordially interesting themselves in our particular welfare, and so kindly offering us their assistance, as well as manifesting their zeal for the rights and liberties of *America* in general. It is our ardent desire to cultivate harmony and friendship with all our neighbouring brethren, and we hope you will not fail to continue your favours; and we assure you that we shall always take pleasure in conveying to you any intelligence that shall afford satisfaction. As to the benevolent donations you mention, which are collected for our distressed brethren, as the transporting the article you make mention of is almost impracticable, we think it had better be exchanged for cash, or some necessary specie, which may be more easily transported. We are sorry to hear there is any prospect of an attack upon *Ticonderoga*, &c., but we trust those important fortresses are sufficiently garrisoned, and doubt not but our brave countrymen stationed there will be able to repulse any force which can be sent against them from *Canada*. Finally, brethren, we ardently wish that the great Supreme Being, who governs all things, may so direct all our military operations, that they may speedily issue in the full restoration and peaceable possession of the natural and constitutional rights and liberties of every *American*.

"P. S. Some make the number of our killed and missing to be near a hundred."

The Committee on the Account of Messrs. *Fish* and *Toby*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That *Simeon Fish* and *John Toby* be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, six Pounds, seven Shillings, for their time and expenses in bringing *Robert Campbell*, a prisoner, from *Falmouth* to this Congress, and also for their time and expenses back to *Falmouth* again; and the Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay the said sum of six Pounds, seven Shillings, to the said *Fish* and *Toby*, in full discharge of their expenses as aforesaid.

The Committee who were appointed to consider the Resolves of this Congress relative to absconding Soldiers, reported. The Report was recommitted.

Mr. *Pidgeon* was introduced, on the subject of Captain *Stone's* Letter respecting Mr. *Moore*.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Fisher*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Captain *Stone* of *Framingham*, be a Committee to join with Mr. *Pidgeon* in an inquiry into the conduct of said *Moore*, and report to this Congress.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Batchelder*, Colonel *Coffin*, and Captain *Goodman*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of saving Provisions in the Army.

A list of persons recommended as Deputy Commissaries was read, and committed to Mr. *Greenleaf*, Captain *Carpenter*, and Mr. *Johnson*.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for giving a currency to the Notes or Bills of Credit of this Colony, reported. The Report was recommitted, for the purpose of introducing the large Notes issued by this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be delivered to such Officers of Col. *Gerrish's* Regiment as are not yet commissioned.

A Petition of *John Obrian* was read, and committed to Major *Perley*, Major *Fuller* of *Middleton*, and Mr. *Cutt*.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider some measures for defending the sea-coasts, was again taken into consideration, amended, and accepted, and Colonel *Freeman*, Colonel *Gerrish*, and Captain *Carpenter*, were appointed to fix the pay of the Officers in proportion to that of the Soldiers, agreeable to said Report.

The Report of the Committee respecting absconding Soldiers, was put off to three o'clock, P. M.

The Committee appointed to consider some method of saving Provisions in the Army, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to consider of the most effectual means to prevent any waste of Provisions in the Army, beg leave to report, by way of Resolve:

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is directed to purchase all the Provisions that any of the Soldiers may have to spare of their allowance, for the use of the Army, and pay a reasonable price for such Provisions.

Afternoon.

The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to station the Troops in the County of *Essex*, agreeable to the Resolve of Congress which passed in the forenoon, viz: *Lynn*, Mr. *Edward Johnson*; *Manchester*, Mr. *Andrew Woodbury*; *Gloucester*, Colonel *Coffin*; *Marblehead*, *Elbridge Gerry*, Esquire; *Salem*, Mr. *Pickering*; *Beverly*, Captain *Batchelder*; *Ipswich*, Colonel *Farley*; *Newbury*, Colonel *Gerrish*; *Newburyport*, Captain *Greenleaf*; *Salisbury*, Captain *Nathaniel Currier*.

And the following gentlemen, for the County of *York*, viz: *York*, Captain *Bragdon*; *Kittery*, *Edward Cutt*, Esquire; *Berwick*, Major *Goodwin*; *Wells*, Col. *Sawyer*; *Arundel*, Deacon *Hovey*; *Biddeford*, *James Sullivan*, Esquire.

The following gentlemen were likewise appointed, agreeable to said Resolve, to give out Listing Orders, viz: For the County of *Essex*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Greenleaf*, and Colonel *Farley*; for the County of *Plymouth*, Hon. Colonel *Warren*, Mr. *Lothrop*, Captain *Partridge*; for the County of *Barnstable*, Colonel *Freeman*, Colonel *Otis*, *Daniel Davis*, Esq.; for the County of *Dukes County*, Mr. *Nye*; for the County of *Bristol*, Mr. *Durfee*, Hon. Mr. *Spooner*, Captain *Holmes*; for the County of *York*, Col. *Sawyer*, *Edward Cutt*, Esquire, Captain *Bragdon*; for the County of *Cumberland*, Hon. Colonel *Freeman*, Colonel *Thompson*, Mr. *Mitchell*; for the County of *Lincoln*, Mr. *D. Sewall*, Mr. *Langdon*, Mr. *E. Witcher*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Freeman*, Mr. *Langdon*, and Mr. *Greenleaf*, be a Committee to get two hundred of the Resolves for stationing Companies on the sea-coast printed.

The Resolves being completed, are as follow, viz: The Committee appointed to take into consideration, and report some way of defending and supporting the Towns upon the sea-coasts in this Colony, having considered of the same, report the following Resolves, viz:

*Resolved*, That there be immediately raised in the County of *Essex* ten Companies, to consist of fifty men each, officers included, to be stationed upon the sea-coast in that County, in such manner and proportion as shall be agreed upon by a Joint Committee, consisting of one member, to be appointed by this Congress, from each of the Towns of *Lynn*, *Manchester*, *Gloucester*, *Marblehead*, *Salem*, *Beverly*, *Ipswich*, *Newbury*, *Newburyport*, and *Salisbury*, in said County, and to be under the direction of the Committees of Correspondence of each Town where they may be stationed. Also, that there be raised in the Counties of *Plymouth* and *Barnstable* nine Companies, each to consist of fifty men, four of which Companies to be stationed in the County of *Plymouth*, according to the direction of the Field-Officers of the First Regiment of the County of *Plymouth*, under whose direction they shall be considered; the other five Companies to be stationed in the County of *Barnstable*, in such manner as the Field-Officers of the two Regiments there shall agree, and to be under their direction; and that the County of *Barnstable* shall have the



liberty of raising eight of those Companies. Likewise, that there be raised in the County of *Bristol*, including the Towns of *Wareham* and *Rochester*, two Companies, consisting of fifty men each, to be stationed, one Company in *Dartmouth* and the other Company in *Wareham* and *Rochester*, equally, and to be under the direction of the Committees of Correspondence of the respective Towns. Also, that there be raised in the County of *York* four Companies, consisting of fifty men each, to be stationed in that County, according to the agreement of a Joint Committee, consisting of one member from each of the Towns upon the sea-coast in that County, to be chosen for that purpose; when stationed, to be under the direction of the Field-Officers in that County. Also, that there be raised in the County of *Cumberland* five Companies, consisting of fifty men each, to be stationed as shall be agreed upon by a Joint Committee appointed by each Town upon the sea-coast, viz: two members to be chosen by the Town of *Falmouth* and *Cape Elizabeth*, one by *Scarborough*, one by *North Yarmouth*, one by *Brunswick*, and one by *Harpwell*; and after the division and station is ordered, to be under the direction of the Committees of the respective Towns where they shall be stationed. And, also, that there be raised in the County of *Lincoln* three Companies, consisting of fifty men each, to be stationed by a Committee consisting of members to be chosen, one by each Town upon the sea-coast in said County, as they shall agree, and then to be under the direction of the Committees of Correspondence of the respective Towns and Plantations where they shall be stationed, and of the Assessors, where no such Committees are appointed.

Also, *Resolved*, That a Committee of three persons be appointed in each County, to give out Enlisting Orders in their respective Counties where such men are to be raised, and to muster them; and, also, that Colonel *Phinney* be directed to march the whole of his Regiment, who are equipped with arms, to the Camp at *Cambridge*, and those who are not equipped, to dismiss.

Likewise, further *Resolved*, That the thirty men ordered to be raised from the Town of *Falmouth*, and stationed on the *Elizabeth Islands*, be augmented to fifty, officers included, and under the same wages and subsistence as is hereafter provided, and to remain there for protection of the Stocks on those Islands; and that each private soldier of the several Companies herein mentioned shall be entitled to the sum of thirty-six Shillings per month, and subsistence, as the other Companies raised for the Colony service, till the further order of this or some future Congress or House of Representatives; and that the pay of the officers be reduced in the same proportion as the pay of the soldiers, viz: Captain's pay, five Pounds, eight Shillings; First Lieutenant, three Pounds, twelve Shillings; Second Lieutenant, three Pounds, three Shillings; Sergeants, two Pounds, four Shillings; Corporals, Fifers, and Drummers, two Pounds.

*Resolved*, That each Soldier who shall enlist, shall furnish himself with a good and sufficient firelock, and that no man shall be mustered as a Soldier who is not so furnished accordingly.

Also, *Resolved*, That each Town where Soldiers shall be stationed as above, shall furnish them with Ammunition out of their stocks, for which they shall be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony.

A Petition of *Robert Shillaber* was read, and committed to Captain *Batchelder*, Captain *Goodman*, and Major *Fuller* of *Middleborough*.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Bayley*, Major *Goodwin*, Mr. *Batchelder*, Colonel *Coffin*, and Colonel *Gerrish*, be a Committee to consider what method would be most expedient by which to supply the Soldiers to be raised for the defence of the sea-coasts with Provisions.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Taylor*, Captain *Stearns*, and Mr. *Starkweather*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of several Officers in Colonel *Prescott's*, Colonel *Fry's*, and Colonel *Bridges's* Regiments.

The Report of the Committee relative to absconding Soldiers was again considered, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, in consequence of an application made to the Provincial Congress sitting in this Town in *May* last by

the Officers of the Army, that some effectual method should be taken for the speedy return of absconding soldiers, or such as should tarry beyond the time limited by furlough, it was then resolved that it should be, and accordingly was recommended to the Committees of Correspondence in the several Towns and Districts in this Colony, or to the Selectmen, where no such Committees were appointed, that they should take effectual care that such absconding or delinquent soldiers should be sent back immediately to their respective Regiments, yet it appears to this Congress that the above resolution has not in every instance had the desired effect; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be further recommended to the several Committees of Correspondence in each Town and District in this Colony, or to the Selectmen, where no such Committees are appointed, that they take the most speedy and effectual care that said Resolve be strictly adhered to and punctually executed; and it is also recommended to the good people in the several Towns and Districts aforesaid, to give their utmost aid and assistance to said Selectmen or Committees in executing said Resolve, as the existence of the Army very much depends thereon.

And it is further *Resolved*, That all necessary expenses which may accrue by returning said absconding or delinquent soldiers to their respective Regiments, be paid, and deducted out of the wages of said soldiers.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Resolves be printed in the *Cambridge*, *Watertown*, and *Worcester* Papers.

The Committee appointed to consider what preparations are necessary to be made relative to making paper Bills of Credit, reported. The Report was ordered to lie till there is a fuller House.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lincoln*, Major *Fuller* of *Newton*, Mr. *Singletary*, Mr. *Durfee*, and Mr. *Dexter*, be a Committee to consider what method is best to be taken for providing each of the soldiers with a coat.

The form of a Warrant for the Surgeons was read, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

"The Congress of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY to A. B., greeting:

"Being informed of your skill in Surgery, and reposing especial trust and confidence in your ability and good conduct, we do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, the said A. B., to be Surgeon of the Regiment of Foot, whereof . . . . . is Colonel, raised by the Congress aforesaid for the defence of said Colony. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a Surgeon to the said Regiment in all things appertaining thereunto, observing such orders and instructions as you shall from time to time receive from the Colonel of said Regiment, according to military rules and discipline established by said Congress, or any your superiour officers, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

"By order of the Congress:

" . . . . . President.

"Dated at *Watertown*."

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to make out Commissions for the Officers of the Army, be directed to make out Warrants for the Surgeons, agreeable to the above form, as soon as they have been examined and appointed.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Fisher*, Colonel *Thompson*, and Mr. *Wiswall*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, for the purpose of preventing the unnecessary expenditure of Gunpowder.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of Mr. *Obrian*, reported, verbally, that the petitioner be served with a copy of the Report of this Congress on the Petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Machias*. The Report was accepted, and the petitioner had leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Report of the Committee relative to making the Notes and Bills of Credit of this and the other Colonies a tender, being amended, was accepted, and ordered to be authenticated, and printed in the *Cambridge*, *Watertown*, and *Worcester* Papers, and is as follows:

Whereas, a former Congress of this Colony, ordered their Receiver-General to issue Notes and Bills upon the credit of this Colony, for the payment and supply of their



Army, and other necessary expenses of this Colony; and whereas, divers others of the sister Colonies have issued Notes or Bills, for the payment of their respective Forces; and it is necessary, that the Notes and Bills of this and the sister Colonies should have free currency; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Notes and Bills of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, at and after the rate of six Shillings and nine Pence an ounce for silver, and the Bills and Notes of this and all the other Colonies (excepting *Nova-Scotia* and *Canada*) at and after the rate of six Shillings and eight Pence an ounce for silver, shall be taken and received, and accounted a good and sufficient tender for the payment of all debts, and the damages that may arise upon the non-performance of any promises, and also be received into the publick Treasury of this Colony, without any discount or allowance whatever. And if any person whatever shall refuse to take any of the Notes or Bills of the Colonies aforementioned at the rates before expressed, for any debt, or in satisfaction for the damages sustained by reason of the non-performance of any promise, or shall ask, demand, or receive, any discount, gratuity, or premium, for receiving any of the Bills or Notes aforementioned, he or she so offending shall be deemed an enemy to the Country. And the several Committees of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety in their respective Towns, are required to return the names of all persons who shall contravene this Resolve to this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives, that they may take order thereon as to them shall seem meet.

The Resolve relative to the commencement of the pay of the Officers and Soldiers, was considered, and recommended, and Mr. *Batchelder* and Major *Fuller* added to the Committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Webster*, Major *Perley*, and Mr. *Mighill*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of recommending to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, to suffer the inhabitants of the eastern parts of this Colony to purchase and carry out of said Colony such Provisions as their necessitous circumstances may require.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Continental Congress, be empowered and directed to communicate it to the Committee of Supplies, and then to forward the same to the Delegates of this Colony at said Congress, without reporting it to this Congress, said Delegates to communicate it to the Continental Congress, if they think proper.

The following Letter was received from Mr. *Pidgeon*, the Commissary-General :

"Cambridge, June 28, 1775.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: As not only the baker, (whose conduct I detest if it proves as mentioned in Captain *Stone's* letter,) but also numbers of my assistants are accused of bad conduct, I beg that a Committee may be chosen to examine all my conduct and books; for as, in the opinion of Major *Hawley*, (whose judgment I revere,) I am responsible for all those I appointed—although I can safely say I took as much pains in the choice of those I employed as I could possibly do in similar circumstances were I accountable—I am so much exposed, if it be really so, I must beg that some other may be chosen in my place, as I do not choose to act on that footing. I am perfectly willing that all the officers should be appointed by the Congress. Your Honour's obedient humble servant,

"JOHN PIDGEON, Commissary-General."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Starkweather*, Captain *Partridge*, Colonel *Dexter*, Mr. *Singletary*, and Colonel *Coffin*, be a Committee to examine into the conduct and books of Mr. *John Pidgeon*, Commissary-General, Mr. *Pidgeon* having desired that a Committee be appointed for that purpose; and that said Committee consider the expediency of furnishing Mr. *Miller*, a Deputy-Commissary, with a Horse.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow morning, ten o'clock, be assigned for the purpose of considering the proposal of the Commissary-General for an allowance of Molasses for the Soldiers.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve relative to the commencement of the pay of the Officers and Soldiers, reported the following, which was accepted, and

ordered to be published in the Papers, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That each commissioned Officer in the Colony Army shall draw pay, according to the present establishment, from the time of engaging in the publick service on receiving beating orders, and that each non-commissioned officer and private draw pay from the time of his enlisting in said service; also, that such of the Minute-men and Militia as marched into the field on the 19th of *April*, and soon after, and have remained there, and since engaged in said Army for the defence of the Colony, shall be paid for their service, agreeable to the present establishment, from the time of their first marching into the field.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Hall*, Major *Brooks*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Deacon *Fisher*, be a Committee to consider the written proposal of Doctor *Whiting*, relative to Saltpetre.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

— Thursday, June 29, 1775.

A Petition from Mr. *John Calef* was read, and committed to Major *Fuller*, Colonel *Coffin*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Captain *Parker*, and Mr. *Mighill*.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of recommending to the Governour and Company of *Connecticut* to supply the eastern country with Provisions, reported. The Report was accepted.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety, enclosing a Letter from Mr. *Samuel Smith*, Chairman of the Committee of *Northfield*, was read, and ordered to be sent to the Committee of Supplies.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition from *Narragausus* and other Towns at the eastward, reported. The Report was ordered to subside, and the Petitioners had leave to withdraw their Petition.

*Ordered*, That the President, Major *Hawley*, Doctor *Whiting*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Mr. *Greenleaf*, be a Committee to prepare an Address to Generals *Washington* and *Lee*, to be presented to them on their arrival here.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of Officers belonging to Colonel *Prescott's*, Colonel *Fry's*, and *Bridge's* Regiments, reported; which Report was accepted.

*Ordered*, That the Resolve passed the 19th instant, relative to Spears, &c., be recommitted to Major *Goodwin* for amendment.

The Committee appointed to consider a proposal made by Doctor *Whiting*, for sending some person to *New-York*, to advise with Doctor *Graham* and others, and procure from them directions for the manufacture of Saltpetre, reported; which Report was ordered to lay on the table; and Mr. *Phillips* and Doctor *Whiting* were appointed to confer with Mr. Professor *Sewall*, on the subject-matter contained therein.

The Committee appointed to consider some methods for supplying the Soldiers stationed on the sea-coast, with Provisions, reported. The Report was amended and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to consider what method would be most expedient to supply the Soldiers to be raised for the defence of the sea-coasts with Provisions, beg leave to report :

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of the several Towns or Plantations on the sea-coast, or, where there are no Selectmen, the Assessors of such place where any such Soldiers shall be stationed for their defence, be, and they hereby are directed, to supply the Officers and Soldiers with suitable Provisions for their support, so long as said men continue in the Colony service, and do their duty of Soldiers in their several stations; for which Provisions, the said Selectmen or Assessors shall be paid out of the publick Treasury the sum of five Shillings for each man, per week, which shall be so supplied. And it is recommended to the owners of the *Elizabeth Islands* to supply the Soldiers that may be stationed on said Islands, for which they shall be allowed, out of the Treasury aforesaid, the same sum per week which is allowed for the supply of the Soldiers to be stationed in the other parts of the sea-coasts.



*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hobart*, Colonel *Farley*, and Mr. *Webster*, be a Committee to inquire of the Committee of Supplies, in what manner the Military Stores in *Watertown* are guarded; and that they take effectual care that they be properly guarded, and that there be not so large a quantity kept together as there now is in one place.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety respecting Gen. *Ward's* ordering them to deliver out Small-Arms to such Officers as may apply, was read; the consideration whereof was referred to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

The Committee on the Petition of Mr. *John Calef*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

It appearing to this Congress inconsistent with the best interest of this Colony that the within mentioned Ship should proceed on her voyage, as requested by the within memorialist; therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Ship do not accordingly proceed on said voyage till further order of this Congress, or some future House of Representatives.

Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Freeman*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Mr. *Lothrop*, be a Committee to consider in what manner Listing Orders and Commissions shall be given to the Officers of the several Companies to be stationed on the sea-coasts.

Mr. *Palfrey* was introduced to this Congress, who brought with him a number of Letters, which were brought from England by Captain *Jenkins*.

*Resolved*, That Ensign *Campbell*, now a prisoner at *Concord*, be sent for to this Congress, and that Doctor *Taylor* and Captain *Stone* be directed to search his packages, and see that he is brought to this Congress; and that Mr. *Partridge* be directed to bring in a Resolve empowering said gentlemen to perform this service.

*Ordered*, That the Letters directed to gentlemen in *Rhode-Island*, be sent to the Officers of the *Rhode-Island* Forces; those to *Connecticut*, to the Officers of the *Connecticut* Forces; and those directed to *New-Hampshire*, to the Officers of the *New-Hampshire* Forces.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Whiting*, Mr. *Webster*, and Col. *Freeman*, be a Committee to take under consideration a Resolve of Congress, empowering the Committee for procuring Guns, to draw on the Treasurer for the value of what they purchase, and to report what alterations are necessary to be made therein.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Phillips*, and Colonel *Farley*, be a Committee to supervise the Letters brought to this Congress by Mr. *Palfrey*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be directed to furnish the Committee appointed to go to *Concord*, with Horses.

Mr. *Partridge*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve, which was accepted :

*Resolved*, That Doctor *Taylor*, and Captain *Stone* of *Framingham*, be a Committee, whose duty it shall be to repair to the Town of *Concord*, and make search, or cause strict search to be made, into the pockets and packages of Ensign *Campbell*, now a prisoner at *Concord*, and is suspected of having Letters of publick concernment concealed in his possession; and that they cause said *Campbell* to be brought immediately to the door of this Congress, in order for examination, if they judge it necessary.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the several Towns in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Worcester*, recommending them to supply the Army with Powder, reported. The report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

To the several Towns in the Counties of HAMPSHIRE and WORCESTER :

This Congress, taking into their most serious consideration the great want of Powder in our publick Magazines, and considering how much depends on that important and most necessary article, which, under God, if provided, may prove the salvation of *America*; and as your Towns lie the least exposed to the ravages of our enemies, therefore, it is most earnestly recommended by this Congress to the Selectmen of each Town and District

in the County of *Worcester*, that they deliver the whole of the Towns' stocks, in said County of *Worcester*, to Mr. *John Caldwell*, Mr. *Amos Singletary*, and Deacon *Israel Nichols*, a Committee appointed by this Congress to receive the same. And it is likewise recommended to the Selectmen of each Town and District in the County of *Hampshire*, to deliver their respective Towns' stocks of Powder to Captain *Noah Goodman*, who is appointed by this Congress to receive the same from said County of *Hampshire*; except so much as is allowed to be kept in each Town, which will appear by the schedule hereunto annexed; and that it be replaced, as soon as the state of the Colony magazines will admit thereof, or otherwise paid for in money.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Caldwell*, Mr. *Singletary*, and Deacon *Nichols*, be a Committee to procure Powder from the several Towns in the County of *Worcester*, agreeable to said schedule; and Captain *Goodman*, from the County of *Hampshire*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Brown*, Colonel *Davis*, and Mr. *Fairbanks*, be a Committee to inquire where safe and convenient Stores may be had, for storing what Gunpowder is, or may be procured for the use of this Colony; and that they sit forthwith.

An Account exhibited by Mr. *Ichabod Goodwin*, was read, and committed to Deacon *Stickney*, Captain *King*, and Mr. *Thompson*.

The Report of the Committee on the motion of Doctor *Whiting*, was again read, amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a motion made for sending some proper person to *New-York*, in order to advise with Doctor *Graham* and others, and procure from them directions for the manufacturing of Saltpetre, have attended that service, and beg leave to report, by way of Resolve; that Doctor *William Whiting* be a Committee to repair to *New-York*, and confer with Doctor *Graham*, or any other gentlemen that may have had experience in the manufacturing of Saltpetre; and that he be directed to procure from him or them, the most minute, particular, and intelligible account, relative to the manufacturing of this article possible; and that (if to be found) he procure and engage some ingenious person, who has been used to work in the business of making Saltpetre, to come immediately to this place, who shall be employed in said business; and that the expenses of said journey to *New-York*, and the travel of said workman to this place, be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony.

The Report of the Committee on the Account of Mr. *Paul Revere*, was read, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to take under consideration the Account of Mr. *Paul Revere*, have attended that service; and report by way of Resolve :

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury to Mr. *Paul Revere*, in Colony Notes, sixty-eight Pounds, six Shillings, and eight Pence, in full for four copper plates, and engraving the same, and printing fourteen thousand five hundred impressions for the use of the Colony; and the Receiver-General is directed to pay the same.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That to-morrow morning, ten o'clock, be assigned for the consideration thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of *Robert Shillaber*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Robert Shillaber* be, and he hereby is permitted to export to the *West-Indies* eighty hogshheads of *Jamaica* Fish, provided that no other Provisions be shipped with the said Fish, except so much as will be sufficient for such a voyage; and the Committee of Safety in *Salem* are directed to see this Resolve strictly complied with.

*Ordered*, That Major *Goodwin*, Colonel *Dwight*, and Captain *Bragdon*, be a Committee to prepare Instructions to the Committee who were appointed to procure Powder from the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Worcester*, and that they sit forthwith.

The Committee on the Account of Major *Goodwin*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :



*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is ordered to pay to Major *Ichabod Goodwin*, £2 17s. 8d. for his time, horse, and expenses in going express to *Falmouth*, by order of the Committee of Safety.

Adjourned to *Friday* morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, June 30, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wheeler*, Major *Fuller*, and Mr. *Greenleaf*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of appointing some person to convey one *Green*, a captive, to *Worcester Jail*, there to be confined till further order of this Congress.

The Committee appointed to consider what was best to be done with the supernumerary sheets of Colony Notes, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to consider what shall be done with the supernumerary sheets, struck off from the plate containing the twenty, fourteen, and six Shilling Bills, have attended that service, and find, upon examination, that there are one hundred and twenty-seven sheets above the number proposed, which make the sum of two hundred and fifty-four Pounds; and beg leave to report, that it is our opinion, that an order of Congress be taken for committing said sheets to the care of the Receiver-General, until the further order of this Congress, or House of Representatives.

*Ordered*, That Major *Hawley* bring in a Resolve, directing the Committee of Safety to consider the expediency of granting a further emission of Bills of Credit.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety, enclosing one from the Committee of Safety of *Portsmouth* to Doctor *Langdon*, and an anonymous Letter wrote from *Boston* to *Portsmouth*, which was intercepted by the said Committee at *Portsmouth*; were read, and

*Ordered*, That a copy of the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *Portsmouth* be transmitted to the Committee of Supplies, and that the anonymous Letter lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That such of the Committee who were appointed to deliver out Commissions as are now present, be directed to attest the list of Officers commissioned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wheeler* be directed to deliver the supernumerary Bills to the Receiver-General, and take his receipt for the same.

A Petition of Doctor *William Whiting* was read; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is directed to pay to Doctor *Whiting* the sum of eight Pounds, in Colony notes, towards defraying the expenses of the said Doctor *Whiting*, which may accrue in his journey to *New-York*, said *Whiting* to be accountable for the same to this Congress, or some future House of Assembly of this Colony.

The Committee appointed to consider some measures to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox, were directed to sit forthwith.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Fisher*, Mr. *Lothrop* and Col. *Richmond*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety relative to Artificer's Accounts; and that said Committee be directed to consider such Accounts as may be transmitted to this Congress by the Committee of Safety, and to report thereon.

*Resolved*, That the Resolve of this Congress relative to procuring Powder from the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Worcester*, be reconsidered, and that the same, together with the Report of the Committee appointed to prepare Instructions to the Committee appointed to procure Powder from said Counties, be recommitted.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone*, Mr. *Plympton*, and Mr. *Johnson*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of making provision for the Poor of the Town of *Charlestown*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Coffin*, Mr. *Lothrop*, Captain *Nye*, Captain *Bragdon*, and Colonel *Mitchell*, be a Committee to inquire into the state of the two Light-Houses at *Cape Ann*, and the Light-House at the entrance of *Bos-*

*ton Harbour*, and also that at *Plymouth*, and consider whether it is expedient to continue the lights therein.

Major *Hawley*, agreeable to order, brought in the following Resolve; which was accepted:

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be a Committee forthwith to consider whether the exigences of this Colony do require that there should be, as soon as possible, a grant made by this Congress of a further emission of Notes or Bills of Credit; and that they consider of what sum it is proper that grant should consist, and of what denominations such Bills should be, and whether they should bear any interest, and if any, what the rate of such interest should be, and at what time such Notes or Bills should be payable or redeemed; and whatever other regulations the said Committee shall judge it expedient such Notes or Bills should be issued upon; and that the said Committee report as soon as may be.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Fisher* bring in a Resolve, directing the Receiver-General to pay the sum of three Pounds, and ten Shillings, to the Committee appointed to procure Powder from the County of *Worcester*, and two Pounds ten Shillings, to Captain *Goodman*, who is appointed to procure Powder from the County of *Hampshire*.

Afternoon.

The form of a Warrant for the Surgeons of the Hospital, was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

"*The Congress of the Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, to . . . . . Greeting :*

"Being informed of your skill in Surgery, and reposing especial trust and confidence in your ability and good conduct, we do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, the said . . . . to be a Surgeon of the hospital established by order of Congress, in . . . . for the sick and wounded of the Colony Army. You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a Surgeon of said hospital, in all things appertaining thereto, observing such orders and instructions as you shall, from time to time, receive from any, your superiour officers, according to the rules and discipline established by said Congress, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

"By order of Congress.

"Dated the . . . day of . . . . , A. D. 1775."

*Ordered*, That Warrants be made out to the following Officers, viz: Doctor *Lemuel Cushing*, Surgeon; Doctor *Gad Hitchcock*, Surgeon's Mate; *Adam Bayley*, Quartermaster; *Luther Bayley*, Adjutant; all in General *Thomas's* Regiment: Doctor *Lemuel Howard*, Surgeon to the *Roxbury Hospital*.

Mr. *Jabez Matthews* was admitted to give an account of his embassy to *Quebeck*.

*Ordered*, That commissions be delivered to sundry Officers in Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, agreeable to a list of this date, by him exhibited.

Deacon *Fisher*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolves; which were accepted:

*Resolved*, That the sum of three Pounds and ten Shillings, be paid out of the publick Treasury by the Receiver-General, who is directed to pay the same, to *John Caldwell*, Esq., for the use of the Committee that was chosen to collect Gunpowder within the County of *Worcester*, for the use of the Army, and that they be accountable to this Congress, or some future House of Representatives.

*Resolved*, That the sum of two Pounds and ten Shillings, be paid out of the publick Treasury by the Receiver-General, who is hereby directed to pay the same, unto Mr. *Noah Goodman*, to bear his expenses in collecting Gunpowder within the County of *Hampshire*, for the use of the Army, he to be accountable for the same to this Congress, or some future House of Representatives.

The Committee appointed to prepare a form of a Commission, &c., for the Officers of those Companies, who are to be stationed on the sea-coasts, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration in what manner and form Commissions, Beating and Enlisting Orders, be made out to the Officers to be appointed and raised for the defence of the sea-coast, having taken the



premises into consideration, would humbly report the following draught of a blank for Commissions, viz :

"*The Congress of the Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, to . . . , gentleman, . . . . . Greeting :*

"We, reposing especial trust and confidence in your courage and good conduct, do, by these presents, appoint you, the said . . . . . to be a . . . . . of a Company of Foot, appointed by said Congress to be raised for the protection and defence of the sea-coast in this Colony. You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a . . . . ., in leading, ordering, and exercising the said Company in arms, both inferiour officers and soldiers, and to keep them in good order and discipline ; and they are hereby commanded to obey you as their . . . ; and you are yourself to observe and follow such orders and instructions as you shall from time to time receive from your superiour officers, or from those who are or may be appointed to have the direction of the said Company or Companies, in the several Towns or Counties where you may be stationed, according to military rules and discipline in war, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you.

"By order of Congress :

" . . . . . , *President.*

" . . . the . . . day of . . . , A. D. 1775.

"Attest : . . . . . , *Secretary.*"

Also, your Committee beg leave to report the following blank or form for Beating Orders, viz :

"*To . . . . .*

"*SIR :* You are hereby empowered immediately to enlist a Company, to consist of forty-seven able-bodied, effective men, including Sergeants, Corporals, Drummers, &c., as soldiers in the *Massachusetts* service, for the defence of the sea-coast in this Colony ; and cause them to pass muster as soon as may be.

"By order of Congress :

" . . . . . , *President.*

" . . . day of . . . , A. D. 1775.

"Attest : . . . . . , *Secretary.*"

Your Committee likewise report the following form of an Enlistment, viz :

"We, the subscribers, do hereby solemnly engage and enlist ourselves as Soldiers in the service of the *Massachusetts* Colony, for the defence and protection of the sea-coasts in said Colony, from the day of our enlistment to the last day of *December* next, unless the said service should admit of a discharge of a part, or the whole, sooner, which is to be determined by the Congress or General Court, or Assembly of said Colony. And we do hereby promise to submit ourselves to all the Orders and Regulations of the Army, and faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as we shall, from time to time, receive from our superiour officers."

Your Committee also beg leave to report, that the Committees in the several Counties, appointed by this Congress to give out Beating and Enlisting Orders, be directed to fill up said commissions and orders, and to deliver the commissions to the Officers as soon as their Companies are full ; also, that a person be appointed in each of those Counties upon the sea-coast, to administer the oath to Officers and Soldiers.

NATHANIEL FREEMAN, *Chairman.*

*Resolved*, That there be one hundred and twenty blank Commissions printed, sixty Beating Orders, and one hundred and twenty Enlisting Orders.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Freeman*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Colonel *Farley*, be a Committee to consider in what manner crimes shall be punished which may be committed by any of the Officers or Soldiers of the Forces stationed on the sea-coasts.

*Resolved*, that all Warrants for Staff Officers, which may in future be delivered, be dated the day they are delivered.

*Resolved*, That all Commissions to fill up vacancies be dated the day they are delivered.

The Committee appointed to consider some measures for making provision for the Poor of the Town of *Charlestown*, reported. The Report was recommitted.

*Ordered*, That Col. *Grout* and Mr. *Woodbridge* be added to the Committee appointed to consider the Accounts which the Committee of Safety may transmit to this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to inspect the Letters brought by Captain *Jenkins*, be a Committee to consider what is best to be done with them, and that Mr. *Dickerson* be of that Committee in the room of Mr. *Phillips*.

The Committee appointed to inquire where safe and convenient Stores for securing Gunpowder might be had, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows :

The Committee appointed to look out for a place or places, for the safe keeping the Powder that is or may be lodged in this Town, have attended that service, and beg leave to report, as their opinion, that some part of the Powder be kept in the Middle School-House, and some part in the East School-House ; also, some part in a building belonging to Mr. *Josiah Capen*, near the Great Bridge ; also, that a Building be erected, as soon as possible, within the limits of the said *Capen's* land, not far from the Great Bridge in said *Watertown*, which place was proposed some time since to build a Provincial Magazine at, agreeable to a law of this Colony. All which is humbly submitted.

JONATHAN BROWN, *per order.*

The same Committee to see that the Powder is well guarded, and to consider and report what sort of a Building shall be erected.

The Committee directed to prepare Instructions to the Committee who were appointed to procure Powder from the Counties of *Worcester* and *Hampshire*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*To the several Towns in the County of HAMPSHIRE, on the easterly side of CONNECTICUT River, and the Towns in the County of WORCESTER :*

This Congress, taking into their most serious consideration the great want of Powder in our publick magazines, and considering how much depends on that important and most necessary article, which, under *God*, if provided, may prove the salvation of *America* ; and as your Towns lie the least exposed to the ravages of our enemy ; therefore it is most earnestly recommended by this Congress to the Selectmen of each Town and District in the County of *Worcester*, that they deliver the whole of the Town stock of Powder, in said County of *Worcester*, to *John Caldwell*, Esq., Mr. *Amos Singletary*, and Mr. *Israel Nichols*, or either of them, a Committee appointed by this Congress to receive the same, except so much as is allowed to be kept in each Town, which will appear by the Schedule hereunto annexed ; and that it be replaced as soon as the state of the Colony magazines will admit thereof, or otherwise will be paid for in money.

And it is likewise recommended to the Selectmen of each Town and District in the County of *Hampshire*, except those on the westerly side of *Connecticut* River, to deliver the respective Town stocks of Powder to Mr. *Noah Goodman*, who is appointed by this Congress to receive the same from the County of *Hampshire*, agreeable to the annexed Schedule. Therefore

*Resolved*, That the said Committees appointed by this Congress to collect the Powder from the Counties of *Worcester* and *Hampshire*, be directed to give a receipt to the Selectmen of such Towns as they shall receive Powder from, in the form following :

"*The . . . . . day of . . . . . , 1775.*

"Received of *A. B.*, Selectmen of the Town of . . . . ., the Town stock of Powder, containing . . . weight, to the use of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, which Powder is to be replaced again as soon as the state of the Colony magazine will admit of it, or paid for in money."

And the Committee appointed to receive the Powder are hereby severally empowered and directed to employ such Wagoners or Teamsters as shall be necessary, with great despatch to convey the same to the Committee of Supplies ; for which service said Wagoners and Teamsters, when they have delivered said Powder to the Committee of Supplies, and shall produce a certificate from either of the Committee-men appointed to collect said Powder, setting forth the sum agreed for the conveyance of said Powder, then the Committee of Supplies shall give orders to the Receiver-General of the Colony for the sum so agreed



for to be paid in cash, and the Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay the same accordingly.

The Schedule is as follows, viz :

| Towns' Names.          | Town's Stock of Powder. | Supplied already. | To be left in Town. |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| COUNTY OF WORCESTER.   |                         |                   |                     |
| Worcester, - - -       | 2½ barrels,             | 1 barrel,         | ½ barrel.           |
| Lancaster, - - -       | 2½ do.                  | 1 do.             | ½ do.               |
| Mendon, - - -          | 5½ do.                  | 2 do.             | ½ do.               |
| Brookfield, - - -      | 6 do.                   | 3 do.             | ½ do.               |
| Oxford, - - -          | 3½ do.                  | 1 do.             | ½ do.               |
| Charlton, - - -        | 1½ do.                  | ½ do.             | ½ do.               |
| Sutton, - - -          | 4½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Leicester, - - -       | 2 do.                   | 1 do.             | ½ do.               |
| Spencer, - - -         | ½ do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Paxton, - - -          | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Rutland, - - -         | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Oakham, - - -          | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Hubbardston, - - -     | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| New-Braintree, - - -   | 1 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Southborough, - - -    | 1½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Northborough, - - -    | 2 do.                   | 1 do.             | ½ do.               |
| Shrewsbury, - - -      | 5 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Lunenburg, - - -       | 2 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Fitchburg, - - -       | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Uxbridge, - - -        | 2 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Harvard, - - -         | 2½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Dudley, - - -          | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Hutchinson, - - -      | 2 do.                   | ½ do.             | ½ do.               |
| Bolton, - - -          | 2 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Upton, - - -           | 1½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Sturbridge, - - -      | 3½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Leominster, - - -      | 1 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Hardwick, - - -        | 2 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Western, - - -         | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Holden, - - -          | ½ do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Douglass, - - -        | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Grafton, - - -         | 2½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Petersham, - - -       | 3 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Royalston, - - -       | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Westminster, - - -     | ½ do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Athol, - - -           | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Templeton, - - -       | 2 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Princeton, - - -       | 1½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Ashburnham, - - -      | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Winchendon, - - -      | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Westborough, - - -     | 3 do.                   | ½ do.             | ½ do.               |
| Northbridge, - - -     | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.   |                         |                   |                     |
| Springfield, - - -     | 1½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Willbraham, - - -      | 1 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Hadley, - - -          | ¾ do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| South Hadley, - - -    | 1½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Amherst, - - -         | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Granby, - - -          | ½ do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Montague, - - -        | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Northfield, - - -      | 1½ do.                  | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Brimfield, - - -       | 1 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| South-Brimfield, - - - | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Monson, - - -          | ½ do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Pelham, - - -          | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Palmer, - - -          | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| New Salem, - - -       | 1 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Belchertown, - - -     | 1 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Warwick, - - -         | 1 do.                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |
| Shutesbury, - - -      | - - -                   | - - -             | ½ do.               |

Ordered, That Captain *Brown* make provision for the two poor women late of the Town of *Charlestown*, now at the door, till to-morrow morning.

Ordered, That Mr. *Kollock*, Colonel *Grout*, and Mr. *Dickerson*, be a Committee to examine the Accounts of Major *Barber*, agreeable to his Letter.

A Letter from the Committee of Inspection of the Town of *Biddeford* was read, and committed to Colonel *Richmond*, Captain *Stone*, and Mr. *Langdon*, who are directed to examine the prisoner, *Thomas Neat*, brought from *Biddeford*, and report.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, July 1, 1775.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of making provision for the Poor of the Town of *Charlestown*, reported the following, which was accepted, viz :

Whereas, the distressed circumstances of the inhabitants of the Town of *Charlestown* calls for the charitable aid of this Colony ; therefore,

Resolved, That such of those inhabitants as are unable to remove or support themselves, be removed to the several Towns in the County of *Worcester* mentioned in the Schedule hereunto annexed.

And it is further recommended to the Selectmen of the aforesaid Towns to provide for, and employ said inhabitants, in the best and most prudent manner that may be, and render their accounts to this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives, which reasonable accounts shall be paid out of the publick Treasury of said Colony.

And it is further Resolved, That Deacon *Cheever*, Captain *Brown*, and Major *Fuller* of *Newton*, be a Committee to agree with Teamsters, not exceeding the rate of nine pence per ton per mile, for transporting such inhabitants as are unable to travel with their effects, and give certificates to such Teamsters, expressing that they are the Poor of the Town of *Charlestown*, and the sum they are to receive for such service ; and upon said Teamsters producing such certificate to the Committee of Supplies, endorsed with the test of the Selectmen of the Town where such Poor and their effects are lodged, that said Teamster has done the service agreed for per said certificate, the Committee of Supplies are hereby directed to draw on the Receiver-General of said Colony for the payment of said Teamster, and the said Receiver-General is hereby ordered to pay the same.

*County of Worcester.*—Lancaster, 30 ; Mendon, 30 ; Brookfield, 20 ; Oxford, 15 ; Charlton, 10 ; Sutton, 30 ; Leicester, 12 ; Spencer, 10 ; Paxton, 7 ; Rutland, 15 ; Oakham, 6 ; Hutchinson, 20 ; New-Braintree, 15 ; Southborough, 6 ; Westborough, 20 ; Northborough, 10 ; Shrewsbury, 10 ; Fitchburgh, 10 ; Uxbridge, 10.

The Committee appointed to consider what methods would be proper to try and punish crimes which may be committed by the Soldiers stationed on the sea-coasts, reported. The Report was recommitted, and Major *Hawley* and Mr. *Greenleaf* added to the Committee.

Two Letters from the Rev. *John Murray* were read, and committed to Colonel *Grout*, Major *Fuller* of *Newton*, and Major *Goodwin*.

An Account of *Jabez Matthews* was read, and committed to Major *Fuller*, Colonel *Mitchell*, and Mr. *Ingalls*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lothrop*, Mr. *Dickenson*, and Mr. *Nye*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, respecting Whale-boats.

A Resolve of the Committee of Safety, proposing that Electrical Points should be erected over the Powder Magazine, was read, and committed to the Committee who were appointed to build a Store for depositing Gunpowder therein, and seeing that it is well guarded.

A Petition from eighteen *Stockbridge Indians* was read, and committed to Mr. *Kollock*, Mr. *Crane*, and Major *White*.

The Committee appointed to examine *Thomas Neat*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows :

The Committee appointed to examine *Thomas Neat*, have attended that service, and are humbly of opinion that he ought to be discharged and set at liberty, and do recommend him for a pass, to be signed by the Secretary, to go to *New-York*, there to apply for a further pass, as he proposes to go to *Virginia*. Submitted :

EZRA RICHMOND, per order.

Resolved, That the following persons be appointed Deputy Commissaries in the *Massachusetts Army*, being one to each Regiment.

List of Deputy Commissaries.

Mr. *Samuel Norton*, recommended by Col. *Lincoln*. Captain *Ebenezer Craft*, of *Sturbridge*, recommended by Colonel *Learned*, Rev. Mr. *Paine*, &c.



Mr. *Jedediah Easterbrooks, Lunenburg*, recommended by Mr. *Gill* and Doctor *Taylor*.

Mr. *Ezekiel Cheever, Boston*, recommended by Colonel *Pidgeon*.

Mr. *Samuel Russell Gerry, Marblehead*, recommended by do.

Mr. *Ebenezer Warren, Boston*, recommended by the honourable Committee of Supplies.

Mr. *John Fenno, Boston*, recommended by Mr. Secretary *Ward*.

Mr. *Alexander Sheppard, Newton*, recommended by Col. *Pidgeon*.

Mr. *Ephraim Russell, Stow*, recommended by Col. *Doolittle* and the Paymaster-General.

Mr. *Daniel Bell, Boston*, recommended by Mr. *Pitt*.

Mr. *William Molineaux, Boston*, recommended by do.

Mr. *Daniel Henshaw, Jr., Boston*, recommended by Dr. *Church*.

Mr. *John Checkley, Boston*, recommended by Dr. *Church* and others.

Mr. *Jabez Brown, Stow*, recommended by the Paymaster-General.

Mr. *Joseph Clark, Boston*, recommended by Gen. *Warren*, Doctor *Church*, &c.

Mr. *Gilliam Taylor, Boston*, recommended by General *Warren* and others.

Mr. *Andrew Newell, Charlestown*, recommended by Mr. *Cheever*.

Captain *James Littlefield, Wells*, recommended by Colonel *Scammon* and others.

Mr. *Waterman Thomas, Marshfield*, recommended by General *Thomas*.

Mr. *Peter Clark, Newfoundland*, recommended by Colonel *Palmer* and Son.

Mr. *Timothy Newell, Sturbridge*, recommended by Captain *Timothy Parker*.

Mr. *John Story, Ipswich*, recommended by Col. *Farley*.

Mr. *Eliakim Atherton, Bolton*, recommended by Colonel *Whitcomb*.

Mr. *Abraham Tuckerman, Boston*, recommended by Colonel *Palmer* and Colonel *Brewer*.

Mr. *William Holmes, Boston*, recommended by his father.

Mr. *Enoch Woodbridge, Stockbridge*, recommended by Colonel *Porter* and Colonel *Patterson*.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be directed to see that a sufficient number of Deputy Commissaries be placed at or near *Prospect Hill*, for the more convenient supply of the Forces stationed there.

The President, by leave of Congress, brought in a Resolve, directing General *Ward* to order two Companies to *Plymouth*, which was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, the Town of *Plymouth* appears to be in danger of being attacked by the enemy; therefore

*Resolved*, That General *Ward* be and hereby is directed immediately to issue his orders that two full Companies from Colonel *Cotton's* Regiment, under proper officers, march without delay to *Plymouth*; and there remain for the guard and defence of the inhabitants, till they can be relieved by such Companies as are to be raised for the defence and protection of the sea-coasts, and to be stationed there for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Palmer* bring in a Resolve directing that the Rules and Regulations of the Army be frequently read to the Soldiers.

The Committee appointed to consider some method of trying criminals on the sea-coasts, reported again. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That all offences committed by any of the Forces raised for the defence of the sea coast, shall be tried by a Court-Martial consisting of the Field-Officers of the Regiment of Militia within which that Company to which the offender belongs is stationed, together with the Commissioned Officers of that Company, according to the Rules and Regulations for the *Massachusetts* Army agreed upon by a former Congress, excepting those offences and causes which are punishable with death, which are to be tried agreeable to the laws of the land by the civil authorities. Also,

*Resolved*, That in case any of the Soldiers shall lose, destroy, or unnecessarily fire away any of his Powder, Ammunition, or Cartridge, without giving reasonable satis-

faction to his commanding officer therefor, the Captain shall deduct four double the value thereof out of his wages, to be applied as is directed in the first article of the Rules and Regulations above mentioned. Also,

*Resolved*, That each of the officers of which these Courts-Martial shall consist, be supplied with a pamphlet, containing said Rules and Regulations, with these Resolves annexed thereto, which shall be read once a week by the Captain, or commanding officer of each Company, to their respective Companies.

By order of Congress: . . . . ., *President*.

Attest: . . . . ., *Secretary*.

*Ordered*, That the Committee who brought in the foregoing Resolves, get a number of them printed, and that they also procure as many Pamphlets, containing the Rules and Regulations of the Army, as they think proper.

A Petition from *James Fry*, requesting that his son might be appointed a Deputy Commissary, was read; whereupon,

*Ordered*, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Kollock*, Mr. *Ellis*, and Mr. *Fox*, be a Committee to consider a Petition and Account of Mr. *Josiah Stearns*.

A Petition from the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Sandwich* was read, and committed to Colonel *Richmond*, Colonel *Grout*, and Colonel *Mitchell*.

A number more of Letters from *London* were laid upon the table, and committed to the Secretary, Mr. *Langdon*, and Colonel *Richmond*.

The Committee to whom were committed a number of Letters, reported, that in a Letter directed to *John Rowe*, Esq., was enclosed a number of blank Bills of Exchange, designed for the use of the Army at *Boston*; whereupon,

*Ordered*, That said Committee draw up a true state of this matter, and keep the blank bills as vouchers thereof.

Colonel *Palmer*, agreeable to order, reported the following Resolve, which was accepted, viz:

Whereas, certain Rules and Regulations for the *Massachusetts* Army were resolved and agreed upon by a former Congress of this Colony, but no provision was therein made for the regular reading the same to the several Corps in said Army; therefore,

*Resolved*, That said Rules and Regulations be read at least once every month, at the head of each Regiment or other Corps in said Army, and that the General be directed to order his officers to see that this Resolve be duly observed.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Governour and Company of *Connecticut*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The distressed situation of the eastern parts of this Province calling for the serious attention of the humane, this Congress beg leave to address you in their behalf. By reason of a number of our friends removing from the seaports into the interior Towns, and a large Army before *Boston* to support the rights of the Colonies, this Colony is unable to spare the necessary supplies of grain and provisions to our friends in the Province of *Maine*, by which means, and an embargo laid upon grain and provisions in your Colony, they are reduced to the alternative of starving, or supplying the ministerial Troops with lumber, either of which they deprecate.

We would therefore suggest to your Honours the expediency of taking off the embargo, so far as to permit the inhabitants of the eastern parts of this Province to purchase grain and provisions for themselves, they producing a certificate from any of the Committees mentioned in the enclosed list, and giving bonds to your officers that they will deliver it to such Committee.

We are, with the greatest sincerity, your Honours' most obedient, humble servants, &c.

To the Honourable the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

Accepted, and ordered to be authenticated and sent forward as soon as may be.



List enclosed in the foregoing Letter:

**MACHIAS.**—*James Lyon*, Chairman; *George Stillman*, Clerk; *Jeremiah Obrien*, *Benjamin Foster*, *Samuel Scott*, *Manwaring Beal*, *Nathaniel Sinclair*.

**NUMBER FOUR.**—*John Stevens*, *Phineas Whitten*.

**GOLDSBOROUGH.**—*Benjamin Glasher*, *William Shaw*.

**NARRAGAUGUS.**—*Joseph Wallis*, *Alexander Campbell*.

**ST. GEORGE'S.**—(Blank.)

**PENOBSCOT.**—(Blank.)

**BRISTOL.**—(Blank.)

**BOOTHBAY.**—*David Reed*, . . . . *Emerson*.

**POWNAUBOROUGH.**—*Timothy Langdon*, Chairman; *Ebenezer Whittier*, Clerk; *John Getchell*, *John Huse*, *Timothy Parsons*.

**GEORGETOWN.**—*Dummer Sewall*, *John Wood*.

**BRUNSWICK.**—*Aaron Hinckley*, Esq., *Benjamin Stone*.

**NORTH YARMOUTH.**—*Samuel Stanwood*.

**FALMOUTH, CASCO BAY.**—*Hon. Jedediah Preble*, Esquire, *Hon. Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, *Mr. Richard Codman*, *Capt. John Waite*, *Mr. John Butler*, *Mr. Samuel Freeman*, *Mr. Benjamin Winslow*.

**BERWICK, in the County of YORK.**—*Hon. Benja. Chadbourn*, Esq., *Mr. John Hill*, *Mr. Robert Furness*.

The Committee on the Account of *Mr. Jabez Matthews*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay *Mr. Jabez Matthews*, or order, the sum of thirty Pounds, nine Shillings, and eleven Pence, lawful money, in Colony notes or bills of credit of this or the other Governments, which are, by a Resolve of this Congress, made payable on the said Treasury, in discharge of an Account exhibited by him to this Congress, for the time and expense of himself and three persons on an embassy to *Canada*. And the Committee of Supplies are hereby ordered to furnish *Mr. Jabez Matthews* with four pounds of Powder for himself and associates.

The Committee appointed to consider the Resolve of the Committee of Safety relative to Whale-boats, reported. The Report was recommended.

Afternoon.

*Mr. Kollock* was appointed in the room of *Major Goodwin*, on the Committee for making provision for the reception of Generals *Washington* and *Lee*.

*Ordered*, That *Colonel Mitchell* deliver the two hundred and fifteen Spears, which he has procured for the use of the Army, to *General Thomas* at *Roxbury*.

*Ordered*, That *Dr. Taylor*, *Mr. Fox*, and *Capt. Bragdon*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, directing how the sick and wounded shall be removed to the Hospitals.

*Thomas Rice*, Esq., was appointed to swear the Soldiers in the County of *Lincoln*, in the room of *David Fales*, Esquire.

*John Lee*, Esq., was appointed to swear the Soldiers in the County of *Essex*, and *Rushworth Jordan* for the County of *York*, in addition to those already appointed.

A Petition from the Selectmen of *Mendon* read, and the Petitioners had leave to withdraw their Petition.

The Committee appointed to consider how the Soldiers shall be supplied with Coats, reported; and *Tuesday* next, at nine o'clock, A. M., was assigned to consider the Report.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Memorial from the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Sandwich*, reported. The Committee were directed to bring in a Resolve to recommend the parties in said Petition mentioned, to leave the matters in dispute to arbitration.

*Major Hawley*, by leave of Congress, brought in a Resolve directing the Receiver-General to pay out of the Treasury the Bills of Credit of the other Colonies. The Resolve was accepted, and is as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and hereby is directed, as far as shall be in his power, to pay and satisfy any drafts and orders of this Congress, or of any person or persons who are or shall be empowered by this Congress to draw on him for any sum or sums whatsoever, in such Notes or Bills of Credit of any of the

*American Colonies*, which, by a Resolution of this Congress, passed on the 28th day of *June* last, are made payable into the Treasury of this Colony, where such orders do not expressly direct the payment of either silver or gold.

The Committee appointed to devise means for the better accommodation of the sick and wounded of the Colony Army, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

In order that all the sick and wounded in the Army may be provided for and taken care of in the best way and manner possible,

*Resolved, and it is hereby Ordered*, That when any person in the Army is so ill, either by a wound or otherwise, that the Surgeon of the Regiment to which the sick or wounded person belongs finds that the sick or wounded as abovesaid cannot be properly taken care of in the Regiment to which he belongs, said Surgeon shall send the sick or wounded as abovesaid to the hospital provided for the use of the camps to which they belong, and a certificate of the man's name, and the Company and Regiment to which he belongs; and in that case the Surgeon of the said hospital shall receive said sick or wounded under his care; and in case said hospital shall become too full, in that case the Surgeon of said hospital shall send such of his patients as may with safety be removed to the hospital in *Watertown*, and a certificate setting forth the man's name, and what Company and Regiment each of them belong to; and in that case the Surgeon of the *Watertown* hospital shall receive said sick or wounded under his care.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the last-mentioned Resolve be sent to Generals *Ward* and *Thomas*.

The Report of the Committee upon the Account of *Mr. Paul Revere*, was considered, and not accepted.

*Ordered*, That *Major Hawley*, *Mr. Dexter*, and *Mr. Pickering*, be a Committee to draw up a Resolve to be prefixed to the Addresses to Generals *Washington* and *Lee*. [Resolve not recorded.]

"To his Excellency *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The Congress of the *Massachusetts* Colony, impressed with every sentiment of gratitude and respect, beg leave to congratulate you on your safe arrival, and to wish you all imaginable happiness and success in the execution of your elevated station.

"While we applaud that attention to the publick good manifested in your appointment, we equally admire that disinterested virtue and distinguished patriotism which alone could call you from those enjoyments of domestic life, which a sublime and manly taste, joined with a most affluent fortune, can afford, to hazard your life, and endure the fatigues of war in the defence of the rights of mankind and the good of your Country.

"The laudable zeal for the common cause of *America*, and compassion for the distresses of this Colony, exhibited by the great despatch made in your journey hither, fully justify the universal satisfaction we have with pleasure observed on this occasion, and are promising presages that the great expectations formed from your personal character and military abilities, are well founded.

"We wish you may have found such regularity and discipline already established in the Army, as may be agreeable to your expectations. The hurry with which it was necessarily collected, and the many disadvantages arising from a suspension of Government, under which we have raised and endeavoured to regulate the Forces of this Colony, have rendered it a work of time; and though in a great measure effected, the completion of so difficult, and at the same time so necessary a task, is reserved to your Excellency; and we doubt not will be properly considered and attended to.

"We would not presume to prescribe to your Excellency, but supposing you would choose to be informed of the general character of the soldiers who compose the Army, beg leave to represent, that the greatest part of them have not before seen service; and although naturally brave and of good understanding, yet, for want of experience in military life, have but little knowledge of divers things most essential to the preservation of health, and even life. The



youth of the Army are not possessed of the absolute necessity of cleanliness in their dress and lodging, continual exercise, and strict temperance, to preserve them from diseases frequently prevailing in camps, especially among those who, from their childhood, have been used to a laborious life.

"We beg leave to assure you that this Congress will, at all times, be ready to attend to such requisitions as you may have occasion to make to us, and to contribute all the aid in our power to the cause of *America*, and your happiness and ease in the discharge of the duties of your exalted office.

"We most fervently implore *Almighty God*, that the blessings of Divine Providence may rest on you; that your head may be covered in the day of battle; that every necessary assistance may be afforded; and that you may be long continued in life and health, a blessing to mankind."

#### His Excellency's Answer.

"GENTLEMEN: Your kind congratulations on my appointment and arrival, demand my warmest acknowledgments, and will ever be retained in grateful remembrance.

"In exchanging the enjoyments of domestick life for the duties of my present honourable but arduous station, I only emulate the virtue and publick spirit of the whole Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, which, with a firmness and patriotism without example in modern history, have sacrificed all the comforts of social and political life, in support of the rights of mankind and the welfare of our common Country. My highest ambition is to be the happy instrument of vindicating those rights, and to see this devoted Province again restored to peace, liberty, and safety.

"The short space of time which has elapsed since my arrival, does not permit me to decide upon the state of the Army. The course of human affairs forbids an expectation that troops formed under such circumstances, should at once possess the order, regularity, and discipline of veterans. Whatever deficiencies there may be, will, I doubt not, soon be made up by the activity and zeal of the officers, and the docility and obedience of the men. These qualities, united with their native bravery and spirit, will afford a happy presage of success, and put a final period to those distresses which now overwhelm this once happy country.

"I most sincerely thank you, gentlemen, for your declaration of readiness at all times to assist me in the discharge of the duties of my station; they are so complicated and extended, that I shall need the assistance of every good man and lover of his Country. I therefore repose the utmost confidence in your aids.

"In return for your affectionate wishes to myself, permit me to say that I earnestly implore that Divine Being, in whose hands are all human events, to make you and your constituents as distinguished in publick and private happiness, as you have been by Ministerial oppression and private and publick distress. GEORGE WASHINGTON."

"To the Honourable CHARLES LEE, Esq., Major-General of the Continental Army:

"SIR: The Congress of the *Massachusetts Colony*, possessed of the fullest evidence of your attachment to the rights of mankind, and regard to the distresses which *America* in general, and this Colony in particular, are involved, by the impolitick, wicked, and tyrannick system adopted by Administration, and pursued with relentless and savage fury, do with pleasure embrace this opportunity to express the great satisfaction and gratitude they feel on your appointment as a Major-General in the *American Army*. We sincerely congratulate you on your safe arrival here, and wish you all possible happiness and success in the execution of so important a trust.

"We admire and respect the character of a man who, disregarding the allurements of profit and distinction his merit might procure, engages in the cause of mankind, in defence of the injured, and relief of the oppressed. From your character, from your great abilities and military experience, united with those of the Commander-in-Chief, under the smiles of Providence, we flatter ourselves with the prospect of discipline and order, success and victory.

"Be assured, Sir, that it will give us great pleasure to be able to contribute to your happiness. May the favours

and blessings of Heaven attend you. May Divine Providence guard and protect you, conduct you in the paths of honour and virtue, grant you the reward of the brave and virtuous here, the applauses of mankind, and the approbation of your own conscience, and eternal happiness hereafter."

#### His Honour's Answer.

"To the Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress of the MASSACHUSETTS:

"GENTLEMEN: Nothing can be so flattering to me as the good opinion and approbation of the Delegates of a free and uncorrupt people. I was educated in the highest reverence for the rights of mankind, and have acquired, by a long acquaintance, a most particular regard for the people of *America*.

"You may depend, therefore, gentlemen, on my zeal and integrity. I can promise you nothing from my abilities. *God Almighty* grant us success equal to the righteousness of the cause.

"I thank you, gentlemen, for an address which does me so much honour, and shall labour to deserve it."

Ordered, That the sum of fifty Pounds be paid to Mr. *Paul Revere*, in full for engraving four Plates and printing 14,500 impressions; and that Mr. *Langdon* bring in a Resolve for that purpose.

Ordered, That Mr. *Phillips*, Colonel *Grout*, and Mr. *Crane*, be a Committee to devise means for supporting the Poor of the Towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, to the places of their destination.

Ordered, That the Committee for procuring and furnishing a house for Generals *Washington* and *Lee*, be directed to purchase what things are necessary that they cannot hire.

Ordered, That Mr. *Goodwin* and Colonel *Richmond* be added to the Committee last mentioned.

Ordered, That the last-mentioned Committee be directed to procure some refreshments for the Generals *Washington* and *Lee*.

Mr. *Langdon*, agreeable to order, brought in the following Resolve; which was accepted, viz:

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Mr. *Paul Revere*, or order, the sum of fifty Pounds, in full for procuring and engraving four Plates and printing 14,500 impressions of Colony Notes; and the Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay the same sum accordingly.

The Committee appointed to consider of means for securing sundry Whale-Boats procured for the use of this Colony, and now lying at *Weymouth* and *Braintree*, beg leave to report, that Captain *Edmund Soper*, of *Braintree*, be empowered to take charge of the same, and with the assistance of Captain *Seth Turner's* and Captain *Vinton's* Companies, (now posted in *Braintree*,) convey and secure them in some safe and convenient place, where they will not be exposed either to the enemy or the weather; and there to remain until the further order of this or some future Congress, or House of Representatives.

Adjourned till eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Sabbath Day, July 2, 1775.

Ordered, That Mr. *Bliss* and Mr. *Cutt* be of the Committee for devising means for the support of the Poor of the Towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, to the places of their destination, in the room of Mr. *Phillips* and Mr. *Crane*.

The Report of the Committee for securing the Lamps of the Light-Houses, was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of removing and securing the Lamps, with the Oil, &c., from the several Light-Houses within this Colony, have attended that service, and beg leave to report as follows, viz: That it be recommended to the Committee of Correspondence, or Selectmen of the Town of *Chelsea*, to remove and secure (if practicable) the Lamps and Oil from the Light-House at the entrance of *Boston Harbour*, with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging; also, that it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of the Town of *Gloucester*, that the same measures be taken with respect



to the Light-Houses on *Thatcher's Island*, so called; and that the keeper of said Lights, with the several Boats, Cattle, &c., be also removed from thence. Furthermore, that it be recommended to the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Plymouth*, to remove and secure the Lamps, Oil, &c., from the Light-House at the *Gurnet*, so called, with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging; and that the keepers of the several Light-Houses as above specified, be discharged from the service of this Colony, till the further order of this or some future Congress or House of Representatives.

Ordered, That three copies of the last mentioned Report be sent to the places in said Report mentioned; and that the Committee who drew the Report forward the copies.

Ordered, That Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Pickering*, and Mr. *Greenleaf*, be a Committee to write to Mr. *Russell*, desiring him to pay the money due from him to the Treasury immediately.

The Petition of *Joseph Barrell*, for himself and others, was read, and ordered to be filed. The Petition is as follows, viz:

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress, now sitting at  
WATERTOWN:

"The Petition of *JOSEPH BARRELL*, late of *Boston*, humbly sheweth:

"That in the fire in *Boston*, which began in the soldiers' Barracks on the evening of the 17th of *May* last,\* his store, together with his effects, to a very considerable amount, were consumed.

"Your petitioner humbly apprehends that this loss is entirely owing to the present unhappy times, occasioned by the cruel oppression of the *British Administration*; as, at the general desire of the friends of the Country, he removed with his family from *Boston*, that scene of distress, and by the chicanery of General *Gage*, was prevented from carrying his effects with him, as he, with his distressed townsmen, were shamefully deceived by the fairest promises of a speedy removal, with their effects, without molestation, until the end of the capitulation on the side of the General was fully answered; and then they were insulted by the most cruel perversion of that comprehensive plain *English* word, *effects*, confining it to a few trifles, which, when suffered to depart, were clogged with such restrictions as will forever disgrace him. But notwithstanding all this, still your petitioner had been safe, in all probability, had not the General, by an order as extraordinary as new, secured from the inhabitants the fire-engines, and given the use of them to his Troops, whereby, as your petitioner is informed, it was a very considerable time before they were in use at all, and then conducted with such consummate ignorance as to be of no service, in which time the flames raged to that degree that no human help could prevent them. And your petitioner is further informed, that some of his effects saved from the fire by his friends, were afterwards destroyed by the savage order of the Officers of the Army.

"Whereupon, your petitioner humbly hopes that his case, together with the case of his fellow-sufferers, may, by this honourable Congress, be represented to the Grand Continental Congress, that they, in their great wisdom, may take

\* The following is an account of the late fire which begun in the Barrack, under the arch formerly improved by *Benjamin* and *Edward Davis*, about half past eight o'clock of the evening of the 17th of *May*. The soldiers were receiving some cartridges, by which means one took fire and communicated to many more, which immediately set fire to the room. List of Stores burned:

*John Hancock*, store and shed; *Thomas Fayerweather*, do.; *Benjamin Andrews*, 2 do., one of his was improved by *B. and W. Foster*; *Edward Gray*, 1 do., Town Dock, south side; *Joseph Barrell*, 1 do.; *John Head*, 1 do.; *Jonathan Williams*, 1 do., with 50 barrels of flour, (donation); *Kylson and Barton*, 1 do.; *Andrew Black*, 1 do.; *Nathaniel Carey*, 1 do. and shed; *Alexander Hill*, 1 do. and shed; *James Russell*, Impost Office; *John Soley*, 1 store; *John Swatzer*, 1 do., 3 do., at the end of Town Dock; 6 stores and a cooper's shop, owned by *Eliakim Hutchinson*, joining the Town Dock, improved as barracks; 1 store between, formerly improved by Mr. *Elias Thomas*, sail-maker; 2 stores leading down to the Barracks, improved by *Grant and Webster* and *William Blair*; *Thomas Brattle's* shed hawled down to stop the fire; 1 store opposite Swing Bridge, owned by *Thomas Fayerweather*, and are the next to Mr. *Hancock's* not burned; 1 store, improved by *Ellis Gray*, which makes the corner joining to Mr. *Hancock's* not burned. The stores on the Town Dock were chiefly owned by those gentlemen who kept them.

N. B. Instead of ringing the bells as usual, the soldiers beat to arms, by which means our people were in great confusion, not being used to such signals in time of fire.

such measures as to them shall seem fit to alleviate their sufferings; and that what is thus destroyed in the general cause, may not fall so very heavy on any individual. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

"JOSEPH BARRELL."

"June, 1775."

The Letter of Mr. *Alexander Shepard*, Junior, to the Committee of Safety, was read, and is as follows, viz:

"July 2, 1775.

"To Mr. EDWARD DURANT, one of the Committee of  
Safety, CAMBRIDGE:

"SIR: I was engaged by His Majesty's Surveyor-General to make out an accurate draught of the late Province in *Maine*, and return the same to him in *New-Jersey* as soon as finished; which plan I completed in *March* last, and should have sent it to him, and beyond doubt have received his return before this day. But realizing the distress into which my country is involved, by the gigantic strides of a (worse than *Nero*) tyrant, feared that I might, perhaps inadvertently, render service by my draught to the enemies of mankind, delayed my transmitting the same as at first proposed. But if it should be thought that giving it up would not be attended with any ill consequences, I shall be extremely glad to be permitted, as thereby I may be put into possession of what perhaps I may never recover hereafter.

"Sir, as you are one of the Committee of Safety, in whose department it is to determine, I beg you, at some time when the leisure of the honourable Committee will admit, to move for a consideration of the premises, which, Sir, is a matter of weight with, Sir, your very humble and most obedient servant,

ALEX. SHEPARD, JUN."

"N. B. The purport is to know the Committee's mind, whether he shall send the old original draught of *Holland*, and his, said *Shepard's* draught, to said *Holland*, (who is a tory;) or whether he shall not. Said *Holland* is a Counsellor of *Quebeck*, but now resident in the *Jerseys*."

[The Committee of Safety desired me to report, that they think it not prudent to send forward the papers; but think the affair so important as to deserve to be laid before Congress.

E. DURANT.]

The Report of the Committee for devising means for the support of the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, to the places of their destination, was read and accepted, and is as follows:

Whereas, it is necessary that further provision be made for the suffering Poor of the Towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown*; therefore,

Resolved, That such person or persons as shall produce a certificate from any or either of the Selectmen or Overseers of the Poor of the said Towns, that they are of the Poor of the Town to which the said Selectmen or Overseers do or did in *March* last belong, that then the Commissaries in the Towns of *Watertown* and *Roxbury* are hereby directed to deliver out of the Province stores to them a sufficiency of provisions to carry them to the place of their destination, the Commissary to take a receipt from such Selectmen or Overseers therefor. And it is recommended to the inhabitants of this Province, to treat such Poor with humanity, by affording them shelter in their houses from the weather; and, if desired, to exchange such provisions with them as said Poor may have occasion for on their way.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolve be published in the *Watertown*, *Cambridge*, and *Worcester* Newspapers.

Adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

At four o'clock, P. M., the Congress met, and adjourned to Monday morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, July 3, 1775.

Ordered, That the Committee of Safety, who were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the expediency of a new emission of Notes or Bills of Credit, be directed to sit and report as soon as possible.

Resolved, That the Resolve of the 1st instant, ordering the Rules and Regulations of the Army to be read monthly, be reconsidered.

Resolved, That the Receiver-General be directed to pay



to Mr. *Josiah Stevens* the sum of two Pounds, in Colony Notes or Bills of Credit, (payable to said Receiver,) for his services in bringing a number of Letters to this Congress taken out of a vessel from *London*.

—  
Afternoon.

A Vote of the Congress of *New-Hampshire* was read; and Messrs. *Child* and *Ashley*, the bearers thereof, were admitted on the floor. They produced a Letter from Messrs. *Buckman* and *Wales*, to Colonel *Bayley*, of *New-Hampshire*, and his answer.

Ordered, That Mr. *Dexter*, Colonel *Lincoln*, Doctor *Church*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Captain *Bragdon*, be a Committee to confer with Messrs. *Child* and *Ashley*, from the Province of *New-Hampshire*.

Ordered, That the addition of the words "Overseers of the Poor" be added to the Resolve of yesterday, respecting the Poor of the Towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cutt*, Colonel *Farley*, and Colonel *Dwight*, be a Committee to take into consideration the Petition of *Thomas Morton*.

Ordered, That a Letter for *Thomas Irving*, Esquire, be opened, and ordered to be committed to the Committee who were to take under consideration what should be done with the Letters from *London*.

The Petition of the Selectmen of *Abington* was read, and committed to Colonel *Mitchell*, Mr. *Lothrop*, and Mr. *Ellis*. The Petition is as follows, viz:

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress now sitting at  
WATERTOWN:

"The Petition of us, the subscribers, humbly sheweth, that there are now forty persons got into the Town of *Abington*, who were partakers of the donations while they resided in the Town of *Boston*, and are in want of support. Bread corn is an article that is very scarce and dear among us; and as your petitioners are credibly informed there is a large quantity of corn, bread, flour, &c., sent to the Town of *Dartmouth*, and there stored, being a donation for the poor of *Boston*, your petitioners therefore humbly pray this honourable Congress would please to give orders that we draw our proportion out of said donation, according to the number of persons we have to support, which shall be faithfully dealt out to them according to their respective wants and necessities. This your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall every pray.

"JOSHUA HOWE, } Selectmen of  
"BENJ. BATES, JR., } Abington.

"Abington, July 3, 1775."

Major *Goodwin*, who was appointed to bring in a Resolve for directing the Committee of Supplies to furnish the Non-Commissioned Officers who lost their clothes and blankets in the late engagement, with clothes and blankets, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows:

Whereas, in consequence of a Letter from General *Ward*, provision was made by a Resolve of this Congress for Private Soldiers who had lost their clothes and blankets in a late engagement, but no provision was made for Non-Commissioned Officers in similar circumstances; therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they hereby are directed to furnish said Non-Commissioned Officers with Clothes and Blankets, in such manner and form as they were directed by said Resolve to supply said Privates.

Adjourned to *Tuesday* morning, eight o'clock.

—  
*Tuesday*, July 4, 1775.

Ordered, That the Honourable the President, Honourable Major *Hawley*, and Mr. *Greenleaf*, be a Committee to prepare a Letter to Governour *Trumbull*, desiring him to forward to this Colony, as soon as may be, whatever Flour may arrive at *Connecticut*, for the use of the Army.

A Letter from Colonel *Gridley* was read, and ordered to lie on the table. The Letter is as follows, viz:

"Cambridge, July 3, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: Some time since you desired me to make a return of proper persons for field-officers for the Regiment of Artillery. Accordingly, after mature consideration, I made a return, which I thought if complied with would be the most likely means to serve the country in the

best manner. But I find, gentlemen, my judgment in these matters is of little weight with you; it seems not necessary to consult me in it. Though I must have the trouble of teaching every one under me the knowledge necessary for the service, you have been pleased to revise the plan I gave you; that, no doubt, you have a right to do. But be assured, gentlemen, if I must have no judgment, and am not to be consulted in these matters, but must have persons transposed and imposed upon me without consulting me, I am determined I will withdraw myself from the Army, and will have nothing farther to do with it.

"I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

"RICHARD GRIDLEY.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress."

Ordered, That Mr. *Pickering*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Mr. *Goodwin*, be a Committee to prepare a Letter to General *Washington*, informing him of the provision this Congress has made for the sick and wounded of the Army.

An Account of *Ephraim Fenno* was read, and committed to Mr. *Wheeler*, Mr. *Jewett*, and Colonel *Dwight*.

Ordered, That *Asa Barns* and other Officers of Col. *Woodbridge's* Regiment, recommended by the Committee of Safety, be commissioned, agreeable to the recommendation of said Committee.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of *Abington*, reported verbally, that the matter respecting the Donations for the Poor of *Boston*, be considered at large.

Ordered, That Colonel *Mitchell*, Captain *Stone*, Mr. *Kollock*, Colonel *Jones*, and Mr. *Crane*, be a Committee for that purpose.

Ordered, That Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Fairfield*, and Mr. *Crane*, be a Committee to examine the Accounts of those persons who were empowered to procure Arms for the use of the Colony Army.

The Committee on the Petition of *Thomas Morton*, reported. The Report was ordered to lie on the table for the present.

A Resolve of the Committee relative to the Goods of *Thomas Hutchinson*, Esq., and others, hid in and about *Milton*, was read, and committed to Major *Bliss*, Colonel *Grout*, and Mr. *Crane*.

Resolved, That three o'clock, P. M., be assigned for the choice of some gentleman to serve on the Committee of Supplies, in the room of Mr. *Vose*, who declines serving.

Ordered, That Mr. *Jewett*, Mr. *Lothrop*, Captain *Thatcher*, Colonel *Jones*, Mr. *Wheeler*, Colonel *Farley*, and Mr. *Cross*, be a Committee to consider the expediency of making a Draw-Bridge of the bridge at *Cambridge*, agreeable to the request of General *Washington*; and that said Committee be directed to sit forthwith.

At the request of General *Washington*, communicated by Mr. *Gill*,

Resolved, That no more commissions for the present be delivered to any Officers of the Colony Army, those employed more particularly for the protection of the sea-coasts, excepted.

The Resolve relative to furnishing the Soldiers with Coats, was considered, and recommitted for amendment.

Ordered, That Mr. *Partridge*, Mr. *Pickering*, and Dr. *Taylor*, be a Committee to consider in what manner the late inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* may choose Members to represent that Town in the next General Assembly of this Colony.

Resolved, That the Committee of Supplies be, and hereby are directed to supply the Rev. Mr. *Gordon* with a good Horse, to use during his service as a Chaplain to this Congress.

Ordered, That Doctor *Taylor*, Doctor *Church*, and Mr. *Johnson*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve appointing Doctor *Andrew Craigie* a Commissary of Medical Stores; and that said Committee be directed to consider what is a proper establishment for his pay.

—  
Afternoon.

A recommendation from the Committee of Safety relative to an *Indian's* having a Horse, read, and committed to Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Mr. *Glover*.



*Ordered*, That Captain *Brown*, Captain *Parker*, and Mr. *Richmond*, be a Committee to sort and count the votes for a Member of the Committee of Supplies, in the room of Major *Vose*; and Captain *Partridge* was chosen in the room of Major *Vose*.

*Ordered*, That the Committee for making out Commissions be directed to make out a Commission for *Samuel Brewer*, as Adjutant-General, and date it the day of his appointment.

The Committee appointed to write a Letter to Governor *Trumbull*, reported. The Report was read, and ordered to be recommitted for additions and amendments.

*Ordered*, That any three of the Committee of Supplies, of which Mr. *Gill* to be one, in the absence of Mr. *Cheever*, be a quorum to do business.

The Committee upon the Letter relative to the *Indian's* having a Horse, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That a small Horse, taken by *Henries Vomhavi* from *Noddle's Island*, be granted to the said *Henries* for his own use, to encourage his further brave conduct and good behaviour in camp.

*Ordered*, That Col. *Spaulding*, Mr. *Woodbridge*, and Mr. *Johnson*, be a Committee to take under consideration the sufferings of *Abraham Nimham*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Glover*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Col. *Grout*, be on the Committee of Conference with the Members from *New-Hampshire*, in the room of Mr. *Pitts*, Col. *Lincoln*, and Captain *Bragdon*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Bent* be on the Committee for the *Abington* Petition, in the room of Doctor *Jones*.

*Ordered*, That the President, Mr. *Langdon*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to take into consideration the conduct of the people of *Nantucket*, and report what is expedient to be done with respect to them.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wheelock*, with Letters from the Congress of *New-Hampshire*, be admitted upon the floor.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Church*, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Major *Bliss*, be a Committee to introduce Mr. *Wheelock*; and also to deliver a copy of the Letter from *New-Hampshire* to his Excellency Gen. *Washington*; and also to draw an Answer to the Letter from *New-Hampshire*, which is as follows :

“ Exeter, July 3, 1775.

“ GENTLEMEN: We take the earliest opportunity to communicate to you some intelligence we have just received from *Canada*, by the way of Mr. *Dean*, a Missionary, lately come from that country. We enclose copies of two letters from Doctor *Wheelock*, and a Committee in *Hanover*. Mr. *Wheelock* and Colonel *Beetle*, who will take charge of this, will be able to give you, perhaps, some further particulars.

“ We wish to have, as soon as possible, your judgment on the matter, and shall probably defer acting until we hear from you. If any plan of operation towards, or in *Canada*, is suitable, we wish to act in concert with you and the other Colonies in the neighbourhood.

“ We trust we shall not be backward in exerting ourselves in the common defence; but would act with caution in a matter of importance.

“ We are, with respect, gentlemen, your friends and brothers in the common cause.

“ In the name and by order of the Congress :

“ MATTHEW THORNTON, President.

“ To the Honourable Congress of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.”

The Report of the Committee upon the Account of Mr. *White*, was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to consider Accounts transmitted to this Congress by the Committee of Safety, beg leave to report by way of Resolve, that *William White* be paid the sum of six Pounds, lawful money, for service done by said *William White* by order of the Committee of Safety; and that the Receiver-General be directed to pay said sum to the said *William White*.

The Committee appointed to write to Governor *Trumbull*, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Your favour of the 27th June we received, and heartily thank you for the information therein given us. The arrival of the flour from *New-York* to *Norwich*, gives us great pleasure, as we stand in need of large supplies of that commodity. We request your Honour to give orders that the same may be forwarded as soon as possible to our Committee of Supplies at *Watertown*; and any further quantities that may arrive hereafter, we desire may be sent immediately upon its arrival, to the same Committee; almost all the grain in this Colony being already brought in, and our stock not equal to the demands for bread.

We have the pleasure to be able to acquaint your Honour, that Generals *Washington* and *Lee*, with Mr. *Mifflin*, Aid-de-Camp to General *Washington*, arrived at *Cambridge* last Sabbath, in good health, a little after twelve o'clock at noon, and have great reason to expect, from their known characters, and their activity and vigilance already discovered, that their presence in the Army will be attended with most happy consequences.

Our camps at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* are daily putting on a more defensible appearance. The health of our army is as general as we could expect. Several privates in the *Cambridge* Camp were last week taken down with the small-pox, but we have great reason to hope that the precautions taken on this occurrence will, by the Divine blessing, prevent the spreading of that distemper in the camp.

We are, with the greatest respect, your Honour's most obedient humble servants.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Grout*, Mr. *Langdon*, and Dr. *Taylor*, be a Committee to take into consideration the Letter from Mr. *Shepard*, relative to the Eastern Plans of the Sea-Coasts.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for appointing Mr. *Craigie* Medical Commissary, reported. It was read, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Andrew Craigie* be, and he is hereby appointed a Medical Commissary and Apothecary for the *Massachusetts* Army; and that said *Craigie* be allowed five Pounds per month for his services as abovesaid.

*Ordered*, That the Committee for making out Commissions, make out a Warrant for Mr. *Craigie*, Medical Commissary.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the loss of *Indian Nimham*, reported. The Report was read and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to consider the losses of *Abraham Nimham*, in his journey to *Caughnawaga*, in carrying a message to the *Indians*, beg leave to report by way of Resolve, that the said *Abraham Nimham* be paid the sum of thirty-six Shillings, lawful money; and that the Receiver-General be directed to pay the said sum to *Jahleel Woodbridge*, Esquire, and he to account with the said *Abraham Nimham*.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will attend to matters of the greatest importance, that they may finish the business, and dissolve some time before the sitting of the General Court.

*Ordered*, That the matter contained in a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, relating to the effects of Refugees, being before provided for by this Congress, subside.

Adjourned to Wednesday morning, eight o'clock.

— Wednesday, July 5, 1775.

A Letter from *William Tollman*, of *Dartmouth*, was read, and committed to the Committee appointed to consider at large of the Donations for the Poor of *Boston*.

The Report of the Committee on the Petition of *Thomas Morton* was read, and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to consider the Memorial of *Thomas Morton*, beg leave to report, by way of Resolve:

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Memorial be granted, and that *William Powell*, Esquire, late of *Boston*, have leave to export one thousand quintals of *Jamaica* old Cod-Fish to the *West-Indies*, and that the Committee of Correspondence in *Newburyport* see that the said *William Powell*, Esquire, strictly complies with the Resolutions of the Continental and Provincial Congresses.



*Ordered*, That Mr. *Greenleaf*, Colonel *Richmond*, Dr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Glover*, and Captain *Holmes*, be a Committee to wait upon General *Washington*, to inform him that this Congress have it in contemplation to rise this week, and to know if he has any matter to lay before the Congress.

A list of Surgeons and Mates who have been examined and approved of by a Committee of this Congress, was laid before the Congress, and read, and is as follows:

Dr. *David Jones*, Surgeon of Col. *Gerrish's* Regiment;  
*Samuel Blanchard*, Mate to Dr. *Jones*;  
 Dr. *Aaron Putnam*, Mate in Colonel *Fry's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *Joseph Hunt*, Mate to Dr. *Joseph Foster*, in the *Cambridge* Hospital;  
 Dr. *Jacob Bacon*, as Mate in Col. *Scammon's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *Harris Clary Frides*, as Mate;  
 Dr. *Edward Durant*, Surgeon in Col. *Mansfield's* Reg't;  
*Josiah Harvey*, as Mate in Colonel *Fellows's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *Abraham Watson*, Surgeon of Col. *Gardner's* Reg't;  
 Dr. *William Vinal*, as Mate in Col. *Gardner's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *John Georges*, as Mate in Gen. *Heath's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *Isaac Spafford*, Surgeon in Col. *Nixon's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *John Crooker*, Surgeon in Col. *Scammon's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *Walter Hastings*, Surgeon in Col. *Bridge's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *Timothy Child*, Surgeon of Col. *Patterson's* Reg't;  
 Dr. *Levi Willard*, Surgeon of Col. *Reed's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *Daniel Parker*, Surgeon of Col. *Walker's* Regiment;  
 Dr. *Thomas Kitteridge*, Surgeon of Col. *Fry's* Regiment.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Warrants be made out for them, agreeable thereto.

*Resolved*, That the Order of Congress relative to the date of the Warrants of the Staff Officers be so far reconsidered, as that the Warrants for the Surgeons be dated the 28th of *June*, ultimo.

*Ordered*, That the Committee who were appointed to deliver out Commissions to the Officers of the Army, be a Committee to prepare and lay before this Congress a list of such as have been commissioned.

A form of a Warrant for a Medical Commissary was read, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

"The Congress of the Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY to . . . . . greeting:

"We, being informed of your skill in Medicine, and reposing especial trust and confidence in your ability and good conduct, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, the said . . . . ., to be Medical Commissary and Apothecary to the Army raised by this Congress for the defence of this Colony. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a Medical Commissary and Apothecary in all things appertaining thereto, observing such orders and instructions as you shall from time to time receive from any your superiour officers, according to the rules and discipline established by said Congress, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

"By order of the Congress:

" . . . . . President."

*Ordered*, That Col. *Smith*, Mr. *Plympton*, Mr. *Ellis*, Mr. *Bigelow*, Deacon *Stone*, Captain *Brown*, Major *Fuller*, and Captain *Stone*, be a Committee to procure two hundred Axes, with helvies, immediately, for the use of the Army, and when procured to forward them immediately to General *Washington*, or his order, and lay before the Congress a list of the persons of whom they shall be procured, with the price agreed on; and that the Committee assure the persons of whom they may procure said Axes, that they shall be paid for as soon as the Congress can make provision therefor.

The Committee appointed to consider in what manner the late inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* should choose Representatives, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, and was ordered to be sent immediately to Mr. *William Cooper*, viz:

As it appears to this Congress fit and reasonable that the good people of the Town of *Boston*, though at present in a dispersed state, should have a just and equal representation in the great and General Assembly of this Colony, and as the choice of Representatives for that purpose in legal town meeting, convened in the common and ordinary way, is at present utterly impracticable; therefore,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *William Cooper*, Town Clerk of *Boston*, be, and he hereby is empowered and directed, by notifications under his hand in the several Newspapers, immediately to notify and give warning to the Freeholders and others, who were inhabitants of the said Town of *Boston*, and were qualified, according to law, to vote for Representatives in *May*, 1774, and are now dispersed, to assemble and meet at the Meeting-House in *Concord*, on *Tuesday*, the 18th day of *July* instant, at three o'clock in the afternoon, then and there to elect and depute one or more Freeholders in said Town, according to the numbers limited by a law of this Colony, to serve for, and represent them in a great and General Court or Assembly, to be convened, held, and kept for the service of said Colony, until the day next preceding the last *Wednesday* of *May* next, if necessary, and no longer, at the Meeting-House in *Watertown*, upon *Wednesday*, the 19th instant, by nine o'clock in the forenoon, and so from day to day during their session or sessions. Hereof he is desired not to fail, and make return of this Resolve, with the name or names of the person and persons elected or deputed by a major part of the electors present unto the great and General Assembly, at the time and place above mentioned for its meeting.

The Committee appointed the second instant to prepare a Letter to the Hon. *James Russell*, Esq., reported. The draught prepared was accepted, ordered to be signed by the President, and forwarded, and is as follows, viz:

"SIR: The present necessity for cash is such, that it is necessary for this Congress to direct you to pay in to *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, Receiver-General of this Colony, all the publick moneys in your hands or care, belonging to said Colony, without further delay. By order of Congress:

" . . . . . President.

"To the Hon. *James Russell*, Esq., of *Dunstable*."

*Ordered*, That Captain *Holmes*, Captain *Carpenter*, Mr. *Glover*, Mr. *Jewett*, and Mr. *Parker*, be a Committee to consider some method to prevent conveying intelligence to our enemies, and also to put a stop to supplying them with Provisions.

The Committee appointed to consider the request of General *Washington*, relative to making a Draw-Bridge of the Bridge at *Cambridge*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, relative to making the Bridge near *Charles River*, in *Cambridge*, a Draw-Bridge, have attended that service, and beg leave to report, that his Excellency suggested that he apprehends it to be of great importance that this business be immediately entered upon; also, he mentioned, that he did not intend the passing and repassing should be impeded. His Excellency recommends to the Congress the doing it, as they are the best judges of proper persons to be employed. His Excellency hinted that it would be agreeable to him to be consulted as to the manner of its being done.

DUMMER JEWETT, per order.

The same Committee being directed to bring in a Resolve relative to said Bridge, reported the following, which was accepted, viz:

Whereas, his Excellency General *Washington* has signified to this Congress his desire that the Bridge over *Charles River*, in *Cambridge*, should be made a Draw-Bridge, and that the Congress would see to the doing of it immediately; therefore,

*Resolved*, That Captain *Thatcher*, Mr. *Whittemore*, Mr. *Temple*, Mr. *Cross*, and Captain *Parker*, be a Committee to procure materials, and employ a suitable number of artificers for accomplishing the aforementioned business, agreeable to the direction of his Excellency General *Washington*, the same to be done at the immediate expense of this Colony, and that the Committee render to this Congress, or some future House of Representatives, their account of said expense.

*Resolved*, That three o'clock in the afternoon be assigned for the choice of some person to serve on the Committee of Supplies, in the room of Mr. *Partridge*, who, at his request, has been excused, and that in such choice the Members of the Congress may have liberty to vote for any person who may not belong to the Congress.



The Committee appointed to consider of the Donations for the Poor of *Boston*, reported. The Report was re-committed.

A Petition of *Jonathan Brewer* was read, and committed to *Deacon Stickney*, *Doctor Taylor*, and *Col. Spaulding*. The Petition is as follows, viz :

"Cambridge, July 4, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN : Whereas, a number of men that enlisted in different Companies in my Regiment have, through the low artifice and cunning of several recruiting officers of different Regiments, re-enlisted into other Companies, being over-persuaded by such arguments as, that *Colonel Brewer* would not be commissioned, and that if they did not immediately join some other Regiment, they would be turned out of the service ; others were tempted with a promise to have a dollar each to drink the recruiting officer's health ; others by intoxication of strong liquor ; by which means a considerable number have deserted my Regiment, as will be made to appear by the returns therefrom, as also the different Companies and Regiments they are re-enlisted into. In consequence of which my Regiment is, to the detriment of the service, considerably weakened ; therefore your petitioner humbly prays that the honourable Congress will take this matter into consideration, and either order the re-enlisted men to the several officers they first enlisted under, or be pleased to direct to some method of filling up the Regiment, as the honourable Congress in their wisdom may see fit. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JONATHAN BREWER.

"To the Honourable Congress."

*Ordered*, That *Dr. Taylor*, *Mr. Lothrop*, and *Mr. Jewett*, be a Committee to distribute the Pamphlets which contain the Depositions relative to the battle of *Lexington*.

*Ordered*, That *Colonel Glover* be of the Committee for stationing the Soldiers in the County of *Essex*, in the room of *Mr. Gerry*, excused.

The Committee appointed to examine the Accounts of the Committee appointed to procure Fire-Arms, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, Messrs. *John Bliss*, *William Page*, *Abiel Sadler*, and *Lemuel Kollock*, were appointed by this Congress to collect a number of Fire-Arms for the use of the Colony, and have delivered said Arms to the Committee of Safety at *Cambridge*, as appears by receipts from said Committee, and have exhibited their accounts for said service, which accounts appear to be reasonable ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That there be paid by the Receiver-General, to the several persons aforesaid, the following sums, viz : to *Captain John Bliss*, the sum of five Pounds, eleven Shillings ; to *William Page*, six Pounds, seventeen Shillings ; to *Abiel Sadler*, five Pounds, ten Shillings ; to *Lemuel Kollock*, three Pounds, ten Shillings, and eight Pence ; being in full of the aforesaid Account.

*Ordered*, That the list of persons of whom the Arms were procured, be lodged with the Receiver-General.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Partridge*, *Colonel Bowers*, and *Mr. Jewett*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from *General Ward*.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of the eighteen *Stockbridge Indians*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, it appears to this Congress, by a Petition from the *Stockbridge Indians* enlisted in the *American Army*, that they in their more serious hours, being sensible of their want of prudence in disposing of their money, are desirous that this Congress in their wisdom would devise some method to prevent their getting too much strong drink ; and they also request that all their wages that are now due, or shall hereafter be due to them for their services, be paid to *Timothy Edwards* and *Jahleel Woodbridge*, Esquires, or to their order ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That *Timothy Edwards* or *Jahleel Woodbridge*, Esquires, be, and hereby are empowered to draw the wages of the aforesaid *Indians*, and deal out the same as they shall find said *Indians* have need thereof, according to any order or orders of the Congress that have been, or shall hereafter be made for paying all or any part of the wages due to the soldiers, and render an account of their doings to this or some future Congress or House of Representatives,

when required ; and the Receiver-General is accordingly directed to pay the same to the said *Timothy Edwards* or *Jahleel Woodbridge*, Esquires, as aforesaid, and take their receipt therefor ; and it is also recommended and enjoined by this Congress, that all persons who sell Spirituous Liquors, be particularly careful not to let said *Indians* have too much strong drink, as that wholly unfits them for any service.

The Committee appointed to consider a Letter of *Mr. Alexander Shepard*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to take under consideration the Letter from *Mr. Shepard*, beg leave to report, by way of Resolve, as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That it be, and it hereby is recommended to *Mr. Alexander Shepard*, Jun., that he retain in his hands all the Plans he hath of the Province of *Maine*, and that he do not suffer them to go out of his possession to any person, upon any consideration, until the further order of this or some future Congress or House of Representatives.

*Ordered*, That part of the Resolve, relative to the Light-Houses, which empowered the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence to remove and secure the Lamps and Oil from the Light-House at the entrance of *Boston Harbour*, be reconsidered, and that *Mr. Crane*, *Captain Holmes*, and *Deacon Washburn*, be a Committee to consider at large on some measures for removing and securing the Lamps and Oil aforesaid.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Bancroft*, *Mr. Fox*, and *Mr. Lothrop*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from *Mr. James Lyon*, dated *Machias*, *June 17*, 1775.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to consider the state of the Donations for the Poor of *Boston*, reported. The Report was recommitted, and *Mr. Batchelder* added to the Committee, in the room of *Captain Stone*, absent.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve, for the purpose of calling the General Assembly together at any time sooner than the nineteenth instant, if occasion should require, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, this Congress, pursuant to the recommendation of the General Congress of this Continent, have sent out their Letters to the several Towns in this Colony, desiring that Representatives might be elected, and returned by them, to serve in a great or General Court or Assembly, to be convened, held, and kept for the service of this Colony at *Watertown*, on the 19th day of *July* current : And whereas, such unforeseen events may take place between this time and the said 19th day of *July*, as may render the convening of such General Court or Assembly at *Watertown* aforesaid, at the time aforesaid, very improper and unsafe ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, *Mr. Gill*, *Deacon Cheever*, *Mr. White* of *Brookline*, and *Captain Thatcher*, be a Committee (in case they or the major part of them should judge it improper or unsafe that such General Assembly should be convened at the said *Watertown* at the time aforesaid) to agree upon and determine at what other place in this Colony the said General Assembly should be convened ; and the said Committee, or the major part of them are hereby fully empowered to determine at what place it shall be most expedient that the said General Assembly should be convened, and to give notice thereof to the several persons who have been, or may be chosen to serve in such Assembly, in such way and manner as they shall judge most expeditious and effectual.

*Ordered*, That *Dr. Church*, *Colonel Bowers*, and *Mr. Bayley*, be a Committee to confer with *General Washington* on the subject of furnishing his table, and know what he expects relative thereto, and that they sit forthwith.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to procure necessary Furniture for the house provided for *General Washington*, complete the business of their commission, by purchase, or by borrowing.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Wheeler*, *Colonel Grout*, and *Mr.*



*Durfee*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from Mr. *James Winthrop*. The Letter is as follows, viz :

"Cambridge, July 5, 1775.

"SIR: When the Congress did me the honour to appoint me Postmaster for this Town, I was in hopes it would have enabled me to tarry here. But as the office will not furnish me the single article of victuals, as the establishment is at present, I shall be constrained to quit the place of business, and seek for a subsistence somewhere else. All the money I have received since the oath was administered to me on the 25th of *May*, amounts to only seven Pounds, seven Shillings, and ten Pence. Fifteen per cent. of it is my pay, for six weeks; that is, at six and a quarter Pence per day, nearly. Judge, then, Sir, whether this be sufficient to furnish one, who has no other support, with a subsistence, or, indeed, whether the office is worth keeping up on this plan; for it is vain that we expect it to grow better, during times of confusion and a suspension of trade. But I will not take up your attention any longer than to observe, that it is with reluctance I quit *Cambridge*, and that I shall be glad of any opportunity to promote the common cause, as far as shall come within my small sphere of action. Unless the Congress think fit to alter the establishment, I must beg the favour of them to consider this letter as a resignation, and grant an order for paying the money which I have received to the Treasurer, after a deduction of my fifteen per cent., and that the bond may be forthwith delivered up. The letters which remain I shall be ready to deliver to any new Postmaster whom the Congress shall appoint. And remain, with great respect, Sir, your most obedient servant,

JAMES WINTHROP.

"The Honourable *James Warren*, Esquire, President of the *Massachusetts Congress*, *Watertown*."

A Letter from *Benj. Greenleaf*, Esq., of *Newburyport*, was read, accompanying sundry Letters brought by Captain *Folger* from *London*, a Jacket enclosed to Major *Sill*, of the Sixty-Third Regiment, also three Maps enclosed to said Major *Sill*, viz: one of *New-England*, one of *Virginia* and *Maryland*, and one of *New-York*. Whereupon,

Ordered, That the Jacket be committed to the care of the Secretary, till further orders of Congress, and that the Maps be put into the hands of the Committee of Supplies, and they are directed to get them framed, for the use of the Colony.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to General *Washington*, enclosing a Resolution of Congress relative to the sick and wounded, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

In Provincial Congress, July 5, 1775.

This Congress ordered the enclosed Resolution to be prepared, and sent to Generals *Ward* and *Thomas*; but by the agreeable event of your Excellency's appointment to the chief command of the *American Army*, and arrival at camp, the propriety of that step ceases. We mean not to dictate to your Excellency, but presume that to secure the health of the Army, and to afford relief for the sick, will naturally engage your attention. Every thing in the power of this Congress, to enable you to discharge with ease, the duties of your exalted and important station, will be by us attended to with the greatest alacrity. If the enclosed Resolution has that tendency, we attain the end intended by transmitting to you the same; and are, with respect,

Your Excellency's most humble servants.

To General *Washington*.

Ordered, That Doctor *Taylor*, Mr. *Pitts*, and Mr. *Lothrop*, be a Committee to count and sort the votes for a Member of the Committee of Supplies, in the room of Mr. *Partridge*.

The Committee having attended that service, reported, that Mr. *Lothrop* was chosen.

Resolved, That the Resolve, directing the Committee of Supplies to get the three Maps framed, be reconsidered, and that the Secretary be directed to take care of them as they are, for the use of the Colony.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider how the Soldiers should be provided with Coats, was again read, and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Resolved, That thirteen thousand Coats be provided,

as soon as may be, and one thereof given to each non-commissioned Officer and Soldier in the *Massachusetts Forces*, agreeable to the Resolve of the Congress, on the 23d day of *April* last: and in order to facilitate their being procured,

Resolved, That the said thirteen thousand Coats be proportioned immediately on all the Towns and Districts in this Colony, except the Towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, in proportion as they paid to the last Provincial tax; which Towns and Districts are desired to cause them to be made of good plain cloth, (preference to be given to the manufactures of this Country,) and to be delivered to the Committee of Supplies, without buttons, on or before the first day of *October* next, and sooner if possible. That for every yard of such cloth of seven-eighths of a yard wide, they shall be allowed and paid the sum of five Shillings and four Pence, and in that proportion for cloth of a greater or less width; and the sum of four Shillings for making each and every coat; and the Selectmen of each Town and District, respectively, are directed to lay their accounts before the Committee of Supplies, who are ordered to draw on the Receiver-General for the payment thereof.

Resolved, That each Coat be faced with the same kind of cloth of which it is made; that the Coats be made in the common plain way, without lappels, short, and with small folds, and that the Selectmen cause a certificate to be sewed to the inside of each Coat, purporting from what Town it came, and by whom the Coat was made, and if the cloth was manufactured in this Country, by whom it was manufactured.

Resolved, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they are hereby directed, immediately, to proportion the Coats on the several Towns and Districts as aforesaid, inform them of their proportion, and assure them that the Coats they supply shall be delivered to the men of their Town respectively, so far as circumstances will admit, and inclose to them a sample of the goodness of the cloth of which the Coats are to be made, with a copy of this and the foregoing Resolves, and to desire those Towns and Districts who cannot supply the whole of their proportion of the Coats as aforesaid, and also those who can supply more than their proportion, to give them information what number they can supply, on, or before the tenth day of *August* next.

Resolved, That the Committee of Supplies be, and they are hereby directed to provide all the Coats proportioned on such Towns and Districts as give information to them as aforesaid that they cannot supply them, and they are to cause all the Coats to be buttoned with pewter buttons, and that the Coats for each Regiment, respectively, have buttons of the same number stamped on the face of them.

The Committee reported the following Schedule of the apportionment of Coats, which was accepted:\*

| Suffolk County. |     | Newbury,   |                   | 117     |
|-----------------|-----|------------|-------------------|---------|
| Roxbury,        | - - | 182        | Newburyport,      | - - 184 |
| Dorchester,     | - - | 96         | Marblehead,       | - - 265 |
| Milton,         | - - | 56         | Lynn,             | - - 93  |
| Braintree,      | - - | 108        | Andover,          | - - 189 |
| Weymouth,       | - - | 66         | Beverly,          | - - 112 |
| Hingham,        | - - | 88         | Rowley,           | - - 89  |
| Dedham,         | - - | 104        | Salisbury,        | - - 77  |
| Medfield,       | - - | 42         | Haverhill,        | - - 113 |
| Wrentham,       | - - | 105        | Gloucester,       | - - 163 |
| Brookline,      | - - | 43         | Topsfield,        | - - 43  |
| Needham,        | - - | 43         | Boxford,          | - - 54  |
| Stoughton,      | - - | 82         | Almsbury,         | - - 69  |
| Stoughtonham,   | - - | 37         | Bradford,         | - - 63  |
| Medway,         | - - | 43         | Wenham,           | - - 41  |
| Bellingham,     | - - | 29         | Middleton,        | - - 34  |
| Hull,           | - - | 21         | Manchester,       | - - 33  |
| Walpole,        | - - | 33         | Methuen,          | - - 54  |
| Chelsea,        | - - | 31         | Middlesex County. |         |
| Cohasset,       | - - | 30         | Cambridge,        | - - 118 |
| Essex County.   |     | Watertown, |                   | 49      |
| Salem,          | - - | 380        | Woburn,           | - - 81  |
| Danvers,        | - - | 116        | Concord,          | - - 73  |
| Ipswich,        | - - | 204        | Newton,           | - - 66  |

\* The Schedule of apportionment omitted in the Journal, was printed in connexion with the Resolves, in handbills, and is copied from the publication made at the time of its acceptance.—*Lincoln*.



|                          |     |                           |     |                           |     |                          |        |
|--------------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|--------------------------|--------|
| Reading, - - -           | 77  | Middleborough, - - -      | 160 | Western, - - -            | 38  | Winslow, - - -           | 3      |
| Marlborough, - - -       | 89  | Rochester, - - -          | 86  | Douglass, - - -           | 24  | Gardinerston, - - -      | 7      |
| Billerica, - - -         | 61  | Plympton, - - -           | 56  | Grafton, - - -            | 42  | <i>Berkshire County.</i> |        |
| Framingham, - - -        | 71  | Pembroke, - - -           | 66  | Petersham, - - -          | 43  | Sheffield, - - -         | 61     |
| Lexington, - - -         | 49  | Kingston, - - -           | 38  | Royalston, - - -          | 9   | Great-Barrington, - - -  | 37     |
| Chelmsford, - - -        | 55  | Hanover, - - -            | 37  | Westminster, - - -        | 37  | Stockbridge, - - -       | 29     |
| Sherburne, - - -         | 36  | Abington, - - -           | 46  | Athol, - - -              | 23  | Pittsfield, - - -        | 37     |
| Sudbury, - - -           | 95  | Halifax, - - -            | 24  | Templeton, - - -          | 28  | New-Marlborough, - - -   | 34     |
| Malden, - - -            | 45  | Wareham, - - -            | 30  | Princeton, - - -          | 24  | Egremont, - - -          | 14     |
| Weston, - - -            | 45  | <i>Barnstable County.</i> |     | Ashburnham, - - -         | 12  | Richmond, - - -          | 26     |
| Medford, - - -           | 60  | Barnstable, - - -         | 94  | Winchendon, - - -         | 10  | Lenox, - - -             | 16     |
| Littleton, - - -         | 44  | Sandwich, - - -           | 74  | <i>Cumberland County.</i> |     | Tyringham, - - -         | 14     |
| Hopkinton, - - -         | 45  | Yarmouth, - - -           | 66  | Falmouth, - - -           | 146 | Lanesborough, - - -      | 37     |
| Westford, - - -          | 51  | Eastham, - - -            | 49  | Cape Elizabeth, - - -     | 53  | Sandisfield, - - -       | 26     |
| Waltham, - - -           | 44  | Harwich, - - -            | 60  | North-Yarmouth, - - -     | 54  | Williamstown, - - -      | 23     |
| Stow, - - -              | 41  | Wellfleet, - - -          | 38  | Scarborough, - - -        | 52  | Becket, - - -            | 10     |
| Groton, - - -            | 69  | Chatham, - - -            | 26  | Brunswick, - - -          | 27  | Gageborough, - - -       | 12     |
| Shirley, - - -           | 25  | Truro, - - -              | 33  | Harpswell, - - -          | 26  | Partridgefield, - - -    | 7      |
| Pepperell, - - -         | 37  | Falmouth, - - -           | 53  | Gorham, - - -             | 27  | East-Hoosuck, - - -      | 11     |
| Townshend, - - -         | 30  | <i>Bristol County.</i>    |     | Windham, - - -            | 10  | Jericho, - - -           | 5      |
| Ashby, - - -             | 12  | Taunton, - - -            | 105 | Piersontown, - - -        | 5   | Plantation, No. 5, - - - | 7      |
| Stoneham, - - -          | 16  | Rehoboth, - - -           | 147 | New-Boston, - - -         | 3   | Plantation, No. 7, - - - | 7      |
| Natick, - - -            | 23  | Swansey with Shawa-       |     | New-Gloucester, - - -     | 20  | Suffolk, - - -           | 1189   |
| Dracut, - - -            | 39  | met, - - -                | 67  | <i>Lincoln County.</i>    |     | Essex, - - -             | 2553   |
| Bedford, - - -           | 31  | Dartmouth, - - -          | 244 | Pownalborough, - - -      | 25  | Middlesex, - - -         | 1778   |
| Holliston, - - -         | 38  | Norton, - - -             | 55  | Georgetown, - - -         | 50  | Hampshire, - - -         | 1204   |
| Tewksbury, - - -         | 31  | Mansfield, - - -          | 35  | Woolwich, - - -           | 15  | Plymouth, - - -          | 1054   |
| Acton, - - -             | 37  | Attleborough, - - -       | 88  | New-Castle, - - -         | 13  | Barnstable, - - -        | 493    |
| Dunstable, - - -         | 33  | Dighton, - - -            | 49  | Topsham, - - -            | 13  | Bristol, - - -           | 953    |
| Lincoln, - - -           | 33  | Freetown, - - -           | 58  | Booth-Bay, - - -          | 14  | York, - - -              | 612    |
| Wilmington, - - -        | 29  | Raynham, - - -            | 37  | Bristol, - - -            | 20  | Dukes County, - - -      | 112    |
| <i>Hampshire County.</i> |     | Easton, - - -             | 41  | Bowdoinham, - - -         | 3   | Nantucket, - - -         | 174    |
| Springfield, - - -       | 71  | Berkley, - - -            | 29  | Medumcook, - - -          | 3   | Worcester, - - -         | 1846   |
| Wilbraham, - - -         | 36  | <i>York County.</i>       |     | Hallowell, - - -          | 4   | Cumberland, - - -        | 423    |
| Northampton, - - -       | 81  | York, - - -               | 114 | Broad-Bay, - - -          | 10  | Lincoln, - - -           | 196    |
| Southampton, - - -       | 29  | Kittery, - - -            | 125 | Vassalborough, - - -      | 3   | Berkshire, - - -         | 413    |
| Hadley, - - -            | 33  | Wells, - - -              | 89  | St. George's, - - -       | 10  | Total, - - -             | 13,000 |
| South-Hadley, - - -      | 25  | Berwick, - - -            | 134 | Winthrop, - - -           | 3   |                          |        |
| Amherst, - - -           | 38  | Arundel, - - -            | 41  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Granby, - - -            | 17  | Biddeford, - - -          | 46  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Hatfield, - - -          | 37  | Pepperellborough, - - -   | 34  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Whately, - - -           | 13  | Lebanon, - - -            | 9   |                           |     |                          |        |
| Williamsburgh, - - -     | 9   | Sanford, - - -            | 10  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Westfield, - - -         | 57  | Buxton, - - -             | 10  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Deerfield, - - -         | 41  | <i>Dukes County.</i>      |     |                           |     |                          |        |
| Greenfield, - - -        | 26  | Edgartown, - - -          | 36  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Sherburne, - - -         | 16  | Chilmark, - - -           | 44  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Conway, - - -            | 17  | Tisbury, - - -            | 32  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Sunderland, - - -        | 25  | <i>Nantucket County.</i>  |     |                           |     |                          |        |
| Montague, - - -          | 20  | Sherburne, - - -          | 174 |                           |     |                          |        |
| Northfield, - - -        | 30  | <i>Worcester County.</i>  |     |                           |     |                          |        |
| Brimfield, - - -         | 48  | Worcester, - - -          | 93  |                           |     |                          |        |
| South-Brimfield, - - -   | 30  | Lancaster, - - -          | 116 |                           |     |                          |        |
| Monson, - - -            | 26  | Mendon, - - -             | 88  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Pelham, - - -            | 27  | Brookfield, - - -         | 112 |                           |     |                          |        |
| Greenwich, - - -         | 27  | Oxford, - - -             | 41  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Blanford, - - -          | 20  | Charlton, - - -           | 41  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Leverett, - - -          | 5   | Sutton, - - -             | 111 |                           |     |                          |        |
| Palmer, - - -            | 28  | Leicester, - - -          | 41  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Granville, - - -         | 47  | Spencer, - - -            | 37  |                           |     |                          |        |
| New-Salem, - - -         | 25  | Paxton, - - -             | 24  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Belchertown, - - -       | 31  | Rutland, - - -            | 53  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Colrain, - - -           | 17  | Oakham, - - -             | 16  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Ware, - - -              | 14  | Rutland District, - - -   | 46  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Warwick, - - -           | 12  | Hubbardston, - - -        | 8   |                           |     |                          |        |
| Bernardston, - - -       | 16  | New-Braintree, - - -      | 37  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Murrayfield, - - -       | 17  | Southborough, - - -       | 54  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Charlemont, - - -        | 12  | Westborough, - - -        | 43  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Ashfield, - - -          | 14  | Northborough, - - -       | 30  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Worthington, - - -       | 7   | Shrewsbury, - - -         | 79  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Shutesbury, - - -        | 16  | Lunenburg, - - -          | 57  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Chesterfield, - - -      | 26  | Fitchburgh, - - -         | 13  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Southwick, - - -         | 23  | Uxbridge, - - -           | 55  |                           |     |                          |        |
| West-Springfield, - - -  | 72  | Harvard, - - -            | 56  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Ludlow District, - - -   | 23  | Dudley, - - -             | 37  |                           |     |                          |        |
| <i>Plymouth County.</i>  |     | Bolton, - - -             | 55  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Plymouth, - - -          | 100 | Upton, - - -              | 23  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Scituate, - - -          | 125 | Sturbridge, - - -         | 51  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Duxbury, - - -           | 44  | Leominster, - - -         | 43  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Marshfield, - - -        | 54  | Hardwick, - - -           | 61  |                           |     |                          |        |
| Bridgewater, - - -       | 188 | Holden, - - -             | 30  |                           |     |                          |        |

*Resolved*, That Mrs. Dorothy Coolidge be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of seven Pounds, fifteen Shillings, and eight Pence, in full of her account; and the Receiver-General of this Colony is hereby ordered to pay the aforesaid sum of seven Pounds, fifteen Shillings and eight Pence, to the said Dorothy Coolidge, or order, accordingly.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, July 6, 1775.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Johnson and Doctor Jones, be of the Committee to answer the Letter from the Congress of New-Hampshire, in the room of Doctor Church and Mr. Hopkins.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Safety be directed to supply General Washington with some faithful, expeditious person, to go on express to Philadelphia.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Safety be a Committee to desire General Washington to let them know if there is any house at Cambridge, that would be more agreeable to him and General Lee than that in which they now are; and in that case, the said Committee are directed to procure such house, and put it in proper order for their reception.

The Committee of Safety, by Colonel Palmer, reported a Resolve, relative to a new emission of Bills of Credit, the consideration whereof was referred to three o'clock, P. M.

*Ordered*, That Colonel Farley, Mr. Durfee, and Captain Holmes, be a Committee to consider a Letter from Mr. Joseph Hallett, dated New-York, June 26, 1775, relative to a quantity of Flour forwarded to Norwich, &c., for the Army.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and hereby are empowered and directed, to impress, for the service of the Colony, the saw-mill at Watertown, belonging to Mr. John Cook, or any other mill which they have occasion for, for the publick service.

*Ordered*, That Colonel Tyng and Mr. Fox, be added to the Committee who were appointed to consider the Accounts that might be transmitted to Congress by the Com-



mittee of Safety, in the room of Mr. *Lothrop* and Deacon *Fisher*.

Ordered, That the Committee of Supplies be directed to forward to *Newport* the Letter to Lieutenant-Governour *Cook*, received by this Congress in a Letter from the Continental Congress.

A Letter from Mr. *John Fenton*, Esq., was read, and ordered to subside. The Letter is as follows:

"To the Honourable JAMES WARREN, Esquire, President of the Congress at WATERTOWN:

"SIR: As I presume you and the gentlemen of the Congress are not entirely unacquainted with me, and that I am now a prisoner at the head-quarters of the *New-Hampshire* Troops, I most earnestly request, through your kind interposition, I may be removed from where I now am to head-quarters at *Cambridge* or *Watertown*, that I may be either acquitted or condemned as you may think expedient, my present situation being now very critical indeed. I beg leave to presume that my request will not be looked upon as improper, having more property in this Government than that of *New-Hampshire*.

"I am, with respect, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN FENTON.

"Medford, July 5, 1775."

Ordered, That Major *Hawley*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Col. *Grout*, be a Committee to prepare a vote of thanks to the Committee of this Congress this day returned from their embassy to *Ticonderoga*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Barker* be added to the Committee to examine Major *Barber's* Account.

Ordered, That Colonel *Tyng*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Mr. *Bliss*, be a Committee to consider an Account exhibited by Doctor *Church* and Mr. *Gill*, of the expense of entertaining and escorting Generals *Washington* and *Lee* from *Springfield* to Head-Quarters.

Ordered, That Mr. *Langdon*, Major *Bliss*, and Mr. *Jewett*, be a Committee to consider the Report of the Committee this day returned from *Ticonderoga*, and the Papers accompanying it, and also the Rolls made up by Captain *Noble* and Captain *Herrick*.

Afternoon.

A Letter from General *Green* was read, and committed to Colonel *Davis*, Colonel *Tyng*, and Mr. *Reed*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Davis*, Mr. *Fessenden*, and Captain *Page*, be a Committee to consider a Petition of *Josiah Capen*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Whittemore*, Major *Bliss*, and Col. *Dwight*, be a Committee to consider the Account of Mr. *Alexander Gray*, and report.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gill*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Mr. *Sullivan*, be a Committee to consider the services of the Secretary, and report what grant they think is adequate thereto.

Ordered, That the Honourable Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Doctor *Taylor*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve explanatory of the sense of Congress expressed in a Resolve of the 31st ultimo, relative to the Estates of Refugees.

The Committee appointed to consider the Account of Doctor *Church* and Mr. *Gill*, reported, verbally, that they had examined the Account, found it well vouched, and thought it ought to be allowed.

Thereupon, Resolved, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is directed to pay Doctor *Benjamin Church* and Mr. *Moses Gill*, or their order, the sum of twenty-eight Pounds, five Shillings, and ten Pence, lawful money, in discharge of an Account by them exhibited, of the expenses of escorting and entertaining Generals *Washington* and *Lee* from *Springfield* to the Camp at *Cambridge*.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed by a Resolve of this Congress, of the first instant, to agree with such Teamsters as they may employ to convey the Poor of the Town of *Charlestown* to certain Towns in the County of *Worcester*, be directed to pay them a sum not exceeding one Shilling per ton per mile for such service, instead of nine Pence, the price fixed in said Resolve; and that said

Committee be likewise directed and empowered to remove the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* in like manner.

The Report of the Committee of Safety, relative to a new emission of Bills of Credit, was taken into consideration, and recommitted to Mr. *Spooner*, Major *Hawley*, Doctor *Taylor*, Captain *Stone*, and Mr. *Wheeler*, who are directed to consider the sum of the Bills already impressed, and the propriety of striking off more from the same plates.

Resolved, That the Committee of Supplies be directed to pay the Selectmen of the several Towns and Districts in the Colony for the Blankets they have respectively furnished the Soldiers with, any Resolve of Congress to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Committee appointed to consider the Report of the Committee sent to *Ticonderoga*, reported. The Report was recommitted, and the last mentioned Committee are directed to lay before the Committee first mentioned, a state of their account, debt and credit.

The Committee appointed to prepare a vote of thanks to the Committee who have been on an embassy to *Ticonderoga*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, *Walter Spooner*, *Jedediah Foster*, and *James Sullivan*, Esquires, a Committee of this Congress, lately ordered on a commission to the important posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, for divers purposes expressed in their instructions, have this day returned, and made their report in writing; and it appearing upon full consideration thereof, that the said Committee have executed the various branches of their instructions with ability, fidelity, and despatch, and that their services had been attended with much fatigue and danger; therefore,

Resolved, That the services of the said Committee do merit the express approbation and thanks of Congress, and they do hereby testify and render the same to them, and each of them.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hemenway*, Mr. *Whittemore*, and Capt. *Parker*, be a Committee to consider what allowance is proper to be made to Mr. *Edmund Fowle*, for the use of his house by the Committees of this and the former Congress.

The Committee appointed to consider the Accounts transmitted to Congress by the Committee of Safety, reported on the Account of *Ebenezer White*, and others. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, Messrs. *Ebenezer White*, *Daniel Hemenway*, Col. *Simeon Spaulding*, and *Benjamin Ely*, were appointed to collect a number of Fire-Arms for the use of this Colony, and have delivered said Arms, as appears by receipt from the Committee of Safety, or Clerk of the Ordnance Stores, and have exhibited their Accounts to Congress; which Accounts appear to be reasonable: therefore,

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury to the several persons employed in collecting Arms as aforesaid, the following sums, and the Receiver-General is accordingly ordered to pay the said sums, viz: to *Ebenezer White*, the sum of £1 19s.; to *Daniel Hemenway*, £4 8s.; to Colonel *Simeon Spaulding*, £4 7s.; to *Benjamin Ely*, £13 10s. 11d.—£24 4s. 11d.

Ordered, That Captain *Holmes* be added to the Committee last mentioned.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, July 7, 1775.

Captain *Stone*, of *Framingham*, was appointed in the room of Major *Bliss*, on the Committee which was chosen to prepare an Answer to the Letter from the Congress of *New-Hampshire*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Shillaber* have leave to bring in a Resolve recommending to the Committee of the City of *Philadelphia* to permit him to export from thence a quantity of Flour.

Ordered, That Deacon *Bayley*, Major *Brooks*, Mr. *Baker*, Col. *Grout*, and Dr. *Taylor*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, recommending to this Congress the seizing the Crown Officers.

In compliance with a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, recommending that a Committee be appointed to



draw up and transmit to *Great Britain* a fair and impartial account of the late Battle at *Charlestown*, as soon as possible,

*Ordered*, That the said Committee of Safety be a Committee for that purpose, and that they likewise be a Standing Committee for that and the like purposes.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wheeler*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Doctor *Taylor*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of Mr. *Daniel Murray*, and a Letter from Mr. *Joseph Reed*, Secretary to General *Washington*, on the subject thereof. The Letter from Mr. *Reed* is as follows:

"Head-Quarters, July 6, 1775, 6 o'clock, P. M.

"GENTLEMEN: I am directed by his Excellency to acquaint you that *Daniel Murray* has applied to him for a pass to go into *Boston*, with a part of his father's family. As the General is wholly unacquainted with the circumstances of the case, and the propriety of granting or refusing the request, he refers himself to your advice, and would be glad of your opinion on the subject as early as convenient. I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your obedient humble servant,

JOS. REED, Secretary.

"To the Hon. Committee of Safety at *Watertown*."

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Nichols*, Mr. *Glover*, and Col. *Mitchell*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety relative to the appointment of a Master Workman for the Blacksmiths.

The Committee appointed to consider the services of the Secretary, reported. The Report was recommitted, and the Committee directed to consider in particular his extra services to this time, and the expense of his Clerks; and the said Secretary is directed to lay before this Congress, or some future Assembly of this Colony, an account of his future services.

*Ordered*, That a Warrant be made out for Doctor *Isaac Foster*, as Surgeon of the Hospital at *Cambridge*, and another to Doctor *Isaac Rand*, as Surgeon of the Hospital at *Roxbury*.

Mr. *Shillaber*, agreeable to order, presented the following Resolve; which was accepted, viz:

Mr. *William Shillaber*, of *Danvers*, a member of this Congress, having represented to this Congress, that he has a vessel now at *Philadelphia*, (having there disposed of her cargo,) a Schooner, called the *William*, commanded by *Samuel Tucker*, and that he apprehends, from such instructions as he has and will give the said Master, that the vessel, if laden with Flour, or partly so, might arrive safe at some port in this Colony, and having applied for the approbation of Congress, and set forth that he is willing to risk the same; therefore,

*Resolved*, That this Congress do approve thereof, and it is hereby recommended to the Committee of Inspection at *Philadelphia*, that they permit the said Captain *Tucker* to lade his vessel as above desired, and sail from that port; provided the same be not against the Resolution of the *American* Congress, or any Resolution formed in that Colony.

The Committee appointed to consider the Resolve of the Committee of Safety relative to a new emission of Bills of Credit, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows:

Whereas, several persons have been employed in the service of this Colony, and several have supplied small articles, whose Accounts amount severally to small sums only; and it appearing to this Congress that the Plates engraved for impressing or striking off the Bills for the payment of the Soldiers in the service of this Colony are still sufficient for the striking off a number of impressions on each plate; therefore,

*Resolved*, That there be impressed or struck off on the plate containing the engraving for Notes of ten Shillings, eighteen Shillings, and twelve Shillings, six hundred and sixty-seven sheets, and no more; and that there be impressed, or struck off, on the plate for notes of sixteen Shillings, fifteen Shillings, and nine Shillings, six hundred and sixty-seven sheets, and no more; and also on the plate for twenty Shillings, fourteen Shillings, and six Shillings, that there be impressed or struck off five hundred and forty sheets, and no more; which last number, together with one hundred and twenty-seven sheets or impressions already struck off on that plate and not signed, make the like num-

ber of six hundred and sixty-seven sheets or impressions; which, together, amount to two thousand and one sheets or impressions; each sheet containing forty Shillings, amounts to the sum of £4,002; which, together with the sum of £25,998, already perfected of those Notes, make the sum of £30,000. We also report, that a Committee be appointed to agree with Mr. *Revere*, or some other suitable person, for the striking off the above number of sheets; also, that a Committee be appointed to authenticate said sheets when they are struck off.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Mitchell*, Captain *Holmes*, and Captain *Stone*, of *Framingham*, be a Committee to agree with some persons to strike off the Bills agreeable to the foregoing Report.

*Ordered*, That the Chairman of the Committee of Supplies be directed to attend this Congress with a copy of such Resolves as constitute their commission.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of *Daniel Murray*, &c., reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letter from his Excellency General *Washington* to the Committee of Safety respecting the Petition of *Daniel Murray*, of *Rutland*, who has requested leave for his sister and two of his brothers to go into *Boston*, which Petition the Committee of Safety have referred to the consideration of this Congress, beg leave to report, that it is their opinion that the aforementioned Petition ought not to be granted. That the Committee of Safety be directed to acquaint his Excellency the General of the Resolution of this House of the 24th of *June* last, respecting the permitting of persons to go into *Boston*, and that it is their opinion that said Resolution ought not to be receded from in the present case.

*Walter Spooner*, Esquire, was appointed, in addition to Colonel *Richmond*, to swear the soldiers to be stationed in the County of *Bristol*.

The Committee appointed to consider the Report of the Committee who have been on an embassy to *Ticonderoga*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to take under consideration the Report of the Committee from *Crown Point*, &c., beg leave to report, by way of Resolve, as follows, viz:

Whereas, it appears to this Congress that the sum of four hundred Pounds, received by *Walter Spooner*, *Jedediah Foster*, and *James Sullivan*, Esquires, of the Receiver-General, the 14th of *June* last, for the use of this Colony, has been expended by them for the purpose for which it was designed by this Congress; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said *Walter Spooner*, *Jedediah Foster*, and *James Sullivan*, Esquires, be, and they hereby are discharged from all demands the Colony at any time had upon them for the same, and that the receipts produced by them be filed in the Treasurer's Office.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to *Walter Spooner*, *Jedediah Foster*, and *James Sullivan*, Esquires, the sum of twenty-six Pounds, three Shillings, and nine Pence, for the balance due to them from this Colony for their time and expenses to *Crown Point*, &c.; and the Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay the same sum accordingly.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Mr. *Abijah Merrill*, the sum of four hundred Pounds, to be by him delivered to Colonel *Easton*, for advance pay to two hundred men at *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, and the said *Merrill* to take a receipt of said *Easton* therefor; and the Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay the same sum accordingly.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of two hundred and fifty-two Pounds, eleven Shillings, and one Penny half-penny, to Lieutenant *William Satterlee*, or order, being the balance of the Pay-Roll of Captain *Herrick's* Company, from the 3d of *May* to the 25th of *June* last; and the Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay the same sum accordingly. And the said *Herrick* and *Satterlee* are hereby discharged from all demands which Colonel *Arnold* or this Province had for the sum of twenty-three Pounds twelve



Shillings, received by said *Herrick* and *Satterlee* of said *Arnold*, for the use of the Company of said *Herrick*.

Col. *Grout* was appointed to accompany Mr. *Merril* to the Receiver-General to know of him if he can pay him the four hundred Pounds, agreeable to the above Resolve.

Ordered, That Mr. *Shillaber*, Captain *White*, and Mr. *Crane* be a Committee to consider the Account of Mr. *Edward Mitchell*, and any other Accounts that may be rendered of the expense of procuring Spears for the Army.

Ordered, That Colonel *Robinson*, Major *Brooks*, and Deacon *Bayley*, be a Committee to procure a Steward for his Excellency General *Washington*.

— Afternoon.

Leave of absence was granted to the Receiver-General till the beginning of next week.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter of Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, dated *New-York*, 26th June, 1775, reported verbally, that the same be referred to the Committee of Supplies. The Report was accepted.

Mr. *Batchelder* was appointed in the room of Mr. *Sullivan* to consider what grant was proper to be made for the services of the Secretary.

Ordered, That Mr. *Johnson*, Major *Perley*, and Mr. *Hemenway*, be a Committee to procure Stores for depositing the Fish which the Committee of Supplies may purchase for the use of the Colony, either by hire or by building new Stores, as they may think best.

The following Letter was received from the Secretary of General *Ward*:

"Camp at Cambridge, July 7, 1775.

"SIR: I must inform you that great numbers in the Army are almost naked for want of shirts, breeches, stockings, shoes, and other clothing; and unless they can be immediately supplied, inconceivable difficulties and distress will accrue to the Army. I am, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JOSEPH WARD.

"To the President of the honourable Congress at *Watertown*."

Ordered, That Mr. *Phillips*, Mr. *Kollock*, and Deacon *Gould*, be a Committee to consider the subject of a Letter this day received from General *Ward*, and to inquire of the Committee of Supplies what provision is made for supplying the Army with the articles therein mentioned.

The Committee made the following Report; which was read, and accepted:

The Committee appointed to make inquiry of the Committee of Supplies what provision they have made for the articles of Shirts, Breeches, Stockings, and Shoes, and consider whether it is requisite to take any further care to procure those articles, have attended that service, and beg leave to recommend, that persons be immediately despatched to the neighbouring Counties to collect such a proportion of the afore-mentioned articles from the several Towns in said Counties as may be judged proper.

SAMUEL PHILLIPS, JUN., per order.

Col. *Grout* informed the Congress that he had accompanied Mr. *Merril* to the Receiver-General's Office, and that the Receiver-General informed them that there was not money in the Treasury sufficient to pay said *Merril* the sum which the Congress have directed the said Receiver-General to pay him.

Ordered, That Colonel *Dwight*, Colonel *Robinson*, and Deacon *Williams*, be a Committee to prepare a Letter to Colonel *Easton*, informing him that the state of the Treasury is such that Mr. *Merril* cannot at present be supplied with the sum of four hundred Pounds, which this Congress has this day directed the Receiver-General to pay him.

Ordered, That Captain *Holmes* be directed to inquire of Mr. *Revere* how many sheets of Notes, or Bills of Credit, can be struck off from the plates he now has by him more than six hundred and sixty-seven, which were directed to be struck off by a Resolve of this Congress this day passed.

Resolved, That to-morrow morning, eight o'clock, be assigned for the consideration of a request made by Colonel

*Danielson*, in behalf of the Officers of the Army, that they might have a month's pay advanced.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from General *Greene*, reported. The Report was recommitted, and Mr. *Robinson* added to the Committee.

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. *Langdon*.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to procure a Steward for General *Washington*, be directed to procure him likewise two or three women for Cooks.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to inquire how General *Washington's* table should be furnished, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of complying with the requisition of General *Washington* relative thereto; and that Mr. *Hopkins* be added to this Committee, in the room of Colonel *Bowers*.

Ordered, That the Hon. Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Grout*, and Colonel *Robinson*, be a Committee to wait upon General *Lee*, to know of him what provision he expects should be made by this Congress for the furnishing his table.

The Committee who were appointed to consider what sum should be granted the Secretary for his services, again reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the allowance that ought to be made Mr. *Samuel Freeman*, for his services as Secretary of the Congress, to the present time, beg leave to report, that they find there has been much business done by the said *Freeman*, in the service of the Colony; and the said *Freeman* has been obliged to employ several Clerks to assist him, which he agrees to pay. He has also been at considerable expense to be furnished with books, paper, ink, quills, and house to hold his office in as Secretary; for all which they beg leave to report the following Resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is directed to pay Mr. *Samuel Freeman*, out of the publick money of said Colony, the sum of thirty Pounds, eight Shillings, and six Pence, for his services as Secretary to the Congress, and that those further services which he may have to perform in recording the proceedings of this Congress, when performed, be exhibited to some future House of Representatives of this Province, for their consideration and allowance.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to Col. *Easton*, reported the following; which was accepted, viz:

"SIR: The Committee appointed by the Congress to settle matters at *Ticonderoga*, having given you encouragement, that they would send by the first opportunity, the four hundred Pounds due from this Colony, on advance pay, to the men under your command, it gives us pain that we are obliged to say, we have not the whole of the money in the Treasury; but you may depend, Sir, that as soon as the notes can be struck off and properly authenticated, the same will be immediately remitted to you. The embarrassments under which the Province labors will apologize for our not being ready by the first opportunity. We rely upon you, Sir, that you will do all in your power to make the Troops under your command easy, as the good of the Colony so much depends thereon.

"To Colonel *Easton*, at *Ticonderoga*."

The Committee appointed to consider some method to prevent supplying our enemies with Provisions, &c., reported. The Report was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the newspapers, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, complaints have been made to this Congress, of the inhabitants of some of the seaport Towns frequently supplying our enemies with Butter and Cheese, fresh Provisions, &c.; also, suspected, that intelligence has been given them: therefore,

Resolved, That it be, and hereby is recommended to the Committees of Safety, Correspondence, and Inspection, and where there are no such Committees, to the Selectmen, of the seaport Towns and Districts in this Colony, that they forthwith exert themselves to prevent any person or persons from supplying our enemies with any kind of provisions whatsoever, or intelligence. And it is further recommended to the Committees or Selectmen as aforesaid, of each Town and District, not to suffer any vessel or boat, of any kind, to go from the shore on board



any vessel or vessels of any size whatsoever, in the service of our enemies, without first obtaining a permit, in writing, of the Committees or Selectmen aforementioned, for that purpose; and that no boats be suffered to land from men-of-war, tenders, or any other vessels employed to distress the sea-coasts and trade of this Country, without a permit obtained as aforesaid.

The Committee appointed to consider the Account of Colonel *Mitchell*, relative to the expense of providing Spears, reported. The Report was ordered to lie on the table, till Colonel *Michell* produced a receipt from General *Thomas*, or the Committee of Safety, for the delivery of them.

The Committee appointed to inquire of the Committee of Supplies what provision they had made for Shirts, Breeches, &c., reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to make inquiry of the Committee of Supplies what provision they have made for the articles of Shirts, Breeches, Stockings, and Shoes, and consider whether it is requisite to take any further care to procure those articles, have attended the service, and beg leave to recommend that persons be immediately despatched to the neighbouring Counties, to collect such a proportion of the above-mentioned articles from the several Towns in said Counties as may be judged proper.

*Ordered*, That the Committee who brought in the above Report be a Committee to bring in a list of those Towns from whence the articles above mentioned ought to be procured, and the proportion each Town shall supply.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the conduct of the People of *Nantucket*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, by the Act of Parliament, called the Restraining Act, the inhabitants of the Island of *Nantucket* are exempted from the restrictions in said Act mentioned; and whereas, the Continental Congress, on the seventeenth of *May* last, took the matter under consideration, and thought it expedient, to prevent the *Newfoundland* Fishery from being supplied with Provisions through *Nantucket*, to prohibit the exportation of Provisions from any of the Colonies to that Island excepting from this; and whereas the inhabitants of *Nantucket* have by them large quantities of Provisions in their stores, and are fitting out a large fleet of Whaling-Vessels, whereby they intend to avail themselves of the act aforementioned, and the Provisions they have by them may be unnecessarily expended in foreign and not domestick consumption: therefore,

*Resolved*, That no Provisions or necessities of any kind be exported from any part of this Colony to the Island of *Nantucket*, until the inhabitants of said Island shall have given full and sufficient satisfaction to this Congress, or some future House of Representatives, that the Provisions they have now by them have not been, and shall not be expended in foreign, but for domestick consumption. And the several Committees of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, in their respective Towns, are required to see that this Resolve be not contravened.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a Letter from the Committee of Safety for the Town of *Machias*, (dated *June 17*, 1775,) relative to fitting an armed Sloop to act on the defensive, and to report thereon, do report in manner following, viz:

*Resolved*, That when and so soon as the Committee of Safety of said Town of *Machias* shall have fitted and armed a Sloop for their defence and security, and have procured a sufficient number of hands to man, and a proper person to command said Sloop, and shall send the name of such person to this Congress, then this Congress will commission such a person to take command of said Sloop, and to act on the defensive for the security and defence of said Town of *Machias*.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, July 8, 1775.

A list of Surgeons, examined by a Committee appointed for that purpose, was exhibited to Congress, and Warrants ordered to be made out agreeable thereto.

*Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Major *Bliss*, and Colonel *Gerrish*, be a Committee to inspect the Commissions of the Committee of Safety and the Committee of Supplies, and report to this Congress what is expedient to be done relative thereto, more especially in the recess of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone* be appointed in the room of Mr. *Sullivan*, on the Committee who were directed to bring in a Resolve explanatory to the Resolve of Congress relative to the Refugees.

A Petition of several Field-Officers in the Army was read, relative to the appointment of Commissaries for the Regiment from the County of *Essex*.

*Ordered*, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Holmes*, Mr. *Fox*, and Mr. *Perry*, be a Committee to consider a Petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Frenchman's Bay*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Fessenden*, Mr. *Walker*, and Captain *White*, be a Committee to examine and consider all Accounts that may be rendered to this Congress, relative to the expenses of procuring Axes and Shovels for the use of the Army.

A Committee of this Congress, agreeable to their appointment, reported the following Resolve;\* which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the several newspapers.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hayward* repair to the Receiver-General at *Stow*, and direct him to attend this Congress immediately.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Carpenter* be and hereby is appointed to desire Colonel *Timothy Walker* to pay what publick moneys he has in his hands into the Treasury immediately, and the Committee of Supplies are directed to employ some person to be sent express to Col. *Walker* for this purpose.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Woodbridge*, Colonel *Robinson*, and Deacon *Nicholls*, be a Committee to consider a proposal of exempting the Soldiers in the Army from paying the postage of Letters, and to report thereon.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Taylor*, Major *Brooks*, and Mr. *Hall*, be a Committee to examine and consider an Account of Major *Bliss*, and also an Account of Doctor *Church*.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller*, Mr. *Hall*, and Col. *Robinson*, be a Committee to countersign and number the new emission of Bills, who are likewise empowered and directed to superintend the impression of said Bills.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of complying with the requisitions of General *Washington*, reported the following order, which was accepted, viz:

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Robinson*, Major *Brooks*, and Deacon *Bailey*, be a Committee to make inquiry forthwith for some ingenious, active, faithful man, to be recommended to General *Washington* as a Steward; likewise to procure and recommend to him some capable woman, suitable to act in the place of a Housekeeper, and one or more good female servants.

The Report of the Committee on the Account of Mr. *Daniel Taylor* was read, and ordered to lie upon the table. The Report is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed to examine the Account of *Daniel Taylor* have attended that service, and find the Account right cast, and well avouched, and are of the opinion, that the Receiver-General be directed to pay the sum of ten Pounds, nine Shillings, and three Pence, to the said *Daniel Taylor*, in full of his Account. All which is humbly submitted. EZRA RICHMOND, per order.

The Committee on the Petition of Colonel *Jonathan Brewer* reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That the prayer of Colonel *Brewer's* Petition be so far granted, that said Colonel *Brewer* be allowed to recruit men sufficient to complete his Regiment, or so far as he can complete his said Regiment, in twenty days; he

\* This Resolve is not recorded on the Journal.



not to enlist any person as a Soldier who shall not furnish himself with a good and sufficient fire-arm.

*Resolved*, That three o'clock in the afternoon be assigned to consider the expediency of appointing a Surgeon-General for the *Massachusetts* Forces.

The Committee appointed to consider the Artificers' Accounts, reported the following Resolve on Mr. *Clark's* Account:

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is directed to pay Mr. *Matthew Clark*, or order, the sum of nine Pounds, six Shillings, and six Pence, in full discharge of his Account, for time and materials in repairing Boats for the use of this Colony.

The Order of the Day was moved for.

*Ordered*, That Major *Hawley* bring in a Resolve for the payment of a month's pay to the Officers of the Army, as soon as provision can be made therefor.

The Committee on the Account of Major *Bliss* reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That Major *John Bliss* be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of five Pounds, seven Shillings, in full discharge of the above account, and the Receiver-General of this Colony is hereby ordered to pay the aforesaid sum of five Pounds, seven Shillings, to the said *John Bliss*, or order, accordingly.

Major *Fuller*, agreeable to order, brought in the following Resolve, viz:

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury the sum of twelve Shillings, to Mr. *John Cook*, for the use that Mr. *Paul Revere* made of his house whilst he was striking off the Colony Notes therein.

The Committee appointed to consider a proposal for exempting the Soldiers in the Army from the postage of Letters, reported as follows:

Whereas, it appears to this Congress necessary and expedient that all Letters directed to, or going from any persons belonging to the Continental Army stationed in the *Massachusetts* Colony, be delivered free of postage hereafter:

*Resolved*, That all Letters directed to any person, or sent from any person belonging to the Continental Army now stationed in the *Massachusetts* Colony, be delivered to the person to whom they belong, free of postage, until the further order of this Congress, or some future House of Representatives.

The Report was ordered to subside.

Major *Fuller* brought in a Resolve directing what Notes each of the Committee should sign, which was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That *Abraham Fuller*, Mr. *Stephen Hall, Jr.*, and Colonel *Robinson*, the Committee appointed to countersign the Colony Notes now ordered to be struck off, countersign and number said Notes of the following denominations, viz: said *Abraham Fuller* countersign and number the Notes of eighteen, twelve, and ten Shillings; said *S. Hall* countersign and number the Notes of sixteen, fifteen, and nine Shillings; said Colonel *Robinson* countersign and number the Notes of twenty, fourteen, and six Shillings.

Afternoon.

The Report of the Committee on the Letter of General *Green* was read, and recommitted to Colonel *Robinson*, Major *Brooks*, and Colonel *Gerrish*.

Major *Hawley*, agreeable to appointment, reported the following Resolve, relative to advance pay to the Officers of the Army, which was accepted:

Whereas, application has been made lately to this Congress in behalf of the Commissioned Officers of that part of the Continental Army before *Boston* raised by this Colony, that for the relief of the present necessities of the said officers there might be immediately advanced and paid to them one full month's pay, according to the establishment lately made by Congress for the Army: And the Congress having taken the said application into due consideration, do resolve, that it is expedient and proper that there should be advanced and paid unto the said Commissioned Officers one month's pay, in notes or bills of credit of this Colony, as

soon as provision can be made therefor, by a further emission of notes or bills of credit, than has been already ordered by Congress.

The Committee appointed to consider how Stores may be procured for the reception of Fish, reported as follows:

Whereas, a large quantity of Fish has been purchased by the Committee of Supplies for the use of this Colony, and the Stores already provided by said Committee are not sufficient for the reception or preservation of the same; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be and hereby are empowered and directed to hire or to build a suitable Store for that purpose, and to agree with some person for a convenient spot of ground whereon to erect the same, reserving liberty to remove such Store as some future Assembly of this Colony shall think proper.

The Report was ordered to subside.

The Committee appointed to agree with Mr. *Paul Revere*, for striking off a new emission of Colony Notes, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That there be eighteen hundred and seventy-four sheets impressed and struck off, according to the Resolve of this Congress passed the seventh instant; and that Mr. *Paul Revere* be employed to do said service, at the rate of six Shillings for each hundred sheets so struck off; provided said *Revere* find ink, and house-room, and procure suitable paper, the Colony paying only the prime cost of said paper.

Committee instructed to direct Mr. *Revere* to alter the date of the Notes to *July 8th*, if it can be done.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hall*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Mr. *Ellis*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, recommending to this Congress to make an establishment for four Master Armourers.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Samuel Sanger*, Mr. *Johnson*, and Deacon *Wyman*, be added to the Committee who were appointed to give Passes for removing the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown* to the Towns in the County of *Worcester*, and that Major *Fuller* be excused from serving on said Committee.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone*, Captain *Brown*, and Colonel *Smith*, be a Committee to revise the Resolves of Congress relative to the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, and report what they think proper to be done thereon.

Agreeable to the recommendation of the Committee of Safety,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Jonathan Hastings* be and hereby is appointed Postmaster for the Town of *Cambridge*, in the room of Mr. *James Winthrop*.

The Committee appointed to examine several accounts of the expense of procuring Axes and Shovels, reported. The Report was accepted, and Mr. *Woodbridge* was appointed to bring in a proper Resolve for the paying of the several accounts agreeable thereto.

The Committee appointed to prepare an answer to the Letters from the *New-Hampshire* Congress, reported the following, which was accepted, and ordered to be transcribed, authenticated, and sent forward, viz:

"GENTLEMEN: We received your favour of the third instant, by Mr. *Wheelock* and Colonel *Beetle*, and much rejoice to find that the honourable Congress of *New-Hampshire*, and the good people of your Government in general, are so warmly attached to the common cause.

"We highly approve of Mr. *Dean's* being sent to the Continental Congress, more especially as he is so well acquainted in *Canada*, and lately came from thence; and we think it is a matter of great importance to *New-York*, and all the *New-England* Colonies in particular, and to *America* in general, to satisfy our friends in *Canada* that we are truly friendly to them, and also effectually to prevent our inveterate enemies there from making depredations on our frontiers. And as we have the greatest confidence in the wisdom and vigilance of that honourable body, therefore we think it most advisable to wait their determination.

"We are, with great respect, gentlemen, your friends in the common cause.

"Hon. the Congress of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*."



The Committee appointed to consider the subject of a Letter from General *Green*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Congress having taken into consideration the difficulties and troubles which have, and daily are arising in our camps, by reason of divers evil-minded persons selling Spirituous Liquors, by which means it is not in the power of the officers, although a constant exertion has been hitherto made, to prevent the same, in order to keep that steady government in camp so absolutely necessary ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That if any licensed person shall, after the fifteenth instant, presume to sell any Spirituous Liquors to any soldier, without a permit from the Captain, or commanding officer of the Company he belongs to, specifying the quantity, shall, for the first offence, forfeit his license, and for the second, suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him or her by a Court-Martial ; and any person who is not a licensed person, or whose license is without the limits of said camp, who shall presume to retail any Spirituous Liquor to any of the Troops, shall suffer for the first offence the penalties inflicted by a Court-Martial : this Resolve not to extend to any person who shall have a license or permit from the General, or commanding officer.

The Committee appointed to bring in a list of such Towns as might supply the Army with Shirts, Breeches, &c., reported. The Report was recommitted for introducing the form of a receipt.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of the inhabitants of *Frenchman's Bay*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of *Thomas Donnell* and others, of *Frenchman's Bay*, have attended that service, and beg leave to report by way of Resolve :

Whereas, Mr. *Philip Hodgkins* has applied to this Congress for a supply of Provisions for the inhabitants of *Frenchman's Bay*, and being at a great distance from the Committee of Correspondence of that place ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended, and it is by this Congress accordingly recommended to the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, that they suffer the inhabitants of *Frenchman's Bay* to purchase such Provisions in said Colony as they stand in need of.

Major *Hawley*, who was appointed to bring in a Resolve explanatory of the Resolve of this Congress relative to the Refugees, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, a certain Resolve was made and passed on the twenty-first day of *June* last, respecting the improvement of the estates of several persons who have fled to Gen. *Gage*, in manner as is expressed in the said Resolve ; and it being made to appear to this Congress that the said Resolve is taken in such a sense in divers parts of this Colony as to make it necessary that some explanation of the said Resolve should be made by this Congress ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That henceforward the said Resolve ought not to be construed to extend to any estates of such persons, excepting such estates as are left unimproved, and void of any occupant or possessor, and that no other estate of such persons ought to be treated in the manner prescribed in the said Resolve, until they shall be regularly indicted and tried for their supposed offences.

Ordered to be printed in the several Papers.

*Resolved*, That eight o'clock to-morrow morning be assigned for the consideration of the expediency of appointing a Surgeon-General of the *Massachusetts Army*.

*Ordered*, That the Account Books of Major *Barber* be committed to the care of the Committee of Supplies.

Adjourned to *Sunday morning*, eight o'clock.

—  
Sunday, July 9, 1775.

The Committee appointed to consider a Resolve relative to seizing the Crown Officers, reported, by way of Resolve, as follows :

Reflecting with the greatest concern on the miseries of our friends and brethren in the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, who are now suffering under the cruel hand of tyranny, and can think of no other method to release them than to

take into safe custody all the Crown Officers in the United Colonies ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be, and is hereby humbly suggested to the most serious consideration of the honourable Continental Congress now sitting at *Philadelphia*, whether it would not be proper to seize immediately, and take into custody every Crown Officer in said Colonies, and them safely keep, until our suffering brethren are liberated and fully compensated for their loss and sufferings. All which is humbly submitted.

The Report was recommitted, and the Secretary was added to the Committee, and the Committee directed to report, by way of Letter, and to insert a clause relative to the desire of this Congress that the Continental Congress would adjourn nearer the seat of action.

The Committee appointed to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety recommending the appointment of four Master Armourers, reported. The Report was ordered to lie on the table, till the Committee, for revising the commission of the Committee of Safety and the commission of the Committee of Supplies, reported.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gill*, Mr. *Pickering*, and Mr. *Woodbridge*, be a Committee to consider a Letter from Mr. *John Scollay*, relative to the Poor of the Town of *Boston*. The Letter is as follows, viz :

" Boston, July 8, 1775.

" SIR : His Excellency the Governour having, by Mr. Secretary *Flucker*, sent a message to the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Committee of Donations, respecting the removal of the poor, and other inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, they attended the same, and after deliberating on the matter, presented to Mr. Secretary their doings thereon, a copy of which is here enclosed, to which his Excellency has been pleased to accede.

" As there has of late been an interruption of the inhabitants, with their effects, passing out of the Town into the Country, perhaps the matter may have dropped with you, and proper accommodations may not have been provided for the reception of any more of the Poor of the Town than have already left it ; and as the state of the inhabitants is really distressing, we shall be glad an immediate attention be given to the above, and that we, as soon as may be, know your resolutions thereon. As many of these poor unhappy people are not in a condition to be removed by land carriage, therefore, we should think, that the place of their destination might be as near water carriage as may be convenient. If it would not be thought assuming, we would beg leave to suggest the Towns of *Salem* or *Marblehead*, as proper places for the above purpose.

" His Excellency does expect, that whatever vessels or other carriages may be employed in this business, ample security be given that they shall be safe from any detention, and that they, and the persons that occupy them, be permitted to return without hindrance or molestation.

" I am, in behalf of the Committee, your most humble servant,  
JOHN SCOLLAY, Chairman.

" To *James Warren*, Esquire."

" The Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Committee of Donations, having received a message from his Excellency the Governour, by Mr. Secretary *Flucker*, respecting the removal of the poor, and other inhabitants of the Town, and attended the same, with all proper deference and respect, beg leave to represent ; that the number of the poor in the Alms-house, amounts to about two hundred, of which they suppose that one hundred and sixty or one hundred and seventy may be removed, for which the Selectmen, Overseers, and Committee aforesaid, will make all proper provision, his Excellency providing boats and carriages for transportation by water or land, as may be thought best, and allowing such quantities of provisions, bedding, clothing, and medicine, as may be necessary and proper. The few unhappy persons that may be unable to be removed, must be left, and are earnestly recommended to his Excellency's well-known humanity.

" As to the poor, and other inhabitants of the Town, who if not already, will soon be reduced to the greatest distress, the Selectmen, Overseers, and Committee apprehend, that by far the greatest part, if not the whole, would immediately remove themselves, with the small assistance



they might receive from the Committee of Donations, provided they could obtain his Excellency's permission.

"The Selectmen, Overseers, and Committee, previous to their removal, beg for leave to write to such persons in the country as may be empowered to take care of, and provide for the poor, that these destitute persons may find such assistance and relief as their particular circumstances may require."

*Ordered*, That the Secretary, Dr. Taylor, and Major Brooks, be a Committee to confer with Mr. John Lane on the difficulties which attend the supplying the *Indians* at *Falmouth, Casco Bay*.\*

*Resolved*, That the Hon. Jedediah Preble and the Hon. Enoch Freeman, Esquire, be, and hereby are empowered to supply the *Indians* of the *Penobscot* Tribe with any quantity of Goods, not exceeding the value of three hundred Pounds, and to draw on the Receiver-General for the same, who is hereby directed to pay such draughts in three months after the date of this Resolve, and to take Furs and Skins of the said *Indians* in exchange, on the account of this Colony, they to be accountable for their proceedings.

*Ordered*, That Deacon Cheever be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, empowering the Committee of Supplies to furnish General Washington with such articles of household Furniture as he has wrote to said Committee for.

Afternoon.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the allowance proper to be made to Mr. Fowle, for the use of his house by several Committees of this Congress, be referred to the General Assembly.

The Committee on the Letter of Mr. John Scollay, of *Boston*, reported as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the Letter from John Scollay, Esquire, in the name of the Selectmen, &c., of *Boston*, have attended the service assigned them, and are of opinion, that the letter, and paper accompanying the same, be referred to the Committee of Safety of this Colony; and that said Committee, if they see fit, on being satisfied that said poor, and other inhabitants, may leave *Boston* with such quantities of provisions, bedding, &c., as mentioned in the paper purporting to be an agreement with General Gage, provide such conveyances for transporting into the country such of said poor as are able to bear the same, to be ready at such time and place as may be agreed upon; and that notice be given to *Salem, Marblehead*, or any other seaports, to receive such of said poor as will not bear being removed otherwise than by water; and that all expenses for removing and supporting said poor be paid by the Colony.

The Report was ordered to lie for further consideration.

The Committee appointed to prepare a list of such Towns as it would be expedient to apply to for Shirts, Breeches, &c., again reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, there is a very pressing demand for some articles of clothing, more especially of Shirts, Breeches, Stockings, and Shoes, in the Army raised by the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and there is danger of very mischievous consequences from a delay of supplying the same:

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of the respective Towns and Districts in the Counties specified in a list hereunto annexed, be most earnestly desired, as soon as possible, to procure such a number of each of the articles of Shirts, Breeches, and Stockings, as are affixed to their said Towns and Districts, respectively, of a serviceable quality, and as many good Shoes as they can obtain, and deliver the same

\* LETTER FROM THE FOUR INDIAN CHIEFS TO ANDREW GILMAN.

FALMOUTH, July 4, 1775.

SIR: We have been here five days, and did expect to go home with the supplies for our tribe in a sloop. But as we are told Captain John Lane must return to *Watertown* before our supply can be sent, we have agreed to go home in our canoes, though we should rather go in said sloop. We beg leave to let you know it is our desire that Captain Lane may be appointed truckmaster, with full power to redress any insults we may receive from the white people when we come in to trade. You may depend on our friendship, and assistance, if required.

We are your humble servants,

OLENAH, JOSEPH,  
MESSHALL, POOLER.

Andrew Gilman, Interpreter,

to the person or persons now to be appointed by this Congress to collect them, who are directed to give receipts to the owners, at the prices for which they shall mutually agree, (keeping an account thereof,) in the form following, viz:

"The — day of —, 1775. Received of —, — shirts, at —; — pair of Breeches, at —; pair of Stockings, at —; — pair of Shoes, at —: amounting to the sum of —, for the service of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*; which the Receiver-General is directed, in forty days after the date hereof, to pay to the said —, or order, in notes or bills of credit of this Colony."

And the Receiver-General is hereby required to pay the same accordingly. And that this business may be effected with the greatest expedition, the Selectmen and Committees of Correspondence in the several Towns and Districts before mentioned, are hereby most earnestly requested to afford the utmost aid in their power to the person or persons appointed as aforesaid, in collecting said articles. And those persons are further directed to take such measures as will enable them to ascertain the price of each article on its arrival, and to contract at a reasonable rate with suitable wagoners and teamsters, to transport the effects, when procured, with great despatch, to the Committee of Supplies at *Watertown*, giving them a certificate of the sums to be paid for such service; for which sum said Committee are hereby directed to draw on the publick Treasury, in favour of any thus contracted with, or their orders; and the Receiver-General is accordingly directed to pay the same.

Committee.—SUFFOLK: Mr. Daniel Vose, *Milton*; Mr. Abner Ellis, *Dedham*; Deacon Jabez Fisher, *Wrentham*.

ESSEX: Major Asa Perley, *Boxford*; Colonel Daniel Thurston, *Bradford*; Major A. Fuller, *Middleton*.

MIDDLESEX: Mr. Peter Bent, *Marlborough*; Captain Timothy Walker, *Wilmington*; Mr. Israel Hobart, *Townshend*; Mr. Samuel Sprague, *Stoneham*.

PLYMOUTH: Mr. Ebenezer Thompson, *Halifax*; Col. Joseph Cushing, *Hanover*; Mr. George Partridge, *Duxbury*.

BRISTOL: Mr. Thomas Durfee, *Freetown*; Capt. Benjamin King, *Raynham*; Benjamin Aikin, Esquire, *Dartmouth*.

WORCESTER: Mr. David Bancroft, *Worcester*; Mr. Joseph Wheeler, *Harvard*; Col. Jonathan Grout, *Petersham*.

BARNSTABLE: Colonel Joseph Otis, *Barnstable*; Col. N. Freeman, *Sandwich*; Col. Elisha Cobb, *Wellfleet*.

DUKES COUNTY: James Athorne, Esquire.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is directed to pay Doctor Benjamin Church, Junior, or order, the sum of thirty-four Pounds, five Shillings, and two Pence, in full discharge of his account of expenses for himself and servant, on a journey to *Philadelphia*, in May last.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Gill, Mr. Phillips, and Dr. Taylor, be a Committee to provide a Dinner, on the 19th instant, for themselves and the Clergy.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Kollock, Dr. Taylor, and Deacon Nichols, be a Committee to get the Resolves relative to procuring Shirts, Breeches, &c., printed and dispersed, one to each Town mentioned in the schedule, and one to each of the Committee.

The Committee appointed to bring in an additional Resolve relative to the Poor of *Boston*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, it appears that some Towns in this Colony have a larger number of the Poor of the Towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown* than has been heretofore assigned them, and more than they are willing to retain:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Selectmen of those Towns to cause such Poor to be removed to some Town that shall not have the proportion heretofore assigned, or shall be willing to receive them, (and if convenient to those of such Towns that said Poor may choose,) provided said Poor are possessed of a certificate from either of the Selectmen or Overseers of the Poor of the Towns of *Boston* or *Charlestown*, showing that they were inhabitants of either of those Towns on the 1st of March last. And the Selectmen or Overseers of the Poor of the Towns



qualified as aforesaid, to which the before-mentioned Poor may be conveyed, with a certificate as above prescribed, are requested to receive and make provision for the same, as has been before directed; all reasonable charges attending such removal to be paid by this Colony.

The Committee directed to prepare a Letter to the Continental Congress, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, July 9, 1775.

**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS:** With hearts deeply affected by the sufferings of our friends in the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, under the cruel hand of tyrannick power, we think it incumbent on us to take every measure which may tend to their release. To that end we now beg leave humbly to suggest to your Honours, whether it would not be expedient immediately to seize every Crown Officer within the United Colonies, and them in safe custody retain, until this purpose be effected, and full compensation have been made them for the unjust and perfidious treatment they have received from General *Gage*.

We have only once more to express our wishes, that if the general service will permit, you might adjourn to some convenient place nearer the seat of action, that we might more speedily obtain the aid and advice of the Grand Council of the Continent in these important matters, which, though of general concern, do more immediately affect us.

*Ordered*, That it be fairly drawn, authenticated, and sent forward.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Kollock*, Mr. *Batchelder*, and Deacon *Plympton*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of supplying the *Penobscot Indians* with a small quantity of Gunpowder.

The Committee made a Report; which was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, application has been made to this Congress by Captain *John Lane*, Agent for the *Penobscot Tribe of Indians*, for a small quantity of Powder for supplying said *Indians*; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies is hereby directed to deliver out of the publick stores of this Colony, to the said *John Lane*, twenty-five pounds of Powder for the use aforesaid, taking said *Lane's* receipt therefor, to deliver the same to General *Preble* and Colonel *Enoch Freeman*, on account of this Colony; and said Committee are hereby directed to replace the same again as soon as may be, from some Town in this Colony, (if they judge it necessary,) that can best spare the same.

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Watertown* be, and hereby are empowered and directed to take into their custody one *Daniel Green*, now in this Town, who was wounded and taken a prisoner on the 19th of *April* last, and convey him to the jail in *Concord*, there to be confined till the further order of this Congress, or some future House of Assembly of this Colony.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, July 10, 1775.

*Ordered*, That the Warrants for Surgeons, Adjutant-Generals, and Quartermaster-Generals, be committed to the Committee of Safety to be delivered.

*Ordered*, That Deacon *Baker* bring in a Resolve directing the Receiver-General to pay Mr. *Hastings* for his services as Doorkeeper.

*Ordered*, That the Letter from *John Scollay, Esq.*, of *Boston*, and the Paper accompanying it, be put into the hands of the Committee of Safety.

*Ordered*, That the President, Doctor *Church*, and Mr. *Gerry*, be a Committee to prepare an answer to a Letter this day received from General *Lee*; and that eleven o'clock be assigned for the choice of some person to attend General *Lee*, on an interview with General *Burgoyne*.

Letter from General *LEE*.

"Head-Quarters, July 10, 1775.

"General *Lee* presents his respects to the President and gentlemen of the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts*, and submits to their perusal a letter which he yesterday

received from General *Burgoyne*, in answer to one which was read and approved of by the Delegates of this Province, and other Members of the Continental Congress. He begs leave to receive their commands with respect to the proposed interview. If they approve of it, he shall be glad to accept of it; if they disapprove, he shall reject it. But if they approve of it, he must request that they will depute some one gentleman of their body to accompany General *Lee*, and be witness of the conversation. He desires their answer immediately, as he has engaged to inform General *Burgoyne* by four o'clock this afternoon, whether the interview is to take place. He shall likewise be much obliged to the gentlemen if they will return the letter; but if they choose to take a copy of it, he can have no objection.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pickering*, Mr. *Spear*, and Mr. *Phillips*, be a Committee to examine a number of Letters this day laid before the Congress, brought from *London* by Captain *Folger*.

*Resolved*, That it be, and it hereby is ordered, that the Committee of Supplies immediately furnish General *Washington* with ten good Horses, with saddles and bridles, for the publick use.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Batchelder* count and sort the votes for a person to attend General *Lee*, on an interview with General *Burgoyne*.

Mr. *Batchelder* having attended that service, reported that Mr. *Elbridge Gerry* was chosen.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Porter*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Major *Brooks*, be a Committee, whose business it shall be, in conjunction with the Committee of Safety, to make thorough inquiry into the subject-matter of a Letter this day received from General *Washington*; and that the Committee be directed to confer with General *Washington* on the subject of his Letter, and particularly to inform him of the number of men we had generally estimated in the *Massachusetts Forces*, from the return of the General Officers; from the money paid out of the Treasury for a month's advance pay to the soldiers; and from the provision made for billeting the said Forces.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to General *Lee*, reported. The Report was accepted, and ordered to be authenticated and sent forward to General *Lee* by Doctor *Church*, Doctor *Taylor*, and Mr. *Gerry*, a Committee for that purpose.

**SIR:** The Congress have perused the Letter from General *Burgoyne*, which you was kind enough to submit to their inspection. They can have no objection to the proposed interview, from a want of the highest confidence in the wisdom, discretion, and integrity of General *Lee*; but beg leave to suggest, that as the confidence of the people in their General is so essentially necessary to the well-conducting the enterprize in which we are engaged; and as a people contending for their liberties are naturally disposed to jealousy, and not inclined to make the most favourable construction of the motives of conduct which they are not fully acquainted with, whether such an interview might not have a tendency to lessen the influence which the Congress would wish to extend to the utmost of their power to facilitate and succeed the operations of war.

The Congress, agreeable to your request, have, to prevent as far as we are able, any disagreeable consequences which may arise from the jealousy of the people on such an occasion, appointed Mr. *Elbridge Gerry* to attend you at the proposed interview, if you shall think proper to proceed in it; and as they do not think themselves authorized to counteract the General's inclination, they would submit it to his opinion, whether the advice of the Council of War might not be taken in a matter of such apparent delicacy.

To the Honourable General *Lee*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Mitchell*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Deacon *Nichols*, be a Committee to consider the circumstances of the Town of *Hull*, and report what is best to be done.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Phillips*, Deacon *Nichols*, and Captain *Stone*, be a Committee to consider the situation of the publick stock of Powder, and report what shall be done with it.



Afternoon.

*Resolved*, That the Resolve which passed yesterday, relative to *Daniel Green*, be reconsidered; and that Capt. *Stone* be appointed to bring in a Resolve with regard to him.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Baker*, Mr. *Kollock*, and Captain *Parker*, be a Committee to consider an Account of Mr. *John Gill*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Vose*, Mr. *Jewett*, and Mr. *Bigelow*, be a Committee to consider an Account of Mr. *Moses Lammon*, for a gun sold *Barnabas Evans*.

*Ordered*, That the Committee for signing the Bills, &c., be directed to sit and despatch the business, that the soldiers may be paid off according to order of Congress.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Stone*, Mr. *Bigelow*, and Capt. *Harnden*, be a Committee to consider the Account of Mr. *Isaac Bissell*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be directed to write to the Selectmen of *Charlestown* and *Walpole*, in the Government of *New-Hampshire*, and desire them to inform them what Cannon there are in those Towns belonging to this Colony; and the said Committee are to take into their custody such as they shall find to be the property of this Colony.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Stephen Hall* be on the Committee in the room of Doctor *Gunn*, to sign the Colony Notes.

Mr. *Israel Nichols's* Account was passed upon; and, *Ordered*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay to Mr. *Israel Nichols* the sum of eighteen Shillings, in full of his Account.

Capt. *Stone*, agreeable to order, brought in the following Resolve respecting *Daniel Green*; which was accepted:

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen of *Watertown* be, and hereby are directed to take *Daniel Green*, a prisoner taken in the late battle on the 19th of *April* last, who is now in this Town, and safely convey him to Mr. *Jones*, prison-keeper at *Concord*; and said prison-keeper is hereby directed safely to keep, and properly support, the said *Green*, until further order of the Congress, or House of Representatives.

The Committee on Captain *Lane's* Account, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay Capt. *John Lane* the sum of three Pounds, six Shillings, for horse-hire and expenses from *Falmouth* to *Watertown*, and back again, in behalf of the *Penobscot* Tribe of *Indians*.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay to Mr. *Simon Hastings* the sum of eight Pounds, four shillings, for attending this Congress as a Doorkeeper, for forty-one days, the present session.

Adjourned to *Tuesday* morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, July 11, 1775.

A Letter from . . . . ., of *New-York*, to the Committee of Donations for the Town of *Boston*, was read. Upon which the Congress assumed the consideration of a Report relative to such Donations; which was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Newspapers, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas, the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, who have been assigned to the several Towns in this Colony, have been and still are supported at the publick expense, for reasons that are obvious; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Money, Grain, Flour, &c., that have or shall be generously given for the support of said Poor, and lodged within this Colony, ought to be considered as belonging to the publick stock of this Colony, for the use aforesaid; and the Committee of Supplies are hereby directed to take care of such Donations accordingly, till the further order of this Congress, or House of Representatives. And when any Town shall, by order of said Committee, or otherwise, receive or make use of such Donations, or any part thereof, the Selectmen of such Town are hereby ordered to exhibit an exact account thereof to this Congress, or some future House of Representatives, as credit to their accounts of charges for the support of the Poor abovesaid.

A Resolve of the Committee of Safety, relative to Soldiers who had enlisted a second time, was read, and committed to the Committee who were yesterday appointed to inquire into the subject of General *Washington's* Letter.

*Resolved*, That if this Committee is not ready to report to the Congress at its present session, that they be directed to report to the next General Assembly, or House of Representatives.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *Church*, Captain *Stone*, and Mr. *Woodbridge*, be a Committee to inquire into the subject of a Resolve of the Committee of Safety relative to Mr. *Winslow's* employing one *William Lightly* to carry a load of Molasses from *Connecticut* to *New-York*.

*Resolved*, That this Congress has no objection to Mrs. *Mary Greenwood* having a permit to go into *Boston*.

The Committee appointed to consider the circumstances of the Town of *Hull*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed by this Congress to consider of a request of a Committee from the Town of *Hull*, setting forth that they are now invested by an armed vessel, and expect that the communication between them and their neighbours will soon be cut off, beg leave to report the following Resolve, viz:

*Resolved*, That it be, and it is hereby accordingly recommended to the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Hingham*, and District of *Cohasset*, that they cause all convenient assistance to be given to the inhabitants of *Hull*, in removing their effects from that place, and securing and removing the crops of grain and other produce from said Town, to some secure place, for the use of the present proprietors of the same.

Mr. *Pickering*, by leave of Congress, presented the following Resolve in behalf of Captain *Samuel Williams*; which was accepted:

On an application made to this Congress, setting forth that a number of gentlemen at *Salem*, in this Colony, have employed Captain *Samuel Williams*, of that Town, to procure for them, at their cost, a number of barrels of Powder at *New-York*, or elsewhere to the southward:

*Resolved*, That the intention of those gentlemen is agreeable to this Congress; and that Captain *Samuel Williams* appears to be a friend to his country, and possesses the confidence of his Townsmen; and that if he executes his commission, it will be of great service to this and the other Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the persons employed in cutting the grass on the land of the Refugees, be allowed half a pint of Rum each per day.

Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Phillips*, and Colonel *Porter*, be a Committee to repair immediately to General *Washington*, and know of him what number of men he would have this Congress raise for a temporary re-enforcement of the Army; and to inform the General of the powers vested by this Congress in the Committee of Safety, and to confer with the General at large on the state of the Army, and in particular with respect to some soldiers of the Army who have enlisted twice.\*

\* The following Resolution is filed with the papers of this Congress:

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, *Watertown*, July 11, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be directed to wait on General *Washington*, and inform him of the powers with which the Congress have vested them; and that the Committee of Supplies remain possessed of all those powers they have heretofore had; and to confer with the General with regard to the circumstances of the Army, and to desire him to call in all that are out on furlough, and direct that all recruits be ordered to the camp as soon as made; and the said Committee are further directed to issue their order for calling in such a number of the Militia from the several parts of this Colony as the General shall request, not exceeding three thousand men, to remain in camp, subject to the regulations of the Army, till the several Regiments shall be recruited or filled up, or till the Congress, or some future General Assembly shall judge it safe to dismiss them; and the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of the Militia, so called, must bring in with them a good Firelock and a Blanket; and the Officers of the soldiers so called in, shall be paid for their services agreeable to the establishment already made for the Army; and each soldier and non-commissioned officer who shall be detained in said service more than . . . . . days, shall each of them so detained, be paid out of the publick Treasury twelve Shillings, over and above the established pay, in the room of a blanket.



*Ordered*, That the President, Col. *Palmer*, Mr. *Jewett*, Captain *Stone*, and Col. *Farley*, be a Committee to devise some means of raising speedily a temporary re-enforcement of the Army, and to bring in an Establishment.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Brown*, Mr. *Glover*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to procure three Couriers, by ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be empowered and directed to employ some person to number the Colony Notes.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Fox* and Mr. *Bigelow* be added to the Committee who were appointed to consider what was proper to be done with the publick stock of Powder.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lincoln* bring in a Resolve determining what is best to be done with the Whale-Boats.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Skilaber*, Mr. *Johnson*, and Mr. *Brown*, be a Committee to see that the Fish procured by the Committee of Supplies for the use of this Colony, be properly taken care of.

A Memorial of *William Hunt* was read, and ordered to lie on the table. The Memorial is as follows, viz :

"To the Honourable the Members of the Provincial Congress now sitting at WATERTOWN :

"*WILLIAM HUNT*, of WATERTOWN, in the County of MIDDLESEX, Gentleman, humbly shews :

That an order of the Congress some time since issued respecting the disposal of sundry articles, the property of Lady *Frankland*, which directed that the same should be delivered to the custody and safe keeping of such person as she should appoint. Agreeable to which direction she requested the same should be delivered to the care of your memorialist ; notwithstanding which order, the Selectmen of the Town of *Watertown* have taken the same into their hands, and will not deliver the same agreeable to said order : Wherefore, your memorialist prays a Committee may be appointed, to put the aforesaid order of Congress into complete execution. And, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

W. HUNT.

"Watertown, July 10, 1775."

Major *Barber's* Account was allowed, and the Receiver-General directed to pay it.

Colonel *Lincoln*, agreeable to appointment, brought in the following Resolve relative to Whale-Boats, which was accepted :

Whereas, the Congress some time past directed and empowered, in the absence of Captain *Joshua Davis*, Captain *Edmund Soper* to take care of a number of Whale-Boats, then lying in the River at *Braintree*, purchased by said *Davis* for the use of the Colony ; and as he hath procured and brought there a very considerable number more, which require his care and inspection, and as one person is sufficient to have the care of the whole of them ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That as Capt. *Davis* is now returned, Capt. *Edmund Soper* be excused from any care of said Boats, until further orders ; that he give information to said *Davis* where they are lodged ; and if he hath delivered any of them to the order of the officers in the Army, to whom they were delivered, in order to his receiving them into his possession, as soon as the publick service will admit of it.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, July 12, 1775.

The Committee appointed to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, relative to Mr. *Winslow's* employing one *William Lightly* to carry a load of Molasses to *New-York*, &c., reported the following Letter to Governour *Trumbull*, which was accepted, and ordered to be authenticated, and sent forward :

"May it please your Honour :

"The Brigantine *Nancy*, now in the harbour of *Stonington*, in *Connecticut*, being laden with molasses, the property of the late *Joshua Winslow*, of *Boston*, a noted and active friend to Administration, which, as we are well informed, is now directed to be conveyed to *New-York*, and from thence, as we conjecture from sundry suspicious circumstances, to be sent to *Boston* ; the master who has undertaken this business, being now in custody, having

given the information before mentioned : the Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay* beg leave to observe to your Honour, whether prudence and good policy do not suggest to detain said ship and cargo, or such part of it as belongs to said *Winslow*, for the use of the Colonies, rather than to suffer them to fall into the hands of General *Gage*, where they will be improved to the support of our enemies, and to augment the distress of these Colonies.

"We have the honour to be, &c.

"To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*."

*Resolved*, That said *William Lightly* be confined in *Concord* Jail, and that Mr. *Davis* be dismissed ; and that Mr. *Woodbridge* bring in a Resolve for this purpose.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Crane* and Mr. *Fox* make out Warrants for several Surgeons and Surgeons' Mates, agreeable to a list this day exhibited by Dr. *Taylor*, and that such Warrants, when made out, be transmitted to the Committee of Safety.

Mr. *Glover*, by leave of Congress, brought in a Resolve, recommending to such able-bodied men as have left their seaport Towns, to return ; which Resolve was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, many able-bodied men who were inhabitants of the seaport Towns of the Colony have removed their families into the country, and have themselves left said Towns, and carried with them their Arms and Ammunition ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That this Congress do approve of the conduct of such persons, so far as respects the removing the women and children, and valuable effects. It is recommended to the male inhabitants fit to bear arms, that they return to their respective Towns, and there continue, with that dignity and firmness which ought ever to distinguish an *American*, and to defend them from the ravages of the enemy, until it shall be judged by the inhabitants of such Towns, at a meeting for that purpose, expedient to vacate the same.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Taylor*, Captain *Stone*, and Colonel *Mosely*, be a Committee to consider the subject of a Letter from Captain *Noble*, dated *Pittsfield*, July 3, 1775, and report. The Letter is as follows, viz :

"Pittsfield, July 3, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN : Agreeable to your directions have transmitted to you the pay-roll of my Company when in the service of this Colony under Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, at the posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point* ; and as they are destitute of real necessities, they must have their pay. Have also transmitted you my account of moneys disbursed out of pocket, which am in the greatest want of.

"Pray the honourable Committee to use their influence that the bills be passed, and money transmitted me by the bearer, Mr. *William Barber*, whom you may confide in.

"I have received of Colonel *Arnold*, for which I gave him my receipt, twenty-seven Pounds, seven Shillings, and one Penny. This money I delivered to my soldiers, in part of their bounty.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

"JAMES NOBLE.

"To the Honourable *Walter Spooner*, Esq."

"Roll of Captain NOBLE's Company.—James Noble, Captain ; Joel Dickerson, Lieutenant ; Benjamin Coy, Ensign ; Nathaniel Hail, Sergeant ; Rufus Gun, Sergeant ; J. Hitchcock, Sergeant ; James Brattle, Sergeant ; Jeremiah Silvers, Corporal ; Daniel Jones, Corporal ; James Mills, Corporal ; Benjamin Gleason, Corporal ; Askball Stail, Drummer ; William Pilean, Isaac Stearns, Peter Fayns, Sol. Bartholomy, Nicholas Powers, Daniel Olds, William Little, Mark Noble, Shubael Demick, David Stough, Daniel Jass, Samuel Peacock, William Osborn, Moses Bartlett, Jacob Lathbone, Samuel Gittra, Noah Pangborn, Timothy Baker, John Grissell, John Briant, John Bedair, John Wood, David Gray, Gideon Sprague, Cornelius Mather, M. McGhaerson, Josiah Stail, Michael Holbrook, John Noble, Noah Pangborn, Jr., Jonathan Squire, Samuel Pangborn, Benjamin Grissell, Jr., Jacob Stockwell, John French, F. McCreate, John Ward, Joseph Ketchell, David Ketchell."

Mr. *Woodbridge*, agreeable to appointment, brought in the following Resolves, which were accepted :



*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to pay to Mr. *Jacob Bigelow* the sum of thirteen Pounds, for sundry Axes, Shovels, and Spades, and for procuring and carting the same for the use of the Army, agreeable to the directions of this Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay *Jonathan Brown* the sum of five Pounds, two Shillings, for sundry Axes, and for collecting the same, for the use of the Army, agreeable to the direction of this Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay Major *A. Fuller* seven Pounds, two Shillings, and eight Pence, for Axes, &c., as above.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay Deacon *Jonas Stone* the sum of eighteen Pounds, twelve Shillings, and eight Pence, for Axes, &c., as above.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay Mr. *Enoch Ellis* the sum of eight Pounds, three Shillings, and seven Pence, for Axes, &c., as above.

The Committee appointed to confer with the General relative to the number of men necessary to be raised for a temporary re-enforcement, reported a Letter from him,\* which was committed to the Committee appointed to devise means of raising such re-enforcement, to which Committee Colonel *Porter*, Mr. *Glover*, and Captain *Parker*, were added.

*Resolved*, That Dr. *Church*, Dr. *Taylor*, and Dr. *Whiting*, be a Committee to take into their custody all the Medicines, Medical Stores and Instruments which are or may be provided for the use of the Army of this Colony, and to dispense them at their best discretion, so that no peculation or needless waste be made of the Medicinal Stores belonging to the publick.

*Resolved*, That the President have leave to go home in the afternoon.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The Committee appointed to consider the situation of the publick stock of Powder, reported. The Report being amended, was drawn anew, accepted, and is as follows, viz:

This Congress taking into consideration the situation of the publick stock of Powder that is now in *Watertown*,

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committee of Supplies to make a division of said Powder into two or more parcels, as they shall judge requisite; that they deposit one part in this Town, and the remainder in such other Town or Towns as they shall think most expedient.

*Ordered*, That Col. *Lincoln*, Mr. *Gill*, and Captain *Stone*, be a Committee to examine fifteen persons taken prisoners at *Long-Island*, and sent to this Congress, by the Committee of Safety.

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Phillips*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to enlarge the commission of the Committee of Safety.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety, requesting this Congress to appoint a Special Committee to make provision for the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, was read. The matter, after debate, was ordered to subside.

The Report of the Committee, for devising means of raising a temporary re-enforcement, was taken into consideration, and after much debate, was recommitted, and Colonel *Palmer* and Mr. *Phillips* were added to the Committee.

The Committee appointed to examine the fifteen Pri-

\* HEAD-QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 12, 1775.

SIR: Upon a conference with the other Generals, respecting the Militia, it has been concluded that one thousand men, to be stationed in and about *Medford*, will be sufficient for the present service.

His Excellency has also directed me to request of the Congress in his name, that they would urge the Committees in the several Towns to forward and promote the new levies as much as possible, and that they would exert themselves to send to the camp such soldiers as have staid beyond their furloughs, or have left the service, and may be returned to their former homes.

I am, Sir, with much respect, your most obedient humble servant,  
JOSEPH REED, Secretary.

soners sent to the Congress by the Committee of Safety, reported, verbally, facts as they found them. Whereupon,

*Ordered*, That *Jonathan Winship* and *Jacob Whipple*, two of the prisoners, be discharged immediately; that *Jacob Davis*, another of the prisoners, be sent to the main guard at *Cambridge*, the Congress having great reason to suspect that he enlisted in, and deserted from the Army raised by this Colony, and that the officers of the guard be certified in writing of what crime the said *Jacob* now stands charged; that *John Freeman*, a negro man, said to be the servant of Mr. *Joseph Howett*, of *Newburyport*, be sent to the Jail at *Cambridge*, there to continue till further orders; that the other prisoners, with the said *Jacob* and *John*, be committed to Captain *Crafts*, to be kept under guard until further orders.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Brown* cause suitable provision to be made for the said prisoners.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Learned* be directed to charge the expenses of keeping Mr. *Likely*, and the guard that attend him, to this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller*, Mr. *Kollock*, and Mr. *Crane*, be a Committee to consider what is a proper establishment of Salt for the Army, and report.

The Committee appointed to consider a Letter from Captain *James Noble* to *Walter Spooner*, Esq., reported a Resolve and a Letter, which were accepted, and are as follow:

*Resolved*, That *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Receiver-General, be, and hereby is ordered to pay to Captain *James Noble*, or order, one hundred Pounds, as part of his payroll as Captain in Colonel *Benedict Arnold's* Regiment, in the late expedition against the posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, for the use of said Company.

SIR: We received yours of the 3d instant, by Mr. *William Barber*, together with your account of expenses, and a muster-roll of your Company, whilst in the service of this Colony under the command of Colonel *Benedict Arnold*; but before your account can be passed with propriety, it must be examined and adjusted by indifferent persons. Therefore, it is ordered that the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Pittsfield* be a Committee for that purpose; and it is further ordered, that you make oath to the truth and justice of your muster-roll, and see that the same be right cast; then charge yourself with the £27 7s. 1d. which you received of Colonel *Arnold*, as advance pay for your Company; also, with the one hundred Pounds now sent you by Mr. *Barber*, agreeable to your order; then return said roll and account; and when you comply with the above, you will receive the balance due.

To Captain *James Noble*.

Lieutenant *Zachariah Gurney* having conducted fifteen persons, who were taken at *Long-Island*, to this Congress, and the Congress having ordered eleven of them under a guard of this Town, and dismissed the other two, the said *Gurney* is discharged from further attendance.

The Report of the Committee on Mr. *John Gill's* Account was taken up, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

The Committee on the Account of *John Gill* beg leave to report, by way of Resolve, as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to pay to the within-named *John Gill*, the sum of six Pounds, seventeen Shillings, and eight Pence, in full of his services on several journeys, horse-hire, expenses, &c.

The Committee appointed to devise means for raising a temporary re-enforcement, again reported. The Report was amended, accepted, and is as follows, viz:

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, WATERTOWN, July 12, 1775.

Whereas the great accession of strength to our enemies, by the re-enforcement lately arrived, the extent of the ground we are obliged to defend against them, and the expectation we have of another attack, makes it absolutely necessary for the safety of this Country, that our own Army should be immediately re-enforced in a more expeditious manner than by filling up the Regiments already in the field by recruits in the common way of enlistments; therefore,

*Resolved*, That there be immediately called from the Militia in the several Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Hampshire*, *Plymouth*, *Worcester*, *Barnstable*, and *Bristol*, one thousand Men, to serve as a temporary re-enforcement, so long only as the General Assembly of this Colony shall judge the publick safety shall require them, in the following proportion, viz: *Suffolk* 75; *Essex* 75; *Middlesex* 175; *Hampshire*



175; Plymouth 75; Worcester 225; Barnstable 75; Bristol 125.—One thousand.

*Resolved*, That there be a Committee appointed to go into each of the aforesaid Counties, and there call together and confer with the commanding officers of the several Regiments, and settle the proportion allotted to each County, that shall be raised from each Regiment, in said County; and determine in what manner they shall be formed into regular Companies, and officered by some of the officers of the standing Militia, having, in settling the proportion, proper regard to the situation of said Regiment; that very few if any men be taken from the sea-coast, or very near it, which is exposed to the ravages of the enemy; and that the Colonel, or commanding officer of each Regiment, immediately use his utmost endeavours to cause his proportion of men, so allotted to them, to be raised and marched into the camp without delay, there to be subject to the orders and directions of the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, and the rules and regulations thereof, until they shall be discharged by the General, or the Assembly of this Colony.

*Resolved*, That the Companies consist of fifty men, including one Captain, two Lieutenants, two Sergeants, two Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer; and that they be paid according to the following establishment, for each month (consisting of thirty days) they shall remain in said service, and so in proportion for a less time than a month, viz: each Captain £6 10s.; each First Lieutenant £4 10s.; each Second Lieutenant £4; each Sergeant £3 5s.; each Corporal £2 19s.; each Drummer and Fifer £2 19s.; each Private £2 14s.

*Resolved*, That for the future there shall be no distinction between Minute-Men and the Militia in general, and that the Colonels of the several Regiments of Militia have the direction of the whole within the limits of their respective Regiments, as well those formerly inhabitants of some of the seaport Towns, and now residing in the Regiments aforesaid, as the other inhabitants.

*Resolved*, That the Field-Officers of each Regiment in this Colony return their names, and the Regiment they command, to the Secretary's office of this Colony, as soon as a Secretary shall be appointed.\*

*Resolved*, That the following Letter be sent to the several Towns:

*"To the Military Officers, Selectmen, and Committee of Correspondence in the Town of . . . . ."*

"GENTLEMEN: You are hereby most earnestly requested to procure the execution of the subsequent Resolve, with the greatest possible expedition.

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, July 12, 1775.

"Whereas, a very speedy augmentation of the Army is indispensably necessary, and has been requested by his Excellency General Washington, to serve as a temporary re-enforcement until the new levies now raising to fill up the Regiments in the field may be completed; therefore,

*"Resolved*, That it be, and it is hereby most earnestly recommended to the commanding officer of every Company in the Town of . . . . ., that they immediately raise and send to the camp at Cambridge . . . . . able-bodied men,† each provided with a good firelock, ammunition, and blanket; who shall be detained not longer than one month, at furthest, from the beginning of their march, and be paid honourably for their service, all due regard in the pay being had to the difficulty of complying with this requisition in the present urgency of the business of husbandry.

\*I have omitted the fragment which was copied on the Journal from an imperfect Report on file, and have inserted in place of it the above Resolutions, which are also on file.—F.

†Apportionment of the twenty Companies among the Towns in the several Counties:

Dedham, 22; Medfield, 6; Wrentham, 22.—Total 50.  
Needham, 8; Stoughton, 17; Stoughtonham, 6; Medway, 8; Bel-  
lingham, 5; Walpole, 6.—Total 50.  
Danvers, 11; Topsfield, 8; Boxford, 11; Bradford, 13; Middletown,  
6.—Total 49.  
Andover, 30; Haverhill, 18; Methuen, 10.—Total 58.  
Woburn, 17; Reading, 17; Stoneham, 3; Wilmington, 4; Lexing-  
ton, 6; Bedford, 4; Dracut, 5.—Total 51.  
Concord, 17; Billerica, 13; Chelmsford, 9; Tewksbury, 4; Stow,  
5; Acton, 4.—Total 57.  
Newton, 13; Natick, 4; Sherburn, 5; Weston, 5; Waltham, 8;  
Framingham, 13; Lincoln, 4.—Total 52.  
Marlborough, 20; Sudbury, 18; Hopkinton, 8; Holliston, 5.—Total 51.  
Littleton, 6; Westford, 8; Groton, 13; Shirley, 3; Pepperell, 6; Town-  
shend, 6; Ashby, 2; Dunstable, 5.—Total 49.  
Bridgewater, 33; Pembroke, 13.—Total 46.  
Middleborough, 30; Hanover, 9; Abington, 11.—Total 50.  
Taunton, 17; Easton, 8; Norton, 9; Dighton, 9; Mansfield, 5.—  
Total 48.  
Rehoboth, 27; Attleborough, 15; Rainham, 6; Berkley, 5.—Total 53.  
Worcester, 17; Leicester, 8; Shrewsbury, 13; Paxton, 5; North-  
bridge, 2; Spencer, 6; Upton, 4.—Total 55.  
Grafton, 8; Oxford, 8; Sutton, 17; Charlton, 8; Sturbridge, 10;  
Dudley, 6.—Total 57.  
Lancaster, 22; Harvard, 11; Hubbardston, 2; Leominster, 6; Bol-  
ton, 10.—Total 51.  
Brookfield, 22; Weston, 7; Brimfield, 9; South-Brimfield, 6; Mon-  
son, 5; Palmer, 5.—Total 54.  
Hardwich, 12; Greenwich, 5; Holden, 5; New-Salem, 5; Petersham,  
7; Athol, 4; New-Braintree, 8; Rutland District, 10.—Total 56.  
Sunbury, 11; Fitchburgh, 4; Westminster, 6; Ashburnham, 2; Win-  
chendon, 2; Templeton, 6; Royalston, 2; Princeton, 4; Rutland, 11;  
Oakham, 4.—Total 52.  
Southborough, 8; Westborough, 8; Northborough, 5; Mendon, 17;  
Uxbridge, 18.—Total 50.

"Those who are required from . . . . ., together with others who are called from . . . . ., will form one Com-  
pany, under the command of such officers as the Field-  
Officers of that Regiment from which the greatest number  
of said Company is taken, shall appoint. And the Field-  
Officers above mentioned, or the major part of them, are  
desired accordingly, without delay, to appoint one Captain  
and two Lieutenants, of persons who now are or have  
been in command, well calculated to serve the publick in  
these departments. By order of Congress:

"A true copy, Attest."

*Resolved*, That the Resolve passed this forenoon, recom-  
mending to able-bodied men, who have left their seaport  
Towns, to return, be reconsidered.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, July 13, 1775.

A Letter from General Washington's Secretary, dated  
nine o'clock, P. M., July 12, 1775, was read, and is as  
follows:

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 12, 1775, 9 o'clock, P. M.

GENTLEMEN: By some late intelligence from Boston,  
received this day, of the state and situation of the enemy in  
and about Boston, his Excellency the General is of opinion  
that the re-enforcement of Militia proposed to the Congress  
may be dispensed with at present, without any injury to  
the publick service. The time of harvest, the expected  
Troops from the Southward, and the repeated calls which  
have been made of the like nature from this Province, are  
strong reasons to postpone this measure, if consistent with  
safety. And as these advices are so authentick as to de-  
serve confidence, the General hopes his determination will  
be agreeable to the Congress. You will therefore, Sir, be  
pleased to communicate this to them, in order that the most  
early countermand may be given to orders, if already issued,  
or prevent them if they have not.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient hum-  
ble servant,

By his Excellency's command:

JOSEPH REED, Secretary.

To the Honourable James Warren, Esq., President of the  
Honourable Provincial Congress, Watertown.

In case of Mr. Warren's absence, or the dissolution of  
the Congress, this letter to be opened by the Committee  
of Safety.

JOSEPH REED, Secretary.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Resolves passed yes-  
terday, for raising a temporary re-enforcement, be reconsi-  
dered.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committees  
of Correspondence, and Selectmen in the several Towns,  
to forward and promote the new levies as much as possi-  
ble; and that they exert themselves to send to the Camp,  
immediately, such soldiers as have staid beyond their fur-  
lough, or have left the service without being discharged.

A Petition from the Selectmen and Committee of Harps-  
well was read, and committed to Mr. Johnson, Mr. Perry,  
and Deacon Baker.

The following Instructions, reported to be given Captain  
Davis, were considered:

Captain DAVIS:

SIR: You are hereby desired to repair to Stoning-  
ton, in Connecticut, and take charge of the Brig Nancy  
and cargo, lying in said harbour, upon receiving the con-  
sent of his Honour Governour Trumbull; to take account  
of said cargo, and make sale of such part or parts thereof,  
as shall be sufficient to discharge the portage bill, and such  
other incidental charges as may necessarily arise. You are  
then directed to secure the remaining part of said cargo  
in good and sufficient stores, at the place above mentioned,  
and to make a return of your doings to this Congress, or  
House of Representatives to be convened. Which cargo  
is to be appropriated to the use of this Colony, and to be  
draughted at the discretion of the Committee of Supplies.

By order of Congress.

After debate, the Report was ordered to be dismissed.

*Ordered*, That Captain Stone, Captain Baker, and Mr.  
Learned, be a Committee to consider to what Towns the ten  
Prisoners now under guard in this Town, shall be sent.



*Ordered*, That *Michael Edwards*, now under guard in this Town, be immediately discharged.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Phillips*, Colonel *Farley*, and *Mr. Kollock*, be a Committee to examine and consider an Account of *Mr. Solomon Lothrop*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lincoln*, Colonel *Porter*, and *Mr. Perry*, be a Committee to consider some method of supplying the recruiting officers with money for the purpose.

The Committee reported the following Resolve, which was accepted, viz :

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be, and they hereby are empowered and directed to give orders on the Receiver-General in favour of such officer or officers as are or shall be appointed as recruiting officers, not exceeding the sum of four Pounds to any one of them, and take their receipts for the sum they shall order to them respectively, which sum is to be deducted from their wages on the rolls being made up, unless otherwise ordered by a House of Representatives of this Colony; and the Receiver-General is hereby directed to pay said orders accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Resolve passed yesterday, directing the Receiver-General to pay Captain *James Noble*, or order, the sum of one hundred Pounds, be reconsidered, and that a Resolve be drawn by Captain *Stone*, directing the said Receiver-General to pay *Mr. William Barber* the said sum of one hundred Pounds, for the use of Captain *Noble*.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Stone* be appointed to the office of President of this Congress, in the absence of Colonel *Warren*.

Captain *Stone*, agreeable to his request, being excused from the office of President,

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Benjamin Lincoln* be appointed to officiate as President of this Congress, in the absence of the Hon. *James Warren*, Esq.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of the Selectmen and Committee of Safety of the District of *Harpswell*, reported, that the consideration of said Petition be referred to the General Assembly. The Report was accepted.

*Resolved*, That Lieutenant *Zachariah Gurney* be, and he hereby is directed to take into his custody *John Davis* and *John Freeman*, (a negro man,) and convey them to *Cambridge*, and deliver them according to the Resolves of this Congress respecting them, copies of which are to be delivered him, together with this Resolve.

Captain *Stone*, agreeable to the direction this day of Congress, brought in the following Resolve, which was accepted :

*Resolved*, That *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Receiver-General, be, and he is hereby ordered to pay to *Mr. William Barber*, for the use of Captain *James Noble*, one hundred Pounds, as part of said *Noble's* pay-roll as Captain in Col. *Benedict Arnold's* Regiment in the late expedition against the posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, for the use of said *Noble's* Company.

The Committee appointed to consider an Account of *Mr. Solomon Lothrop*, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to pay *Mr. Solomon Lothrop* the sum of twenty-four Pounds, six Shillings, and nine Pence, in full of his account exhibited this day, for entertainment provided for General *Washington*.

*Resolved*, That the Resolve passed yesterday, directing the Receiver-General to pay *Mr. John Gill* six Pounds, seventeen Shillings, and eight Pence, be reconsidered.

*Resolved*, That *John Davis*, one of the persons taken from *Long-Island* and brought under guard to this Congress, be remanded to the Commander-in-Chief of the American Forces at *Cambridge*, being suspected to have deserted from Captain *Foster's* Company in the Artillery, and engaged in the service of our enemies; that he be delivered, together with a copy of this Resolve, to such officer as the General shall appoint.

*Resolved*, That *John Freeman*, (a negro man,) one of the persons taken from *Long-Island* and brought under

guard to this Congress, be committed to the Jail in *Cambridge*, there to remain until he be discharged by order of this Congress, or some future House of Representatives, or by order of the Committee of Safety in case there is no Congress or House of Representatives then sitting; and the Jail Keeper is hereby directed to receive, detain, and provide for the said *John* accordingly.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Crane*, Major *Fuller*, and *Mr. Jewett*, be a Committee to consider a Resolve of the Committee relative to Horses this day presented to Congress.

The Resolve of the Committee of Safety, relative to such Soldiers as have enlisted twice, was read, and again recommended to Colonel *Porter*, Colonel *Mosely*, and Captain *Stone*.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Phillips*, *Mr. Kollock*, and *Mr. Robinson*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve, recommending to the inhabitants of this Colony not to kill any more Sheep till the General Assembly shall take some order hereon.

The Committee appointed to make an establishment of Salt for the soldiers, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, complaints have been made to this Congress, that there is now great want of Salt in the camps; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary be, and hereby is directed, when application is made by any of the officers for the abovesaid article, to deal out one gill per week to each person for which said application is made, and no more.

The Committee appointed to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, relative to several Horses taken from the enemy, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :

Whereas, four Horses were taken by Captain *Brown*, of *Salem*, and a party with him, at or near *Charlestown Neck*, and some disputes having arisen whose property said Horses should be; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said Horses be delivered into the hands of Captain *Brown* aforesaid, until the further order of this Congress, or some future House of Representatives of this Colony, to whom he is to be accountable for the same.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve, recommending to the inhabitants of this Colony not to kill any more Sheep, &c., reported. The Report was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Newspapers, and in handbills to be issued for procuring Coats, &c.

Whereas, there is the highest probability of a very large demand for the article of Wool, and inconceivable mischief may ensue from delaying a speedy provision for its increase; therefore,

*Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to the inhabitants of this Colony, that they refrain from killing any Sheep or Lambs, excepting in cases of absolute necessity, till the further order of this Congress, or some future Assembly of this Colony; and it is expected of every person who regards the advice of this body, the decisions of the Continental Congress, or the welfare of this people, that they grant a strict compliance herewith.

A Resolve was brought in on the Account of *Alexander Gray*, and accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to pay *Mr. Alexander Gray*, or order, two Pounds, seven Shillings, and eight Pence, in full for the balance of his account of time and expenses on a journey to *Philadelphia*, as an express to the Continental Congress.

A Resolve for payment of *Mr. Nathaniel Barber's* Account was brought in, accepted, and is as follows, viz :

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is directed to pay *Mr. Nathaniel Barber*, or order, four Pounds, fourteen Shillings, and four Pence, in full for one month's service as Storekeeper of the Ordnance, and expenses of horse hire, &c., agreeable to an account exhibited to this Congress by said *Barber*.

The Committee appointed to consider a Resolve of the Committee of Safety, relative to Soldiers who have enlisted twice, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz :



Whereas, many inconveniences have arisen, by reason of divers soldiers of the forces raised by this Colony enlisting a second time into other Companies than those which they first enlisted into, which ought to be remedied; therefore,

*Resolved*, That every soldier who, before the second day of *July* instant, has enlisted into other Companies than those with whom he at first enlisted, (unless the second enlistment was made with the consent of the officer with whom he at first enlisted, or by consent of the Committee of Safety, or order of Congress, in either of which cases the first enlistment shall be void,) shall return to the Company with whom he first enlisted, if requested by the commanding officer of such Company, otherwise to remain in the Company he next enlisted into; and in case any dispute shall arise whether any such second enlistment was made by consent or order as above expressed, the Committee of Safety are hereby empowered and directed fully and finally to settle and determine the same.

The Committee appointed to consider what Towns the ten Prisoners shall be sent to, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That the ten persons taken from *Long-Island* be sent to the Towns in the County of *Worcester*, hereafter named, viz: *John Hayes* and *Thomas Bibby* to the Town of *Lunenburg*, *James Griffin* and *John Reef* to *Rutland*, *Perez Merren* and *Michael Malony* to *Shrewsbury*, *Patrick Hickey* and *Richard Nash* to *Brookfield*, *Michael Mellows* and *John Fleming* to *Sutton*; to be received, employed, and provided for by the Selectmen of those respective Towns, in the best way and manner they can, till further order of this Colony.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Prisoners shall not be at liberty to pass over the line of the Town where they are respectively stationed, without a pass from the Selectmen of such Town, after they have arrived therein.

Further *Resolved*, That a copy of the foregoing, so far as relates to each Town, be by them carried to the Selectmen of such Towns; and that each of the above mentioned persons be informed, that any attempt to make an escape, or evade the execution of the above Resolve, shall be deemed full evidence of his being engaged in the service of the enemies of this Country, and that he shall be treated as such.

Further *Resolved*, That each of the said persons be furnished with two days' provisions, to enable them to repair to the several places of their destination, which provisions shall be delivered to them by Captain *Brown* out of the Colony stores in this place.

*Ordered*, That the President, Mr. *Phillips*, and Colonel *Porter*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Captain *Stone*, be a Committee to revise and explain the commission of the Committee of Safety.

The Committee appointed to revise the commission of the Committee of Safety, reported. The Report was accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esquire, Dr. *Benjamin Church*, Captain *Benjamin White*, Col. *Joseph Palmer*, Mr. *Richard Devens*, Mr. *Abraham Watson*, Col. *Azor Orne*, Hon. *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquire, *Nathan Cushing*, Esquire, Dr. *Samuel Holtén*, and Hon. *Enoch Freeman*, Esquire, be, and hereby are appointed a Committee of Safety for this Colony, with the powers and authorities hereafter expressed, and no other; that is to say, that the said Committee shall have full power, at any time during the recess of this Congress, if they shall judge it necessary, in the shortest and most effectual manner, to summon and cause to come together a quorum of this Congress, forty at the least to be accounted a quorum, at such place as the said Committee shall judge most proper; and in assembling such quorum, the said Committee are hereby strictly enjoined to notify such Members as may be most expeditiously assembled. Also, that the said Committee be, and they hereby are invested with full power, until the 30th day of *July* instant, or until their commission shall be abrogated by the representative body of the inhabitants of this Colony, upon application made to them therefor by the General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army in this Colony for the time being, or whenever the said Committee, without such application, shall judge the safety of

the lives and property of the inhabitants of this Colony, or of any of them, shall absolutely require it, to warn and cause to be assembled such and so many of the Militia thereof as they shall judge necessary, at such place or places within the Colony as they shall judge proper, and such Militia to retain and discharge as to the said Committee shall seem meet. Also, that the said Committee are hereby empowered, during the time last mentioned, to procure and employ for that part of the said Continental Army raised by this Colony all such Armourers and other tradesmen and artificers as they shall suppose and judge to be needed to further and promote the operations of the said Army and them, as also all such tradesmen and artificers as are now retained and employed for that part of the said Army to regulate, arrange, remove, dismiss, and discharge for unskilfulness, unfaithfulness, or whenever the service may not require the further retaining them, or any of them. And the said Committee are hereby desired to be attentive to the behaviour and performances of such tradesmen and artificers as are now or shall be in the service and employ of this Colony in the said Army, that the Colony be not defrauded by unfaithful and incompetent persons. And the said Committee are hereby authorized to execute all the commissions, and perform all the services which have been given them, and to which they have been appointed in and by any special Resolves of this Congress, made and passed at this session, which they have not yet executed and performed. And, furthermore, the said Committee are hereby empowered to make such further provision for the reception, sustenance, and support of the Poor of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, as have or may come out of said Towns, as may appear to be necessary for their comfortable subsistence, according to the intention of Congress, taking all imaginable care to guard against the infection of the small-pox by persons coming out of the Town of *Boston*, and any other means whatever.

And it is hereby *Resolved* and *Ordered*, That any five of said Committee, if a majority are not present, be a quorum, with full powers to act in the same manner as if the whole were present; and the whole of said Committee are desired, notwithstanding, to give their punctual and constant attendance on said Committee.

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be, and they hereby are fully empowered, until the 30th of *July* instant, or until their commission shall be abrogated by the representative body of the inhabitants of this Colony, to receive, examine, and discharge, or cause to be confined, according to their wisdom, any person or persons taken captive, that may properly come under the cognizance of the representative body of this people, and to receive and duly secure any interests or effects, the conduct whereof is not already provided for, that shall be at the disposal of this Colony. And all the powers with which the Committee of Safety were vested, by the Resolve of the 18th of *May* last, except such as are contained in the above Resolves, are hereby revoked, and declared null and void.

Afternoon.

*Ordered*, That Major *Fuller* of *Newton*, Col. *Farley*, Mr. *Crane*, Captain *Stone*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to examine the Prisoners brought from *Machias*, and report what is best to be done with them.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Mosely*, Mr. *Woodbridge*, and Mr. *Kollock*, be a Committee to consider Lieutenant *Ely Styles*'s Account of the expense of bringing ten Prisoners from *Machias*.

The Committee last mentioned having attended the service to which they were appointed, reported the following Resolve, which was accepted, viz:

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he is hereby directed to pay Lieutenant *Ely Styles* the sum of six Pounds, twelve Shillings, in full discharge of the money he expended in bringing a number of Prisoners from *Machias* to *Watertown*.

The Committee appointed to consider what is best to be done with the ten Prisoners brought from *Machias*, reported. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer of the Town of *Watertown* be desired to appoint some officer, with a guard of not more than eight men, to conduct the said Pri-



soners to the Jail in *Worcester* to-morrow morning; that Captain *Crafts* be desired to take care of the said Prisoners till that time, and that the officer who may be appointed to conduct said Prisoners to *Worcester*, be empowered to draw on Captain *Brown*, the Commissary in this Town, for so much Provisions as may be necessary for their support to *Worcester*, and Captain *Brown* is directed to supply them accordingly.

The Report above mentioned was reconsidered, amended, and accepted, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Skinner*, a seaman, *William Nurse*, a marine, *John Burrows*, a seaman, *Nicholas Durham*, a marine, *Peter Larcher*, a sailor, *Thomas Crispo*, *Joseph Temple*, sailors, *William Bishop*, a sailor, and *John Pardo*, a marine, Prisoners, all taken aboard the armed schooner called the *Margaretta*, commanded by *Matthew Moor*, near *Machias*, be all sent, under a proper guard, to the common Jail in the County of *Worcester*; and the Jail Keeper is hereby directed to receive them therein, and provide for them, and detain them there till the further order of this Congress, or the House of Representatives of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Phillips* be appointed to acquaint General *Washington* with the proceedings of this Congress, with regard to *Daniel Green*, lately conveyed to *Concord* Jail, and the reasons thereof, and desire his Excellency to take such further order concerning him as his wisdom may direct.

*Ordered*, That the President, Mr. *Gill*, and Mr. *Gerry*, be a Committee to return the thanks of this Congress to the Rev. Mr. *Gordon*, for his attendance and acceptable services to this Congress as their Chaplain.

*Ordered*, That the President, Mr. *Gill*, and Mr. *Gerry*, be a Committee to return the thanks of this Congress to the Proprietors of the Meeting-House, for the use of it during the session of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the present President, (Col. *Lincoln*),

Mr. *Gill*, and Mr. *Gerry*, be a Committee to return the thanks of this Congress to the Hon. *James Warren*, Esq., for his faithful services as President of the Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and hereby are directed, on application made by any of the inhabitants of the Eastern parts of the Colony, to grant them such relief out of the publick Stores as they may think proper, consistent with the general interest, during the recess of the Congress.

Whereas, the Hon. *Jedediah Preble* and the Hon. *Enoch Freeman*, Esquires, have employed some persons to build a number of Whale-Boats for the service of the publick; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Supplies be, and hereby are directed to deliver to Captain *Briant Morton*, or order, to be by said *Morton* delivered to said *Preble* and *Freeman*, such a quantity of Nails and Provisions, as they think will be necessary to complete the building said Boats.

The Congress then adjourned to *Wednesday* next, at eight o'clock, A. M.

Wednesday, July 19, 1775.

Colonel *Easton* being admitted, requested that a Committee be appointed to consider the necessity of drawing on the Treasury for the sum of twelve hundred Pounds, said to be due to his Regiment at *Ticonderoga*.

On a motion made, *Ordered*, That Deacon *Fisher*, Dr. *Taylor*, and Mr. *Gill*, be a Committee for that purpose, and that they be directed, in case they cannot report to this Congress, to make report to the next House of Representatives.

On a motion made and seconded, that the Congress be dissolved, the question was put, and it passed in the affirmative.

The Congress was accordingly dissolved.

SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary*.

#### LORD DARTMOUTH TO GENERAL GAGE.

London, July 1, 1775.

I am to presume that the measure of sending out a detachment of your troops to destroy the magazines at *Concord* was taken after the fullest consideration of the advantages on the one hand, and hazards on the other, of such an enterprise, and of all the probable consequences that were to result from it. It is impossible for me to reflect upon this transaction, and upon all its consequences, without feelings which, although I do not wish to conceal them, it is not necessary for me to express; but I believe every man of candour will agree with me in opinion, that, let the event be what it may, the rashness and rebellious conduct of the Provincials on this occasion evince the necessity, and will manifest to all the world the justice of the measures which the King has adopted for supporting the Constitution, and in which His Majesty will firmly persevere.

From the moment the blow was struck, and the Town of *Boston* invested by the rebels, there was no longer any reason to doubt of the intention of the people of *Massachusetts-Bay* to commit themselves in open rebellion. The other three *New-England* Provinces have taken the same part, and in fact all *America* (*Quebeck*, *Nova-Scotia*, and the *Floridas* excepted) is in arms against *Great Britain*, and the people involved in the guilt of levying a war against the King in every sense of the expression. In this situation every effort must be made, both by sea and land, to subdue the rebellion.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, TO HIS FRIEND IN VIRGINIA, DATED JULY 1, 1775.

The present disturbances in *America* are, as you may easily imagine, the topick of every conversation among all ranks and degrees of people. The measures of Administration are censured or approved, as they think well or ill of the present Ministry. The friends, the real friends to

*America*, wish they had acted in some instances with more temper, and less violence. The King is much to be pitied; he has an honest heart, and nothing would please him more than to see all his people easy and happy. He has warmly recommended conciliatory measures, and such, I am well assured, will be adopted; but whether they will be sufficient to allay the ferment on your side the water, time only will show. Thus much I can venture to assure you: No more troops will be sent over; more ships-of-war will be sent, to confine your trade to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *West-Indies*; but as soon as you allow a free export and import, all restraints will be removed, and business will run in the old channel. Taxing *America* will forever cease, and the King will be empowered to suspend the acts complained of. When he is once vested with this power, *America* (if the *Fates* have not otherwise determined) will be happy.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED JULY 1, 1775.

The spirit displayed by the conduct of all the Colonies, you may believe, gives great satisfaction to all the friends of *America*. To those who are acquainted with the genius and disposition of that people, it is no more than what was expected; but to the people of this Country who, from their cradles, have been taught to believe (by almost every occurrence that has happened within their own observation) that publick virtue does not exist, it still appears like a romance, which they cannot yet bring themselves to believe. The Ministry, however, have been stunned, and are not yet recovered from the blow. One time they proposed sending more troops, and embodying the militia, in order to supply their place at home; at another time it was proposed sending mercenaries from *Hanover*, but that idea seems to have subsided; now they talk of sending more ships-of-war, and sundry are actually ordered to be got in readiness, but whether they will sail or not I suspect will depend upon future deliberations. In the mean time, give



me leave to relate the substance of a conversation a friend of mine had with Lord *North* a few days ago.

His Lordship asked him what effect he thought his motion would have, when it came to be considered by the Congress? He told him he did not think it would have any; it was not calculated for them; it seemed rather designed for the different Assemblies, with a view, as he apprehended, of disjoining—the reverse of uniting them under one general head as in Congress. His Lordship disclaimed the idea of their having any intention to divide. He said he had no objection to their meeting in Congress; they had a right to meet together, and to consult, if they chose it, and it was impossible to prevent it. What he wished was, that they would take it under consideration, and recommend such things to the different Assemblies as might be attended with conciliatory effects. My Lord, says the gentleman, I cannot see that the motion itself contains any matter that can serve as a ground-work to go upon. It is no act of the Legislature; it contains no promise; it is not even the promise of a Minister, who to-day is, and to-morrow may be succeeded by one who may not think himself at all bound by the promise of his predecessor; it is not even a resolution of the House of Commons; it is no more than an opinion of a Committee of that House upon a future contingency; and your Lordship will pardon me when I observe, that the people of that Country have learnt to entertain such an idea of the disposition of the servants of the Crown to encroach upon the liberties of the subject—your Lordship will excuse me; I do not mean your Lordship in particular—but they dare not trust them. He declared he never entertained an idea of subduing *America*, properly speaking; if he had, he said, he should have sent a much greater force. What was sent was only what was thought sufficient to protect the friends of Government. But if the Colonies are determined to go on, let them. Let them apply to *France* or *Spain*; (these he seemed to think the only Powers who would afford them any protection;) let them see if they will treat them any better than we have done. We have it still in our power to distress their trade, which we most assuredly will do till they have made ample compensation for the expense and loss we have sustained on their account.

It would be easy to make a number of observations on the above discourse, the wheedling, cajoling, contemptible nature of which I think must strike you in the first instance. His Lordship dined yesterday, according to annual custom, with the *West-India* merchants, upon which occasions he generally affects to be joyous, but it was remarked that he was unusually dull. Lord *Dartmouth* the other day, with seeming great satisfaction, told a gentleman that there was a report in town that the Congress had taken Lord *North's* motion under consideration, which he hoped was true; but upon the gentleman's assuring him that the Assembly of *Pennsylvania* were actually voting money as their quota towards paying an *American* Army, which might be considered as a prelude to all the other Provinces doing the same, he seemed not a little disconcerted.

SOUTH-CAROLINA DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE, CHARLESTOWN.

Philadelphia, July 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By directions of the Continental Congress, we have sent the vessel by which this goes, to procure from you a quantity of gunpowder for the use of the armies actually in the field for the service of *America*. The frequent severe skirmishes in the neighbourhood of *Boston*, have so exhausted their magazines, that an immediate supply is absolutely necessary. We entreat you to purchase all that can be bought in Town, and to despatch this vessel with it for this place, as soon as possible, together with as much as can be spared out of the publick stock, without danger to your own safety. Should there be any damaged powder on hand, please send it also, as it may be recovered here.

By one of the resolutions enclosed to the General Committee, you will see that it is recommended to the Southern Colonies to secure all the saltpetre that can be got, as well from the stores as from private persons, which, as you have no powder-mills erected, or persons skillful in making gun-

powder, we would advise may be sent to be manufactured here. Should you be able to send more than four thousand weight of powder, we would wish the overplus might be sent by some other opportunity.

In order to prevent suspicion, we have sent . . . . bushels of *Indian* corn in this vessel, which may be exchanged for rice, in which the casks of powder may be concealed so, perhaps, as to prevent suspicion, should she unhappily be unable to avoid being overtaken by a cruiser. The utmost secrecy and despatch are absolutely necessary.

As large quantities of powder will be wanted, we strongly recommend that you continue to import all that you can, and think it probable that large quantities might be got from the Government of the *Havana*, as we can find no application there from any of these Colonies.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

HENRY MIDDLETON, J. RUTLEDGE,  
THO. LYNCH, E. RUTLEDGE.  
CHRIST. GADSDEN,

To Wm. Henry Drayton, Arthur Middleton, and Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, Esquires, Members of the Secret Committee at Charlestown.

Address delivered to the Inhabitants of a County in VIRGINIA, assembled for the purpose of choosing Deputies to represent them in Colony Convention.

Friends and Countrymen:

It is impossible that any People impressed with the least sense of constitutional liberty, should ever patiently submit to the enormous grievances under which we have already, in some respects, fallen, and with which we are likely to be much more oppressed; and accordingly we find our brethren and fellow-subjects in all the Colonies are pursuing such measures as are thought to be most likely to recover and secure our lost rights and privileges. Shall the people of this Colony, heretofore active, particularly in the time of the detestable Stamp Act, to oppose all attempts to deprive them of their personal security and private property, be now inactive and silent? Forbid it liberty! Humanity forbid it!

The several acts of Parliament made for ten years last past, relating to the *British* Colonies in *North America*, and their operation upon the property, liberty, and lives of the people in this country, and *America* in general, are too well known to many of you to require any enumeration or explanation; but many of you also have not the knowledge of these things, and are therefore ignorant of the danger in which you stand. To inform you of your unhappy situation, and to open your minds to a just sense of the dangers which threaten you, is, principally, the design of this address.

From the first settlement of the Colonies till about the year 1763, we had but little reason to complain of the injustice of our fellow-subjects in *Great Britain*. There were two or three instances, indeed, in which the Colonies were oppressed, under the notion of right to regulate our trade, and make us serviceable in commerce to *Great Britain*. Amongst these was an act of Parliament declaring that we should not erect any slitting-mills for the purpose of making nails in these Colonies; and we were forbidden to manufacture hats, to be sold amongst ourselves, under severe penalties. At that time, my friends, we only complained of the hardship and injustice of such an act; and, wanting the protection of *Britain*, looking upon our fellow-subjects there as friends and allies, we did not erect any more slitting-mills for making nails; and hats were manufactured only by a few individuals, to a very small extent, and sold within the respective Colonies. Thus did they attempt to restrain our manufactures in the only instances wherein they thought us at that time likely to succeed to the injury of the *British* manufacturer, intending thereby to compel us, through necessity, to apply to them for even the necessaries of life, and to pay them, by our labour, the prices they might think proper to lay on them.

Another instance of oppression was that of establishing a Post-Office in these Colonies, and thereby seizing, in effect, the private property of individuals here who had engaged in that business. By that act, all letters coming from *Great Britain*, or otherwise circulating through these Colonies, are liable to be seized by the Postmaster ap-



pointed to that office, and subjected to a tax to be paid before the delivery of them; and part of the money arising from this tax is applied towards the support of the office, and the balance sent to *Britain* to be disposed of by Government there.

Although the effects of that act are not universally felt amongst you, yet it is an instance of oppression which all are more or less subject to who are concerned in trade, or have any intercourse with men at a distance from them. And I mention this to show you, that if you are not oppressed by this law, it is because your circumstances in life are such that you have but little to do with letters, and the officers are not generally so strict in the performance of their duty as the law requires them to be. But surely, my friends, you cannot but be sensible, that if, as in this instance, the *British* Parliament have a right to make a law to seize your effects, and keep them from you until you pay a tax to redeem them, you must be in a wretched condition whenever Parliament shall think it proper to extend this authority to things which may more essentially and more immediately affect all ranks and degrees of people in these Colonies. That act has hitherto been suffered to be executed, because the people who are most affected by it are traders in some respects, and often receive an advantage in having speedy and regular intelligence from their various correspondents in different parts of the world; and they were unwilling to differ with their fellow-subjects in *Britain* concerning a thing which seemed to be intended for the benefit of both. The great inconvenience, therefore, of that act, is principally this, that it has taken out of the hands of people in these Colonies a business they were engaged in, and which might be carried on with the same advantages to commerce, whilst the money arising from that tax would be the property of people here, and not be applied to the purposes of Government in *Britain*; and farther, that it is declaratory in its consequences, of a right to take our property from us whenever the people of *Britain* shall be inclined to do so.

And let us, my fellow-subjects, consider the consequences which followed our submission to those acts, even in the manner above-mentioned. Not satisfied with the advantages they received from their trade with the *American* Colonies—a trade so circumscribed, that it was morally impossible for us to procure more than the mere necessities of life by the produce of our labour exported to *Britain*—they no sooner found us in a condition to export a large proportion of grain and other commodities, not requisite for the *British* markets, to foreign countries, (which, if permitted, might be of advantage to *Britain*, by enabling us to pay for, and consequently to consume more of their manufactures,) than they indulged us with the liberty of carrying our grain, and some other articles, to particular markets, but with this restriction, that we should not import such goods as were to be had from *Britain*, and that we should carry whatever articles they did permit us to receive, into *Britain* first, and pay a duty there. However, as this regulation amounted almost to a prohibition of such articles, and they were likely not to receive such advantages as they at first expected, we were at length allowed to bring them immediately into these Colonies, on paying to the officers of the Customs here a very high duty, to be disposed of by Government in *Britain*; hence proceed the duties we pay at this day on wines, coffee, molasses, &c., &c.; all which duties are not applied to the support of Government in these Colonies, but increase the revenue of *Great Britain*, and enable them to maintain standing armies in *America*, to secure the execution of their laws, under the denomination of guards and garrisons to protect us and our property.

Another instance of oppression is the extending the jurisdiction of the Courts of Admiralty, with pains and penalties heretofore unknown. In this Court we are deprived of our trial by jury, and must submit to the decision of a dependant party judge, whose emoluments of office arise from his condemnations; and although we may be released from the prosecution, we must still suffer the injury and oppression brought upon us by the iniquitous prosecutor, who is exempted from the damages we sustain by means of an unjust prosecution.

The suspending the legislative power of *New-York*, until their House of Burgesses rescinded or blotted out a vote

they had passed declaring their right to the same freedom which the people of *Great Britain* enjoy, and complied with an arbitrary requisition to provide for troops, is another capital instance of the tyrannical disposition of the *British* Parliament towards *America*.

All these things and many more have we known, to convince us that the *British* Parliament have not viewed us with the eye of brotherly love and affection, but with a determination to make us subservient to our fellow-subjects in *Britain*, in all cases whatever, and our condition as wretched as that of slaves.

The detestable Stamp Act furnishes us with another memorable proof of the injustice and tyranny they had prepared for us; and I thank the *God* of heaven and earth, who permits the wicked sometimes to provide torments for themselves, that of his gracious mercy to us he suffered that act to be passed, which opened our eyes, and made us behold the slavery intended for three millions of people. Let us return thanks to Him, my countrymen, for his great mercy; and let us look up to Him for protection in the day of our distress.

The consequences that would have attended a submission to that act, you are better acquainted with than with those which have arisen from all the other acts I have mentioned. The reason is plain. You were told by Parliament that you must pay a tax on every instrument of writing used in these Colonies; that you must pay a tax on painters' colours, oil, glass, and paper, which you were obliged to import from *Great Britain*. This was a doctrine none of us could misunderstand. By this all were affected, and so sensibly too, that it was like drawing the vital blood from our veins. By that act our money was demanded, and we were reduced to the necessity of paying or resisting. We resisted. The happy effects of our opposition you cannot have forgotten, and our method of resistance must still be fresh in your memories. We shut up our Courts; we associated; we refused to buy their goods: they took off the taxes. Were the Parliament actuated in this respect by principles of justice and regard to us? No, my countrymen, they were not. They saw the impropriety of their conduct, not in having taxed us, but in the mode of taxing us. They perceived their inability at that time to enforce submission to a law against which they had not expected any opposition. They had attacked all ranks and degrees of men in these Colonies, and had met with a sudden, unexpected, and violent opposition. The clamours of their merchants, tradesmen, and manufacturers, contributed also to the repeal of those duties, as they were immediately affected by the opposition. But let us examine this repeal a little farther. Did they take off all the duties upon *British* merchandise imported into these Colonies? Did they relinquish the right of taxing us? No. We find that they reserved a duty on the article of tea, trifling indeed as to the sum, but fatal in its consequences to our liberty and property. We find at this time, also, they passed another act declaring their right to tax us; to regulate our trade; to prevent our manufacturing, or, in their own words, "to bind us in all cases whatsoever." What! shall we then receive our laws from people at three thousand miles distance from us, ignorant of our situation and circumstances in life, and not bound by the same laws? Shall we, like poor, abject slaves, tamely give up our liberty, which our forefathers handed down to us, and suffer our property to be taken from us at the will and direction of a *British* Parliament? Shall we subject ourselves and our posterity to be driven by our masters to such employments as they shall allot for us? To have our looms, our spinning-wheels destroyed, whenever they shall think we manufacture too much cloth? I wait your answer. But methinks I see the blood of true *Britons* swelling your veins, and hear you cry, with one voice, we will be free.

Let us consider, then, my countrymen, what it is we are to do. You are told that the present dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, is concerning the duty on tea. It is so. Perhaps some of you may now tell me it is a dispute with which you have nothing to do, as you do not make use of that commodity, and the duty cannot affect you. But you will go farther, perhaps, and tell me that the *high-minded gentlemen* are the occasion of the present confusion, and are bringing you into difficulties to support their extravagance and ambition. Let me entreat



you, my fellow-subjects, to reflect a moment on your situation. Is it possible you can be so blind to your real interests as not to perceive the oppression daily coming upon you from *Britain*? Can you suppose the gentlemen of all *America* would be so mad as to risk their lives and fortunes merely to save the trifling duty of three pence per pound on tea? Are not the gentlemen made of the same materials as the lowest and poorest amongst you? And do you suppose they cannot, they would not refrain from the use of that article, if that would procure the safety of these Colonies? Have you found, in the course of your observations, that the gentlemen (as they are styled) are so very frugal and saving of their money, as to bring themselves into the smallest difficulty for so small an advantage? No, my countrymen, you have not. Deceive not yourselves, then, nor let others deceive you. Listen to no doctrines which may tend to divide us, but let us go hand in hand as brothers, as fellow-sufferers in the same cause, firmly united to defend our rights and liberty, and to preserve freedom to our posterity. Fortunes we may not leave them, but we shall be despicable indeed, if we tamely suffer them to become slaves.

But let us reflect again on the nature of this dispute. The *British* Parliament, when they repealed the Stamp Act, did not give up the right of taxing us; they reserved the duty on tea, and declared by an act that they had a right to bind us "in all cases whatsoever." The plain meaning of this declaration is, that we must either submit to such impositions as they may hereafter think proper to burden us with, or they will not suffer us to make use of our property. In this situation we have been unmindful of the necessary means of defence, whilst they have been preparing to execute their laws upon us.

Having reserved the duty on tea, the consumption of that article has been lessened near two-thirds, to the great injury of the *East-India* Company of Merchants in *Great Britain*. As Parliament had been the cause of this injury, the Minister was determined not only to redress them, but at the same time to carry the favourite plan of taxing *America* into execution. An advantage is then offered to the *East-India* Company, which by law they had not been entitled to, of sending their tea immediately to *America*. This measure being adopted by them, the Minister vainly hoped to find us submitting openly to this tax; as, notwithstanding the duty, we should receive the tea on cheaper terms. If this measure should not succeed, he was then prepared to carry the declaration of Parliament into force, and procure such other oppressive laws to be made, as might lay us in the deepest distress, and compel us to submit.

In this manner, my countrymen, were the distresses of the people of *Boston* brought upon them. The *East-India* Company sent ships loaded with tea to different parts of *America*. They sent tea to *Boston*. In all other parts they suffered it to be landed and stored, or it was agreed to carry it back to *Britain*. At *Boston* they refused to carry it back, and the people would not suffer it to be landed, well knowing that if it was, the duty would be paid by the Company's agents, and the tea sold, if not in *New-England*, to the other Colonies in *America*. They remonstrated against the landing of the tea; they waited many days patiently for a satisfactory determination; the officers of the Customs refused to suffer the ship to return; the men-of-war determined it should not pass; and by these circumstances were they reduced to the necessity of throwing the tea into the water, as they attempted to land it.

Although the law of nature and self-defence in all such cases, does justify their conduct, yet the dispute is not now about the price of the tea, but the duty on that tea. It is not the sum of ten thousand Pounds, which was the value of the tea, that the people of *Boston* and all *North America* are contending with *Britain* for, but it is our right to freedom to dispose of our property when we have acquired it. If paying for the tea was the condition on which our rights should be restored, and on which our property might remain secure, all *America* would not engage in this dispute. But this is not the case. Parliament will not be satisfied with that, but have determined that we shall submit to their laws and to their taxes.

And let us now inquire what methods they have taken to oblige us to submit. Punishments should always be

proportioned to crimes, and where the laws direct the punishment, no power can go beyond it. This is the security we boast of under our free constitution of Government; and it is our invaluable privilege to make these laws. The power that deprives us of this privilege makes us slaves. What, then, is the conduct of Parliament towards us? They will not be satisfied with payment for the tea, but farther insist that we shall submit to whatever laws they make. To compel us to do this they dissolve our Assemblies; suspend our Legislatures; block up the Town of *Boston*; deprive upwards of thirty thousand inhabitants of the means of subsistence; seize their wharves, &c., to the amount of two hundred thousand Pounds, which, by the act, are never to be restored to them, although they should submit to all that is required by that law. They have altered the Charter of *Massachusetts-Bay*, which is an agreement between the people of that Province and the King, in writing, under his seal; and have passed an act empowering the Governour to seize the persons of such as do not conform to all things required by their laws, and to send them where he shall think proper, (even to *Britain*,) to be tried for their supposed offences, where, destitute of friends and money, they will fall unhappy victims to the avarice of corrupted judges, and the rapaciousness of merciless tyrants. Many more things of like tendency are they now preparing for all *North America*.

To you, then, my countrymen, to all of us, does it belong to take such measures as shall prevent their wicked designs, and secure our lives, our liberty, and property. On the virtue and courage of the people of these Colonies does it depend whether we shall be happy or miserable in this world, and enjoy in peace and quietness the fruits of our labour. Your Representatives in General Congress have planned the measures of resistance; on your courage and virtue do they rely for support in the execution of them. Let us, then, my countrymen, go hand in hand; let us have one voice; let us convince mankind that we are, as one man, actuated by one soul; and that if we are not, we still deserve to be free.

The mode of opposition recommended to us is an union and association of the Colonies, to break off all commercial intercourse with *Great Britain*, unless our grievances shall be redressed. And why is this plan recommended to us? Surely because it is, of all others, the most safe, speedy, and effectual we can embrace, to restore that harmony to *Britain* and the Colonies we profess to desire. Rashness and violence can never avail us in the execution of this plan, and therefore we should avoid every conduct tending to so destructive an end; for how can this Association be observed, unless we establish arts and manufactures? How is it possible these should succeed, without peace, order, and the security of our property? And how can these be preserved, unless we discourage every kind of violence, by promoting a due respect for the laws of our country, as far as our unhappy circumstances will admit of it. The principles of the ever-glorious Revolution will always justify a suspension of the laws under like circumstances, but we should never enforce these principles, unless compelled thereto by extreme necessity. Prudence and moderation will give weight to our measures, whilst a contrary conduct will only serve to disunite us, and consequently to involve us in confusion. This is a doctrine which every friend to liberty and his country will inculcate, and on this will the success of our present undertaking chiefly depend. But whilst I recommend to you a temperate conduct, I would not have you to neglect that provision for your safety which the urgency of the case requires. On the contrary, I would advise you to look forward to every contingency, and be prepared for "mournful events."

COMMITTEE OF YORKTOWN (PA.) TO PENNSYLVANIA DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

Yorktown, July 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We had the honour of receiving your favour of the 15th ultimo, enclosing a resolve of the honourable Continental Congress of the 14th ultimo. We immediately summoned the Committee of this County, and laid before them your letter, &c. The Committee proceeded to the choice of officers fit to be recommended



to the Congress, to command the company of riflemen to be raised, and appointed six Commissioners to provide necessaries for them. Every resolve passed in Committee with the greatest unanimity, and the gentlemen of *Yorktown*, after the meeting, dispersed themselves through the County, and assisted the officers in recruiting.

The spirit of the people on this occasion gave the Committee infinite pleasure. The men seemed actuated with the greatest zeal, and thought themselves honoured in having their names enrolled among the Sons of Liberty, who are to fight for their Country, and in defence of their dearest rights and privileges. The only uneasiness they feel is, that they are not at this moment at the scene of action. From the spirit of the soldiers, we entertain the most flattering hopes that they will prove serviceable to the cause of liberty, and reflect honour on this Country.

The principal people here have caught the spirit of the honourable Congress, and in their small circle have done every thing in their power to animate their neighbours to stand forth in this day of despotism, and resist the arbitrary and unjust measures of Parliament with all the power which Heaven has given them. And we have the pleasure to inform you that their labours have not been in vain, and that the County is ready to strain every nerve to put into execution any measures which the Congress may judge necessary to our common defence.

The officers we take the liberty to recommend to you are, Captain *Michael Dowdle*, Lieutenants *Henry Miller*, *John Dill*, and *John Watson*. They are men whose courage we have the highest opinion of. The company, including officers and soldiers, are beyond the number fixed for this County, and as General *Gates* thought it improper to discharge any, we have sent them all.

We request the favour of you that proper care be taken that none are draughted out of their company into another. This is the request of the inhabitants of this County, many of them having their dearest friends engaged in the service, and would not by any means have them taken from their present officers.

We hope no alteration will be made in the officers. The Captain has behaved very well on this occasion, and has done all in his power, by advancing money, &c., to forward the important common cause.

Mr. *Miller* is known to some of you, gentlemen. The other officers are men of worth and property; they have all wives and families, and are entitled to the warmest thanks of their Country.

The Commissioners appointed to provide necessaries for the men, will forward their accounts as soon as they possibly can.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

JAMES SMITH, JOSEPH DONALDSON,  
GEORGE IRVIN, THOMAS HARTLEY,  
JOHN KEAN, MICHAEL HAHN.

To the *Pennsylvania* Delegates in Congress.

P. S. The company began their march the nearest road to *Boston* this day.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, Saturday, July 1, 1775.

SIR: I do myself the honour to advise your Excellency that the *Connecticut* Troops that arrived in this Colony, under the command of Brigadier *Wooster*, are encamped within two miles of this Town. I have not yet had a return of their numbers; as soon as my order for that purpose is complied with, I shall transmit it.

I enclose you, Sir, a copy of the resolutions of the honourable the Continental Congress, of the 27th ultimo. I shall prepare, with all possible despatch, to carry into execution their views, and propose leaving this for *Albany*, in my way to *Ticonderoga*, on *Monday* next.

Eight transports with troops, that have been at *Sandy Hook* since *Thursday* last, are to sail from thence to-day. Reports prevail that the men on board have mutinied; that they refused to go to *Boston*. Of this, however, I have not been able to get any certainty. Handbills have been introduced amongst them to encourage them to quit, on the first favourable opportunity, a service which must render them odious to all honest men.

Governour *Tryon's* conduct has hitherto been unexceptionable, and from the information I have been able to procure, (some of which I put great confidence in,) I have reason to believe that the line he has chalked out for himself is such as we could wish he should hold.

I believe the commissions for this department were already forwarded to you before my letter (in obedience to your order) to the Congress on that subject arrived. If they are to be sent back, I beg of you to order them to be directed to the President of the Provincial Convention here.

No preparation has as yet been made to occupy a post in the Highlands. By what I can learn, the Provincial Convention have doubts about the propriety, (which they have or mean to state to Congress,) arising from the want of ammunition to maintain the post after it shall have been completed.

A ship from *London*, in five weeks, advises that the Remonstrance sent by the Assembly of this Colony to the House of Commons has been rejected by them, as containing sentiments derogatory to the rights of Parliament. This manœuvre has already had salutary effects; many whose sentiments are friendly to *America*, but who differed as to the mode of procuring redress, now publicly declare that they will no longer sit idle spectators of their Country's wrongs. That success and happiness, equal to the merits and virtues of my General, may crown all his operations, is the wish of every honest *American*, and by none more sincerely than me.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

His Excellency *George Washington*, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies.

EDWARD FLEMING TO PRESIDENT OF NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, July 1, 1775.

SIR: I was yesterday congratulated by a member of your body on being appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel to Colonel *Clinton's* battalion, for *Ulster* County. I beg, Sir, to return my thanks to the Congress for the notice they have been pleased to take of me; but as I have a family resident in Town, and as all my property (which is by no means inconsiderable) lies in this City and County, I conceive that my presence is absolutely necessary for their preservation and safety, and that it would be extremely imprudent in me to leave them, and go to *Ulster* County, for the purpose of superintending the raising and disciplining troops, &c., for Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment. These, with other considerations, Sir, induce me to decline the acceptance of the appointment. When the day of trial comes, and that I have secured my family in some place of safety, I shall not be slack in proving myself a man, and good citizen, and be ready to go wherever the exigency of affairs may require, for the preservation of our common rights and privileges. In the mean time, shall not be wanting to the publick in rendering such services as my small abilities will afford.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, Sir, yours and the Congress's most obedient and very humble servant,

EDWARD FLEMING.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esquire.

S. SP. SKINNER TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD . . . .

New-York, July 1, 1775.

MY LORD: From a real principle of loyalty, benevolence, and love toward *Great Britain* and *America*, and through the confusion and criticalness of the times, am induced to trouble your Lordship with the following extract of a letter. The sending of additional troops to *America*, and the new acts of restraint, manifestly appears compulsive, and, for the present, I am afraid, have disconcerted and unhinged a conciliatory proposition respecting a revenue; but independency and rebellion are disclaimed; self-defence not. Plundering and burning of houses and Towns is infamous, and certainly must very much obstruct the granting an *American* revenue to the King.

In all probability both Countries (and the *West-Indies*) will be ruined; *Great Britain*, especially, and her troops



worsted and disgraced in *America*. I know the value of *British* disciplined troops, but a thousand *American* gun-men, on their own intricate, advantageous ground, it is likely, at any time, will defeat a large number of any *European* Troops.

Your Lordship will find that I speak from actual experience, having travelled for observation and information through all the Provinces, nearly, and carefully noted the militia and people. They make the most useful guns in *America*, and upon a moderate computation, have now about four hundred thousand *British* and *American* made guns of the common size, including a large quantity of rifled barrels, much cannon and ammunition, and can, with amazing expedition, if forced thereto, embody fifty thousand disciplined troops, mostly used to the woods and hunting, with thirty thousand irregulars to assist occasionally, and who will do surprising execution. *Americans* cannot want men, or paper money, ever in human appearance, and are an active, prudent people—moderate, but with astonishing resolution and courage, and expert gun-men from their youth, and whose women breed them plenty of soldiers in this climate.

No respectable body of people, my Lord, of either Catholics, Churchmen, or Dissenters, in *America*, will ever agree to any measures but either requisition, or a free voluntary revenue. All the Colonies are fixed in unanimity, and unanimous in those points. *Americans* will cleave together undivided; those that tell otherwise are deceivers (*intentionally*) that would absolutely ruin Government, and are not to be credited in the smallest degree. The most eligible plan is, to try their free, voluntary generosity. May *God* interpose. Suspending the restraining acts, and withdrawing the extra men-of-war and extra troops immediately, in time, before desertion, sickness, and winter advances—that is, excepting only the customary number of regiments in usual places, for it evidently appears that they can act only to disadvantage in this Country, consequently must (if *God* permit) end in disappointment and disgrace to *Britons*; *Americans* to have their Continental Congress annually, or as occasion may require; and to proportion their revenue themselves, for no other people can possibly measure, or truly judge of their ability; *Britain* to repeal all the *American* Acts, except those existing at the conclusion of the last war. All affairs then, and not till then, will be peaceable, happy, and well for the civil and religious constitutional rights and liberties of *Great Britain*, and her Empire in *America*.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,  
S. SP. SKINNER.

"The extract, dated NEW-YORK, June 8, 1775.—My field of view never extended beyond the line of endeavouring to prevent an arbitrary unconstitutional mode of raising a revenue; an unconstitutional tax or duty, or a compulsive revenue, I certainly will reprobate to the hour of my death, but a free voluntary revenue toward support of Government at large, I shall think it my duty to promote; for, as it is a well known truth, that a people who are taxed without their consent, can have no property which they can properly call their own; so, in the contrary scale, and by a parity of experimental reasoning, it is equally true, that without Government is steadily fixed on a broad substantial bottom, we can then, in either case, have no property which we can safely call our own.

"The ministerial proposition for a reconciliation (as it now stands) is compulsive, and in part inadmissible, but it doth not appear prudent or polite to reject the whole of it; yet it ought immediately to be stripped of its abstruse and complicated drapery—the proposition ought to be rendered plain, and modelled exactly to the Constitution. There doth not appear the least doubt but the rough plan may be polished; I think it might be fashioned and improved so as to give quietness and full satisfaction to every reasonable person in *Great Britain* and *America*; but it doth not seem advisable, or useful, for any Assembly to take up the proposition disjunctively, but by the honourable Continental Congress, who, no doubt, will return proposition conciliatory, for proposition received.

"*America's* favourite plan of requisition is a very good one, provided a difference of times and circumstances doth not alter the case. The good old King *George* the Second

was constrained to conform to the fashion of those times, and to renew his civil list annually by requisition from his Parliament; but his present Majesty, in that point, is furnished out with more consequence, and not in the same predicament; the King hath his civil list of eight hundred thousand pounds per annum, established by Parliament during life, with an addenda in course of two or three hundred thousand pounds more, which *leaveth* less room for requisition; so that notwithstanding it was eligible, and a very proper mode for *America* with *George* the Second, it is now rather ineligible and out of fashion with *George* the Third.

"In lieu of requisition, suppose we should copy the *British* Parliament, and (waiving punctilios) do, ourselves, honourably propose a moderate voluntary revenue, suitable to our circumstances, to be forwarded in country produce (as we have but little or no hard cash) as a free gift from all the Provinces in *America* conjunctively; and presented annually to the Crown for life, in addition to His Majesty's civil list establishment, provided the extra Troops are withdrawn immediately, and the damage made good to *Boston*, &c.; and the tea act, and all the accursed acts that sprung from its root are previously repealed; and all our oppressive acts to be repealed. Even all the acts, excepting those of navigation, and a very few others, may conveniently and reputably be laid aside, in consequence of our politically offering, and rightly timing for greasing the wheels of Government, or granting a free voluntary revenue, in proportion to our small ability, and also in further consideration of extra expenses in supporting more of our own civil establishments.

"This mode of procedure, or something analogous, I apprehend would preserve entire (and in no degree violate) the true constitutional liberty of *America*, by steering clear as possible of the inconveniency of the *British* Parliament; it would give additional consequence to His Majesty, and, at the same time, would have a strong tendency to quiet our enemies at home, as it would exhibit to the deluded *Britons* a striking specimen of *American* politeness and generosity. It is really true policy, and would ease those our industrious brethren (who labour hard and die poor) a small proportion in their excessively burdensome duties and taxes; for they are annually obliged, every session of Parliament, to make provision for some material deficiency in the civil list establishment.

"As it appears possible, and very probable, that the main substantial end can be accomplished, and that completely at this juncture, with great honour, and without any further accumulated destruction of blood and property, let me most earnestly entreat that we may warily regard the important matter immediately, agree to a cessation of hostilities, and by every possible, honourable means, negotiate to evade involving and continuing the destructive contest, respecting any particular construction of words, or singular mode to accommodate and finish the perplexed subject in dispute. Let us negotiate, and meet the *British* Ministry at the threshold of their opened door, and return a proposition conciliatory for their proposition; but let us cleave together to the Constitution for ever; and when our lives, &c., are villanously attacked, we are undoubtedly in every respect justifiable in effectual resistance and self-defence. And may it please *God* to grant happiness, and constant success to us in the event thereof.

"S. SP. SKINNER.

"N. B. Altercation may ensue; but your Lordship's good sense will easily discriminate truth and honesty from sophistry and falsehood."

#### DECLARATION OF JAMES BALL.

Warwick, July 1, 1775.

Whereas I, the subscriber, an inhabitant of the Town of *Warwick*, hereby humbly acknowledge that I have given great offence to the Committee of Correspondence, and other leading men, and all the inhabitants of said *Warwick*, by my past misconduct, in casting reflections on the Congresses, and not giving or even trying to give satisfaction to the Committee of Correspondence of said *Warwick*, when requested agreeable to the Congress; for which I am heartily sorry, and humbly ask forgiveness. I hereby heartily agree to abide by all the doings and resolutions of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, as long as the major part of



the people on the Continent, and the inhabitants of this Province, choose members to attend on such Congresses respectively, and to aid and assist the people of this Province in defence of our rights against a tyrannical system of the *British* Administration, and to resist the King's Troops, and defend the rights of *America* now in contest, even to life and fortune.

JAMES BALL.

GEN. FOLSOM TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Camp on Winter Hill, July 1, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Being obliged, for want of proper tents, to quarter Colonel *Poor's* Regiment in Barracks at *Medford*, which has created me much trouble and difficulty, they being a mile and a half distant from camp, last evening eighteen men, under the command of Captain *Rove*, deserted; which might have been prevented, had they been regularly encamped. The reason, I understand, which they assigned to their Captain, before they deserted, (he not giving me or his Colonel the least notice thereof till six o'clock this morning) was, that they did not intend, when they enlisted, to join the Army, but to be stationed at *Hampton*. Colonel *Poor* has sent after them, but if he cannot get them back, hope you will take some effectual method to send them as soon as possible, and to prevent and discourage future desertions; for otherwise, if they are passed over with impunity, their example will induce others, and, by that means, cause such a defection of the Troops, as will weaken, if not entirely break up your whole Battalion.

*Wednesday* last, the whole of the *New-Hampshire* Troops, fit for duty, were ordered to their alarm posts; when formed we were not able to line our breastwork more than two deep, our lines being necessarily extensive, on account of the situation of our camp; therefore desire that the two remaining companies, now stationed at *Portsmouth* and *Hampton*, may be sent, if you can possibly spare them, there being not one quarter part of the Troops in ours as in the other lines at *Cambridge*, *Roxbury*, and on *Prospect Hill*. In a few days the breastwork will be completed, by which time the cannon I wrote for, I hope, will arrive, so that we may be prepared to give the ministerial Troops a proper reception should they attempt to force our lines.

Nothing remarkable has transpired since my last. The enemy are fortifying themselves as strongly as possible, on *Bunker's Hill*, and when they have completed their works, it is probable they will land somewhere near where the *New-Hampshire* Troops are encamped, it being very convenient for them to bring up their floating batteries upon our left wing; however, hope to give a good account of part of them at least whenever they come.

Your obedient servant, NATHANIEL FOLSOM.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GEN. FOLSOM.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, July 1, 1775.

It gives us great pleasure to find, by yours of the 26th last month, that a reconciliation had taken place between you and Colonel *Stark*. We doubt not you will use your utmost endeavours to keep up a good harmony among the Troops. In order thereto, we agree with you, that a due subordination must be observed. Major *Hobart*, who is appointed paymaster, will have commissions for *Stark's* and *Reed's* Regiments, and is to consult you on filling up the vacancies.

Two twenty-four, and two double fortified six-pounders are to be sent off to-morrow morning from *Hampton*. The artillery company is not raised, nor have we been able to get suitable officers for that service. We think it advisable that you should inquire if a good man for that business can be engaged, and what encouragement he will expect. When we can be informed of this, we shall lay it before the Congress. We suppose if good officers can be obtained, men may be enlisted out of the battalions more suitable for that purpose than elsewhere. We enclose your commission, and hope that the appointment of any other General Officer will not be expected. We are your friends, and humble servants. By order of the Committee.

To General *Folsom*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COL. REED.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, July 1, 1775.

SIR: The Committee, without knowing that you had in actual service, or in your eye, any person as Adjutant of your Regiment, have commissioned Mr. *McGregore*, a young man, we imagine, very suitable for that place. If any person you judge suitable, is disposed to act as volunteer, without pay, in that capacity, we have no objections, unless it should plainly appear to us that he would not answer the end. But you will easily perceive the unsuitableness of recalling the commission from Mr. *McGregore*, for no reason on his part, and commissioning and paying a person of whom, till another was appointed, we had not so much as a recommendation.

You may assure yourself, that so far as the publick service will allow, we shall take pleasure in gratifying you or the Regiment, or any individual. But although we should be willing to make use of any and the best information, we must insist upon it, that our appointments should take place, as the contrary must be attended with boundless difficulties. By order of the Committee.

To Colonel *Reed*, of the 3d *New-Hampshire* Regiment.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, July 2, 1775.

[Read July 5, 1775.]

SIR: Your letter of the 24th *June*, enclosing the resolutions of Congress, relative to the persons employed in taking possession of *Crown Point*, came to hand on *Friday* last. I shall procure the returns agreeable to the orders, and liquidate the sum to be paid them as soon after my arrival at *Ticonderoga* as affairs of more importance will admit.

Yesterday I had a conference with the Provincial Convention here on the subject-matter of employing the *Green Mountain Boys*, after which a Committee was appointed to take it into further consideration; the result, I apprehend, will be to employ five hundred of them, which is full as many as they can raise, and to appoint a Lieutenant-Colonel and Major to the command of them.

Doubts seemed to arise whether your intentions were that these men should be incorporated into those Regiments, for the raising of which they had already issued warrants and nominated the officers, or to make them a separate corps. My opinion was that Congress intended the latter, and, as such, they will be formed.

You will receive from the Convention here some accounts of Colonel *Guy Johnson's* conduct, too much of which I fear is true; and the inhabitants in the western quarter of this Colony, of *New-Jersey*, and the northern parts of *Pennsylvania*, will probably be exposed to some insults from the savages in their vicinity. I beg leave, therefore, to suggest, that if two Regiments more, of seven hundred and fifty men each, were raised by this Colony, and stationed, one on the southern part of its western frontiers, adjacent to *Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*, the other towards the *Oneida* carrying place, it would strike so much awe into the *Indians*, as probably to prevent their making incursions upon us.

I fear Governour *Trumbull* will not have it in his power to furnish me with the necessary quantity of powder. Is it not possible to procure some from *Pennsylvania*? I shall be greatly distressed for want of a few field-pieces. I wish to see those in the State-House yard, *Philadelphia*, tried in actual service.

Governour *Tryon* continues a prudent conduct. I cannot learn that he has taken any step that will give umbrage. The rejection of the *New-York* Assembly's Remonstrance by the House of Commons, has had the good effect to make those in this city hearty in the cause of *America*, whose sentiments, though friendly, differed as to the mode of procuring redress.

Congress has not provided for a deputy Adjutant-General in this department. The necessity of such an appointment would be superseded if another Brigade-Major was allowed, which seems more immediately necessary, as we have two Brigadiers.

Whoever sees the *Connecticut* Troops admires their strength, stature, youth, and agility; but every one laments their want of regimentals.

I am informed that seven or eight youths of the *Caughnawaga* tribe are at Mr. *Wheelock's* school, in *New-Hamp-*



shire. What sentiments that gentleman entertains in this unhappy controversy I am ignorant of. If friendly, might he not be serviceable?

I should be culpable in my own opinion, and unjust to the Provincial Convention of this Colony, if I passed over, in silence, the distinguished zeal with which they second your views. Without immediately knowing for what purpose the supplies I have asked were wanting, they with alacrity have begun to procure them, judging, with propriety, that many military operations are of such a nature as do not, consistent with prudence, permit their being known to too many.

I am, Sir, with sentiments of the most profound respect, yours and the Congress's most obedient servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, July 2, 1775.

SIR: I have the honour to acquaint you I arrived here last night. This morning proving very rainy, and my horses much fatigued, I have halted for a few hours, which I shall employ in providing some articles I have had no leisure to procure since I left *Virginia*. From hence I shall proceed with all speed to *Cambridge*. This morning I waited upon the Generals *Worcester*, *Schuyler*, and *Montgomery*. General *Schuyler* mentioned in privacy, his having recommended to the Congress, the appointment of another Brigade-Major in this department, as there was no Deputy Adjutant-General allowed. This, Sir, my experience tells me, is an officer, if properly chosen, that will be very necessary to add to the Army in this district, especially as there are two Brigades, and two Brigadier-Generals.

You will pardon the liberty I take, and believe it to proceed from the zeal with which I wish to approve myself, your most faithful, and obedient humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

BALTIMORE (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection for *Baltimore* County, held in *Baltimore* Town, on the 3d of *July*, 1775, a Letter from *Henry Lloyd*, agent for the Contractors for supplying the Troops at *Boston*, to Doctor *John Stephenson*, being fallen into the hands of the Committee, was read, and is as follows:

"Boston, May 17, 1775.

"SIR: The stoppage of provisions from the Southern Governments for the use of His Majesty's Troops, makes it necessary to endeavour to get a supply, by concealing from the publick eye the destination of provisions shipped for that purpose. I shall therefore propose for your consideration the following method of doing it: Cannot a vessel be freighted with flour for the *West-Indies*? you may take up a vessel as large as two hundred tons and give her a full freight. I should send you bills on them for the amount of what you may ship to me in this way; but the negotiation of such bills might discover your plan, and defeat it, so that I should be glad you would advise me of some friend of yours. When I am made acquainted with his name, and the sum you shall draw for, will send to him from hence my bills on the contractors for the amount you advise me of. You will please likewise to give the contractors timely advice, that they may insure their interest, if they think proper, and inform me the name of the vessel and master you engage, that I may lodge a permit at the light-house in this harbour for admission to come up to Town, and discharge her cargo here. Pray let the flour you purchase be such as will keep over the summer, and let the casks be good, well hooped, and the heads well secured with lining hoops. You will be careful to write me by a conveyance that your letter may not fall into the hands of the Provincials.

"I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

"HENRY LLOYD.

"To Doctor *John Stephenson*."

The Committee sent for Mr. *Stephenson*, and having shown him the Letter, he made the declaration following:

"I believe the within writing to be Mr. *Henry Lloyd's* writing, and I declare that I have never received any copy of it, or any other letter to that purport; and I further declare, that if the letter had come to my hands, I would not have executed the order, nor will I execute any order of the kind from any person whatsoever, contrary to the resolves of the Continental Congress, or Provincial Convention.

JOHN STEVENSON."

On motion, *Resolved*, That *Henry Lloyd*, of *Boston*, has knowingly and wilfully violated the Association of the *American* Congress, by endeavouring to supply the enemies of this Country with Provisions; and that agreeable to the Resolutions of the said Congress, it is the duty of us and all our constituents from henceforth not to have any commercial intercourse with him; and it is recommended, that an inviolable regard be paid to this Resolution.

DORCHESTER COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

Cambridge, July 3, 1775.

Whereas, divers persons trading in small vessels up and down the several rivers of this Province, have, of late, frequently come into the rivers of this County with Dry Goods, Coffee, Molasses, and other articles which are prohibited from being imported into this Country since the first day of *December* last, and which, they say, were purchased by them at *Baltimore*, *Philadelphia*, and other places in the Country, without proper certificates from the merchants they respectively purchased of, that the said Goods and Merchandises were imported before the said first day of *December*; which has put the Committee of this County to great trouble and inconvenience, in taking possession of and storing such Goods till proper certificates were obtained respecting the same; and has occasioned frequent murmurs of those persons who were thus prevented, by their own negligence, from disposing of their Merchandise, under pretence that they did not think such certificates would be required for Goods which were purchased in the Country: the Committee of the said County, desirous to prevent any person in future from falling into the same disagreeable predicament of having their Goods detained till such time as they produce satisfactory vouchers of their Merchandise being imported within the time limited by the Continental Congress, do hereby give notice to all persons whatsoever, that they will not permit or suffer any one to sell or dispose of any Goods or Merchandises which may be brought into the said County, unless the person or persons to whom the same belong, can produce a certificate from the Committee of the place where they purchased such Goods, that the same were imported within the time limited as aforesaid.

Signed per order:

HENRY HALE, Clerk.

JOHN ALSOP TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, July 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of 28th ultimo I received, respecting some blankets. In answer, a friend of mine has a quantity at *Maryland*, with some strouds, and other *Indian* goods, which he chooses to sell all together. They are ordered here; as soon as they arrive, he will give the invoice, which I shall lay before the Congress, as I suppose they will purchase the whole. Shall inform them of the number of blankets wanted by you, but I fear there is not so many as you stand in need of. I am, with respect, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JOHN ALSOP.

CAPT. JOHN LANGDON TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, July 3, 1775.

SIR: No doubt before this comes to hand, General *Sullivan*, who set out for home last *Tuesday*, will have waited on you, or the Committee of the Province, to whom I beg leave to refer for particulars.

Since his departure, we hear that several companies of expert riflemen have marched from *Virginia* and *Maryland*. Six companies from this Province will march this week to join the Army before *Boston*. I have also the pleasure to inform you that the powder mills are going on fast, having been supplied with several tons of saltpetre; the manufacturing of which article is likely to meet with



great success here, as also in *Virginia*, and without doubt, in two or three months, will be able to furnish large quantities. We hear from *South-Carolina* that a considerable quantity of powder was arrived there, some of which will immediately be forwarded to *Boston*; this may be depended on. There has been, within a few days, a considerable quantity sent from this place to our Armies before *Boston* and *Ticonderoga*. Every method has been taken, and will continue to be taken, for the importation of large supplies of that necessary article, powder; some of which hope will arrive soon. It is not likely that I shall be able to get powder to send to our Province, as the whole will be in the hands of the Committee, to be sent from time to time to our Army; therefore, if any should be wanting for the common cause, no doubt it may be had from them.

I would here beg leave to suggest, that we should not, by any means, at present make use of cannon, if it is possible to avoid it, until we are better supplied. The Assembly of this Province have voted to raise four thousand five hundred Minute-men. Every measure seems to be taking to defend our just rights to the last extremity. The general voice of the people here is, that our cause is just and righteous, and that *God* is on our side, as has most evidently appeared. The low, base, and wanton cruelty of the ministerial sons of tyranny, in burning the once pleasant and populous Town of *Charlestown*, beggars all description. This does not look like the fight of those who have so long been friends, and would hope to be friends again, but rather of a most cruel enemy. But we shall not wonder, when we reflect, that it is the infernal hand of tyranny, which always has and ever will deluge that part of the world which it lays hold of in blood.

I am in some hopes that the Congress will rise in about a fortnight, but this is mere conjecture, as it will depend on what news we receive from our Army, and some other matters. I am very sorry to be alone in so great and important a business as that of representing a whole Colony, which no one man is equal to; but how to avoid it, I know not. Whether it will be thought worth while, at this uncertainty, to send me any assistance, our honourable Convention will be judges. I shall endeavour, as far as my poor abilities will admit of, to render every service to my Country in my power. I am, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN LANGDON.

To *Matthew Thornton*, Esquire.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, July 3, 1775.

The Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* having undertaken to erect a Saltpetre Manufactory, and having appointed Messrs. *Owen Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *John Allen*, *James Mease*, *Lambert Cadwalader*, and Doctor *Benjamin Rush*, to superintend the same, they do earnestly request the inhabitants of this Province in general, and of this City and Liberties in particular, to furnish them with all such materials and assistance as they may require, to enable them to carry the said important and necessary Manufactory into execution with as much expedition as possible.

By order of the Committee:  
JOHN BENEZET, Assistant Secretary.

By His Excellency WILLIAM TRYON, Esquire, Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief in and over the Province of *NEW-YORK*, and the Territories depending thereon, in *AMERICA*, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same:

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to the fifth day of *July*, instant, I have thought fit, for His Majesty's service, to prorogue, and I do by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council, further prorogue the said General Assembly to the ninth day of *August* next; of which all His Majesty's subjects concerned therein are required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal at arms at *Fort George*, in the City of *New-York*, the third day of *July*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* the Third, by

the grace of *God*, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

WILLIAM TRYON.

By his Honour's command:

SAML. BAYARD, JUN., Sec'y.

God save the King.

#### ADDRESS OF THE CORPORATION OF NEW-YORK TO GOVERNOUR TRYON.

Address left with his Excellency Governour *Tryon*, the third day of *July*, 1775, by the Worshipful *Whitehead Hicks*, Esquire, Mayor of the City of *New-York*:

To His Excellency WILLIAM TRYON, Esquire, Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief of the Province of *NEW-YORK*, and the Territories thereon depending, in *AMERICA*, and Vice-Admiral and Chancellor of the same:

The humble Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of *NEW-YORK*:

May it please your Excellency:

We wait upon you, Sir, to congratulate you on the better establishment of your health, and to bid you welcome to a people who, from the rectitude of your administration, could not part with you without the deepest regret, and who must therefore receive you again with all the confidence of safety and protection which the experience of your virtues and abilities can inspire.

Would to Heaven that an event so honourable to you as this fresh mark of the King's approbation really is, and which is so acceptable to us, had found us in a condition more propitious to your felicity; for even amidst the complicated distresses of this melancholy hour, we feel an addition to our grief, from the aspect of the times upon the happiness we sincerely wish you to enjoy.

To whatever causes the suspension of the harmony once subsisting between the Parent State and her Colonies may be imputed, be assured, Sir, that we sigh with the utmost ardour for the re-establishment of the common tranquillity, upon that ancient system of Government and intercourse which has been such a fruitful source of general prosperity and opulence.

It is with affliction we behold a Nation, as renowned for wisdom as for valour, involved in a civil war, in which disloyalty in His Majesty's *American* subjects to their Prince, or want of affection to their Mother Country, constitute no part of the unnatural controversy. And we trust, under a merciful *God*, in the aid of your intercession with His Majesty, for a speedy termination of these hostile animosities of his contending subjects, which undermine the power and threaten the destruction of the Empire.

The Governour's Answer to the Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of *NEW-YORK*, delivered to the Mayor to be laid before the Corporation.

GENTLEMEN: I receive with satisfaction your congratulations on my return to this Country, and obliging assurances of your affectionate regard from my former residence amongst you, and of your continued confidence in me at this melancholy crisis of publick affairs, already carried to an extreme much to be lamented by every good man and well-wisher of his King and Country.

I confess my disappointment at the change of circumstances in this Government, and feel the weightiest distress at the present unfriendly aspect of the times. Long residence in the Colonies, and a happy experience of repeated friendships, have, as it were, naturalized me to *America*, and bound me, while I remained in *England*, faithfully to represent the loyalty, sentiments, and situation of the inhabitants of this Province, and to support their interest with my best endeavours. At the same time, my breast glowing with an ardent zeal for the honour of my Sovereign, and affection for my native Country, I was induced to embark again for this Government, cherishing the pleasing hope of being able to contribute, in some small degree, the hastening the general wish of the Nation for a speedy and happy reconciliation between *Great Britain* and her Colonies. If there can be a time when it would be wisdom and humanity to listen to the calm and dispassionate



voice of reason and moderation, it surely must be the present. I wish to embrace the idea, that neither disloyalty in His Majesty's *American* subjects, or disaffection to the Mother Country, constitute any part of the present unnatural controversy; but that the contention flows from a mere misconception of constitutional principles. The Parliament, in their Resolution of the 27th of *February*, having made the first advance to a measure of accommodation, it would surely be glorious in the *Americans* to avail themselves of so important an opportunity in so noble a cause. In the present moment, were *America* to liberate the restraints she has laid on her commerce and constitutional authority, and through her Provincial Assemblies grant, suitable to the ease of their circumstances, supplies to the Mother Country for the protection of the whole *British* State, I am confident in my own mind the controversy would fall to the ground, and that many acts of conciliatory grace would be extended to *America* by *Great Britain*, which national honour cannot suffer to have torn from her by violence.

I am acquainted, in a despatch from the Earl of *Dartmouth*, that the Memorial and Representation of the General Assembly of this Province, were unfortunately blended with expressions containing claims, which made it impossible for Parliament, consistent with its justice and dignity, to receive it; yet the Petition to the King has been presented to His Majesty, who was pleased to receive it with the most gracious expressions of regard and attention to the humble requests of his faithful subjects in *New-York*; and I am authorized to say, that nothing can give greater satisfaction to the royal breast, than to see us again a happy and united people.

WILLIAM TRYON.

New-York, July 7, 1775.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 5, 1775.]

New-York, July 3, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of *Saturday* last, with the resolution of Congress of the same day, and copy of the military arrangements enclosed, was delivered me at five this morning.

Permit me, Sir, to observe, that the resolution seems to be founded on a supposition that the inhabitants in the neighbourhood of *Ticonderoga* are a people distinct from those called *Green Mountain Boys*, and that they are numerous; whereas the fact is, that most of the inhabitants in the north-eastern part of the County of *Albany*, and in the County of *Charlotte*, and who reside on what are commonly called the *New-Hampshire Grants*, are distinguished by the appellation of *Green Mountain Boys*; and although they are settled in an extent of country upwards of one hundred and thirty miles in length, from nearly as far south as *Albany* to forty or fifty miles north of *Crown Point*, yet so lately has that country begun to settle, that it will be difficult (as Colonel *Allen* observes) to raise five hundred men in it, although there are more inhabitants, but necessarily occupied in procuring subsistence for their families. Such of them as assisted in the reduction of *Ticonderoga*, and afterwards garrisoned it, are already returned to their respective habitations. Hence, Sir, you will perceive that the troops in that quarter cannot be re-enforced, at any rate, by more than five hundred men, to be procured there, and those still to be levied.

From what information I have been able to procure, I suppose that the forces under Colonel *Hinman's* command do not exceed thirteen hundred men, including those that occupy *Fort George*, the landing at the north end of *Lake George*, and the post at the *Saw-mills*, and such as are necessarily employed in transporting provisions, &c., from *Albany*, which will probably reduce them to eleven hundred and under; and if of these I leave two hundred to garrison *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, the remainder will then exceed General *Carleton's* regular Troops by about three hundred men only, a force very inadequate barely to attempt destroying his floating batteries, boats, and vessels, without hazarding the loss, not only of the command of the lakes, but of the fortresses in our possession on its banks. These observations I have taken the liberty to make, that Congress, by being more truly possessed of facts, may make a probable guess of the consequences that will follow an attempt which I conceive myself not at

liberty to desist from making, without orders to the contrary. I shall leave this to-day, and order Brigadier *Montgomery* to follow as soon as possible.

Preparations are making here to fortify the pass in the Highlands. I had proposed that part of General *Wooster's* corps should have gone on that service. If Congress intends that any of them shall be employed in that way, they will please to signify it, as they cannot otherwise, since the last order, be moved from *New-York*.

I am, Sir, most respectfully and very sincerely, your obedient and humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 7, 1775.]

New-York, July 3, 1775.

SIR: I did myself the honour to write you a few hours ago; since which I have conversed with Mr. *Kirkland*, one of the *Indian* Missionaries. The information he gives me of the temper of the *Indians* of the *Six Nations*; of Colonel *Johnson's* nefarious designs; of the conduct of some *Roman Catholick Highlanders*, resident in the County of *Tryon*, is so interesting, that I have taken the liberty to request him to repair to Congress with all despatch.

His influence with the *Indians* renders him capable, and I believe there is no doubt of his willingness, to serve his Country in this critical hour.

I am, Sir, most respectfully, your obedient and humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, July 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I do myself the honour to enclose you an estimate of such stores, &c., as at present appear to me necessary to be forwarded to *Albany*; the pitch, oakum, and nails, I wish to have sent with all possible despatch. I am very certain that a variety of other articles will be wanted, which I shall be better able to ascertain after my arrival at *Albany*, for which place I propose setting out to-morrow.

I am informed that a considerable quantity of lead was found at *Ticonderoga*; but if it should not equal my expectations, I may be exposed to insurmountable difficulties. I therefore wish that at least half of the quantity which I have estimated, may be ordered up without delay, together with fifty casks of powder, which I am advised will be sent you from *Philadelphia*.

As it is probable, from the manœuvres of Governour *Carleton*, that I shall speedily want a re-enforcement of Troops at *Ticonderoga*, and not being at liberty to remove the *Connecticut* Troops from hence, I entreat you will be pleased to forward whatever men may be levied in this Colony, immediately to *Albany*, without waiting until the corps are completed.

I hope, gentlemen, on every occasion, to be favoured with your advice. And, indeed, as the important charge conferred on me by the Continental Congress was done in deference to your polite and honourable (yet altogether unmerited) recommendation of me, I shall, with the fullest confidence, look up to you for your aid and countenance, at once to promote the publick service, and to prevent me from sinking under the weighty concerns of my office. And give me leave to assure you, that though I have the clearest conviction that I shall never be able to equal the high opinion you have induced the Congress to entertain of me, yet no effort shall be wanting on my part to deserve it as far as possible, that I may not draw disgrace on you, my Country, or myself.

I am, gentlemen, with sentiments of the most profound respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

The Gentlemen of the *New-York* Provincial Congress.

An estimate of Military Stores, Provisions, &c., to be sent to ALBANY.

Fifty swivel guns: 2 ton musket ball or lead: what powder can be spared: 2 dozen bullet-moulds: soldiers' tents



for thirty-five hundred men, six men to a tent: a proportionable number of bell tents: officers' tents: tents for two General Officers and their suits: 15 casks of twenty-four penny nails: 10 casks of twenty penny: 15 casks of ten penny: 1000 weight of spike nails: 1 ton of oakum: 30 barrels of pitch: 300 felling axes, exclusive of those for the camp use of the soldiers: 200 bill hooks: 200 spades: 200 shovels: 150 pick-axes: 20 crowbars: 20 mason's trowels: 20 mason's hammers: 2 ton of bar iron: 500 weight of steel: 100 set of men's harness—I believe there is some in *Connecticut*: 3 set of gunsmith's tools, exclusive of those for the regimental armourer: 3 set of blacksmith's tools: 50 broad-axes: 20 whip-saws: 20 cross-cut saws: 4 sets of block and tackles, strong: 50 weight of twine: 4 fishing nets with ropes: 10 bolts of sail cloth: 50 oil cloths, well painted: 1500 oars, twelve, fourteen, and sixteen feet long: 500 fathom of tarred rope for painters, for boats:  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton of tarred rope, sorted: 4 chests of carpenter's tools: 28 mill saws for *Dutch* mills: 7 mill saws for *English* mills: 5 dozen mill saw files: an assortment of articles in the artillery way: paper: shot canisters: fusees: one dozen lime sieves: 50 small truck carriages, if they are ready made here: 10 carriages for field-pieces, if they are ready made here: necessaries for a hospital: three months' provisions for four thousand men—much of the meat kind to be fresh, as it may be drove to the Army, and save the heavy expense of transportation: whatever arms can be spared: 20 grass scythes: flints.

COMMITTEE OF SECRECY (NEW-YORK) TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

New-York, July 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We think it necessary to inform you, that by a vessel lately arrived from *Greenock*, in *Scotland*, we have an extract from a letter from a gentleman there, informing his correspondents here that a considerable quantity of goods was shipped in the *Glasgow* Packet, Captain *Porterfield*, who sailed from that port in *April* last, bound for *Salem*. As the vessel in all probability must be arrived, we hope that the Committee of that place have been attentive to their duty; but as they are marked for the use of the Army, we fear they may have passed unnoticed, notwithstanding the greatest vigilance.

We are, Gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

JOHN IMLAY,

DANIEL PHENIX,

Members of the Committee of Secrecy and Inspection.

PETER T. CURTENIUS (COMMISSARY) TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, July 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have made an inquiry about the articles the Congress gave me an order for, and find that I can get coarse cloth, of different colours like the patterns, for two battalions, at seven shillings and six pence, to eight shillings per yard, and a few of them from eleven to thirteen shillings per yard, which last will do for sergeants' coats; if you think the colours differ too much, they can be dyed a dark brown at one shilling and six pence per yard. Mr. *Pey*, one of your members, can inform you whether it is too much. As to blue cloth, I can get enough for two battalions more, that is, if the Congress will permit *Robert* and *John Murray* to take fifteen or sixteen pieces blue strouds out of their store at *Elizabethtown*.

Muskets that are good I find very scarce; not fifty ready made that are good for any thing. I might get about one hundred made in a month, at eighty or eighty-two shillings a piece.

Raven's duck, none to be had as yet; but I can get about seventy pieces drilling, at two shillings and four pence per yard, which is eight pence higher than I gave for duck; and ten pieces *Russia* sheeting, very stout, at five pounds, ten shillings per piece, which is about three shillings per yard, but then it is a quarter of a yard wider than duck or drilling.

Canteens I can get ready made, about twenty-five hundred, of Mr. *Levy*, at one shilling a piece, but I would not venture to buy them, as they are something tarnished, until

the Sub-Committee view them first; new ones will cost one shilling and six pence.

*English* spades, none to be had; socket spades can be made by our blacksmiths, which are better than *English* ones.

Lead in bars, none to be had. Shot I can get at forty-four shillings per hundred weight; but I can get bullets cast to any size that shall be wanted, at fifty shillings per hundred weight, which is cheaper than shot at forty-four shillings, because it wastes fourteen pounds per hundred weight.

Flints, cartouch paper, gun-worms, screw-drivers, camp kettles, haversacks, hatchets, felling axes, and pick-axes, I can get the whole quantity.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

S. PATRICK TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Orange Furnace, July 3, 1775.

HONoured SIRs: The subscriber having a furnace in *New-York* Province, now in blast, would engage to make and deliver iron ball, of any given dimensions, any where on the *North River* where he can with safety land them, at fifteen Pounds per ton; and as the furnace is in blast, he would execute any order he might be favoured with expeditiously; and is, Gentlemen, your humble servant,

S. PATRICK.

The Honourable the Provincial Congress, assembled at *New-York*.

COLONEL HINMAN TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, July 3, 1775.

I would inform you that Lieutenant-Colonel *Samuel Mott*, who is appointed Engineer by the Colony of *Connecticut*, arrived here yesterday. He has taken a survey of the fortresses at *Fort George* and this place, and is of the opinion that they are altogether indefensible, should an attempt be made with artillery. Should a number of troops arrive from *Canada* sufficient to keep the field, (a thing not improbable,) these posts must of consequence fall into their hands. You will therefore see the necessity of an augmentation of troops being immediately sent, as well as a supply of gunpowder, of which we are almost destitute. The importance of maintaining these posts for the benefit of your Province in particular, and of the united Colonies in general, is such, that no arguments need be used to enforce the speedy execution of some wise and spirited measures for their defence.

It is my opinion that a sufficient number of troops should be stationed at *Fort George*, with a constant scouting party, in order to prevent any sudden attack from the enemy, and to keep open a safe communication with *Albany*. I purpose forthwith to throw up an intrenchment around the redoubt at *Crown Point*, in order to render the place more defensible.

My men are daily on fatigue, in repairing bridges, mending highways, removing the cannon, and other necessary employments, so that you will readily see how inadequate my numbers are to the performance of all these duties, with that speed and safety the necessity of the case requires.

I think it is absolutely necessary that a Captain's company, of those intended for this department, with suitable implements, be immediately directed to repair the roads and bridges in their way to *Fort George*, since it will be impracticable for the wagons to pass much longer, in the wretched condition they are in at present, especially that part between the *Half-Moon* and *Fort George*.

The troops to be forwarded should be furnished with tents, a thing of absolute necessity, inasmuch as the barracks are more crowded already than is either for the convenience or health of the soldiery. Sundry gentlemen, of late, have made application to pass these posts, with letters of recommendation from the several Congresses. I should therefore think it proper that the letters they bring with them should be certified, as to their number, and to whom directed, in order to prevent the communication of any intelligence which might disserve the interest of the united Colonies.

Captain *Edward Mott*, who will wait on you with this,



will give you farther information to whatever questions you will think proper to ask, as to the state and condition of these fortresses, and will forward any commands you will think proper to send.

I am, Sir, with respect, your very humble servant,  
BENJAMIN HINMAN, *Colonel*.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

WALTER SPOONER TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Springfield, July 3, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Congress of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, on the 14th day of June last, appointed *Walter Spooner*, *Jedediah Foster*, and *James Sullivan*, a Committee to repair to the Fortresses of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, on the *Lake Champlain*, to inquire into the importance of holding those posts, and the method by which they may be maintained; to establish, in the pay of said Colony, so many men to defend the same posts as they should judge necessary, not exceeding four hundred. And the said Committee were also by the said Congress directed, when they should have made themselves fully acquainted with the situation and importance of said posts, respectfully to signify their thoughts thereon to your Honours.

Wherefore, by order of said Committee, I take leave to inform you, that it is the opinion of said Committee, that such is the importance of those fortresses, that should they once be in the hands of the enemies to *America*, the Colony of *New-York*, together with the *New-England* Colonies, would be in continual danger of having depredations committed on them by the regular forces who would be possessed of those garrisons; and should the *Canadians* and savages (who we hope are not yet at enmity with us) be inclined to take part with the Ministerial Army, the distress of the Colonies before-mentioned must be extremely great.

A garrison at the south end of *Lake George*, however tenable, could be of but little service to the *New-England* Colonies; because the most easy route for an army from *Quebeck* into *New-England*, would be through *Lake Champlain* to *South-Bay*, from whence they might travel by land through the new settlements of *New-York* into the *New-England* Governments, and destroy the frontier Towns on their march; drive the farmers from their fields; prevent the large supplies of wheat and other necessities, which may soon be expected from those new settlements; send distress and famine into the bowels of the country; and all this without being on a right line within many miles of the south end of *Lake George*.

I am also ordered by said Committee to signify to your Honours, that it is the opinion of said Committee that the defence of those fortresses must be supported by holding the command of *Lake Champlain*, which they conceive may be more easily done by having vessels of various constructions, well manned, armed, and floating there; for which purpose the Committee have stationed four hundred men there, which are all that the embarrassed circumstances of our Colony can at present admit of, to co-operate with near a thousand under the command of Colonel *Hinman*, who is sent to those posts by the Government of *Connecticut*. But whether the forces now on the lake are sufficient for the purposes aforementioned, your Honours will judge.

I am, with due respect, in behalf of said Committee, your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

WALTER SPOONER.

To the Hon. President and Members of the *American Congress* now sitting at *Philadelphia*.

WALTER SPOONER TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Springfield, July 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Notwithstanding the many calamities that the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* now struggles under, the Congress there are resolutely determined to leave nothing within their power undone which may have a probable tendency to preserve the rights and property of the *American Colonies*. In pursuance of this resolution, they, on the 14th day of June last, appointed a Commit-

tee, whereof I have the honour to be chairman, to proceed to *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, to inquire into the importance of holding these posts; and among other things, beg leave to signify to you their thoughts on the subject. The Committee have made those inquiries, as they were directed, and have ordered me to take leave to inform you that it is their opinion, that should the fortresses on *Lake Champlain* fall into the hands of our enemies, the Colony of *New-York*, with the *New-England* Colonies, must be in the utmost insecurity; for the enemy might land at the southern end of a part of the waters of *Lake Champlain*, called *South-Bay*, from whence, as *Fort Edward* is razed to the foundation, there is nothing to check them, or prevent them spreading fire and devastation down to *Albany*, and over all the frontier Towns eastward, in *New-York* and the *New-England* Colonies.

Wherefore, it is the opinion of the Committee, that all possible care ought to be taken to keep the command of *Lake Champlain*, which, perhaps, may be more easily effected by armed vessels of various constructions, than otherwise.

The Committee have established on the lakes, in the pay of the *Massachusetts* Colony, four hundred effective men, with proper officers, which are all that the distressed state of the Colony can at present admit of; which Regiment, from the peculiar embarrassment which that Colony is now labouring under, must look for present supplies of provisions to the Colony of *New-York*.

While the Committee were at the posts above mentioned, there was a dangerous mutiny set on foot by some persons employed by Colonel *Arnold*, an officer of our Colony, who appeared to have their own interest more at heart than the publick good, which, had it not been for the influence and well-timed exertions of Judge *Duer*, a gentleman of the County of *Charlotte*, in your Colony, and the principal officers of the *Connecticut* Forces, might have been attended with fatal consequences. As the Committee suppose the Colony they serve to be under great obligations to that worthy gentleman, they cannot but inform his own Government of his zealous exertions for the publick good.

I am, with due respect, in behalf of the Committee, your most obedient humble servant,

WALTER SPOONER.

To the Hon. President and Members of the Convention of the Colony of *New-York*.

WALTER SPOONER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Springfield, July 3, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: When the Congress of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* were informed that your Government had sent Colonel *Hinman* to *Lake Champlain*, with a thousand men, to defend the important posts there, it was with the deepest concern that they saw he was not commander-in-chief of those fortresses and their appendages, and immediately despatched a Committee, whereof I have the honour to be chairman, to let the commander of their forces know, that it was the expectation of our Congress, that the Commander-in-Chief of the *Connecticut* Forces should be over our officers and privates. The Committee was also ordered respectfully to signify to your Honour their opinion of the necessity of holding those fortresses, as also of the most expedient method to do it.

Whereupon, they proceeded, and at *Crown Point* let Colonel *Arnold* know that it was expected he should give up the command of the garrisons, &c., to Colonel *Hinman*, and be under him as his chief officer there; but he declined it, and declared that he would not be second to any man, disbanded his forces, and resigned his commission. A majority of his men engaged anew under Colonel *James Easton*, who the Committee appointed, under the Commander of the forces of your Government on the lakes to be regulated by your martial law. And the Committee left the garrisons and appendages in peace, with much satisfaction, commanded by Colonel *Hinman*, who, they are confident, is fully equal to the appointment.

The Committee also order me to inform your Honour, that it is their opinion, that the abandoning the posts on *Lake Champlain* would probably prove the utter ruin of the *New-England* Governments; and that they apprehend armed vessels, floating batteries, &c., will be the surest



means of commanding the lakes. The Committee would write your Honour more fully on this subject, but they are convinced, from the letters you have favoured our Congress with, that you are fully possessed of the importance of holding those fortresses.

Justice compels the Committee to let your Honour know, that on Colonel *Arnold's* refusing to serve under Colonel *Hinman*, a mutiny arose amongst some of *Arnold's* men, who would not engage anew in our service, which seemed to be attended with dangerous symptoms; but by the noble exertions of the officers of your Government, with those of Judge *Duer*, of *Charlotte County*, in the Colony of *New-York*, and the ample support by them rendered to the Committee in the most difficult situation, it was happily quelled. The particulars of it are too tedious and disagreeable for your Honour's attention, while you have constantly business of the last importance before you. But this much the Committee order me to take leave to say, that from the polite, generous, and manly disposition of Colonel *Hinman*, and the officers in the *Connecticut Forces* under him, we may gather the most happy prospects of a campaign at the Northward replete with honour and interest to the Colonies.

I am, in behalf of the Committee, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,  
WALTER SPOONER.  
Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

GOVERNOUR WENTWORTH TO SECRETARY ATKINSON.

Castle William and Mary, July 3, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I have occasion to inspect the books of Charters in the Secretary's Office, and to make some minutes out of them. I desire you will deliver them to the bearer for that purpose, and I will be responsible for their safety and return into the Secretary's Office. I am, dear Sir, yours, &c.,  
J. WENTWORTH.  
Honourable *Theodore Atkinson*, Esq.

CONGRESS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Exeter, July 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We take the earliest opportunity to convey to you some intelligence we have just received from *Canada*, by the way of Mr. *Dean*, a Missionary, lately come from that country. We enclose copies of two letters from Doctor *Wheelock*, and from a Committee in *Hanover*. Mr. *Wheelock* and Colonel *Bedel*, who will take the charge of this, will be able to give you, perhaps, some further particulars. We wish to have, as soon as possible, your judgment on the matter, and shall probably defer acting until we hear from you. If any plan of operation towards, or in *Canada*, is suitable, we wish to act in concert with you and the other Colonies in the neighbourhood. We trust we shall not be backward in exerting ourselves in the common defence; but would act with caution in a matter of importance.

We are, with respect, gentlemen, your friends and brethren in the common cause.

In the name and by order of the Congress:

MATTHEW THORNTON, President.

REVEREND DOCTOR WHELOCK TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Dartmouth College, June 28, 1775.

MUCH RESPECTED GENTLEMEN: Yesterday Mr. *Dean* returned from his tour to *Canada*, on which I sent him in the capacity of a Missionary, last *March*, with a view to strengthen and perpetuate the friendship which has lately commenced between the *Indian* tribes in that quarter and the Seminary, to attach them to these Colonies, and secure these frontiers from an invasion from that quarter. And on hearing his narrative, the intelligence appeared so interesting, and the authority so good, that I thought best to send him forward immediately to the honourable Continental Congress, whose determination I thought would probably be governed in some important respects by his accounts.

The Tribes of *Indians* near *Montreal* and *Quebeck* are doubtless well affected towards these Colonies and the cause we are engaged in. But about forty savages from a

great distance, came into *Montreal*, with a profession of coming to a Congress or treaty, we understand, at the desire of the Governour, who ordered the Commissary to make provision for the entertainment of three hundred more, by which he supposed the number was expected soon. The neighbouring tribes will none of them join with the savages, excepting that the *Caughnawagas*, to save themselves from being distressed, have engaged to assist in defending him at *Montreal*, but to go no further, and gave the fullest evidence that this concession was only for self-preservation; and Mr. *Dean* is confident that the Governour cannot persuade an *Indian* there so much as to conduct those foreigners through the roads to our settlements. He further informs, that the inhabitants of *Canada* were much alarmed at our people's taking the forts on the lake; and that upon it, they (the *Regulars*) exerted themselves much in preparing themselves for an attack from our soldiers; and that this appeared to be their grand object when he left the place. But my son, who comes on purpose, can give you a more full and particular account of this and of the present state of *Oswego*, &c. And I would humbly propose to your consideration, gentlemen, whether it be not expedient, and of the first and greatest importance to the safety of the whole, that all these frontier Towns be well and speedily supplied with arms and ammunition, and as much as they can, to put themselves into a posture of defence; and that in order hereto, some method to procure such stores be pointed out to them by the honourable Congress; and also some means be provided to make it practicable by such as are poor and unable to purchase for themselves.

I most heartily pray the Father of lights to direct you in your consultations and determinations on this most interesting affair; and am, much respected gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ELEAZER WHELOCK.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress now sitting at *Exeter*.

P. S. My son can inform you of the measures used by the *Canadian Indians* to engage all their allies not to join against us.

Since I wrote the foregoing letter, I have seen a man direct from *Albany*, and late from *Mount Johnson*, who informs me that Colonel *G. Johnson* has lately received presents to the amount of three thousand Pounds, from the King, to be disposed of to engage the *Indians* within his jurisdiction against the Colonies; and that all his endeavours for that purpose have been fruitless. Not one of the *Indians* would go to receive the presents. That said Superintendent has withdrawn, with his family and presents, by the way of *Oswego*; but where he is going is not known. That the *Mohawks* and *Oneidas* are firm for the Colonies; which also agrees with other accounts.

COMMITTEES OF HANOVER AND LEBANON TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Hanover, June 27, 1775.

SIR: Mr. *Dean* having yesterday returned from *Canada*, with intelligence which we apprehend of importance, we think it our duty forthwith to communicate it to the Provincial Congress; and as sundry Members of the Continental Congress have desired Mr. *Dean's* attendance at *Philadelphia*, as soon as he returned from his mission, for which place he sets out to-morrow, we have desired Mr. *John Wheelock* to take the journey to *Exeter*, to communicate the intelligence to your honourable House, with as much speed and accuracy as possible, not doubting your approbation of our procedure therein.

We are, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servants,

EDMUND FREEMAN, JONA. FREEMAN,  
BEZA WOODWARD, ISRAEL CURTIS,  
JOHN WRIGHT,

Committee of Inspection and Correspondence for *Hanover*.

JOHN GRISWOLD, S. WATERMAN,  
JOHN WILLIAMS, JEDEDIAH HUBBARD,

Committee of Inspection and Correspondence for *Lebanon*.

To Colonel *M. Thornton*, President of the Provincial Congress in *New-Hampshire*.



## PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF GEORGIA.

At a Provincial Congress held agreeable to appointment, at *Tondee's* Long Room, at *Savannah*, on the 4th day of *July*, 1775, and continued from day to day, the following persons were returned duly elected, viz:

**Town and District of SAVANNAH.**—*Archibald Bullock*, *Noble Wimberly Jones*, *Joseph Habersham*, *Jonathan Bryan*, *Ambrose Wright*, *William Young*, *John Glen*, *Samuel Elbert*, *John Houstoun*, *Oliver Bowen*, *John McCluer*, *Edward Telfair*, *Thomas Lee*, *George Houstoun*, *Joseph Reynolds*, *John Smith*, *William Ewen*, *John Martin*, *Doctor Zubly*, *William Bryan*, *Philip Box*, *Philip Altman*, *William O'Bryan*, *Joseph Clay*, *Seth John Cuthbert*.

**District of VERNONBURGH.**—*Joseph Butler*,\* *Andrew Elton Wells*, *Matthew Roche*, Junior.

**District of ACTON.**—*David Zubly*, *Basil Cowper*, *William Gibbons*.

**SEA-ISLAND DISTRICT.**—*Colonel Deveau*, *Colonel De Le Gall*, *James Bulloch*, *John Morel*, *John Bohun Gerreadieu*, *John Barnard*, *Robert Gibson*.

**District of LITTLE OGECHEE.**—*Francis Henry Harris*, *Joseph Gibbons*, *James Robertson*.\*

**Parish of ST. MATTHEW.**—*John Stirk*, *John Adam Treutlen*, *George Walton*, *Edward Jones*, *Jacob Waldhauer*, *Philip Howell*, *Isaac Young*, *Jenkin Davis*, *John Morel*, *John Flerl*, *Charles McKay*, *Christopher Cramer*.

**Parish of ST. PHILIP.**—*Colonel Butler*, *William Le Conte*, *William Maxwell*, *Stephen Drayton*, *Adam Fowler Brisbane*, *Luke Mann*, *Hugh Bryan*.

**Parish of ST. GEORGE.**—*Henry Jones*, *John Green*, *Thomas Burton*, *William Lord*, *David Lewis*, *Benjamin Lewis*, *James Pugh*, *John Fulton*.

**Parish of ST. ANDREW.**—*Jonathan Cochran*, *William Jones*, *Peter Tarlin*, *Lachlan McIntosh*, *William McIntosh*, *George Threadcraft*, *John Wereat*, *Roderick McIntosh*, *John Witherspoon*, *George McIntosh*, *Allan Stuart*, *John McIntosh*, *Raymond Demere*.

**Parish of ST. DAVID.**—*Seth John Cuthbert*, *William Williams*, Senior.

**Parish of ST. MARY.**—*Daniel Ryan*.

**Parish of ST. THOMAS.**—*John Roberts*.

**Parish of ST. PAUL.**—*John Walton*, *Joseph Maddock*,\* *Andrew Burns*, *Robert Rae*, *James Rae*, *Andrew Moore*, *Andrew Barney*, *Leonard Marbury*.

**Parish of ST. JOHN.**—*James Screven*, *Nathan Brownson*, *Daniel Roberts*, *John Baker*, Sen., *John Bacon*, Sen., *James Maxwell*, *Edward Ball*, *William Baker*, Sen., *William Bacon*, Jr., *John Stevens*, *John Winn*, Sen.

Those marked \* declined taking their seats.

*Archibald Bullock*, Esq., being proposed as President, was unanimously elected; and *George Walton*, Esq., being proposed as Secretary, was also unanimously elected.

The Congress then adjourned to the Meeting-House of the Reverend Doctor *Zubly*, where he preached a sermon on the alarming state of *American* affairs.

The Congress being returned, a motion was made and seconded, that the thanks of this Congress be given to the Rev. Doctor *Zubly*, for the excellent Sermon he preached this day to the Members; which being unanimously agreed to, it was Ordered, 'That *Basil Cowper*, *Joseph Clay*, *John Houstoun*, *John Glen*, and *George Houstoun*, Esqrs., be a Committee for that purpose.

— Wednesday, July 5, 1775.

A motion was made and seconded, that this Congress apply to his Excellency the Governour, by message, requesting him to appoint a day of Fasting and Prayer throughout this Province, on account of the disputes subsisting between *America* and the Parent State; which being unanimously passed in the affirmative, it was

Ordered, That Doctor *Zubly*, *William Young*, *Joseph Clay*, *Stephen Drayton*, and *William Maxwell*, be a Committee for that purpose.

## Copy of the Message.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The Provincial Congress, deeply concerned at the present alarming state

of affairs, and the distresses of *America*, humbly request that your Excellency would appoint a day of Fasting and Prayer, to be observed throughout this Province, that a happy reconciliation may soon take place between *America* and the Parent State, and that, under the auspicious reign of His Majesty and his descendants, both Countries may remain united, virtuous, free, and happy, till time shall be no more.

By order of the Congress:

ARCHIBALD BULLOCK, President.

The President being informed by the Messenger, that *John Jamieson* and *John Simpson*, Esquires, were in waiting, and desired to be admitted; which being agreed to, they were desired to walk in. They then produced and delivered in to the President a Paper containing several Resolutions entered into by a number of persons, inhabitants of the Town of *Savannah*; which was ordered to be read, and is as follows, viz:

"At a meeting of several of the Inhabitants of the Town of *Savannah*, at Mrs. *Cuyler's*, on Friday, the 13th of June, 1775, *John Mullryne*, Esq., in the chair; *Joseph Clay*, *James Mossman*, Rev. Mr. *J. J. Zubly*, *John Simpson*, *Noble Wimberly Jones*, *John Jamieson*, *William Moss*, *John Glen*, *Josiah Tattnall*, *John Graham*, *Lewis Johnston*, *William Young*, *Richard Wyly*, *Andrew McLean*, *Basil Cowper*, *Philip Moore*, *George Houstoun*, *Joseph Butler*, *James Read*, *Thomas Ried*, *William Panton*, *James Edward Powell*, *William Struthers*, *Alexander McGowen*, *John C. Lucena*, *Thomas Sherman*, *J. N. Faming*, *Levi Sheftall*, *Charles Hamilton*, *George Spencer*, *William Brown*, Junior, *Francis Courvoisier*, *James Anderson*.

"Whereas, publick confusions and grievances are much increased by private dissensions and animosities:

"Resolved, therefore, *nem. con.*, That we will use our utmost endeavours to preserve the peace and good order of this Province; and that no person behaving himself peaceably and inoffensively, shall be molested in his person or property, or even in his private sentiments, while he expresses them with decency, and without any illiberal reflections upon others.

"Whereas, the acts for raising a perpetual revenue in *America*, and all the measures used to enforce these acts, are not partial but general grievances, and it is more likely that redress will be obtained by the joint endeavours of all who may think these acts unconstitutional or oppressive, than by any measure that might be taken singly by individuals; therefore,

"Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting, (as a proper measure to be pursued, because the General Assembly is not now sitting, from whom an application to the Throne must be very proper, and as no time should be lost,) that a humble, dutiful, and decent Petition be addressed to His Majesty, expressive of the sense, apprehensions, and feelings of all such as may choose to subscribe such a Petition, which it is hoped will be done by every man in the Province; and it is therefore the wish of this meeting, that such a measure be adopted by the Provincial Congress, intended to be held on Tuesday next, the fourth of July.

"Resolved, 'That the interest of this Province is inseparable from the Mother Country, and all the sister Colonies; and that to separate themselves from the latter would only be throwing difficulties in the way of its own relief, and that of the other Colonies, and justly incurring the resentment of all those to whose distress our disunion might cause an addition.

"Resolved, That this Province ought, and it is hoped will forthwith join the other Provinces in every just and legal measure to secure and restore the liberties of all *America*, and for healing the unhappy divisions now subsisting between *Great Britain* and her Colonies.

"Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be laid before the Provincial Congress on Tuesday, the fourth day of July next, and that Mr. *Jamieson* and Mr. *Simpson* do wait upon them with the same, as recommended to them by this meeting. By order of the meeting:

"JOHN MULLRYNE."

A motion was made and seconded, that the Paper above mentioned do lie upon the table for the perusal of the



members; which being carried, the same was ordered to lie upon the table accordingly.

A motion was made and seconded, that this Congress do put this Province upon the same footing with our sister Colonies; which being put, it was ordered that it be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

Thursday, July 6, 1775.

The Order of the Day being read, the same was taken into consideration, and, after some deliberation, it was unanimously

1. *Resolved*, That this Province will adopt and carry into execution all and singular the measures and recommendations of the late Continental Congress.

2. *Resolved*, In particular, that we, in behalf of ourselves and our constituents, do adopt and approve of the *American Declaration or Bill of Rights*, published by the late Continental Congress, and also of their several resolves made in consequence of some infractions thereof.

3. That from and after this day we will not receive into this Province any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, shipped from *Great Britain or Ireland*; or from any other place, any such Goods, Wares, or Merchandises as shall have been exported from *Great Britain or Ireland*; nor will we import any *East-India Tea* from any part of the world, nor any Molasses, Syrups, Paneles, Coffee, or Pimento, from the *British Plantations*, or from *Dominica*; nor Wines from *Madeira* or the *Western Islands*, nor foreign Indigo.

4. That we will neither import or purchase any Slave imported from *Africa*, or elsewhere, after this day.

5. As a Non-Consumption Agreement, strictly adhered to, will be an effectual security for the observation of the Non-Importation, we, as above, solemnly agree and associate, that, from this day, we will not purchase or use any Tea imported on account of the *East-India Company*, or any on which a duty hath or shall be paid; and we will not purchase or use any *East-India Tea* whatever, nor will we, nor shall any person for or under us, purchase any of these Goods, Wares, or Merchandises we have agreed not to import, which we shall know, or have cause to suspect were imported after this day.

6. The earnest desire we have not to injure our fellow-subjects in *Great Britain and Ireland*, and the *West-Indies*, induces us to suspend a Non-Exportation until the tenth day of *September, 1775*, at which time, if the acts and parts of acts of the *British Parliament* hereinafter mentioned are not repealed, we will not, directly or indirectly, export any Merchandise or commodity whatsoever to *Great Britain or Ireland*, or the *West-Indies*, except Rice to *Europe*.

7. Such as are merchants, and use the *British and Irish* trade, will give orders as soon as possible to their factors, agents, and correspondents in *Great Britain and Ireland*, not to ship any Goods to them, on any pretence whatever, as they cannot be received in this Province; and if any merchant residing in *Great Britain or Ireland* shall, directly or indirectly, ship any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise for *America*, in order to break the said Non-Importation Agreement, or in any manner contravene the same, on such unworthy conduct being well attested, it ought to be made publick, and on the same being so done, we will not, from thenceforth, have any commercial connexions with such merchant.

8. That such as are owners of vessels will give positive orders to their Captains or masters not to receive on board their vessels any Goods prohibited by the said Non-Importation Agreement, on pain of immediate dismission from their service.

9. We will use our utmost endeavours to improve the breed of Sheep, and increase their numbers to the greatest extent; and to that end we will kill them as sparingly as may be, especially those of the most profitable kind, nor will export any to the *West-Indies* or elsewhere; and those of us who are or may become overstocked with, or can conveniently spare any Sheep, will dispose of them to our neighbours, especially to the poorer sort, on moderate terms.

10. That we will, in our several stations, encourage frugality, economy, and industry, and promote agriculture, arts, and the manufactures of *British America*, especially

that of Wool; and will discountenance and discourage every species of extravagance and dissipation, especially horse-racing, and every kind of gaming, cock-fighting, exhibition of shows, plays, and other expensive diversions and entertainments; and on the death of any relation or friend, none of us, or any of our families, will go into any farther mourning dress than a black crape or ribbon on the arm or hat for gentlemen, and a black ribbon and necklace for ladies; and we will discontinue the giving of gloves and scarfs at funerals.

11. That such as are venders of Goods or Merchandise will not take advantage of the scarcity of Goods that may be occasioned by this Association, but will sell the same at the rates we have been respectively accustomed to do for twelve months last past; and if any vender of Goods or Merchandise shall sell any such Goods or Merchandise on higher terms, or shall in any manner, or by any device whatsoever, violate or depart from this agreement, no person ought, nor will any of us deal with any such person, or his or her factor or agent, at any time thereafter for any commodity whatever.

12. In case any merchant, trader, or other persons shall attempt to import any Goods or Merchandise into this Province after this day, the same shall be forthwith sent back again, without breaking any of the packages thereof.

13. That a Committee be chosen in every Town, District, and Parish within this Province, by those who pay towards the general tax, whose business it shall be attentively to observe the conduct of all persons touching this Association; and when it shall be made appear, to the satisfaction of a majority of any such Committee, that any person within the limits of their appointment has violated this Association, that such majority do forthwith cause the truth of the case to be published in the *Gazette*, to the end that all such foes to the rights of *British America* may be publicly known and universally condemned as the enemies of *American* liberty, and thenceforth we will break off all connexion with him or her.

14. That a Committee of Correspondence to this Province do frequently inspect the entries of the Custom-House, and inform the Committees of the other Colonies which have acceded to the Continental Association, from time to time of the true state thereof, and of every other material circumstance that may occur relative to this Association.

15. That all manufactures of this Province be sold at reasonable prices, so that no undue advantage be taken of a future scarcity of Goods.

16. And we do further agree and resolve, that we will have no trade, commerce, dealings, or intercourse whatsoever with any Colony or Province in *North America* which shall not accede to, or which shall hereafter violate this Association, but will hold them as unworthy of the rights of freemen, and as inimical to the liberties of their Country.

And we do solemnly bind ourselves and our constituents, under the ties of virtue, honour, and love of our Country, to adhere to this Association, until such parts of the several acts of Parliament, passed since the close of the last war, as impose or continue duties upon Tea, Wines, Molasses, Syrups, Paneles, Coffee, Sugar, Pimento, Indigo, foreign Paper, Glass, and Painters' Colours, imported into *America*; and extend the powers of the Admiralty Courts beyond their ancient limits, deprive *American* subjects of trial by Jury, authorize the Judge's certificate to indemnify the prosecutor from damages that he might otherwise be liable to from a trial by his peers, require oppressive security from claimants of Ships or Goods seized before he is allowed to defend his property, are repealed; and until that part of the Act of 12 *George 3*, ch. 24, entitled "An Act for the better securing His Majesty's Dock-Yards, Magazines, Ships, Ammunition, and Stores," by which any person charged with committing any of the offences therein described in *America* may be tried within any Shire or County within the Realm, is repealed; and until the four acts passed in the last session of Parliament, viz: that for stopping the Port and blocking up the Harbour of *Boston*, that for altering the Charter and Government of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and that which is entitled "An Act for the better administration, &c.," and that for extending the limits of *Quebeck*, &c., are repealed; and until the two acts passed in the present session of Parliament, the one entitled "A Bill to restrain the Trade and Commerce of



the Colonies of *New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and South-Carolina, to Great Britain, Ireland, and the British Islands in the West-Indies, under certain conditions and limitations;*" and the other, "An Act commonly called the Fishery Bill."

Friday, July 7, 1775.

The following is his Excellency's Answer to the Message of this Congress:

Savannah, July 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have taken the opinion of His Majesty's Council relative to the request made by the gentlemen who have assembled together by the name of a Provincial Congress, and must premise, that I cannot consider that meeting as constitutional; but as the request is expressed in such loyal and dutiful terms, and the ends proposed being such as every good man must most ardently wish for, I will certainly appoint a day of Fasting and Prayer to be observed throughout this Province.

JAS. WRIGHT.

To *Stephen Drayton, Esq.*, and the other Gentlemen who waited on the Governour.

A motion was made and seconded, that the thanks of this Congress be given to his Excellency the Governour, for his Answer to the Message of this Congress, and his ready compliance with their request; which, being put, unanimously passed in the affirmative.

Ordered, That *Dr. Zubly, John Smith, and Joseph Clay*, be a Committee for that purpose.

A motion was made and seconded, that five persons be chosen to represent this Province in the Continental Congress appointed to be held at the City of *Philadelphia* on the 10th of *May* last; and the question being put, it passed unanimously in the affirmative.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice, when *John Houstoun and Archibald Bullock, Esquires, the Rev. Dr. Zubly, Noble Wimberly Jones, and Lyman Hall, Esq's*, were duly elected.

*Dr. Zubly* expressed his surprise at being chosen, and said that he thought himself, for many reasons, a very improper person; but the choice was insisted upon, and the Doctor declared he would by no means go unless he had the approbation of his congregation; whereupon, *Noble Wimberly Jones and John Houstoun, Esquires*, were appointed to request their consent.

A motion was made and seconded, that a Secret Committee be appointed, which being agreed to, it was

Resolved, That the President do nominate seven persons to be that Committee, whose business it shall be to be vigilant and active in the discovery of all matters which may affect the publick; and that they shall have right to lay all such intelligence and information before the President of this Congress while sitting, and in its recess before the President of the Council of Safety, in order that the evil designs of wicked men may be early frustrated.

A motion was made and seconded, that the Congress do petition the King upon the present unhappy situation of affairs; which being agreed to, it was ordered that *Dr. Zubly* do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made and seconded, that a Letter be forthwith wrote to the President of the Continental Congress, giving him an account of the proceedings of this Congress; which being agreed to, it was ordered that *Dr. Zubly, John Smith, William Young, William Le Conte, and William Gibbons, Esquires*, be a Committee for that purpose.

*John Walton, Esquire*, who was elected as well for *Wrightsborough Township* as for the Town and District of *Augusta*, came in and took his seat for the former.

A motion was made and seconded, that an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governour by this Congress; which being agreed to, it was ordered that *Dr. Zubly, Basil Cowper, John Walton, Joseph Clay, and Edward Telfair*, be a Committee to draw up the same.

Saturday, July 8, 1775.

Resolved, That this Congress are of opinion that the Paper delivered into this Congress on the second day of its meeting, ought not to have been entitled or dressed

in the form of Resolves, but rather as recommendations, or in nature of a Petition or Address to this Congress.

Resolved, nevertheless, from the desire this Congress hath to promote union and concord among ourselves, and as it does not appear that the said Paper was intended to be considered as coming from a distinct or independent body, that therefore the matter contained in the same (being such as is in the general agreeable to us) shall be duly considered and attended to.

A motion was made and seconded, that a sum, not exceeding Ten Thousand Pounds sterling, be provided to defray the necessary services of this Province in the present alarming and distracted state of affairs, which passed unanimously in the affirmative.

A motion was then made and seconded, that the Congress resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider ways and means for raising and sinking the said sum of Ten Thousand Pounds sterling; which being agreed to, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee accordingly.

The President having resumed the Chair, *Mr. Clay*, from the Committee of the Whole Congress, reported, that they had entered upon the consideration of ways and means, had made some progress therein, and desired leave to sit again.

The President reported to the Congress that he had, in obedience to the resolution of yesterday, nominated seven persons to be a Secret Committee.

Doctor *Zubly*, who was ordered to prepare and bring in a Petition to His Majesty, reported that he had done so, and produced a Paper containing the same, which he delivered in to the President; and the said Paper being read, and approved of, it was Resolved that the President do sign the same.

A motion was made and seconded, that a Committee of Intelligence be appointed; which being agreed to, it was

Ordered, That *William Young, David Zubly, Stephen Drayton, Daniel Roberts, John Glen, Edward Telfair, William Ewen, Joseph Clay, and George Walton, Esquires*, be that Committee.

*William Young, Esquire*, of the Committee appointed to write a Letter to the President of the Continental Congress, reported, that they had done so, and delivered a Paper in to the President containing the same; which being read, and approved of, it was

Resolved, That the President do sign the same, and that it be forthwith sent.

Monday, July 10, 1775.

The following Resolves were unanimously entered into:

Whereas, by the unrelenting fury of a despotick Ministry, with a view to enforce the most oppressive Acts of a venal and corrupted Parliament, an army of mercenaries, under an unfeeling commander, has actually begun a civil war in *America*: and whereas, the apparent iniquity and cruelty of these destructive measures have, however, had this good effect, to unite men of all ranks in the common cause: and whereas, to consult on means of safety, and the method of obtaining redress, the good people of this Province of *Georgia* have thought proper to appoint a Provincial Congress, the Delegates met at the said Congress, now assembled from every part of the Province, besides adopting the Resolutions of the late Continental Congress, find it prudent to enter into such other Resolutions as may best express their own sense and the sense of their constituents, on the present unhappy situation of things, and therefore thought fit and necessary to resolve as follows, viz:

Resolved, That we were born free, have all the feelings of men, and are entitled to all the natural rights of mankind.

Resolved, That by birth or incorporation we are all *Britons*, and whatever *Britons* may claim as their birthrights is also ours.

Resolved, That in the *British Empire*, to which we belong, the Constitution is superiour to every man or set of men whatever, and that it is a crime of the deepest dye, in any instance, to impair or take it away, or deprive the meanest subject of its benefits.

Resolved, That that part of the *American Continent* which we inhabit was originally granted by the Crown,



and the Charter from *Charles* the Second expressly makes its constitutional dependance on the Crown only.

*Resolved*, That those who would now subject all *America*, or this Province, to dependancy on the Crown and Parliament, are guilty of a very dangerous innovation, which in time will appear as injurious to the Crown as it is inconsistent with the liberty of the *American* subject.

*Resolved*, That by the law of nature, and the *British* Constitution, no man can legally be deprived of his property without his consent, given by himself or his representatives.

*Resolved*, That the Acts of the *British* Parliament for raising a perpetual revenue on the *Americans*, by laying a tax on them without their consent, and contrary to their protestations, are diametrically opposite to every idea of property, to the spirit of the Constitution, and at one stroke deprive this vast Continent of all liberty and property, and as such, must be detested by every well-wisher to *Great Britain* and *America*.

*Resolved*, That the subsequent laws, made with a view to enforce these Acts, viz: The *Boston* Port Bill; the alteration of their Charter; the Act to carry beyond sea for trial; and (what refines upon every species of cruelty) the Fishery Bill; are of such a complexion that we can say nothing about them for want of words to express our abhorrence and detestation.

*Resolved*, That the loyalty, patience, and prudence of the inhabitants of *New-England*, under their unparalleled pressures, having been construed into a timidity and a dread of Regular Troops, a civil war, in support of acts extremely oppressive in themselves, hath actually been begun, and that there is too much reason to believe that plans have been in agitation big with every thing horrible to other Provinces; plans as rash, barbarous, and destructive, as the cause which they were intended to serve.

*Resolved*, That in these times of extreme danger, our Assembly not being permitted to sit, we must either have been a people without all thought or counsel, or have assembled as we now are in Provincial Congress, to consult upon measures which, under *God*, may prove the means of a perpetual union with the Mother Country, and tend to the honour, freedom, and safety of both.

*Resolved*, That the Province bears all true allegiance to our own rightful Sovereign, King *George* the Third, and always will, and ought to bear it, agreeable to the Constitution of *Great Britain*, by virtue of which only the King is now our Sovereign, and which equally binds Majesty and Subjects.

*Resolved*, That we are truly sensible how much our safety and happiness depend on a constitutional connection with *Great Britain*; and that nothing but the being deprived of the privileges and natural rights of *Britons* could ever make the thought of a separation otherwise than intolerable.

*Resolved*, That in case His Majesty, or his successors, shall, at any time hereafter, make any requisition to the good people of this Province, by his representative, it will be just and right that such sums should be granted as the nature of the service may require, and the ability and situation of this Province will admit of.

*Resolved*, That this Province join with all the Provinces in *America*, now met by Delegates in Continental Congress, and that *John Houstoun* and *Archibald Bullock*, Esquires, the Rev. Dr. *Zubly*, *Lyman Hall*, and *Noble Wimberly Jones*, Esquires, be the Delegates from this Province, and that any three constitute a quorum for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed, whose duty it shall be to see that the Resolutions of the Continental and Provincial Congresses be duly observed, and that every person who shall act in opposition thereto, have his name transmitted to the Continental Congress, and his misdeeds be published in every *American* paper.

*Resolved*, That with all such persons, except the indispensable duties that we owe all mankind, (bad men and enemies are not excepted,) we will have no dealings nor connection; and we extend this our Resolution also to all such persons or corporations in *Great Britain* who have shown themselves enemies to *America*.

*Resolved*, That we will do what in us lies to preserve and promote the peace and good order of this Province;

and should any person become an innocent sufferer on account of these grievances, we will do whatever we justly may for his relief and assistance.

*Resolved*, That in such calamitous times as the present every possible indulgence ought to be given to honest debtors; that it would be ungenerous, unless there appear intention of fraud, in any gentleman of the law to sue without previous notice; and any person so sued may apply to the Committee, and should it appear to them that the creditor is in no danger of losing his money, or can be properly secured, they shall interpose their friendly offices to persuade him to drop the prosecution; and every prosecutor that shall appear to take advantage of the confusion of the times to distress his debtor, ought to be publickly pointed out and held in abhorrence.

*Resolved*, That notwithstanding, in a late bill for restraining the trade of several Provinces in *America*, this Province is excepted, we declare that we look upon this exception rather as an insult than a favour; as being meant to break the union of the Provinces, and as being grounded on the supposition that the inhabitants of such excepted Province can be base enough to turn the oppression of *America* into a mean advantage.

Tuesday, July 11, 1775.

*John Houstoun* and *Noble Wimberly Jones*, Esquires, appointed to request the consent of Doctor *Zubly's* congregation for their permission for him to go to *Philadelphia*, reported, that they had done so, and that the said congregation had voted that they were willing to spare their Minister for a time for the good of the common cause. Doctor *Zubly* then declared that he was willing to go, and thanked the Congress for so signal a mark of honour and confidence.

Mr. *Clay*, from the Committee appointed to draw up an Address to his Excellency the Governour, from this Congress, reported, that they had done so, and delivered it in to the President; which was ordered to be read, and is as follows, viz:

To His Excellency Sir JAMES WRIGHT, Baronet, Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of GEORGIA, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same:

May it please your Excellency:

We, his Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Delegates of this Province, in Provincial Congress met, beg leave to address your Excellency.

In these very critical and alarming times the good people of this Province find themselves under an absolute necessity to take some measures for the security and preservation of their liberties, and every thing that is near and dear to them; and they have accordingly chosen a large number of persons to meet together at *Savannah*, to consult on the means to obtain redress under our many and very heavy grievances. These being accordingly met, (to be distinguished from the usual representation,) have styled themselves a Provincial Congress; and from the number and character of the names, which your Excellency may see in our last *Gazette*, your Excellency will be convinced the Province was never more fully represented in any Assembly; though possibly this measure never would have taken place, had we not, from several successive prorogations or adjournments, but too much reason to fear your Excellency had received very strong instructions not to suffer the Assembly to enter into any measures to secure the rights of *America*, or even to petition for relief, unless in terms which would have been giving up the rights, and fixing lasting disgrace on the petitioners.

Although there is no doubt but a great majority of the inhabitants of this Province always looked upon the claim of Parliament to take away the property of *Americans* as illegal and oppressive, yet, from a variety of causes, not unknown to your Excellency, this Province, in the *American* chain, has hitherto been the defaulting link. We have now joined with the other Provinces in the Continental Congress, and have sent a Petition to His Majesty, appointed Delegates to the *American* Congress, and entered into such Resolutions, which we mean inviolably to adhere to, as will convince the friends and foes of *America* that we would not live unworthy of the name of *Britons*,



or labour under the suspicion of being unconcerned for the rights and freedom of *America*.

Extracts of some letters which are inserted in Parliamentary proceedings, widely differ from what must appear to every unprejudiced person the real state of this Province. We are not acquainted with an individual in *Georgia* that looks upon the claims of Parliament as just; and all men speak with abhorrence of the measures made use of to enforce them. Our fellow-subjects who formerly entered a dissent, which we find was transmitted to the Minister in terms that bespeak the great pleasure it gave the transmitter, now generally say, they never differed with *America* as to the reality of grievances, but only in the mode of obtaining redress.

Though candour may allow these mutilated extracts, laid before Parliament, were probably rather designed by the Minister to screen himself, and justify his own measures, than to give a just and true account of what information he might have received, yet we cannot help observing the general purport of these letters seem to have a much greater regard to the designs of the Minister, than to give an impartial account of the real state of things. Other Provinces, no doubt, if they find themselves mentioned in any part of them, will view them in what light they may think fit; but as to any prejudicial informations they may contain against many persons in this Province, while it is not to be expected they will give up their feelings as private men, your Excellency may be assured we shall always pay due respect to His Majesty's representative, and shall with great pleasure acknowledge every service your Excellency may hereafter render to *Great Britain* and *America*, whose interest we know, and whose connection we wish to be forever inseparable.

Your Excellency may be assured these are objects which we have greatly at heart, and shall ever do what in us lies towards a reconciliation with our Parent State on constitutional principles, as well as endeavour to preserve the peace and good order of this Province.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing Address be signed by the President, and be presented to his Excellency the Governor; and that *Stephen Drayton*, *Edward Telfair*, *William Le Conte*, *John Walton*, *George Houston*, and *Philip Box*, be a Committee to present the same.

— Wednesday, July 12, 1775.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration ways and means to raise and sink Ten Thousand Pounds sterling; and, after some time spent therein, the President resumed the Chair.

*Resolved*, That the Congress being a full representation of the whole Province, the members of the same, their constituents, and all others resident or holding property within the same, are bound to contribute, by an equal and general tax, towards the sinking the Ten Thousand Pounds sterling.

*Resolved*, That the Congress while sitting, and the Council of Safety in its recess, have power to issue Certificates from time to time, as occasion shall require, to the amount of Ten Thousand Pounds sterling, and that all such Certificates shall be signed by the Treasurers, and at least three of the Members of the Council of Safety.

*Resolved*, That any person who shall not receive any such Certificate in payment will be guilty of a breach of the publick faith, and ought to be considered as an enemy to the Province, and treated accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the said Certificate be sunk in three years after a reconciliation shall take place between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

— Thursday, July 13, 1775.

*Resolved*, That this Congress do approve of, and adopt the Association entered into at *Savannah*, on the fifth day of *June* last past, viz:

*Association unanimously entered into by the Provincial Congress, at SAVANNAH, in GEORGIA, on THURSDAY, the thirteenth of JULY, 1775.*

GEORGIA.

Being persuaded that the salvation of the rights and liberties of *America* depend, under *God*, on the firm union

of the inhabitants in its vigorous prosecution of the measures necessary for its safety; and convinced of the necessity of preventing the anarchy and confusion which attend the dissolution of the powers of Government, we, the free-men, freeholders, and inhabitants of the Province of *Georgia*, being greatly alarmed at the avowed design of the Ministry to raise a revenue in *America*, and shocked by the bloody scene now acting in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, do, in the most solemn manner, resolve never to become slaves; and do associate, under all the ties of religion, honour, and love to our Country, to adopt, and endeavour to carry into execution, whatever may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved upon by our Provincial Convention, appointed for the purpose of preserving our Constitution, and opposing the execution of the several arbitrary and oppressive Acts of the *British* Parliament, until a reconciliation between *Great Britain* and *America*, on constitutional principles, which we most ardently desire, can be obtained; and that we will in all things follow the advice of our General Committee, appointed respecting the purposes aforesaid, the preservation of peace and good order, and the safety of individuals and private property.

*Resolved*, That *John Smith*, *Basil Cowper*, *George Houston*, *Joseph Clay*, *William Young*, *Philip Box*, *Seth John Cuthbert*, *William O'Bryan*, *George Walton*, *William Le Conte*, *William Gibbons*, *Samuel Elbert*, *Edward Telfair*, and *Oliver Bowen*, be a Committee to present the Association to all the inhabitants of the Town and District of *Savannah*, to be signed; in doing which, expedition is particularly recommended, and an account of all who decline signing shall be returned to the General Committee.

— Friday, July 14, 1775.

A motion was made and seconded, that a Committee be appointed, to report their opinion who shall be qualified to vote for Delegates to sit in future Congresses, and the most equal method of representation; and the same being agreed to, a Committee was appointed accordingly.

Committee: *Stephen Drayton*, *John Glen*, and *Joseph Clay*, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That in every case where a summons shall be applied for, the Magistrate to whom such application shall be made, do in the first place, and before the issuing of such summons, give notice thereof, either by personal information, message, or letter, to the party defendant, and also use his best endeavour to compromise and settle the matter, and, unless the defendant has discovered circumstances of fraud or delay, and is ready and willing to give security for the debt, and shall actually offer to do so, payable in a reasonable time, no such summons ought to be issued. And in case a warrant in a civil case shall be applied for, the same ought not to be granted, unless there appears to the satisfaction of the Magistrate, that there are good and sufficient grounds, besides the plaintiff's oath, to apprehend the defendant means to abscond; but the same method ought to be observed as is recommended respecting summonses.

*Mr. Drayton*, from the Committee appointed to report their opinion who shall be qualified to vote for Delegates to sit in future Congresses, &c., reported, as the opinion of that Committee, that every man contributing towards the general tax shall be qualified to vote for Delegates to sit in future Congresses, and that the following proportion will be the most equal representation, viz: the Town and District of *Savannah* shall have seventeen members; District of *Little Ogechee*, three; *Vernonburgh*, two; *Acton*, two; *Sea Islands*, three; *Goshen* and *Abercorn*, two; Parish of *St. Mattheu*, seven; *St. George*, nine; *St. Paul*, nine; *St. Philip*, seven; *St. John*, twelve; *St. Andrew*, nine; *St. David*, three; *St. Patrick*, two; *St. Thomas*, two; *St. Mary*, two; *St. James*, two; *Ceded Lands*, three: and that the President and thirty-four members do constitute a Congress to proceed upon business.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing Report be approved of, and that Delegates be elected by the persons, and in the proportion therein mentioned.

*Resolved*, That the following form of Delegation be recommended to the inhabitants of the several Parishes and Districts throughout the Provinces, to prevent clashing and



unequal powers being given by different Parishes and Districts, viz :

GEORGIA.

The affairs of the Continent of *America* being now brought to a truly alarming and critical situation, and there being no other method left but that the whole body of the people unite as one, in opposing such acts as tend utterly to destroy the liberty, property, and birthright of *America*; and it having been thought necessary and convenient, in order to consult on proper ways and means for our mutual security, to assemble and convene the people in each Colony and Province, by their representatives, into one body or Council, styled a Provincial Congress, who shall act in all cases whatsoever for the good of the common cause. Now, therefore, be it known, that we, the inhabitants of . . . Parish, (or District,) being met together in order to choose such men as are capable of the important trust, do choose *A, B, C, D, &c.*, being the number determined on in the Provincial Congress, held at *Savannah*, 4th July, 1775, to represent us in the Provincial Congress to be held at said Town of *Savannah* on the fourth December next. And we do require you, the said *A, B, &c.*, to do, transact, join, and concur with the other Delegates of this Province, so sitting as above recited, in all things as shall appear eligible and fit at this alarming time, for the preservation and defence of our rights and liberties; and we further empower you to choose other Delegates, if in your wisdom you think proper, or if any requisition in that case should be made by the Grand Continental Congress, in order to join or succeed the Delegates in that Congress, now chosen by the people of this Province. And we do bind ourselves solemnly, under the sacred ties of religion, virtue, honour, and love of our Country, to abide by, enforce, and carry into execution, or endeavour so to do, at the risk and peril of our lives and fortunes, whatsoever you, with the other Delegates, shall resolve and agree upon to be necessary for the well-doing and preservation of the violated rights of this Province, and the Continent in general.

Signed by us this . . . day of . . . , 1775.

Saturday, July 15, 1775.

A motion was made and seconded, that a Committee be appointed to report their opinion with respect to the better governing the Militia of this Province; which being agreed to, a Committee was appointed accordingly, to wit: *Stephen Drayton, Samuel Elbert, Dr. Brownson, and Peter Tarlin.*

A motion was made and seconded, that a Committee be appointed to communicate to the inhabitants of this Province, an account of the disputes subsisting between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, and also the proceedings of this Congress; and the same being agreed to, it was

Ordered, That the Rev. Dr. Zubly, Noble *Wimberly Jones, William Young, and George Walton*, be a Committee for that purpose.

Resolved, That the Congress shall expire on the twentieth day of *August* next; that a new election be made at such times between the said twentieth day of *August* and first of *September*, as the inhabitants of the several Parishes and Districts (except the Town and District of *Savannah*) shall think fit, respectively, and that the members so elected, with those who shall afterwards be chosen for the Town and District of *Savannah*, do meet in General Congress at *Savannah*, on the fourth day of *December* next, or sooner, if the Council of Safety shall think it expedient to summon them.

Resolved, That the Members of this Congress use every endeavour to give as publick notice of elections as possible; and that each Parish and District shall, at the time of such elections, likewise choose a sufficient number as a Parochial or District Committee, to enforce the different Resolves of the Continental and Provincial Congresses.

Resolved, That the inhabitants of the Town and District of *Savannah* do meet at *Savannah* on *Friday*, the fifteenth day of *September* next, to choose seventeen Delegates to represent them in Provincial Congress.

Resolved, That the several Delegates for the Town and District of *Savannah*, or a majority of them, together with all other Delegates who shall happen to be in Town, shall be a General Committee for the Province; that they shall

have power to superintend, direct, and advise all the Parochial or District Committees, and, in case of difficulty, to inform them of their duty. And any person who shall apprehend himself aggrieved by the decision of any of the Parochial or District Committees, may appeal to the said General Committee, who shall hear his case, and do justice according to the spirit and intention of this Congress. And in case such appellant shall still be dissatisfied, he may lay his case before the next Congress, provided there be no delay occasioned by any such appeal, but the sentence of each Committee shall take effect immediately after being pronounced.

Monday, July 17, 1775.

Resolved, That the Reverend Mr. *Haddon Smith*, by twice refusing to comply with the request of this Congress, and to join on a day of Fasting and Prayer, appointed by the Continental Congress to be observed throughout all *America*, besides the day appointed by his Excellency the Governour, at the request of this Congress, has given too much reason to believe he does not wish that the happy event, mentioned in the *American* Proclamation, may take place, and that the said Mr. *Haddon Smith* has thereby incurred the censure of this Congress, and ought to be considered as unfriendly to *America*.

Resolved nemine contradicente, That the Delegates appointed by this Congress to go to *Philadelphia*, do apply to the Continental Congress to incorporate this Province with the other united Provinces of *North America*, and that they pledge the faith of us and our constituents, to contribute an adequate part of the expenses which have or may accrue, in the defence of the violated rights of *America*.

Resolved, That the Council of Safety have full power, upon every emergency, during the recess of Congress, to give such information and propose such measures, by way of advice to our Continental Delegates, as the circumstances of the case may require, and they shall think conducive to the publick good.

Resolved, That it be strongly recommended to the friends of *America* in this Province, that they use their utmost endeavours to preserve peace and good order, and to cultivate harmony with one another, and always to avoid national reflections, which can only tend to produce divisions and jealousies among the inhabitants.

Resolved, That this Congress do adjourn to the nineteenth day of *August* next, and that the General Committee have power to call it to sit at *Savannah* sooner, if they, upon any emergency, shall deem it expedient for the good of the Province. By order of the Congress.

A true copy from the Minutes:

GEORGE WALTON, Secretary.

Savannah, July 25, 1775.

To the Inhabitants of the Province of GEORGIA:

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN: We are directed to transmit to you an account of the present state of *American* affairs, as well as the proceedings of the late Provincial Congress.

It is with great sorrow we are to acquaint you, that what our fears suggested, but our reason thought impossible, is actually come to pass. A civil war in *America* is begun. Several engagements have already happened. The friends and foes of *America* have been equally disappointed. The friends of *America* were in hopes *British* Troops could never be induced to slay their brethren. It is, however, done, and the circumstances are such as must be an everlasting blot on their character for humanity and generosity. An unfeeling commander has found means to inspire his troops with the same evil spirit that possesseth himself. After the starving, helpless, innocent inhabitants of *Boston* delivered up their arms, and received his promise that they might leave that virtuous devoted Town, he is said to have broke his word, and the wretched inhabitants are still kept, to fall a prey to disease, famine, and confinement. If there are powers that abhor injustice and oppression, it may be hoped such perfidy cannot go long unpunished. But the enemies of *America* have been no less disappointed. Nothing so contemptible in their eyes like the rabble of an *American* Militia, nothing more improbable than that they would dare to look Regulars in the face, or stand a single fire. By this time they must have felt how much they



were mistaken. In every engagement the *Americans* appeared with a bravery worthy of men that fight for the liberties of their oppressed Country; their success has been remarkable; the number of the slain and wounded on every occasion vastly exceeds theirs; and the advantages they gained are the more honourable, because, with a patience that scarce has an example, they bore every act of injustice and insult till their lives were attacked, and then gave the fullest proof that the man of calmness and moderation in council, is usually also the most intrepid and courageous in battle.

You will doubtless lament with us the hundreds that died in their Country's cause; but does it not call for greater sorrow that thousands of *British* soldiers fought and found their deaths, when they were active to enslave their brethren and their Country?

However irritating all those proceedings, yet so unnatural is this quarrel, that every good man must wish and pray that it may soon cease, that the injured rights of *America* may be vindicated by milder means, and that no more blood may be shed, unless it be of those who fomented, and mean to make an advantage of those unhappy divisions.

From the proceedings of the Congress, a copy of which accompanies the present, you will be convinced that a reconciliation, on honourable principles, is an object which your Delegates never lost sight of. We have sent an humble and manly Petition to His Majesty; addressed his representative, our Governour; provided, as far as in our power, for internal quiet and safety; and Delegates will soon attend the General Congress, to assist and co-operate in every measure that shall be thought necessary for the saving of *America*.

His Excellency, at our request, having appointed the nineteenth instant as a day of humiliation, and news being afterwards received that the Continental Congress had recommended the twentieth instant to be observed as such, both days have been observed with a becoming solemnity, and we humbly hope many earnest prayers have been presented to the Father of Mercies on that day, through this extensive Continent, and that he has heard the cries of the destitute, and will not despise their prayers.

You will permit us most earnestly to recommend to you a steady perseverance in the cause of liberty, and that you will use all possible caution not to say or do any thing unworthy of so glorious a cause; to promote frugality, peace, and good order; and, in the practice of every social and religious duty, patiently to wait for the return of that happy day when we may sit quietly under our vine and fig-tree, and no man make us afraid.

J. J. ZUBLY,  
N. W. JONES,  
GEORGE WALTON.

The following are copies of a Petition from the Inhabitants of *Georgia*, which was presented to the King on *Friday, October* twenty-eighth, by Governour *Johnstone*, and of Letters which accompanied it:

Savannah, July 14, 1775.

To GEORGE JOHNSTONE, Esquire:

SIR: It is with a singular pleasure I am desired to transmit the accompanying papers to you, sensible that in a cause where the essential rights of so many millions are concerned, no endeavours on your part will be wanting to give them their full effect.

The many proofs which the people of this Province had of your magnanimity, justice, and disinterested integrity, in establishing the neighbouring Colony of *West-Florida*, have rendered your name respected throughout *America*; and your subsequent conduct has endeared you still further to every lover of mankind in the eastern and western world. These motives have determined the Congress in the application they now make.

I am sensible if the same Councils prevail, the task of conveying such disagreeable truths to the Throne must prove very painful; but we believe there is no person who would undertake the office with less reluctance, or execute it with more becoming duty and respect to His Majesty.

I am, &c.

Savannah, Georgia, July 14, 1775.

SIR: When turbulent and wicked minds are employed solely to raise commotions in the State, and disturb the

tranquillity of the subject; when, by their baneful influence, life, property, and freedom, are inhumanly invaded, and the innocence and loyalty of thousands are unjustly questioned; we, the inhabitants of *Georgia*, by a just delegation from the different Parishes, being now convened in Congress in this Town, have resolved to address His Majesty in a dutiful petition, setting forth our grievances, and the bad tendency of the many wicked and treacherous proceedings against this Continent, that have passed since the year 1763.

Although we know the fate of all other petitions on this head, and cannot flatter ourselves that we should meet with one different; yet, as the right of petitioning is the subject's, we beg leave to enclose this our prayer and remonstrance to you, hoping and trusting on the noble sentiments you entertain and support, in favour of us much injured *Americans*, that, countenanced by one of your great abilities, it may approach the Throne.

We assure you, Sir, we are, and always were, firmly attached to His Majesty's family; nor can any thing shake our integrity. But when, by evil and wicked Ministers, our birthright as *Englishmen* shall be violated, that integrity must urge us to hand down to our children a right so invaluable.

We conceive our immediate dependance on the Crown can by no means hinder our doing that indispensable duty in joining with the rest of *America* against acts that tend to enslave a people whose loyalty and faith were never even suspected, until the actions of the times wanted an excuse.

We have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servants,

WILLIAM YOUNG, EDW. TELFAIR,  
JOHN GLEN, DANIEL ROBERTS,  
DAVID ZUBLY, JUN., WILLIAM IRVEN,  
STEP. DRAYTON,

A Committee of Intelligence.

To George Johnstone, Esquire.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty:

The humble Address and Representation of his loyal subjects, the Delegates of the Inhabitants of *GEORGIA*, now met in Provincial Congress:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY: Though we bring up the rear of *American* petitioners, and, from the fate of so many petitions presented to your Majesty from *America*, your great City of *London*, and others of your *European* subjects, have a most melancholy prospect, we still hope He, by whom Kings rule, and to whom Monarchs are accountable, will incline you to pay some regard to our most humble and faithful representation.

In times like these, when the edge of present feeling is blunted by the expectation of calamities still greater, we must take the liberty to speak before we die. We would acquaint our Sovereign with things which greatly affect his interest; we would endeavour to awaken the feeling and pity of our common father.

Your Majesty is the rightful sovereign of the most important empire in the universe. The blessings of Providence on your arms has put a country in *America* under you of greater importance and extent than several kingdoms in *Europe*. In this large extent of territory, by some late acts, Popery is not only tolerated, (which we conceive would have been but an act of justice,) but an indulgence has been granted, little short of a full establishment, to a religion which is equally injurious to the rights of sovereigns and of mankind. *French* and arbitrary laws have there, by authority, taken place of the just and mild *British* Constitution; and all this has been done with a professed and avowed design to overawe your Majesty's ancient Protestant and loyal subjects, some of whom had no small share in the merit of that conquest. Acts to raise a perpetual revenue on the *Americans*, without their consent, have been enacted, which at one stroke turn all your *American* subjects into slaves, and deprive them of that right which the most oppressive task-master does not deny to the servant bought with his money. Experience must now have shown, as it will clearer, should these acts be enforced, that instead of increasing the revenue, or lessening the burden of your *European* subjects, they can only serve to increase their taxation.



Laws which we conceive fraught with so much injustice, have been attempted to be enforced by equal cruelty; and whenever we thought ourselves at the height of our troubles, your Majesty's Ministers have stretched their unhappy ingenuity to find out new methods of distress; and it is believed methods have been more than thought of, too shocking to human nature to be even named in the list of grievances suffered under a *British King*.

The goodness of *God* hath made your Majesty the father of a very numerous issue, on whom we place the pleasing hopes of a Protestant succession; but your Majesty's arms in *America* now every day make mothers childless, and children fatherless. The blood of your subjects has been shed with pleasure, rather than with pity. For an act which amounted to no more, even under the worst construction, than an irregular zeal for constitutional liberty, and without any step taken to find out the supposed guilty persons, the capital of your *American* Dominions has been blocked up, deprived of its trade, and its poor of subsistence. Thousands, confessedly innocent, have been starved, ruined, driven from, or kept like prisoners in their own habitations; their cries and blood, innocently shed, have undoubtedly, and daily do reach His ears who hateth injustice and oppression.

Believe us, great Sir, *America* is not divided: all men (Crown officers not excepted) speak of these acts and measures with disapprobation; and if there has been some difference of opinion as to the mode of relief, the rigorous experiments which your Ministry thought fit to try on the *Americans*, have been the most effectual means to convince these of the iniquitous designs of your Ministry, and to unite them all as in a common cause.

Your Majesty's Ministers, after introducing the demon of discord into your Empire, and driving *America* to the brink of despair, place all their dignity in measures obstinately pursued, because they were once wantonly taken. They hearkened to no information, but what represented *Americans* as rebels or cowards. Time will every day make it clearer how much they were infatuated and mistaken.

Too long, we must lament, have these men imposed on your paternal affection. Deign now, most gracious Prince, in their room, to hearken to the cries of your loyal and affectionate subjects of this extensive Continent; let the goodness of your own heart interpose between weak or wicked Ministers and millions of loyal and affectionate subjects; no longer let the sword be stained with the blood of your own children; recall your troops and fleets; and if any misunderstanding remains, let the *Americans* be heard, and justice and equity take place; let us be ruled according to the known principles of our excellent Constitution, and command the last shilling of our property, and the last drop of our blood in your service.

Uncertain as to the event of this our humble representation, it affords us a relief that we may, unrestrained, apply to the great and merciful Sovereign of the whole earth, who will not despise the prayer of the oppressed; and to him we most ardently pray, that the wicked being removed from before the King, the King's Throne may be established in righteousness.

By order of the Congress at *Savannah*, this 14th day of July.

ARCH. BULLOCK, President.

THE LAW OF LIBERTY: A SERMON ON AMERICAN AFFAIRS, PREACHED AT THE OPENING OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF GEORGIA, BY JOHN J. ZUBLY, D. D.

JAMES ii. 12.—So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

There was a time when there was no King in *Israel*, and every man did what was good in his own eyes. The consequence was a civil war in the nation, issuing in the ruin of one of the tribes, and a considerable loss to all the rest.

And there was a time when there was a King in *Israel*, and he also did what was right in his own eyes, a foolish son of a wise father; his own imprudence, the rashness of his young counsellors, his unwillingness to redress the grievances of the nation, and the harsh treatment he gave to those who applied for relief, also brought on a civil war, and issued in the separation of the ten tribes from the house of *David*. He sent his treasurer to gather an odious duty

or tribute, but the children of *Israel* stoned him that he died. And when he gathered one hundred and fourscore thousand men, that he might bring again the kingdom unto *Rehoboam*, *God* sent him a message, "Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren; return every man to his house, for this thing is done of me." *God* disapproved of the oppressive measures and ministry of *Rehoboam*, and that King's army appears more ready to obey the command of their *God*, than slay their brethren by orders of a tyrant. "They obeyed the voice of the Lord, and returned from going against *Jeroboam*."—2 Chron. x. 18. xi. 4.

The things that happened before are written for our learning. By comparing past times and proceedings with these that are present, prudence will point out many salutary and religious lessons. The conduct of *Rehoboam* verifies the lamentation of his father, "Woe to thee, O land, when thy king is a child."—Eccles. x. 16. A very small degree of justice and moderation might have preserved his kingdom, but he thought weapons of war better than wisdom. He hearkened not, neither to the people, nor to some of his more faithful counsellors; and the consequence was, that instead of enslaving the ten tribes who stood up for their liberty, *God* gave *Judah* to be servants to the King of *Egypt*, that they might learn the difference between his service and the service of the kingdoms of the nations. A people that claim no more than their natural rights, in so doing, do nothing displeasing unto *God*; and the most powerful monarch that would deprive his subject of the liberties of man, whatever may be his success, he must not expect the approbation of *God*, and in due time will be the abhorrence of all men.

In a time of publick and general uneasiness, it behooves both superiours and inferiours to consider. It is easy to extinguish a spark; it is folly to blow up discontent into a blaze. The beginning of strife is like the letting out of waters, and no man may know where it will end. There is a rule given to magistrates and subjects, which, if carefully attended to, would secure the dignity and safety of both, but which, if not duly regarded, is usually attended with the worst consequences. The present, my hearers, will easily be allowed, is a day of trouble, and surely in this day of adversity we ought to consider. When a people think themselves oppressed and in danger, nothing can be more natural than that they should inquire into the real state of things, trace their grievances to their source, and endeavour to apply the remedies which are most likely to procure relief; this I take to be the design of the present meeting of persons deputed from every part of the country. And as they have thought proper to open and begin their deliberations with a solemn address unto *God*, and the consideration of his holy word, I most cheerfully comply with their request to officiate on this occasion, and shall endeavour, as I may be enabled, to point out such directions from the holy scriptures as may make us wise in the knowledge of time, and direct us how to carry ourselves worthy of the character of good subjects and Christians. Whatever may be necessary for this purpose, I take to be comprehended in the apostolical rule, which I have laid down as the subject of this discourse; "So speak, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty."

There are two things which properly come before us, viz: First. That we are to be judged by the law of liberty; and

Second. The exhortation to act worthy, and under the influence of this important truth on every occasion.

A law is a rule of behaviour, made under proper authority, and with penalties annexed suitable to deter the transgressions. As all laws suppose man to be in a social state, so all laws ought to be made for the good of man. A law that is not made by such as have authority for so doing, is of no force; and if authority makes laws destructive in themselves, no authority can prevent things from finally taking their natural course.

Wherever there is society there must also be law; it is impossible that society should subsist without it. The will, minds, tempers, dispositions, views, and interests of men are so very different, and sometimes so opposite, that without law, which cements and binds all, every thing would be in endless disorder and confusion. All laws usually wear the complexion of those by whom they were made; but it cannot be denied that some bad men, from a sense



of necessity, have made good laws, and that some good men, from mistake or other weaknesses, have enacted laws bad in themselves, and pernicious in their consequences.

All human laws partake of human imperfection. It is not so with the laws of *God*; he is perfect, and so are all his works and ways. "The law of the *Lord* is perfect, converting the soul. The testimony of the *Lord* is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the *Lord* are right, rejoicing the heart. The commandment of the *Lord* is pure, enlightening the eyes. All his judgments are truth, and righteousness altogether."—*Psalm* xix.

Among men every society and country has its own laws and form of government, which may be very different, and cannot operate beyond their limits; but those laws and that form of government are undoubtedly best, which have the greatest tendency to make all those that live under them secure and happy. As soon as we consider man as formed into society, it is evident that the safety\* of the whole must be the grand law which must influence and direct every other. Men did not pass from a state of nature into a state of society, to render their situation more miserable and their rights more precarious. That government and tyranny is the hereditary right of some, and that slavery and oppression is the original doom of others, is a doctrine that would reflect dishonour upon *God*. It is treason against all mankind; it is indeed an enormous faith that millions were made for one. Transubstantiation is but a harmless absurdity, compared with the notion of a divine right to govern wrong, or of making laws which are contrary to every idea of liberty, property, and justice.

The law which the Apostle speaks of in our text, is not a law of man, but of Him who is the only lawgiver, that can save and condemn, to whom all owe obedience, and whose laws none can transgress with impunity.

Though all the laws that *God* ever gave unto man are worthy of *God*, and tend to promote the happiness of those to whom they were given, yet we may observe a very striking variety in the different laws which he gave at different times and to different people. "He shewed his word unto *Jacob*, his statutes and his judgments unto *Israel*; he has not dealt so with any other nation." *Ps.* cxlvii. 18, 19.

To the generality of mankind he gave no written law, but yet left not himself without a witness among them; the words of the law were written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while excusing or else accusing one another. It cannot be said they were without law, whilst what they were to do, and what they were to forbear, was written in their hearts.

To *Israel* *God* came with a fiery law in his hands; it was given with the most awful solemnity upon Mount *Sinai*. And as the sum and substance of all their ceremonial, political and moral law centered in the ten commandments, so the sum and substance of these are comprehended in love to *God* and love to man, which, as our *Lord* himself informs us, contain all the law and all the prophets.

All manifestations of the will of *God* have been gradual; and it is probable the means of knowing *God* will be progressive through different ages, till eternity gives the good man a full sight of *God* in his immediate presence. During the dispensation of the old testament and the ceremonial law, a spirit of bondage obtained unto fear, the law was a schoolmaster to bring us unto *Christ*; neither did the law make any thing perfect but the bringing in of a better hope. Grace and truth were brought to light by *Jesus Christ*; and hence the dispensation of the gospel under which we live, is called the law of liberty.

Though there is a manifest distinction between law and gospel, and sometimes these two things are even opposed to one another, yet the doctrine of the gospel is also called "The law of faith," *Rom.* iii. 17.; partly because it was usual with the *Jewish* writers to call every doctrine a law, and partly also because the doctrine of the gospel presents us with a rule of life, which all its professors are bound to obey; hence they are said to be "not without law, but under the law of *Christ*," *1 Cor.* ix. 11.; and hence our apostle speaks of a royal law, which, though we cannot obey in perfection, nor derive any merit from our imperfect obedience, we cannot neglect without danger, nor disobey without shewing our disregard to the doctrine of the gospel in general.

\* *Salus populi suprema lex.*

It deserves very particular attention that the doctrine of the gospel is called a law of liberty. Liberty and law are perfectly consistent. Liberty does not consist in living without all restraint; for were all men to live without restraint, as they please, there would soon be no liberty at all. The strongest would be master, the weakest go to the wall; right, justice, and property, must give way to power, and, instead of its being a blessing, a more unhappy situation could not easily be devised unto mankind, than that every man should have it in his power to do what is right in his own eyes. Well regulated liberty of individuals is the natural offspring of laws, which prudentially regulate the rights of whole communities; and as laws which take away the natural rights of men are unjust and oppressive, so all liberty which is not regulated by law is a delusive phantom, and unworthy of the glorious name.

The gospel is called a law of liberty, because it bears a most friendly aspect to the liberty of man. It is a known rule, *Evangelium non tollit politias*, the gospel makes no alteration in the civil state; it by no means renders man's natural and social condition worse than it would be without the knowledge of the gospel. When the *Jews* boasted of their freedom, and that they never were in bondage, our *Lord* does not reprove them for it, but only observes, that national freedom still admits of improvement: "If the Son shall make you free, then are you free indeed." *John* viii. 16. This leads me to observe that the gospel is a law of liberty in a much higher sense. By whomsoever a man is overcome, of the same he is brought into bondage; but no external enemy can so completely tyrannize over a conquered enemy, as sin does over all those who yield themselves its servants. Vicious habits, when once they have gained the ascendant in the soul, bring man to that unhappy pass, that he knows better things and does worse. Sin, like a torrent, carries him away against knowledge and conviction, while conscience fully convinceth him that he travels the road of death, and must expect, if he so continues, to take up his abode in hell; though his decaying body clearly tells him sin breaks his constitution, as well as wastes his substance; though he feels the loss of credit and wealth, still sin has too strong a hold of him to be forsaken; though he faintly resolves to break off, yet, till the grace of *God* brings salvation, when he would do good, evil is present with him. In short, instead of being under a law of liberty, he is under the law of sin and death; but whenever he feels the happy influence of the grace of the gospel, then this "law of liberty makes him free from the law of sin and death," *Rom.* viii. 2. It furnisheth him not only with motives to resist, but with power also to subdue sin; sin reigns no longer in his mortal body, because he is not under the law but under grace. By this law of liberty he is made free from sin, and has his fruit unto holiness, and the end of it eternal life. There is another reason why the gospel is called a law of liberty, which is to distinguish it from the ceremonial law under the *Mosaick* dispensation; a yoke, of which an Apostle saith, neither they nor their fathers were able to bear. It was superadded on account of their transgressions, and suited to the character of a gross and stubborn nation, to whom it was originally given. They were so prone to idolatry, and so apt to forget their *God*, their notions were so gross and carnal, that a number of external rites and ceremonies became necessary to put them in mind of him, and to attach them to some degree of his worship and service. This, however necessary, was a heavy burden; it bid them "touch not, taste not, handle not." It required of them expensive sacrifices, and a costly and painful service. It was attended with the most fearful threatenings. If any man brake *Moses'* law, he died under two or three witnesses; and the very spirit they then received, was a spirit of bondage unto fear: whereas the gospel dispensation breatheth a spirit of confidence, and under the law of liberty we call upon *God*, as *Abba, Father*. By this law of liberty the professors of the gospel will be judged.

Every man is a rational, and therefore accountable, creature. As a creature he must needs depend on his Creator; and as a rational creature he must certainly be accountable for all his actions. Nothing is more evident than that man is not of himself; and if once we admit that he holds his existence, his faculties and favours from *God* that made him, it becomes a very obvious conclusion that his Maker



must have had some view in giving him existence, and more understanding than to the beasts of the field, neither can it be a matter of indifference to him whether man acts agreeably or contrary to his designs. The Creator of the natural world is also its moral ruler; and if he is now the proprietor and ruler of intelligent beings, at some time or other he must also be their judge.

If *God* had not made his will known unto man, there could have been neither transgression nor judgment. If it should be said that *God* has not manifested himself alike unto all men, and that some have much smaller opportunities to know his will and their duty than others, it is enough to observe, that no man will be judged by a rule of which it was impossible he should have any knowledge. Every work and every man will be brought into judgment, and the judgment of *God* will never be otherwise than according to truth; but those that never had the law of liberty will not be judged by that law; and those that have been favoured with the revelation of the gospel, will be more inexcusable than any others if they neglect the day of their visitation. "As many as have sinned without law, shall also perish without law; and as many as have sinned in the law, shall be judged by the law." *Rom. ii. 12.* All men are under some law; they feel, they are conscious, that they are so; the thoughts which already excuse or condemn one another, are an anticipation of a final and decisive judgment, when every man's reward will be according to his works.

That all those who heard and professed to believe the gospel will be finally judged by that, we have the fullest assurance. *God* will judge the secrets of men by *Jesus Christ*, according to his gospel. "The word that I have spoken," saith *Christ*, "the same will judge them that heard it on the last day." *John xii. 48.* It greatly interests us clearly to know what is the import and consequence of being judged by the gospel as a law of liberty, and it contains the following things:

The general character, all the thoughts, words, and actions, together with the general conduct of all those who professed the gospel, will be brought to the test, and tried by this rule. Man's own opinion of himself, the good opinion of others, will here stand him in no stead; his character will not be determined by his external appearance, but by his inward reality. "Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the *Lord* looketh on the heart." *1 Sam. xvii. 7.* The self-righteous pharisee will be rejected, notwithstanding his fair appearance and boasting; the penitent publican will be received, though he has nothing to plead, but *Lord* have mercy on me a sinner. The law is spiritual, and no law more so than the law of the gospel; it requires not merely an external obedience, but an internal conformity to the will of *God*; it demands truth in the inward part; it looks not only to the actions that are done, but to the principle from which they flow; we must judge of man's inward disposition by his visible action; but *God* judges of the actions of men according to their invisible spring; thoughts are out of the reach of human cognizance, but they are the first object of divine notice: there is not a word that drops from our tongue but what our judge hears; whatever we do, or whatever we neglect, is all under his immediate eye; and he not only attends to our general character, but also to every thought, word, or action, and the prevailing complexion of all these taken together form our true and real character.

In the judgment, according to this law, our character, words, thoughts, and actions will be brought to the test of this rule; our conduct will be compared with these precepts; this is the balance of the sanctuary in which the professors of the gospel shall be weighed, and as they shall be found approved or deficient, their case must be determined. Those whose temper and actions shall be found conformable to the law of liberty, will be acquitted, graciously accepted, and made ever happy; and those who turned the grace of *God* into wantonness, and made the liberty of the gospel a cloak for their sins, will be finally rejected. The gospel informs us, that a day is already appointed for that purpose; it acquaints us with the person of our judge, and every circumstance, as well as the rule, according to which he will proceed in judgment. Perhaps on that day, when all nations shall appear before the judge, and he will divide them as a shepherd divideth the sheep from the goats, distinct places will also be allotted to those who are to be

judged by natural conscience and the law of nature, and those who have been favoured with a divine revelation, and especially with the light of the gospel: the people of *Nineveh* will arise against empty professors of the gospel, and will condemn them. Those who have been exalted above others in means and privileges, will sit proportionably lower than those who have made a better improvement of lesser means; and, notwithstanding the fondest hope and finest profession, it is a determined rule of the law of liberty, that "except our righteousness shall exceed that of the Scribes and Pharisees, we shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven."

It deserves our peculiar attention, that the Apostle considers the gospel as a law of liberty, at the same time when he sets it before us as the rule by which we are to be judged. We are not to imagine because the gospel is a law of liberty, therefore men will not be judged; on the contrary, judgment will be the more severe against all who have heard and professed the gospel, and yet walked contrary to its precepts and doctrine. As the transgression of a law of liberty must be more inexcusable than the transgression of a law unjust or oppressive in itself, or even the ceremonial law, which was given only for a certain period, and to answer temporary purposes, so their judgment and doom must be proportionably heavier, who have sinned against love and liberty, as well as against power and justice.

According to this law the fate of men will not only be determined, but sentence will also be put into execution. *God* sitteth on the throne of judgment every day, and judgeth righteously; but he hath moreover appointed a particular day when he will manifest his power and justice before the whole creation; when the dead, both small and great, will stand before *God*; when those that acted agreeable to the law of liberty, will attain the fulness of glory of the freedom of the sons of *God*, and when he will also take vengeance on all that have not known *God*, and have not obeyed his holy gospel. This naturally leads to the second thing proposed, to take a nearer view of the importance of the exhortation, "So speak, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty."

It seems as though the Apostle had an eye to some particular branch of the law of liberty, *i. e.* the love which we owe unto our neighbour, and that his design is to obviate the mistake as though men might be considered as fulfilling the law of *Christ*, in paying respect to some of its commands and prohibitions, at the same time that they were entirely regardless of the rest. He assures them, that "whosoever shall keep the whole law, but shall transgress in one point" (*e. g.* having respect of persons) "is guilty of all." On this principle the Apostle builds the general exhortation, "So speak, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." This implies,

1. Be thoroughly convinced of the certainty of a judgment to come, and that it extends to you, to all your thoughts, words, and actions. There is not any truth of greater moment, nor perhaps more easily forgotten. The belief or unbelief of this important doctrine must have the most sensible effects. All the Apostles frequently put their hearers in mind of a judgment to come; and there is not any truth more necessary to be frequently inculcated and daily thought on; and wherever this truth is really believed and felt, it will have a constant and natural influence on the behaviour of those who truly believe it.

2. See to it that in judgment you may stand. All men will be brought into judgment, but few will be able to stand; none will be excused, or be able to withdraw, and only those who have acted worthily will meet with the divine acceptance. The difference will be amazing and beyond all conception: an eternity of happiness, which eye has not seen, ear has not heard, and which never entered into the heart of any man, lies on the one side; and despair, misery, and torment on the other. Those that are able to stand, will meet with the smiles and approbation of their judge; and to all the rest the King will say, "These mine enemies that would not have me to bear rule over them, bring them here, and slay them before mine eyes." Those that believe and are convinced of this awful alternative, should certainly make it their care that they may be able to stand in judgment; neither should the persuasion of this only influence their conduct in general, but these words ought to be considered as a rule, which we ought to have



constantly before our eyes in all our discourses and every undertaking; we should ever "so speak, and so act, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty."

I shall draw a few inferences, before I conclude with a more particular address to the worthy gentlemen at whose request I preach on this occasion.

1. *The gospel is a law of liberty.*

A late writer\* asserts, "every religion countenances despotism, but none so much as the Christian." This is a very heavy charge against religion in general, but bears hardest on the Christian. Whether it proceeds from malice, ignorance, or misapprehension, it is needless to determine: but if Christianity be a law of liberty, it must be obvious how ill-grounded is such a charge against it. It cannot be denied but some Christian writers have wrote against the rights of mankind. All those who stand up for unlimited passive obedience and non-resistance, may have given but too much cause for such surmises and suspicions; but the truth is, that both those which make this charge, and those who gave occasion for it, were alike ignorant of the spirit and temper of Christianity; and it may well be doubted whether the venders of such odious doctrines, who foisted tenets, so abominable and injurious to mankind, into the system of Christian religion, have not done that holy religion greater hurt, under the pretence of friendship and defence, than its most barefaced enemies by all their most violent attacks. Some Christian divines have taught the enormous faith, that millions were made for one; they have ascribed a divine right to Kings to govern wrong: but what then? Are such abominable doctrines any part of Christianity, because these men say so? Does the gospel cease to be a law of liberty, because some of its professors pervert it into an engine of tyranny, oppression, and injustice?

The assertion, that all religion countenances despotism, and Christianity more than any other, is diametrically opposite to fact. Survey the globe, and you will find that liberty has taken its seat only in Christendom, and that the highest degree of freedom is pleaded for and enjoyed by such as make profession of the gospel.

There are but two religions which are concerned in this charge; the Jewish and the Christian. Natural religion, writers of this kind, I suppose, would not include in their charge; if they do, they set all religion at variance with the rights of mankind, contrary to the sense of all nations, who are generally agreed, that, abstractly of a world to come, religion is of real service and necessity to mankind, for their better government and order.

As to the *Jewish* religion, it seems really strange that any should charge it with favouring despotism, when by one of its express rites, at certain times, it proclaimed "Liberty throughout the land, to the inhabitants thereof." *Levit. xxv. 10.* It required their Kings "not to be lifted up in their hearts above their brethren." *Deut. xvii. 20.* And the whole system of that religion is so replete with laws against injustice and oppression, it pays such an extraordinary regard to property, and gives such a strict charge to rule in justice and the fear of *God*, and to consider those over whom they judge as their brethren, even when dispensing punishments, and forbids all excess in them, that it is really surprising any one acquainted with its precepts should declare it favorable to despotism or oppression.

The Christian religion, while it commands due respect and obedience to superiors, no where requires a blind and unlimited obedience on the part of the subjects; nor does it vest any absolute and arbitrary power in the rulers. It is an institution for the benefit, and not for the distress of mankind. It preacheth not only "glory to *God* on high," but also "peace on earth, and good will among men."

The gospel gives no higher authority to magistrates than to be "the ministers of *God*, for the good of the subject." *Rom. xiii.* From whence it must surely follow, that their power is to edify, and not to destroy: when they abuse their authority, to distress and destroy their subjects, they deserve not to be thought ministers of *God* for good; nor is it to be supposed, when they act so contrary to the nature of their office, that they act agreeable to the will of *God*, or in conformity to the doctrine of the gospel.

The gospel recommends unto masters to forbear threatenings, and to remember that they also have a master in

heaven; it assures them that the eye of *God* is equally upon the servant and the master, and that with *God* there is no respect of persons: it commands masters, from the most solemn considerations, to give unto servants that which is just and equal: it saith to the meanest slave, "Art thou called, being a servant, care not for it, but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather." *1 Cor. vii. 21.*

The doctrine of the gospel has that regard to property, that it commands even soldiers: "Do violence to no man, and be content with your wages." *Luke iii. 14.* That a *Paul* sent back a runaway slave, though now converted, and belonging to his intimate friend, and at a time when he seems to have stood in real need of his services, from a delicacy that he would do nothing without the owner's mind, lest his benefit should appear as if it were of necessity, and not willingly. *Philem. xiv.* From the same spirit of justice, a *Zaccheus*, after his conversion, restored fourfold what before he had taken from any by false accusation; surely, then, the spirit of the gospel is very friendly to the rights and property of men.

The gospel sets conscience above all human authority in matters of faith, and bids us to "stand fast in that liberty wherewith the Son of *God* has made us free." *Gal. v. 1.* Freedom is the very spirit and temper of the gospel: "He that is called in the *Lord*, being a servant, is the *Lord's* freeman. Ye are bought with a price, be ye not the servants of men." *1 Cor. vii. 22, 23.* At the same time that it commands us to submit to every ordinance of men, it also directs us to act "as free, and not using liberty as a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of *God*." *1 Pet. iii. 13-18.*

Those, therefore, that would support arbitrary power, and require an unlimited obedience, in vain look for precedents or precepts for such things in the gospel, an institution equally tending to make men just, free, and happy here, and perfectly holy and happy hereafter.

2. *The main design of the gospel is not to direct us in our external and civil affairs, but how we may at last stand with comfort before God, the judge of all.*

Human prudence is to be our guide in the concerns of time; the gospel makes us wise unto salvation, and points out the means to be pursued, that it may be well with us in the world to come. As rational creatures, we are to make use of our reason; as Christians, we are to repent and believe the gospel. Motives of a worldly nature may very properly influence us in our worldly concerns; we are created not only for eternity, but also for time: it is not at all improper for us to have a due regard for both. The gospel will regulate our desires and restrain our passions as to earthly things, and will raise us at the same time above time and sense, to objects of a nature more worthy of ourselves. A due regard for, and a frequent meditation on, a judgment to come, will greatly assist us in all our concerns; and this very consideration the gospel holds out to us in the clearest manner. It not only affirms, as a truth, what reason and conscience might consider only as probable, but it takes away, as it were, the veil from between us and things to come; it gives us a present view of the future bliss of saints, and the terrors and despair of sinners: rather an historical account than a prophetick description of all the proceedings of the dreadful pleasing day; it clearly points out the road to destruction, and the way to escape; it affords us a plain and general rule to obtain safety and comfort, when it bids us, "So speak, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty."

This general rule may also be of considerable service in extraordinary and particular cases. It is impossible to provide express directions for every particular case; and in the course of things circumstances may happen when a good man may be at a loss to know his duty, and find it difficult so to act as to obtain his own approbation. There may be danger of going beyond, and danger in not coming up to, the mark. To act worthy of *God*, who has called us, is the general rule of the Christian at all times, and upon every occasion; and did we but always follow this rule, what manner of persons should we then be! But in cases of intricacy, we may still be in doubt what may be most for the glory of *God*, and most consistent with our duty. Sometimes, also, our relative duties may seem to come in competition with one another, and we may hesitate in our own mind which for the present has the strong-

\* See a tract, intitled, "Chains of Slavery," Printed, London, 1775.



est call. We would fain obey our superiors, and yet we cannot think of giving up our natural, our civil and religious rights, nor acquiesce in or contribute to render our fellow-creatures or fellow-citizens slaves and miserable. We would willingly follow peace with all men, and yet would be very unwilling that others should take the advantage of a pacifick disposition to injure us in hopes of doing it with impunity. We would express duty, respect, and obedience to the king, as supreme, and yet we would not wish to strengthen the hands of tyranny, nor call oppression lawful: in such a delicate situation it is a golden rule, "So to speak, and so to do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." Nothing has a greater tendency to make men act wrong than the disbelief of a future judgment; and nothing will more effectually restrain and direct them than the full persuasion that such an event will certainly take place; nothing would have a happier tendency to make us act with prudence, justice, and moderation, than the firm persuasion that *God* will bring every work into judgment, and every secret thing, whether it be good or bad.

Neither could I think on any direction more applicable to the design of our present meeting, or which I might more properly recommend to the respectable gentlemen now met together to consult on the recovery and preservation of the liberties of *America*, and who chose to begin their deliberations with a solemn act of worship to *Almighty God*, who has established government as his ordinance, and equally abhors licentiousness and oppression; whose singular blessing it is if subjects enjoy a righteous Government, and under such a Government lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

You are met, gentlemen, in a most critical time, and on a most alarming occasion, not in a legislative capacity, but (while the sitting of the usual representation is not thought for the King's service, or necessary for the good of this Province) you are chosen by the general voice of this Province to meet on their behalf, to consult on such measures as, in our local circumstances, may be most to the real advantage, and tend to the honour of our Sovereign, as well as the good and safety of this Province, and of all this great Continent. For the sake of the auditory, I shall briefly state the immediate causes that have given rise to this Provincial and a General *American* Congress, and then offer such humble advice as appears to me most suitable to our circumstances.

To enforce some acts for laying on a duty to raise a perpetual revenue in *America*, which the *Americans* think unjust and unconstitutional, which all *America* complains of, and some Provinces have in some measure opposed,\* a fleet and army has been sent to *New-England*, and after a long series of hardships by that Province patiently endured, it is now out of all question that hostilities have been commenced against them; blood has been shed, and many lives have been taken away; thousands, never so much as suspected of having any hand in the action which is made the pretence of all the severity now used against that Province, have been and still are reduced to the greatest distress. From this other Provinces have taken the alarm: an apprehension of nearer foes, not unlikely to appear as auxiliaries in an unjust cause, has thrown our neighbours into arms; how far and wide the flame so wantonly kindled may be permitted to spread, none can tell; but in these alarming circumstances the liberty of this Continent, of which we are a part, the safety and domestick peace of this Province, will naturally become a subject of your deliberations; and here I may well adapt the language of old, "There was no such deed done nor seen from the day that *America* was first settled unto this day; consider of it, take advice, and speak your minds." *Judges* xix. 30. I mean not to anticipate and direct your counsels; but from your desire I should speak on this occasion, I take it for granted you will permit me to offer such hints as may appear suitable to the place and design of our present meeting.

In the first place, as there is no evil in a city in which the hand of *God* may not be seen, so in vain is salvation

looked for from the hills and from the mountains, but can come from Him only who has made heaven and earth. This undoubtedly is a day of trouble, but *God* saith to his people, "Call upon me in a day of trouble, and I will deliver thee." *Ps.* l. 15. "What nation has *God* so nigh unto them, as the *Lord* our *God* is in all things that we call upon him for?" *Deut.* iv. 7. If this be our first step, if first of all we look unto him from whom our help cometh, we may hope all will be well at last. Let us be thoroughly convinced of this, we must stand well with *God*, else it can never be well with us at all; without him and his help we can never prosper. The *Lord* is with you, if you are with him: "If you seek him, you will find him; but if you forsake him, you will be forsaken by him." 2 *Chron.* xv. 2. If *God* be for us, who can be against us? if he be against us, who can be for us? Before we think on, or look any where else, may our eyes be unto *God*, that he may be gracious unto us. Let us humbly confess and speedily turn from our sins, deprecate his judgment, and secure his favour. "Rend your hearts, and not your garments, and turn unto the *Lord* your *God*, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil; who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him, even a meat-offering and a drink-offering unto the *Lord* your *God*." *Joel* ii. 13, 14.

Let it be a standing rule with every one that is to sit in council upon this occasion, "so to speak, and so to do, as one that is to be judged by the law of liberty." Let us most carefully avoid every thing that might make us incur the displeasure of *God*, and wound our own consciences. The effects of your deliberation may become very serious and extensive, and the consequences extremely important: think therefore before you speak, deliberate before you execute, and let the law of liberty, by which you are hereafter to be judged, be the constant rule of all your words and actions. Far be it from us to be reduced under laws inconsistent with liberty, and as far to wish for liberty without law; let the one be so tempered with the other, that when we come to give our account to the supreme Lawgiver, who is the great judge of all, it may appear we had a due regard to both, and may meet with his approbation.

Such always hath been, and such is still the attachment of *America* to the illustrious house of *Honover*, that I need not put you in mind of our duty to the King as supreme. By our law the King can do no wrong; but of his present Majesty, who is universally known to be adorned with many social virtues, may we not justly conclude that he would not do any wrong, even though he could? May we not hope, that to the greatness of a monarch he will superadd the feelings of the man, the tenderness of a father? May we not hope, that when the truth of things, the tears of his suffering subjects, the distresses caused by acts extremely ill advised, once reach his notice, a generous pity will force his heart, and that pity, when he feels it, will command redress? "The heart of the King is in the hand of the *Lord*, as the rivers of water, and he turneth it as he pleaseth." *Prov.* xxi. 1. Most earnestly therefore let us pray, that in this great and most important matter also *God* may give unto the King an understanding heart, that power may be governed by wisdom, and the wheels of Government roll on with justice and moderation.

Should you think that all our present distress is owing to evil counsellors, nothing need to hinder you from praying that *God* would turn their counsels into foolishness: you may make it your earnest request, both in publick and in private, that the wicked being removed from before the King, his throne may be established in righteousness; that the rod of the oppressor may be broken, and justice and equity take place of tyranny and oppression.

It may be owing to nothing but the firm attachment to the reigning family, that so many *Americans* look upon the present measures as a deep laid plan to bring in the Pretender. Perhaps this jealousy may be very groundless; but so much is certain, that none but *Great Britain's* enemies can be gainers in this unnatural contest\*.

Never let us lose out of sight that our interest lies in a

\* This opposition in some Provinces consisted in sending the tea, on which this duty was to be paid, back to *England*, not suffering it to be sold or landed in others; and in *Boston*, when they were prevented from sending it back, it was entirely destroyed, but no person hurt, nor any blood shed.

\* Were it designed to give the Pretender an opportunity to raise divisions in *Great Britain*, starve the manufacturers, send away troops from *Ireland* and *Scotland*, and breed civil war in *America*, must all be circumstances too favourable, and, I may say, very tempting to promote such a project.



perpetual connection with our Mother Country. Notwithstanding the present unwise and harsh measures, there are thousands in *Great Britain* that think with us, and wish well to the *American* cause, and make it their own: let us convince our enemies, that the struggles of *America* have not their rise in a desire of independency, but from a warm regard to our common Constitution; that we esteem the name of *Britons*, as being the same with freemen: let every step we take afford proof how greatly we esteem our Mother Country, and that, to the wish of a perpetual connection, we prefer this only consideration, that we may be virtuous and free.\*

Let me entreat you, gentlemen, think coolly, and act deliberately: rash counsels are seldom good ones: Ministerial rashness and *American* rashness can only be productive of untoward compounds: inconsiderate measures, framed on the other side of the *Atlantick*, are the cause of all our mischiefs; and it is not in the least probable that inconsiderate measures in *America* can be productive of any good. Let nothing be done through strife and vain glory; let no private resentment nor party zeal disgrace your honest warmth for your country's welfare: measures determined on by integrity and prudence, are most likely to be carried into execution by steadiness and moderation. Let neither the frowns of tyranny, nor the pleasure of popularity, sway you from what you clearly apprehend just and right, and to be your duty. Consider how much lies at stake; how greatly your religion, your liberty, your property, your posterity, is interested. Endeavour to act like freeman, like loyal subjects, like real Christians, and you will "so speak, and so act, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." Act conscientiously, and with a view to *God*, then commit your ways to him; leave the event with *God*, and you will have great reason to hope that the event will be just, honourable, and happy.

And now, gentlemen, you have the wishes and prayers of every thoughtful person, that your deliberations may be carried on with candour, unanimity, and prudence; may be blessed to preserve the quietness of this province, and co-operate in restoring the rights and tranquillity of all *America*, as well as promote the prosperity of the whole *British* empire. This will afford you a heartfelt satisfaction, and transmit your name to posterity with honour, when all those who had opposite views, and sought their greatness in the ruin of others, will be held in abhorrence and detestation.

I have but a few hints to give to my hearers in general.

\* The idea of a separation between *America* and *Great Britain* is big with so many and such horrid evils, that every friend to both must shudder at the thought. Every man that gives the most distant hint of such a wish, ought instantly to be suspected as a common enemy; nothing would more effectually serve the cause of our enemies, than any proposal of this kind; all wise men and all good men would immediately speak, write, and act against it: such a proposal, whenever it should be made, would be an inlet to greater evils than any we have yet suffered. But what *America* detests as the greatest evil, a *British* Ministry has taken the greatest pains to effect; has wasted *British* blood and treasure to alienate *America* and *Great Britain*; the breach is growing wider and wider, it is become like a great sea; every moment is a loss that is not improved towards bringing about a reconciliation.

COMMITTEE OF INTELLIGENCE OF CHARLESTOWN TO THE  
SOUTH-CAROLINA DELEGATES IN THE CONTINENTAL  
CONGRESS.

Charlestown, July 4, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed are a copy and extracts of letters which fell into the hands of the Secret Committee, who laid them before the Council of Safety. They are thought to be of so great importance, that the Council have desired the Committee of Intelligence to transmit them to you, not only by sea, but through Committee conveyance, by land. They seem to give some light into the real intentions of Administration; and thereby you may, in some degree, be enabled to guard against their machinations. We have also transmitted proper copies of them to *North-Carolina* and *Georgia*; and we have desired the former Colony to forward to you our duplicate of this packet. We also enclose to you some copies of our circular letter to the Committees of this Colony.

This day the Provincial Congress of *Georgia* is to sit in *Savannah*. It is thought that they will make ample

The times are evil; this is a day of adversity; and in a time of adversity we ought to consider. It may, perhaps, soon become impossible, even to the most indolent, to continue unconcerned; and those that wish no more than to hide themselves in quiet obscurity, may not always have it in their power to remain neuter: to know the signs of the time, is a considerable part of human prudence; and it is a still greater to walk circumspectly, and redeem the time, because the days are evil. Whatever part you may think yourselves obliged to take, "so speak, and so do, as they that shall be judged hereafter, and judged by the law of liberty."

In these times of confusion I would press on my hearers a most conscientious regard to the common laws of the land. Let our conduct shew that we are not lawless; by well-doing let us put to silence the reproaches of our adversaries. Let us convince them that we do not complain of law, but of oppression; that we do not abhor these acts because we are impatient to be under government, but being destructive of liberty and property, we think them destructive also of all law. Let us act "as free, and yet not make liberty a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of *God*."

While it is yet peace and quietness with us, let us not think ourselves inaccessible to the evils which are already come upon others; there are some evils which we would rather deprecate in private than speak of in public; against which, being fore-warned, we should be fore-armed; every trifling report should not alarm us, but it would be folly still greater not to be on our guard against sudden dangers.

Remember them that suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body. Think on those who are driven from their habitations and all their conveniences of life, or confined in their own houses by an enraged soldiery, to starve in their own country in the midst of property and plenty, not permitted to enjoy their own, and distressed in every connexion, and this without any cause alleged against numbers of them, without complaint, suspicion, or a legal trial: the like was never heard since the cruel siege of *Londonderry*, and is a species of cruelty at which even that hardhearted bigot *James* the Second, relented.

Above all, let every one earnestly pray, that He that is higher than the highest would soon make a righteous end of all their confusion; that he would incline the King to hear the cries of his subjects, and that no more innocent blood may be shed in *America*.

One thing more: consider the extreme absurdity of struggling for civil liberty, and yet to continue slaves to sin and lust. "Know ye not to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey? his servants ye are to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness." *Rom. vi. 16.* Cease from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it: who will hurt you while you follow that which is good? become the willing servants of the *Lord Jesus Christ*, hearken to and obey the voice of his gospel, for "where the Spirit of the *Lord* is, there is liberty;" and "if the Son makes you free," then, and not till then, "shall you be free indeed."

amends for their past conduct; indeed, we think there is no room to doubt of it.

Our own affairs continue in a good posture. The Regiment of Horse is nearly completed; and the Regiments of Infantry are in great forwardness. At present, between two and three hundred garrison the barracks, and we mean immediately to establish a fortified post at *Dorchester*. The Council of Safety, on *Thursday*, will go there to reconnoitre the situation. This letter comes forwarded by Committee conveyance from *North-Carolina*, and is a duplicate of the original, which we have sent by a pilot-boat.

COMMITTEE OF INTELLIGENCE OF CHARLESTOWN TO THE  
COMMITTEE AT NEWBERN, NORTH-CAROLINA.

Charlestown, July 4, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed are a copy and extracts of letters, which, falling into the hands of our Secret Committee, were laid before the Council of Safety. By desire of the Council, we transmit them to you; as well to enable



you to counteract your Governour, as to manifest how dangerous he is to the liberties of *America*. You see he means, and is ordered, to arm one part of your people against the other. We trust that you will, on this occasion, act with due vigour and policy, in your endeavours to defeat so diabolical a design.

The Council of Safety most seriously recommend, that you so manage the communication of this important letter, as to confine it, if possible, only among the friends of *American* rights, as it might be of the most pernicious consequence if your Governour, or his emissaries, or the disaffected Counties, or people at large, should obtain any particular knowledge of it.

We transmit to you copies of our circular letter, which, if you think proper, may be reprinted; and we also transmit to you a letter to our Delegates at *Philadelphia*, which we beg you will forward to them from one Committee to another.

COMMITTEE OF INTELLIGENCE OF CHARLESTOWN TO THE  
COMMITTEE AT SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

Charlestown, July 4, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed are extracts of letters, and an original, which, having fallen into the hands of our Secret Committee, and being by them laid before the Council of Safety, the Council have desired the Committee of Intelligence to transmit them to you. Your Chief Justice seems to hold a very criminal correspondence, and to show a disposition no less inimical to the liberties of *America*.

We also recommend, in the most pressing manner, that you keep a watchful eye upon every motion that your Governour can make. We enclose to you copies of our circular letter; and we hope this despatch will arrive in due time to be laid before your Provincial Congress, of whose proceedings we have the highest expectation.\*

SOMERSET COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

Princess Anne, July 4, 1775.

It having this day been made appear, by Doctor *John Odel Hart*, to this Committee, that on *Friday* last a Pedlar, calling himself *James Dooe*, and lately from *Scotland*, was exposing Goods to sale at *Salisbury Town*; in this County; that he then and there was called upon by several members of this Committee for certificates, or some other evidence of the said Goods having not been imported contrary to the Association of the honourable Continental Congress; which not being able to produce, he was advised

\* The *Swallow* Packet being just arrived from *England*, *William Henry Drayton*, Chairman of the Secret Committee, resolved to seize the mail, and, on his way to the Post-Office, on the 2d day of *July*, he met *John Neufville* and *Thomas Corbet*, two members of the Committee of Intelligence, who were proceeding thither on the same errand. On their arriving at the Post-Office, then kept by *Jervis Henry Stevens*, on the Bay, at the corner of *Longitude-Alley*, as Secretary to *George Roupell*, the Deputy Postmaster, they demanded the mail which had just arrived in the Packet; to which a peremptory refusal was given. They then informed *Stevens* they would take it by force, if not speedily delivered; to which he answered he should not deliver it. They then took possession of it, and carried the publick letters to the State-House, where the Secret Committee were immediately summoned to meet; and upon examining them, they found the despatches which had been for *Lord William Campbell*, Governour of *South-Carolina*, and *John Stuart*, Superintendent of *Indian Affairs*, had been already forwarded to them; but their enterprise was rewarded, by obtaining despatches from the Ministry to the Southern Governours, regulating their conduct upon *Lord North's* conciliatory motion, and to Governour *Martin*, of *North-Carolina*, encouraging his plans of raising the people of the four Counties of *Guilford*, *Dobbs*, *Rowan*, and *Surry*, whom he had reported to "breathe a spirit of loyalty to the King, and attachment to the authority of *Great Britain*." All these letters were signed by *Lord Dartmouth*, five of which were for *James Wright*, Governour of *Georgia*; one for the Lieutenant-Governour of *South-Carolina*; and one for Governour *Martin*, of *North-Carolina*. The Resolution of Parliament, also, upon *Lord North's* conciliatory motion, was forwarded to the Governours by *Lord Dartmouth*, in the same Packet.

These despatches were deemed of so much consequence, that copies of them were immediately forwarded to our Delegates in the Continental Congress, and to the Committees at *Newbern*, in *North-Carolina*, and *Savannah*, in *Georgia*; but the originals were never sent to the Continental Congress, as the publick has been led to believe; for they are now in the possession of the author of these Memoirs, having been in that of his family ever since his father, *William Henry Drayton*, left *South-Carolina*, in *March*, 1778, as a Delegate to the Continental Congress, then sitting at *Little-Yorktown*, in the State of *Pennsylvania*. About the same time the mail was seized, the Secret Committee were also fortunate in intercepting two letters from *Sir James Wright*, Governour of *Georgia*, each of them dated 27th of *June*, 1775; one of them directed to *Admiral Graves*, and the other to *General Gage*.—*Drayton*.

by the said members to attend the weekly meeting of this Committee on this day and place, and abide their determination thereon, and, in the mean time, to forbear offering any of his Goods for sale; all which the said *Dooe* faithfully engaged to perform; but the said *Dooe* not having appeared, and this Committee being informed that he did afterwards offer his said Goods for sale: on full consideration of the above information,

Resolved unanimously, That the said *Dooe*, from his conduct aforesaid, has given great reason to suspect that he is not only inimical to the liberties of *America*, but that the said Goods, or some of them, have been imported in violation of the Continental Association; therefore,

Resolved unanimously, That we will not, and that the inhabitants in this County ought not, to have any intercourse or connexion whatever with the said *Dooe*, until he shall appear before this Committee and give proper satisfaction for his conduct above-mentioned; and it is recommended that an inviolable regard be paid to this Resolution. By order of the Committee:

HENRY JACKSON, Clerk.

*A List of the Field-Officers, Captains, and part of the Lieutenants of the Regiment of GREEN-MOUNTAIN BOYS, consisting of seven Companies.*

Field-Officers.—Ethan Allen, Seth Warner.

Captains.—Remember Baker, Robert Cochran, Michael Veal, Peleg Sutherland, Gideon Warren, Wait Hopkins, Heman Allen.

First Lieutenants.—Ira Allen, John Grant, Ebenezer Allen, David Ives, Jesse Sawyer.

Adjutant, Levi Allen; Commissary, Elijah Babcock; Doctor and Surgeon, Jonas Fay.

JOHN N. BLEECKER TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, July 4, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I received your letter of the 29th ultimo, and have, agreeable to your directions, delivered up all the stores and provisions in my care, an account whereof you have enclosed. I cannot omit observing, that the person in whose care I had left the stores, &c., during my absence, did not think himself justified to deliver them without an order from you, especially as it appears by *Mr. Phelps's* warrant that he is only appointed for one regiment, a copy of which is enclosed. A number of different accounts for provisions and necessaries, purchased as well by me as in my absence, have not yet been delivered, which prevents my transmitting an account at present of the expenses which we have been at; but I shall not fail to render an account in a few days. Five barrels of damaged powder from *Ticonderoga* is sent to Judge *Livingston's* mill. The garrisons will be in want of flour very soon, and none to be had here before I delivered up the stores.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN N. BLEECKER.

To *P. V. B. Livingston*, Esquire.

*Account of Stores and Provisions delivered over by JOHN N. BLEECKER to ELISHA PHELPS, at ALBANY, July 3, 1775:*

Seven barrels of flour, 32 barrels of pork, 1 tierce of peas, 10 tierces of rice, 86 hatchets, 38 pair two-point blankets, 12 pair one-point blankets, 2½ hogsheads of rum, 40 camp kettles.

JOHN N. BLEECKER.

Colony of CONNECTICUT:

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esq., Governour and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty's ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT, in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA:

To *ELISHA PHELPS*, Gentleman, greeting:

I do, by these presents, reposing especial trust and confidence in your loyalty, fidelity, and good conduct, constitute you, the said *Elisha Phelps*, to be Commissary in *Albany*, and places adjacent above, for the provisions supplied from the Provincial Convention of *New-York*, and for the Fourth Regiment of the inhabitants enlisted and assembled for the special defence and safety of his Majesty's said Colony, stationed at *Ticonderoga*, and places ad-



jacent, agreeable to a Resolve of the honourable Continental Congress. I do authorize and empower you to exercise your said office in a due performance of the duties thereof, in and for the Regiment aforesaid; keep proper accounts, and the same render on oath, when required, according to the trust reposed in you; for which this is a sufficient warrant. Given under my hand and seal at arms, in *Lebanon*, this 8th day of *June*, in the fifteenth year of His Majesty's reign, *Annoque Domini 1775*. JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

WILLIAM SCHUYLER, ETC., TO JOHN MARLETT.

Warrensburgh, July 4, 1775.

These may inform you that I received your letter from *New-York* on the 2d instant. I also received a letter from Mr. *Daniel Lane*, on the 28th of *June*, but could not do any thing in it at that time, by reason of the port being so near shut.

As to the people who have signed where I live, there is only one, to wit: *John Snuke*. Those that have not signed, who have been asked, are, the Reverend *John Stuart* and *Henry Hare*. We also hear from the *Oneida*, that the *Indians* will not join with Colonel *Guy Johnson*, nor have any thing to do with him; also, that *Abraham C. Cuyler*, Mayor of *Albany*, has gone up to *Oswego*, under pretence of collecting some debts; but we did not put so much trust in him, as he had two loaded batteaus with him; and sent word immediately to *John Fry*, Esq., that we apprehended that he had some stores for the enemy against *America*; which *John Fry*, Esq., sent word back that their Committee should meet the next day at *Van Alsten's*, for business.

From your most obedient and humble servants,

WM. SCHUYLER,  
JOHN BLEVIN, Clerk,  
JAMES McMASTER.

To *John Marlett*, Esq., now at *New-York*.

N. B. After the above was wrote, we received a letter informing us, that yesterday, at *Abraham Hodges's*, there were a company of men met together, and in talking about the troublesome times, Esquire *Peter Meetin* being present amongst them, in cool blood told them that he had the King's Proclamation from Governour *Gage*, to offer any person or persons who would recant from the Association and sign the King's Proclamation, should be pardoned; and he expected soon to have all their estates to handle.

This may also inform you, that *Peter Bowen*, on *Tripe's Hill*, refuses to sign the Association, and *Nicholas Ross*.

BROOK WATSON TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Lake Champlain, near St. John's, July 4, 1775.

By the general assistance which your letter to the officers in the service of the Colonies procured me, I am now so near *Montreal* that I expect to get there this evening, therefore, embrace the opportunity of the returning boat, to make you my thanks for your kind attention to me and my friends; and I pray you, Sir, to make my warmest acknowledgment to your Provincial Congress, for the obliging letter they kindly favoured me with, and for the pleasing expressions in my regard which it contained. A sincere friend to *America* and its rights I truly am, and as such cannot help expressing my uneasiness at the general spirit which I have observed amongst the Colonies' Troops quartered at *Fort George*, *Ticonderoga*, and *Crown Point*. They talk and act as if it was fully determined they should soon march into the Province of *Quebeck*. Surely this, my good Sir, cannot be the intention of the General Congress. If it is not, immediate pains should be taken to suppress the dangerous idea, or it may soon produce the most dangerous consequences. Should the Colonies send their troops into that Province, or should they go without orders, the *Canadians* and the *Indians*, their friends, will naturally fall upon your back settlements with fire and sword. Then the King's Troops on one side, and the *Canadians* and *Indians* on the other, what are the Colonists to expect but slaughter. For *God's* sake exert every faculty to prevent so great an evil.

I know the body of gentlemen who have so properly chose you for their President are greatly alarmed at the deplorable situation of affairs between *Great Britain* and

her Colonies. *America* must look forward with the greatest anxiety, and rejoice in any prudent plan for the restoring of harmony and the security of property. I would to *God* I had a head to contrive, and a pen to persuade what might produce so desirable an event; for the credit and comfort of all their future movements depend upon it. But while liberty and slavery, in their greatest extreme, is the alternative held out by the violent and designing on this side the waters, and submission or destruction the language of the others, what hopes have the people but in the moderation, wisdom, and justice of the General Congress. In their address to His Majesty of last year, they wisely declared that they "asked but for peace, liberty, and safety; that they wished not a diminution of the prerogative; nor did they solicit any new rights in their favour; that his royal authority over them, and their connexion with *Great Britain*, they would carefully and zealously endeavour to support and maintain." This declaration breathed the spirit of good subjects, valuing their just rights too much to abuse them; but these sentiments were not constitutionally conveyed to the royal ear.

That Government is ready to receive any fair propositions which may be constitutionally offered, cannot be doubted, after we consider the Minister's declaration in Parliament, "that if the dispute in which the *Americans* are engaged goes to the whole of their authority, they can enter into no negotiation; they can meet no compromise: but if it be only as to the suspension of the exercise of their rights; or as to the mode of laying and levying taxes for a contribution towards the common defence, it might be just as wise to meet any fair proposition which might come from any Province or Colony."

This declaration, I humbly conceive, clearly points out the line of conduct which the General Congress ought to pursue, as it cannot be the wish of that Assembly to carry matters to an extreme, by which the whole Empire must suffer, and *America* drove to the last distress. Would they state their real grievances with temper and wisdom; their desires with moderation and justice, in a dutiful memorial to the King, to be transmitted by the Provincial Assemblies to their respective agents in *London*; such application could not fail to produce the most desirable effects. But if, on the other hand, the Congress should order or suffer the people to proceed to extremes, which I now much fear, nothing but the sword can determine the unnatural contest; and they would soon discover the fatal truth of what hath been so emphatically expressed by the judicious Mr. *Glover*, "that high sounding words produce no food for the hungry, no raiment for the naked."

I am, Sir, your obliged humble servant,

BROOK WATSON.

P. V. B. Livingston, President of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

P. S. I have received the kindest treatment from Captain *Fisher*, Colonel *Hinman*, and Major *Elmer*.

GOVERNOUR OF RHODE-ISLAND TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 11, 1775.]

Providence, July 4, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the 10th of *June* last came duly to hand. I wrote immediately to the Delegates from this Colony upon the contents of it, to whom I beg leave to refer you.

I have now to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 20th of the same month. Immediately after the late battle upon *Bunker's Hill*, the remaining forces from the Colony joined the Army near *Boston*; and it appears by a return from the Brigadier-General, that the Army of this Colony consists of thirteen hundred and ninety effective men. We are also equipping two armed vessels, to carry one hundred men, exclusive of officers.

Upon a most urgent application from the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, the General Assembly ordered six companies, of sixty men each, to be raised to join the Regiments in the service of this Colony, and have ordered one-fourth part of the Militia to be enlisted as Minute-men. They have also passed an act putting the Troops of this Colony under the command of the General



of the combined Army. I will only add, that on this most important occasion, this Colony will exert itself in unremitting efforts for the common defence and safety.

I am, with great esteem and regard, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esquire.

JAMES WARREN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Watertown, July 4, 1775.

SIR: As *Pomroy* is now absent, and at the distance of a hundred miles from the Army, if it can be consistent with your Excellency's instructions and the service to retain his commission until you shall receive advice from the Continental Congress, and we shall be able to prevail with *Heath* to make a concession honourable to himself and advantageous to the publick, we humbly conceive the way would be open to do justice to *Thomas*.

We have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient humble servants,

JAS. WARREN,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To his Excellency General *Washington*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM ONE OF THE VIRGINIA DELEGATES TO A GENTLEMAN IN WILLIAMSBURGH, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JULY 5, 1775.

The battle of *Charlestown* I expect you have heard, but perhaps not so as you may depend on. The Provincials sustained two attacks in their trenches, and twice repulsed the ministerial forces with immense slaughter. The third attack, however, being made with fixed bayonets, the Provincials gave ground, retired a little way, and rallied ready for their enemy; but they having been pretty roughly handled, did not choose to pursue. We lost between sixty and seventy killed, and about one hundred and fifty wounded. The enemy had fourteen hundred killed and wounded, of whom were about five hundred killed. Major *Pitcairn* was among the slain, an event at which every one rejoices, as he was the commanding officer at *Lexington*, first fired his own piece, and gave command to fire. On our side Dr. *Warren* fell, a man immensely valued to the north. The *New-Englanders* are fitting out privateers, with which they expect to be able to scour the seas and bays of every thing below ships-of-war, and may probably go to the *European* coasts, to distress the *British* trade there. The enterprising genius and intrepidity of these people are amazing. They are now intent on burning *Boston*, in order to oust the regulars; and none are more eager for it than those who have escaped out, and who have left their whole property in it; so that their rage has got the better of every interested principle.

Nobody now entertains a doubt but that we are able to cope with the whole force of *Great Britain*, if we are but willing to exert ourselves. It will indeed be expensive, extremely expensive; but people must lay aside views of building up fortunes during these troubles, and set apart a good proportion of their income to secure the rest. As our enemies have found we can reason like men, so now let us show them we can fight like men also. The Government of *Pennsylvania* have raised thirty-five thousand Pounds to put their Country in a posture of defence. There appear to be as many soldiers here as men. Powder is the great want, and towards having plenty of that nothing is wanting but saltpetre.

The Congress have directed twenty thousand men to be raised immediately, the greater part of which is already raised. Two millions of dollars also are voted. This is all I am at liberty to tell of their proceedings. As to the time of their rising, it is totally beyond conjecture; expresses after expresses daily coming from the northward, and the machinations of the people in office on other parts of the Continent, keep us from making any progress in the main business. At the same time such an impatience for home seems to possess us all, that nothing keeps the Congress together but the visible certainty that till our military proceedings are got into a good train, their separation would endanger the common cause greatly. If things cannot be got into such a state soon as they may be left, we must petition to be exchanged for fresh hands, that we may return to our families.

P. S. After folding up my letter we received an account, from an undoubted hand, that the mortality among the wounded regulars has been so great, that the killed on the spot, and those who have died of their wounds, make up one thousand. The reason of this is, that they have been long confined to salt provisions, having not so much as a vegetable, a drop of milk, or even any fresh meat.

NEW-YORK SECRET COMMITTEE.

Committee of Secrecy and Inspection, }  
New-York, July 5, 1775. }

The Committee of Secrecy and Inspection do report, that being called upon by Messrs. *Buchannans* to attend the landing of a number of passengers from on board the snow *Christy*, *Hugh Riley*, master, from *Greenock*, in *Scotland*, bound to *Georgia*, they carefully inspected the chests and baggage of the said passengers; that they found in the chest of *Alexander McDonald*, of *St. George's* Parish, in *Maryland*, a parcel of cloths in patterns, and several other packages of goods, amounting to (by the information of the said *McDonald*) three hundred Pounds sterling, and upwards; which goods, with the owner, were sent down on board the said vessel to proceed to the place of her destination. They further report, that the brig *Three Sisters*, Captain *Neck*, departed from this port on Monday afternoon, with the goods which she brought into port.

JOHN IMLAY,

DANIEL PHENIX,

WILLIAM BEDLOW.

Ordered, That the said *McDonald* be held up in the publick Papers as a violator of the Association of the Continental Congress.

ISAAC LOW, Chairman.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, Wednesday, July 5, 1775. Present:

|                      |                    |                     |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Isaac Low,           | William W. Ludlow, | Jacobus Lefferts,   |
| Isaac Roosevelt,     | Petrus Byvank,     | John Van Cortlandt, |
| P. V. B. Livingston, | Edward Fleming,    | Abram. Brinkerhoff, |
| Lewis Pintard,       | Nicholas Hoffman,  | Gerardus Duyckinck, |
| John Berrian,        | John Imlay,        | Robert Ray,         |
| Hercules Mulligan,   | Richard Sharpe,    | Joseph Totten,      |
| Nicholas Bogart,     | Oliver Templeton,  | John B. Moore,      |
| John Lamb,           | William Bedlow,    | William Walton,     |
| Victor Bicker,       | Aug. Van Horne,    | David Beekman,      |
| John Morton,         | Richard Yates,     | Alex. McDougall,    |
| Thomas Ivers,        | Abraham Walton,    | Daniel Phenix,      |
| John Anthony,        | Cornelius P. Low,  | Abraham Duryee,     |
| Daniel Dunscomb,     | Robert Benson,     | Gabriel W. Ludlow,  |
| Gerret Kettletas,    | Joseph Hallett,    | Thomas Buchannan,   |
| Jacob Van Voorhies,  | Henry Remsen,      | George Janeway.     |

Ordered, That Mr. *Cornelius P. Low* and Mr. *Abraham Duryee* be a Sub-Committee to wait on Dr. *Treat*, and desire him to accompany them to the house of Mr. *Hopper*, who has a negro infected with the Small-Pox; and to devise such ways and means to prevent the infection from spreading, as they may judge expedient.

Resolved, That all Masters of Vessels arriving in this Port from *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, are hereby requested, as soon as they conveniently can, or within twenty-four hours after their arrival, to make application to the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of this Committee, or to Mr. *John Imlay*, Chairman of the Committee of Inspection, and give proper satisfaction that there are not now, nor have been in his Vessel this present voyage any Goods or Merchandise contrary to the General Association of the Continental Congress. And it is hereby recommended to all owners of Vessels, or those to whom they may be addressed, to inform their Masters of the above Resolve; and that no Master do presume to discharge or suffer any thing to be taken out of his Vessel until such satisfaction has been given, and leave obtained from the Chairman or Deputy Chairman aforesaid.

And as attempts may be made to land Goods before the Vessels come into this Harbour, as well as out of those who may be ordered to depart this Port:

Resolved, That if any Pilot, Boatman, or others, shall be found assisting in the conveyance or introduction of Goods or Merchandise, contrary to the Association of the late Congress, or in receiving on shore, or unloading from any Vessel any Goods which may have been ordered out of the Port, such persons will be deemed enemies to the



liberties of *America*, and will be held forth to the resentment of the publick; and if any persons privy to such measures will disclose them, they shall receive the thanks of the Committee as real friends to their Country.

*Ordered*, That *William W. Ludlow*, *Hercules Mulligan*, *Oliver Templeton*, and *Anthony Van Dam*, be added to the Committee of Inspection; and that the names of the said Committee be published under the Resolves of this day, and in handbills, to be given to the Pilots.

*Ordered*, That the stated days of meeting be altered from every *Monday* to *Tuesday*.

**DR. The General Committee of Association of NEW-YORK, in account with LEWIS PINTARD, JACOBUS LEFFERTS, HENRY REMSEN, THOMAS MARSTON, and GABRIEL W. LUDLOW.**

1775.

|              |                                               |    |        |      |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|----|--------|------|
| June 2,      | To 1,000 half Johanneses, shipped per Captain |    |        |      |
| A. Lawrence, | per bill lading,                              | -  | £3,205 | 5 9  |
| June 3,      | To Cash paid William Vandrill, per            |    |        |      |
| receipt,     | - - - -                                       | -  | 40     | 19 6 |
| June 17,     | To Cash paid do.                              | -  | 41     | 12 8 |
|              | To Cash paid Mr. McDougall,                   | -  | 200    | 00 0 |
| 24,          | To Cash paid do.                              | -  | 50     | 00 0 |
| July 4,      | To Cash paid P. V. B. Livingston,             | 66 | 16     | 1    |
|              |                                               |    | £3,604 | 14 0 |

**CR. The General Committee of Association of NEW-YORK, in account with LEWIS PINTARD, JACOBUS LEFFERTS, HENRY REMSEN, THOMAS MARSTON, and GABRIEL W. LUDLOW.**

1775. By Cash received of sundry persons by *Thomas Marston*, viz:

|                                      |   |        |    |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------|----|
| May 22, of Nathaniel Marston, -      | - | £300   | 00 |
| " of James Jauncey, -                | - | 200    | 00 |
| " of Robert Ray, -                   | - | 50     | 00 |
| " of Isaac Roosevelt, -              | - | 50     | 00 |
| " of Ennis Graham, -                 | - | 50     | 00 |
| May 25, of Robert G. Livingston, -   | - | 50     | 00 |
| " of Tucker and Barton, -            | - | 200    | 00 |
| " of Peter Vandervoost, -            | - | 50     | 00 |
| " of Henry Remsen, -                 | - | 50     | 00 |
| " of David Van Horne, -              | - | 100    | 00 |
| May 27, of William Walton, -         | - | 50     | 00 |
| " of Richard Yates, -                | - | 100    | 00 |
| " of John Woodward, -                | - | 50     | 00 |
| " of Daniel Ludlow, -                | - | 50     | 00 |
| " of Christian Smith, -              | - | 50     | 00 |
| May 29, of Samuel Broome & Co., -    | - | 100    | 00 |
| " of Peter Clopper, -                | - | 75     | 00 |
| " of Alexander Robertson & Co., -    | - | 100    | 00 |
| " of Dirck Lefferts, -               | - | 50     | 00 |
| May 30, of David Provoosts, -        | - | 100    | 00 |
| June 2, of Augustus Van Cortlandt, - | - | 100    | 00 |
|                                      |   | £1,925 | 00 |

By Cash received of sundry persons, by *L. Pintard*, viz:

|                                  |   |      |    |
|----------------------------------|---|------|----|
| May 26, of Samuel Verplanck, -   | - | £100 | 00 |
| May 30, of William Cockroft, -   | - | 30   | 00 |
| June 1, of Peter T. Curtenius, - | - | 25   | 00 |
| " of William Neilson, -          | - | 25   | 00 |
|                                  |   | £180 | 00 |

By Cash received by *N. Hoffman* of sundry persons, viz:

|                                  |   |      |    |
|----------------------------------|---|------|----|
| May 27, of Theodorus Van Wyck, - | - | £25  | 00 |
| " of Abraham Brinkerhoff, -      | - | 25   | 00 |
| " of John Outhout, -             | - | 100  | 00 |
| " of Garret Abeel, -             | - | 25   | 00 |
| " of John Crugar, -              | - | 30   | 00 |
| " of Ludlow and Shaw, -          | - | 30   | 00 |
| " of Peter Mesier, -             | - | 25   | 00 |
| " of Leonard Kipp, -             | - | 25   | 00 |
| " of Thomas Ten Eyck, -          | - | 25   | 00 |
| " of Evert Byvanck, Jr., -       | - | 25   | 00 |
| " of Andrew Hammersley, -        | - | 25   | 00 |
| " of Edmund Seaman -             | - | 25   | 00 |
|                                  |   | £385 | 00 |

By Cash received by *J. Lefferts*, of sundry persons, viz:

|                              |   |      |    |
|------------------------------|---|------|----|
| May 23, of Eleazer Miller, - | - | £30  | 00 |
| " of Hugh Gaine, -           | - | 30   | 00 |
| " of John Stites, -          | - | 30   | 00 |
| " of Comfort Sands, -        | - | 50   | 00 |
|                              |   | £140 | 00 |

By Cash received by *W. W. Gilbert* of sundry persons, viz:

|                                 |   |      |    |
|---------------------------------|---|------|----|
| June 15, of Abraham Van Dyke, - | - | £100 | 00 |
| " of Manassa Salter, -          | - | 25   | 00 |
|                                 |   | £125 | 00 |

By Cash received by *C. P. Low*, of sundry persons, viz:

|                                 |   |     |    |
|---------------------------------|---|-----|----|
| June 1, of Cornelius Tiebout, - | - | £34 | 17 |
| " of Humphrey Jones, -          | - | 34  | 17 |
| " of Nicholas Jones, -          | - | 30  | 00 |
|                                 |   | £99 | 14 |

By Cash received by *Gilbert W. Ludlow* of sundry persons, viz:

|                                 |   |      |    |
|---------------------------------|---|------|----|
| May 19, of Leonard Lisperard, - | - | £100 | 00 |
| " of Peter V. B. Livingston, -  | - | 50   | 00 |
| " of John Broome, -             | - | 50   | 00 |
| " of Richard Sharpe, -          | - | 50   | 00 |
| " of James Beekman, -           | - | 50   | 00 |
| " of Gerardus Duyckinck, -      | - | 50   | 00 |
| " of Gerardus G. Beekman, -     | - | 50   | 00 |
| " of Samuel Judah, -            | - | 50   | 00 |
| " of Peter Kettletas, -         | - | 50   | 00 |
|                                 |   | £500 | 00 |

By Cash received of sundry persons, by *Petrus Byvanck*, viz:

|                                  |   |      |    |
|----------------------------------|---|------|----|
| June 2, of Lawrence Kortright, - | - | £50  | 00 |
| " of Richard Seaman, -           | - | 50   | 00 |
| " of James Cromeline, -          | - | 50   | 00 |
|                                  |   | £150 | 00 |

June 15, By Cash received by *Frederick Jay* from David Clarkson, -

|        |   |        |    |
|--------|---|--------|----|
| -      | - | £100   | 00 |
| Total, |   | £3,604 | 14 |

The Committee met, *Friday, July 7, 1775.* Present:

|                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Henry Remsen,       | George Janeway,     | Victor Bicker,      |
| Gabriel W. Ludlow,  | Nicholas Roosevelt, | John Lasher,        |
| Frederick Jay,      | Cornelius P. Low,   | John Woodward,      |
| Daniel Phenix,      | Edward Fleming,     | Lewis Pintard,      |
| Gerardus Duyckinck, | William Denning,    | Nicholas Hoffman,   |
| Evert Banker,       | William Bedlow,     | Richard Sharpe,     |
| Robert Ray,         | Hercules Mulligan,  | Jeremiah Platt,     |
| John White,         | Daniel Dunscomb,    | Eleazer Miller,     |
| Joseph Totten,      | Nicholas Bogart,    | John Berrian,       |
| William W. Ludlow,  | John Morton,        | Theophilus Anthony, |
| Abraham P. Lott,    | John Anthony,       | John Reede,         |
| Gabriel H. Ludlow,  | Abraham Duryee,     | Joseph Bull,        |
| Francis Bassett,    | Comfort Sands,      | Thomas Ivers.       |
| Anthony Van Dam,    |                     |                     |

A Letter dated *Elizabethtown, July 6th, 1775*, from *Jonathan Hampton*, received and read, setting forth, Mr. *McLeod*, a native of this Province, set out yesterday from thence to join his Regiment at *Boston*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *C. P. Low*, Mr. *Fleming*, and Mr. *Bedlow*, wait on the Provincial Congress with the above Letter, for their opinion thereon.

The Committee returned with the following order, viz:

" In Provincial Congress, July 7, 1775.

" *Ordered*, That the Committee of the City and County of *New-York* do take the body of *William McLeod*, Ensign of the Fifty-Second Regiment of Foot at *Boston*, and send him in safe custody to the Committee of *Elizabethtown*. And it is recommended to the Committee of *New-York* not to use unnecessary violence, but to treat him with all possible lenity, as a gentleman and a soldier."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Henry Remsen* pay unto Mr. *John Lamb* the sum of eleven Pounds, seven Shillings, and six Pence, for his expenses to *Philadelphia* on the business of this Committee.



## BURNET MILLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Southampton, July 5, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The Committees of *East* and *Southampton* taking into their serious consideration the remote situation from the head-quarters at *New-York*, and much exposed to the ravages of our unnatural enemy at this day, with regard to our stock in our common field, at the point of *Montauk*, it being remote from the inhabitants, where any number may land at pleasure, take away our stock, which is large, not less than two thousand neat cattle, and three or four thousand sheep, which, if taken away, would greatly distress us, and give them support, which would by no means do.

Now, considering our situation, we request your honourable House to petition General *Schuyler* that a number of troops be stationed at *Montauk*, and that the company now raising here may be a part, until a matter of more importance shall call them away. We are of the opinion that our inhabitants would do what in them lies to give assistance, in case any attempt should be made to take off the stock, but the distance of the inhabitants is eighteen or twenty miles. And as *Gardiner's Island* lies adjacent, and is much exposed, also *Shelter Island*, *Plum Island*, and *Oyster Pond Point*, we think a number of whale-boats would be proper to employ, that assistance may be given from one part to the other. We have a number of boats that are of no use in this season that might be got for the design, if the General should think proper to order troops at this part of the Island, which we hereby petition may be done. I am, gentlemen, &c.

By order of the Committee:

BURNET MILLER, *Chairman*.To the Provincial Congress sitting at *New-York*.

## JOSEPH JOHNSON (A MOHEGAN INDIAN) TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Hartford, July 5, A. D. 1775.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: With a due sense of my unworthiness as an *Indian*, and with a high and proper esteem of your very worthy persons, I humbly write the following, and with a sense of my indebtedness to your Honours and the benevolent inhabitants of the City of *New-York*, for favours past. Honourable gentlemen, since my arrival to my own native place, I have been informed that some of my *New-England* brethren have been very busy in spreading false reports, or in representing things in a very wrong light, not only to my disadvantage, but even to the hazard of my life; by which false representations I have been almost discouraged of undertaking to go to visit my western brethren, of which visit, if I am hindered, may be damage to my dear friends, the *Americans*. But duly considering the consequences of my not going, and very well sensible that the *Oneidas*, my western brethren, are in daily expectation of my return, I feel a disposition still to go the intended journey, let the consequences be what they will. My love to the country in which I was born and educated, and my regard for my brethren westward, animates me to step forward, though at the expense of my very life.

Honourable gentlemen, it has been represented to my *Connecticut* friends, the *English*, by some of the *Indians* that have been westward with me, that I have been a grand enemy to my country; or, in other words, that I have turned a high tory, the which they cannot possibly prove. All that they can allege or bring in proof is, that I was long with Colonel *Johnson*, some times under arms, which, if I had time, I could answer for to the satisfaction of all unprejudiced persons. But they cannot possibly say that they ever heard three words during the whole of the time that we were together in that westward country, that I said any thing against my country or the *Americans*, whereby I discovered any disaffection to the noble, spirited *Americans*, either in any private or publick conversation. No, honourable gentlemen, but quite the contrary. I have ever spoken, both in publick and private, the sentiments of my heart to my *New-England* brethren; and they are witnesses themselves with what warmth of heart, in our private and publick conversations, and in which conversations I have expressed my love and regard for *Americans*, and they know how I have often said I was willing to

suffer and bleed, yea, even die, with the injured *Americans*. And, honourable gentlemen, my mind is the same as ever; and I can boldly say this for the truth, that I firmly believe that there has not been a truer friend to this *North America* than myself, of all the *New-England Indians* that went up to the western country in order to settle. I have embraced every opportunity to compose the minds of the western *Indians*, and I have repeatedly exhorted them to be peaceable. And I have had very good opportunity to converse with the western *Indians* from time to time, and I rejoice that I can discourse with them in their own language, and feel encouraged when I reflect how much they attended to the things that I laid before them from time to time; and I am sensible of their growing affection towards me, notwithstanding there have been many that have vainly and unlawfully endeavoured to render me despicable in their eyes.

Honourable gentlemen, I perceive that I have many very inveterate enemies of my own *Indian* acquaintances, more especially some that have been up with me. They envy me, as *Joseph* of old was envied, and they have already laid a snare for my life. They envy me for the respect that I receive from the white people every where, and more especially they envy me that I have so much influence among my western brethren. These persons, not considering the overruling hand of Providence, which makes high and makes low, which exalts and debases according to his divine pleasure, make known their folly by venting their rage against a poor, frail, and short-coming creature like myself. I acknowledge that I am a poor imperfect creature as to things of religion, and that in many things I fall short; yet the resolution of my heart is to press forward in the ways of piety and duty. And, honourable gentlemen, I rejoice greatly that we are not to be saved by works; no, but we are directed by the divine revelation to put all our hopes and ground our confidence on *Jesus Christ* alone for salvation. So his complete righteousness I plead before my offended *God*, when I find myself overtaken with some surprising sin.

The above I wrote, knowing that the persons will make use of every failure that they can possibly find or discern, in order to render me despicable both at home and abroad, and so render me useless both to my country and to my poor sinking nation; for the prosperity of both, my soul seems truly to be engaged in. But as to the affairs of this world, I believe I am as faithful as any one, and would not give the right hand to any *Indian* of my acquaintance to do business amongst the back nations, being very well acquainted with their manners and customs, and can speak their language considerable well.

Honourable gentlemen, I cannot see with what face these malicious persons can falsely say that I was an enemy to the country, when they consider that I have a companion here in *Connecticut*, whom I value as dear as my own life, and a young babe dear to me as nature can make it. Can they, with any expectation of success, go on their infernal design of ensnaring my life, when persons know that all my dearest connexions in life are and have been amongst the people in *New-England*, during the time that I was in the western country? I flatter myself that they will not succeed.

Honourable gentlemen, I would just inform you that yesterday the honourable Assembly was graciously pleased to appoint a Committee to hear what one of my enemies had to say or allege against me. The *Indian's* name is *Elijah Weampy*, of *Farmington*, a subtle, crafty person. And this very same person had spoke, in our private conversation, very improper and unkind words against the *New-England* people with indignation; with which he was charged yesterday, and denied not, before evidence; two of the *Indians* that was up to *Oneida* with us, being *Samuel Adams* and *John Sock*, who heard him more than once. It is very likely that your Honours will soon see the judgment formed concerning the matter by the honourable Assembly of this Colony, as it is requested that it might be made as publick as the report concerning myself has been; likely it will be in the next papers. I hope to have the honour of being more closely examined by your Honours when I shall return from the *Oneida* country, by which time I humbly hope I may have the pleasure of giving your Honours general satisfaction. And I humbly



hope that no stories may hinder your Honours from sending the message to the back nations, which your Honours proposed when I was at *New-York*. And your Honours may be assured that I am, have been, and still will be a true friend to the *American Colonies*; and I hope that your Honours and all that know me may soon be convinced of my love to my Country, and of my real friendship to the Colonies. I am yours, to serve,

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

P. S. I would just inform your Honours that I purpose, by divine leave, to set off from *Mohegan*, my native place, the twelfth of this instant, or before; so I humbly hope

that your Honours would send ample directions to *Albany* for me as soon as possible. Although I leave my companion as my own self, and seemly more, and the pleasure in being among friends and acquaintances, yet duty obligates me, methinks, to take this one journey more, hoping I may be a means, by the blessing of our gracious *Lord*, of preventing much blood being spilt. So I go cheerfully, though I should never return.

I am, with great esteem, yours to serve,

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

N. B. Should I be deprived of my life, and never return, I humbly recommend to your mercy my beloved companion. I am, *ut ante*.

#### CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii tertii 15to, 1775.

At a General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Connecticut in New-England*, in *America*, holden at *Hartford*, by special order of the Governour of said Colony, on *Saturday*, the first day of *July*, Annoq. Domini 1775. Present:

The Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esquire, Governour; the Honourable *Matthew Griswold*, Esquire, Deputy-Governour; *Jabez Hamlin*, *Elisha Sheldon*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Pitkin*, *Abraham Davenport*, *William Samuel Johnson*, *Oliver Wolcott*, and *Samuel Huntington*, Esquires, Assistants.

Representatives or Deputies of the Freemen of the several Towns are as follow, viz:

HARTFORD.—Col. *John Pitkin*, Col. *Samuel Wyllys*.

WEATHERSFIELD.—Colonel *Thomas Belding*.

EAST-WINDSOR.—Mr. *William Wolcott*, Colonel *Erastus Wolcott*.

SYMSBURY.—Capt. *Judah Holcomb*, Mr. *Asahel Holcomb*.

WINDSOR.—Captain *Henry Allyn*, Captain *John Phelps*.

FARMINGTON.—Colonel *Isaac Lee*, Mr. *Jonathan Root*.

SUFFIELD.—Mr. *Alexander King*, Captain *John Leavitt*.

EAST-HADDAM.—Mr. *Daniel Brainard*, Mr. *Jabez Chapman*.

STAFFORD.—Mr. *Isaac Pinney*, Captain *Samuel Davis*.

HADDAM.—Captain *Joseph Brooks*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*.

COLCHESTER.—Colonel *Henry Champion*, Doctor *John Watrous*.

SOMERS.—Mr. *Reuben Sikes*, Captain *Emery Pease*.

HEBRON.—Captain *Benjamin Buell*, Captain *Obadiah Hosford*.

GLASTENBURY.—Captain *Jonathan Wells*, Mr. *Ebenezer Plummer*.

MIDDLETOWN.—Col. *Matthew Talcott*, Mr. *Titus Hosmer*.

BOLTON.—Mr. *Benjamin Trumbull*.

TOLLAND.—Colonel *Samuel Chapman*.

WILLINGTON.—Major *Elijah Fenton*, Captain *Timothy Pearl*.

ENFIELD.—Maj. *Nathaniel Terry*, Mr. *Nathaniel Chapin*.

CHATHAM.—Mr. *David Sage*, Mr. *Ebenezer White*.

NEW-HAVEN.—Mr. *Samuel Bishop*, Capt. *Jonathan Fitch*.

DURHAM.—Colonel *James Wadsworth*, Mr. *Daniel Hall*.

GUILFORD.—Mr. *John Burgess*.

DERBY.—Captain *John Holbrook*, Mr. *Joseph Hull*.

WATERBURY.—Mr. *Joseph Hopkins*, Col. *John Baldwin*.

MILFORD.—Mr. *Ephraim Strong*.

BRANFORD.—Capt. *Edward Russell*, Mr. *Daniel Page*.

WALLINGFORD.—Mr. *Samuel Beach*, Captain *Thaddeus Cook*.

NEW-LONDON.—Mr. *Richard Law*, Mr. *William Hildhouse*.

NORWICH.—Mr. *Benjamin Huntington*.

STONINGTON.—Mr. *Nathaniel Minor*.

KILLINGWORTH.—Captain *Elnathan Stevens*, Captain *John Pierson*.

GROTON.—Mr. *Thomas Mumford*, Mr. *Nathan Gallop*.

PRESTON.—Captain *Roger Sterry*.

LYME.—Mr. *Marshfield Parsons*, Mr. *Ezra Selden*.

SAYBROOK.—Captain *Benjamin Williams*.

FAIRFIELD.—Mr. *Jonathan Sturgess*, Captain *Samuel Squier*.

STRATFORD.—Captain *Robert Fairchild*, Colonel *Ichabod Lewis*.

STAMFORD.—Colonel *Charles Webb*.

RIDGEFIELD.—Captain *Lemuel Morehouse*.

REDDING.—Mr. *William Hawley*.

NORWALK.—Colonel *Thomas Fitch*.

NEW-FAIRFIELD.—Mr. *Ephraim Hubbell*.

GREENWICH.—Colonel *John Mead*.

NEWTOWN.—Mr. *John Beach*.

WINDHAM.—Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin*, Mr. *Ebenezer Devotion*.

LEBANON.—Col. *William Williams*, Mr. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Jun.

MANSFIELD.—Mr. *Nathaniel Atwood*.

WOODSTOCK.—Captain *Elisha Child*, Captain *Samuel McClellen*.

COVENTRY.—Captain *Ebenezer Kingsbury*, Mr. *Jeremiah Ripley*.

CANTERBURY.—Mr. *David Pain*, Mr. *Eliashib Adams*.

KILLINGLY.—Mr. *Stephen Crosby*, Captain *Eleazer Warner*.

POMFRET.—Mr. *Elisha Lord*.

ASHFORD.—Captain *Benjamin Sumner*, Captain *Ichabod Ward*.

PLAINFIELD.—Captain *James Bradford*, Mr. *William Robinson*.

VOLUNTOWN.—Major *James Gordon*, Mr. *Robert Hunter*.

LITCHFIELD.—Mr. *Jedediah Strong*.

WOODBURY.—Mr. *Daniel Sherman*, Captain *Increase Moseley*.

SALISBURY.—Col. *Joshua Porter*, Capt. *Abiel Camp*.

KENT.—Mr. *Ephraim Hubbell*, Jun., Captain *Eliphalet Whittlesey*.

CANAAN.—Mr. *Asahel Bebee*, Captain *Samuel Forbes*.

SHARON.—Major *Ebenezer Gay*, Mr. *James Pardy*.

NEW-MILFORD.—Major *Samuel Canfield*, Captain *Sherman Boardman*.

GOSHEN.—Col. *Ebenezer Norton*, Capt. *Samuel Nash*.

NEW-HARTFORD.—Major *Abel Merrill*, Mr. *Zebulon Merrill*.

CORNWALL.—Mr. *Heman Swift*, Capt. *Thomas Porter*.

TORRINGTON.—Major *Ephraim Shelden*.

HARWINTON.—Mr. *Jonah Phelps*, Mr. *Mark Prindle*.

*William Williams*, Esquire, Speaker of the House of Representatives; *Richard Law*, Esquire, Clerk.

*An Act in addition to an Act entitled An Act for Assembling, Equipping, &c., a number of the Inhabitants of this Colony, for the special defence and safety thereof, passed at the General Assembly held at HARTFORD, by special order of the Governour, on WEDNESDAY, the 26th day of APRIL, 1775.*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That in addition to, and re-enforcement of the inhabitants in and by said Act directed to be assembled, &c., a further body of fourteen hundred Men, exclusive of commissioned Officers, be forthwith enlisted, equipped, accoutred, and assembled, for the special defence and safety of this Colony, to serve during the pleasure of this Assembly, not exceeding five months, and to be led and conducted as the General Assembly shall order; that the inhabitants so to be enlisted and assembled shall*



be formed into two Regiments of ten Companies each, and each Company consist of seventy non-commissioned Officers and Privates, besides commissioned Officers, with the same number of Field, Commissioned, and Staff Officers, as in the Regiments already raised and assembled for the defence of this Colony, by the Act aforesaid; and that the said Troops, both Officers and Soldiers, shall receive the same Bounty, Pay, allowance for Arms, Blankets, Knapsacks, Accoutrements, and Provisions; be furnished with the same quantity of Ammunition, and in every respect be under the same regulations as in and by said Act is already provided and directed for the Troops assembled for the defence of this Colony.

This Assembly do appoint the persons hereafter named to the respective offices hereinafter mentioned, to take command of the inhabitants to be enlisted for the special defence and safety of this Colony, in addition to the six Regiments heretofore raised for the same purpose, to lead and conduct them as the General Assembly shall order; and his Honour the Governour is desired, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to give Commissions, according to the form provided and ordered, for each respective Officer, according to his office and rank, and Warrants to such as are on the Staff, viz:

#### *Seventh Regiment.*

First Company.—This Assembly do appoint *Charles Webb*, Esquire, Colonel of the Seventh Regiment, and Captain; *Ebenezer Hill*, Captain-Lieutenant; *Stephen Bell*, Jun., Second Lieutenant; *Sylvanus Mead*, Ensign.

Second Company.—*Street Hall*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of the Seventh Regiment, and Captain; *William Hull*, First Lieutenant; *Stephen Potter*, Second Lieutenant; *Titus Moss*, Ensign.

Third Company.—*Jonathan Lattimer*, Jun., Esq., Major and Captain; *Nathan Hale*, First Lieutenant; *John Belsher*, Second Lieutenant; *Joseph Hilliard*, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—*Joseph Hoit*, Captain; *Joseph Alden Wright*, First Lieutenant; *Gamaliel Northrup*, Junior, Second Lieutenant; *John Odell*, Ensign.

Fifth Company.—*Nathaniel Tuttle*, Captain; *John Watkins*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Gibbs*, Second Lieutenant; *Samuel Hurlburt*, Ensign.

Sixth Company.—*Edward Shipman*, Captain; *Aaron Stevens*, First Lieutenant; *Lemuel Nichols*, Second Lieutenant; *John Shumway*, Ensign.

Seventh Company.—*Isaac Bostwick*, Captain; *Jesse Kimball*, First Lieutenant; *Peter Mills*, Second Lieutenant; *Daniel Brinsmaid*, Ensign.

Eighth Company.—*William Gaylord Hubbell*, Captain; *John Troubridge*, First Lieutenant; *Jesse Cook*, Second Lieutenant; *David Lilly*, Ensign.

Ninth Company.—*Peter Perrit*, Captain; *John Yates*, First Lieutenant; *Henry Firman*, Second Lieutenant; *Charles Pond*, Ensign.

Tenth Company.—*Eli Leavenworth*, Captain; *William Rossiter*, First Lieutenant; *Peter Johnson*, Second Lieutenant; *Robert Lewis*, Ensign.

Reverend *Samuel Bird*, Chaplain of the Seventh Regiment.

*Francis Forgue*, Surgeon; *Ebenezer Beardslee*, *Isaac Swift*, Surgeon's Mates of the Seventh Regiment.

#### *Eighth Regiment.*

First Company.—*Jedediah Huntington*, Esq., Colonel of the Eighth Regiment, and Captain; *Asa Kingsbury*, Captain Lieutenant; *Jonathan Brewster*, Second Lieutenant; *Phineas L. Tracy*, Ensign.

Second Company.—*John Douglass*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel and Captain; *Elezur Hubbard*, First Lieutenant; *Moses Campbell*, Second Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Bingham*, Ensign.

Third Company.—*Joel Clark*, Esq., Major and Captain; *Abiel Pease*, First Lieutenant; *Epaphras Andrus*, Second Lieutenant; *Abraham Wright*, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—*Elihu Humphrey*, Captain; *Ebenezer F. Bissell*, First Lieutenant; *Timothy Cossett*, Second Lieutenant; *Jonathan Filley*, Ensign.

Fifth Company.—*Charles Ellsworth, Jr.*, Captain; *Moses Hall*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Bancroft*, Second Lieutenant; *Barzillai Markham*, Ensign.

Sixth Company.—*Abijah Rowley*, Captain; *Zebediah Farnum*, First Lieutenant; *Epaphras Bull*, Second Lieutenant; *Joseph Tucker*, Ensign.

Seventh Company.—*Daniel Lyon*, Captain; *Elijah Sharp*, First Lieutenant; *Joseph Burgess*, Second Lieutenant; *John Sumner*, Ensign.

Eighth Company.—*Joseph Jewett*, Captain; *Jabez Fitch*, Jun., First Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Gove*, Second Lieutenant; *Elisha Leffingwell*, Ensign.

Ninth Company.—*Abraham Tyler*, Captain; *Timothy Percival*, First Lieutenant; *Solomon Orcut*, Second Lieutenant; *Aaron Hale*, Ensign.

Tenth Company.—*John Ripley*, Captain; *Thomas Tyrrel*, First Lieutenant; *Joel Chamberlin*, Second Lieutenant; *John Vaughan*, Ensign.

Reverend *John Ellis*, Chaplain of the Eighth Regiment. *Philip Turner*, Surgeon; *Albigens Waldo*, *Silas Holmes*, Surgeon's Mates of the Eighth Regiment.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Commissions and Warrants for the Officers in the Troops now to be raised for the defence of this Colony, be of the same tenour with those given to the officers already in the service, and shall bear date the sixth day of July instant.

*And it is further Resolved*, That in case any of the Officers now appointed by this Assembly shall decline the service, his Honour the Governour be, and he is hereby directed and empowered to supply such vacancies.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That there be provided forty-eight Markee or Officers' Tents, and two hundred and thirty-three Tents for Private Soldiers; two hundred and eighty-one Iron Pots, that will contain about ten quarts each, or Tin Kettles; fourteen Brass Kettles, that will contain from eight to twelve gallons each, for the use of each Regiment; six hundred Wooden Bowls, three Frying Pans for the use of each Company, fourteen hundred quart Canteens, twenty Drums and forty Fifes, all for the use of the Troops; one Standard for each Regiment, distinguished by their colour as follows, viz: for the Seventh, Blue; for the Eighth, Orange; a Medicine Chest and Apparatus, to the value of thirty Pounds, under the direction of the respective Surgeons, and that whatever of Medicine or Apparatus shall be left or not used, be returned for the use of the Colony; about fifteen Books in quarto, consisting of one quire of paper, and covered with cartridge paper; half a ream of Writing Paper; also three reams of Paper for forming Cartridges, and also one Cart or Wagon for each Company.

*And it is further Resolved by this Assembly*, That the allowance of Provisions for said Troops be as the allowance already made to the Troops ordered to be raised by this Assembly in April last, and that they be provided with Arms and Ammunition, in the same manner and proportion as the Troops already raised.

*An Act for supplying the Troops, ordered to be raised for the special defence and safety of this Colony, with necessary Fire-Arms.*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same*, That each inhabitant who shall enlist into the Seventh and Eighth Regiments, now to be raised for the defence of this Colony, shall be furnished with good and sufficient Fire-Arms; that each enlisted inhabitant that shall provide Arms for himself, well fixed with a good Bayonet and Cartouch Box, shall be paid a premium of ten shillings; and in case such Arms are lost by inevitable casualty, such inhabitant, providing himself as aforesaid, shall be allowed and paid the just value of said Arms and Implements so lost, deducting only said sum of ten shillings allowed as aforesaid, said premium of ten shillings to be paid as soon as such inhabitants shall provide such Arms as aforesaid; and in case any householder or other person shall voluntarily furnish any enlisted inhabitant, not able to furnish Arms for himself, with a good Gun, well fixed with a Bayonet and Cartouch Box, he shall have and receive a premium of ten shillings, and in case of loss shall receive the value thereof, deducting said ten shillings as aforesaid; that where the aforesaid provision fails, sufficient Arms shall be purchased to supply said inhabitants that shall enlist as aforesaid by the Selectmen of that Town in which they dwell, or either of them, which Selectmen shall de-



liver the Arms they shall purchase to the Captain of the Company to which such person, for whose use the same is purchased, shall belong, taking his receipt therefor; and the said Selectmen shall lodge the receipt they shall so take with the Committee of the Pay-Table, and shall likewise exhibit to said Committee their account of the cost of such Arms which shall be allowed by said Committee, who shall thereupon draw their order on the Treasurer in favour of such Selectmen, for the amount of their accounts of the cost of purchasing such Arms accordingly. And if it shall so happen that a sufficient supply of Arms cannot be procured in the several methods before directed, then sufficient Arms, to make good the deficiency, shall be impressed, completely to arm and equip said inhabitants that shall so enlist as aforesaid, the said impress to be limited only to the Arms belonging to the householders and other persons not on the military roll; and that every person from whom any Gun shall be impressed as aforesaid, shall be paid for the use of such Gun the sum of four shillings, and in case of loss shall be paid the just value of said Gun, deducting the sum of four shillings aforesaid.

*And be it further enacted*, That a particular account shall be taken by the Captain, or chief officer of every Company, of the Arms that may be used, distinguishing such as the Soldiers may provide for themselves, such as are lent by householders and others, such as are purchased by the Selectmen, and such as are impressed by virtue of this Act; who shall cause the same to be appraised by indifferent judges, and transmit such account, with the appraisement, to the Committee of the Pay-Table. And that if any enlisted Soldier, through negligence, shall lose or damage the Arms found for him as aforesaid, such loss or damage shall be deducted as aforesaid. And it shall be the duty of the Captain, or chief officer of every Company, when the said enlisted inhabitants shall be discharged from the service for which they are assembled, to receive from them and secure the Arms borrowed, purchased, or impressed by virtue of this Act, that the same may be returned to their proper owner, or secured for the use of this Colony.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Committee appointed by Act of Assembly of *May* last, to procure Fire-Arms for the use of this Colony, be authorized, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered to contract for and purchase such numbers (of Arms of such construction as are ordered in said Act) as are directed therein, and that they be fully authorized and empowered to draw on the Treasurer for payment for the same; and the Treasurer is hereby ordered to pay the same accordingly.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour, and the Council appointed to assist him in the recess of the Assembly, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to direct and order the marches and stations of the inhabitants now to be enlisted and assembled, and that have or shall be enlisted or assembled for the special defence of the Colony, or any part or parts of them as they shall judge necessary for the publick service, and give all necessary orders and directions, from time to time, for the purchasing, supplying, and arming said inhabitants, or that may be enlisted, in every respect and to every purpose that may be needful, to render the defence of the Colony effectual.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That *Jabez Hamlin*, *Matthew Talcott*, and *Titus Hosmer*, Esquires, the Committee appointed by this Assembly in *May* last to work the Lead Mine in *Middletown*, and refine the Ore for the use of the Colony, be, and they are hereby ordered and directed to proceed in the business and matters as directed by said Act; and, to enable them to carry the same into execution, that they receive out of the Colony Treasury such sum or sums of money as may be necessary to enable them to carry the same into execution, and thereof to render their account to this Assembly; and the Committee of the Pay-Table are hereby directed to draw on the Treasurer for such sums as said Committee, for managing said Mine, shall find necessary for the purpose aforesaid.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That two Vessels of a suitable burden be immediately fitted out, and armed with a proper number of Cannon, Swivel Guns and Small-Arms, and furnished with necessary warlike stores, and well officered and manned, for the defence of the Sea-Coasts in this

Colony, under the care and direction of his Honour the Governour, and Committee of Council appointed to assist him in the recess of the General Assembly, who are hereby authorized and directed to procure, furnish, and employ the same accordingly.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour be directed and empowered to draw out of the Colony Treasury, and deliver to *Walter Livingston*, Esq., as soon as may be, the sum of fifteen thousand Pounds, in bills of credit of this Colony, and take his receipt for the same, agreeable to the request of General *Philip Schuyler*; and also that the Governour and Council be directed and empowered to furnish said General *Schuyler* with such quantity of Ammunition as they shall judge proper and safe, considering the state and circumstances of this Colony.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour be, and he is hereby directed to make a kind and friendly answer to the Speech sent by the *Oneida Indians*, and that a Belt of Wampum be procured and sent to them, and that the sum of twelve Pounds, for the expense and cost of transmitting the same, be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, and that his Honour the Governour be also desired to direct Colonel *Hinman* to assure the *Indians* of the peaceable disposition of the people of this Colony towards them.

This Assembly do appoint, authorize, and direct the Honourable *Jabez Hamlin*, Esq., to collect and receive the Saltpetre and Sulphur that may be found in the several Towns in this Colony, and to send the same, with all convenient despatch, to the Powder-Mills in *Dutchess County*, in the Province of *New-York*, to be made into Powder, and that he apply to the Pay-Table for the money that may be necessary for the service aforesaid, and account at that office for the expenditure thereof.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to grant permits for the exportation out of this Colony by water, of live Cattle and Provisions, in such cases and to such ports and places as he shall judge necessary and expedient for the publick service.

Whereas, a sum of Money is necessary for payment of Interest, the charges of Government:

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That there be forthwith imprinted the sum of fifty thousand Pounds, Bills of Credit on this Colony, equal to lawful money, of suitable denominations as the Committee herein appointed shall direct, and of the same tenour with the late emissions of Bills of Credit of this Colony, without interest, payable at or before the last day of *December*, Anno Domini 1779, dated the first day of *July*, Anno Domini 1775; and *Jabez Hamlin*, *William Pitkin*, *George Wyllys*, *Elisha Williams*, *Benjamin Payne*, *Thomas Seymour*, and *Jesse Root*, Esquires, or any three of them, are appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid, to take care said bills be imprinted with all convenient speed, and to sign and deliver the same to the Treasurer of this Colony, taking his receipt therefor. And the said Committee shall be sworn to a faithful discharge of their trust; and the Treasurer is hereby directed to pay out said bills according to the orders of Assembly.

And for providing an ample and sufficient fund, to call in, sink, and discharge the aforesaid sum, to be emitted as aforesaid,

*Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That a Tax of seven Pence on the Pound be and is hereby granted and ordered to be levied on all the Polls and rateable Estate in this Colony, according to the list thereof to be brought into this Assembly in *October*, 1777, with the additions, which Taxes shall be collected and paid into the Treasury of this Colony by the last day of *December*, Anno Domini 1779; which Tax may be discharged by paying the bills of this Colony of this emission, or lawful money; and the Treasurer of this Colony is hereby ordered and directed to send forth his warrants for collecting the same accordingly.

Upon the Memorial of Captain *Delaplace*, Brigade-Major *Andrew P. Skene*, and Ensign *Jos. Moland*, praying that they may be kept together and not separated, as



they apprehend to be intended; as per Memorial on file, dated July 6th, 1775:

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the memorialists aforesaid be not at present separated. *And it is further Resolved*, That said memorialists be removed from the Town of *Hartford*, and kept and provided for in some other convenient Town or place, at the discretion of the Committee already appointed for that purpose. *And it is further Resolved*, That on the arrival of Major *Skene* the elder, who is ordered here by the Continental Congress, said Committee be and they are directed to provide him suitable lodgings and entertainment in some remote part of the Town of *Hartford*, and at their discretion may permit said Major *Skene* the younger to reside with his father, said Major *Skene* the elder.

"Roxbury, July 5, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: The exemplary life, good conduct, prudence, and courage of General *Spencer*, has endeared him to the officers and soldiers under his command. He came here the first in command of the *Connecticut* Forces, and has continued so, much to our satisfaction. The Continental Congress, as we hear, hath, by their appointments, degraded him from the rank he held as first in command of the *Connecticut* Troops on this destination. We therefore desire you to use your influence and best discretion with the members of our General Assembly, that the arrangement made by the Continental Congress may be altered so as to continue General *Spencer* in command as before. You are sensible it will be with great reluctance our Troops at *Roxbury* could see their General superseded by an officer in previous lower command. We have no objection to the appointment of Generals *Washington* and *Lee*, and shall endeavour to preserve the good order and submission to their government as hath before distinguished this part of the *Connecticut* Troops whilst under General *Spencer's* command; but the late arrangement so far removes General *Spencer* from his former command, that he cannot and will not continue in the service under this arrangement. We would have you signify to the Assembly that we apprehend the morals and good order and discipline of our Troops will be greatly endangered under the present arrangement. We trust to your prudence, care, and good conduct, in procuring the proposed alteration.

|                     |                     |                      |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Samuel H. Parsons,  | James Eldridge,     | Noadiah Hooker,      |
| John Tyler,         | Josiah Baldwin,     | Samuel Cooper,       |
| Samuel Prentice,    | Richard Hewitt,     | Marcus Cole,         |
| Return Jona. Meigs, | John Raymond,       | John McGregor,       |
| Oliver Harchet,     | Isaac Galpin,       | Daniel Halts,        |
| James Chapman,      | Oliver Babcock,     | Ab'm Waterhouse,     |
| Waterman Clift,     | Elisha Lee,         | Ozias Bissell,       |
| Samuel Gall,        | Martin Kirtland,    | David Johnson,       |
| John Ely,           | David Nevins,       | Silvanus Martin,     |
| Abel Squires,       | George Latimer,     | Solomon Willis,      |
| David J. Sill,      | Nathaniel Morgan,   | Jonathan Parker,     |
| Ebenezer Sumner,    | Ezekiel Scott,      | William Latham, Jr., |
| Samuel Wright,      | Hozekiah Haldridge, | Henry Champion, Jr., |
| Abijah Savage,      | James Ransom,       | Samuel Palmer,       |
| William Edmond,     | Edward Paine,       | Levi Welles,         |
| Christopher Darraw, | Roger Enos,         | Daniel Cane, Jr.     |
| Robert Warner,      |                     |                      |

In the Lower House, Mr. *Hosmer*, Mr. *Wolcott*, Colonel *Wylllys*, Colonel *Porter*, and Colonel *Lee*, are appointed a Committee to join a Committee from the honourable Upper Board, to take into consideration the subject of the foregoing representation with regard to the arrangement of the General Officers, &c., and report make. Test:

RICHARD LAW, Clerk.

In the Upper House, the Honourable *Matthew Griswold*, Esq., and *Abraham Davenport*, Esq., are appointed to join the Committee of the Lower House in the affair above mentioned. Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

Your Honours' Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of the representation of the Officers of our Army at *Roxbury*, in regard to the arrangement of General Officers, &c., beg leave to report:

To obviate the inconveniences that may be apprehended from the alteration made by the Continental Congress in the rank and station of Generals *Wooster*, *Spencer*, and *Putnam*, which gives so great uneasiness to General *Spencer* and the officers more immediately under his command, that his Honour the Governour be requested, in behalf of the Assembly, to write to the honourable Continental Congress, and acquaint them with the estimation in which General *Wooster* and General *Spencer* are held by this

Assembly, and the Officers and Troops under their command; of their concern that they have been so far overlooked in the appointment of General Officers by them, and of the probable inconveniences that may ensue; at the same time testifying their sense of the singular merit of Gen. *Putnam*, and requesting them, if practicable, to devise some method of obviating the difficulties apprehended. That his Honour the Governour be desired to write to General *Spencer*, and acquaint him with the said application to the Continental Congress in his behalf, and conjure him, by the love to his Country, to call to mind the constant and signal affection of his Country to him so often and so lately testified, and request him not to precipitate a resolution to resign his command, and which will distress his Troops, attached to him by the warmest affection and duty, and give great anxiety and dissatisfaction to his Country, which has placed, and continues to place high confidence in his wisdom, prudence, integrity, and military skill. Which is submitted by your Honours' most obedient humble servants, MATTHEW GRISWOLD, per order.

In the Lower House the foregoing Report is accepted, with this alteration: that his Honour the Governour be desired to write to our Delegates at the Continental Congress, and not to the Continental Congress.

Test: RICHARD LAW, Clerk.

Concurred in in the Upper House:  
Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

"To the Honourable JABEZ HAMLIN, MATTHEW TALCOTT, and TITUS HOSMER, Esquires:

"GENTLEMEN: Being appointed by you to go to *New-York*, or elsewhere, in quest of a suitable Smelter or Refiner of Lead Ore, with orders to make report to you on my return, now beg leave to report, that on *Wednesday*, the seventh day of *June*, instant, I set off with Mr. *Hudson*, and proceeded to *New-York*, by way of *Hudson's* River, to a place called *Sing-Sing*, where are erected very large refining works, plans of which Mr. *Hudson* took, and we treated largely with Mr. *Stout*, the Refiner, on the subject of his undertaking the business at the lead mines at *Middletown*, but he could not be released. We then proceeded to *New-York*, and viewed the large iron air furnace belonging to Mr. *Peter Curtinius*, and made inquiry after his cinders for fluxing, according to directions, of which we found plenty, and to be had on reasonable terms; but were at the same time informed they were not necessary, as those of blacksmiths at home would do. After this Mr. *Hudson* went off for home; and hearing of two skilful Refiners, named *Mosengill* and *Ramsamen*, at a place called *Boundbrook*, in the *Jerseys*, about forty miles from *New-York*, I repaired thither, and spent a day treating with the latter, of whose skill and ability in the premises I was well satisfied, but his demand appearing so exorbitant, I thought not prudent to agree; but proceeded to *Philadelphia*, where I heard of a very skilful Refiner, named *Fedaband*, who I found, by the best information I could get, to be the most skilful in *America*, but was a High German, and could not talk *English*; I found, by an interpreter, he was under some oath to the King not to refine metals in *America* but for the King, and the present dispute between the Parliament and the Colonies terrified him with an apprehension, that if he was taken in *New-England* he should be sacrificed immediately; he could not be prevailed on to come. When I had got his final answer, I returned by way of *Boundbrook*, to see if Mr. *Ramsamen* would not lower his price, and found that two hundred and fifty pounds sterling was the lowest he would take for overseeing and instructing one or more; I left him, and came to *New-York*, where I treated with Mr. *Otto Parasien* and Mr. *Myer Myers*, with both of whom I had had some conversation before I left *New-York*, and find Mr. *Parasien* will come and oversee the works at one hundred and fifty pounds, *York* currency, per annum, and Mr. *Myers* for two hundred pounds, *York* currency, per annum, and their charges paid up here. I also find that white sand and clay, for the bottom of the furnace, may be had at *Amboy*, in the *Jerseys*. The characters of the two last mentioned gentlemen are, that they are honest and skilful in their profession of gold and silversmiths, but Mr. *Myers* has much the preference in regard to refining



metals, and by some gentlemen is much preferred even to Mr. *Stout*, the refiner employed by Colonel *James*.

I made all the inquiry I could with regard to setting up the works, and fitting for operations, and believe the cost to begin will not much exceed two hundred and fifty Pounds; and I am encouraged to believe, that lead may then soon be produced to answer all such cost as will be necessarily expended in carrying on the same; and the cost, after the works are thus erected, though it cannot be certainly ascertained, cannot be very great. I conversed with Doctor *John Sebastian Stephaney*, one of the proprietors of the lead mines in *Middletown*, who is willing the Colony should take his part upon the terms proposed by them. I could not see Mr. *Simpson*, as he was out of Town; but Mr. *Myers* conversed with him while I was gone to *Philadelphia*, and informs me Mr. *Simpson* will have no objection to the Assembly's proposal. All which is humbly submitted by, gentlemen, your humble servant,  
"BENJAMIN HENSHAW.

"Middletown, June 30, 1775."

To the Honourable General Assembly of the Colony of CONNECTICUT, now sitting in HARTFORD, by special order of his Honour the Governour:

Your Honours' Committee appointed in your sessions, in May last, to procure lead for the use of this Colony, and to take or purchase the ore of lead from the lead mine in *Middletown*, and separate the lead therefrom, and erect buildings and works for that purpose, having taken some measures and gained some information, beg leave to report the same to your Honours, as follows, to wit:

Your Committee, immediately after the rising of said Assembly, in May last, employed Mr. *Benjamin Henshaw* to go to *New-York* with one *Hudson*, an ingenious mason, and examine Colonel *James's* Refinery there, and procure draughts of the necessary works, and procure a skilful refiner, and gain information of every thing necessary to set up a refinery and carry it on to the best advantage; and if no refiner could be had there, to inquire where one might be found, and procure and treat with and engage him in the service of the Colony, if practicable; who accordingly proceeded, and said *Hudson* soon after returned and informed us, that he had viewed said refinery, taken draughts of all parts of the works, and that he supposed he could erect the works without difficulty, and with exactness. Mr. *Henshaw* not being able to procure a refiner at *New-York*, proceeded into *New-Jersey*, and to *Philadelphia*, and is since returned, and hath given us an account, in writing, of his transactions, which we herewith submit to your Honours, and beg leave to refer to. As Mr. *Henshaw* is but just returned, your Committee have not proceeded to any further steps, but are informed, that besides the expenses mentioned in Mr. *Henshaw's* report, when works are erected, a supply of charcoal will be constantly necessary to keep the furnace in blast, and nine or ten workmen will be necessary to be kept in constant employment in digging and raising ore, besides necessary workmen to assist the refiners at the furnace; all which workmen will expect to be frequently paid, as they must depend on their labour for present subsistence. Your Honours will readily perceive that considerable expense will be incurred before any large quantity of lead can be obtained, the amount of which cannot be precisely ascertained; and whether the lead that may be obtained will not in event come to the Colony at a dearer rate than lead has usually been afforded, is very uncertain. Under these circumstances, your Committee think it their duty to lay the same before your Honours, and pray your advice and direction whether they shall proceed to erect works and employ workmen, and make experiment how lead can be procured in this way. In case your Honours shall think it best that we proceed, we would inform your Honours there is now a refiner at *Middletown* ready to undertake the oversight of a furnace, and that Doctor *Stephaney*, who is owner of part or the whole of said mines and ore, already is waiting to treat with us for the sale of the same. All which is humbly submitted by your Honours' most obedient humble servants,

JABEZ HAMLIN,  
MATTHEW TALCOTT, } Committee.  
TITUS HOSMER,

In the Lower House, upon the aforesaid Report,  
*Resolved*, That the Committee be directed to proceed in said business, agreeable to said Act of Assembly, and that they receive of the Colony Treasury money sufficient for that purpose, and account to render therefor.

Test:

RICHARD LAW, Clerk.

In the Upper House, the consideration of this Report is referred to the next General Assembly, and one or more of said Committee, together with *Daniel Sherman* and *Saml. Canfield*, Esqs., are hereby directed to examine into the circumstances and state of the Lead Mines in *Woodbury*, and the buildings and preparations there erected and made for smelting and refining the ore, and consider at which of said mines, whether of *Middletown* or *Woodbury*, it may be most advisable and least expensive for the Colony to attempt the raising and refining lead ore, and make report, &c.

Test:

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

In the Lower House, the question was put, whether this House would concur with the honourable Upper House in said vote; and resolved in the negative.

Test:

RICHARD LAW, Clerk.

In the Upper House, on reconsideration, &c., concurred with the vote of the Lower House on this Report.

Test:

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That *Jabez Hamlin*, *Matthew Talcott*, and *Titus Hosmer*, Esquires, the Committee appointed by this Assembly in May last to work the Lead Mine in *Middletown*, and refine the ore for the use of this Colony, be and they are hereby ordered and directed to proceed in the business and matters as directed by said Act. And to enable them to carry the same into execution, that they receive out of the Colony Treasury such sum or sums of money as may be sufficient to enable them to carry the same into effect, and thereof to render their account to this Assembly; and the Committee of the Pay-Table are hereby directed to draw on the Treasurer for such sums as said Committee for managing said mine shall find necessary for the purpose aforesaid.

Passed in Lower House.

Test:

RICHARD LAW, Clerk.

Concurred in in the Upper House.

Test:

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

Your Honours' Committee appointed to take into consideration the affairs of the *Indians* in this and the neighbouring Governments, beg leave to report:

That an accusation being made against *Joseph Johnson*, one of the *Mohegan Indians*, respecting some of his conduct, which gave suspicion that he is unfriendly to *American* liberty, upon which we carefully examined into the grounds of that accusation, and apprehend, that his conduct upon the representation made, gave reason to suspect an undue correspondence with some of the supposed enemies to *American* liberty. But upon hearing his defence, the Committee apprehend, that the instances in which his conduct was objected to, may be so far imputed to fear, as leaves no just reason to conclude that he then had any ill intentions, or that he is now unfriendly to the cause of *American* liberty. In regard to the speech of the *Oneida Indians*, the Committee are of the opinion, it is expedient that his Honour the Governour be desired to make a kind and friendly answer thereto, and that a belt of wampum be procured and sent to them with the Governour's answer; and that the expense of such belt, with the cost of transmitting the same, be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony; and that the *Indians* be advised that the way is open to them to enlist into the service of this Colony, for the defence of the same, upon such encouragement and wages as are allowed to the other inhabitants of this Colony, till the levies are full; and that his Honour the Governour be desired to direct Colonel *Hinman* to assure the *Indians* of the peaceable disposition of this Colony towards them; and that a proper speech be prepared and sent to the *Caughnawaga Indians*.

Signed per order:

MATTHEW GRISWOLD.

General Assembly, Hartford, July, 1775.



In the Lower House the within Report is accepted and approved.

Test: RICHARD LAW, *Clerk*.

Concurred in in the Upper House:

Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governor be and he is hereby desired to make a kind and friendly Answer to the Speech sent by the *Oneida Indians*; and that a Belt of Wampum be procured and sent

to them; and that the sum of twelve Pounds, for the expense and cost of transmitting the same, be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony; and that his Honour the Governor be also desired to direct Colonel *Hinman* to assure the *Indians* of the peaceable disposition of the people of this Colony towards them.

Passed in the Upper House:

Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*.

Concurred in in the Lower House:

Test: RICHARD LAW, *Clerk*.

JOSEPH HAWLEY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Watertown, July 5, 1775.

SIR: You were pleased the other day to mention to Colonel *Warren* and me, as your opinion, that it was highly probable *Gage's* Troops would very shortly attack our Army in some part or other. I believe your opinion is not ill-founded; and I am sure your Excellency will be pleased with every intimation that may, in any degree, aid you in the choice of measures tending to success and victory. Therefore, that I may not be tedious, I ask your pardon when I suggest, that although in the *Massachusetts* part of the Army there are divers brave and intrepid officers, yet there are too many, and even several Colonels, whose characters, to say the least, are very equivocal with respect to courage. There is much more cause to fear that the officers will fail in a day of trial, than the privates. I may venture to say, that if the officers will do their duty, there is no fear of the soldiery. I therefore most humbly propose to your consideration the propriety and advantage of your making immediately a most solemn and peremptory declaration to all the officers of the Army, in general orders, or otherwise, as your wisdom shall direct, assuring them that every officer who, in the day of battle, shall fully do his duty, shall not fail of your kindest notices and highest marks of your favour; but, on the other hand, that every officer who, on such a day, shall act the poltron, dishonour his General, and by failing of his duty, betray his Country, shall infallibly meet his deserts, whatever his rank, connexions, or interest may be; and that no intercessions on his behalf will be likely to be of any avail for his pardon.

I know that your Excellency is able to form a declaration of the kind, conceived in such a style, and replete with such determined sentiments and spirit, as cannot fail of begetting a full belief and persuasion in the hearts of such to whom it shall be addressed, that the same will be infallibly executed. I am almost certain the measure will have the happiest tendency. *Sed sapienti verbum sat est*. Pray pardon my prolixity; I never was happy enough to be concise.

I am, with the greatest respect and deference, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To General *Washington*.

DUKES COUNTY (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

July 5, 1775.

The Committee for the County of *Dukes County*, appointed by the late Provincial Congress, on the 12th of *April* last, beg leave to report, that said Committee, according to the first order of the Congress, met the first *Wednesday* of *May* last; but not having then had an opportunity to receive a state of the conduct of the several Towns, made no report; and as the order of the Congress for postponing the first meeting of the Committees of the several Counties in this Colony to the fourth *Wednesday* of *May*, was not received by him to whom it was directed, till the evening immediately preceding said fourth *Wednesday*, the Committee for said County did not meet. But being now on this first *Wednesday* of *July*, 1775, met, according to the order of the Congress, we have received no state of the conduct, either of the Towns of *Edgarton* or *Chilmark*, the former of which Towns having, as we perceive, no Committee of Correspondence. But as to the only other Town in this County, viz: *Tisbury*, the Committee of Correspondence of that Town have reported, that said Town was endeavouring that their outstanding Provincial rates be speedily paid, according to the direction of

the Congress; but they were under great difficulty with respect to raising money for that purpose, as they have great occasion for money to procure a necessary supply of bread corn; and money was very scarce amongst them, through the failing of their whale voyages last year, and through their having no market for the oil they have since obtained; but since the date of the above Report, we have had certain information, that the said Town of *Tisbury* have sent a considerable part of their Province dues to the Receiver appointed by the Congress. And the said Committee of Correspondence for *Tisbury* do also report, that their Town is nearly, though not fully, according to law, furnished with arms and ammunition, and are endeavouring in this and all other respects to conform to the recommendations of the Continental and Provincial Congresses.

And with respect to the two Towns first mentioned, of whose conduct we have had no information, in the way pointed out by the Congress, we beg leave to report in brief, from information which we have otherwise had, that with regard to paying their outstanding Provincial taxes, and their furnishing themselves with arms and ammunition, they are endeavouring to conform, as soon as possible, to the recommendation of the Congress, and in other respects do conduct themselves agreeably thereto.

In the name and by order of the Committee:

JOSEPH MAYHEW, *Chairman*.

ADDRESS OF THE QUAKERS OF PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW-JERSEY.

To our Friends and Brethren of the several Meetings in PENNSYLVANIA and NEW-JERSEY:

DEAR FRIENDS: The afflictions and distresses attending the inhabitants of the *Massachusetts* and other parts of *New-England*, have often engaged our pity and commiseration, with a desire to be instrumental for their relief, as favourable opportunities should offer. And having received more particular information, since the yearly meeting held last month at *Rhode-Island*, than we had before, of the situation of our brethren and others in those parts, since which the desolations of war have greatly increased, we are incited by a spirit of sympathy and Christian tenderness to recommend to your serious and benevolent consideration the sorrowful calamities now prevailing among these people, earnestly desiring that we may encourage each other freely to contribute to the relief of the necessitous of every religious denomination; to promote which we have agreed upon, and herewith send you printed subscription papers, requesting that some suitable active Friends may be appointed in each of your monthly and preparative meetings, to apply for the donations of Friends for this charitable purpose, and that the money subscribed may be collected, and with all convenient speed paid into the hands of *John Reynell*, of *Philadelphia*, or *Samuel Smith*, of *Burlington*, Treasurers of our Yearly Meeting.

The Yearly Meeting at *Rhode-Island*, before mentioned, have appointed a Committee of twenty-six Friends, from the several quarterly meetings in *New-England*, who are to meet together at least once a month, in order to assist each other in inspecting and considering the state of those who are distressed, and they appear to us the most suitable persons to receive our contributions for their relief. With this Committee we propose to keep up a correspondence, and to unite our endeavours with theirs, that the benefactions raised may be distributed in the most seasonable and effectual manner, for the benefit of those who are or may



be reduced to necessitous circumstances in this time of public calamity. We therefore desire that Friends may be liberal, according to their circumstances, and speedy in their contributions; and are your loving friends.

Signed in and on behalf of our meeting for sufferings, held in *Philadelphia*, for *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, the sixth day of the seventh month, 1775.

JOHN PEMBERTON, *Clerk*.

NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, July 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have the honour of your favour of the twenty-ninth *June*, accompanying your plan and proceedings respecting an accommodation with the Parent State. Nothing could be more interesting or acceptable to us, than a communication of the sentiments and wishes of our worthy constituents on this most important subject; and while we applaud the wisdom of your decisions, we beg you to be assured that they shall command our most earnest and respectful attention.

Deeply sensible of the calamities of a civil war, we have nothing more at heart than to be instrumental in compromising this unnatural quarrel between the two Countries, on the solid basis of mutual justice and constitutional liberty; and the most strenuous efforts, on our part, shall be exerted with unremitting ardour, to accomplish this salutary purpose.

We acknowledge, with the utmost gratitude, the deference you are pleased to pay to our judgment, and your delicacy in leaving us unrestrained, in a point of all others the most essential to yourselves and your posterity, to the Continent of *America*, and the whole *British Empire*; and happy shall we esteem ourselves if, in the discharge of this difficult and arduous trust, we shall merit your approbation and the confidence of our Country.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,

|               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| HENRY WISNER, | PHILIP LIVINGSTON,   |
| WM. FLOYD,    | JAMES DUANE,         |
| JOHN JAY,     | ROB'T R. LIVINGSTON. |
| JOHN ALSOP,   |                      |

Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

P. S. We have unanimously agreed to be silent on that article in the Plan of Accommodation which asserts, "*That no earthly legislature or tribunal ought, or can of right interfere or interpose, in any wise howsoever, in the religious and ecclesiastical concerns of the Colonies.*" As the inhabitants of the Continent are happily united in a political creed, we are of opinion that it would be highly imprudent to run the risk of dividing them by the introduction of disputes foreign to the present controversy, especially as the discussion of them can be attended with no one single advantage. They are points about which mankind will forever differ, and therefore should always, and at least in times like these, be kept out of sight. We are the more confirmed in these sentiments by this circumstance, that both this and the former Congress have cautiously avoided the least hint on subjects of this kind, all the members concurring in a desire of burying all disputes on ecclesiastical points, which have for ages had no other tendency than that of banishing peace and charity from the world.

|                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| LEWIS MORRIS,  | PHILIP LIVINGSTON,        |
| JAMES DUANE,   | ROB'T R. LIVINGSTON, JR., |
| JOHN ALSOP,    | JOHN JAY,                 |
| FRANCIS LEWIS, | WILLIAM FLOYD.            |
| HENRY WISNER,  |                           |

N. B. The other Delegates are absent.

ELIZABETHTOWN (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE OF NEW-YORK.

Committee Chamber, Elizabethtown, July 6, 1775.

SIR: We have just received information that one *William McLeod*, son of Captain *McLeod* of this place, lately appointed an Ensign in the Fifty-Second Regiment at *Boston*, left this Town early this morning and went to *New-York*, in order to take passage from thence to join his Regiment. We have thought fit to give you this intelligence that you may do what you think proper on the

occasion. As soon as we got notice of his departure for such a purpose, his baggage was detained. By order of the Committee: JONA. HAMPTON, *Chairman*.

To the General Committee of *New-York*.

New-York, July 6, 1775.

The following gentlemen, appointed Captains by the Provincial Congress for the enlistment of volunteers to enter into the service for the defence of the liberties of *America*, in the first battalion, to be raised for the City of *New-York*, under the command of Colonels *McDougall* and *Ritzema*, have thought proper to make publick the following places of rendezvous, and the encouragement to volunteers.

Captain *John Weisscnvelt* and Captain *Gershom Mott*, at Mr. *Foster Lewis's*, innholder, near *Beekman's Slip*; Captain *Willett*, at Mr. *Abraham Van Dyck's*, innholder, in the *Broadway*; Captain *Jacob Cheesman*, at Mr. *John Rutter's*, in *Cherry-street*; Captain *Samuel Broome*, at Mr. *Foster Lewis's*; Captain *John Quackenbos*, at Mr. *Abraham Van Dyck's*, Mr. *Edward Bardin's*, *Chapel-street*, innholder, and Mr. *Foster Lewis's*; Captain *John Johnson*, at Mr. *Edward Bardin's*; Captain *William Gaforth*, at Mr. *Abraham Van Dyck's*; Captain-Lieutenant *John Copp*, acting in the absence of Captain *Richard Varick*, private Secretary to General *Schuyler*, at Captain *Josiah Banks's*, in *Little Dock-street*, near the *Exchange*, and at Mr. *Wm. Mariner's*, in *Horse and Cart-street*, innholders; Captain *Van Wyck*, at Mr. *Abraham Van Dyck's*.

Volunteers, from the time of their enlistment, to enter into immediate pay, at one shilling and eleven pence per day; and also to receive one dollar per week until they are encamped, in order to enable them to support themselves in the intermediate time. And they are likewise to be provided with a suit of regimental clothes, a fire-lock, ammunition, accoutrements, and every other article necessary for the equipment of *American* soldiers.

God save the Congresses.

EDWARD MOTT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, July 6, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: I arrived here last night, ten o'clock, from *Ticonderoga*; am sent express by Colonel *Hinman* to acquaint the Committee at this place, and also the Provincial Congress at *New-York*, with the condition of the troops and garrisons at *Ticonderoga*, *Crown Point*, and *Fort George*; expect to set out from hence for *New-York* to-morrow; have not as yet waited on the Committee here, but write these lines by Captain *Stevens*, who will not tarry, but sets out for home this morning. When I arrived at *Ticonderoga*, Colonel *Hinman* had no command there, as Colonel *Arnold* refused to let him command either of the garrisons, but had given the command of *Ticonderoga* to Captain *Herrick*, from whom Colonel *Hinman's* men were obliged to take their orders, or were not suffered to pass to and from the garrison. The same day a Committee of three gentlemen from the *Massachusetts*, viz: Mr. *Spooner*, Colonel *Foster*, and Colonel *Sullivan*, returned to *Ticonderoga* from *Crown Point*, and informed us that they had been to Colonel *Arnold*, with orders from the Congress requiring him to resign the command to Colonel *Hinman*, and that he, with his regiment, should come under the command of said *Hinman*; which said *Arnold* positively refused; on which said Committee discharged Colonel *Arnold* from their service, and desired the privilege to speak with the people who had engaged under *Arnold*, but were refused. They further informed that Colonel *Arnold* and some of his people were gone on board the vessels; that they understood they threatened to go to *St. John's* and deliver the vessels to the Regulars, and that *Arnold* had disbanded all his troops but those that were on board said vessels; that they were treated very ill and threatened, and after they came away in a batteau, they were fired upon with swivel-guns and small-arms by *Arnold's* people; and that Colonel *Arnold* and his men had got both the vessels and were drawn off into the lake. On which I desired Colonel *Hinman* to let me, with Lieutenant *Halsey* and Mr. *Duer*, (who was Judge of the Court for the County of *Charlotte*, in this Colony,) with some men to row, have a batteau and proceed up the lake, and go on board the vessels. We obtained liberty, and Colonel *Sullivan* con-



sented to go with us. We got on board the vessels about eleven o'clock in the morning, and he confined three of us on board each vessel; men sat over us with fixed bayonets; and so kept us till sometime in the evening, when we were dismissed and suffered to return. We reasoned with the people on board the vessels all the while we were there, and convinced some of them of their error, who declared they had been deceived by Colonel *Arnold*. After we returned to the fort, called up Colonel *Hinman*, who ordered Lieutenant *Halsey*, with twenty-five men, to return again to the vessels and get what people he could on board to join him, and bring one or both vessels to the fort, which was all settled the next day. Colonel *Sullivan* was much insulted while we were on board the vessels, chiefly by Mr. *Brown*, one of Colonel *Arnold's* Captains. Captain *Stevens*, who is waiting while I write these lines, will not wait longer, or you should hear more particulars. I expect you will have a full account from the gentlemen Committee after they have laid it before their Congress. Captain *Elijah Babcock* can give a full account of those matters; he tells me he shall be at *Hartford* in a few days. Shall give further accounts from *New-York*.

I am, Sir, at command, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

EDWARD MOTT.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour.

ETHAN ALLEN TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

July 6, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: Your letter of the eighth ultimo gave me to understand that my painful services, in behalf of my Country, were noticed by your Honour; my letters having received your patronage, were received by the honourable Continental Congress with that additional lustre they needed.

The notice your Honour, as well as Grand Continental Congress, I may add the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, hath taken of my zeal in the common cause, hath more confirmedly and authoritatively determined me to hazard my life in the same, and exert the small abilities with which I am endowed, to the utmost, as I have received assurances from both Congresses of shortly being admitted to an honourable preferment in the Army. I am now on my passage between *New-York* and *Albany* from those Congresses, in company with Mr. *Seth Warner*, my companion, with directions to form a battalion of seven companies of *Green Mountain Boys*; they are expert in the use of fire-arms.

As to our past services, it is recommended by the Grand Continental Congress that the Government of *New-York* pay the same as to gratuities, mentioned in your Honour's letter; a little of that from *Connecticut* would be thankfully received, as we served equally in the night as in the day, in making a conquest of *Lake Champlain*; for which extreme service we are to be paid the same as the honourable General Assembly of *Connecticut* have established relative to their soldiery, and that none of our officers in that service be considered in a higher rank than Captain.

Your Honour's inviolable attachment, and unshaken and religious perseverance in support of the liberties of *America*, manifested from the era of the detestable Stamp Act, hath not only entitled, but gained you the love and esteem of every friend to this Country, of whatever rank or denomination.

That your Honour may long live and sway that respectable Colony in the way of virtue and liberty, and after this transitory life receive the unspeakable reward of social virtue, is the sincere desire of him who is, with the greatest respect, your Honour's devoted, most obedient and humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

CAPTAIN ANGUS McDONALD TO COLONEL ALEXANDER McDUGALL.

Fairfield Jail, July 6, 1775.

SIR: I wrote you a few days ago concerning my close confinement, which I think very hard and contrary to promise, as I expected to be treated more like a gentleman than a highwayman, for it really never was my intent to offer to make my escape from my confinement, till such times as I should be properly released; or if I am not re-

leased, I must only make my application to be exchanged. But at the same time I hope Colonel *McDougall* will be good enough to speak to the gentlemen of the Congress in regard to my having the liberty of the yard; to have the air is all I desire, and if I break through my liberty I will suffer death, or such other punishment as I shall deserve. This day my wife is come here, if she will be permitted to stay with me, as General *Wooster* told me to send for her, and that I should have the more liberty while she staid with me. And your goodness in this point I much depend on in this case, for I know one word from Colonel *McDougall* will be sufficient for my request; and in so doing I shall forever remain your ever humble and obedient servant,

ANGUS McDONALD.

To Colonel *Alexander McDougall*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Hartford, July 6, 1775.

SIR: I received your favour of the thirtieth of *June*, enclosing a copy of the resolution of the honourable Continental Congress, and immediately laid them before the General Assembly of the Colony. They would have been happy to have found themselves in a situation to have complied fully with the request you were charged with to them; but such is the exhausted state of our Treasury, in consequence of the very vigorous efforts they have made, and are daily making in the common cause, that it was impossible for them, consistent to their previous engagements, to furnish you with more than fifteen thousand; and even this sum cannot be spared immediately, but shall be got ready and forwarded, as you shall direct, with all possible despatch, and I hope will be at Mr. *Livingston's* within . . . days at farthest. Our inability, with concurrence acknowledge, with respect to the other most important article is still greater. All that we can do is to deliver to Captain *Douglas* forty half-barrels, which he will immediately proceed with agreeable to your order. Our Engineer (Col. *Mott*) at *Ticonderoga*, has requested that a commander for one of the armed vessels upon *Lake George*, may be sent up from this Colony—a Captain *Niles*, with whom he is acquainted, and who is probably well qualified for the office. But as you can best judge of the nature of this service, and the necessity of sending up this person, you will give me leave to expect your directions upon this project, which I shall very readily conform to. I enclose you copy of a paper of intelligence I have received from Mr. *Deane*, which may perhaps be of some use to you.

I am, &c.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

N. B. Mr. *Deane* requests that this intelligence may not be made publick.

*Extract of a Narrative and Remarks made by a Gentleman who left CANADA on the fourteenth JUNE last: enclosed in Governour TRUMBULL's Letter to General SCHUYLER, dated JULY 6, 1775.*

The *Indians* in *Canada* had heard of the present unhappy disputes subsisting between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, and took the opportunity of my being among them to inquire into the origin and reasons of the same.

I gladly improved all such opportunities to inform them of the ground of the present controversy, and carefully inculcated upon them that they themselves were nearly interested in the event of our present glorious struggles for liberty and freedom. The *Indians*, by what I could then learn, pretty generally determined to take no part in the quarrel. Things remained in this situation with regard to the *Indians*, when the Provincial Troops reduced the fortresses of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, and took the King's sloop at *St. John's*. The *Indians* at *Caughnawaga* were then sent to, by the Commander-in-Chief at *Montreal*, and desired to march a number of their men in company of the Regular Troops, to oppose the Colonists, who, it was reported, were on their way from *St. John's* to besiege *Montreal*. The *Indians* refused to join them, or in any manner intermeddle in the affair. The chief warrior came directly to inform me that he had refused to join the Regular Troops, and that they had determined in Council, that if any of their young warriors should take up the hatchet against their brethren of the Provinces, they would



banish them forever. This was the full determination of the *Indians* when his Excellency Governour *Carleton* arrived at *Montreal*. He directly solicited the *Indians* for their assistance; but on their refusal, declared that since they would not assist him, he would dispossess them, and give their lands to those who would. The *Sachems* had Council after Council, to determine what was to be done in that critical juncture of affairs. In short, they were under so great apprehensions of danger from the Regular Troops, that once, in particular, they lay under arms all night, set out sentries in all parts of their Town, and even sent for assistance to some of the upper Towns; but being situated within about nine miles of *Montreal*, and so immediately exposed to the Governour's resentment, they found themselves reduced to the disagreeable necessity either of relinquishing every thing they held dear in life, or complying in some measure with the Governour's demands. Principles of self-preservation induced them to prefer the latter. They therefore waited on the Governour, and in two speeches, one by the *Sachems* of the Castle, the other delivered by the Chief Warriour, promised to espouse the ministerial cause so far as to defend the Governour, to the utmost of their power, should he be besieged in *Montreal* by the Provincial Troops. The *Indians* were dismissed with presents of provision and ammunition. Shortly after, his Excellency sent to the *Sachems*, desiring them to send a number of their men to *St. John's* to continue some time with the Regulars. The *Sachems* refused it. He then desired them to send a small party, should it be only three; but they persisting in their refusal, he requested them to send a few, should they only carry their tobacco pouches; which request they also absolutely refused. Upon my leaving *Canada*, the *Indians* of *Caughnawaga* desired me to assure the commander at *Crown Point*, that if any *Indians* were known to commit hostilities upon the *English* frontiers, he might determine they were none of their people. When I left *Montreal*, the 14th of *June*, I met with a number of the principal *Sachems* belonging to *St. Francois*, some of whom had their children then at *Dartmouth College*; they gave me all the assurances of their friendship I could desire, and informed me they were going to *Caughnawaga* to attend on a Grand Council, which was then summoned to meet from the several adjacent Towns. The *Indians* also informed me that the design of the Council then to meet was, that the people of their several Towns might then jointly determine to act in the approaching war only on the defensive, and that when they had concluded on that, they should send two men from each of their Towns to the *Seven United Nations*, and use their utmost interest with them to do the same. Their influence upon these united Nations is considerable, for it is well known that the greater part of them originally belonged to the *Seven United Nations*. This, by the best information I could obtain, seems to be the present disposition of the *Indians* in *Canada*; but how far the force of menaces may drive, or large promises allure them, the event only can manifest. But as the fickle disposition of the *Indians* is so well known, it will doubtless be judged a prudent measure to provide against the worst. Some time before I left *Canada*, the Commissary at *Montreal* received orders to make provision for three hundred *Indians*, who were soon expected from the remote tribes; and as I left the City, I observed a number of *Indians*, (should judge about forty,) whom I supposed to be an advanced party of the three hundred. It is said they are coming down to a Congress, and conjectured by our friends that the Governour designs to arm them against our frontiers. As to the state of the Army and Fortresses at *Canada*, it is well known that the number of regular troops is very inconsiderable, the greatest part of whom are now drawn together at *St. John's*, who don't make up a body of more than three hundred, or three hundred and fifty men. At *St. John's*, which is a level plain, they are fortifying to the best advantage which the nature of the place and their time will admit. *Chamblée*, a fort which the *French* built a few miles down the same river, is by account strong, both by nature and art, and is defended at present only by a small garrison. The fortifications at *Montreal*, which were originally designed only for defence against small-arms, are much out of repair. The citadel, which is situated on an eminence at the north end of the City, though weak, seems to be the place of the

greatest strength. As to the fort up the River *St. Lawrence*, I can speak only from information, never having travelled into those parts, but have endeavoured to avail myself of their situation, present state, and importance, by conversing with gentlemen well acquainted in that country. Am informed there are four garrisoned forts to the westward of *Montreal*, viz: *Oswego*, *Niagara*, *Detroit*, and *Michilimackinack*, two or more of which I understand are stockaded forts, and defended by a small garrison for the purpose of protecting the fur trade. Whoever considers the almost numberless and very extensive connexions of the River *St. Lawrence*, the great facility with which a plentiful supply of arms and all kinds of military stores may be sent from *Canada* to almost the western confines of our Continent, together with the extensive fur trade, which for several years has been carried on in that country to the great emolument of *Britain*; but especially whoever considers the many avenues which this river, with its several dependants, affords into almost every *English* Colony upon the Continent, can't but see it to be matter of very great importance to the Colonies, immediately to make themselves masters of those remote forts, which command, as it were, the whole western world of *Indians*. By which step they would not only secure to themselves and after generations all those advantages which are to be derived from their being in possession of a very fine extensive country, but more effectually secure their frontiers, than otherwise can be done even by many thousands of men.

REPORT OF THE CROWN POINT COMMITTEE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Cambridge, July 6, 1775.

The Committee appointed to proceed to the posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, &c., beg leave to report, that they proceeded through the new settlements, called the *New-Hampshire Grants*, and carefully observed the road through the same, and find that there is a good road from *Williamstown* to the place where the road crosseth the river called *Paulet River*, which is about fifteen miles from *Skenesborough*; from thence to the falls of *Wood Creek*, near Major *Skene's* house, the road is not feasible, and unfit for carriages, but cattle may be drove that way very well.

Your Committee having taken with them the copies of the commission and instruction from the Committee of Safety to Colonel *Benedict Arnold*, and informed themselves as fully as they were able in what manner he had executed his said commission and instructions, and find that he was with Colonel *Allen* and others at the time the fort was reduced, but do not find that he had any men under his command at the time of the reduction of those fortresses; but find that he did afterwards possess himself of the sloop on the lake at *St. John's*. We found the said *Arnold* claiming the command of said sloop and a schooner, which is said to be the property of Major *Skene*, and also all the posts and fortresses at the south end of *Lake Champlain* and *Lake George*, although Colonel *Hinman* was at *Ticonderoga* with near a thousand men under his command at the several posts.

Your Committee informed the said *Arnold* of their commission, and, at his request, gave him a copy of their instructions; upon reading of which he seemed greatly disconcerted, and declared he would not be second in command to any person whomsoever; and after some time contemplating upon the matter, resigned his post, and gave your Committee his resignation under his hand, dated the 24th of *June*, 1775, which is herewith submitted, and at the same time he ordered his men to be disbanded, which, he said, was between two and three hundred. Your Committee not finding any men regularly under said *Arnold*, by reason of his so disbanding them, appointed Colonel *Easton*, who was at *Ticonderoga*, to take the command, under Colonel *Hinman*, who was the principal commanding officer at those posts of the *Connecticut* forces, and endeavoured to give the officers and men who had served under said *Arnold* an opportunity to re-engage, of which numbers enlisted, and several of the officers agreed to hold their command under the new appointment.

Your Committee having taken a critical survey of the garrison and posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*,



found them in a very defenceless state; and, consulting with Colonel *Hinman*, were of opinion, upon the whole, that it is necessary to retain in the service of this Colony, for the present, the number of four hundred men.

As the Committee were informed, from intelligence from *Canada*, that preparations were making, and all endeavours used to bring over the *Canadians* and savages to be inimical to these Colonies, your Committee having found Captain *Noble* at the *Point*, with a number of men who had been under said *Arnold*, willing to engage in the service, we paid to said *Noble* one hundred Pounds, to be delivered to the men as advance pay, and appointed Mr. *William Satterlee*, a worthy man, to muster them and their arms, and took Captain *Noble's* and *Satterlee's* receipt for the same, and their promise to apply it for that purpose, which is herewith submitted.

Your Committee returning to *Ticonderoga*, and Colonel *Easton* being there, they paid into his hands the sum of two hundred and eighty Pounds, to be applied for the purpose aforesaid, and took his receipt and promise so to do, and appointed Mr. *Jonas Fay*, a respectable person, to muster the men and their arms, all except Captain *Noble's* Company. We also paid into the hands of one *Remember Baker*, said to be a good officer, who engaged a certain number of men under Colonel *Easton*, the sum of twenty Pounds, and took his receipt and promise to apply said money as advance pay to said men, which completes the whole of the money delivered to said Committee for the purposes aforesaid.

Your Committee have engaged to Colonel *Easton* that the remaining part of the advance pay should be immediately sent to him.

Your Committee found that as soon as Colonel *Arnold* had disbanded his men, some of them became dissatisfied and mutinous, and many of them signified to the Committee that they had been informed that they were to be defrauded out of the pay for past services. The Committee, in order to quiet them, engaged under their hands, in behalf of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, that as soon as the rolls should be made up and properly authenticated, they should be paid for their past services, and all those who should engage anew should have the same bounty and wages as is promised to those men who serve within said Colony.

Your Committee inquired of Mr. *Henry Bleeker*, of *Albany*, how the men at those posts were supplied with provisions, who informed that he acted under his brother, who was a Commissioner of Supplies from *New-York*; that all the men at those stations, of whatsoever Colony, were supplied by him without distinction, and that he should continue so to do until otherwise directed.

Your Committee appointed *Timothy Edwards* and *Samuel Brown*, Esquires, a Committee to supply the men under Colonel *Easton's* command with such necessaries as should not be supplied from *New-York*, and appointed Captain *Elisha Phelps* to act as Commissary under them, to deal out to the men whatsoever should be supplied by the said *Edwards* and *Brown*.

Your Committee being of the opinion that a Major should be appointed under Colonel *Easton*, and one Surgeon to the battalion, and having inquired into the disposition of the officers and men who have engaged, have appointed *John Brown*, Esquire, as Major, and Mr. *Jonas Fay* as Surgeon.

Your Committee, when they had received Colonel *Arnold's* resignation, directed him to return to Congress, and render an account of his proceedings, agreeable to their instructions, a copy of which order is herewith submitted.

Your Committee made an examination of the military stores at those posts, a schedule whereof is herewith delivered, excepting some leaden and iron ball and old chains, which have been dug out of the ruins of *Crown Point* fort.

Your Committee finding that the men at those stations had not a sufficiency of gunpowder to defend the posts, and upon a careful inquiry could not find any at *Albany*, have directed said Committee of Supplies to supply them with two hundred weight from some of the town stocks in the County of *Berkshire*, on the credit of the Colony.

Your Committee are of opinion that the maintaining of those posts is of the utmost importance to the security of the Colony of *New-York* and the *New-England* Colonies,

which was a sufficient inducement to the Committee to continue in the pay of this Colony the number of men before mentioned. The fortress not being at present tenable, there must be a sufficient number of men to command the lake, and prevent the enemy from landing.

Your Committee are of opinion that the best security of those posts in their present state is, by armed vessels of various constructions to be kept constantly cruising on the lake, and small boats with swivel guns to act as scouts, which will effectually prevent the army from sudden surprise.

Your Committee have, agreeable to their instructions, advised the honourable *American Congress*, the honourable Convention of the Colony of *New-York*, and the Governour of *Connecticut*, by respectfully signifying to them their opinion of the importance of the maintaining those posts, and the measures for effectuating the same. All which is humbly submitted.

WALTER SPOONER, by order.

#### Copy of the Warrant to BROWN and EDWARDS.

The Committee appointed by the Congress of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to appoint a Committee to supply the troops stationed by said Colony at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point* with provisions, &c., do hereby appoint you, the said *Edwards* and *Brown*, to supply said troops, on the credit of the said Colony, with blankets, if they should require them, according to the establishment for the Colony's Army, and with such provisions not supplied by the Colony of *New-York* as shall be necessary, according to the establishment of the Government of *Connecticut* for their forces at those posts; and you are hereby directed to send such provisions as you shall make for the said Colony's troops to . . . . ., who is appointed a Commissary there to receive the same, and deal them out to the said troops. And for all which this shall be your sufficient warrant, until some future Congress or House of Representatives shall otherwise order.

#### Order of the Committee to Colonel ARNOLD.

Crown Point, June 23, 1775.

SIR: You having signified to the Committee who are appointed and directed by the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to inquire into the state of the fortresses at *Crown Point*, *Ticonderoga*, &c., and the appendages thereof, your resolution to resign all your command of the said fortresses, and the vessels and stores thereunto belonging, for reasons under your hand expressed:

This is to inform you, that it is the expectation of the Provincial Congress aforesaid, that the chief officer of the *Connecticut* forces at those stations will command the same for the present; and the Committee accordingly expect that you conform yourself to the directions of said Congress in that behalf, and deliver the same to such chief officer of the *Connecticut* forces, or his order, for which this shall be your authority. The Committee expect that you will, as soon as may be, lay an account of your disbursements before the Provincial Congress, agreeable to our instructions, a copy whereof is lodged with you.

By order of the Committee.

Colonel *Benedict Arnold*.

#### Colonel ARNOLD's refusal to serve any longer.

Crown Point, June 24, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your instructions of the 14th instant from the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in regard to my conduct here, being now before me, I will answer in course.

In the first place, I observe you are appointed to examine my conduct, and in what manner I have executed my commission. I look on this instruction at this juncture as unprecedented, and a very plain intimation that the Congress are dubious of my rectitude or abilities, which is a sufficient inducement for me to decline serving them longer.

Secondly, the Congress have authorized you to judge of my spirit, capacity, and conduct, and determine whether I shall continue in commission, and if so, that I shall be under the command of a person appointed by the Colony of *Connecticut*. In answer to the first part, it appears to me very extraordinary that the Congress should first appoint an



officer, and afterwards, when he had executed his commission, to appoint a Committee to examine if he was fit for his post. I think the examination should have been prior to the commission, and that after executing that commission they should order a younger officer of the same rank to take the command of the fortresses, vessels, &c., conquered, plainly indicates the loss of their confidence, and is a most disgraceful reflection on him and the body of troops he commands, which is a sufficient inducement to resign, not to mention the very great hardship on the private men, who, having served well near two months, are now to be mustered, and if, by sickness or hard labour, they are reduced and not fit for service, and of course do not pass muster, they are to lose their former time and service, and reduced to the distress of begging their bread until they can get home to their friends.

The last objection I have to make is, that I have so far lost the confidence of the Congress, that they have declined sending me money, as was promised by Captain *Brown*, to discharge the small and unavoidable debts I have contracted for necessaries for the use of the Army, for which my own credit is at stake, and I am reduced to the necessity of leaving the place with dishonour, or waiting until I can send home and discharge those debts out of my private purse. The latter of which I am determined to do, though I have already advanced one hundred Pounds, lawful money, out of my private purse. All which reasons I believe will be thought a sufficient inducement for me to decline holding my commission longer.

I am, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

Messrs. *Spooner, Foster, and Sullivan*, present.

Ticonderoga, June 28, 1775.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your motion and encouragement when present at this place, together with a view of quickening the minds of the soldiers of my Company, I herewith present you with an account of the several proportions of time each person named in the payroll have actually served in my Company in the present northern expedition, together with the several capacities in which they have severally served, and have endeavoured, to the utmost of my ability, to exhibit it with impartiality and exactness. And if any mistake is found in exhibiting the particular sum of the different capacity in which either has served, I hope it will be imputed solely to inadvertence, as I have not a form of the establishment of the *Massachusetts-Bay* at command; therefore, should you find, on examination, any mistake of the kind, beg the favour you would please to make such additions to, or subtractions from, as is equitable, agreeable to the form as established for that Province.

I have received seven Pounds and four Shillings, and my Lieutenant, Mr. *Satterlee*, sixteen Pounds and eight Shillings, amounting, in the whole, to twenty-three Pounds and twelve Shillings, lawful money, from Colonel *Arnold*, for the use of the soldiers in my Company, which you will either please to deduct from the foot of the pay-bill, and discharge me for the same from him, or send the whole contents, with directions to me to repay him, which I shall readily comply with, which I humbly submit to your wisdom.

I have sent no account in the pay-bill for extra expense in enlisting a Company, for billeting, and otherwise supplying my soldiers in a forced march, &c., nor included any allowance therein for good Mr. *Satterlee's* extra fatigue and faithfulness as Adjutant of the Regiment; but leave it to some future period, not doubting such ample reward will be made as is provided for others in like capacity in your Government.

Your paying the amount of the pay-bill to Lieutenant *William Satterlee*, the bearer, with his receipt on the back therefor, shall be your sufficient discharge for so much received for the use of my Company, and the favours shall be ever gratefully acknowledged by, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JONAS FAY,

By order and in behalf of SAMUEL HERRICK, Captain.  
Honourable *Walter Spooner, Jedediah Foster, and James Sullivan*, Esquires, Committee, &c., for the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### Ordinance Stores at CROWN POINT, JUNE 23, 1775.

Seven punches for vents of guns, 14 wooden setters, 3 scoops for shells, 1 pair brass scales, 14 mallets for driving fuzes, 1 set of measures for powder, 310 pounds of slow match, 118 pounds shot, 580 twelve-pound shot, 580 nine-pound shot, 580 six-pound shot, 1,430 grape shot, 68 shells for an eight-inch howitzer, 370 shells, 6 sponges with ramrods, 6 wagon bodies, 906 wheels of all sorts, 22 wadhooks with ramrods, 1 cross-cut saw, 1 mill whipsaw.

At TICONDEROGA.—Three guns and triangle, 1 repairable and 3 useless, 6 gages for shot for twelve-pounders, 3 copper hoops, 6 copper ladles, 12 iron ladles, shells, shot, &c., in vast quantities.

Colonel *Arnold* informs that he has just bought four oxen for use, price twenty-eight Pounds; six cows, at four Pounds per head, and twenty sheep; which he will turn over to the *Connecticut* forces, if the Commander-in-Chief will receive them.

Also, further informs he has engaged twenty seamen, two armourers, and two gunners.

#### THEODORE ATKINSON TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.\*

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, July 6, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In answer to your request touching my delivery of the records and files belonging to, and now in the Secretary's office of this Province, I beg leave to acquaint you that I am, by His Majesty's special commission, appointed Secretary of this Province during His Majesty's pleasure and my residence in this Province; and agreeable thereto I was admitted and sworn into that office, and had the keeping the archives belonging thereto delivered to me, and put under my direction and in my keeping. You cannot but see my honour and my oath forbids my consent

\* COPY OF A LETTER PREPARED FOR THE CONGRESS AT EXETER BY MR. ATKINSON, BUT NOT FORWARDED.

GENTLEMEN: I have seen your appointment and directions from the Provincial Congress to receive from me the records and files of the Secretary's office. This delivery by me would be a transaction that I dare not be a volunteer in. My appointment is by His Majesty's special commission to be Secretary of this Province, and to hold the same during His Majesty's pleasure and my residence in the same; by which appointment I execute that office in the different branches of duty, viz: as recording the transactions of the General Assembly, and of the Governor and Council when they meet on any other or special occasion; also, when they sit as a Court of Appeals from the Courts of the Common Law in this Province, or from sentences of the Courts of Probate of Wills, &c. I am also to give every vessel a certificate and passport that she is regularly cleared outwards. These are all separate branches of the Secretary's office, and I am under oath to keep the same agreeable to the directions of the law in all things whereunto that office hath relation; and thus the records, &c., are committed to my care and trust, &c.

Now, gentlemen, consider my situation. If I am active, and voluntarily deliver these archives so committed to my care without proper authority, am I not criminal? In this Province I know there is not above one single precedent of this nature, and that not a parallel. This happened in Governor *Cranfield's* time, or soon after he abdicated the chair of government of this Province. A number of men armed attacked the Secretary's office, (one *Chamberlain* then Secretary,) and forced from him all the records and files thereof, not only what is now esteemed the Secretary's office, but also what is now called the Recorder's, such as deeds and conveyances of freehold estates; also, those of the Court of Probate of Wills, &c., and the several Courts of Common Law, General Sessions of the Peace, &c., &c. What confusion this transaction occasioned is not to be conceived. All the archives of the Province thus held in the hands of the multitude, and which so remained till the glorious revolution in King *William* and Queen *Mary's* time, when a general amnesty took place, &c., &c. Notwithstanding, those records and files have never, to this day, found the way to their respective offices, but still remain (what is left of them) in that confused condition to this time; and doubtless many widows and orphans, as well as others, have met great disadvantages, and suffered much loss. If you turn your thoughts to the present distressing situation of *North America*—two armies of twelve or fifteen thousand men each, and both His Majesty's subjects, now encamped within cannon shot of each other, alternately spilling the blood and spreading the carnage of their fellow-subjects—these, I think, call for all our thoughts and endeavours how to extricate us without halting into action any affair not likely to contribute to the first and grand affair of peace and harmony between *Great Britain* and *America*. If you examine the transactions of the neighbouring Province for precedents, your search, I imagine, will be fruitless. General *Gage* has been personally at *Salem*, and though he disapproved the transaction of the town meetings, he never pretended to intermeddle with the records; *Cambridge*, whose situation is in the midst of the dispute, nor *Concord*, though that town has been plundered, yet the County or Town records remain unaffected.

For these reasons I cannot think any such power as taking the records from the usual places, &c., was delegated to you in your appointment. I have been thus prolix in giving the reasons why, if the records of the Secretary's office are taken out of my possession by you, they will be taken without my consent or approbation.

I am, Gentlemen, yours.



or even my connivance in such a delivery, unless accompanied with His Majesty's supersedeas, or my not being resident in this Province.

Gentlemen, the difficulties, I may say the distresses in the Province, and indeed of the whole Continent, are such that every additional cause of perplexity should be avoided. I have, gentlemen, no thoughts of attempting to maintain the security of the records in my custody by force. This I know would have no good effect. My aim is only to remove any grounds of complaint that may be against me for either neglect or malepractice in the execution of my said office.

I am, Gentlemen, with proper regard, your humble servant,  
THEODORE ATKINSON.

To Major *William Weeks*, and the rest of the Committee.

SECRETARY ATKINSON TO GOVERNOUR WENTWORTH.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, July 7, 1775.

SIR: Your Excellency will give me leave to acquaint you, that on the fourth instant I had, as Secretary, a visit from a Committee appointed by the Provincial Congress of this Colony held at *Exeter*. They showed me their appointment, and requested the delivery of all the records and files in the Secretary's office. I told them it would be against my honour and my oath of office to be a volunteer in such delivery. After an hour's moderate conversation, and without any heat, the Committee left me, and I was in hopes I should not have any farther visit from them; but on the sixth instant they came again and urged the delivery. I still refused as before, and told them they well knew it was not in my power to defend the office by force of arms; if they took the records, &c., or any of them, they must be answerable. They then entered the office and took all the files and records belonging to the Secretary's office, except those books in which were recorded the several charter grants of land, which were with your Excellency to take some minutes from. The Committee offered me their receipt, agreeable to their orders from the Congress, but I refused, being no otherwise concerned than barely as a spectator. They then cleared the offices of all the books and papers, and transported them to *Exeter*, where they are (I am informed) to remain till further order. Thus I have stated the facts as they occurred; and I am, may it please your Excellency, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

THEODORE ATKINSON.

Governour *Wentworth*.

SECRETARY ATKINSON TO GOVERNOUR WENTWORTH.

In Provincial Congress, *Exeter*, July 7, 1775.

Whereas this Congress have resolved it as their opinion, that all the publick Records of the Colony were at this time unsafe in the Town of *Portsmouth*, and that the same should be removed to the Town of *Exeter*, all which Records have in consequence thereof been removed by a Committee appointed for that purpose as far as came to their knowledge, except the books of Charters of the several Townships in this Colony: Therefore, it is now Resolved, That the Honourable *Theodore Atkinson*, Esquire, Secretary of the Colony, is accountable to the people for said Records, and that he ought without delay to deliver the same to the Committee.

Extract from the Minutes:

Attest: NOAH EMERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Monday, July 10, 1775.

SIR: The above is a copy of what I received from Major *Weeks* of the Committee that required the Records, &c., the other day. I made the same answer to him that I did to the Committee the other day, viz: that I could make no delivery: if they took them, they must be answerable. Major *Weeks* seemed sorrowful that he was appointed, &c.

To his Excellency the Governour.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL, LONDON.

Friday, July 7, 1775.

A Court of Common Council was held this day at *Guildhall*, when the Court re-assumed the consideration of the

letter from the Committee of *New-York*, addressed to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of *London*; when a motion was made by Mr. *Stavelly*, that an humble Address, Remonstrance, and Petition, relative to the distressed situation of the *American* Colonies, should be presented by the City, in their corporate capacity, to His Majesty. This caused warm debates, it being strongly opposed by several of the members. Mr. *Hunt* then made the following motion:

"That an humble Address and Petition be presented to His Majesty, praying that he will be pleased to cause hostilities to cease between *Great Britain* and *America*, and to adopt such measures as will restore union, confidence, and peace over the *British* Empire."

This motion, (leaving out the word "Remonstrance," after several debates, was carried in the affirmative.

The number for the motion were: six Aldermen, sixty-six Commoners, and two Tellers.—Total 74.

Against the motion: six Aldermen, fifty-one Commoners, and two Tellers.—Total 59.

Majority for the motion 15.

Mr. *Hunt* then moved, that a Committee of six Aldermen and twelve Commoners might be directly appointed to draw up the Petition and Address, which passed in the affirmative. The Committee withdrew, and in a short time returned with a most respectful Petition and Address, which met the approbation of the whole Court, except one dissenting Alderman.

The Sheriffs are directed to attend His Majesty at *St. James's* next *Wednesday*, in order to know when he will be pleased to receive the above Address, which will be presented by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, in their gowns.

On *Wednesday*, July 12th, the two Sheriffs and City Remembrancer, waited on His Majesty at *St. James's* to know when he would be graciously pleased to receive the City Petition and Address; when he was pleased to appoint *Friday* at two o'clock.

On *Friday*, July 14th, the following humble Address and Petition was presented to the King, by the Lord Mayor, the Recorder, the Aldermen *Bull, Lewes, Hayley, Lee, Plomer, Hart*, and several of the Common Council:

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address and Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of *LONDON*, in Common Council assembled:

Most gracious Sovereign:

Your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of *London*, in Common Council assembled, with all humility beg leave to lay themselves at your Royal feet, humbly imploring your benign attention towards the grievous distraction of their fellow-subjects in *America*.

The characteristick of the people, Sire, over whom you reign has ever been equally remarked for an unparalleled loyalty to their Sovereign, whilst the principles of the Constitution have been the rule of his Government; as well as a firm opposition, whenever their rights have been invaded.

Your *American* subjects, Royal Sire, descended from the same ancestors with ourselves, appear equally jealous of their prerogatives of freemen, without which they cannot deem themselves happy.

Their cheerful and unasked-for contributions, as well as willing services to the Mother Country, whilst they remained free from the clog of compulsory laws, will, we are sure, plead powerfully with the humanity of your disposition, for graciously granting them every reasonable opportunity of giving, as freemen, what they seem resolutely determined to refuse, under the injunction of laws made independent of their own consent.

The abhorrence we entertain of civil bloodshed and confusion will, we trust, Sire, if not wholly exculpate us in your Royal mind, yet plead powerfully in our favour for the warmth with which we lament those measures whose destructive principles have driven our *American* brethren to acts of desperation.

Convinced of the earnest disposition of the Colonists to remain firm in all duteous obedience to the constitutional



authority of this Kingdom, permit us, most gracious Sovereign, to beseech you, that those operations of force, which at present distract them with the most dreadful apprehensions, may be suspended; and that, uncontrolled by a restraint incompatible with a free Government, they may possess an opportunity of tendering such terms of accommodation as we doubt not will approve them worthy of a distinguished rank amongst the firmest friends of this Country.

*His Majesty's Answer.*

I am always ready to listen to the dutiful Petitions of my subjects, and ever happy to comply with their reasonable requests; but while the constitutional authority of this Kingdom is resisted by part of my *American* subjects, I owe it to the rest of my people, of whose zeal and fidelity I have had such constant proofs, to continue and enforce those measures by which alone their rights and interests can be asserted and maintained.

London, July 22, 1775.

Yesterday was held a Court of Common Council, when a motion was made by Mr. *Hurford*, and seconded by Mr. *Harrison*, that this Court do order a letter, signed by the Town Clerk, to be sent to *Isaac Low*, Esq., Chairman of the *New-York* Committee, in order to be by him laid before the Committee, acknowledging the receipt of the Committee's letter to this Court, enclosing a copy of this Court's late Petition and Address to His Majesty, and His Majesty's Answer; upon which a previous question was moved by Mr. Deputy *Leeky*; the main question being read, the question was whether that be now put; for which there were two Aldermen, forty-seven Commoners, and two Tellers; total fifty-one. Against the question being put, six Aldermen, fifty-six Commoners, and two Tellers; total sixty-four. Majority against putting the main question, thirteen.

DR. FRANKLIN TO DR. JOSEPH PRIESTLEY, IN ENGLAND.

Philadelphia, July 7, 1775.

DEAR FRIEND: The Congress met at a time when all minds were so exasperated by the perfidy of General *Gage*, and his attack on the country people, that propositions for attempting an accommodation were not much relished; and it has been with difficulty that we have carried another humble Petition to the Crown, to give *Britain* one more chance, one opportunity more of recovering the friendship of the Colonies; which, however, I think she has not sense enough to embrace, and so I conclude she has lost them for ever.

She has begun to burn our seaport Towns; secure, I suppose, we shall never be able to return the outrage in kind. She may doubtless destroy them all; but if she wishes to recover our commerce, are these the probable means? She must certainly be distracted; for no tradesman out of *Bedlam* ever thought of increasing the number of his customers by knocking them on the head; or of enabling them to pay their debts by burning their houses.

If she wishes to have us subjects, and that we should submit to her as our compound sovereign, she is now giving us such miserable specimens of her government, that we shall ever detest and avoid it, as a complication of robbery, murder, famine, fire, and pestilence.

You will have heard, before this reaches you, of the treacherous conduct of General *Gage* to the remaining people in *Boston*, in detaining their goods, after stipulating to let them go out with their effects, on pretence that merchants' goods were not effects; the defeat of a great body of his troops by the country people at *Lexington*; some other small advantages gained in skirmishes with their troops; and the action at *Bunker's Hill*, in which they were twice repulsed, and the third time gained a dear victory. Enough has happened, one would think, to convince your Ministers that the *Americans* will fight, and that this is a harder nut to crack than they imagined.

We have not yet applied to any foreign Power for assistance, nor offered our commerce for their friendship. Perhaps we never may: yet it is natural to think of it, if we are pressed.

We have now an Army on the establishment, which still holds yours besieged.

My time was never more fully employed. In the morn-

ing, at six, I am at the Committee of Safety, appointed by the Assembly to put the Province in a state of defence; which Committee holds till near nine, when I am at the Congress, and that sits till after four in the afternoon. Both these bodies proceed with the greatest unanimity, and their meetings are well attended. It will scarce be credited in *Britain*, that men can be as diligent with us from zeal for the publick good, as with you for thousands per annum. Such is the difference between uncorrupted new States, and corrupted old ones.

Great frugality and great industry are now become fashionable here; gentlemen, who used to entertain with two or three courses, pride themselves now in treating with simple beef and pudding. By these means, and the stoppage of our consumptive trade with *Britain*, we shall be better able to pay our voluntary taxes for the support of our Troops. Our savings in the article of trade amount to near five million sterling per annum.

I shall communicate your letter to Mr. *Winthrop*, but the camp is at *Cambridge*, and he has as little leisure for philosophy as myself. Believe me ever, with sincere esteem, my dear friend, yours most affectionately.

B. FRANKLIN.

JOHN DICKINSON TO ARTHUR LEE.

Fairhill, July 7, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Before this comes to hand, you will have received, I presume, the Petition to the King. You will perhaps at first be surprised that we make no claim, and mention no right. But I hope, on considering all circumstances, you will be of opinion that this humility, in an address to the Throne, is at present proper.

Our rights have been already stated, our claims made; war is actually begun, and we are carrying it on vigorously. This conduct, and our other publications, will show that our spirits are not lowered. If Administration be desirous of stopping the effusion of *British* blood, the opportunity is now offered to them by an unexceptionable Petition, praying for an accommodation. If they reject this application with contempt, the more humble it is the more such treatment will confirm the minds of our countrymen to endure all the misfortunes that may attend the contest.

I do not know what is thought in *London* of the several engagements near *Boston*; but this you may be assured of, that every one of them has been favourable to us, and particularly that of *Bunker's Hill*, on the 17th of last month, when a mere carnage was made of the Royalists, though they gained the intrenchments.

I am, dear Sir, your very affectionate humble servant,  
JOHN DICKINSON.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Camp near New-York, July 7, 1775.

SIR: We have among the *Connecticut* Troops a number of apprentices, and indented servants who ran away from their masters in this City, and have enlisted themselves, and received their pay in *Connecticut*. Since our arrival in this place, many of them have been detained in town by their masters. As the Governour of *Connecticut* has subjected me and the Troops under my command to the direction of the Continental and this Provincial Congress, I desire you, Sir, to take the opinion of your Congress, and advise me what plan of conduct I shall pursue with regard to such persons, and you will oblige, Sir, your humble servant,  
DAVID WOOSTER.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress.

WESTCHESTER COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

White Plains, July 7, 1775.

SIR: The Committee of *Westchester* County, sensible of the great consequence, in our present struggle for liberty, of having officers of the Militia, who are sincere friends of the Country; and also that many, if not a majority of the Militia officers in this County, upon account of their oath of allegiance, or from sinister motives, endeavour to counteract the present measures, as far as possible; do request the Provincial Congress to take the same into consi-



deration, and do what they shall think proper in so important a matter. We are, Sir, your most humble servants.

By order of the Committee :

GILBERT DRAKE, *Chairman*.

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq.*, President of the Provincial Congress.

KINGSTON COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Kingston, July 7, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We received with great pleasure the resolves of your honourable Board respecting the Militia of this Colony, being well persuaded that the putting it under due regulations and discipline will afford the Colony the greatest security in this time of publick calamity. We are sensible of the necessity, therefore, of complying with the measures recommended in your resolve, while we are extremely sorry that for want of being a little more particular and explicit, people differ in their sentiments about the mode they are to pursue, which has already occasioned much warmth, and we fear, unless prevented by an explanatory resolve by your honourable body, may create still greater confusion and trouble, to the injury of the common cause. In order that you may understand wherein we differ in the construction of your said resolve, we beg leave to propose the following queries, the solving of which we would fain hope will give general satisfaction, and restore us to our former harmony, to wit :

1. Is it intended by the advice to the inhabitants to form themselves into companies if necessary, that they should elect their officers, or continue to serve under the officers appointed by Government, if they are well affected to the common cause ?

2. If the inhabitants are to elect their officers up to a Captain, how are the Field-Officers to be appointed—at the election of the companies at large, or by the subaltern officers ?

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee of the Town of *Kingston* :  
JOHANNES SLEGHT, *Chairman*.

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq.*, President of the Provincial Congress.

ELISHA PHELPS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, July 7, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: Received your favour, dated *June 29*, 1775, on the 6th day of *July* instant. I also received the stores of provisions in place of *Mr. Bleecker*, who I was in hopes might have been ordered to purchase provisions, and deliver to me to forward. Sir, flour is very scarce in this City, or cannot be purchased without money. I have been through the City with the assistance of *Esquire Palmer*, and could not get but twenty barrels; also, have been to *Schenectady*, and could not get but ten barrels there. I am much afraid the Troops will suffer if they cannot be immediately supplied. I wrote by the post to one of the gentlemen Committee for two or three hundred barrels of flour. Should be glad your Honour would see and order as you think proper. Colonel *Hinman* has wrote orders to me for hospital stores, and they cannot all be got in this City. Captain *Mott* will inform you more particularly. Sir, should be glad to know who in particular to write to for provisions, &c., at *New-York*, that is and will be wanted.

I am, with esteem, Sir, your most humble servant at command,  
ELISHA PHELPS.

To his Honour *P. V. B. Livingston*, President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

COLONEL HINMAN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Ticonderoga, July 7, 1775.

SIR: Yours of 29th *June* I have received, by which I have the pleasure of being informed of your appointment to the command of the troops in this quarter. Agreeable to your request, I have made as minute a return of the forces, guns, ammunition, and stores, as I am capable of under our present unsettled circumstances.

As to Governour *Carleton's* motions, I can say but little

with regard to them. It is said that there are at *St. John's* about three hundred and fifty Regulars, a few *Canadians*, and a small number of *Indians* at the other posts. By what intelligence I can get, there are about two hundred and fifty of the King's Troops, or thereabout, at *St. John's*; they are fortifying and building some water craft, by what I can learn, but with what intent we cannot yet determine. You may be assured of my taking every opportunity of informing the *Canadians* of our friendly intentions towards them; but they are so very cautious, and the passes are so guarded, that it is almost impossible to get any information to them. I have lately sent a Committee to *Skenesborough* to inquire into the state of affairs there, and find they want to be put under some new regulations. The place at present is kept by some men who *Mr. Arnold* put there. But as I expected you would be up in a short time, I have not given any orders respecting the management of things there; but shall wait for your orders relative thereto.

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

BENJAMIN HINMAN.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

P. S. I wait, Sir, with impatience for your arrival, as I find myself very unable to steer in this stormy situation. Sometimes we have no flour, and a constant cry for rum, and want of molasses for beer, which was engaged to our people; the failure of those who provide give great uneasiness to the men; hope for better times on your arrival.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT.

[Read July 17, 1775.]

Hartford, July 7, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: I have the honour of your favour of the 27th of *June*, acquainting me with the requisition made by the Congress upon this Colony in favour of General *Schuyler*, which I immediately laid before the General Assembly, and am directed to acquaint you, that it would have given them great pleasure to have found themselves able to have complied fully with the demand; but such is the exhausted state of our Treasury, in consequence of the very vigorous efforts the Colony have made and are still making in the common cause, that we could only furnish fifteen thousand Pounds, which is preparing with all possible despatch, and will be forwarded in a few days to the General at *Albany*. With respect to the other most important article, it is with much concern that we acknowledge that we could do but little, having already much exhausted our stock by the supplies furnished to the camp at *Cambridge*. However, all that we could do we have done, and sent forward to the General forty half-barrels; which we hope he will receive in a few days. We doubt not proper care will be taken as speedily as possible to reimburse the Colony these expenses, that we may be enabled to continue our exertions in the common cause of *American* liberty. I am also to inform you, that the Assembly have come to a resolution, at the earnest request of the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, to augment our troops in the publick service with two Regiments of seven hundred men each, exclusive of commissioned officers. We should have been happy, if possible, to have received the directions of the honourable Congress before we adopted this measure; but such appeared to us to be the critical situation of our affairs, great part of our troops being employed in the Province of *New-York* under the orders of the Congress, that it would not be prudent to delay it so long a time as would be necessary to obtain their directions upon the subject. We hope, nevertheless, it will meet with their approbation, and that the Continental currency may be in such forwardness as to be applied to the equipping and furnishing of these regiments; which will be raised with all possible despatch, and the sooner we are supplied with the Continental bills the better.

With respect to Major *Skene*, we could have wished that he might still have been continued at *Philadelphia*; and if he is not actually set out for *Hartford*, we beg his destination may be changed; however, if he arrives here we shall do the best we can with him.

I am, with great truth and regard, in behalf of the Governour and Company, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,  
JONATHAN TRUMBULL.



## EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED LONDON, JULY 8, 1775.

I am happy that you are settled in *Philadelphia*, a city that is and shall be blest. The great founder, *Penn*, was inspired with true wisdom, and *God* gave him a heart to form a City and Colony for a refuge to the persecuted asserters of the rights of human nature at this day, when it is the determination of Administration, at least part of them, with the King, to destroy such Towns as lay on the sea. But don't be frightened or deceived; they cannot accomplish their horrid schemes. Your securing *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point* has overthrown their designs, and now in revenge they say we will destroy their Towns. You see by this what you are to expect. The heart of *Pharaoh* is hardened, and the chariot will be driven so fast that the wheels will fly off in a sea of blood.

Our worthy Lord Mayor has exerted himself abundantly. He has called a Common-Hall of the Livery, and held a Common Council at three different times, and sent up a Petition and Remonstrance; and this day the proceedings of the City are in the press, to be published to all the Counties in *England*; and our patriots, with an *American* bravery, are determined to protest against the doings of the Parliament, and enter into an Association. They have drawn up very spirited resolves. But as yet you must have patience; great bodies move slow. The people of *England* have long been inured to oppression, and are not so quick in their feelings as the *Americans*. They are, indeed, more moderate, but have already discovered their abhorrence to the plans of the tyrants in such a manner as to make them repent they laid them; and in a few months, should there be no submission on your side, (which *God* grant there may not,) they will call home *Gage*, and let you alone awhile, as they cannot get men to go on so horrid an errand. The officers hear that the riflemen intend killing them only, which is most excellent news, as it not only discourages the officers, but makes the soldiers think well of the *Americans*, as they hate their officers, and will certainly desert, if they have opportunity. It is not *England*, but only eight Ministers of State, with the King and his tools in Parliament, that are fighting against you, and use every unfair means to deceive the people of *England*. I understand Fort *Ticonderoga* is to be retaken by *Carleton*, who has one thousand *Scots* Highlanders sent over to him, commanded by Col. *Murray*, with one thousand nine hundred more, who are now enlisting in *Scotland*; this you may depend on.

Our wise Ministry, in order to deceive the people, circulate false reports in the papers and otherwise every day, both for and against the *Americans*, that men's minds may be so confounded they will not know what to depend upon; but you may depend upon it, that should it cost all the blood and treasure of *Old England*, they would prosecute their efforts to subdue you. Even the officers who are to execute their plans are ignorant of their ultimate designs.

They now give out that Lord *Chatham* is to be called in to head a new Administration, and that a new system of politics is to take place; but nothing can be further from their intentions. Lord *Chatham* never can come into their views, and those views being the possession of place, power, and treasure, they will never give them up as long as they can possibly hold them. They have brought the King so far into their measures that he cannot recede; so that they are now together in the place where they will remain till your wisdom and bravery shew the people of *England* that tyrants are to be got at by very simple means.

No statute can be made to put arms into the hands of Roman Catholics, and in consequence, if you could procure proof that General *Carleton* has done this, and convey that evidence to this City, you would find the great cause brought to issue here in a few months, *sat verbum!* Your salvation depends on your firmness and assiduity. If you submit, sixty of you are to be hanged in *Philadelphia*, and the same number in *New-York*; five hundred Pounds is offered for Captain *Sears's* head in particular—a secret order.\*

\* Mr. *Holt*, the printer of the *New-York Journal*, has also had repeated notices from persons of eminence in *England*, that he is among the number of the proscribed who are ordered to be sent to *England*.

## INDEPENDENT COMPANY OF ALEXANDRIA TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Alexandria, July 8, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Your favour of the 20th ultimo, notifying your intended departure for the camp, we received, and after transmitting copies to the different officers to whom it was directed, we laid it before a full meeting of your company this day. At the same time that they deplore the unfortunate occasion that calls you, their patron, friend, and worthy citizen, from them, and your more tender connexions, they beg your acceptance of their most hearty congratulations upon your appointment to the supreme military command of the *American* confederated forces.

Firmly convinced, Sir, of your zealous attachment to the rights of your Country and those of mankind, and of your earnest desire that harmony and good will should again take place between us and our Parent State, we well know that your every exertion will be invariably employed to preserve the one and effect the other.

Your kind recommendation, that a strict attention be had to disciplining the company, shall be complied with, and every possible method used for procuring arms and ammunition.

We are to inform you, Sir, by desire of the company, that if at any time you shall judge it expedient for them to join the troops at *Cambridge*, or to march elsewhere, they will cheerfully do it.

As the success of our arms, during the unhappy contest for our liberties, will ever afford us the highest satisfaction, and as reports heretofore have been various and unauthentic, we entreat your Excellency, should there be any future engagement, and your leisure permit, to favour us with an account. Let our concerns for the cause we are embarked in claim your excuse for this freedom.

We now recommend you to the favour of Him by whom Kings reign and Princes decree justice; and wishing all your counsels and operations to be directed by his gracious providence to a happy and lasting union between us and *Great Britain*, we are, with great regard, for selves and the company, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servants,

JAMES HENDRICKS,  
GEORGE GILPIN,  
ROB. H. HARRISON.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MESSRS. BRADFORDS, OF PHILADELPHIA, TO THE PRINTER OF A PUBLICK PAPER IN LONDON, DATED PHILADELPHIA, JULY 8, 1775.

By the papers you will find that we are forced into a war with our brethren of *Great Britain*; you will also find that an overruling Providence covered our heads at the *Lexington*, *Noddle Island*, and *Bunker's Hill* actions. Our people have not in those three battles lost more than one hundred killed, and about two hundred wounded; whereas, the Ministerial Troops have at least lost fifteen hundred killed, and one thousand wounded.

In the affair at *Bunker's Hill*, it is asserted by many respectable people, who have, since the action, got out of *Boston*, that the *Welsh* Fusileers have only one Captain and ninety men left out of the whole Regiment; and that *Gage* has lost four Colonels and three Majors, among whom are Colonel *Nesbit*, Majors *Pitcairne* and *Sheriff*. However the ministerial account may gloss over matters, their loss has been such that a few more such victories would leave *Gage* but a few men, and we should joyfully put up with the disgrace of a retreat every day for a month upon the same terms. Tell Lord *Sandwich* that Lord *Howe* says, the rebels fought more like devils than men, and that if our re-enforcement had come up in time he must have been totally defeated.

Our Congress are still sitting, and likely to sit for some time. Seeing they were involved, they have taken all the necessary steps; they have an army of eighteen thousand or twenty thousand, headed by General *Washington*, around *Boston*, who are well armed, and have magazines sufficient for two years, notwithstanding the steps taken to keep warlike stores from cowards and poltrons, who had only broomsticks and rusty guns.

You may likewise tell his Lordship, that our Army is able to cope with thirty thousand such troops as *Gage* now



commands, and that we should be glad to see his Lordship at the head of them.

No power ever armed so many men in so short a time as has been done in this Country; it is computed that we have now above three hundred thousand men well armed, two-thirds of whom will fight from principle.

This Province has raised one thousand riflemen, the worst of whom will put a ball into a man's head at the distance of one hundred and fifty or two hundred yards; therefore, advise your officers who shall hereafter come out to *America* to settle their affairs in *England* before their departure.

We are well assured that the ministerial tools in this Country have been tempting the *Indians* to fall on our frontiers, and in one Province it has been proved that they have endeavoured to set the negroes on their masters. Such hellish designs are carrying on by those wretches as must make any thing but the Devil, or Lord *North* and his tools, hide their heads.

We are, Sir, yours, &c., W. & T. BRADFORD.

#### NORTH-CAROLINA DELEGATES TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, July 8, 1775.

SIR: The Committee of this City, a few days ago, transmitted to you an original letter from Governour *Martin* to *Henry White*, Esquire, from the contents of which it is very obvious that Governour *Martin* has formed designs very inimical to the friends of *America*. From authentick information we learn, that he is to receive a supply of gunpowder from General *Gage* via *New-York*, and that he has sent from *North-Carolina* a cutter armed to receive it. She is a small boat, rigged like a schooner, mounts a few swivels, and is commanded by a Mr. . . . , the Lieutenant of the *Famous*, man-of-war; the vessel was formerly purchased in *New-York* by Captain *Collet*. We in particular desire, in case she should arrive in your port, to know what steps you may think prudent to secure her and her cargo. She is probably to receive the gunpowder from the *Asia*, or the other men-of-war lying in your harbour. We are, Sir, with great respect, your most obedient servants,

WILLIAM HOOPER,  
JOSEPH HEWES.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO CHARLES THOMSON.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 8, 1775.

SIR: The Congress received yours of July 4, enclosing Governour *Martin's* letter to Mr. *Henry White*, dated June 13th, and immediately appointed a Committee to confer with him on the subject. From the answers he gave to the Committee, and a letter received from him, (a copy of which is enclosed,) the Congress are fully satisfied that Mr. *White's* conduct in this matter has been unexceptionable, and such as becomes the character of a good citizen. I am, Sir, &c.

By order: P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, President.  
To Charles Thomson, Esquire.

Saturday, July 8, 1775.

SIR: Three gentlemen of the Provincial Congress called upon me with an intercepted letter from Governour *Martin*, of *North-Carolina*, dated the 13th June, to send him a royal standard from hence. They desired to know if I had complied with his request, and whether I could inform them respecting the measures he was now pursuing; in answer to which I have to observe, that he some time ago wrote to me to send him such a standard, which I declined to do, lest it might be disagreeable to the people of this place, and wrote him to that purpose; which letter I apprehend miscarried, or he must have received it before the thirteenth of last month. With regard to the steps he has now taken in his Government, I am utterly unacquainted with; he has not communicated to me any particulars. Governour *Martin* is a gentleman I am intimately acquainted with, and have transacted business for him ever since he has been at *North-Carolina*; which accounts for his applying to me for the above standard. I imagine it will be believed I did not solicit the commission.

I am, Sir, &c., HENRY WHITE.  
To Peter V. B. Livingston, Esquire.

#### MENDHAM (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

July 8, 1775.

Whereas, the Committee of Observation for the Township of *Mendham*, in the County of *Morris*, having legally notified *Ezekial Beach* to appear before us, to answer sundry charges exhibited against him touching his unfriendly conversation and conduct towards the Continental Association: said *Beach* not appearing, we do agree for ourselves, and recommend it to all others, to break off all dealings or connection with him, agreeable to the Eleventh Article of the Continental Association. Signed by order of the Committee.

DAVID THOMPSON, Chairman.

#### GENERAL BURGONYE TO GENERAL LEE.

Boston, July 8, 1775.

DEAR SIR: When we were last together in service I should not have thought it within the vicissitudes of human affairs that we should meet at any time, or in any sense, as foes. The letter you have honoured me with, and my own feelings, continue to prove we are still far from being personally such.

I claim no merit from the attentions you so kindly remember in the early periods of our acquaintance, but as they manifest how much it was my pride to be known to be your friend; nor have I departed from the duties of that character, when, I will not scruple to say, it has been almost general offence to maintain it: I mean since the violent part you have taken in the commotions of the Colonies.

It would exceed the limits and the propriety of our present correspondence to argue at full the great cause in which we are engaged. But anxious to preserve a consistent and ingenuous character, and jealous, I confess, of having the part I sustain imputed to such motives as you intimate, I will state to you, as concisely as I can, the principles upon which, not voluntarily, but most conscientiously, I undertook it.

I have, like you, entertained from infancy a veneration of publick liberty. I have likewise regarded the *British* Constitution as the best safeguard of that blessing to be found in the history of mankind.

The vital principle of the Constitution, in which it moves and has its being, is the supremacy of the King and Parliament; a compound, indefinite, indefeasible power, co-evil with the origin of the Empire, and co-extensive over all its parts.

I am no stranger to the doctrines of Mr. *Locke*, and other of the best advocates for the rights of mankind, upon the compacts always implied between the governing and the governed, and the right of resistance in the latter, when the compact shall be so violated as to leave no other means of redress. I look with reverence, almost amounting to idolatry, upon those immortal Whigs who adopted and applied such doctrine during part of the reign of *Charles* the First, and in that of *James* the Second.

Should corruption pervade the three estates of the Realm, so as to pervert the great ends for which they were instituted, and make the power vested in them for the good of the whole people operate, like an abuse of the prerogative of the Crown, to general oppression, I am ready to acknowledge that the same doctrine of resistance applies as forcibly against the abuses of the collective body of power, as against those of the Crown, or either of the other component branches separately: still always understood that no other means of redress can be obtained; a case, I contend, much more difficult to suppose when it relates to the whole, than when it relates to parts.

But in all cases that have existed or can be conceived, I hold that resistance, to be justifiable, must be directed against the usurpation or undue exercise of power, and that it is most criminal when directed against any power itself inherent in the Constitution.

And here you will immediately discern why I drew a line in the allusion I made above to the reign of *Charles* the First. Towards the close of it the true principle of resistance was changed, and a new system of Government projected accordingly. The Patriots, previous to the long Parliament, and during great part of it, as well as the glorious Revolutionists of 1688, resisted to vindicate and restore the Constitution; the Republicans resisted to subvert it.



Now, Sir, lay your hand upon your heart, as you have enjoined me to do on mine, and tell me, to which of these purposes do the proceedings of *America* tend?

Is it the weight of taxes imposed, and the impossibility of relief after a due representation of her burden, that has induced her to take arms? or is it a denial of the rights of *British* legislation to impose them, and consequently a struggle for total independency? For the idea of power that can tax externally and not internally, and all the sophistry that attends it, though it may catch the weakness and the prejudice of the multitude in a speech or pamphlet, it is too preposterous to weigh seriously with a man of your understanding; and I am confident you will admit the case to be fairly put. Is it then from a relief of taxes, or from the control of Parliament, "in all cases whatsoever," we are in war? If for the former, the quarrel is at an end; there is not a man of sense and information in *America*, who does not know it is in the power of the Colonies to put an end to the exercise of taxation immediately and forever. I boldly assert it, because sense and information will also suggest to every man, that it can never be the interest of *Britain*, after her late experience, to make another trial.

But if the other ground is taken, and it is intended to wrest from *Great Britain* a link of that substantial, and, I hope, perpetual chain, by which the Empire holds, think it not a ministerial mandate; think it not a mere professional ardour; think it not a prejudice against a part of our fellow-subjects, that induces men of integrity, (and among such you have done me the honour to class me,) to act with vigour; but be assured it is a conviction that the whole of our political system depends upon the preservation of its great and essential parts distinctly, and no part is so great and essential as supremacy of legislation. It is a conviction, that as a King of *England* never appears in so glorious a light as when he employs the executive powers of the state to maintain the laws, so, in the present exertions of that power, His Majesty is particularly entitled to our zeal and grateful obedience, not only as soldiers but as citizens.

These principles, depend upon it, actuate the Army and Fleet throughout. And let me at the same time add, there are few, if any, gentlemen among us who would have drawn his sword in the cause of slavery.

But why do I bind myself to the Navy and Army? The sentiments I have touched are those of the great bulk of the Nation. I appeal to the landed men who have so long borne burdens for *America*; I appeal to those trading Towns who are sufferers by the dispute, and the City of *London* at the head of them, notwithstanding the petitions and remonstrances which the arts of party and faction have extorted from some individuals; and last, because least in your favour, I appeal to the majorities in the Houses of Parliament upon *American* questions this session. The most licentious news-writers want assurance to call these majorities Ministerial, much less will you give them that name when you impartially examine the characters that compose them; men of the most independent principles and fortunes, and many of them professedly in opposition to the Court in the general line of their conduct.

Among other supporters of *British* rights against *American* claims, I will not speak positively, but I firmly believe I may name the man of whose integrity you have the highest opinion, and whose friendship is nearest your heart—I mean Lord *Thames*, from whom my Aid-de-Camp has a letter for you, and also one from Sir *Charles Davers*. I do not enclose them, because the writers, little imagining how difficult your conduct would render our intercourse, desired they might be delivered to your own hands.

For this purpose, as well as to renew "the rights of fellowship," I wish to see you; and, above all, I should find an interview happy if it should induce such explanation as might tend in their consequences to peace. I feel, in common with all around me, for the unhappy bulk of this Country; they foresee not the distress that is impending over them. I know *Great Britain* is ready to open her arms upon the first overture of accommodation; I know she is equally resolute to maintain her original rights; and if the war proceeds, your one hundred and fifty thousand men will not be a match for her power.

The place I would propose for our meeting is the house upon *Boston Neck*, just within our advanced sentries, called

*Brown's house*. I will obtain authority to give my parole of honour for your safe return. I shall expect the same on your part, that no insult be offered to me. If this plan is agreeable to you, name your day and hour. At all events, accept a sincere return of the assurances with which you honour me, and believe me, in all personal considerations, affectionately yours.

P. S. I obeyed your commands to General *Howe* and *Clinton*. I also communicated your letter and my answer to Lord *Percy*. They all join me in compliments, and authorize me to assure you they do the same in principle.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, convened at WATERTOWN, JULY 8, 1775.

The Petition of the Selectmen and Committee of Safety, at the desire and in behalf of the Inhabitants of the District of HARPSWELL, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners have at all times exerted themselves in prosecuting those measures recommended by the Continental and Provincial Congresses; that it is their fixed determination to continue thus to do; that some of said inhabitants cheerfully enlisted for the publick safety, and so ward off that despotick and arbitrary power with which Administration is aiming to govern the Colonies.

That said District, on the account of the situation, being an isthmus, or neck of land, about ten miles in length, (with many adjacent islands,) navigable on each side upwards of seven miles, for ships of the Navy, and abounding with cattle, sheep, &c., is peculiarly exposed to the ravages of the *British* Troops. That the inhabitants of said District did, at their own cost, station guards every night at sundry places most exposed, lest the Troops should not be benefited by their provisions. That the enlisted men were, upon the twentieth of *June* last, put upon duty by order of their superiour officers, to guard said District from the plundering of Troops which were daily expected with cutters, &c. That the inhabitants of said District are in low circumstances, and are unable to enlist any more men unless their husbandry employment greatly suffers, which must be an additional distress to that which they already feel. That should the men already enlisted be called away to join the Army, said District is liable to fall an easy prey to the ravages of Troops which may attack it for fresh provisions. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that this honourable Congress, in their great wisdom, would allow said District the number of men already enlisted, with such an additional number as the Congress may judge proper; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN RODICK,  
WM. SYLVESTER,  
Selectmen of said District.

PAUL RANDALL,  
WM. SYLVESTER,  
Committee of Safety for said District.

Harpswell, July 8, 1775.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO DR. LANGDON.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, July 8, 1775.

REVEREND SIR: We have sent several letters to the Committee to be forwarded to the Continental Congress; but as we have had no account from the Congress nor our Delegates of their being received, we fear, by some means or other, they have been neglected. The enclosed letter is of great consequence to us; we therefore beg the favour of you to forward it by the first safe conveyance. By your connection with the General, it is probable you will know of every opportunity, which we hope will be a sufficient apology for troubling you.

I am, in behalf of said Committee,

WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

Reverend Doctor Langdon.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THEIR DELEGATES AT THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress of this Colony adjourned yesterday to the twenty-second of next month, having delegated their power to this Committee during their recess, to provide for the publick safety.



In a former letter the Congress informed you that this Colony chose Deputies, who met the seventeenth of *May* last in Convention Congress at *Exeter*, and voted to raise two thousand men for the common defence of the Colonies, which men are now, and have been some time raised and put under the care of *Nathaniel Folsom*, Esq., who was appointed a Major-General under the Commander-in-Chief of the *American Forces*, and have joined the Army before *Boston*, except two companies for the guard of our sea-coast. At present the news from *Canada*, of their hostile preparations, (an account of which from *Connecticut*, and by Mr. *Deane*, Missionary from *Canada*, we expect will reach you before this,) have so alarmed the inland frontiers, that the Congress have ordered three companies, of sixty-six men each, to be raised and posted for their defence. The cost of raising so many men you will readily see to be a difficult task for so small a Colony, without any money to begin with. We have wrote to you and to the Congress on the situation of our affairs several times, but not receiving any directions, we have emitted ten thousand Pounds in notes of hand, on the credit of this Colony, payable with six per cent. interest, and have ordered ten thousand Pounds more to be forthwith emitted, for supplying the present exigences of the Colony. Some conceive some resolves of the *American Congress*, giving such notes a currency, would be of great service. We are greatly concerned for gunpowder, as we have scarce any except what was taken out of the fort last winter, a considerable part of which we have sent to the Army before *Boston*, and some to our western frontiers. We hope some plan is laid for bringing it into the Southern Colonies, as *New-England* is so watched and guarded that there is but a little hope of getting in here. The ships-of-war and cutters, previous to the first of this month, seized all vessels laden with provisions, salt, or molasses, which have much distressed the eastern parts, but not discouraged them. They have destroyed *Fort William and Mary*, and carried off the cannon to *Boston*, except eight large pieces taken from *Jersey's Point* some time ago secured, and some of them are now pointed against *Boston*. We are anxious to know the result of your determinations, in order to conduct the affairs of this Colony, which at this time is in some confusion, the people not suffering things to proceed in their former manner. The General Court has twice met, but has not, and, we believe, will not proceed to the publick business.

We desire you, as often as opportunity will permit, to write to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety at *Exeter*, and to inform us, from time to time, as much of the affairs of the publick as is permitted; in particular, the directions of the Congress concerning providing for and paying the Army raised for the common defence. On the twelfth of *June* last, Colonel *John Fenton*, who was chosen a member of the General Court by virtue of the King's, or rather the Governour's writ, without the consent of the Assembly, made his appearance in the House, though he had for some time before kept on board the man-of-war in the harbour. The House took into consideration his election, and vacated his seat. Soon after, the people of the Town, greatly exasperated at his conduct, obliged him to surrender, though he had taken shelter in the Governour's house; and our Congress have since confined him. The Governour and his family went off that evening to Captain *Cochran's*, under the protection of the man-of-war, where they still remain. The publick records being thought unsafe in the Town of *Portsmouth*, have all, by order of Congress, been removed to *Exeter*, except the books of charters, which the Secretary says the Governour has at present in his possession. A Committee from this body has demanded and received from *George Jaffrey*, Esq., fifteen hundred Pounds, part of the publick money in his hands.

CONGRESS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE TO THE CONTINENTAL  
CONGRESS.

Exeter, July 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As the state of *American* affairs daily appears more critical, and we are exerting ourselves in every way we conceive expedient to aid the common cause, we think it our duty to give you the earliest account of our transactions, that thereby you may be enabled to direct our future conduct.

We wrote you some time since an account of our being formed into a Congress on the seventeenth *May* last, and resolved to raise two thousand men, &c., which we hope you have received.

Twenty-eight of our companies, of sixty-six men each, including officers, are posted in the vicinity of *Boston*. We have appointed *Nathaniel Folsom*, Esq., a Major-General, to take the charge of them, under the command of the General of the united *American Forces*, and two companies of the like number each are posted as a guard on our sea-coasts; since which we have raised three companies, of the same number each, for a guard against the incursions of the *Canadians* into the frontiers of this and the adjoining Colonies, (who are greatly alarmed at the repeated accounts of preparations making against them in *Canada*,) many of the inhabitants whereof are within two days march of the *French* and *Indian* settlements.

We have but very little gunpowder in the Colony, nor have any prospect of a supply at present, as our sea-coast is strictly watched by men-of-war and cutters, but hope soon to have a sufficient number of fire-arms, of our own manufacturing, to make up our present deficiency, though we find great difficulty in procuring steel for that purpose.

The Colony is at present wholly governed by this Congress and the Committees of the respective Towns. But we greatly desire some other regulations, as our present situation is attended with many difficulties; but we shall not attempt any thing of that kind without your direction. There is great unanimity among us in what concerns the common cause; those who do not join with us are silent, and dare not openly attempt to obstruct our measures.

The Restraining Bill is strictly enforced on our sea-coast by armed vessels, and some seizures have been made by virtue thereof.

We understand Mr. *Deane*, a Missionary among the *Canada Indians*, lately from thence, is now on his journey to *Philadelphia*, and will give you an account of the state of affairs there; from which you will, we hope, be able to concert some plan to frustrate the designs forming against us in that quarter, in which, if required, we shall be ready to assist to the utmost of our ability.

We are, gentlemen, with the utmost respect, your most obedient humble servants. By order of the Congress of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

MESHECH WEARE, *President pro tempore*.

Honourable Members of the Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON, JULY 9, 1775.

Our dependance on *New-York*, and (under *God*) the preservation of that City and Colony from a very shameful defection, which has been fatal to the cause of freedom, has been greatly owing to the abilities, zeal, and assiduity of the worthy Mr. *Holt*. What pleasure is it for those whose chief enjoyment consists in the happiness and security of their fellow-creatures, to witness such exertions to save our Country, to annoy its insidious enemies, and carry into every corner of it the discoveries and advice of its friends.

The business is now to develop the schemes laying to deceive and divide the *New-Yorkers*, finding mere force like to answer no valuable end. They now talk of blocking up the ports, and thus distressing the trade, to make people quarrel with each other, which quarrels some are employed to foment. They have given out word that they will call Lord *Chatham* into office, but it is false; *Chatham* is old and very feeble, not able to bear the fatigues of business. Besides, he will not accept it without a total change of the Ministry, a dissolution of the present Parliament, and the calling of a new one by the free choice of the people.

The true state of the matter is, that the Ministry still intend to drive on, in hopes that you will in time submit, and all will be theirs. They use every means in their power to deceive the people, both here and in *America*, that they may get their plan established of keeping up a Standing Army in the Colonies, increased by degrees till they become masters of the Colonists and all their property, as they have done here.

The Lord Mayor is assiduous to the last. The Livery of *London* are now all alarmed, and have sent petitions



and remonstrances one after another. They have taken up the affair in such good earnest as will very probably excite a civil war in *England*. The ferment in the City is certainly prodigious. The land-holders also begin to be moved and aid the merchants, and the common people are all entering into associations, and consulting what is best to be done.

#### RECEPTION OF GENERAL SCHUYLER AT ALBANY.

Albany, Sunday, July 9, 1775.

About one o'clock, P. M., Major-General *Schuyler* arrived here from *New-York*. He was received, upon his landing, by the members of the General Committee for the City and County, and by the City Troops of Horse, under the command of Captain *Ten Broeck*, and the Association Company, commanded by Captain *Bleecker*, and by the principal inhabitants of the City. After paying the General the honours due to his rank, they escorted him and the gentlemen of the Committee to the City-Hall, where the Committee presented an Address, and received a polite answer from the General. They afterwards proceeded to the King's-Arms Tavern, where an elegant entertainment was provided.

"*The Address of the Committee of Safety, Correspondence, and Protection, of the City and County of ALBANY, to PHILIP SCHUYLER, Esq., Major-General and Commander of the Forces in the Colony of NEW-YORK:*

"Permit us, Sir, to express our fullest approbation upon the appointment by which your Country has raised you to the chief military command in this Colony. While we deplore, as the greatest misfortune, the necessity of such an appointment, we have the utmost confidence that you have accepted of power for the glorious purpose of exercising it for the re-establishment of the liberties of *America*, at present unnaturally invaded by a deluded and despotick Ministry.

"Born and educated amongst us, in a Country which freedom has raised to a state of opulence and envy, you, whose principles are known, whose sentiments have been invariably opposed to power, afford us the pleasing prospect of the unremitted exertion of your knowledge, prudence, and experience, for the restoration of harmony and peace upon constitutional principles. When the sword shall be rendered useless, except against our natural enemies; when we shall see you restored to the peaceful state of a private citizen; when this happy period shall arrive, then, and not till then, will *Americans* enjoy the glorious blessings of freedom.

"By order of the Committee.

"SAMUEL STRINGER, *Chairman pro tempore.*"

#### *The General's Answer.*

"GENTLEMEN: I feel myself so sensibly affected by this publick and friendly address, that whilst my heart overflows with sentiments of gratitude, I want words properly to convey my thanks.

"The honour you do me in the approbation which you are pleased to express of my appointment to a military command, confirms me in the pleasing reflection, that I shall experience your assistance in a continuance of those generous exertions, by which you have already so conspicuously manifested your love for your Country, and your zeal for its cause.

"I most sincerely and unfeignedly deplore with you the unhappy occasion which has forced *America* to have recourse to arms for her safety and defence. Ambitious only to aid in restoring her violated rights, I shall most cheerfully return my sword to the scabbard, and, with alacrity, resume the employment of civil life, whenever my constituents shall direct, or whenever a happy reconciliation with the Parent State shall take place.

"That indulgent Heaven may guide us through this tempestuous scene, and speedily restore peace, harmony, and mutual confidence to every part of the *British Empire*, is the warmest wish of my heart.

"PHILIP SCHUYLER.

"Albany, July 9, 1775."

#### CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 20, 1775]

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, July 9, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: With hearts deeply affected by the sufferings of our friends in the Town and harbour of *Boston* under the cruel hand of tyrannick power, we think it incumbent on us to take every measure which may tend to their release. To that end we now beg leave humbly to suggest to your Honours, whether it would not be expedient immediately to seize every Crown Officer within the united Colonies, and them in safe custody retain, until this purpose be effected, and full compensation made them for the insult and perfidious treatment they have received from General *Gage*.

We have only once more to express our wishes, that if the general service will permit, you might adjourn to some convenient place nearer the seat of action, that we might more speedily obtain the aid and advice of the Grand Council of the Continent in those important matters which, though of general concern, do more immediately affect us.

We are, with great respect, your Honours' most obedient humble servant. In behalf and by order of Congress.

JAMES WARREN, *President.*

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, FROM THE CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE, DATED JULY 9, 1775.

Yesterday morning, at half past two o'clock, we were called up, and were informed the enemy had attacked our lines at *Roxbury Neck*, and soon discovered a great fire in that quarter; but two hours elapsed before we knew the cause, which was as follows:

Two hundred volunteers, from the *Rhode-Island* and *Massachusetts* forces, undertook to burn a guard-house of the Regulars, on the neck, within three hundred yards of the enemy's principal works. They detached six men, about ten o'clock in the evening, with orders to cross on a marsh up to the rear of the guard-house, and there to watch an opportunity to fire it. The remainder of the volunteers secreted themselves in the marsh, on each side of the neck, about two hundred yards from the house. Two pieces of brass artillery were drawn softly on the marsh, within three hundred yards, and, upon a signal from the advanced party of six men, two rounds of cannon shot were fired through the guard-house; immediately the Regulars, who formed a guard of forty-five or fifty men, quitted the house, and were then fired upon by the musketry, who drove them with precipitation into their lines; the six men posted near the house set fire to it, and burnt it to the ground; after this they burnt another house nearer the enemy, without losing a man. They took two muskets and accoutrements, a halbert, &c., all of which were bloody, and shewed evident marks of loss on the part of the Regulars as an advanced post, and gave them an opportunity of discovering our operations at *Roxbury*.

Yesterday afternoon some barges were sounding the river of *Cambridge*, near its mouth, but were soon obliged to row off by our *Indians*, (fifty in number,) who are encamped near that place.

The enemy lost a great number of officers and soldiers in the affair of the 19th of *June*. From several persons who are to be credited, it exceeds nine hundred killed and mortally wounded, besides a great number disabled from future service. It is said almost all the officers of the Army, as well as sergeants and corporals, were in the engagement, leading and forcing the soldiers to mount the hill. This may account for so many officers being killed as ninety-two. Some accounts mention a general destruction of sergeants and corporals. We have frequent interviews with the regulars officers in a valley between the two fortified hills.

Our sentries are not more than one hundred yards off each other. Both sides are still busy in securing themselves. There is scarcely a house in the lower part of *Roxbury* that is not much injured by shot and bombs; our people have lost only one man by them, which is very remarkable, as one hundred at least were fired into *Roxbury* last week.



EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON TO HIS FRIEND IN NEW-YORK, DATED JULY 10, 1775.

The present struggle between this Country and *North America*, I have heard old people, fifty years ago, predict. It is in the nature of things that the greater will not longer obey the lesser than when an opportunity presents to exert itself, which period seems now to be come. I have always been of opinion, that the measures pursued here since 1763, were mistaken and unjust. This Country should have been content to take the wealth of *America* by trade, and not by revenue acts imposed on a people unrepresented. The Assemblies of the Colonies only have a right to give and grant when they think proper to the Crown, and not an assembly of people here. This reasoning, I think, is in the law of nature and this Constitution; and so says Mr. *Locke*.

But the last reasoning of Kings has now taken place, and the *Americans* have appealed to Heaven, that is, their sword. I hope you will do your duty to your Country, and always remember your allegiance and constitutional duty to your King; no other can or ought to be required.

The men that I think are the evil counsellors in the present mistaken measures are, Lords *Bute*, *Mansfield*, *Rochford*, *Sandwich*, *North*, and many of inferior rank. The greatest part of the Nation wish well to *America*, and detest the present politicks; so that it is a war of Administration only. As to Parliament, that House is very civil and polite to the Minister; a very few members there sometimes oppose him, only because they are out of place, or have no pension; but when a question is put, he carries it as he pleases, and often ten or twenty to one. However, the Ministry, I think, are sick of the war in *America*; yet I see not the least trace of their relaxing, except that I hear of no preparation to send more Troops, but probably they will cover the coast with ships-of-war, and suffer no trade; and truly I think that would be a blessing to *America* instead of a curse.

The eyes of Government are fixed on the Congress and their resolutions, and perhaps on their proposals; for it is said that Administration cannot yield, as being contrary to the dignity of the Crown. I answer, then change the Ministers; another set could with a good grace withdraw the present measures. But, in short, I think the rupture will be much greater before the wound is healed. Some more blood must be drawn, and then they, when cooled, will hear, and perhaps agree for some time; but whenever settled, I imagine *America* will carry some points towards the establishment of their liberties.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON TO A GENTLEMAN IN MARYLAND, DATED JULY 10, 1775.

I need not tell you that the account of the *Lexington* skirmish alarmed the people on this side the water extremely. They did not imagine the Provincials would fight, and they had certainly entertained a notion, that a handful of Regulars might overcome the whole Country, and frighten the *Americans* into compliance. They have been most miserably mistaken; and the authors of this mischief are now execrated by every friend to his Country. On the other hand, the bravery, moderation, as well as determined firmness of the *Americans*, have gained them many friends here, even among those who were originally their enemies. I believe the Ministry wish they were well rid of this business; however, it is not certainly known what they intend to do.

#### SOUTH-CAROLINA ASSEMBLY.

*The Speech of his Excellency the Right Honourable Lord WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Captain-General, Governour-in-Chief, &c., &c., in and over his Majesty's Province of SOUTH-CAROLINA, to the General Assembly of the said Province, at CHARLESTOWN, on MONDAY, JULY 10, 1775.*

*Honourable Gentlemen of his Majesty's Council, Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:*

His Majesty's instructions, my own inclination, and the very alarming and critical situation of the Province, have induced me to meet you in General Assembly, as soon as

was consistent with that attention necessary to be paid to your own private affairs at this season.

My appointment to the Government of this Province, entitled, on every account, to my warmest wishes and endeavours for its welfare and happiness, was to me a most pleasing mark of his Majesty's favour, as I flattered myself that, with your assistance and advice, I should have been able to prosecute such schemes, and concur in such measures, as would have contributed to increase that prosperity to which I saw it so rapidly advancing when I was last in the Province.

Filled with these sentiments, and elated by these hopes, it is not easy to conceive my grief and disappointment at finding the Province in the distracted state it is now in: the legal administration of justice obstructed; Government in a manner annihilated; the most dangerous measures adopted; and acts of the most outrageous and illegal nature committed publicly with impunity.

It is by no means either my duty or inclination to enter into a discussion of the disputes that at present unhappily subsist between *Great Britain* and her Colonies in *America*; but I think myself indispensably bound to warn you of the danger you are in, and inform you that if there are any grievances that you apprehend the people of this Province now labour under, the measures at present adopted are by no means calculated to remove them; but, on the contrary, cannot fail of drawing down inevitable ruin on this flourishing Colony. Let me, therefore, gentlemen, most earnestly entreat you, as the only legal representatives of the people in this Province, the only constitutional guardians of its welfare, and who are so deeply interested in the event of the measures now carrying on, to deliberate and resolve with that coolness, temper, and moderation, the important instant demands; and to reflect that the happiness or misery of generations yet unborn, will depend on your determinations.

These sentiments flow from a heart filled with a fervent zeal for the real interest and happiness of this Province. You may be assured, if ever it is in my power to be in any degree instrumental to restoring that harmony, cordiality, confidence, and affection, which ought to subsist between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, I shall esteem those moments the happiest and most fortunate of my life.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

Council Chamber, July 10, 1775.

*Address of the Upper House of Assembly to his Excellency the Right Honourable Lord WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Captain-General, Governour and Commander-in-Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of SOUTH-CAROLINA:*

*The humble Address of the Upper House of Assembly: May it please your Excellency:*

We, his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council of this Province, met in general Assembly, beg leave humbly to address your Excellency, and most cordially to congratulate you on your safe arrival in this Colony.

Satisfied that this Province is entitled to your Excellency's warmest wishes and endeavours for its welfare and happiness, we felt the sincerest pleasure on your appointment to the government of it.

Strongly attached to the interests of this Country, and filled with the warmest wishes for its prosperity and happiness, we most heartily join with your Excellency in lamenting the distracted and unhappy state in which you now find it.

Your Excellency having, as we conceive, with great propriety declined entering into a discussion of the disputes that at present unhappily subsist between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, it would be highly unbecoming us to take up a subject of so delicate a nature; but we entirely coincide with your Excellency in opinion, that the violent measures at present adopted do not seem well calculated to remove any real grievances, but may, we fear, produce contrary effects.

We, however, have the happiness to reflect, that this House had no share in the measures your Excellency so pathetically describes: and we beg leave to assure your Excellency, that with hearts overflowing with loyalty and duty to the King, and perfectly devoted to the interests



of this Province, we will deliberate and resolve upon every measure that may come before us, with that temper, coolness, and moderation, which the important instant demands.

With pleasure we acknowledge our gratitude to your Excellency for the generous sentiments you express for the peace and prosperity of this Colony; and your Excellency may rest assured, that the utmost efforts of this House shall upon every occasion be exerted to second your Excellency's humane endeavours to restore that harmony, cordiality, confidence, and affection, which ought to subsist between *Great Britain* and her Colonies.

By order of the House:

THOMAS KNOX GORDON.

In the Upper House of Assembly, July 11, 1775.

*His Excellency's Answer.*

GENTLEMEN: I thank you most sincerely for this very kind and affectionate address. Your warm declarations of loyalty and duty to His Majesty on the present trying occasion, cannot fail of being particularly agreeable to me, as it is a convincing proof of your regard for the real interests of this Province.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

July 12, 1775.

*To his Excellency the Right Honourable Lord WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Captain-General, Governour, and Commander-in-Chief in and over his Majesty's Colony of SOUTH-CAROLINA:*

*The humble Address of the Commons House of Assembly of the said Colony:*

*May it please your Excellency:*

We, His Majesty's loyal subjects, the Representatives of the inhabitants of this Colony, met in General Assembly at this very alarming and critical period, beg leave to assure your Excellency that we are willing to postpone the consideration of our private affairs whenever the publick exigences demand our attention; fully convinced that the safety of private property entirely depends upon the security of publick rights.

We most sincerely lament that His Majesty's Councils, and the conduct of his Ministers, have incapacitated us from meeting your Excellency, whose zealous endeavours in *Great Britain* for the welfare of this Colony claim our grateful acknowledgements, with those effects of joyful congratulation, the effects of real sentiments upon your arrival and assumption of the reins of Government, with which, in happier times, we have ever been accustomed to meet His Majesty's Representatives; but the calamities of *America*, our present dangerous and dreadful situation, occupy all our thoughts, and banish from us every idea of joy and pleasure.

Although we will not doubt the fervent zeal of your Excellency's heart for the real interest and happiness of this Colony, nor the sincerity of your Excellency's professions to be instrumental in restoring that harmony, cordiality, confidence, and affection, which ought to subsist between *Great Britain* and her Colonies; yet we cannot but express our surprise at the severe censures which your Excellency has thought proper to pass on "measures" which have been "adopted" by the good people of this Colony, in confederacy with all the Colonies on this Continent, from *Nova-Scotia* to *Georgia*, for their own safety, and for the preservation of their liberties, and the liberties of generations yet unborn.

In times when the spirit of the Constitution has full operation, and, animating all the members of the State, gives security to civil liberty, then we claim to be "the only legal Representatives of the People in this Province, the only constitutional guardians of its welfare;" but in the present unhappy situation of affairs, though our constituents might have thought us competent, yet as our meeting depended upon the pleasure of the Crown, they would not trust to so precarious a contingency, but wisely appointed another representative body, for necessary, for special, and important purposes.

We want words to give an idea of our feelings at your Excellency's expression, "If there are any grievances that we apprehend the people of this Province labour under," as if you doubted their existence. The world resounds with

a catalogue of them. Your Excellency surely cannot be unacquainted with them. We should have esteemed it a high obligation, if your Excellency had pointed out to us what effectual mode for the redress of those grievances could have been pursued, or what steps we have omitted which we ought to have taken, in order to avert the inevitable ruin of this once flourishing Colony. Every pacifick measure which human wisdom could devise has been used; the most humble and dutiful Petitions to the Throne, Petitions to the House of Lords and House of Commons of *Great Britain*, have been repeatedly presented, and as often treated, not only with slight, but with rigour and resentment: we, therefore, with all due deference to your Excellency's judgment, beg leave to observe, that the present are the only measures which seem best calculated for our preservation, and the removal of our intolerable grievances. However, not confiding in them alone, we wait the event, and leave the justice of our cause to the great Sovereign of the Universe, upon whom the fate of Kingdoms and Empires depends.

By order of the House:

RAWLINS LOWNDES, *Speaker*.

In the Commons House of Assembly, July 12, 1775.

*His Excellency's Answer.*

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen:*

Immediately after my arrival in this Province, it was intimated to me by your Speaker, and some others of your Members, that it would be convenient for your private affairs, if I delayed meeting the General Assembly for about three weeks; on that account alone I consented to it, and therefore little expected the tacit reflection contained in the beginning of your Address.

As I have already declined entering into any discussion of the present unhappy disputes, I shall not undertake the disagreeable task of replying particularly to your Address. It was my duty to lay before you the fatal consequences that I apprehended must ensue from the measures lately adopted, and I have faithfully and conscientiously discharged it; but as they appear to you in so very different a point of view, as even to meet with your disapprobation, I most sincerely lament that I cannot prevent the ruin I foresee, and shall only add my fervent wishes, that the great Sovereign of the Universe, to whom you appeal, will in his goodness avert those evils with which this Country is so imminently threatened.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

July 12, 1775.

A Message from the Commons House to his Excellency the Governour.

*May it please your Excellency:*

We beg leave to assure your Excellency that this House, in their Address, was far from intending any, the least, reflection on your Excellency's conduct, in not meeting us sooner in General Assembly, and are sorry your Excellency should view it in that light. All we meant was, to assure you how ready we shall ever be to sacrifice our private interest to the publick service; at the same acknowledging your Excellency's goodness in so readily consenting, on the application of our Speaker, to postpone the calling of the General Assembly to the time you fixed for their meeting, of which this House had been duly informed by their Speaker.

By order of the House:

RAWLINS LOWNDES, *Speaker*.

In the Commons House of Assembly, July 12, 1775.

FINCASTLE COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for *Fincastle County*, July 10, 1775.

WILLIAM CHRISTIAN, Esq., *Chairman*.

The Committee, taking into their consideration the clandestine removal of the Gunpowder from the Magazine of this Colony by order of our Governour, are clearly and unanimously of opinion, that his Lordship's conduct reflects much dishonour on himself, and that he very justly deserves the censure so universally bestowed on him.

*Resolved*, That the spirited and meritorious conduct of *Patrick Henry*, Esquire, and the rest of the gentlemen



volunteers attending him on the occasion of the removal of the Powder out of the Magazine in *Williamsburgh*, very justly merits the hearty approbation of this Committee; for which we return them our thanks, with an assurance, that we will, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, support and justify them with regard to the reprisal they made.

*Resolved*, That the Council of this Colony, in advising and co-operating with Lord *Dunmore* in issuing a Proclamation of the 3d of *May* last, charging the people of this Colony with an ungovernable spirit, and licentious practices, is contrary to many known matters of fact, and but too justly intimates to us that those who ought to be mediators and guardians of our liberties, are become the abject tools of a detested Administration.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the late sanguinary attempt and preparations of the King's Troops in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay* is truly alarming and irritating, and loudly calls upon all, even the most distant and interior parts of the Colonies, to prepare and be ready for the extreme event, by a fixed resolution, and a firm and manly opposition, to avert Ministerial cruelty, in defence of our just and reasonable rights and liberties.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA TO A GENTLEMAN IN ENGLAND, DATED JULY 10, 1775.

Travel through whatever part of this Country you will, you see the inhabitants training, making firelocks, casting mortars, shells and shot, and making saltpetre, in order to keep the gunpowder mills at work during the next autumn and winter. Nothing, indeed, is attended to but preparing to make a defence that will astonish the whole world, and hurl destruction on those who, to preserve themselves in office, have advised measures so fatal both to *Britain* and *America*. At least two hundred thousand men are now in arms, and well trained, ready to march whenever wanted for the support of *American* freedom and property. In short, a spirit of enthusiasm for war is gone forth, that has driven away the fear of death; and magazines of provisions and ammunition, by order of the States General of *America*, (or the twelve United Colonies,) are directed to be made in all proper places, against the next campaign.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Province of *NEW-YORK*:

The humble Petition of *SAMUEL FALKENHAN* and *DAVID WOLHAUPTER*, Instrument Makers, of the City of *NEW-YORK*, humbly sheweth:

That whereas the honourable Congress in their wisdom have thought it expedient to raise a number of Troops, in the just defence of the rights and liberties of the *American* subjects; and as those Troops may want a number of drums and fifes, your petitioners most humbly offer their best services in furnishing said Troops with said drums and fifes, on the most reasonable terms; of which they now have fifty of the best sort already by them made in this City. Your petitioners humbly pray that they may have the honour of supplying said Troops with said drums and fifes, or such part as to the honourable Congress shall seem meet. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

*SAMUEL FALKENHAN,*  
*DAVID WOLHAUPTER.*

*New-York*, July 10, 1775.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

*Albany*, July 10, 1775.

SIR: I do myself the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 6th instant, with the paper enclosed. I am happy to learn I shall soon be furnished with that necessary article, without which every kind of business goes on not only tardily, but disadvantageously.

I lament it was not in your power to afford me a larger supply of the still more necessary article in military operations. I am confident the Colony of *Connecticut*, which has so conspicuously exerted itself in this unhappy contest, has sent all it can spare.

I shall do myself the honour to write you from *Ticonde-*

*roga* relative to Colonel *Mott's* request. Mr. *Deane* may be sure that his will be complied with.

I am, with much respect, your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,  
*PHILIP SCHUYLER.*  
To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, &c., &c.

# CONNECTICUT BILLS OF CREDIT.

*New-York*, July 10, 1775.

We, the subscribers, sensible of the advantages derived from the trade of the Province of *Connecticut*, and desirous of giving their Bills of Credit a currency equal to those of the other neighbouring Colonies, do promise and oblige ourselves to receive the same in all payments whatsoever.

|                               |                                |                           |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Daniel Phenix,                | Charles McEvers & Co.          | James Beekman,            |
| Samuel Broome,                | Mercer & Schenck,              | Perry, Hays, & Sherbrook, |
| John & Wm. Imlay,             | William Pagan,                 | N. De Peyster,            |
| Woodward & Kip,               | Templeton & Stewart,           | Isaac Kip,                |
| Alexander Robertson,          | Robert Erskin,                 | Lewis Pintard,            |
| Thomas Crabb,                 | Cornelius P. Low,              | Geo. & J. A. Remsen,      |
| Murray, Sanson, & Co.         | Dennis & Dawson,               | Peter Elting,             |
| Van Kleck & Kip,              | Samuel Judah,                  | Garret Abeel,             |
| Berrian & Fish,               | Theophilact Bache,             | Robert Ray,               |
| Isaac Moses,                  | David Seabury,                 | Geo. & Wm. Ludlow,        |
| Thomas Galbreath,             | John Hunt,                     | Isaac Low,                |
| James Martin,                 | Thos. & Wm. Moore,             | Smith Ramage,             |
| James Parsons,                | Noel & Hazard,                 | John Broome,              |
| Mott & Brown,                 | Anthony L. Bleeker,            | Gerard Wm. Beekman,       |
| J. Desbrosses, Jun.,          | Hendrick Oudenard,             | V. Pearse Ashfield,       |
| Shotwell, Bowne, & Co.        | Cornelius Clopper,             | Abraham Livingston,       |
| Anthony Van Dam,              | Henry Willmot,                 | Henry White,              |
| Thomas Pearsall,              | Daniel McCormick,              | Richard Sharpe,           |
| Edw. & Wm. Laight,            | Hallet, Hazard, & Blackwell,   | John Schuyler,            |
| Haydock & Bowne,              | John Sebring,                  | William Lowther,          |
| Samuel Bowne,                 | Curson & Seaton,               | William Stewart,          |
| Thomas Dobson,                | John Morton,                   | William & James Douglass, |
| Rob. & Jas. Totten,           | Thomas Burling,                | Stephen Rapalje,          |
| Thomas Franklin,              | Wickham & Sickles,             | James Bowne,              |
| Jacob Watson,                 | James Van Dycke,               | Walter Seaman,            |
| Haviland & Farrington,        | Peter Musier,                  | John Pell,                |
| Henry Franklin,               | Abm. Brinckerhoff,             | Thos. Pearsall, Jun.,     |
| Samuel Franklin,              | Thos. B. Atwood,               | William Ustick,           |
| Peter Vandervoort,            | Othout & Dumont,               | Philip Rinelander,        |
| Eb. & Thomas Haviland,        | Thos. Dougherty, Jr.,          | Joseph Lawrence,          |
| John Lawrence,                | Nicholas C. Bogart,            | George Spofford,          |
| Quenby & Pell,                | G. Duyckinck,                  | George Franklin,          |
| Tiddeman Hull,                | G. & W. Kettletas,             | Elijah Cook,              |
| Thomas Hazard,                | Henry Van Kleck & Son,         | Guert Sp. Dewint,         |
| Peter T. Curtenius,           | Thomas Gardiner,               | Philip Brasher,           |
| Tucker & Bartow,              | George Ball,                   | William De Peyster,       |
| Stockholm, Dickson, & Staple, | Grove Bend,                    | John Stites,              |
| Duryee & Moore,               | William Denning,               | John Duryee,              |
| Anthony & Jac. Abramse,       | Peter Kettletas,               | Harrison Palmer,          |
| Abraham E. Lott,              | Abraham Brasher,               | Comfort Sands,            |
| Thos. & Jas. Arden,           | James Byers,                   | Obadiah Seaman,           |
| Remsen & Peters,              | William Bedlow,                | Peter Ricker,             |
| Christopher Smith,            | Richard & Samuel Ray,          | John B. Moore,            |
| Van Zandt & Kettletas,        | John Reade,                    | John Post,                |
| Eleazer Miller, Jun.,         | Nicholas Hoffman,              | White Matlack,            |
| Archibald Currie,             | John Blagge,                   | John Lockhart,            |
| Richard Deane,                | Jacob Van Voorhies,            | Cornelius Van Ranst,      |
| Dennis McReady,               | Daniel Dunscomb,               | John Byvanck,             |
| Abraham P. Lott,              | Nicholas Bogart,               | Samuel Sackett,           |
| Thomas Randall,               | Hercules Mulligan,             | Nicholas Roosevelt,       |
| Shaw & Long,                  | John Smith,                    | Andrew D. Barclay,        |
| William Neilson,              | Abraham Duryee,                | Joseph Bull,              |
| Isaac Roosevelt,              | Samuel Schuyler,               | Frederick Bassett,        |
| Jacobus Van Zandt,            | Walter & Thomas Buchanan & Co. | Mercer & Ramsay,          |
|                               | Francis Lewis & Son,           | Joseph Totten,            |
|                               |                                | Patrick McDavitt,         |
|                               |                                | Hugh Gaine,               |
|                               |                                | James Rivington.          |

Committee Chamber, July 11, 1775.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of this City and County, to take the paper Bills of Credit of the Colony of *Connecticut* in payments, and to give it the same degree of circulation and credit, as is now given to the Bills of Credit of the neighbouring Colonies.

By order of the Committee:

*HENRY REMSEN, D. Chairman.*

The following denomination of Bills in *New-York* currency:

| £2 | Od. | Os. | lawful, | is | £2 | 13d. | 4s. | York. |
|----|-----|-----|---------|----|----|------|-----|-------|
| 1  | 10  | 0   | "       |    | 2  | 0    | 0   | "     |
| 1  | 0   | 0   | "       |    | 1  | 6    | 8   | "     |
| 0  | 10  | 0   | "       |    | 0  | 13   | 4   | "     |
| 0  | 6   | 0   | "       |    | 0  | 8    | 0   | "     |
| 0  | 5   | 0   | "       |    | 0  | 6    | 8   | "     |
| 0  | 2   | 6   | "       |    | 0  | 3    | 4   | "     |

The difference is one-third, being emitted at 6s. a dollar.



EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MONTREAL TO A GENTLEMAN  
IN ENGLAND, DATED JULY 10, 1775.

The martial law is now in force; the *Canadians* are enrolled as militia, and officers appointed them by the Governour. The merchants here have formed themselves into a company, commanded by Major *Roberston*, Captain *Porteus Gray*, and Lieutenant *Todd*. The *Canadians* are in general averse to be commanded by their nobles; but say, give them *British* officers, and they will go any where. This Town has been full of *Indians* for some time past, who are come to offer service to the Governour.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 10, 1775.

SIR: After much difficulty and delay, I have procured such returns of the state of the Army as will enable us to form a judgment of its strength. It is with great concern I find it far inadequate to our general expectations, and the duties which may be required of it. The number of men fit for duty in the forces raised in this Province, including all the outposts and artillery, does not amount to nine thousand. The Troops raised in the other Colonies are more complete, but yet fall short of their establishment; so that, upon the whole, I cannot estimate the present Army at more than fourteen thousand five hundred men capable of duty.

I have the satisfaction to find the Troops, both in camp and in quarters, very healthy; so that the deficiency must arise from the Regiments never having been filled up to the establishment, and the number of men on furlough. But the former is much the most considerable. Under all these circumstances, I yesterday called a council of war, and enclosed I send you an extract of our determinations, so far as they respect the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*. Your own prudence will suggest the necessity of secrecy on this subject, as we have the utmost reason to believe the enemy suppose our numbers much greater than they are; an error which it is not our interest to remove.

The great extent of our lines, and the uncertainty which may be the point of attack, added to the necessity of immediate support, have induced me to order that horses, ready saddled, should be kept at several posts, in order to bring the most speedy intelligence of any movement of the enemy. For this purpose I should be glad that ten horses might be provided as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, President of the Provincial Congress.

P. S. I am informed the Congress proposes to rise immediately. I should be glad to know what Committees are left, or upon whom the executive business devolves.

G. W.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, July 10, 1775.

SIR: I received your favour of the 1st instant, by express, from *New-York*; but as I am exceedingly hurried in making out my despatches for the honourable Congress at *Philadelphia*, it is not in my power to answer it in so full a manner as I wish.

Notwithstanding Governour *Tryon's* plausible behaviour, I recommend it to you to watch him narrowly. And as any unlucky change of affairs on our part may produce a change in him of his present unexceptionable conduct, I expect you will, on the first appearance of such a change, pursue the advice given in my last letter. The like advice I give you respecting General *Haldimand*, who is supposed by some to have gone to *New-York* with a design to counteract us in that Province.

The commissions which have been forwarded to me are not sufficient to answer the demand I have for them, there being at least one thousand officers in this department, and not more than five hundred commissions in my possession. As you are so much nearer to *Philadelphia* than I am, I request you to apply to Congress for as many as you are like to want.

The dispersing handbills amongst the Troops at *New-York* has my most hearty approbation, and may have a good effect here. Our enemies have attempted nothing against us since my arrival here. They are strongly posted on *Bunker's Hill*, and are still busy in throwing up additional works. We have thrown up several lines and redoubts between *Mistick River* and *Dorchester Point*, to prevent their making way into the country, and in a few days shall be well prepared to receive them in case a sortie is attempted.

I sincerely thank you for your attention to the directions of Congress, and for your kind wishes, and am, with much regard, Sir, your most obedient friend, and very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Major-General *Schuyler*.

P. S. I herewith enclose a report this minute received from the camp at *Dorchester*. The design of this manœuvre I am at a loss to know, but suppose it may be intended as a diversion to our forces here. It, however, behooves you to keep a good look out, to prevent any surprise your way.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 19, 1775.]

Camp at Cambridge, July 10, 1775.

SIR: I arrived safe at this place on the 3d instant, after a journey attended with a good deal of fatigue, and retarded by necessary attentions to the successive civilities which accompanied me on my whole route. Upon my arrival, I immediately visited the several posts occupied by our Troops, and as soon as the weather permitted, reconnoitred those of the enemy. I found the latter strongly intrenched on *Bunker's Hill*, about a mile from *Charlestown*, and advanced about half a mile from the place of the late action, with their sentries extended about one hundred and fifty yards on this side of the narrowest part of the neck leading from this place to *Charlestown*. Three floating batteries lay in *Mistick River*, near their camp, and one twenty-gun ship below the ferry place, between *Boston* and *Charlestown*. They have also a battery on *Copps's Hill*, on the *Boston* side, which much annoyed our Troops in the late attack. Upon the neck they are also deeply intrenched and strongly fortified. Their advanced guards, till last *Saturday* morning, occupied *Brown's* houses, about a mile from *Roxbury* meeting-house, and twenty rods from their lines; but at that time a party from General *Thomas's* camp surprised the guard, drove them in, and burnt the houses.

The bulk of their Army, commanded by General *Howe*, lays on *Bunker's Hill*, and the remainder on *Roxbury Neck*, except the Light-horse, and a few men in the Town of *Boston*.

On our side, we have thrown up intrenchments on *Winter* and *Prospect Hills*, the enemy's camp in full view at the distance of little more than a mile. Such intermediate points as would admit a landing, I have since my arrival taken care to strengthen, down to *Sewall's* farm, where a strong intrenchment has been thrown up. At *Roxbury* General *Thomas* has thrown up a strong work on the hill, about two hundred yards above the meeting-house, which, with the brokenness of the ground, and great number of rocks, has made that pass very secure. The Troops raised in *New-Hampshire*, with a Regiment from *Rhode-Island*, occupy *Winter Hill*. A part of those from *Connecticut*, under General *Putnam*, are on *Prospect Hill*. The Troops in this Town are entirely of the *Massachusetts*; the remainder of the *Rhode-Island* men are at *Sewall's* farm. Two Regiments of *Connecticut*, and nine of the *Massachusetts*, are at *Roxbury*. The residue of the Army, to the number of about seven hundred, are posted in several small Towns along the coast, to prevent the depredations of the enemy.

Upon the whole, I think myself authorized to say, that, considering the great extent of line, and the nature of the ground, we are as well secured as could be expected in so short a time, and under the disadvantages we labour; these consist in a want of Engineers to construct proper works and direct the men, a want of tools, and a sufficient number of men to man the works in case of an attack.



You will observe, by the proceedings of the council-of-war which I have the honour to enclose, that it is our unanimous opinion to hold and defend these works as long as possible. The discouragement it would give the men, and its contrary effects on the Ministerial Troops, thus to abandon our encampment in their face, formed with so much labour, added to the certain destruction of a considerable and valuable extent of country, and our uncertainty of finding a place in all respects so capable of making a stand, are leading reasons for this determination; at the same time we are very sensible of the difficulties which attend the defence of lines of so great extent, and the dangers which may ensue from such a division of the Army.

My earnest wishes to comply with the instructions of the Congress, in making an early and complete return of the state of the Army, has led into an involuntary delay of addressing you, which has given me much concern. Having given orders for this purpose immediately on my arrival, and unapprized of the imperfect obedience which had been paid to those of the like nature from General Ward, I was led from day to day to expect they would come in, and therefore detained the messenger. They are not now so complete as I could wish, but much allowance is to be made for inexperience in forms, and a liberty which had been taken (not given) on this subject. These reasons, I flatter myself, will no longer exist, and of consequence more regularity and exactness in future prevail; this, with a necessary attention to the lines, the movements of the Ministerial Troops, and our immediate security, must be my apology, which I beg you to lay before the Congress with the utmost duty and respect.

We labour under great disadvantages for want of tents; for though we have been helped out by a collection of now useless sails, from the seaport Towns, the number is far short of our necessities. The colleges and houses of this Town are necessarily occupied by the Troops, which afford another reason for keeping our present situation. But I most sincerely wish the whole Army was properly provided to take the field, as I am well assured, that besides greater expedition and activity in case of alarm, it would highly conduce to health and discipline. As materials are not to be had here, I would beg leave to recommend the procuring a farther supply from *Philadelphia* as soon as possible.

I should be extremely deficient in gratitude, as well as justice, if I did not take the first opportunity to acknowledge the readiness and attention which the Provincial Congress, and different Committees, have shewn to make every thing as convenient and agreeable as possible; but there is a vital and inherent principle of delay, incompatible with military service, in transacting business through such numerous and different channels. I esteem it, therefore, my duty to represent the inconvenience which must unavoidably ensue from a dependance on a number of persons for supplies, and submit it to the consideration of the Congress, whether the publick service will not be best promoted by appointing a Commissary-General for these purposes. We have a striking instance of the preference of such a mode in the establishment of *Connecticut*, as their Troops are extremely well furnished under the direction of Mr. Trumbull, and he has at different times assisted others with various articles. Should my sentiments happily coincide with those of your Honours on this subject, I beg leave to recommend Mr. Trumbull as a very proper person for this department.

In the arrangement of Troops collected under such circumstances, and upon the spur of immediate necessity, several appointments are omitted, which appear to be indispensably necessary for the good government of the Army, particularly a Quartermaster-General, a Commissary of Musters, and a Commissary of Artillery. These I must earnestly recommend to the notice and provision of the Congress.

I find myself already much embarrassed for want of a military chest. These embarrassments will increase every day. I must, therefore, request that money may be forwarded as soon as possible. The want of this most necessary article will, I fear, produce great inconveniences, if not prevented by an early attention.

I find the Army in general, and the Troops raised in *Massachusetts* in particular, very deficient in necessary clothing. Upon inquiry, there appears no probability of obtaining any supplies in this quarter. And on the best consideration of this matter I am able to form, I am of opinion that a number of hunting shirts, not less than ten thousand, would in a great degree remove this difficulty in the cheapest and quickest manner. I know nothing, in a speculative view, more trivial; yet, if put in practice, would have a happier tendency to unite the men, and abolish those provincial distinctions which lead to jealousy and dissatisfaction.

In a former part of this letter I mentioned the want of Engineers; I can hardly express the disappointment I have experienced on this subject, the skill of those we have being very imperfect, and confined to the mere manual exercise of cannon; whereas, the war in which we are engaged requires a knowledge comprehending the duties of the field and fortification. If any persons thus qualified are to be found in the Southern Colonies, it would be of great publick service to forward them with all expedition.

Upon the article of ammunition I must re-echo the former complaints on this subject. We are so exceedingly destitute, that our artillery will be of little use, without a supply both large and seasonable. What we have must be reserved for the small-arms, and that managed with the utmost frugality.

I am sorry to observe that the appointments of the General Officers in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* have by no means corresponded with the judgment and wishes of either the civil or military. The great dissatisfaction expressed on this subject, and the apparent danger of throwing the Army into the utmost disorder, together with the strong representations of the Provincial Congress, have induced me to retain the commissions in my hands, until the pleasure of the Congress should be further known, except General Putnam's, which was given the day I came into camp, and before I was apprized of these uneasinesses. In such a step, I must beg the Congress will do me the justice to believe, that I have been actuated solely by a regard to the publick good. I have not, nor could have any private attachments; every gentleman in appointment was an entire stranger to me, but from character; I must, therefore, rely upon the candour of the Congress for their favourable construction of my conduct in this particular. General Spencer was so much disgusted at the preference given to General Putnam, that he left the Army without visiting me, or making known his intentions in any respect. General Pomeroy had also retired before my arrival, occasioned, as is said, by some disappointment from the Provincial Congress. General Thomas is much esteemed, and earnestly desired to continue in the service; and as far as my opportunities have enabled me to judge, I must join in the general opinion that he is an able, good officer, and his resignation would be a publick loss. The postponing him to Pomeroy and Heath, whom he has commanded, would make his continuance very difficult, and probably operate on his mind, as the like circumstance has done on that of Spencer.

The state of the Army you will find ascertained with tolerable precision in the returns which accompany this letter. Upon finding the number of men to fall so far short of the establishment, and below all expectation, I immediately called a council of the General Officers, whose opinion as to the mode of filling up the Regiments, and providing for the present exigency, I have the honour of enclosing, together with the best judgment we are able to form of the Ministerial Troops. From the number of boys, deserters, and negroes which have been listed in the Troops of this Province, I entertain some doubts whether the number required can be raised here; and all the General Officers agree that no dependance can be put in the Militia for a continuance in camp, or regularity and discipline during the short time they may stay. This unhappy and devoted Province has been so long in a state of anarchy, and the yoke of Ministerial oppression been laid so heavily on it, that great allowances are to be made for troops raised under such circumstances. The deficiency of numbers, discipline, and stores, can only lead to this conclusion, that their spirit has exceeded their strength. But at the same time, I would



humbly submit to the consideration of the Congress, the propriety of making some farther provision of men from the other Colonies. If these Regiments should be completed to their establishment, the dismissal of those unfit for duty, on account of their age and character, would occasion a considerable reduction, and at all events they have been enlisted upon such terms that they may be disbanded when other Troops arrive. But should my apprehensions be realized, and the Regiments here not filled up, the publick cause would suffer by an absolute dependance upon so doubtful an event, unless some provision is made against such a disappointment. It requires no military skill to judge of the difficulty of introducing proper discipline and subordination into an Army while we have the enemy in view, and are in daily expectation of an attack, but it is of so much importance that every effort will be made which time and circumstance will admit. In the mean time I have a sincere pleasure in observing, that there are materials for a good Army—a great number of able-bodied men, active, zealous in the cause, and of unquestionable courage.

I am now, Sir, to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 28th ultimo, enclosing the resolutions of the Congress of the 27th ultimo, and a copy of a letter from the Committee of *Albany*; to all which I shall pay due attention.

Generals *Gates* and *Sullivan* have both arrived in good health. My best abilities are at all times devoted to the service of my Country; but I feel the weight, importance, and variety of my present duties too sensibly not to wish a more immediate and frequent communication with the Congress. I fear it may often happen in the course of our present operations, that I shall need that assistance and direction from them, which time and distance will not allow me to receive.

Since writing the above, I have also to acknowledge your favour of the 4th instant, by *Fessenden*, and the receipt of the commissions and articles of war. The former are yet eight hundred short of the number required. This deficiency you will please to supply as soon as you conveniently can.

Among the other returns, I have also sent one, of our killed, wounded and missing in the late action; but have been able to procure no certain account of the loss of the Ministerial Troops. My best intelligence fixes it at about five hundred killed, and six or seven hundred wounded; but it is no more than conjecture, the utmost pains being taken on their side to conceal it.

I have the honour to be, with the most respectful regard, Sir, your obedient humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President, &c.

P. S. Having ordered the commanding officer to give me the earliest intelligence of every motion of the enemy, by land or water, discernable from the heights of his camp, I this instant, as I was closing my letter, received the enclosed from the Brigade-Major. The design of this manœuvre I know not; perhaps it may be to make a descent some where along the coast, it may be for *New-York*, or it may be practised as a deception on us. I thought it not improper, however, to mention the matter to you; I have done the same to the commanding officer at *New-York*; and I shall let it be known to the Committee of Safety here, so that intelligence may be communicated as they shall think best along the sea-coast of this Government.

G. W.

*Copy of a Report this moment received from the Camp at Roxbury, two o'clock, P. M., July 11, 1775.*

Camp at Roxbury, July 11, 1775.

SIR: Since I sent the report by the Adjutant this morning, five large ships have sailed from *Boston*; we are not able to determine how many of them are men-of-war, or how many were transports, as they were behind *Dorchester Hill*. There appeared to be a number of people on board. I am, Sir, your humble servant.

By order of General *Thomas*:

THOS. CHASE, Major of Brigade.

To *Horatio Gates*, Esq., Adjutant-General.

*The number of those Killed, Wounded, and Missing, in the Engagement on BUNKER HILL.*

Colonel *Frye's* Regiment, 10 killed, 38 wounded, 4 missing; Colonel *Little's* Regiment, 7 killed, 23 wounded; Colonel *Brewer's* Regiment, 12 killed, 22 wounded; Colonel *Gridley's* Regiment, 4 wounded; Colonel *Stark's* Regiment, 15 killed, 45 wounded; Colonel *Woodbridge's* Regiment, 5 wounded; Colonel *Scammon's* Regiment, 2 wounded; Colonel *Bridge's* Regiment, 17 killed, 25 wounded; Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, 5 killed, 8 wounded, 2 missing; General *Ward's* Regiment, 1 killed, 6 wounded; Colonel *Gerrish's* Regiment, 3 killed, 5 wounded; Colonel *Reed's* Regiment, 3 killed, 29 wounded, 1 missing; Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, 43 killed and missing, 46 wounded; Colonel *Doolittle's* Regiment, 6 killed and missing, 9 wounded; Colonel *Gardner's* Regiment, 7 wounded; Col. *Patterson's* Regiment, 1 wounded; Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, 3 killed and missing; *Connecticut*, 13 killed, 26 wounded.—Total, 145 killed and missing, 304 wounded.

At a Council of War held at Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, July 9, 1775. Present:

His Excellency General *Washington*; Generals *Ward*, *Lee*, *Putnam*, *Thomas*, *Heath*, *Greene*, and *Gates*.

The General laid before the Council a Letter from Mr. *Warren*, President of the Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*, enclosing a Letter from Mr. *Gerry*, at *Marblehead*, dated July 8, 1775.

1. A question was then proposed and considered, viz: What is the supposed number of the enemy near and in *Boston*, including the Troops formerly and lately arrived, and those expected hourly, the forces who may take arms, the sailors who may be spared from the fleet, and the negroes?

Upon which it was agreed, that from the best intelligence, the force on the side of the enemy now amounts to eleven thousand five hundred men.

2. It was then proposed and considered, whether it is expedient to keep and defend the posts at present occupied, or to retire farther back in the country?

Upon which it was unanimously determined, that the publick service requires the defence of the present posts.

3. His Excellency then proposed to the consideration of the Council, what number of troops may be necessary for the present service in and near *Boston*, to defend the posts already occupied against the force supposed to be employed against us?

Upon which it was agreed, that the Army for the above purpose ought to consist of at least twenty-two thousand men.

4. As it appears by the returns now made that the number of effective men is far short of the above estimate, a question was proposed, viz:

In what manner this deficiency should be supplied?

And it was unanimously agreed, that it ought to be done by sending an officer from each company in the forces raised in the *Massachusetts-Bay* to recruit the Regiments to which they respectively belong to the establishment fixed by the Provincial Congress, (the Colonies of *Rhode-Island* and *Connecticut* being already engaged in recruiting.) And that in the mean time his Excellency the General do apply to the Provincial Congress of this Province for their assistance in procuring a temporary re-enforcement, subject to the same military rules as the Army now raised, inasmuch as the present extent of lines, and the great probability of an early attack, renders such re-enforcement indispensably necessary.

5. As the events of war are uncertain, and a want of a proper rendezvous might, in case of any misfortune, occasion a dissolution of the Army, it was proposed to appoint a proper place for this purpose, in case our present situation should not be tenable.

N. C. agreed, That the *Welsh Mountains*, near *Cambridge*, and in the rear of *Roxbury* lines, was a suitable place.

6. A question was proposed, whether it is expedient to take possession of *Dorchester Point*, or to oppose the enemy, if they should attempt to possess it?

Unanimously agreed in the negative as to both.



General Return of the Army of the United Colonies, commanded by his Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief, Head-Quarters at CAMBRIDGE, JULY, 1775.

| Corps.                       |                          | Present, Commissioned Officers. |                  |         |           |              | Present, Staff Officers. |            |            |                 | Non-Commissioned Officers present. |                 |            |                      | Rank and File.         |                |               |              | Wanting to complete. |        |            |                      |           |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---------|-----------|--------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|--------|------------|----------------------|-----------|
|                              |                          | Colonels.                       | Lieut. Colonels. | Majors. | Captains. | Lieutenants. | Ensigns.                 | Chaplains. | Adjutants. | Quartermasters. | Surgeons.                          | Surgeons' Mates | Sergeants. | Drummers and Fifers. | Present, fit for duty. | Sick, present. | Sick, absent. | On furlough. | On command.          | Total. | Sergeants. | Drummers and Fifers. | Privates. |
| Massachusetts-Bay Regiments. | 1. General Ward's,       | -                               | 1                | 2       | 8         | 12           | -                        | 1          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 39         | 16                   | 376                    | 35             | 32            | 11           | -                    | 453    | 1          | 4                    | 46        |
|                              | 2. General Thomas's,     | 1                               | 1                | 2       | 10        | 20           | -                        | 1          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 40         | 20                   | 452                    | 31             | 8             | 9            | -                    | 500    | -          | -                    | -         |
|                              | 3. Colonel Walker's,     | 1                               | -                | 1       | 8         | 16           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 28         | 13                   | 361                    | 11             | 17            | -            | 102                  | 491    | -          | -                    | 9         |
|                              | 4. Colonel Cotton's,     | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 10        | 20           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 40         | 20                   | 369                    | 30             | 7             | -            | 94                   | 500    | -          | -                    | -         |
|                              | 5. Col. Whitcomb's,      | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 11        | 22           | -                        | 1          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 35         | 16                   | 446                    | 33             | 23            | 21           | -                    | 523    | 5          | 4                    | 27        |
|                              | 6. Colonel Read's,       | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 9         | 17           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 36         | 17                   | 384                    | 36             | 23            | 3            | 49                   | 495    | -          | -                    | 5         |
|                              | 7. Col. Mansfield's,     | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 10        | 10           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 37         | 16                   | 399                    | 26             | 23            | 21           | 1                    | 470    | -          | 4                    | 30        |
|                              | 8. Col. Danielson's,     | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 11        | 17           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 36         | 15                   | 422                    | 49             | -             | 16           | 6                    | 493    | 1          | 5                    | 57        |
|                              | 9. Colonel Prescott's,   | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 5         | 11           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 39         | 13                   | 332                    | 35             | 53            | 10           | -                    | 430    | 1          | 8                    | 120       |
|                              | 10. Colonel Frye's,      | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 7         | 10           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 31         | 13                   | 313                    | 27             | 23            | 13           | 30                   | 406    | 2          | 6                    | 94        |
|                              | 11. Colonel Bridge's,    | 1                               | -                | 1       | 7         | 10           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | -               | 33         | 20                   | 318                    | 36             | 47            | 21           | 48                   | 470    | -          | -                    | 30        |
|                              | 12. Col. Patterson's,    | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 7         | 9            | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 38         | 15                   | 311                    | 57             | 25            | 2            | 14                   | 409    | 2          | 5                    | 91        |
|                              | 13. Colonel Seaman's,    | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 9         | 20           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 35         | 19                   | 413                    | 30             | 4             | 9            | -                    | 456    | -          | -                    | 44        |
|                              | 14. Colonel Learned's,   | 1                               | -                | 1       | 9         | 18           | -                        | 1          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 40         | 20                   | 430                    | 30             | 4             | 11           | 14                   | 489    | -          | -                    | 11        |
|                              | 15. Late Col. Gardner's  | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 9         | 9            | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 33         | 19                   | 380                    | 11             | 18            | 8            | -                    | 417    | 2          | -                    | 83        |
|                              | 16. Colonel Nixon's,     | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 6         | 8            | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 36         | 17                   | 337                    | 42             | 17            | 16           | -                    | 412    | 4          | 3                    | 88        |
|                              | 17. Colonel Fellows's,   | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 10        | 19           | -                        | 1          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 39         | 18                   | 349                    | 54             | 2             | 73           | 16                   | 434    | 1          | 2                    | 66        |
|                              | 18. Colonel Doolittle's, | 1                               | 1                | -       | 6         | 11           | -                        | -          | 1          | -               | -                                  | 1               | 32         | 10                   | 250                    | 49             | 20            | 11           | 3                    | 333    | 4          | 8                    | 117       |
|                              | 19. Col. J. Brewer's,    | 1                               | -                | 1       | 8         | 10           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 25         | 17                   | 242                    | 33             | 9             | 17           | -                    | 301    | 7          | 10                   | 189       |
|                              | 20. Col. D. Brewer's,    | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 8         | 17           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | -                                  | -               | 31         | 17                   | 352                    | 13             | 4             | 5            | -                    | 374    | 9          | 3                    | 126       |
|                              | 21. General Heath's,     | 1                               | 1                | 2       | 10        | 20           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | -               | 40         | 18                   | 301                    | 27             | 8             | 10           | 137                  | 483    | -          | 2                    | 17        |
|                              | 22. Col. Woodbridge's,   | -                               | 1                | 1       | 7         | 8            | -                        | 1          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 26         | 10                   | 306                    | 24             | 22            | 14           | -                    | 366    | 14         | 10                   | 134       |
|                              | 23. Colonel Glover's,    | 1                               | -                | 1       | 7         | 18           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 34         | 12                   | 419                    | 8              | 7             | 20           | -                    | 454    | 6          | 8                    | 46        |
|                              | 24. Colonel Little's,    | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 10        | 20           | -                        | 1          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 33         | 20                   | 405                    | 12             | 34            | 16           | 5                    | 472    | 2          | -                    | 28        |
|                              | 25. Colonel Gerrish's,   | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 10        | 19           | -                        | -          | 1          | 1               | 1                                  | 1               | 39         | 18                   | 181                    | 18             | 11            | 33           | 255                  | 498    | 1          | 2                    | 2         |
|                              | 26. Colonel Phinney's,   | 1                               | 1                | 1       | 7         | 14           | -                        | -          | -          | -               | 1                                  | -               | 27         | 15                   | 309                    | -              | 9             | 1            | -                    | 319    | 13         | 5                    | 181       |
|                              | 4 Independ't Compan's,   | -                               | -                | -       | -         | -            | -                        | -          | -          | -               | -                                  | -               | -          | -                    | 239                    | -              | -             | -            | -                    | 239    | -          | -                    | -         |
| Connecticut Regiments,       |                          | 3                               | 3                | 5       | 22        | 50           | 26                       | 3          | 3          | 2               | 3                                  | 5               | 121        | 53                   | 2105                   | 212            | 2             | 14           | -                    | 2333   | -          | -                    | 367       |
| New-Hampshire Reg'ts,        |                          | 3                               | 3                | 2       | 27        | 26           | 25                       | -          | 3          | 3               | 3                                  | 3               | 107        | 53                   | 1201                   | 115            | 20            | 49           | 279                  | 1664   | -          | -                    | 106       |
| Rhode-Island Regiments,      |                          | 3                               | 3                | 3       | 22        | 32           | 32                       | -          | 3          | 3               | 3                                  | 3               | 62         | 46                   | 1041                   | 24             | 18            | 2            | -                    | 1085   | 1          | 1                    | 240       |
| Total,                       |                          | 31                              | 30               | 38      | 290       | 493          | 83                       | 11         | 33         | 33              | 34                                 | 33              | 1192       | 576                  | 13743                  | 1108           | 490           | 376          | 1053                 | 16770  | 76         | 90                   | 2354      |

Colonel *Sergeant* not having completed his Regiment, is not included in the above Return. The Return of the Artillery is sent separately with this Return. HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 20, 1775.  
Return of the Regiment of Artillery in the service of the United Colonies, commanded by Colonel R. GRIDLEY.

|                | Colonel. | Lieutenant-Colonel. | Majors. | Captains. | Captain-Lieutenants. | First Lieutenants. | Second Lieutenants are<br>fire-workers. | First and second Store-<br>keepers and Clerks. | Conductors. | Sergeants. | Corporals. | Gunnery. | Bombardiers. | Drums and Fifes. | Matrosses. | Total. |
|----------------|----------|---------------------|---------|-----------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|----------|--------------|------------------|------------|--------|
| Fit for duty,  | -        | 1                   | 2       | 8         | 8                    | 9                  | 16                                      | 3                                              | 4           | 23         | 23         | 51       | 49           | 18               | 238        | 453    |
| Sick, present, | -        | 1                   | -       | -         | -                    | -                  | -                                       | -                                              | -           | 2          | 3          | 2        | 4            | -                | 13         | 25     |
| Sick, absent,  | -        | -                   | -       | -         | -                    | -                  | -                                       | -                                              | -           | 1          | 1          | 1        | -            | -                | -          | 3      |
| On furlough,   | -        | -                   | -       | 1         | -                    | -                  | 2                                       | -                                              | -           | -          | -          | -        | 1            | -                | 3          | 8      |
| Recruiting,    | -        | -                   | -       | -         | -                    | -                  | -                                       | -                                              | -           | -          | -          | -        | -            | -                | -          | -      |
| Total,         | -        | 1                   | 1       | 2         | 9                    | 8                  | 9                                       | 18                                             | 3           | 4          | 27         | 27       | 54           | 54               | 18         | 489    |

RICHARD GRIDLEY.

Return of Major CRANE's Company of the Train of Artillery of the RHODE-ISLAND Forces, JULY 21, 1775.

|                    | Major. | Captain. | Lieutenants. | Conductor. | Bombardiers. | Sergeants. | Gunnery. | Corporals. | Fifes. | Drummers. | Matrosses. | Total. |
|--------------------|--------|----------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|----------|------------|--------|-----------|------------|--------|
| Present on parade, | 1      | 1        | 3            | 1          | -            | 1          | 3        | 4          | 2      | 2         | 49         | 67     |
| Sick in quarters,  | -      | -        | -            | -          | 1            | -          | -        | -          | -      | -         | 9          | 10     |
| Sick, absent,      | -      | -        | -            | -          | 1            | -          | -        | -          | -      | -         | 1          | 1      |
| On guard,          | -      | -        | -            | -          | 1            | -          | -        | -          | -      | -         | 11         | 12     |
| On command,        | -      | -        | -            | -          | -            | -          | 1        | -          | -      | -         | 3          | 4      |
| Officers' waiters, | -      | -        | -            | -          | -            | -          | -        | -          | -      | -         | 2          | 2      |
| Total,             | 1      | 1        | 3            | 1          | 2            | 2          | 4        | 4          | 2      | 2         | 74         | 96     |

HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

Instructions for the Officers of the several Regiments of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY Forces, who are immediately to go upon the Recruiting Service.

You are not to enlist any deserter from the Ministerial Army, nor any stroller, negro, or vagabond, or person suspected of being an enemy to the liberty of America, nor any under eighteen years of age.

As the cause is the best that can engage men of courage and principle to take up arms, so it is expected that none but such will be accepted by the recruiting officers. The pay, provisions, &c., being so ample, it is not doubted but the officers sent upon this service will, without delay, complete their respective corps, and march the men forthwith to camp.

You are not to enlist any person who is not an *American* born, unless such person has a wife and family, and is a settled resident in this Country.

The persons you enlist must be provided with good and complete arms.

Given at the Head-Quarters at Cambridge, this 10th day of July, 1775. HORATIO GATES, Adj. Gen.

ORDERS BY GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 3, 1775.

(Parole, Lookout.)

(Countersign, Sharp.)

The Colonels or commanding officers of each Regiment are ordered forthwith to make two returns of the number of men in their respective Regiments, distinguishing such as are sick, wounded, or absent on furlough, and also the quantity of ammunition each Regiment now has.

It appearing by the report of *Henry Woods*, the officer of the main guard, that one *William Alfred* is confined for



taking two horses belonging to some persons in *Connecticut*, but that he has made satisfaction to the injured parties, who request that they may not longer be detained as witnesses, it is ordered that he be discharged, and, after receiving a severe reprimand, be turned out of Camp.

(AFTER ORDERS.)

Four o'clock, P. M.

It is ordered, that Colonel *Glover's* Regiment be ready this evening, with all their accoutrements, to march at a minute's warning to support General *Folsom*, of the *New-Hampshire* forces, in case his line should be attacked.

It is also ordered, that Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment equip themselves, march this evening, and take possession of the woods leading to *Lechmere's Point*, and in case of an attack, then Colonel *Glover's* Regiment to march immediately to their support.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 4, 1775.

(Parole, Abington.)

(Countersign, Bedford.)

Exact returns to be made by the proper officers of all Provisions, Ordnance, Ordnance Stores, Powder, Lead, working tools of all kinds, Tents, Camp Kettles, and all other Stores under their respective care, belonging to the Armies at *Roxbury* and *Cambridge*. The Commanding Officer of each Regiment to make a return of the number of Blankets wanted to complete every man with one at least.

The Hon. *Artemas Ward*, *Charles Lee*, *Philip Schuyler*, and *Israel Putnam*, Esquires, are appointed Major-Generals of the *American Army*, and due obedience is to be paid to them as such. The Continental Congress not having completed the appointments of the other officers in said Army, nor had sufficient time to prepare and forward their commissions, every officer is to continue to do duty in the rank and station he at present holds, until further orders.

*Thomas Mifflin*, Esquire, is appointed by the General one of his Aids-de-Camp; *Joseph Reed*, Esquire, is in like manner appointed Secretary to the General; and they are in future to be considered and regarded as such.

The Continental Congress having now taken all the Troops of the several Colonies which have been raised, or which may hereafter be raised, for the support and defence of the liberties of *America*, into their pay and service, they are now the Troops of the United Provinces of *North America*; and it is hoped that all distinctions of Colonies will be laid aside, so that one and the same spirit may animate the whole, and the only contest be, who shall render, on this great and trying occasion, the most essential service to the great and common cause in which we are all engaged.

It is required and expected that exact discipline be observed, and due subordination prevail through the whole Army, as a failure in these most essential points must necessarily produce extreme hazard, disorder, and confusion, and end in shameful disappointment and disgrace.

The General most earnestly requires and expects a due observance of those Articles of War, established for the government of the Army, which forbid profane cursing, swearing, and drunkenness; and in like manner requires and expects of all officers and soldiers, not engaged on actual duty, a punctual attendance on divine service, to implore the blessings of Heaven upon the means used for our safety and defence.

All officers are required and expected to pay diligent attention to keep their men neat and clean, to visit them often at their quarters, and inculcate upon them the necessity of cleanliness, as essential to their health and service. They are particularly to see that they have straw to lay on, if to be had, and to make it known, if they are destitute of this article; they are also to take care that necessaries be provided in the camps, and frequently filled up, to prevent their being offensive and unhealthy. Proper notice will be taken of such officers and men as distinguish themselves by their attention to these necessary duties.

The Commanding Officer of each Regiment is to take particular care that not more than two men of a Company be absent on furlough at the same time, unless in very extraordinary cases.

Colonel *Gardner* is to be buried to-morrow at three

o'clock, P. M., with the military honours due to so brave and gallant an officer, who fought, bled, and died in the cause of his Country and mankind. His own Regiment, except the Company at *Malden*, to attend on this mournful occasion. The places of those Companies, in the lines, on *Prospect Hill*, to be supplied by Colonel *Glover's* Regiment, till the funeral is over.

No person is to be allowed to go to *Freshwater Pond* a-fishing, or on any other occasion, as there may be danger of introducing the small-pox in the Army.

It is strictly required and commanded, that there be no firing of cannon or small-arms from any of the lines, or elsewhere, except in case of necessary immediate defence, or special order given for that purpose.

All prisoners taken, deserters coming in, persons coming out of *Boston* who can give any intelligence, any captures of any kind from the enemy, are to be immediately reported and brought up to Head-Quarters, in *Cambridge*.

Captain *Griffin* is appointed Aid-de-Camp to General *Lee*, and to be regarded as such.

The guard for the security of the stores at *Watertown* is to be increased to thirty men immediately.

A Sergeant and six men to be set as a Guard to the Hospital, and are to apply to Doctor *Rand*.

Complaint having been made against *John White*, Quartermaster of Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, for misdemeanours, in drawing out provisions for more men than the Regiment consisted of: a Court-Martial, consisting of one Captain and four Subalterns, is ordered to be held on said *White*, who are to inquire, determine, and report.

(AFTER ORDERS.)

Ten o'clock.

The General desires that some Carpenters be immediately set to work at *Brattle's Stables*, to fix up Stalls for eight horses, and more, if the room will admit, with suitable racks, mangers, &c.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 5, 1775.

(Parole, Bedford.)

(Countersign, Cambridge.)

The Adjutant of each Regiment is required to take special care that all General Orders are communicated as well to the private men as to the officers, that there may be no plea of ignorance. They will be deemed answerable for all the consequences which may follow a neglect of this order.

A General Court-Martial is ordered to sit to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M., for the trial of *William Patten*, charged with "leaving his post on guard;" *David Wells* and *Gideon Cole*, for "sleeping on their posts as sentinels;" *John Scott*, for "insulting the sentry, and attempting to pass the guard at *Boston*;" and *James Foshe*, for "theft;" when the witnesses are to attend, and the parties charged are to have notice this day, that they may be prepared for their trials.

The General most earnestly recommends and requires of all the officers that they be exceeding diligent and strict in preventing all invasions and abuse of private property in their quarters, or elsewhere; he hopes and indeed flatters himself that every private soldier will detest and abhor such practices, when he considers that it is for the preservation of his own rights, liberty, and property, and those of his fellow-countrymen, that he is now called into service; that it is unmanly, and sullies the dignity of the great cause in which we are all engaged, to violate that property he is called to protect, and especially, that it is most cruel and inconsistent thus to add to the distresses of those of their countrymen who are suffering under the iron hand of oppression.

The General again urges a speedy and exact return of the forces, stores, provisions, &c., as desired in the orders already issued, and for the future these returns to be made once a week, on *Saturday* morning, regularly. The General is much pleased with the expedition and care which some officers have already shewn in their obedience to this order.

The Colonel or commanding officer of each Regiment is to direct an officer of each Company to call over the rolls of their men, at six o'clock every morning, and to make proper inquiries after the absentees.



Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 6, 1775.

(Parole, Cumberland.)

(Countersign, Derby.)

A General Court-Martial is ordered to sit to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M., for the trial of *John Semsy*, *John Batcheler*, and *William Crostin*, all of Colonel *Gridley's* Regiment, charged with "desertion and theft." At the same time they are to hear and determine the case of *Edward Dunley*, a stroller, accused of "theft." Notice to be given to the prisoners to-day.

Captain *Leonard*, of Colonel *Woodbridge's* Regiment, and the remainder of his Company, are ordered to join the Guard at *Watertown*.

The Clothing provided by the *Massachusetts* Committee of Supplies for those men of their Government who lost their clothes in the late action on *Bunker's Hill*, to be distributed to the most needy and necessitous men of each Regiment, and an account to be kept thereof by the Commanding Officer of each Regiment.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 7, 1775.

(Parole, Dorchester.)

(Countersign, Exeter.)

It is with inexpressible concern that the General, upon his first arrival in the Army, should find an officer sentenced by a General Court-Martial to be cashiered for cowardice—a crime of all others the most infamous in a soldier, the most injurious to an Army, and the last to be forgiven; inasmuch as it may, and often does happen, that the cowardice of a single officer may prove a destruction of the whole Army; the General, therefore, (though with great concern, and more especially as the transaction happened before he had the command of the Troops,) thinks himself obliged, for the good of the service, to approve the judgment of the Court-Martial, with respect to Captain *John Callender*, who is hereby sentenced to be cashiered. Captain *John Callender* is accordingly cashiered, and dismissed from all further service in the Continental Army as an officer.

The General having made all due inquiries and maturely considered this matter, is led to the above determination, not only from the particular guilt of Captain *Callender*, but the fatal consequences of such conduct to the Army and to the cause of *America*.

He now, therefore, most earnestly exhorts officers of all ranks to shew an example of bravery and courage to their men, assuring them, that such as do their duty in the day of battle, as brave and good officers, shall be honoured with every mark of distinction and regard, their names and merits made known to the General Congress, and all *America*; while, on the other hand, he positively declares, that every officer, be his rank what it may, who shall betray his Country, dishonour the Army and his General, by basely keeping back and shrinking from his duty in any engagement, shall be held up as an infamous coward, and punished as such with the utmost martial severity; and no connections, interest, or intercessions, in his behalf, will avail to prevent the strict execution of justice.

Captain *Scott's* and Captain *Styler's* Companies, from *New-Hampshire*, are to be incorporated, or added to Col. *Surgeant's* Regiment, agreeable to the application made for that purpose. No officer or soldier, posted in the lines for the defence of them, on *Prospect Hill*, or *Winter Hill*, or elsewhere, are, upon any account, to sleep out of their encampment, or leave it at night. The Troops from *New-Hampshire* are particularly required to attend to this order, from their particular circumstances of situation.

No soldier belonging to these posts, or elsewhere, to be suffered to straggle at a distance from their respective parade, on any pretence, without leave from his officers, as an unguarded hour may prove fatal to the whole Army, and to the noble cause in which we are engaged; the importance of which, to every man of common understanding, must inspire every good officer and soldier with the noblest ardour and strictest attention, lest he should prove the fatal instrument of our ruin.

The Adjutant-General is required to make a Return as quick as possible of the Troops in *Cambridge*, their number, and the duty they do.

Complaints having been made with respect to the bread, as being sour and unwholesome, the Quartermaster-General is hereby directed to inquire into the matter, and report upon it; at the same time to inform the bakers, that if any

complaints are made, and they shall be found just, they will be most severely punished.

The guards on the roads leading to *Bunker's Hill*, are ordered not to suffer any person to pass them, unless an officer is sent down from the lines to order it, or they will be severely punished.

The General has great reason, and is highly displeased with the negligence and inattention of those officers who have placed as sentries at the outposts men with whose characters they are not acquainted. He therefore orders, that for the future no man shall be appointed to those important stations who is not a native of this Country, or has a wife or family in it, to whom he is known to be attached. This order is to be considered as a standing one, and the officers are to pay obedience to it, at their peril.

A complaint of the most extraordinary kind having been made to the General, that soldiers enlisted in one Regiment have been seduced to re-enlist into others, by agents employed for that purpose, under the specious promises of money, or leave of absence from the Army. A procedure so subversive of all order, discipline, and of the very existence of the Army, cannot be forgiven; the strictest orders are therefore given against such practices; and the General most earnestly declares, that if any agent or soldier shall hereafter be found so offending, he will punish them with the utmost severity.

A General Court-Martial having sat upon *William Patin*, and reported, that no evidence appeared against him to support the charge, the General defers his decision upon the report until farther consideration. In the mean time the Adjutant-General is ordered to wait on Col. *Ward*, by whom the prisoner was confined, and learn from him upon whose complaint, and what witnesses there are to support it.

A Regimental Court-Martial is ordered to sit to-morrow, ten o'clock, on *Samuel Bartlett*, of the Company late Captain *Callender's*, and Colonel *Gridley's* Regiment, confined for "abusive behaviour."

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow, ten o'clock, A. M., for the trial of *Thomas Daniely*, charged with "stealing." Each of the above prisoners to have notice to-day, and the witnesses in like manner ordered to attend.

In order that all the sick and wounded in the Army may be provided for, and taken care of, in the best way and manner possible, it is ordered, that when any officer or soldier is so ill, either by a wound or otherwise, that the Surgeon of the Regiment, to which he belongs, finds he cannot be properly taken care of in such Regiment, such Surgeon shall send him to the Camp Hospital to which they belong, with a certificate of the man's name, and the Company to which he belongs, and in that case the Surgeon of the Hospital shall receive said sick and wounded; and in case such Hospital shall be too full, in that case the Surgeon of said Hospital shall send such of his patients as may be removed with safety to the Hospital at *Watertown*, with the like certificate as above, on which the Surgeon of *Watertown* Hospital is to receive and take care of him.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 8, 1775.

(Parole, Essex.)

(Countersign, Falkland.)

Ordered, that the main guard, on no account whatever, be without a drum, which is to beat to arms on any alarm, and be followed by all the drums in the Camp; on which every officer and soldier is immediately to repair to the alarm post.

The Commanding Officer of each Regiment or Corps in *Cambridge*, as soon as the men are paraded after an alarm, to send an officer to Head-Quarters for orders.

The Commanding Officers at *Roxbury*, *Prospect Hill*, *Winter Hill*, and *Sewall's Point*, to send expresses in case of alarm to Head-Quarters, with an account of the situation and the movements of the enemy. If they are not each provided with a horse for that purpose, the Adjutant-General to apply to the Committee of Supplies.

Colonel *Gridley*, of the Artillery, or the next in command, to give in a return of his men, stores, and ammunition, agreeable to the order of the fourth instant, and to distinguish the posts to which his Regiment is assigned, in case of alarm. The same order as to a return of the men, ammunition, and blankets, is given to the commanding



officers of the Regiments late Colonel *Gardner's*, Colonel *Glover's*, and Colonel *Gerrish's*, who have omitted complying with the above orders hitherto.

The commanding officers at *Winter Hill*, *Prospect Hill*, and *Roxbury*, are to make particular inquiry into the ammunition of the men in those lines, and if there is any deficiency, immediately to report it to the General at Head-Quarters.

A General Court-Martial is ordered to sit on *Monday* next, ten o'clock, A. M., for the trial of Lieutenant *Brigham*, charged with "rescuing a prisoner when in lawful custody."

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 9, 1775.

(Parole, *Effingham*.)

(Countersign, *Watertown*.)

The Continental Congress having been pleased to appoint *Horatio Gates*, Esq., Brigadier-General and Adjutant-General of the Army, he is to be obeyed as such, and all orders transmitted through him from the Commander-in-Chief, whether written or verbal, are to be punctually and immediately obeyed.

All soldiers, more than two to a company, who are at present absent on furlough, and all officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who have not joined their respective corps, to be ordered forthwith to camp. The commanding officers of corps to be answerable to the General for an immediate obedience to this order.

The General, or in his absence, the commanding officer at *Roxbury*, to send a report every day, in writing, sealed up, to the Commander-in-Chief, at Head-Quarters, in *Cambridge*, of all the material occurrences of the preceding day, mentioning particularly all arrivals of ships and vessels in the bay, and what changes and alterations are made in the stations of the men-of-war, transports, and floating batteries, &c.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 10, 1775.

(Parole, *Frederick*.)

(Countersign, *Gloucester*.)

The General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *William Prescott* was President, having tried *William Pattin*, of Colonel *Gridley's* Regiment, and found him guilty of "threatening and abusing a number of persons, when prisoner in the quarter-guard," the Court sentence the prisoner to ride the wooden horse fifteen minutes.

The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be put in execution at the head of the Regiment.

*David Wells*, soldier in Col. *Gridley's* Regiment, tried by the above-mentioned General Court-Martial, for "sleeping upon his post when sentry," is acquitted by the Court.

No non-commissioned officer or soldier, but such as are guilty of capital offences, to be confined in the main guard; all those guilty of crimes triable by a Regimental Court-Martial, to be sent to the quarter-guards of their respective corps, to be tried by Regimental Court-Martial.

The General Court-Martial, whereof Col. *William Prescott* is President, to sit again this day, at the usual hour. All evidences, and persons concerned, to attend the Court. Whenever a General Court-Martial is ordered, it is expected that the evidences and persons by whom the prisoners are confined, do punctually attend to support the accusation, as they will answer the contrary at their peril.

The Colonels of the *Massachusetts* Regiments to order one Subaltern from each Company in their respective Corps forthwith upon the recruiting service. Proper instructions will be given by the Adjutant-General to the officers ordered upon that service; they will, therefore, call at Head-Quarters as soon as possible, to receive their instructions. The General recommends it to the Colonels to send active and vigilant officers upon this service, and those who are most in esteem with people in the District they are sent to recruit in.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO RICHARD HENRY LEE, ESQ.

Camp at Cambridge, July 10, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I was exceeding glad to receive a letter from you, as I always shall be whenever it is convenient, though perhaps my hurry, till such time as matters are drawn a little out of the chaos they appear in at present, will not suffer me to write you such full and satisfactory answers, or give such clear and precise accounts of our situation and views as I could wish, or you might expect. After a

journey a good deal retarded, principally by the desire of the different townships through which I travelled, of showing respect to the General of your Armies, I arrived here on this day week; since which I have been labouring with as much assiduity, by fair and threatening means, to obtain returns of our strength in this camp and *Roxbury*, and their dependencies, as a man could do, and never have been able to accomplish the matter till this day; now, I will not answer for the correctness of them, although I have sent several of the regimental returns back more than once, to have mistakes rectified. I do not doubt but the Congress will think me very remiss in not writing to them sooner, but you may rely on it yourself, and I beg you to assure them that it has never been in my power till this day to comply with their orders. Could I have conceived, that that which ought, and in a regular army, which would have been done in an hour, would employ eight days, I should have sent an express on the second morning after I arrived, with a general account of things; but expecting in the morning to receive the returns in the evening, and in the evening surely to find them in the morning, (and at last getting them full of imperfections,) I have been drilled on, from day to day, till I am ashamed to look back at the time which has elapsed since my arrival here. You will perceive, by the returns, that we have but about sixteen thousand effective men in all this department, whereas, by the accounts which I received from even the first officers in command, I had no doubt of finding between eighteen and twenty thousand; out of these there are only fourteen thousand fit for duty. So soon as I was able to get this state of the Army, and came to the knowledge of our weakness, I immediately summoned a council of war, the result of which you will see, as it is enclosed to the Congress. Between you and me, I think we are in an exceeding dangerous situation, as our numbers are not much larger than we suppose, from the best accounts we are able to get, those of the enemy to be; theirs situated in such a manner as to be drawn to any point of attack, without our having an hour's previous notice of it, (if the General will keep his own counsel,) whereas we are obliged to be guarded at all points, and know not where, with precision, to look for them. I should not, I think, have made choice of the present posts in the first instance, although I believe the communication between the town and country could not have been so well cut off without; but as much labour has been bestowed in throwing up lines, making redoubts, &c.; as *Cambridge*, *Roxbury*, and *Watertown*, must be immediately exposed to the mercy of the enemy, were we to retreat a little further in the country; as it would give a general dissatisfaction to this Colony, dispirit our own people, and encourage the enemy to remove at this time to another place, we have, for these reasons, resolved in council to maintain our ground if we can. Our lines on *Winter* and *Prospect Hills*, and those of the enemy on *Bunker Hill*, are in full view of each other, a mile distant, our advance guards much nearer, and the sentries almost near enough to converse; at *Roxbury* and *Boston Neck* it is the same. Between these we are obliged to guard several of the places at which the enemy may land. The enemy have strongly fortified, or will in a few days, their camps and *Bunker Hill*; after which, and when their new-landed troops have got a little refreshed, we shall look for a visit, if they mean, as we are told they do, to come out of their lines. Their great command of artillery, and adequate stores of powder, &c., give them advantages which we have only to lament the want of. The abuses in this Army, I fear, are considerable, and the new modelling of it, in the face of an enemy, from whom we every hour expect an attack, exceedingly difficult and dangerous. If things, therefore, should not turn out as the Congress would wish, I hope they will make proper allowances. I can only promise and assure them, that my whole time is devoted to their service, and that, as far as my judgment goes, they shall have no cause to complain. I need not tell you that this letter is written in much haste; the fact will sufficiently appear from the face of it. I thought a hasty letter would please you better than no letter, and therefore I shall offer no further apology, but assure you that, with sincere regard for my fellow-labourers with you, Doctor *Shippen's* family, &c., I am, dear Sir, your most affectionate servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.



P. S. We want an hospital, upon a proper establishment, much, and a proper director, with good surgeons, to take care and charge of it. I cannot learn that these are to be provided here; it therefore rests with the Congress to consider of this matter. A Mr. Bass, of *Philadelphia*, who, I am told, was in this way last war, can give you the proper establishment of one. I would not wish to see an expensive one set on foot, and I have no doubt of Doctor *Shippen's* recommending such gentlemen for surgeons as he can answer for the abilities of. Whether there is no news stirring, or whether we live out of the way of receiving it, I cannot tell, but so it is, that I have heard nothing of what the Parliament or Ministry are about since I left *Philadelphia*.

I am, as before, your servant,

G. W.

GENERAL THOMAS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Roxbury Camp, July 10, 1775.

SIR: I have arrested a master of a vessel that came out of *Boston* (*Saturday* night) in order to take charge of a vessel at *Stonington*, in *Connecticut*, loaded with molasses, to proceed to *New-York* as he saith. His acquaintance in the country inform that he has been a suspected person, and I think it my duty to forward him to your Excellency for your examination.

I am, Sir, with respect, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

To his Excellency Gen. *George Washington*, *Cambridge*.

Watertown, July 10, 1775.

In compliance with an order of the honourable the Provincial Congress, passed the fifth of *July* instant, the Freeholders and others, who were inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, and were qualified, according to law, to vote for Representatives in *May*, 1774, and are now dispersed, are hereby notified and warned to assemble at the Meeting-House in *Concord*, on *Tuesday*, the eighteenth of *July* instant, at three o'clock in the afternoon, then and there to elect and depute one or more freeholders in said Town, according to the numbers limited by a law of this Colony, to serve for and represent them in a Great and General Court or Assembly, to be convened, held, and kept for the service of said Colony, until the day next preceding the last *Wednesday* of *May* next, if necessary, and no longer, at the Meeting-House in *Watertown*, upon *Wednesday*, the nineteenth instant, nine o'clock in the forenoon, and so from day to day during their session or sessions.

WILLIAM COOPER, *Town Clerk of Boston*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE,  
JULY 10, 1775.

The General's express, that ought to have left this four days ago, is not yet gone. I therefore sit down to give you some description of our situation here, and that of the enemy.

The enemy are situated on *Bunker* and *Breed's Hills*, both on the peninsula where the late Town of *Charlestown* stood, and within reach, and under the cover of the guns from the batteries in the Town of *Boston*, and the ships in the harbour, and of a number of floating batteries which they have built, that carry two guns in their bows, two in their sterns, and one on each side. Our people are situated from *Charles River*, about two hundred rods below the college, where we have a redoubt, which begins the line; then about sixty rods from that another redoubt, and lines continued near a hundred rods; then at *Charlestown* road, on the west side of the road, at the foot of *Prospect Hill*, another redoubt and strong fortification; then on *Prospect Hill* is *Putnam's Post*, a very strong fortification; then, between that and *Winter Hill*, a strong citadel and lines over *Charlestown* road to *Mistick*; then in Mr. *Temple's* pasture, a strong redoubt that commands to *Mistick River*; so that we have a complete line of circumvallation from *Charles River* to *Mistick River*. Our main fortress on *Prospect Hill*, and the enemy's main fortress on *Bunker's Hill*, are within cannon shot of each other. A hill between these two posts, a little to the eastward of *Prospect Hill*, called *Cobble Hill*, I expect will soon cost us a squabble

who shall have it, our people or theirs; nor do I expect it will be many days before the contest begins, which will probably bring on a general engagement. If they let us alone four or five days more, we shall be well prepared, and shan't care how soon they come, the sooner the better. On *Roxbury* side the enemy have dug across the neck and let the water through; and our people in turn have intrenched across the outer end of the neck, and are strongly fortified there, and on the hill by the meeting-house, so strong, that I believe every man in *Boston*, and at *Bunker's Hill* and *Breed's Hill*, must fall before they could force a passage that way into the country.

General *Burgoyne* sent a trumpeter yesterday with a letter to General *Lee*, wishing a composition of the unhappy differences, &c., and says the Parliament will certainly give up all right or pretence of taxation, if that will do, and wishes a conference. This letter is sent to the Congress for their opinion, and for them to appoint a person whom they can confide in, to attend the conference, and hear what passes, if they judge it best to have a conference. Major *Gates* is arrived, and we are getting into order and regularity very fast. Last night our people at *Roxbury* fired the remainder of *Brown's* buildings on *Boston Neck*, and have drove the enemy's guards back to their lines.

GENERAL LEE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, July 10, 1775.

General *Lee* presents his respects to the President and Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts*, and submits to their perusal a letter which he yesterday received from General *Burgoyne*, in answer to one which was read and approved of by the Delegates of this Province, and other members of the Continental Congress. He begs leave to request their commands with respect to the proposed interview. If they approve of it, he shall be glad to accept of it; if they disapprove, he shall reject it; but if they approve of it, he must request that they will depute some one gentleman of their body to accompany General *Lee*, and be witness of the conversation. He desires their answer immediately, as he has engaged to inform General *Burgoyne* by four o'clock this afternoon, whether the interview is to take place. He shall likewise be much obliged to the gentlemen if they will return the letter; but if they choose to take a copy, he can have no objection.

MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEE.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown, July 10, 1775.

SIR: Congress have perused the letter from General *Burgoyne*, which you was kind enough to submit to their inspection. They can have no objection to the proposed interview from a want of the highest confidence in the wisdom, discretion, and integrity of General *Lee*, but would beg leave to suggest, that as the confidence of the people in their General is so essentially necessary to the well conducting the enterprise in which we are engaged, and as a people contending for their liberties are naturally disposed to jealousy, and not inclined to make the most favourable constructions of the motives of conduct which they are not fully acquainted with, whether such an interview might not have a tendency to lessen the influence which the Congress would wish to extend to the utmost of their power, to facilitate and succeed the operations of war.

To prevent, as far as we are able, any disagreeable consequences which may arise from the jealousy of the people on such an occasion, the Congress, agreeable to your request, have appointed Mr. *Elbridge Gerry* to attend you at the proposed interview, if you shall think proper to proceed in it; and as they do not think themselves authorized to counteract the General's inclination, they would submit it to his opinion whether the advice of the council of war might not be taken in a matter of such apparent delicacy.

To the Honourable General *Lee*.

GENERAL LEE'S LETTER DECLINING THE INTERVIEW PROPOSED BY GENERAL BURGUYNE.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 11, 1775.

Gen. *Lee's* compliments to Gen. *Burgoyne*. Would be extremely happy in the interview he so kindly proposed;



but as he perceives that General *Burgoyne* has already made up his mind on this great subject, and as it is impossible that he (General *Lee*) should ever alter his opinion, he is apprehensive that the interview might create those jealousies and suspicions so natural to a people struggling in the dearest of all causes, that of their liberty, property, wives, children, and their future generation. He must, therefore, defer the happiness of embracing a man whom he most sincerely loves, until the subversion of the present tyrannical Ministry and system, which he is persuaded must be in a few months, as he knows *Great Britain* cannot stand the contest. He begs General *Burgoyne* will send the letters which his Aid-de-Camp has for him. If *Gardiner* is his Aid-de-Camp, he desires his love to him.

REMARKS ON THE LETTER FROM GENERAL BURGOWNE TO GENERAL LEE.

As General *Burgoyne's* letter, dated the eighth of July, 1775, in answer to one from General *Lee*, is permitted to be published, it becomes of course a subject of general speculation.

General *Lee*, by taking no further notice of the letter than to decline the proposed interview with General *Burgoyne*, plainly intimates that the sword, and not the quill, is now to decide the controversy. But as the bulk of mankind are apt to be deluded by sounds, without examining whether they are derived from good sense, or only the appearance of it, there is reason to fear many weak minds have been artfully misled to believe, from General *Lee's* returning only a card, and not a formal answer, that the letter carries to him conviction, and is therefore unanswerable. Indeed, was the force of the General's arguments as irresistible as the politeness of his style is engaging, we should have more reason to tremble at the point of his pen, than at the point of his sword. But as the patriot and hero to whom he addresses himself, will doubtless prevent the latter from doing any harm, if he pleases, it shall be the object of our present inquiry, whether we are in any danger from the former.

General *Burgoyne* introduces the vindication of his conduct by saying, that "the vital principle of the Constitution, in which it moves and has its being, is the supremacy of the King in Parliament." Now, if he means that the power of the King in Parliament is absolute, or that the two Houses of Parliament, with his concurrence, can make him so, over all or any part of his dominions, (for the sentence under review involves that conclusion,) as well acquainted as he is "with the doctrines of Mr. *Locke*, and other of the advocates for the rights of mankind," he can find nothing in their writings to support such an unlimited power in the Crown. Or if he means that the Parliament, as the supreme legislative, "have, and ought to have a power to make laws binding upon the King's *American* subjects "in all cases whatsoever," he will find it equally difficult to produce any authority for such an absolute power, till it can be proved that *America* is within the realm of *England*, or that the *Americans* have consented to the laws by which it is expected they should be bound. If, therefore, *America* is not within the limits of the realm; if there are acts of Parliament grievous and oppressively binding upon *Americans*, to which they have never consented, or even acquiesced in, and no authority can be produced from the labours of those great advocates for the rights of mankind, which the General appeals to, for such an uncontrollable power over three millions of his unrepresented fellow-subjects, it follows, upon his own principles, that he must either sheathe his sword, or own that "he draws it in the cause of slavery." If the General should require further evidence that no such unlimited power is vested by the Constitution in the King and Parliament, I beg leave to recommend to his perusal the masterly productions of *Novanglus*, and a writer from the County of *Hampshire*. In them he will find the subject treated at large, and our right of exemption placed beyond the reach of cavil.

The General goes on to say, "that towards the close of the reign of *Charles* the First, the true principle of resistance was changed, and a new system of Government projected accordingly. The Patriots previous to the long Parliament, and during great part of it, as well as the glo-

rious Revolution of 1638, resisted to vindicate and restore the Constitution; the Republicans resisted to subvert it." He then says, "now, Sir, lay your hand upon your heart, as you have enjoined me to do on mine, and tell me to which of these purposes do the proceedings of *America* tend."

As General *Lee* is silent, I beg leave to answer: that their proceedings do not tend to the subversion of the Constitution, but the preservation of it. It is for the recovery of that "liberty, peace, and safety" which we and our forefathers have dearly purchased and uninterruptedly enjoyed "till within these ten years past, that we are contending." Since that period, we have been, and still are suffering unparalleled injuries, and more than savage cruelty, from the Parent State, under colour of law! And although we have humbly and repeatedly implored our Sovereign to extend his protection; to interpose in our behalf, and redress our grievances; our petitions have been treated with contempt, and our burdens increased: it is not, therefore, as the General suggests, a struggle "for total independency," but the weight of taxes imposed, and to be imposed to an unlimited amount, and an impossibility of procuring relief "in any other way," that has induced *America* to take up arms.

We have ever cheerfully submitted to the control of Parliament, in all cases whatsoever, relative to our commerce; not from a consciousness of the Parliament's right, but as a limited power, exercised for the mutual benefit of both Countries.

In no case whatsoever have we been, or shall we be willing to submit to the control of Parliament relative to our taxes, or internal police; because, it is an unlimited power, which extends to all we have; and therefore cannot be consented to without incurring perpetual bondage. What, then, does the General mean by saying, "it is in the power of the Colonies to put an end to the exercise of taxation immediately and for ever?" If he means, that the right of Parliament should remain, but never be exercised, it is an instance of chicanery beneath the dignity of his exalted station: for a right to exercise a power, which implies the exertion of it, and yet is never to be exercised, is a solecism in common sense; and, indeed, is no power. If *Great Britain*, therefore, "is ready to open her arms to an accommodation," let her cease hostilities, recall her forces, and renounce her claim of right to tax us; since "it can never be her interest, (as the General boldly asserts,) after her late experience, to make another trial;" and especially, since these are preliminaries, which, whilst ungranted, renders any other overture inadmissible.

The history of mankind will support me when I affirm, there never was a state which employed a Standing Army as an executive power to maintain its laws, which did not sooner or later become the sole legislative power of that state, and ultimately the destruction of civil liberty.

The General, therefore, may be as sanguine as he pleases about "the principles which actuate the Fleet and Army throughout." No principles but such as are founded in despotism, can justify their inhuman treatment of their innocent *American* fellow-subjects; no, not the mandate of their Sovereign, much less of a profligate Ministry.

I have Lord *Chatham's* authority to affirm, that "the value of the landed estates in *England* has doubled within these fifty years in consequence of their exclusive commerce with *America*; that the profits arising from it carried the Nation triumphantly through the last war:" it is therefore false to say, as the General does, that "the landed men have long borne burdens for *America*:" we, and not they, have borne the burden; and the time is now come when, I trust in *God*, we shall be exonerated.

But the General says, "*Great Britain* is resolute to maintain her rights; and if the war proceeds, one hundred and fifty thousand men will not be a match for her power."

It ill becomes a brave and generous soldier to be the echo of such a shameful Ministerial puff!

In the name of wonder! what was the power of *Great Britain* before her connection with *America*? What will it be when fraud, oppression, and every species of injustice shall force *Americans* to an everlasting separation?

Is there the least probability arising from the progress of her arms hitherto, of their becoming victorious? It is true, General *Gage*, by an infamous breach of faith, has made



some unhappy people in *Boston* his prisoners, and their property his spoil; the Troops under his command have committed many robberies, burnt many houses, and murdered some of the inhabitants; but it is equally true, they have paid excessively dear for all they have got, and every inch of ground they possess.

What say you, my countrymen! Does Colonel *Leslie's* disappointment, the retreat from *Lexington*, the destruction of the King's Troops there and at *Charlestown*, and the other trials of our skill at arms excite any fearful apprehensions that we shall finally be vanquished? Are not all of them proofs of valour and intrepidity sufficient to convince our enemies that we are invincible?

May we not, therefore, with approbation, conclude, that whilst we admit General *Burgoyne* to be an elegant writer, we cannot help considering him as a very bad reasoner? God grant that his sword may prove as harmless as his pen.

AN OLD MAN.

From my Cottage near Boston, August, 1775.

#### TO GENERAL BURGOWNE.

Although the intercourse between yourself and General *Lee* is closed, you will permit an *American*, who is a stranger to you both, and has never seen either of the Armies in which you command, to address you, Sir, on the interesting subject of your late correspondence.

From the time of the conquest to the Revolution, the history of *England* affords innumerable instances of the People struggling for their rights, and the Sovereigns tenacious of assumed prerogatives; but the power of taxing themselves was the privilege of which our common ancestors were particularly jealous.

The present controversy between *Great Britain* and the Colonies originated from the question, whether the *British* Commons have a right to give and grant our moneys without our consent. For the question, you have urged as a principle of the Constitution, the supremacy of the King in Parliament. Against it, the Colonies have adduced another principle, which, in the words of Sir *Edward Coke*, is this: "It is against the franchises of the land, for freemen to be taxed but by their own consent." Modern Parliaments, with a kingly fondness for prerogative, have winked the latter principle out of sight, though their predecessors, the Commons of *England*, resolutely contended for it in the beginning of the reign of *Charles* the First, when, as you allow, they resisted to vindicate and restore the Constitution. In opposition to the unjust claim of the Crown to impose taxes, the House of Commons, in the third year of that Prince, voted, "that every freeman has, by ancient and indubitable right, the absolute and entire property of his own estate;" and both Houses, by the Petition of Right presented to His Majesty in the same year, "pray that no man hereafter be compelled to make it yield any gift, loan, benevolence, tax, or such like charge, without common consent by act of Parliament."

These immortal Whigs, as you call them, thought the consent of those who were to pay the money indispensably necessary to a legal tax; and upon this principle, the speeches of their leaders, and the petition itself, prove they grounded their demand.

In the first year of the long Parliament (at which time you extol their patriotism and resistance) the Commons, Mr. *Hume* informs us, revived the pretensions with regard to tonnage and poundage; and adds, "the levying these duties, as formerly, without consent of Parliament, and even increasing them at pleasure, was such an incongruity in a free Constitution, when the people, by their fundamental privileges, cannot be taxed but by their own consent, as could no longer be endured by these jealous patrons of liberty." If their resistance was justifiable and virtuous, is not ours so? Are the claims of the *British* Parliament less dangerous to the *Americans* than those of *Charles* I. were to the people of *England*? He was under no temptation to lay heavier burdens on one part of his subjects than another; you have self-interest held up as a motive to oppress us.

But we are denied the right of resistance if other means of redress can be obtained. We have often presented petitions, which (because they called in question the right of

Parliament to tax us) were styled undutiful, and were rejected, or if received were treated with neglect. If you can tell of any other peaceable means of redress, in the name of humanity let us know it. Certainly you cannot wish us to apply to Parliament, and say, We indeed have no voice in your appointment, and no influence in your counsels, nevertheless you have a right to dispose of us and all we have at pleasure, but we implore your mercy to continue to us the enjoyments of life. This, Sir, is not the language of freemen, and the *Americans*, therefore, have never learnt to speak it. Could we be base enough to act so slavish a part, your resentment might cease, but must be succeeded by contempt.

The landed men in *England*, who have long borne burdens for *America*, you say, are against us. The last war indeed began on this Continent; but are we on that account to bear any more than our proportion of its expense? As well might the logwood cutters in the *Bay of Campeachy* be charged with the burdens of the war before it, because a dispute between those logwood cutters and the *Spanish guarda costas* gave birth to that war.

Before the last rupture with the *French*, the conduct of that people, both in the *East-Indies* and *America*, evinced their design to disturb the trade of *Britain*. Their line of forts from *Canada* to the *Mississippi* was calculated to monopolize the fur trade. Your interest was struck at. The views of both Crowns were the extension and security of their Fishery and Commerce. *Great Britain* prevailed, and then recognized, in the most honourable terms, the zeal and efforts of the Colonies, however mean-spirited she may think them now. She had not then in contemplation the design to protect our property from the *French*, that she might afterwards seize it herself, without our consent. Such a design would have been inconsistent with the spirit of magnanimity which inspired her councils, and repugnant to every principle of honour and justice.

You say we deny the right of *British* legislation to impose taxes, and consequently struggle for total independency. This argument is unkind and fallacious; unkind, as every Assembly and Congress on the Continent has disavowed the intention; and fallacious, because the proposition is particular, and the consequence general. May not one person or community be dependant on another without being totally dependant? If in *Great Britain* the Constitution is free and limited, and the Colonies are entitled to equal freedom, is it not impossible that their dependance ought to be absolute and without limitation. *Ireland* has long felt her dependance without owning the power in question, and the *Americans* have been affectionate and loyal in such a situation, more than one hundred and thirty years. When you first made and they opposed your claim of right to taxation, they thought no more of independence than the Parliament in 1628 thought of beheading King *Charles*; they would now esteem it a most unfortunate event; and nothing but a settled habit of cruelty in the mother can make the child forget its filial duty.

King *Charles* at first denied to the people their ancient rights; the high sense he entertained of his own dignity would not readily permit him to correct mistakes. The passions of the people were inflamed. They afterwards denied to him his just prerogatives, and even abolished the regal power. In civil contests there is a keenness of animosity unfelt in foreign wars. The voice of reason is less regarded, and the tenderest feelings of the soul change to envenomed hate.

That some attempt to bring about an accommodation of the present dispute, may be attended with success equal to the benevolence of the design, is the most ardent wish of

A COUNTRYMAN.

#### DECLARATION OF ADAM McCULLOCH.

Arundel, July 10, 1775

Whereas I, the subscriber, have, by some inadvertences, been so unhappy as to fall under the displeasure of the good people of this place; and many things have been laid to my charge of an inimical nature to the just rights and liberties of the good people of this Country, some of which I am not guilty of. I do now publicly declare, that so far as I have been guilty, either in words or actions, of offending the same, in matters of a civil nature, more espe-



cially in regard to the unhappy contest now prevailing between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, that I am heartily sorry, and do now humbly ask the forgiveness of all the friends of *America* for the same; and do promise that I will not offend in like manner again, but will do all that lays in power for the defence of the rights and privileges of this Country; and shall ever esteem it my greatest happiness of a temporal nature to enjoy the favour and friendship of the people with whom I now dwell; and will for the future pay due obedience to the lawful authority and advices of this Province, and determine to stand or fall with the fate of the same; heartily wishing that every resolution and determination for the good of the publick may have its desired effect.

ADAM McCULLOCH.

#### TO THE PEOPLE.

London, July 11, 1775.

Awake, my countrymen! appeal to your own understandings, and value, as you ought, your excellent form of Government. What man amongst us, when his private rights are invaded, does not immediately seek redress for the injury he has sustained? What wretch is there, then, so shamefully degenerated, as to be an unconcerned spectator of his Country's ruin? As Government was instituted for our good, we are to know whether our governours have our interest at heart. Actions must speak for themselves; we are not to be deluded by empty professions. It is our duty to prolong the life of liberty, and not to let the shackles of slavery be imposed upon this, or any future generation. While our Country remains, all good men, I am sure, will unite in this purpose, to deem nothing too hard to be endured or done for its interest, provided it be consistent with the laws of that more ancient and sacred association of mankind, of which *God* is the parent and governour. Let us look back to the beginning of the present reign, and see in what manner our most sacred rights and liberties have been infringed, and daringly violated. We patiently, to our great shame, endure innumerable oppressions, when our noble ancestors, at the expense of their lives, would have had ample redress for a single grievance.

The first stride of despotism and arbitrary power, was in arresting *English* subjects, and even a member of the *British* Legislature, by virtue of a general warrant, issued by a Secretary of State, contrary to the laws of the land.

We have seen their houses rifled and plundered, their papers seized, and used as evidence upon trial.

Their bodies committed to close imprisonment.

The *Habeas Corpus* eluded.

Trial by Jury discountenanced, and the first law officer of the Crown publickly insinuating that Juries are not to be trusted.

Printers punished by the Ministry in the Supreme Court, without a trial by their equals—without any trial at all.

The remedy of the law for false imprisonment barred and defeated.

The plaintiff and his attorney, for their appeal to the law of the land, punished by expenses and imprisonment, and made, by forced engagement, to desist from their legal claim.

A writing determined to be a libel by a Court, where it was not cognizable in the first instance, contrary to law, because all appeal is thereby cut off; and inferiour Courts and Juries influenced by such predetermination.

A person condemned in the said Court, as the author of the supposed libel, unheard, without defence or trial.

Unjust treatment of Petitions, in selecting parts to criminate the petitioner, and refusing to hear those which might procure him redress.

Perpetual imprisonment of an *Englishman* without trial, conviction, or sentence, by the same mode of attachment, wherein the same person is at once party, accuser, judge, and jury.

Instead of the ancient legal civil police, the military introduced at every opportunity, unnecessarily and unlawfully patrolling the streets, to the alarm and terror of the inhabitants.

The lives of many of our fellow subjects destroyed by military execution.

Such military execution solemnly adjudged to be legal.

Murder abetted, encouraged, and rewarded.

A large Standing Army kept in times of profound peace, contrary to an express article of the Bill of Rights.

The Civil Magistracy rendered contemptible, by the appointment of improper persons.

Civil Magistrates tampered with by Administration, and neglecting and refusing to do their duty.

Mobs and rioters hired and raised by the Ministry, to justify and recommend their illegal proceedings.

The freedom of Election violated by corrupt and undue influence, by unpunished violence and murder.

The verdicts of Juries and opinion of Judges overruled, and determinations of law set aside by new, unprecedented, and dangerous means, thereby leaving the guilty without restraint, and the innocent without redress, and the lives of fellow-subjects at the mercy of every ruffian protected by Administration.

Obsolete and vexatious claims of the Crown set on foot, for partial and election purposes.

Partial attacks on the liberty of the Press; pernicious libels against the Constitution allowed to pass unnoticed, when the slightest libel against a Minister is punished with the utmost rigour.

Wicked attempts to increase and establish an enormous Standing Army, by endeavouring to vest in the Crown an unlimited power over the Militia.

Resolutions of one branch of the Legislature set up as the law of the land.

Publick Money shamefully squandered and unaccounted for; all inquiry into the Civil List prevented.

Inquiry into a Paymaster's publick accounts stopped, though the sums unaccounted for amount to above forty millions sterling.

Publick loans perverted to private Ministerial purposes.

Prostitution of publick honours and rewards to men who can neither plead publick virtue nor services.

Irreligion and immorality encouraged by Administration, both by example and precept.

Right of taxation assumed without any representation, in direct violation of the law of the land.

Our fellow subjects in *America* plundered and butchered by an Army, their complaints unheard, and their oppression hourly increasing.

Lastly, our right of Petition denied, contrary to an express article of *Magna Charta*.

These, with many other infringements of our rights, demand our earliest exertions in the true cause of liberty and our Country. Our children are dear to us, so are our wives, our parents, our kinsmen, our friends and acquaintance. But our Country contains within it all those objects of endearment; and therefore it is the duty of every good man to be ready to lay down his life for it, if he can thus do it service. Rouse up, for shame! and revenge your wrongs. A voice from our fellow subjects on the Continent, animated with a true love of liberty, calls aloud to action. Great *Sidney's* shade complains that we are slow, and *Allen's* ghost stalks unrevenged amongst us. **BRUTUS.**

#### JOHN GRENNELL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Huntington, Long-Island, July 11, 1775.

SIR: Agreeable to instructions received from the respectable the Provincial Congress for enlisting men, I now report my proceedings therein to you. Have served the subalterns with their instructions, and received their answer, that it is inconvenient for them to accept, by reason of business, which alone prevents their serving the Country at this time. In consequence thereof, I now enclose their warrants, and humbly crave the liberty to recommend to the notice of the Committee of Safety two other gentlemen, who will serve, and be acceptable to the people that I expect to enlist.

The refusal of those gentlemen has prevented my progress in that matter, as other officers in their stead may perhaps be appointed under whom they would not so readily serve, and therefore postpone the business until it is known. The gentlemen I have in view are, Mr. *Samuel Smith*, of *Smithtown*, first Lieutenant, and Mr. *Alexander Ketchum*, of this place, second Lieutenant. Harvesting, which is at the height, has greatly impeded the enlisting. Some have offered, but I thought prudent not to enroll them until that business was over, when a prospect appears of filling up the company at once, which will be a saving



of expenses for the intermediate time. Some who stand ready to enlist have arms, ammunition, and blankets. Shall be obliged by orders how to act in that case, and what encouragement I should give them for such necessities.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient, humble servant,  
JOHN GRENNELL.

To *Peter V. Brugh Livingston*, Esq., to the care of Col. *Alexander McDougall*, New-York.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Camp near New-York, July 11, 1775.

SIR: *Peter Herring*, the man who last night assisted in conveying on board the *Asia*, man-of-war, one of the prisoners sent here by the Continental Congress, is now under guard at our camp. I would beg the immediate advice of the Committee of Safety concerning what is best to be done with him. His brother is willing, and desirous that he should be sent away some where, that he may be out of the way of the enraged people. Some have proposed that he be sent on board the *Asia*; others think it best to have him sent to *Connecticut*, with Governour *Skene*, who will go off as soon as this matter can be determined. I hope, therefore, to be assisted with your advice as speedily as possible; and am, Sir, your humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, *Tuesday, July 11th, 1775*. Present:

|                    |                    |                     |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Henry Remsen,      | William Denning,   | Gerret Kettletas,   |
| Daniel Phenix,     | Abrm. Brinkerhoff, | Lancaster Burling,  |
| Thomas Randall,    | Daniel Dunscomb,   | Peter T. Curtenius, |
| John Reade,        | John Berrian,      | Jacob Van Voorhies, |
| William Bedlow,    | Eleazer Miller,    | William Walton,     |
| Evert Banker,      | Lewis Pintard,     | John Morton,        |
| Edward Fleming,    | Victor Bieker,     | Gabriel H. Ludlow,  |
| Cornelius Clopper, | John Lasher,       | Abraham P. Lott,    |
| Robert Ray,        | Oliver Templeton,  | William W. Ludlow,  |
| Cornelius P. Low,  | Nicholas Bogart,   | Nicholas Hoffman,   |
| James D. sbrosses, | Hercules Mulligan, | John Woodward,      |
| John Imlay,        | Francis Bassett,   | Alex. McDougall.    |

A Letter, dated *Elizabethtown, July 7, 1775*, from *Jonathan Hampton*, received and read.

A Letter, dated *Fairfield, July 19, 1775*, from *Thaddeus Burr*, received and read.

Ordered, That Mr. *Bull*, Mr. *Templeton*, Mr. *Bedlow*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Woodward*, and Mr. *Fleming*, be a Sub-Committee, to attend the sales of two bales and two trunks of Goods, the property of *Benjamin Booth*, imported in the Ship *Lady Gage*, Captain *Mesnard*, from *London*, in *December* last; also, to attend the sales of Boxes and Goods, the property of *Gray* and *Blakie*.

Mr. *Burling* desires his dissent to be entered to the allowing the above Goods to be sold.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 17, 1775.]

Albany, July 11, 1775.

SIR: I have the honour to advise you that I arrived here on *Sunday* at noon; since which time I have been closely employed in the duties of my office.

It is with pleasure I remark, that intelligence from various quarters indicate a friendly disposition in the *Indians* towards us. No efforts are, however, wanting on the part of our enemies to change these sentiments in the savages to resentment and hostility, an evil highly incumbent on us to guard against, and of which the Committee of this place have so just a sense that they pay it the closest attention, whilst they look up to that respectable body which represents the Continent of *America* for the line of their future conduct in this delicate and important matter.

The unhappy controversy which has subsisted between the officers at *Ticonderoga*, relative to the command, has, I am informed, thrown every thing into vast confusion. Troops have been dismissed, others refuse to serve, if this or that man commands. The sloop is without either captain or pilot, both of which are dismissed or come away: I shall hurry up there much sooner than the necessary preparations here would otherwise permit, that I may attempt

to introduce some kind of order and discipline amongst them.

I am this moment favoured with a letter from Col. *Hinman*, and sundry returns, copies of which enclose. You will perceive by the return No. 1, that on the 7th instant they had only one barrel of flour at *Ticonderoga*, twenty at *Crown Point*, and twenty at *Fort George*. By No. 2 and 3, it appears that about four hundred and seventy-seven barrels of flour have been sent up, amounting to about ninety-five thousand four hundred rations, and that about twenty thousand remain; so that seventy-five thousand are expended. From the same returns it appears, that about sixty-five thousand rations of pork have been also expended, exclusive of thirty-five fat oxen; hence a very considerable waste or embezzlement has taken place.

Permit me here, Sir, to urge the necessity of the appointments I recommended in my letter of the 28th *June*, as indispensably necessary to carry on the service with propriety, economy, and certainty, to which I must add another, that of a Muster-Master and Deputies; without which such a scene of confusion and controversy must unavoidably take place in the payment of the Troops, as will be beyond the power of the most able accountant to rectify. These offices are so necessary, that I should not have hesitated one moment to have made the appointments, had I not received your orders to the contrary.

Give me leave, Sir, to request a copy of such Articles of War as the Congress may have adopted. The scandalous want of subordination, and the low treatment which I am informed some officers give, and others receive, merit exemplary punishments, as they are ruinous to the Army, destructive to the service, and disgraceful to those in command.

Governour *Trumbull* has honored me with a letter, in which he advises me, that no more than forty half barrels of powder can be sent me from the Colony of *Connecticut*. That from *Pennsylvania* is not yet arrived, and you will perceive that there is very little with the Troops. Should Governour *Carleton* know our true situation, with respect to this article, it would be very easy for him to use it to our disadvantage. Governour *Trumbull* will send me fifteen thousand Pounds in money, which is so much wanted here that the spirited Committee of this place have been under the necessity of emitting one thousand Pounds in small bills, as a circulating medium, to pay troops and others employed in the service; which, although it passes as currently as bank bills in the best of times, I shall order it to be called in as soon as I am enabled to do it, lest it should open a door to fraud and confusion.

As the transportation of salted meat is attended with the very heavy expense of a sixty-five mile land carriage to *Fort George*, before I left *New-York* I ordered one hundred head of fat cattle to be purchased in *Connecticut*, and to be drove up to *Ticonderoga*, where there is a sufficiency of pasture for them.

Enclose you, Sir, an extract of a paper received from Governour *Trumbull*, relative to the temper of the *Caughnawaga Indians*, marked No. 4.

The paper No. 5, will show you how very weak we are with respect to vessels for transporting troops across the lake, or even with those necessary to keep the command of the lake, in case Mr. *Carleton* should provide himself with a naval force. I hope, however, soon after my arrival at *Ticonderoga* to be in a better condition for maintaining the advantage we have acquired.

I hope to be at *Ticonderoga* on *Friday* or *Saturday*, from whence I shall do myself the honour to transmit you a full account of the state of the troops, and of every other matter which may be necessary for your information.

I am, Sir, respectfully, your most obedient, and most humble servant,  
PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c.

COLONEL BENEDICT ARNOLD TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 17, 1775.]

Albany, July 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: General *Schuyler* has desired me to acquaint you of the state and situation of the Army in the Northern Department. Six days since, when I left *Crown Point*, there were at that post near three hundred men,



without employ, having received no orders to fortify; at *Ticonderoga* about six hundred, in the same state; at *Fort George*, upwards of three hundred men; some few employed in building batteaus, and on scouting parties. Very little provision at any of the places; none made for the sick, which are daily increasing; only five hundred weight of gunpowder at all the places, and no Engineer or Gunner at either. Great want of discipline and regularity among the troops. On the other hand, the enemy at *St. John's* indefatigable in fortifying, and collecting timber (supposed) for building a vessel. The disposition of the *Canadians* and *Indians*, from the latest accounts, very favourable. A promise has, however, been extorted from the latter to defend Governour *Carleton* if attacked, in *Montreal*; this of course.

By giving up the command, I have been prevented receiving regular intelligence as heretofore; the latest near twenty days since.

I have received no answer to my letter of the 13th *June*, by Captain *Oswald*. Can only add, I am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

P. S. I had forgot to inform you my Regiment is disbanded.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, July 11, 1775.

SIR: The person that commanded the sloop on *Lake Champlain* has left her. It is more than probable that I shall not be able to procure at *Ticonderoga* such a person as I should wish to command her. I entreat you, therefore, to send me with all possible despatch, a person fit to confer such an important command upon. You will please to transmit me an account of the agreement you may enter into with him.

You will please to observe that I have ordered one hundred fat cattle from *Connecticut*, and five hundred barrels of flour to be purchased here, as part of the estimate I gave in to you at *New-York*.

The powder from *Pennsylvania* is not yet arrived: please to forward it by the first opportunity. I am, Sir, your most humble, obedient servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esquire, President of the *New-York* Provincial Congress.

P. S. Please to forward the packet that will be delivered you to Mr. *Hancock*, by a safe hand.

ELISHA PHELPS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, July 11, 1775.

HONOURED GENTLEMEN: Before your favour of the 29th *June* last came to hand, I was possessed of the little stores Mr. *Bleecker* had on hand, which was pork principally; and as it did not in any wise answer, agreeable to the act of our Assembly I thought it my duty to apply immediately to the Committee here. They informed they had no orders to purchase, though some of the gentlemen gave it as their private opinion that I should provide agreeable to act of Assembly; whose advice I have followed as far as lay in my power, as I was informed the Army suffered to that degree as threatened mutiny, if flour, &c., could not be forwarded. It was with difficulty I procured ten barrels at that time, and ten more at *Schenectady*. I have forwarded with all possible despatch all the provisions I could obtain.

Since my return to the General, of the 10th instant, I have sent forward sixty-two barrels flour, and Mr. *French* about thirty barrels more. The General has, to my great satisfaction, ordered the Committee to purchase flour for me.

I am desired by Colonel *Hinman* to send up rum and hospital stores, agreeable to act of our Assembly; but these articles are not to be had here, and the Army thinks me in the fault, and I cannot conceive that I am authorized by my commission to purchase stores, though I have presumed it on myself on this emergency, as I am expressly ordered to receive and forward, &c., from the Provincial Convention of *New-York* to the Fourth Regiment, &c.

I have likewise, a few days ago, received a commission,

as Commissary for the *Boston* forces on this station, to receive and forward &c., &c. I hope you, gentlemen, in your wisdom, will point out ways and means that those necessities may be purchased and forwarded agreeable to what those soldiers may reasonably expect from the acts of the *New-England* Provinces; and you may rely on my doing my utmost in the execution of my office and trust; while I am, gentlemen, with the greatest esteem, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

ELISHA PHELPS.

To the Hon. Provincial Convention at *New-York*.

N. B. I have thought proper to transmit a copy of the above to his Honour the Governor of *Connecticut*.

COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE OF BRADFORD TO MASSACHUSETTS COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Correspondence, Bradford, July 4, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your address to us directed, respecting Captain *Gages's* Company deserting the cause of their Country, which has given us and the Town great uneasiness, and before we received your letter, as well as since, we have exerted ourselves to the utmost of our power to make them that you call deserters return to their duty; and can assure your Honours, that almost all those persons have re-enlisted themselves, or provided persons that have enlisted in their room; for, upon our receipt of your letter, we called the Town together, and proposed to them, according to the *nota bene* in your letter, that they would undoubtedly be entitled to and receive pay for their whole services; they were encouraged, and we expect they will march to join the Army, if the weather permits, to-morrow, the fifth instant. Many are the reasons the men give for their coming home; but the greatest is, that the field-officers of the Regiment kept them in ignorance with respect to the validity of the old enlistments; and being informed they were not valid, they left on a sudden, without consideration of what effect it might have on the grand cause we are engaged in. But, gentlemen, they are almost all returning to their duty, except a few who were disaffected with the service, and were the chief instruments of their coming away, preferring their own interest to that of the publick, (which we will endeavour they shall be made a publick example of,) and as the others are returning to their duty, and we doubt not will do it cheerfully, we hope you will receive them into favour, as if this had never happened.

We are, gentlemen, with great respect, your very humble servants,

THOMAS KIMBALL, Chairman.

To the Committee of Safety in *Cambridge*.

EDMUND BRIDGE TO MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESS.

Watertown, July 11, 1775.

HONOURED GENTLEMEN: Plunged into the deepest distress, and in danger of perishing by famine from the want of provisions, we cannot support the clamours of our wives and children for bread. To you, gentlemen, next to Heaven, we address our prayers for support. The inhabitants of *Pownalborough*, in the midst of calamity, have been applied to by General *Gage*; he offers to supply us with provisions, if we will send his troops a supply of fuel. We cannot comply with his demands; we would not contribute to the support of the enemies of our Country. Pray direct us what course to pursue; give us bread, and we will cheerfully sacrifice our lives, our all, in the common cause. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

EDMUND BRIDGE.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

PHILADELPHIA MILITARY ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Officers of the Military Association for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, held at *Carpenter's Hall*, July 12, 1775:

Resolved, That this body invite the Committees of the City and Liberties and County of *Philadelphia*, and the Officers of the several Battalions in the said County, to meet together, with this body, at the College-Hall in this City, on next *Saturday* week, at nine o'clock in the morn-



ing, to take under consideration the late Resolves of the honourable House of Assembly of this Province, relative to the appointment of Minute-men. And that the Secretary be directed to publish this Resolve in the *English* and *German* newspapers. Published by order:

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

Philadelphia, July 13, 1775.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, July 12, 1775.

DEAR SIR: The troops to the northward are so few and under so little discipline, that I begin to be apprehensive of consequences should Governour Carleton make an attempt. I must, therefore, entreat you to send up all such as may be raised in this Colony, without delay, with such camp equipages as may be ready; the remainder must follow. If the intrenching and other tools, which I desired might be sent up, have not yet left *New-York*, pray let them be forwarded by the very first opportunity, as we stand in great need of them. I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq., President of the *New-York* Provincial Congress.

ETHAN ALLEN TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Bennington, July 12, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: The notice your Honour hath taken of the letters I have already sent to you emboldens me to trouble your Honour with this; more especially on account of the intelligence which Mr. *Bennet*, the post, hath this day communicated to me: he will communicate the same to your Honour. This intelligence corresponds with the predictions of which I have formerly wrote you. I was apprised of the necessary consequences that are about to take place, except we support our friends in *Canada*. I lay my honour on it, that the *Indians* in general, (I might almost have said the same of the *Canadians*;) are disposed to be either neuter or assistants to the United Colonies; my former letters have given the reasons, and also the reasons why they will be necessitated to join against us, except we advance an army into *Canada*: shall, therefore, not enlarge here.

Were it not that the Grand Continental Congress had lately incorporated the *Green Mountain* Boys into a battalion, under certain regulations and command, I would forthwith advance them into *Canada*, and invest *Montreal*, exclusive of any help from the Colonies; though, under present circumstances, I would not, for my right arm, act without or contrary to order. If my fond zeal for reducing the King's fortresses, and destroying or imprisoning his troops in *Canada*, be the result of enthusiasm, I hope and expect the wisdom of the Continent will treat it as such; and, on the other hand, if it proceed from sound policy, that the plan will be adopted.

Provided the enterprise be attempted, (inasmuch as in our Northern Department we are scarce of the article of powder, and as the Regulars are well intrenched at *St. John's*, with a good artillery,) it will be requisite to land and march out of shot of their intrenchments to *Montreal*, which may easily be done. Commanding the country defeats the grand purpose of the enemy's fortifications. 'Tis a pity such a handful of Regulars should command *Canada*, in spite of the United Colonies, and against the will of the *Canadians* and *Indians*.

I am, Sir, with the greatest respect, your Honour's most devoted, most obedient, and most humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

To Governour Trumbull.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, July 12, 1775.

SIR: I beg leave to congratulate your Excellency upon your being appointed General of the United Colonies, which hath given sincere pleasure to every friend to *America*, and will, I hope, prove glorious to yourself, and be attended with essential advantages to your Country.

The General Assembly of this Colony have the deep-sense of the necessity of a strict union, and the most

vigorous efforts of the Colonies to preserve them from unlimited servitude; and their utmost exertions in the common cause may be depended upon.

I also assure your Excellency, that I shall give you every assistance in my power, and that I am, with very great regard, Sir, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To his Excellency General Washington.

By the Honourable NICHOLAS COOKE, Esquire, Deputy-Governour and Lieutenant-General of and over the ENGLISH Colony of RHODE-ISLAND and PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA:

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the General Assembly of the Colony aforesaid, at their session held at *Providence*, on *Wednesday*, the 28th of *June* last, taking into consideration the present alarming situation of the Colonies, and the necessity of putting this Colony into a posture of defence, passed an Act requesting me to issue a Proclamation, commanding every man in the Colony, able to bear arms, to equip himself with Arms and Ammunition, according to law: I have, therefore, thought fit to issue this Proclamation, hereby commanding every man in the Colony, able to bear arms, immediately to equip himself with Arms and Ammunition, according to law, upon the penalties of the law in such cases provided.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Colony, at *Providence*, the twelfth day of *July*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and fifteenth of the reign of His Majesty *George* the Third, by the grace of *God*, King of *Great Britain*, &c.

NICHOLAS COOKE.

By his Honour's command:

HENRY WARD, *Secretary*.

God save the King.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAMBRIDGE, DATED JULY 12, 1775.

The day before yesterday we went to *Chelsea*, famous for the battle of *Noddle Island* near to it. While we were on *Powderhorn Hill*, back of *Chelsea*, we saw a skirmish between a party of our people, (one hundred and ten in number,) who went in whale boats to an island about twelve miles from *Boston*, and burnt a large quantity of hay, which was put up into bundles by the Regulars, and intended to be sent to *Boston* for their horses. A great number of Marines, in schooners, men-of-war boats, and two ships-of-war, kept up a constant fire on our men, while they remained on the island; but this did not prevent them from destroying the hay. The schooners and boats endeavoured to cut off their retreat, which brought on a very warm engagement, in which we had one killed and one wounded. The loss of the Regulars is not known, but supposed to be considerable, as they were drove off several times, and finally obliged to retire; which would not have been the case, if they had not lost some men.

Yesterday we spent in *Roxbury*; while there we were amused with a heavy fire of cannon and mortars from the lines of the Regulars on the neck, and from one of their floating batteries, against two hundred of our men, who were throwing up a breastwork in front of the *George* Tavern, on the same neck, and within a few rods of the Regulars' advanced guard; our people kept on their work, and never returned a shot. Three bombs burst near our men, without injuring one of them; most of the cannon-shot were taken up and brought to the General. It is diverting to see our people contending for the balls as they roll along.

One circumstance, much to their reputation, I must mention: During a severe cannonade at *Roxbury* last week, a bomb, thirteen inches in diameter, fell within our line, and burnt furiously; four of our artillery-men ran up, and one kicked out the fuse and saved the bomb, and probably some lives—a stroke of heroism worthy of record. I heard the man's name yesterday, but now forget it. The Regulars have so hardened our people with their repeated firing, that a cannonading is just as much minded there as a com-



mon thunder shower. All things look well; we are now strongly posted, so are the Regulars. I believe neither side are willing to attack each other in their lines.

We have just got overland from *Cape Cod* a large fleet of whale-boats; in a day or two we shall man them in *Cambridge* and *Mistick* Rivers, and try to keep our enemy's boats from insulting us. The Regulars do not seem willing to come out, but our people are perpetually provoking them.

A gentleman who got out of *Boston Monday, July 10*, says, that the inhabitants were numbered, and amounted to 6,573; the soldiers numbered, women and children, to 13,600. Three hundred Tories are chosen to patrol the streets, forty-nine of a night. Very sickly; from ten to thirty die in a day, and no bells allowed to toll. Master *Lovell* taken up and put in jail, which is in consequence of some letters found in Dr. *Warren's* pocket; and Master *Leech* also. Released out of jail four. Mr. *Hunt* saying, that he wished the *Americans* might kill them all, was confined in jail. Eleven dead of the wounded prisoners at *Charlestown*; Colonel *Parker* dead, he having declared, at his last hour, if he got well he would do the same.

The officers say, damn the rebels, that they would not flinch. A great number of floating batteries are building, and five transports and three sloops are sailed for hay and wood to the eastward.

This gentleman also says, that the officers and soldiers triumph very much at the death of Doctor *Warren*, saying it is better to them than five hundred men.

#### GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL LEE.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 12, 1775.

SIR: I am commanded by the General-in-Chief to acquaint you, that he is exceedingly desirous to draw the body of the troops posted at *Roxbury* as near and as completely together, for the defence of the several works, as the nature of the ground and the conveniency of covering them will admit; and to that end, the General wishes you would inform him what tents, sails, or boards, may be wanted to cover the men, and they shall be forthwith supplied from hence. I have it also in command from the General to recommend it to you to have the houses removed out of the street at *Roxbury*, as they may cover and facilitate the approach of the enemy. The General further directs me to desire that you will exert your utmost vigilance to get your several works finished and completed, your lines closed, and particularly the abattis, and the platforms immediately laid. As we are much in want of boats for *Mistick* and *Cambridge* Rivers, you will, as soon as possible, send two for each of these rivers to the Head-Quarters at *Cambridge*.

With great regard, Sir, I am, your most humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To General *Lee*.

#### COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Chamber of Supplies, Watertown, July 12, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: General *Washington* has sent a memorandum for four hundred rounds of thirty-two pound shot, and we have ordered the same from the furnace which we employ. But lest we should be disappointed in point of time, we think it necessary to apply for the same to be sent from *Portsmouth*, if to be procured.

We are, truly, gentlemen, your very humble servants,  
DAVID CHEEVER, per order.

#### FRANCESTOWN (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) COMMITTEE.

Whereas, it has been falsely reported that the Committee of Safety for *Francestown* were not fairly and legally chosen, and by reason of said report the publick were dissatisfied with the proceedings of said Committee: whereupon, we, the Selectmen of said *Francestown*, judged it our duty to call in some disinterested persons to determine the matter, and thereupon sent to the Committees of Safety for two neighbouring Towns, who, when convened, unanimously voted and agreed that said Committee were fairly and legally chosen, and had good right to act in all cases for the safety of said *Francestown*, and that their proceedings and determinations are and ought to be as valid as the proceed-

ings and determinations of any Committee of Safety in any Town whatsoever.

Signed by order of the Selectmen:

WILLIAM McMASTER, Town Clerk.

Francestown, July 12, 1775.

#### HILLSBOROUGH (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) COMMITTEE.

Amherst, July 13, 1775.

Whereas, the Delegates for the County of *Hillsborough*, in the Province of *New-Hampshire*, in Congress, appointed a Committee from several Towns to hear, examine, and try *John Quigly*, Esq., a person lately confined in the Jail at *Amherst*, on suspicion of being an enemy to the liberties of *America*, and lately liberated from said Jail, but still behaves as an open and avowed enemy to the liberties of *America*: Said *Quigly* being notified of time and place of trial did not appear. Ordered, That his contempt be recorded. And upon a full and fair examination of sundry evidences, we find him guilty of the several crimes laid to his charge, and we look upon him as a dangerous person to be suffered to go at large: and we do hereby caution all persons from all connections with him.

DAVID BADGER, per order of Committee.

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, July 19, 1775.

SIR: The bearer hereof, *John Quigly*, Esq., has met with difficulty, and thinks it unsafe for him to tarry at the place of his usual abode, by reason of a disaffection in some persons against him. We would recommend it to you, to take him into your company in the common service.

Captain *Timothy Bedel*, Esq.

#### JOHN QUIGLY'S DECLARATION.

Whereas, there has been wickedly and maliciously raised and propagated against me, the subscriber, certain scandalous falsehoods, with an intent, as must be supposed, to cause the publick to view me in the odious light of an enemy to my Country; whereupon I declare that I never said or did any thing with an intent to destroy the liberties of *America*, or to hurt the publick good, and am now ready to risk my life and fortune in the defence of my Country's just rights, when properly called, as it always has been and still is my sincere wish to live in peace and harmony with my Country, and serious determination to promote to the utmost of my power the publick weal and tranquillity of the same, whose glory I view as closely connected with my own interest; and I hope my future conduct will fully prove the sincerity of my present declaration. JOHN QUIGLY.

Francestown, July 26, 1775.

In Committee of Safety, Francestown, July 26, 1775.

Resolved, That the foregoing declaration of *John Quigly*, Esq., now laid before the Committee, is fully satisfactory to us, and we hope will remove any ill impressions that may have been made on the minds of the good people of this Continent, in consequence of his being committed to jail, or confined there; as we put up an advertisement, desiring all persons that had any thing to offer against said *Quigly* to bring it in to us, and no proper evidence appearing to oppose the said *Quigly*, and it appearing to us that many false reports has been made and spread against said *Quigly*, and this being the second trial, we, upon examination, not finding just cause to deem him an enemy to this Country: therefore, it is our opinion that the said *Quigly* ought to be received and treated as a friend to his Country.

Signed by order of the Committee:

WILLIAM McMASTER, Clerk.

#### BALTIMORE (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a special meeting of the Committee of *Baltimore Town*, held on *Thursday* the 13th *July*, 1775, at 4 o'clock, P. M. Present: Mr. *William Smith*, Chairman, and twenty-eight Members.

A Letter from *James Christie*, Jun., Merchant of this Town, directed to Lieutenant-Colonel *Gabriel Christie*, of His Majesty's Sixtieth Regiment, at *Antigua*, having been intercepted, was laid before the Committee, and ordered to



be read, which was accordingly done, and the following paragraphs are part of the contents :

" Baltimore, February 22, 1775.

" We are in such terrible confusion here with our politicks, there is no depending on any thing ; and that, added to other things, makes me wish myself out of the Province. We are little behind the *New-Englanders*—mustering, purchasing arms, ammunition, &c. We have some violent fanatical spirits among us, who do every thing in their power to run things to the utmost extremity, and they are gone so far, that we moderate people are under the necessity of uniting for our own defence, after being threatened with expulsion, loss of life, &c., for not acceding to what we deem treason and rebellion. The Provost and family are very well ; our publick affairs vex him, and he wishes himself away, but I know not when or if ever that will happen. A part of yours, or any other Regiment, I believe, would keep us very quiet."

The Committee then summoned Mr. *Christie* to attend them, but being confined to his bed he was unable to do it ; they then sent Messrs. *James Calhoun, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, Thomas Jones, William Goodwin, and Isaac Vanbibber*, to wait on him at his house, and to inquire whether the said Letter was wrote by him.

The gentlemen returned, and report, that Mr. *Christie* had been shown the Letter, and acknowledged that it was wrote by him ; but requested that any further proceedings thereon might be postponed until his health would permit his personal attendance. The Committee not thinking it proper to comply with his request, as Mr. *Christie* had confessed he wrote the Letter, immediately gave him notice thereof ; upon which Mr. *Robert Christie* attended on his behalf ; but it growing late, and many of the members being withdrawn, the Committee directed a guard of nine men, under the command of an officer, to be placed round Mr. *Christie's* house, and then adjourned till to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

Friday, July 14, 1775.

The Committee met according to adjournment. Present : Mr. *William Smith*, Chairman, and thirty-three Members.

They resumed the business of yesterday. Mr. *Robert Christie* attended, and declared, that Mr. *James Christie* was very sorry for the Letter he had wrote Lieut. Colonel *Christie* ; that he did not mean any harm by it, and that he was very willing to acquiesce in the determination of the Committee.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Doctor *John Boyd*, and Mr. *John McLure*, members of this Committee, do wait on Mr. *James Christie*, and inquire of him who those moderate people were, that united for their defence, as mentioned in his Letter, and that they take his answer in writing.

The gentlemen returned, and report : that Mr. *Christie* declared there never was any association between him and his friends for the purpose alluded to, or for any other purpose ; and all that he remembers to have passed on the occasion was, that some time last winter he was informed, that he, with some of his friends, were to be made a publick example of, for not uniting with the Town in the present opposition, and this being spoken of accidentally among two or three of his friends, it was proposed, whether an association for mutual defence would be advisable ; but no determination being then made, and they soon after being convinced that no threats worth notice had been thrown out against them, the matter dropped, and was never afterwards thought of, or attempted ; and that it was at this time of doubt and apprehension, that he had wrote the letter in question, which accounts for that part of it alluded to in this inquiry.

The Committee proceeded to take Mr. *Christie's* conduct with respect to said Letter into further and deliberate consideration, and were unanimously of opinion, that by representing in said Letter the people of this Town to be concerned in treasonable and rebellious practices, and that a number of soldiers would keep them quiet, he has manifested a spirit and principle altogether inimical to the rights, privileges, and liberties of *America* : they do, therefore, think it their duty to advertise the said *James Christie*, Jun., as an enemy to this Country, and all persons are desired to break off all connection and intercourse with him.

The Committee do further resolve, that as the crime of which the said *James Christie* is guilty, is of so dangerous

and atrocious a nature, they will lay the same before their Delegates at the Continental Congress for their advice ; and in the mean time it is ordered, that as Mr. *Christie* is confined to his bed, and cannot be removed with safety to a place of security, the same guard be continued at his house to prevent any escape attempted either by himself or the assistance of his friends, and that Mr. *Christie* pay each man five shillings for each twenty-four hours, and the officers seven shillings and six pence.

A report having been circulated that a number of Arms and a quantity of Ammunition were secretly lodged in the house of Mr. *James Christie*, and the same being mentioned in the Committee, they directed two of their members (Captain *Clopper* and Mr. *James Cox*) to go immediately and search Mr. *Christie's* house ; which they accordingly did, and reported that they had examined the house attentively in every part, attended by Mr. *Robert Christie*, Jun., and that they only found two Guns and a pair of Pistols, and no Ammunition, and were convinced no others were in the house.

Extract from the Minutes of the 14th July :

WILLIAM LUX, Secretary.

*Resolved*, That these proceedings be published in the *Maryland Papers*.

Copy from the Minutes of the proceedings :

WILLIAM LUX, Secretary.

The following is a copy of Mr. *Christie's* Letter :

Baltimore, February 22, 1775.

DEAR SIR : I duly received your favours of the 13th and 22d November, and should probably have wrote you before now, had I not met with the greatest misfortune in the power of fate to inflict on me, in the loss of the wife of my soul, on the 15th December last, that has almost put it out of my power to mind any thing for some time past, and all my fortitude is scarce sufficient to bear me up ; however, I must submit. She had been brought to bed of a girl about twenty days ; the dear little infant died a few days after its mother.

I some time since remitted twenty-two pounds and eight shillings sterling, to be paid your mother for the boy's passage, (being twenty pounds and interest on it at six per cent. since I received the money,) and which, on the whole, leaves them about seven pounds currency in my debt, which I shall soon receive for rent. *Charles's* expense for clothing, schooling, &c., when ashore runs high. But I think he may now pay for it himself. *Gabriel* hath been with me three or four months, and so far hath behaved to my satisfaction ; and I would flatter myself he may easily be broke of the idle, indolent habit he had been acquiring ; he applies well to any thing I put him to, and after a while I hope may do.

As your brother's correspondence and mine has been suspended since a letter I wrote him about the boys, soon after the receipt of yours, I wrote my sister about *John Gramé's* mandamus, and to get me the preference of it. I have thought nothing more about it, and am yet quite undetermined. At present I think of going to *Britain*, so soon as my affairs will admit of it, and leave my little boy at *Stirling* ; and if things turn out to my liking, perhaps I may remain, and set myself down either in *London* or *Glasgow*. When I may get away is wholly uncertain—I would hope some time next fall. We are in such terrible confusion with our politicks, there is no depending on any thing ; and that, added to other things, makes me wish myself out of the Province. We are little behind the *New-Englanders*—mustering, purchasing arms, ammunition, &c. We have some violent fanatical spirits among us, who do every thing in their power to run things to the utmost extremity, and they are gone so far, that we moderate people are under a necessity of uniting for our defence, after being threatened with expulsion, loss of life, &c., for not acceding to what we deem treason and rebellion.

The Provost and family are very well ; I believe he has nothing lately from *James*. He has made inquiry about negotiating bills on him in *Bengal*, and finds it may be done at a disadvantage of twenty per cent., and thirty per cent. more, if the bills are protested ; on the whole, fifty per cent. in case of protest. Whether he will attempt it or not, I know not. Our publick affairs vex him, and he wishes himself away, but I know not when, or if ever that will



happen. A part of your or any other Regiment I believe would keep us very quiet. Do you expect to remain long in the *West-Indies*? I shall hope to hear from you soon, and am, very truly, dear Sir, yours,

JAMES CHRISTIE, JUN.

Lieut. Col. *Gab. Christie*, of the 60th Reg't, *Antigua*.

A CALM ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, July 13, 1775.

Human nature never affords a more disagreeable spectacle, than during those political ferments and convulsions which are incident to civil society, sometimes from the ambitious and encroaching spirit of those in authority, sometimes from the factious and turbulent disposition of subjects, and sometimes from a complication of both. These occasions set all the various and secret springs of the human mind in motion; and by throwing men off their guard, disclose their real temper and characters, divested of that disguise of which they are susceptible in the calms of life. The native deformity of the heart is exposed to full view, heightened by all the incitements of ambition, interest, faction, and resentment. While contending parties scruple not to practise any arts, however unjustifiable, to attain their respective ends, we behold one continual scene of treachery, falsehood, dissimulation, calumny, injustice, violence, and every other vice that is disgraceful and pernicious. The zeal of each, inflamed by opposition, blazes into extravagance, begets the most unreasonable animosities, and leads at last into the most fatal extremes. All regard to candour and decency is laid aside; every opportunity is seized with the utmost avidity, to misrepresent the designs of opponents, and every step they take, however well-meant and innoxious, is decried as totally insidious and destructive. It seems to be far less the aim of either to arrive at truth and promote the interests of society, than to contradict, vilify, and supplant each other, so that we generally find, when publick disputes draw towards a crisis, the opposite factions are at a much greater distance than at their commencement. One side has made new advances in a favourite track, and has embraced opinions which it did not think of at first; and the other has receded from that post which it once held in common with its adversaries, and has abandoned those tenets which were, in the beginning, judged essential by itself.

Pride, and a latent belief of the infallibility of our own judgments, are both extremely natural. These render us obstinately attached to our own opinions, and impatient of the least contradiction or control; and by these, we are brought to suspect every man of ignorance, hypocrisy, or dishonesty, who is so unfortunate, or so presumptuous, as to differ from us in sentiment. We cannot admit the supposition of ourselves being in an error; nor can we entertain any ingenuous charitable indulgence for the frailties of others. We do not consider the delicate texture of the human understanding, and how liable it is to be warped by prejudice and passion; but, intoxicated as we are with fond notions of our own sagacity and penetration, and, perhaps, at the same time, conscious of the integrity and goodness of our own intentions, we cannot forbear wondering how any can be so blind and stupid as not to discern the reality of those truths, which to us appear incontestable; or so base and devoid of every large, noble, and liberal sentiment, as, from further motives, to shut their eyes to conviction, and to act in opposition to self-evidence and demonstration. Hence proceed disgust, aversion, antipathy; and from these, defamation, insult, persecution; which, instead of remedying the evil, only tend to radicate and make it incurable.

The same pride and self-conceit that operate in this manner, are also frequently productive of other effects, if possible, still more culpable and prejudicial. Incidents, new and unlooked-for, oft-times fall out in the course of controversies, which place them upon a foundation different from that on which they began; and, by ascertaining some standard in which there is, or has been, a common agreement, seem naturally to require a cessation of hostilities between the parties, and a cordial coalition and reconciliation. But as this seldom happens without giving some advantage, real or apparent, to one party over the other, we too often find the fever of opposition still unabated, to the great detriment and perhaps irretrievable injury of the

community. On the one hand, we perceive a reluctance to submit to the humiliating task of acknowledging an error, and an aversion to concurring in the measures of those against whom the most violent enmities have been contracted; and, on the other hand, a preposterous spirit of triumph and exultation, which breaks out upon every occasion, accompanied with inevitable jealousies and suspicions of the friendly pretensions of those who were formerly antagonists.

This summary delineation of the usual operations and progress of party spirit, is intended to inspire sentiments of moderation in the different parties, which have divided this Province during the present contest with *Great Britain*; and, by warning against excesses, to cherish and increase that disposition towards a united exertion, in defence of our common rights, which begins to prevail among all orders of men. Nothing can be more desirable in itself, or more necessary towards our mutual security, than universal harmony and good-will, which can only be effected by abolishing all odious party distinctions, by indulging no recollections of past feuds and animosities, by making the most candid allowances for each other's failings, and by entertaining the most favourable opinions of each other's designs. Could we once be persuaded mutually to discard the lofty ideas we have of our own self sufficiency, it would be easy to bring both sides to a compromise and accommodation; by showing that neither has been entirely in the right; that both have erred in some particular; that the whole quantum of praise or blame is not due to either; and that the dispute with *Britain*, though fundamentally the same, has been attended with some new and important circumstances, which remove all the considerations, and obviate all the objections that have heretofore supported the opposition of one side to the proceedings of the other.

It is an ungrateful, and, for the most part, an unsuccessful attempt, to convince men of their errors and misconduct; neither is the present temper of the times, overheated by passion, and blinded by prejudice, at all suited to such an undertaking. The remedies that may be drawn from the fountain of cool and dispassionate reasoning, by being ill-timed, instead of effectuating a cure, may only serve to irritate and augment the disease, and, on that account, it is most prudent to defer the discussion to some future period; when the causes which now inflame the passions having ceased, they will, of course, grow more calm and serene, and truth will find an easier access to the tribunal of reason and judgment. I shall close these reflections with a few observations, in order to show that a change of conduct is incumbent upon those who have formerly dissented from the general measures of the Continent.

The only sources of opposition avowed by them have been these: They conceived that the subject of dispute did not properly relate to the right of taxation, of which they always professed an absolute disavowal, but to the right of regulating trade, which we all acknowledge to reside in Parliament. The duty upon tea (said they) is an external regulation of commerce, not an internal tax. The tea of itself is an article of luxury, confessed on all hands to be extremely pernicious to health; if we disapprove of the imposition laid upon it, we ought to evade it, by ceasing to use the obnoxious herb, and not for so inconsiderable an object combine in a violent and furious resistance to that country, from whence we derive our origin; by whose maternal hand we have been gently led on from helpless infancy to a state of maturity and robust manhood; under whose fostering protection we have enjoyed such a rich variety of blessings, and from whose vindictive frowns we have reason to apprehend the most desolating mischiefs. If we are aggrieved, it is our duty and interest to make a fair experiment in the regular legal mode of obtaining redress, before we proceed to those extraordinary expedients which are without the bounds of the law, and which ought not to be employed but in cases of necessity. We have reason to hope that our reasonable complaints will meet with due attention, and the causes of them be removed; some constitutional arrangement take place, and our privileges be established upon a solid unprecarious basis: such as by fixing proper and known boundaries to the claims of either, will serve to prevent all future altercations, and secure us from those inconveniences which are ever attendant upon disputed claims.



These views were moderate and plausible. It is a pity they were not better founded than the event has clearly manifested.

Without a gross departure from their own principles, these advocates for moderation and regularity must now heartily unite with the rest of their countrymen, in the most strenuous opposition to Parliament. The controversy has put on a different aspect, and is now come to an issue that must either induce them to relinquish their former scruples, or to renounce all pretensions to consistency, fidelity, or patriotism. Lord North has openly declared in the House of Commons, that the dispute is no longer about a mere phantom, or point of honour, but about a solid substantial benefit to the state—an *American* revenue. His conciliatory proposition is conformable to this declaration. We are required to contribute our proportion towards the support of Government, in a manner that destroys all freedom of contribution. The Parliament is ultimately to determine concerning the sufficiency of our offers, which is obviously the same as if it were at first to fix the sums it might expect us to pay; and withal, this requisition is enforced by every compulsory method that could be devised; oppressive restrictions on our trade; a menacing Navy in our ports; and a formidable Army carrying on a bloody war in our country. Here is taxation in its most unequivocal sense, and clothed in its most hateful tyrannical form.

The decent constitutional Remonstrance of our Assembly has been rejected, without the least ceremony or regard even to appearances, as being highly derogatory to the rights of Parliament, because it contained a denial of the right of taxation. This incident must carry a mournful conviction to the breast of every honest man, that Administration is resolute to persist in all its exorbitant claims, and to prosecute them to the most deplorable extremity. Had it entertained the least inclination to come to a composition of the differences subsisting between us, an honourable ground was here presented; for though we should suppose the Remonstrance to have exhibited claims rather too extensive, it at least opened an unexceptionable door for negotiation, and by that means an amicable termination of the unhappy contest might have ensued. These considerations loudly call upon every *American*, of whatsoever party, cheerfully to consign over all past animosities to oblivion, and to join, with heart and hand, in the defence of his country and freedom.

ELISHA PHELPS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, July 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: If you have any provisions or hospital stores, beg you will take this safe and convenient opportunity to forward them by Mr. *Benjamin French's* sloop, as these articles are much wanted.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

ELISHA PHELPS.

To the Provincial Convention at *New-York*.

EGBERT BENSON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Dutchess County, July 13, 1775.

SIR: Having been informed that the Congress was adjourned, and not knowing whether any of the gentlemen from this County would be in *New-York* during the recess, I have taken the liberty of transmitting to you the enclosed warrants.

Mr. *Adriance* and Mr. *Wilcox* have both declined, and our County Committee have, agreeable to the directions of the Congress, recommended, in the stead of the former, Mr. *James Betts*, and of the latter, Mr. *Isaac Paddock*.

If the Congress should think proper to appoint these gentlemen, you will please to direct new warrants to be issued, and sent up immediately.

We have some reason to suppose other persons have already applied for the commission of Mr. *Adriance*; should that be the case, the Committee do not expect their recommendation will interfere with a prior application.

I remain (by order of the Committee) with the utmost respect, your very humble servant,

EGBERT BENSON, *Chairman*.

*Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq.

Albany Committee Chamber, July 13, 1775.

The Committee of this City and County having heretofore appointed Messrs. *Abraham Yates*, Junior, *Robert Yates*, *Abraham Ten Broeck*, *Jacob Cuyler*, *Henry Glen*, *Francis Nicoll*, *Peter Silvester*, *Dirck Swart*, *Walter Livingston*, *Volkert P. Douw*, and *Robert Van Rensselaer*, the Deputies of this City and County, to attend the Provincial Congress, with general powers to represent this City and County; but by reason of the inconvenience attending the attendance of all the Deputies in the said Provincial Congress,

It is therefore Resolved, That for the future the said Deputies attend the said Congress, or any four or more of their number, for the purposes aforesaid, with the same power and authority as if all the said Deputies were present.

ABRAHAM YATES, JR., *Chairman*.

JOHN BAY, *Secretary pro tem*.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR CONNECTICUT.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council, &c., Thursday, 13th July, 1775. Present:

His Honour the Governour; *Jabez Huntington*, Esq., *Samuel Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

The Governour laid before the Council, &c., sundry Letters and papers. Also a Letter he had prepared to General *Washington*, congratulating him on his appointment, &c.; and another to the same gentleman, hinting at General *Spencer's* uneasiness, &c., at being overlooked, &c., and that it was beside our expectations, &c., and proposing, &c., that said General *Spencer* may remain stationed at *Roxbury* with the body of *Connecticut* Troops now there, &c.; which are approved, though a small alteration was made in the Letter to gratify Gen. *Spencer* after he came in, &c.

*Samuel Huntington* and *William Williams* were desired to wait on General *Spencer*, at *Gray's*, the tavern where he was just arrived, and confer with him on the subject-matter of his dissatisfaction, &c., and endeavour to remove, &c., and reconcile him cheerfully to pursue the service; which they did accordingly. And having adjourned, &c.

P. M. Met again at the Governour's, where General *Spencer* attended, and had a long conference with him on the subject-matter of his being superseded by the General Congress, in putting General *Putnam* above him, &c., which he thinks very hard of and resents, &c., and is at length persuaded to return to the Army, and not at present quit the service as he proposed. And General *Spencer* set out on his return to camp with the Letters to General *Washington*.

*Indian Cognahue*, who brought despatches from the *Indian* country to the Governour, and desirous to return with answer, the Governour had sent for Captain *Jer. Mason*, who came, to inquire of him the character of said *Cognahue*, &c.

On Mr. *Potter*, from *Norwich* in *Cohoss*, with a written request from his Town earnestly moving for Powder, on consideration, this Committee think they cannot furnish him with any.

On motion, ordered the two Companies of General *Wooster's* Regiment, who were stationed at *New-London*, (though one is yet at *New-Haven*.) to march directly to camp near *Boston*; and the Governour gave orders accordingly.

Doctor *Turner*, principal Surgeon to the Eighth Regiment now raising, moves to be resolved, whether the Medicine Chests, as ordered by the General Assembly, to amount to the value of thirty Pounds, *i. e.* whether the Instruments are to be included in that sum; and it is the opinion of the Committee that said sum is exclusive of the necessary Instruments.

Adjourned to Monday, the twenty-fourth July instant, at nine o'clock, A. M., then to consider relating to the armed Vessels, &c., ordered by the General Assembly, &c.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, July 13, 1775.

SIR: Suffer me to join in congratulating you on your appointment to be General and Commander-in-Chief of the



Troops raised, or to be raised, for the defence of *American* liberty.

Men who have tasted of freedom, and who have felt their personal rights, are not easily taught to bear with encroachments on either, or brought to submit to oppression. Virtue ought always to be made the object of government; justice is firm and permanent.

His Majesty's Ministers have artfully induced the Parliament to join in their measures, to prosecute the dangerous and increasing differences between *Great Britain* and these Colonies with rigour and military force, whereby the latter are driven to an absolute necessity to defend their rights and properties by raising forces for their security.

The honourable Congress have proclaimed a Fast to be observed by the inhabitants of all the *English* Colonies on this Continent, to stand before the Lord in one day with publick humiliation, fasting, and prayer, to deplore our many sins, to offer up our joint supplications to God for forgiveness, and for his merciful interposition for us in this day of unnatural darkness and distress.

They have with one united voice appointed you to the high station you possess. The Supreme Director of all events hath caused a wonderful union of hearts and counsels to subsist amongst us. Now, therefore, be strong and very courageous. May the God of the Armies of *Israel* shower down the blessing of his divine providence on you; give you wisdom and fortitude; cover your head in the day of battle and danger; add success; convince our enemies of their mistaken measures; and that all their attempts to deprive these Colonies of their inestimable constitutional rights and liberties are injurious and vain.

I am, with great esteem and regard, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

His Excellency *George Washington*, Esquire.

Newburgh, Ulster County, New-York, July 14, 1775.

Whereas we, the subscribers, have refused to sign the Association within the time limited by the Provincial Congress; and whereas our troubles with the Mother Country continue to increase, and we are now convinced that we have no other alternative left but to repel force by force, or submit to be slaves: Sensible that this is our deplorable situation, and in order to continue to link our chain of friendship still more firm, and to convince our friends and the friends of *American* liberty in general, we do hereby solemnly and sincerely swear on the holy evangelists, that we will, from henceforth, heartily agree and consent to whatsoever our Continental and Provincial Congresses have, or may do, direct, ordain, and appoint, for the preservation of our constitutional liberties; and that we will, as much as in us lies, discourage the spirit of opposition that has too unhappily prevailed in some parts of this Country. That we will, from time to time, bear and pay our quota of all expenses with the rest of our brethren in *America*, that has already or hereafter may accrue, in defending our liberties aforesaid. And we do hereby further swear, that we make this declaration and oath of our own free will and voluntary consent; and in testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands this 14th day of *July*, Anno Domini, 1775.

|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| JAMES LEONARD,    | SAMUEL FOWLER,        |
| GEORGE HARDING,   | JONAS TOTTEN,         |
| JOHN TRUESDILL,   | DANIEL DENTON,        |
| DANIEL GEDNEY,    | JAMES DENTON,         |
| STEPHEN WOOD,     | GILBERT PURDY,        |
| THOMAS IRELAND,   | GEORGE MERRIT,        |
| DANIEL HAINS,     | JOHN FLEWELLING,      |
| DANIEL REYNOLDS,  | JOHN WIGGINS,         |
| SAMUEL DEWINE,    | ABEL FLEWELLING,      |
| ISAAC BARTON,     | ANTHONY BECTEL BRUNT. |
| GABRIEL TRAVERSE, | ✕ his mark.           |

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Camp Cambridge, July 14, 1775.

SIR: Since I did myself the honour of addressing you on the tenth instant, nothing material has happened in the camp. From some authentick and later advices of the state of the Ministerial Troops, and the great inconvenience of calling in the Militia in the midst of harvest, I have been induced, for the present, to waive it; but in the mean time

recruiting parties have been sent throughout this Province, to fill up the Regiments to the establishment of the Provincial Congress. At the same time that I received these advices, I also obtained a list of the officers of the enemy killed and wounded in the late battle at *Charlestown*, which I take this opportunity to enclose. The great scarcity of fresh provisions in their Army, has led me to take every precaution to prevent a supply; for this purpose I have ordered all the cattle and sheep to be drove from the low grounds and farms within their reach. A detachment from General *Thomas's* camp on *Wednesday* night went over to *Long-Island*, and brought from thence twenty cattle and a number of sheep, with about fifteen labourers, who had been put on by a Mr. *Ray Thomas* to cut the hay, &c. By some accident they omitted burning the hay, and returned the next day at noon to complete it; which they effected, amidst the firing of the shipping, with the loss of one man killed and another wounded.

Last evening also a party of the *Connecticut* men strolled down on the marsh at *Roxbury* and fired upon a sentry, which drew on a heavy fire from the enemy's lines and floating batteries, but attended with no other effect than the loss of one killed by a shot from the enemy's lines. In the mean time we are on both sides continuing our works, but there has been no other movement than what I have noticed above. I shall endeavour to give a regular and particular account of all transactions as they occur, which you will please to lay before the honourable Congress.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

The Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

*A true Account of the Officers of the Ministerial Troops killed and wounded at the battle of CHARLESTOWN, JUNE 17, 1775.*

*Fourth Regiment.*—Captain *Balfour*, Captain *West*, Lieutenant *Barn*, and Lieutenant *Brown*, wounded.

*Fifth Regiment.*—Major *Mitchell*, wounded; Captain *Downes*, killed; Captain *Jackson*, Captain *Manden*, Lieutenant *Crocker*, Lieutenant *Clintock*, Ensign *Charlton*, and Ensign *Balaquiere*, wounded.

*Tenth Regiment.*—Captain *Fitzgerald*, Captain *Parsons*, Lieutenant *Pettigru*, and Lieut. *Hamilton*, wounded; Lieutenant *Verner*, wounded, since dead.

*Fourteenth Regiment.*—Lieutenant *Bruce*, killed; Ensign *Haskett*, wounded.

*Eighteenth Regiment.*—Ensign *Richardson*, wounded; Lieutenant-Colonel *Abercrombie*, killed; Capt. *Blackney*, Lieutenant *Cochran*, Lieutenant *Beckwith*, and Lieutenant *Thenthal*, wounded.

*Thirty-Fifth Regiment.*—Captain *Lyon*, killed; Captain *Drew*, wounded, since dead; Lieutenant *Campbell*, wounded; Lieutenant *Bard*, killed; Lieutenant *Messey*, wounded.

*Thirty-Eighth Regiment.*—Major *Bruce*, Capt. *Boyd*, and Captain *Cocker*, wounded; Lieutenant *Dutton*, killed; Lieutenant *Christie*, Captain *House*, Lieutenant *Myers*, and Lieutenant *Lewney*, wounded; Major *Stork*, wounded, since dead; Quartermaster *Mitchell* and Ensign *Mitchell*, wounded.

*Fifty-Third Regiment.*—Major *Spendlove* and Captain *McKenzie*, killed; Lieutenant *Robbertain*, Lieutenant *Dalrymple*, wounded.

*Forty-Seventh Regiment.*—Major *Smith*, Captain *England*, Captain *Craiger*, Captain *Alcock*, and Lieut. *Gold*, wounded; Lieutenant *Wellard*, killed; Lieutenant *England*, wounded; Lieutenant *Heyler*, killed.

*Fifty-Second Regiment.*—Major *Williams*, Captain-Major *Maddison*, and Captain *Smith*, killed; Captain *Wilson*, Lieutenant *Thompson*, Lieutenant *Crawford*, Lieutenant *Higgins*, and Ensign *Chetwind*, wounded; Ensign *Grannis*, wounded, since dead.

*Fifty-Ninth Regiment.*—Lieutenant *Haynes*, wounded.

*Sixty-Second Regiment.*—Captain *Horsford*, Captain *Follier*, wounded; Lieutenant *Dalrymple*, killed.

*Sixty-Fifth Regiment.*—Captain *Hudgeon*, killed; Captain *Sinclair*, Lieutenant *Paxton*, Lieutenant *Smith*, and Lieutenant *Haler*, wounded.

*Sixty-Seventh Regiment.*—Captain *Shamoin*, Aid-de-Camp to General *Howe*, killed.



**Marines.**—Major *Pitcairn*, Captain *Campbell*, and Captain *Ellis*, killed; Captain *Logan*, Capt. *Chudbigh*, Capt. *Johnson*, and Lieutenant *Pitcairn*, wounded; Lieutenant *Fenneg*, Lieutenant *Gardner*, and Lieutenant *Shea*, killed; Lieutenant *Brisbain*, Lieutenant *Avennie*, Lieut. *Rag*, and Lieutenant *Dyer*, wounded.

**Artillery.**—Captain *Leomine*, Capt. *Huddleston*, Lieutenant *Shuttlesworth*, and Lieutenant *Campbell*, wounded. Killed and wounded, ninety-two.

Most of those officers are mortally wounded. In the whole, of the Field-Officers, three killed and four wounded; Captains, eight killed and twenty-five wounded. Lieutenant *Jordan*, of the Navy, died of his wounds.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 11, 1775.

(Parole, Guilford.)

(Countersign, Hartford.)

The Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Prescott* was President, is dissolved. A General Court-Martial to be assembled at *Cambridge* as soon as possible, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

The General understanding there is a bad custom prevailing, of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers absenting themselves from guard, under pretence of going for provisions; it is therefore ordered, that all officers and soldiers bring their provision to the guard they mount, and on no pretence quit their guard until it is regularly dismissed.

Notwithstanding the orders of the Provincial Congress, some persons are so daring as to supply the soldiers with immoderate quantities of rum, and other spirituous liquors: any sutler, tavern-keeper, or licensed innholder, who shall presume, after the date of this order, to sell any non-commissioned officer or soldier any spirituous liquor whatsoever, without an order in writing from the Captain of the company to which such non-commissioned officer and soldier belongs, he or they so offending, may expect to be severely punished.

Lieut. Colonel *Ward*, President of the Court-Martial.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 12, 1775.

(Parole, Falmouth.)

(Countersign, Worcester.)

The Adjutant-General will deliver, at orderly time, a certain number of printed returns to the Adjutant of each Regiment, so that no excuse for the future can be admitted for not making regular and exact returns when demanded, as it is only filling up the blanks with the numbers proper to be placed in them. The Commander-in-Chief will not, for the future, admit of any palliative for making a false return, and is resolved to bring any officer, of what rank soever, to a Court-Martial, who is found delinquent.

When any trumpeter or flag of truce is sent from *Boston*, or any post occupied by the enemy, they are to be stopped by the first sentry they are permitted to approach, who is to call for the sergeant of the guard, who will conduct them to the officer of his guard, and such trumpeter or flag of truce is not to be allowed to stir one step beyond that guard. The officer commanding the guard will send any letters or messages, brought from the enemy, immediately to the commander-in-chief, and no other person.

A General Court-Martial of the line to sit at Head-Quarters, in *Cambridge*, to-morrow morning at nine o'clock, to try Colonel *Scammon*, of the *Massachusetts* Forces, accused of "backwardness in the execution of his duty in the late action upon *Bunker's Hill*." The Adjutant of Col. *Scammon's* Regiment to warn all evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

Colonel *Nixon*, President of above Court.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 13, 1775.

(Parole, Georgia.)

(Countersign, Huntingdon.)

As the Army will be forthwith formed into brigades, the Adjutant-General will, at orderly time this day, deliver to the Adjutant of each Regiment a number of printed returns, one of which must be immediately filled up and signed by the commanding officer of each Regiment, and sent as soon as possible to the Adjutant-General, by the Adjutant of each Regiment; on the back of the return it will be necessary to mention where and in what manner the Regiment is at present posted.

The commanding officer at *Chelsea* is, as soon as possible after the receipt of this order, to direct all the cattle upon *Pullein Point*, *Shirley Point*, and the intermediate space between *Powderhorn Hill* and the sea, to be driven off; and it is recommended to the Commissary-General to endeavour to agree with the owners of the said cattle, and to purchase them for the use of the Army.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 14, 1775.

(Parole, Halifax.)

(Countersign, Inverness.)

As the health of an Army principally depends upon cleanliness, it is recommended in the strongest manner to the commanding officer of corps, posts, and detachments, to be strictly diligent in ordering the necessaries to be filled up once a week, and new ones dug; the streets of the encampments and lines to be swept daily, and all offal and carrion, near the camp, to be immediately buried. The officers commanding in barracks or quarters to be answerable that they are swept every morning, and all filth and dirt removed from about the houses. Next to cleanliness, nothing is more conducive to a soldier's health than dressing his provisions in a decent and proper manner. The officers commanding companies should therefore daily inspect the camp kitchens, and see the men dress their food in a wholesome way.

The commanding officers in those parts of the lines and redoubts where the pikes are placed, will order the Quartermasters of corps to see the pikes greased twice a week; they are to be answerable also that the pikes are kept clean, and always ready and fit for service.

The General, observing great remissness and neglect in the several guards in and about the camp, orders the officer commanding any guard, to turn out his guard immediately upon the near approach of the Commander-in-Chief, or any of the General Officers; and, upon passing the guard, the Commander-in-Chief is to be received with rested arms, the officer to salute, and the drums to beat a march; the Majors-General with rested arms, the officer to salute, and the drums to beat two ruffles; the Brigadiers-General with rested arms, the officer to salute, and the drums to beat one ruffle. There being something awkward as well as improper in the General Officers being stopped at the outposts, asked for passes by the sentries, and obliged often to send for the officer of the guard (who it sometimes happens is as much unacquainted with the persons of the Generals as the private men) before they can pass in or out, it is recommended to both officers and men, to make themselves acquainted with the persons of all the officers in general command; and in the mean time, to prevent mistakes, the General Officers and their Aids-de-Camp will be distinguished in the following manner: the Commander-in-Chief by a light blue ribband, worn across his breast, between his coat and waistcoat; the Majors and Brigadiers-General by a pink ribband, worn in like manner; the Aids-de-Camp by a green ribband.

The Court-Martial, of which Col. *Ward* is President, is dissolved.

*Daniel Carmile*, soldier in Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment, tried for "disobedience of orders, for re-enlisting and taking advance money twice over, and for drunkenness," is found guilty of the several charges, and ordered to be whipt on the bare back with thirty-nine lashes, and discharged from the Army. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed to-morrow morning, at the head of the Regiment he belongs to.

#### GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL ON COLONEL JAMES SCAMMONS.

General Court-Martial held *July 13, 1775*, Col. *Nixon*, President; with one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, and ten Captains. *William Tudor*, Judge Advocate.

The Court being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of Colonel *Scammons* of the *Massachusetts* Forces, who was brought before the Court, and accused of disobedience to orders, and backwardness in the execution of his duty, in the late action on *Bunker's Hill* at *Charlestown*, on the 17th of *June* last. The prisoner being arraigned on the above complaint, pleads not guilty. The Court postponed the examination of the witnesses to *Friday, 14th of July*, at eight of the o'clock, to which time the Court was adjourned.



Friday, July 14, 1775.

The Court being met according to adjournment; present all the members as yesterday. Lieutenant *James Donnell* deposed: about noon we marched to *Lechmere's Point*, where we remained one quarter of an hour. Going from the point, *Charlestown* was set on fire. Whilst at the point, General *Whitcomb* ordered Colonel *Scammons* to march to the hill. The deponent understood the hill meant was *Bunker's Hill*. Colonel *Scammons* then marched to a small hill, about a mile distant from *Bunker's Hill*. Col. *Scammons* sent two Sergeants to *Bunker's Hill*, to know if his Regiment was wanted. We remained on the small hill three-quarters of an hour, during all which time there was a smart fire on *Bunker's Hill*, from small-arms and cannon. After three quarters of an hour we marched to the hither edge of *Bunker's Hill*, where the shot flew very thick. Before we got to the top of the hill, Colonel *Scammons* ordered a retreat; immediately there was a general retreat of our Regiment. Every one made the best of his way off. We were no time that day near enough to engage the enemy. The witness does not know any distinction between *Bunker's* and *Brewer's Hill*.

Ensign *Joshua Trafton* deposed: about two of the clock in the afternoon we marched from *Cambridge* to *Lechmere's Point*, where we found General *Whitcomb*, who expressed much surprise at finding Colonel *Scammons* take post there. We remained on the point fifteen minutes, and then marched to a small hill below *Prospect Hill*. We continued on the small hill about half an hour or more; during which time Colonel *Scammons* sent two Sergeants to *Bunker's Hill*, to know if his Regiment was wanted. We took the nearest road to *Bunker's Hill*, as I suppose, and before we got to the top of the hill, the Colonel ordered a retreat. I cannot say whether the breastwork was forced or not at this time. We saw many men retreating down the hill, who said they had spent all their ammunition; some told us that the enemy had retreated, and begged us to push on. As we turned off the small hill, a Regiment marched up towards *Bunker's Hill*. As we marched from *Cambridge* we heard the Regulars were landing at *Lechmere's Point*, and at *Charlestown*. Colonel *Scammons* made the greatest dispatch from the small hill to *Bunker's Hill*. I saw no other instance of backwardness in Colonel *Scammons*, except his long stay at the small hill, which appeared to me unnecessary. As we retreated, a number of men advanced up in an irregular manner.

Ensign *Nathan Lord* deposed: we were one quarter of an hour near *Lechmere's Point*; we then marched to a small hill below *Prospect Hill*, where we tarried a quarter of an hour, then marched to *Bunker's Hill* the nearest way, and with as much despatch as we could go. We stayed twenty minutes on the small hill, whilst the fire continued on the further part of *Bunker's Hill*; we got to the top of *Bunker's Hill*; after which General *Putnam* came up, and ordered the Regiment to advance within hearing of Colonel *Scammons*; part of the Regiment then advanced, but the deponent does not know if Colonel *Scammons* was with them. I heard several persons, whom I took to be officers, order a retreat before Colonel *Scammons* did. After we got over *Charlestown Neck*, going up *Bunker's Hill*, Col. *Scammons* cried, Come, my *Yorkshire* lads, now let us shew our bravery. The deponent does not know a distinction between *Bunker's Hill* and *Brewer's Hill*.

Major *Daniel Wood* deposed: we marched from near *Lechmere's Point*, to a small hill, nearly opposite to *Prospect Hill*, where we remained near three-quarters of an hour; during most of the time we were on that hill, there was a smart fire on what I take to be the easterly part of *Bunker's Hill*.

Captain *Ebenezer Sullivan* deposed and said: we continued on the small hill half an hour; some considerable part of the time we were there was a very heavy fire from the further part of the hill in *Charlestown*. After we retreated, Colonel *Scammons* encouraged the men to advance. The Regiment was not near enough to engage the enemy.

Captain *Philip Hubbard* deposed: the reason of our going to *Lechmere's Point* was, because we met expresses, who told us the Regulars were landing at that place; when we got to *Lechmere's Point*, General *Whitcomb* told Col. *Scammons* he had better go and watch the floating batte-

ries, and then marched to the small hill, where we stayed half an hour. As soon as Colonel *Scammons* discovered *Charlestown* meeting-house on fire, he marched the Regiment, with all possible despatch, towards *Bunker's Hill*. We met great numbers retreating down. The confusion was so great before we got to the top of the hill, it was impossible to force. I saw nothing of irresolution or backwardness in Colonel *Scammons* any time of the day.

Lieutenant *Cuzons* deposed: that at *Lechmere's Point*, General *Whitcomb* told Colonel *Scammons* he had better go to that hill, meaning, as the deponent took it, the small hill which they marched to, and watch the motions of the floating batteries. As soon as Colonel *Scammons* heard the firing of the small-arms at the hill in *Charlestown*, he said he would stay there no longer, and ordered the Regiment to march for *Bunker's Hill*, which he did. I know nothing of Colonel *Scammons's* behaviour at *Bunker's Hill*.

Lieutenant *Morgan Lewis* deposed and said: I saw nothing of cowardice or backwardness in Colonel *Scammons* that day.

Lieutenant *Thomas Cutts* in substance as Lieut. *Lewis*. Sergeant *Amaziah Goodwin* agrees with Lieut. *Cutts*.

Sergeant *Samuel Goodale* deposed: that General *Whitcomb* ordered Colonel *Scammons* from *Lechmere's Point*, to take possession of the small hill, and watch the motions of the floating batteries. I was sent by Colonel *Scammons* to General *Putnam*, to know if his Regiment was wanted; and before I got back, Colonel *Scammons* was upon his march towards *Bunker's Hill*. I saw Colonel *Scammons* two thirds of the way up the hill, but know nothing of his conduct there.

*John Littlefield* deposed: that as we marched down, we heard the Regulars were landing at *Lechmere's Point*. I know nothing of Colonel *Scammons's* behaviour.

*Jonathan Love* deposed and said: when we were upon *Bunker's Hill*, an officer ordered us to retreat, as the enemy had forced the intrenchment; after which Colonel *Scammons* ordered us to retreat.

*Joseph Parson*, drummer, deposed and said: we were three-quarters of an hour on the little round hill, and the firing of the small-arms lasted half an hour, when we marched off towards *Bunker's Hill*. I know nothing of Colonel *Scammons's* behaviour at *Bunker's Hill*.

The Court then called on Colonel *Scammons* to make his defence; upon which the following evidence was produced:

Captain *Jeremiah Hill* deposed and said: that down by the bridge near *Lechmere's Point*, we met General *Whitcomb*, who told Colonel *Scammons* that he was sufficient to guard that point, and told Col. *Scammons* he had better go round to the little hill and watch their motions there. We accordingly went and stayed there half an hour.

Colonel *John Whitcomb*, who is styled by the foregoing deponents General, deposed and said: I met Colonel *Scammons* with his Regiment about fifty rods from *Lechmere's Point*; I asked him what brought him there; he replied by asking me where he should go; I told him where he could do the most service. I am positive I never ordered him to the little hill, if my memory serves me, because men could be of no service at such a place except in the night.

The Court then adjourned till *Saturday* morning, eight o'clock.

— Saturday, July 15, A. M.

The Court met according to adjournment. Col. *Scammons* begged liberty to produce the four next witnesses, who were admitted and sworn accordingly.

*Henry Fess*, drummer, deposed: that as we marched down *Cambridge* road, we met two men on horseback, who told us the Regulars were landing at *Lechmere's Point*. We then marched very fast towards the point, where we met General *Whitcomb*, who told Colonel *Scammons* to go round to the hill, whichhill I understood to mean the little round hill we marched to. I was within ten feet of General *Whitcomb*, when these orders were given.

*Ichabod Smith* deposed and said: I was about ten feet from General *Whitcomb*, at *Lechmere's Point*, when I heard him desire Colonel *Scammons* to march round, and observe the motion of the floating batteries which lay near the little hill. We marched to the little hill and continued there about twenty minutes. As soon as Colonel *Scammons* found out where the firing of the small-arms was



he immediately marched the Regiment towards *Bunker's Hill*, with the utmost despatch.

*Samuel Hubbard* deposed and said: I was within ten feet of General *Whitcomb*, and heard him order Colonel *Scammons* to go to the hill. But the deponent does not know what hill. I heard Colonel *Scammons* ask the General if he could go across the marsh, which was the nearest way to the little hill. General *Whitcomb* replied, that he could not, but must go up and round by the road. *Frethy Spencer* agreed with *Hubbard* exactly, being close to him during the conversation between General *Whitcomb* and Colonel *Scammons*.

Adjutant *Marsden* was sworn at the desire of the complainants, and deposed, that we were three-quarters of an hour on the little hill, and continued about twenty minutes after we heard of this firing on the hill in *Charlestown*. I went half way up *Bunker's Hill* with Colonel *Scammons*, when I left him and went to the breastwork, where I got before the enemy forced it; the confusion was so great when we got to *Bunker's Hill* we could not form the Regiment.

The prisoner then made a few remarks on the evidence, and withdrew. The Court being cleared, entered upon the examination of the evidence collectively, and after debate adjourned to *Monday*, 17th of *July*, eight o'clock, A. M.

July 17, 1775.

The Court being met according to adjournment, and resumed the consideration of the case of Colonel *Scammons*, and having duly weighed the allegations and proofs brought against the prisoner, with his defence and evidence, are of the opinion, that the said Colonel *Scammons* is not guilty of the charge brought against him.

A true copy of the Proceedings:

JOHN NIXON, *President*.

Attest: WILLIAM TUDOR, *Judge Advocate*.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Camp near New-York, July 15, 1775.

SIR: Having found by experience that the Troops under my command, from the situation of their encampment, are subjected to many difficulties, which render it next to impossible to maintain that good order and discipline which is entirely necessary in the regulation of an Army, my officers agree with me in sentiment, that it will be much for the benefit of the service to remove the Troops to a further distance from the Town. I have viewed a plat of ground belonging to Mr. *Sickles*, of *Harlem*, which I think very proper for an encampment, and which he is willing should be made use of for that purpose. I therefore desire you to take the opinion and advice of the Committee of Safety, and if they think proper, I shall be obliged to them if they appoint somebody to contract with Mr. *Sickles* for the place, and assist us with the wagons, carts, &c., that we may remove next *Monday*.

I am, Sir, with the greatest esteem, your very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER, *Major-General*.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 20, 1775.]

Saratoga, July 15, 1775.

SIR: Late last night I received two letters, of which the enclosed are copies. The information contained in that marked No. 1. is so truly alarming, that although I should have been at *Ticonderoga* to-morrow, I think it more advisable to remain a day here, in which I may probably receive some farther accounts that will determine whether my presence may not be more necessary in *Tryon County* than at *Ticonderoga*, although it is much, very much wanted at the latter place. I lament that it is not in my power to give such aid as the unhappy people in *Tryon County*, who are friends to the cause of *America*, stand in need of. All I am able to do, and which I have done, is to order Captain *Van Dyck's* company, which is at *Schenectady*, and consists of about fifty new levied men, to march to the relief of these people; to furnish him and the inhabitants with the trifling quantity of three hundred pounds of powder, my whole stock at *Albany*; and to recommend to the Militia of *Albany* and

*Schenectady* to march up, though I fear they have little or no ammunition. The powder ordered from *Philadelphia* is not yet arrived, nor that for which I despatched an officer from *New-York* to *Connecticut*. In this defenceless condition, should eight hundred *Indians*, or half the number, come down, and be joined by the *Highlanders* and others that are disaffected in *Tryon County*, they may with impunity not only march where they please through that or this County, but so effectually cut off all supplies from the Troops to the northward, that they must disperse or starve.

You will perceive, Sir, by the enclosed Return, what our strength is at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, without lines to defend themselves against an attack, for I cannot learn that the least shelter has been made by the Troops.

In such a distressing situation, it is extremely natural to wish that I had more men and ammunition, not only to oppose this threatened invasion, but to carry into execution your former orders. Perhaps the necessity which induced your order to let the *Connecticut Troops* remain in *New-York* no longer exists; if so, I could wish they were directed to join me without delay. You may be assured, Sir, that I shall exert every nerve to counteract the schemes meditated by the enemy, happy if I shall be able to give you a favourable account of our operations.

I am, Sir, with the most profound respect, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER.

Albany Committee Chamber, July 14, 1775.

SIR: You have enclosed copy of a letter from the Committee of *Tryon County* to the Committees of *Schenectady* and *Albany*; the contents whereof are very alarming, and the more so as the people of that County are not provided with ammunition to defend themselves. We shall forward the letter to the Provincial Congress, and would beg leave to suggest to you, whether it will not be advisable to let the company of Captain *Van Dyck* (which we find you have ordered up to *Lake George*) march up the *Mohawk River*, towards their relief. And as that company has no ammunition, and we have here about three hundred weight, whether you will think it proper to furnish them from the store here, and whether you will not think it necessary to send up some of the remainder to furnish the inhabitants.

As it is not possible to know how far this may be a fact, we would think it advisable to take some steps so as to keep up the spirits of the people of *Tryon County*.

In answer to your letter of yesterday we inform you, that we shall endeavour to get the carpenters as soon as possible. We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

ABRAHAM YATES, JUN.

TRYON COUNTY COMMITTEE TO THE COMMITTEES OF SCHENECTADY AND ALBANY.

Canajoharie, July 13, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Ebenezer Cox* informed this Board that Mr. *Peter S. Deygert* told this informant that he was informed by a person who we have reason to think has it from good authority, that Col. *Johnson* was ready with eight or nine hundred *Indians* to make an invasion of this County; that the same *Indians* were to be under the command of *Joseph Brandt* and *Walter Butler*; and that they were to fall on the inhabitants below the *Little Falls*, in order to divide the people in two parts; and were to march yesterday or the day before.

Captain *Jacob Klock* informed this Board, that this morning about an hour before day, three *Indians* of *Fort Hunter* came to his house from *Oswego*, in their way home; that he was informed by a free negro man, a servant of him, that they each had a bag of powder on their horses; that they stayed about an hour, and then went off in great haste. From these and other concomitant circumstances, we have but too much reason to think it is true, and that all our enemies in this country will appear in arms against us, as soon as the *Indians* are nigh to us, which, from the above information, we must expect in a few days.



We have sent off a party of people by way of a scout, to find out, if possible, the route of the *Indians*, and to give us early intelligence.

Our ammunition is so scant, that we cannot furnish three hundred men so as to be able to make a stand against so great a number. In these deplorable circumstances, we look up to you for assistance, both in men and ammunition, to save this country from slaughter and desolation, which we beg you will not be backward to afford us as soon as possible.

We have ordered some of our companies up towards the *Little Falls*, who are to keep scouting parties out, and we intend to keep sitting until such time as we can be convinced of our safety.

This is the more alarming to us, as we shall be obliged in a few days to begin with our harvests; men are therefore absolutely necessary.

We beg of you to forward this by express to *Albany*, and copies from there to the Provincial Congress and to General *Schuyler*. Mr. *Deygert* was obliged to promise not to disclose the person's name who informed him of the above; but be assured that the person is well acquainted with the *Indians*, and therefore, if found out, is in great danger.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servants. By order, CHRISTOPHER P. YATES.

| A general monthly Return of the Army of the Associated Colonies in the Colony of New-York, under the command of Major-General PHILIP SCHUYLER. | Officers present. |               |         |           |              |              |          |            |           |         | Rank and file. |               |              | Where stationed | Total. | Dead. | Deserted. | Discharged. | Not joined. | Total. |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------|-----------|--------------|--------------|----------|------------|-----------|---------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|--------|-------|-----------|-------------|-------------|--------|------|
|                                                                                                                                                | Commissioned.     |               |         |           |              | Non-comm'd.  |          |            |           |         | Fit for duty.  | Sick in Camp. | On furlough. |                 |        |       |           |             |             |        |      |
|                                                                                                                                                | Colonels.         | Lt. Colonels. | Majors. | Captains. | Captain-Lts. | Lieutenants. | Ensigns. | Sergeants. | Drummers. | Fifers. |                |               |              |                 |        |       |           |             |             |        |      |
|                                                                                                                                                |                   |               |         |           |              |              |          |            |           |         |                |               |              |                 |        |       |           |             |             |        |      |
| Brig. Gen. Wooster's Reg't.                                                                                                                    | 1                 | 1             | 1       | 5         | 11           | 6            | 26       | 912        | 481       | 915     | 576            | 929           | 478          | 293             | 98     | 104   | 40        | 109         | 25          | 205    | 435  |
| Col. D. Waterbury's Reg't.                                                                                                                     | 1                 | 1             | 1       | 7         | 18           | 10           | 50       | 918        | 789       | 24      | 929            | 929           | 478          | 293             | 98     | 104   | 40        | 109         | 25          | 205    | 435  |
| Col. Benj. Hinman's Reg't.                                                                                                                     | 1                 | 1             | 1       | 2         | 10           | 5            | 24       | 14         | 406       | 15      | 478            | 478           | 293          | 98              | 104    | 40    | 109       | 25          | 205         | 435    | 435  |
| Ditto ditto                                                                                                                                    | 1                 | 1             | 1       | 2         | 6            | 3            | 14       | 9          | 254       | 4       | 293            | 293           | 98           | 104             | 40     | 109   | 25        | 205         | 435         | 435    | 435  |
| Ditto ditto                                                                                                                                    | 1                 | 1             | 1       | 1         | 2            | 1            | 5        | 3          | 80        | 6       | 98             | 98            | 104          | 40              | 109    | 25    | 205       | 435         | 435         | 435    | 435  |
| Ditto ditto                                                                                                                                    | 1                 | 1             | 1       | 1         | 1            | 1            | 4        | 2          | 95        | —       | 104            | 104           | 40           | 109             | 25     | 205   | 435       | 435         | 435         | 435    | 435  |
| Ditto ditto                                                                                                                                    | 1                 | 1             | 1       | 1         | 1            | 1            | 2        | —          | 36        | —       | 40             | 40            | 109          | 25              | 205    | 435   | 435       | 435         | 435         | 435    | 435  |
| Massachusetts-Bay Forces,                                                                                                                      | 1                 | 1             | 1       | 4         | 4            | —            | 12       | —          | 89        | —       | 109            | 109           | 25           | 205             | 435    | 435   | 435       | 435         | 435         | 435    | 435  |
| Ditto - - -                                                                                                                                    | 1                 | 1             | 1       | —         | —            | —            | 1        | —          | 23        | —       | 25             | 25            | 205          | 435             | 435    | 435   | 435       | 435         | 435         | 435    | 435  |
| Ditto - - -                                                                                                                                    | 1                 | 1             | 1       | —         | —            | —            | 1        | —          | 166       | —       | 205            | 205           | 435          | 435             | 435    | 435   | 435       | 435         | 435         | 435    | 435  |
| New-York Forces, - -                                                                                                                           | 3                 | 3             | 2       | 27        | 161          | 30           | 154      | 54         | 30        | 2419    | 58             | 15            | 2857         | 435             | 249    | 2947  | 435       | 249         | 2947        | 435    | 2947 |
| Total,                                                                                                                                         | 3                 | 3             | 2       | 27        | 161          | 30           | 154      | 54         | 30        | 2419    | 58             | 15            | 2857         | 435             | 249    | 2947  | 435       | 249         | 2947        | 435    | 2947 |

Staff.—1 Major-General, 2 Brigadier-Generals, 1 Brigade Major, 2 Aids-de-Camp, 1 Secretary, 1 Chaplain, 1 Surgeon, 2 Surgeon's Mates.

Brigadier-Generals, Richard Montgomery, David Wooster. Brigade Major, . . . . . Aids-de-Camp, John McPherson, James Van Rensselaer. Secretary, Richard Varrick.

July 1, 1775.—A true Return, made from the Returns of the Officers commanding the several Corps above mentioned. PHILIP SCHUYLER.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saratoga, July 15, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Since I did myself the honour to write your Excellency from *New-York*, nothing very material occurred until yesterday, when I received the enclosed letters. The accounts contained in that marked No. 1, are truly alarming, in the present defenceless state of the Counties of *Tryon* and *Albany*, and especially as the assistance I can afford them, either of men or money, is next to nothing, the few troops at *Ticonderoga*, &c., being at too great a distance, and not more than sufficient to guard the posts they occupy. I should have been at *Ticonderoga* this day, had not the information from *Tryon* County arrived, which may make my presence there absolutely necessary if it should be confirmed. I therefore propose remaining here until to-morrow, when I hope to be farther informed. I wish I may be able to proceed to *Ticonderoga*, as I am very much wanted there, the greatest confusion having taken place in the controversy between the officers claiming command in that quarter. Some have taken the liberty to disband troops; others refused to serve unless this or that particular person commanded; the sloop is left without either captain or pilot, both of which are dismissed or come away; much provision wasted or embezzled, and on the 7th instant only one barrel of flour at *Ticonderoga*. I shall have an Augean stable to cleanse there.

I do myself the honour to enclose a return of the forces in the Colony. It is doubtless imperfect, as I have been under a necessity of forming it out of returns which were evidently so. I hope soon to send you a more complete one.

Be assured, my General, that I shall use my best endeavours to establish order and discipline in the troops under my command. I wish I could add that I had a prospect of much success in that way. It is extremely difficult to introduce a proper subordination amongst a people where so little distinction is kept up.

Our accounts of the disposition of the *Canadians* and *Canada Indians* continue to be favourable, though the intelligence is not very authentick.

I am your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant, PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c. &c. &c.

TRYON COUNTY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Tryon County, July 15, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The persons appointed by your Congress to be officers to a company to be raised in this County, having declined, and returned their warrants to this Committee, we beg leave to recommend *Christopher P. Yates* to be Captain, *Andrew Finck, Jr.*, and *John Keyser, Jr.*, to be Lieutenants of the said company, who have accepted of the same, and by the request of this Committee have begun to enlist their men. Permit us to observe, that they are well affected to *American* liberty, and are competent to the task. We therefore beg that you will approve of them, and send them new warrants.

Your very humble servants. By order of the Committee, NICHOLAS HERKIMER,

Chairman pro tempore.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

NEWBURY, GLOUCESTER COUNTY, COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Newbury, New-York Province, July 15, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the 31st of *May* I did not receive until the 14th instant, which was broke open and the General Association taken out. We have formed a County Committee, as also one in each Town and Precinct; also, we have chose Colonel *Bayley* to represent us in the Congress. The County seems to be very well united, and firm to one another, and also in the cause of liberty; and I make no doubt but they will cheerfully join in whatever measures and directions the honourable Congress may point out from time to time.

I am, Sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN TAPLIN.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq.*, President of the Provincial Congress, at the City of *New-York*.



## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read September 13, 1775.]

Saratoga, July 16, 1775.

SIR: At three o'clock this morning I was favoured with a letter from the Committee at *Albany*, of which the enclosed is a copy; as also with two other papers, copies of which I do myself the honour herewith to send you, and which have in some measure removed my apprehensions for the people of *Tryon* County. It would, however, be imprudent to rely with too much confidence either on Colonel *Johnson's* declarations or those of the *Indians*, and have therefore recommended that scouts should be continually kept out to prevent a surprise, and that early intelligence may be given to such places from whence they may receive relief.

I shall set out in a few minutes for *Ticonderoga*, from whence I shall do myself the honour to write you, and make the returns agreeable to the resolutions of Congress.

I am, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

## ALBANY COMMITTEE TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Albany Committee Chamber, July 15, 1775.

SIR: We received yours dated last night at three quarters after eleven o'clock, with the orders to Captain *Van Dyck* enclosed.

We this morning examined Mr. *Garret Roseboom*, who lately left *Montreal* and came round by *Oswego*, where Colonel *Guy Johnson* gave a letter to *Nicholas Stevens*, (from *Schenectady*, who came in company with him,) directed to the President of the Provincial Congress, and told him the Committee of *Albany* might open it if they pleased; which we have presumed to do, copy whereof we enclose you, together with a copy of Mr. *Roseboom's* examination. We now judge from the whole that it will be most advisable, not to send *Van Dyck's* company forward, until we have further information, as we would not choose (if we can avoid it) to give any cause of jealousy to the *Indians*, as they have signified their desire that we should not send troops up. We have therefore desired the Committee of *Schenectady* to keep that company in readiness on a minute's warning; and we have sent one quarter cask of powder to be distributed among that company. We have also sent up six quarter casks more to the Committee of *Tryon* County. We should have sent the remainder, one hundred and twenty-five pounds, but for the hint in the examination of *Roseboom*.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants. By order of the Committee, ABRAHAM YATES, Jr., Chairman.

## COLONEL GUY JOHNSON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Ontario, July 8, 1775.

SIR: Though I received your letter from the Provincial Congress several days ago, I had not a good opportunity to answer it till now. I suppose, however, this will reach you safe, notwithstanding all the rest of my correspondence is interrupted by ignorant impertinents.

As to the endeavour you speak of, to reconcile the unhappy differences between the Parent State and these Colonies, be assured I ardently wish to see them. As yet, I am sorry to say, I have not been able to discover any attempt of that kind, but that of the Assembly's, the only true legal representatives of the people; and as to the individuals who you say officiously interrupt, in my quarter, the mode and measures you think necessary for these salutary purposes, I am really a stranger to them. If you mean myself, you must have been grossly imposed on. I once, indeed, went with reluctance, at the request of several of the principal inhabitants, to one of the people's meetings, which I found had been called by an itinerant *New-England* leather-dresser, and conducted by others, if possible, more contemptible. I had, therefore, little inclination to revisit such men, or attend to their absurdities. And although I did not incline to think that your gentlemen had formed any designs against me, yet it is most certain that such designs were formed. Of this, I received a clear account by express from a friend near *Albany*, which was soon cor-

roborated by letters from other quarters, particularly one from a gentleman of the Committee at *Philadelphia*, a Captain in your service, who was pretty circumstantial; and since, I have had the like from many others. I have likewise found that mean instruments were officially employed to disturb the minds of the *Indians*; to interrupt the ordinary discharge of my duties; and prevent their receiving messages they had long since expected from me.

To enter into a minute detail of all the falsehoods propagated, and all the obstructions I met with, though it could not fail astonishing any gentleman disposed to discountenance them, would far exceed the limits of a letter, or the time I have to spare, as I am now finishing my Congress entirely to my satisfaction, with 1,348 warriors, who came hither to the only place where they can transact business or receive favours without interruption, and who are much dissatisfied at finding that the goods, which I was necessitated to send for to *Montreal*, were obliged to be ordered back by the merchant, to prevent his being insulted or his property invaded by the mistaken populace; that their ammunition was stopped at *Albany*; the persons on this communication employed in purchasing provisions for the Congress insulted; and all my letters, as well as even some trifling articles for the use of my own table, stopped. And this moment the Mayor of *Albany* assured me, that he was the other day aroused out of his bed at a certain Mr. *Thompson's*, above the *German Flats*, by one *Hirkema* and fifteen others, who pursued him to search for any things he might have for me.

You may be assured, Sir, that this is far from being agreeable to the *Indians*; that it might have produced very disagreeable consequences long since, had not compassion for a deluded people taken place of every other consideration; and that the impotent endeavours of a Missionary (who has forfeited his honour pledged to me) with part of one of the tribes, is a circumstance that, however trifling, increased their resentment. I should be much obliged by your promises of discountenancing any attempts against myself, &c., did they not appear to be made on conditions of compliance with Continental or Provincial Congresses, or even Committees formed, or to be formed, many of whose resolves may neither consist with my conscience, duty, or loyalty.

I trust I shall always manifest more humanity than to promote the destruction of the innocent inhabitants of a Colony to which I have been always warmly attached, a declaration that must appear perfectly suitable to the character of a man of honour and principle, who can on no account neglect those duties that are consistent therewith, however they may differ from sentiments now adopted in so many parts of *America*.

I sincerely wish a speedy termination to the present troubles; and I am, Sir, your most obedient and humble servant, G. JOHNSON.

P. S. I shall have occasion to meet the *Indians* of my Department in different quarters this season.

*The Examination of GARRET ROSEBOOM, of the City of ALBANY, before the Sub-Committee of the said City and County of ALBANY, the 15th day of JULY, 1775.*

Says that he left *Montreal* on or about the 26th June last. That in *Canada* the utmost means were used to induce the *Indians* to side with the Regulars, especially by Mr. *St. Luke Le Corne*; but that amongst the *Indians* where this examinant has been, particularly *Canusadaga*, *Esquasua*, *Oswegatie*, and *Caughnawagas*, they decline taking up the hatchet against the *Bostonians*, (a term by which the general opposition is distinguished.)

That the *Caughnawagas* particularly, are active in preventing the incursions of the other *Indian* nations, for which purpose they have stationed about a dozen of their tribe at *St. John's* with horses, with directions that if their endeavours should prove ineffectual, to give immediate notice to the tribe, who in that case are resolved to prevent them by force.

That while this examinant was at *Montreal*, he saw about twenty-two *Indians* of the *Messesagoes* tribe, who were in their war-dress and accoutrements, set off to *St. John's* on a scalping party towards the forts on the Lakes



in our possession; but that this examinant believes they will be stopped by the means above mentioned.

That this examinant on his arrival at *Oswego*, about eight days ago, found Colonel *Guy Johnson* there, who had with him about three hundred *Indians*, and about five hundred squaws and children.

That this examinant was present at a Congress he held with the *Indians*, but does not know the subject of their deliberations; but that he afterwards understood from those *Indians*, that the communication on the *Mohawk* River was to remain open. That on the day when this examinant left *Oswego*, the *Indians* were to receive his presents, except the rum, which was to be delivered them the next day at the *Oswego Falls*, to each nation or tribe one barrel. That from there *Guy Johnson* was to proceed to *Oswegatie*. Some of them were to go with him from each tribe, and the rest to return home. That this examinant heard before he came to *Oswego*, that there was to be a General Congress at *Oswegatie*, with the *Canadian Indians*.

That the *Indians* at *Oswego* assured this examinant, that they did not intend to fight against us; but that, considering the fickleness of their disposition, and probably the over persuasion of our enemies, no great dependance can be made on their assurances.

That endeavours were used in *Canada*, to enlist men in the service of the Crown; but that the *Canadians* were extremely averse to enter into the service. That a report prevailed there that Governour *Carleton* had threatened to fire the City, in case the merchants and others did not join.

That he has seen a few stragglers, and of the lowest class of the people, who were enlisted. That Monsieur *St. Luke* has proposed as an expedient to the Governour to hang half a dozen, which would intimidate the survivors into a compliance. That he had been informed there, that they were busy in building batteaus at *St. John's*, for the purpose of transporting troops across the Lake, to attack the possessions at *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*.

A true copy from the minutes:

JOHN BAY, *Secretary*.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Saratoga, July 16, 1775.

I did myself the honour to write you from *Albany* on the 12th, urging the sending the troops to join me with all despatch. Every intelligence I receive, evinces the necessity of strengthening the garrisons of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*. The fatal consequences that would follow, should we be obliged to abandon those places, are too glaringly evident to need illustration. Let me, therefore, again entreat you to issue orders to every corps of your troops, in whatever part of the Colony they may be, to march without delay; and be pleased, Sir, to forward the tents for those already at the forts. I again beg leave to remind you, that the powder from *Philadelphia* is not yet come to hand.

I am, Sir, most respectfully, your obedient and humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

Please to forward the enclosed.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the *New-York* Congress.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, DATED JULY 16, 1775.

I am much surprised that you have not been more accurately informed of what passes in the camps. As to intelligence from *Boston*, it is but seldom that we are able to collect any that may be relied on, and to repeat the vague flying rumours would be endless. I heard yesterday, by one Mr. *Rolston*, a goldsmith, who got out from *Boston* in a fishing schooner, that their distress increases upon them fast; their beef is spent, their malt and cider all gone; all the fresh provisions they can procure they are obliged to give to the sick and wounded; that thirteen of our men, who were in jail and wounded at *Charlestown*, are dead; that no man dared to be seen talking to his friend in the street; that they are obliged to be within every evening at ten o'clock, according to martial law, nor can any inhabi-

tant walk the street after that time without a pass from General *Gage*; that General *Gage* has ordered all the molasses to be distilled into rum for the soldiers; that he has taken away all licenses for selling of liquors, and given them to his creatures; that he has issued an order that no one else shall sell under a penalty of ten Pounds; that the spirit which prevails among the soldiers is that of malice and revenge; that there is no true courage to be observed among them; that their duty is hard, always holding themselves in readiness for an attack, which they are continually in fear of; that Doctor *Elliot* was not on board of a man-of-war, as was reported; that Mr. *Lovell* and Mr. *Leach*, with many others, are certainly in jail; that last week a poor milch cow was killed in Town and sold for a shilling sterling a pound; that the transports from *Ireland* and *New-York* arrived last week, but every additional man adds to their distress.

#### MEETING OF GUILD OF MERCHANTS, DUBLIN.

At *Guildhall*, *Dublin*, *Ireland*, the 17th of July, 1775, being Quarter-Day of the Guild of Merchants of the said City, the following Resolutions were agreed to, viz:

*Resolved unanimously*, That the sincere thanks of this Guild be presented to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Effingham*, in testimony of our approbation of his publick conduct, particularly exemplified in his refusing to draw that sword which has been employed to the honour of his Country, against the lives and liberties of his fellow-subjects in *America*, and honestly and spiritedly resigning a commission which he could no longer hold consistent with the principles of a true *Englishman*, or of a real friend to the interest of *Britain*.

*Resolved*, That the sincere thanks of the Guild be presented to the Right Honourable *John Wilkes*, Lord Mayor of the City of *London*, for the essential services he has rendered his King and Country, by his strenuous efforts in the cause of freedom, and for his able, spirited, and judicious defence of the right of the People to petition the Throne.

There was to the last Resolution a single negative, given by a *Scotchman* who has an employment in our Stamp Office.

*Resolved unanimously*, That an address of thanks from the Guild be presented to the several Peers who (in support of our Constitution, and in opposition to a weak and wicked Administration) protested against the *American Restraining Bills*.

And the following gentlemen were appointed, with the Master and Wardens, a Committee to prepare the same, viz: *J. Napper Tandy*, *Henry Howison*, *Sir E. Newenham*, *John Peree*, *Samuel Gamble*, *Samuel Stephens*, *Hugh Crothers*.

Who prepared the following:

We, the Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of the Guild of Merchants of the City of *Dublin*, in Common-Hall assembled, with the most unfeigned respect, beg leave to offer your Lordships the just tribute of our thanks for your noble and spirited, though hitherto ineffectual exertions in the cause of liberty and of your Country, fully evinced in your opposition to the oppressive and unconstitutional proceedings of a corrupt Administration.

With equal grief and indignation we have for years beheld repeated innovations on the free Constitution of these Realms, and daily invasions of the dearest rights and immunities of the subject. We have seen with astonishment Popery established by law in one, and encouraged in every part of the Empire, in the reign of a Protestant Prince, and despotism and arbitrary power promoted by every insidious machination and open violence by the servants of the Crown, in the reign of a Monarch who, from the Throne, declared, *he gloried in being a Briton born*, and whose family was called to the Throne of these Kingdoms to protect the Protestant Religion, and preserve that Constitution inviolate for which our ancestors so freely bled, and for the invading of which a tyrant was expelled the Throne.

But while we contemplate with horror the universal ruin and devastation in which the Empire is nearly involved by the wicked devices of evil men, we with pleasure survey the steady, incorruptible, and patriotick virtues



which adorn you and shield us; while we boast of such a noble band of patriots, while we see united in the cause of freedom such a number of the true hereditary guardians of liberty, and of the principles of the glorious Revolution, we cannot, we will not despair of seeing once more the valuable Constitution of these Countries restored to its primitive purity.

Permit us, therefore, to offer your Lordship our warmest, our most grateful acknowledgments, as Protestants, for your steady opposition to the establishment of Popery and slavery in *Canada*; as freemen, for your manly and spirited opposition to the several Restraining Bills, and your noble efforts in the support of *American* liberty, and in the cause of our suffering and much oppressed brethren and fellow-subjects there; and we have the fullest reliance on your steady perseverance in the same principles which have so strongly endeared you, not only to us, but to every real friend of the *British* Empire and its constituents.

In testimony whereof, we have caused the seal of our Corporation to be hereunto affixed, this 17th day of *July*, in the year of our *Lord* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five. [L. S.]

Midsummer Assembly, July 21, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Sheriffs and Commons be presented to Lord *Effingham*, for having chosen gloriously to resign his commission rather than imbrue his hands in the blood of his innocent and oppressed fellow-subjects.

Which being enclosed to his Lordship by the proper officer, the following answer was received:

"SIR: I have been favoured with your letter of the 21st of *July* last, enclosing a copy of a resolution of the Sheriffs and Commons of the City of *Dublin*.

"Next to the testimony of a man's own conscience, is, in my opinion, his greatest happiness to have the approbation of the wise and honest among his fellow-subjects.

"The former of these can, I think, be no other way enjoyed, than by a strict adherence to those principles which, at the Revolution, achieved our civil and religious liberties; and it is easy, Sir, for you to conceive, but beyond my abilities to express, what I felt at my conduct's being judged by so independent and respectable an assembly as the Sheriffs and Commons of the City of *Dublin* deserving of the latter.

"I am, with truth and respect, Sir, your most obedient humble servant, EFFINGHAM.

"The Holmes, August 14, 1775.

"To *Alfred Howard*, Esquire, *Dublin*."

#### CHARLES COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Charles* County, on *Monday*, the 17th of *July*, 1775, in *Port-Tobacco*, Captain *George Dent*, Chairman, and *J. Gwinn*, Clerk:

*Resolved*, That this Committee will admit no Certificates respecting any Goods which may hereafter be imported into any part of this County, unless the same are attested under the hands, at least, of five of the Committee of the neighbourhood or place from whence they are immediately exported, and that this Resolve be immediately published in the *Maryland Gazette*.

Signed by order:

J. GWINN, Clerk.

#### JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, July 17, 1775.

SIR: Major-General *Schuyler* having represented to the Congress the necessity of appointing a Deputy Adjutant-General, or a Brigade-Major, for the troops under his command, I am ordered to send you the following Resolve passed this day. I am, Sir, your obedient humble servant, JOHN HANCOCK, President.

P. S. I enclose you an authenticated commission to be filled up with the name of the gentleman appointed by your Congress. You will please to make a return to me of the person so appointed. The enclosed letter to General *Schuyler* I beg you will immediately forward to him by express.

"In Congress, July 17, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That the Convention of *New-York* be desired to recommend a proper person for a Deputy Adjutant-General, or a Brigade-Major, for the Army in the *New-York* Department.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

Please to forward by the express to General *Schuyler* a number of the Articles of War. I forwarded them to *New-York*, directed to General *Schuyler*, but apprehend they did not meet him there, as he has wrote me for them from *Albany*. The commission referred to is sent by Mr. *Lewis*.

Hon. P. V. B. Livingston, Esq.

#### NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, July 17, 1775.

SIR: As the appointment of a Brigade-Major to the Army under Major-General *Schuyler*'s command is, by the Continental Congress, recommended to your choice, we beg leave to introduce Mr. *Morgan Lewis* to your favour for that appointment, being informed it would be agreeable to General *Schuyler*, who has promised him that office, with the approbation of your Convention.

We have the honour to be, Sir, your very humble servants,

PH. LIVINGSTON, HENRY WISNER,  
JOHN ALSOP, LEWIS MORRIS,  
WILLIAM FLOYD, JOHN JAY.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Provincial Convention at *New-York*.

#### ELIZABETHTOWN (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Elizabethtown, Monday, July 17, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have this moment received from the Committee of *Philadelphia* four hogsheads, said to contain fifty-two quarter-casks of powder, which they direct to be conveyed to *Dobbs's Ferry*, there to be delivered to the order of your Committee. We are sorry to say, that this powder has been coming from *Philadelphia* since the first instant; this accidental delay makes the utmost despatch necessary, which we doubt not you will promote as far as is in your power. We are, Gentlemen, your most humble servants, JONA. HAMPTON, Chairman.

To the Chairman of the Committee of the City of *New-York*.

P. S. The powder will be at *Dobbs's Ferry* by nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

#### ELIZABETHTOWN (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, Elizabethtown, July 17, 1775.

*Resolved*, That this Committee, for every hundred weight of Saltpetre made within this Town for the first three months after this day, will pay the sum of twenty Pounds, proclamation money of *New-Jersey*, on the delivery thereof to this Committee, and fifteen Pounds, of same currency, for the like quantity of Saltpetre, made and delivered as aforesaid, within the next three months thereafter.

The Chairman of this Committee having received a letter from Mr. *Richard Lawrence*, a Delegate of *Richmond* County for the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, informing that the inhabitants of said County had, in general, signed the Association recommended by the Committee of *New-York*, this Committee are therefore of opinion that the inhabitants of said County be restored to their commercial privileges with the inhabitants of this Town. By order of the Committee:

JONATHAN HAMPTON, Chairman.

#### CIRCULAR TO COLONELS OF NEW-YORK REGIMENTS.

Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*,  
during the recess of the Provincial Congress,  
*New-York*, July 17, 1775.

SIR: You are requested to prepare and lay before the Congress of this Colony, at *New-York*, a state of your Regiment, and of the number of men ready and fit for



service in each company, with all possible despatch. You will also be pleased to inform the Congress when you expect your Regiment will be complete, and ready to take the field. We pray you to give all possible despatch in this business; the present circumstances admit of no delay. The sooner your answer and return can be received, the more acceptable it will be.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants. By order of the Committee.

JOHN LAMB TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, July 17, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As several inconveniences will arise from the present arrangement respecting the artillery company which I am appointed to command, I must beg leave to point out the most material of them for your consideration, in order that they may be removed, if possible, as they will inevitably impede the publick service. Artillery companies, in every country, are always looked upon in a superior light to other foot companies; for which reason men of reputation, and such as are qualified for that department, do not incline to enlist in the battalions, from an apprehension (which I have not been able to remove by all the arguments in my power) that they will not be draughted into the artillery, and consequently will be obliged to serve under the command of the captain with whom they have enlisted; besides they think it a disgrace to appear in the ranks with such men as too often compose the companies of foot. If the artillery company is to be draughted from the battalions in the manner proposed, I must be constrained to choose them solely for their appearance and bodily strength, without having the least opportunity of knowing either their characters or principles, or whether they are qualified for the department in which they are to serve; although it is essentially necessary that I should have some knowledge of those circumstances previous to their joining the company. Another great inconveniency I conceive will arise, in regard to their clothing, if they are not to be draughted before the battalions are complete, as I must consequently have a number of men in different uniforms, it being more than probable that they will be draughted out of different battalions.

As there is no artillery companies in the service of *Connecticut*, it is the more necessary that ours should be immediately formed, in order that the men may be instructed in the several parts of their duty, and the necessary stores be prepared, that we may be ready to act, when and where the publick service may require.

For these reasons, and to obviate the inconveniences which I have pointed out, (especially as none of the battalions are near being completed,) I have thought proper to submit it to your better judgment, whether such an alteration in the arrangement should not be immediately made as will give me an opportunity of enlisting my own men, and forming the company as soon as possible. And as there is a distinction always held up between the artillery and companies of foot, I must beg leave to request that the clothing for the men may be better than that of the other companies, and that it may be blue with buff facings.

I am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JOHN LAMB.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-York*.

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany Committee Chamber, July 17, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have four letters, three from Captain *Edmunston* to different persons in *Europe*, which we had appointed a Committee to peruse, who report that they judge it proper they should be sent open to the Provincial Congress for their inspection. The other is a letter from Colonel *Guy Johnson*, which we received with a verbal license to open it, which we have presumed to do, and have even taken upon us to give General *Schuyler* a copy thereof, which we hope you will put the best construction upon.

We are, Gentlemen, your very humble servants. By order of the Committee,

ABRAHAM YATES, JR.

To the Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, July 17, 1775.

SIR: On the first instant I met the honourable Assembly of this Colony, to deliberate on the request and pressing reasons sent us from the *Massachusetts*, for an immediate augmentation of the troops from this Colony. Our Assembly agreed to augment with two Regiments, of seven hundred men each, who are now raising to join the Continental Army. It was wished that we could have had the advice and direction of the Congress, or your Excellency, before we took this step, but thought the present critical situation of our affairs would not admit the delay of obtaining it. Since your arrival at the camp before *Boston*, view and consideration of their situation and circumstances, shall gladly be advised, and shall attend your request for hastening and marching the men.

There are thirteen hundred and ninety-one barrels of flour come to the care of Colonel *Frederick Huntington*, at *Norwich*, for the use of the Army, which I have ordered forward. The busy season with the farmers renders its transportation difficult. Please to advise of the need of the hurry, and where it shall be ordered to be delivered.

Our Assembly supplied Major-Gen. *Schuyler* with fifteen thousand Pounds in cash, and forty half barrels of another necessary article. Accounts from the northward are favourable. The Brig *Nancy Thomas*, *Davis* master, which arrived at *Stonington* with molasses, is removed to *Norwich*; she hath on board eighteen or nineteen thousand gallons. The Committee of Inspection and Correspondence I trust will take proper care respecting both vessel and cargo.

The road by my door being the nearest for post-riding from *Cambridge* to *Philadelphia*, shall be obliged, whenever your Excellency has occasion to send to that City, if the rider may be directed this way, and to call on me for the convenience of my despatches I may have occasion to forward by him. *Fessenden* has passed this way more than once.

I am, with great esteem and regard, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, July 17, 1775.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the tenth instant, which came per *Bennet*. Per same hand I received a letter from Colonel *Hinman*, at *Ticonderoga*, in which he says, "There are many things which the Act of Assembly provides for the soldiers, which they never have as yet received, which occasions murmurings and discontent among them, and much weakens my authority." Copy of the Act of our Assembly has been forwarded some time ago to the Provincial Convention of *New-York*; our Commissary, Mr. *Elisha Phelps*, has also a copy. If *New-York* does not supply our Troops, as they have a right to expect, this Colony must fulfil their engagements themselves; pray your interposition in this matter.

I have received from Colonel *Hinman* and others, very favourable accounts of the disposition of the *Canadians* towards the general cause, and their desire that our Army might penetrate into their Province. Suppose you are fully acquainted with this intelligence, shall therefore only trouble you with some information I have received from Captain *John Bigelow*, a gentleman of *Hartford*, who was lately sent by our Assembly into *Canada*, as an escort to some ladies taken at *Skenesborough*, whom we thought proper to return to their friends in that Province. He is returned, and informs there are about three hundred and fifty of the King's Troops at *St. John's*, one hundred at *Montreal*, and forty at *Chambly*. Those at *St. John's* keep a good look out; have picketed in an acre or two of ground, in which they have some field-pieces not yet mounted. He understands there were a number of batteaus, and two floating batteries, building just below *St. John's*. The officers boasted to him the number of *Canadians* and *Indians* they were able to raise, but he says it is certain they are not sure of one man. Wheat is six and six pence, sterling money, per bushel, and is almost all purchased for the King's Troops at *Boston* and *Canada*. Was informed



that the *Canadians*, almost to a man, were praying for our people to come into their country, or they must be obliged, for their own safety, to join the King's Troops, &c. He did not see more than six or seven *Indians* at *St. John's*. Nothing of importance has lately occurred at our camps near *Boston*. I am, &c., J. TRUMBULL.  
To Major-General Schuyler.

Newport, Rhode-Island, July 20, 1775.

On *Monday* night, the seventeenth of *July*, two men belonging to the *Swan*, Captain *Ayscough*, being on shore, saw fit to attempt an escape from their old and detested habitation; their design, by the bye, was communicated to no individual of the Town. The next day, viz. the eighteenth, A. M., two or three of the ferry-boats which pass between *Newport* and *Connecticut*, were fired upon and brought to, an event so singular that two respectable members of the Committee waited upon Captain *Ayscough* to know the reason. He told them that two of his men, the night before, were sent on shore upon some errand and had not returned; added that he was confident the inhabitants knew where they were, and that they were detained by them purposely. The two gentlemen declared themselves ignorant of the matter, and believed the whole Town to be; however, to pacify Captain *Ayscough*, they assured him that they would summon the Committee together, inquire into the affair, &c., withal, desiring Captain *Ayscough* to write a letter to the Committee, stating his grievance; this he did, and they promised to wait on him with an answer in the afternoon. As the Captain's letter was rather in the threatening style, the Committee could not help inquiring what he meant thereby, and assured him in their reply, that they were not to be intimidated, and did not think themselves, by any means, accountable for the desertion of any of his men. Captain *Ayscough* read the letter with considerable composure, folded it up, and then gave it to *Wallace*, Captain of the *Rose*, *Ayscough* at this time being on board *Wallace's* ship. Captain *Wallace* immediately flew into a most terrible passion, threw the letter down in a violent fit of rage, damned the Committee, the Congress, &c., swore at *Ayscough* for writing to such a damned parcel of rebels, and declared that if he knew the two gentlemen, who were then present, to be of the Committee, they never should go ashore again. They endeavoured to pacify him, but in vain; he swore repeatedly, that if there was a *God* in Heaven, the Town should be destroyed before morning; that he was a King's officer and would not be insulted, &c. Hereupon the two gentlemen left the ship. A signal gun was instantly discharged, and the three pirates in the harbour, and their tender, immediately weighed anchor and came close in with the Town; their tomkins were taken out, the marines on board beat up to arms, and all the hostile preparations imaginable going forward against a defenceless seaport, consisting (exclusive of the men) of not less than six thousand women and children. About half past nine in the evening, a cannon was discharged from the *Rose*, when many really thought the firing on the Town was begun. Between the hours of ten and eleven, the same night, a packet arrived from *Providence* with seven or eight passengers; she was stopt, and a place appointed for her to near the *Swan*. The passengers were seized, made to tell all their names, and confined as prisoners, repeatedly styled rebels, with the most horrid oaths annexed; a guard with drawn swords kept over them during the night; the late infamous Proclamation of a truce-breaking *Gage*, was hung close by them, which they were fearful they would be compelled to sign, or else abide the consequence therein denounced. It is worthy of observation, that during this period the three Captains were together on board the *Rose*, playing cards, drinking, carousing, &c. About one or two o'clock next morning, viz. *Wednesday*, one of the *Swan's* men returned, and in order, it is supposed, to save himself from a flogging, as it was necessary for him to give some account of himself, he invented the following lie, and swore to it upon the holy evangelists, namely: "That the *Rhode-Island* rebels had taken him and his companion, and wanted that they should enlist among them to fight against the King, but that they refused; and because they did that, the rebels gagged them, and then carried them to *Providence* jail, but that he broke

away, and travelled thirty miles to go on board again." The Captains of the pirates either believed this gross and inconsistent falsehood, or fain would make the inhabitants think so; accordingly it was taken down in writing, sent on shore, and satisfaction demanded, or the Town should certainly be laid in ashes that very day. Another cannon was now discharged, four ferry-boats and two wood sloops seized, quantities of tar, and other inflammatory combustible matter put into the same, in order to set on fire, and send into the wharves, as a more expeditious way of destroying the Town than by cannon only; the cannon, at the same time, were to be fired on every part of the Town; the Court-House, Doctor *Stiles's* Meeting-House, and the Printing Office, were first of all to feel the effects of this horrid plot. The most terrible parade was kept up by those low ministerial tools till near two o'clock, P. M., when two persons of undoubted veracity (farmers, within two or three miles of the Town,) went on board the *Swan*. One of these gentlemen assured the Captains of the three ships, that he saw the stragglers, for whose desertion such terrible confusion had ensued, in his corn-field on *Tuesday* morning, and described them; the other gentleman declared that he saw them on *Tuesday* afternoon, where he was making hay, and likewise described them, for they told these gentlemen how they had made their escape from the *Swan*, and were determined not to go back again. After fully proving that they knew the men, by pointing out the one who had returned, notwithstanding four others were first produced, in order to deceive them, they (viz. the two gentlemen,) came on shore, when all at once the boats and prisoners were dismissed, the ships weighed anchor, and stood up the river.

Let every honest *American* rise up in opposition to such inhuman, and, must we add, when speaking of *Britons* too, worse than savage cruelty. To prepare, after so hostile a manner, to destroy thousands of lives, and ruin vast estates, merely because two drunken wretches had fled from a ship under the command of a petty tyrant, is what will make a considerable figure in some future page, when our many trials are handed down to posterity by some able historian.

#### LANCASTER (MASSACHUSETTS) COMMITTEE.

Lancaster, Worcester County, July 17, 1775.

Whereas, *Nahum Houghton* being complained of as being an enemy to his Country, by officiating as an unwearied pedlar of that baneful herb, Tea, and otherwise rendering himself odious to the inhabitants of this Town; and notwithstanding being warned, he did not appear before the Committee that his political principles might be known: This, therefore, agreeable to a vote of said Town, is to caution all friends to the community to entirely shun his company, and have no manner of dealings or connections with him, except acts of common humanity.

JOHN PRESCOTT, *Chairman*.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, July 14, 1775.

The Deputy Secretary brought down a written Message from his Excellency, as follows, viz:

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:*

I find by your votes of the 13th of last month, that you have taken upon you to exclude three returned members, called by the King's writ, from sitting and voting in the House of Assembly, thereby depriving the electors of their privilege, and a whole County of any representation in the Legislature. You must be sensible that I cannot, consistent with my duty, pass by a measure so essentially infringing on His Majesty's prerogative and the rights of the people; and I do, therefore, recommend to you to rescind the vote for excluding the said three members from the House, that they may be entirely free to take their seats without interruption, according to the constant usage heretofore practised.

J. WENTWORTH.

Fort William and Mary, New-Hampshire, July 14, 1775.

*Voted*, That Captain *Langdon*, Colonel *Barillett*, Doctor *Thompson*, and *Meshech Weare*, Esq., be a Committee to prepare an answer to his Excellency's Speech of this day.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.



Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Answer to his Excellency's Message of this day, reported, that they had prepared one; which was read, and is as follows, viz:

*May it please your Excellency:*

In answer to your Excellency's Message of this day, wherein you desire that this House would rescind their vote of the 13th of last month, respecting their dismissal of the three members for the County of *Grafton*, who were called by the King's writ only, without an act of Government for that purpose; we are sorry to find that your Excellency should intimate that our dismissing said members was depriving the electors of their privileges, as we did not apprehend that any one person in the *English* Empire could have had such an idea; and trust that the good people of the County of *Grafton* will not think that we have deprived them of any part of their rights or privileges, by our dismissing the said members; as it is very notorious that this and former Houses of Assembly have long wished that this Province might be more generally represented in a constitutional way, and have long endeavoured that an act of Government might be passed enabling the Governour to issue writs to such Towns to send members as might be provided for in said act, (as is the case in the other Governments on this Continent,) but have not been able to have such an act established, for what reasons your Excellency may know better than we do. As the Council are appointed for this Province by the Crown, we think it not only a cruel, but an arbitrary stretch of prerogative, for your Excellency to issue writs to such Towns as you think proper, to send Representatives without the concurrence of the other branches of the Legislature therein; for by that means the Representatives, as well as the Council, would in effect be chosen by the Crown. We cannot think that such an attempt was ever made in any other Government within the *English* Dominions. Upon the whole, this House have determined unanimously, as they look upon it as their undoubted right and privilege to regulate themselves, not to rescind their said vote.

We would also inform your Excellency that we have been expecting that you would order the Treasurer's accounts to be laid before the House, agreeable to your promise, that we might be thereby enabled to proceed in the ordinary business of the Government; but are sorry to find that your Excellency has ordered the Treasurer not to lay them before the House, as he informs us. We hope that you will direct that we may be furnished therewith as soon as possible, as you must be sensible that it is not only very expensive, but very disagreeable to us to be from our respective places of abode at this season of the year.

Which report of the Committee being considered,

*Voted*, That it be presented to his Excellency in answer to his Message to the House of this day.

Monday, July 17, 1775.

Some of the Members met, according to adjournment.

The Deputy Secretary, by his Excellency's direction, adjourned the General Assembly till to-morrow ten o'clock.

Tuesday, July 18, 1775.

Some of the Members being met, the Deputy Secretary brought down the following Message from his Excellency, viz:

*Mr. Speaker and*

*Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:*

In reply to your answer to my Message of yesterday, concerning your vote for excluding the three members returned for three Towns in the County of *Grafton*, by virtue of the King's writ, I would observe, that in the early state of *New-Hampshire*, when the *Massachusetts-Bay* exercised jurisdiction over the inhabitants, a commission was issued by King *Charles* the Second, appointing a President and Council to govern the Province, according to the methods and regulations specified in the said commission. This laid the foundation of the Constitution by which the Province hath since been governed; and the people, by their acceptance and acquiescence in the frame of Government then given them, bound themselves to maintain the same.

Among other things, the President and Council were authorized to issue writs for calling a General Assembly. It hath ever since been the invariable practice, as circumstances made it reasonable to extend representation in the Province, to call the members by the King's writ; it is a part of the Constitution first established by the aforesaid commission, and ever since preserved unaltered; and you all came by your seats in the House in the same constitutional way; and the laws of the Province rest upon this foundation. It is true that some contention was heretofore made by a former House, on this point, but after a long and fruitless controversy, the House thought it advisable at length to proceed to business with the new members in the established course.

Since my administration, three new members have been called from three Towns in the County of *Cheshire*, and they took their seats without interruption. Upon petitions to the Governour and Council from the inhabitants of the County of *Grafton*, it seemed equally reasonable to extend to them the same privilege, expressly given by President *Cutt's* commission, and secured by constant usage since, which was done in the usual form with advice of Council. It does not now appear, either by a general view of this practice, or any particular instance, that it hath not been exercised for the advantage of the people; and as there is no reason at present to apprehend danger from the influence of the Crown, the argument you make use of to support or justify your refusal of the new members, has, in itself, in reality, very little weight, more especially as provision is established by law for regulating the election of Assembly-men, and their qualifications.

In short, a Constitution has been given to this Province, which the people have accepted, and lived happily and prospered under, and I apprehend their interest will be much better consulted by adhering to that Constitution, than by any innovations or attempts to alter or subvert it, especially in a point of inherent right and prerogative of His Majesty, which cannot be suffered to be violated or infringed.

The Treasurer's accounts are prepared, and I should have ordered them to be laid before the House, but my duty calls upon me to take care that no members, constitutionally returned to the Assembly, should be excluded from their privilege of acting freely in all matters of business that may come before the General Assembly. No inconvenience can as yet be occasioned by these accounts, as a sufficient number of members to make a House did not attend till yesterday, and then (as I understand) but a very thin House.

I am sorry to observe, that it appears to me from the determination not to rescind the vote for excluding the three members for *Plymouth*, *Lyme*, and *Orford*, that the House did not meet with a disposition to proceed upon the affairs of the Province. In hopes, however, that this business may acquire a more favourable consideration in a fuller House of Assembly, on a future day, I think it my duty to adjourn the General Assembly, and it is hereby adjourned accordingly, to *Tuesday*, the 28th of *September* next, at ten o'clock in the morning, then to meet at the State-House in *Portsmouth*.

J. WENTWORTH.

Fort William and Mary, New-Hampshire, July 15, 1775.

London, July 18, 1775.

Yesterday se'nnight arrived at *Whitehaven*, the *Molly*, Captain *Mitchinson*, in twenty-six days from *Norfolk*, in *Virginia*. She was not suffered to land her cargo in *Norfolk*. The Committee was called and expresses sent to *Alexandria*, where a Congress was sitting. The Captain was seized, and with much difficulty and solicitation escaped tar and feathers. One of the merchants who resides at *Norfolk*, requested that the vessel might proceed with her cargo to *Quebeck*, which was refused; nor would the Committee suffer it to be transhipped into another vessel belonging to the company, then loading for *Whitehaven*; nor allow the *Molly* to take in the tobacco which was prepared for her, but compelled the merchant to send the cargo back in the same bottom, without diminution or addition, to be landed at *Whitehaven*; for the performance of which they obliged him to give a bond of three thousand Pounds.



JOHN STUART, SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, TO  
COMMITTEE OF INTELLIGENCE, CHARLESTOWN, S. C.

St. Augustine, July 18, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I am now to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of 21st and 29th June, by express. In the former, you are pleased to acquaint, by order of the Provincial Congress, that I stand in a very unfavourable light with the publick; but you have not thought proper to acquaint me of what I am accused, and upon what evidence the publick has conceived an unfavourable opinion of me. You must be conscious of the impropriety of desiring me to answer in my own vindication to a charge which is not stated. And here I must beg permission to say, that my services to your Province have merited very different sentiments than you tell me they entertain of me, and much better treatment than I have received.

I am sorry that it is not in my power to comply with your requisition, of sending you copies of all my correspondence on *Indian* affairs with Administration, the Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Forces, and my Deputies. But I hope it will be sufficient to assure you, most faithfully, that I have always considered myself to be most effectually discharging my duty to the King, and fulfilling his intentions, when employed in securing the friendship and affection of the *Indian* Nations to his Majesty's Provinces; and in preventing, as far as in my power, jealousies arising from encroachments and mutual violences. And the long uninterrupted tranquillity which your frontiers have enjoyed, without any expense to the Province, during the past thirteen years of my superintendency, evinces that my endeavours have not been unavailing. And this will appear in a clearer point of view, if you will contrast the state of *Indian* affairs, and the expense to the Province, during the above period, with that of the thirteen preceding years. I never have received any orders from my superiours which, by the most tortured construction, could be interpreted to spirit up, or employ the *Indians* to fall upon the frontier inhabitants; or to take any part in the disputes between *Great Britain* and her Colonies. And I do not know that any part of my conduct, through all the various scenes of my life, can fix upon me the imputation of cruelty or inhumanity, or induce a belief that I could wantonly use any influence with *Indians* to make them fall upon innocent people.

Yet such an opinion has been most industriously propagated; although it is absolutely impossible that it could, or can be supported by any evidence of the least credibility. And I will venture to say, that every one, and all of you do, in your consciences, believe the charge to be false. I therefore think I have a right to call upon you, as men of honour, to efface the impression it has made on the minds of the people.

With respect to the warm expressions in my letter to Colonel *Howarth*, I cannot help thinking them in some measure justified, by your being authorized by the Congress to tell me that I stand in a very unfavourable light with the publick: What can have placed me in such an unfavourable light, but calumnious falsehoods, which endangered my life and property? I know not the authors, and shall not repeat illiberal epithets; you know what are suitable to such characters.

You are pleased to say, that my estate is a security for the good behaviour of the *Indians* in the Southern Department. It is disagreeable that my all should be held by so precarious a tenure as their behaviour; which, in a great measure, will depend upon the conduct of the inhabitants of the Provinces: yet you must allow, that holding my personal safety and life itself on such terms, would be more so. His Majesty's service will necessarily detain me here some months longer.

My little estate in your Province was purchased under the protection of the laws of my Country. I have always considered both life and fortune as pledged for my dutiful obedience to the King, and the laws. As I am not conscious of having transgressed, I hope for that security to my property, which is inseparable from the idea of a virtuous and well-policed community; and as power is now in your hands, I doubt not but I shall find this security from your justice.

Your letter of the 29th renders it necessary for me to

tell you, that some time before I left *Charlestown* I had received information of a design to seize my person; and in order to give a colour to such a step, a report was industriously propagated of my having sent to call down the *Indians*. Immediately after my removal from *Charlestown* to my plantation on *Lady's Island*, it was reported, that in consequence of my orders, thirty-four families on the frontiers had been murdered by the *Cherokees*. When I was at *Georgia*, I had information that Captain *Joyner* and Mr. *Barnwell*, two members of the Provincial Congress, had returned to *Beaufort*; where, by most defamatory reports and insinuations, they endeavoured to blacken my character, and render me obnoxious to the people; giving out that my having called down the *Indians* was proven before the Congress; that great quantities of arms and ammunition were shipped for me to arm the *Negroes* and *Indians*; and that it was now discovered that I had sold *Fort London*, and was the instrument of getting the garrison massacred; and Captain *Joyner* showed at the publick muster-field, in *St. Helena*, printed bills, containing the above, and other false accusations.

From thence they went to *Savannah*, and in the night had a meeting with the Committee, of which Sir *James Wright* gave me notice early next morning, and advised me to take steps for the security of my person. I accordingly prevailed upon Captain *Grant*, of the *St. John*, armed schooner, to land me at *St. Augustine*, where the business of my department called me. But before I embarked, I saw some of the members of the Committee, and read to them some part of my correspondence with my Deputies, which they communicated to you. They candidly told me that the people were much enraged; and they could not answer for the safety of my person. I then thought it high time to provide for my safety; and went on board the *St. John*, armed schooner, at *Cockspur*.

I have since been informed, that two boats were sent down the river in pursuit of me; and from the schooner I saw several armed canoes, said to be commanded by Captain *Joyner* and Mr. *Barnwell*, who, before they left *Beaufort*, gave out they were to receive and conduct me back to *Charlestown*. The armed schooner, however, proceeded the next day for this place, where I landed in a very weak condition; and this, gentlemen, you are pleased to call a precipitate departure, though I shall ever consider it as a most fortunate escape.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
JOHN STUART.

To *William Henry Drayton*, *James Parsons*, *John Lewis Gervais*, *Arthur Middleton*, *William Tennent*, and *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., Esquires.

#### SUSSEX COUNTY (DELAWARE) COMMITTEE.

Dagsberry, July 18, 1775.

#### To the Publick.

Notwithstanding the many rumours and intimations that have been frequently spread, that *Thomas Robinson*, Esq., of *Sussex* on *Delaware*, was counteracting the wise, prudent, and manly measures recommended by the honourable Continental Congress, to put a stop to the calamities of *America*, and, if possible, avert Ministerial vengeance, which, like a torrent with increasing violence, is rushing down on our heads, yet the Committee, out of tenderness to his character, (as no vouchers appeared,) considered those vague reports as not worthy their notice, and therefore declined making inquiry into them. But Mr. *Robinson*, weakly imagining that this tenderness and lenity proceeded from fear, began to vaunt and exult, and with an effrontery ever the companion of ignorance, proceeded more openly and boldly to stamp his vile and slavish Ministerial principles upon the weak and unwary, over too many of whom, in the forests of *Sussex* and *Maryland*, by means of his office and store, he has indeed too much influence.

Since which time the Sub-Committee met at *Dagsberry*, the 18th July, 1775; and receiving information, clothed with better circumstances, ordered the authors immediately to be brought before them; who deposed as follow:

*Peter Watson*, being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, deposed and saith: that on *Mon-*



day, the 10th of this instant, *July*, being at *Robinson's* store, on the head of *Indian River*, he saw *John Gozlin*, clerk to said *Robinson*, weigh and sell two small parcels of *Bohea Tea*, one of which he delivered to a girl, the other to *Leatherberry Barker's* wife; which aforesaid *Tea* he took out of a large canister, that he judged would hold about twelve or fifteen pounds. And further saith not.

PETER WATSON.

Sworn to and subscribed this 18th day of *July*, 1775; before

JOHN DAGWORTHY.

True copy :

SIMON KOLLOCK, Clerk.

*Robert Butcher*, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of *Almighty God*, deposeth and saith: that being in company with *Thomas Robinson*, Esq., the said *Robinson* asked him what those Committees were doing; he told him they were advising the people to muster, in order to defend their liberties. *Robinson* replied, that they were a pack of fools, for it was taking up arms against the King; and that our Charters were not annihilated, changed, or altered by the late Acts of Parliament, and therefore we ought to obey the King, and those that were put in authority under him; and that the great people were only leading the poor into a premunire, and after they had done it, they would not help them out of it. And further saith not.

ROBERT BUTCHER.

Sworn to and subscribed this 18th day of *July*, 1775; before

JOHN DAGWORTHY.

True copy :

SIMON KOLLOCK, Clerk.

*Nathaniel Mitchell*, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of *Almighty God*, deposeth and saith: that being in company with *Thomas Robinson*, Esq., and talking of some publick matters, the said *Robinson* declared, that the present Congress were an unconstitutional body of men; and also, that the great men were pushing on the common people between them and all danger. And further saith not.

NATHANIEL MITCHELL.

Sworn to and subscribed this 18th day of *July*, 1775; before

JOHN DAGWORTHY.

True copy :

SIMON KOLLOCK, Clerk.

*Mr. Robinson's* conduct thus palpably appearing, and leaving no further doubt with respect to the measure he was industriously pursuing, the Clerk was ordered to summon him to appear at the house of *William Newbold*, on *Saturday*, the 22d of *July*; which citation is as follows:

"SIR: In consequence of repeated suggestions and informations lodged against you, the Committee of Inspection for the proposed new County, met at *Dagsberry*, the 19th of *July*, 1775; Colonel *John Dagworthy* in the Chair: and after maturely and dispassionately considering the several charges exhibited against you, were unanimously of opinion, that you ought to be cited to attend the General Committee at the house of *William Newbold*, on *Saturday* next, the 22d of this instant, in order to satisfy them with respect to the many heavy charges alleged against you.

"In strict obedience to which resolution, I do hereby send you this notification, that you do attend at the house of *William Newbold*, on *Saturday*, the 22d of this instant, *July*, at ten o'clock, A. M.

"JOHN JONES, Clerk pro tem.

"*William Newbold's*, *July* 22, 1775."

The General Committee met according to adjournment. Eighty members present. Colonel *John Dagworthy* in the Chair.

When *Elisha Cottingham* appeared, and being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of *Almighty God*, deposeth and saith: that on the 21st of this instant, he delivered the above citation to *Thomas Robinson*, Esq., who desired him to give his compliments to the gentlemen of the Committee, and acquaint them that he did not, nor could not, think of coming before them, unless he could bring forty or fifty armed men with him. And further saith not.

ELISHA COTTINGHAM.

Sworn to and subscribed this 22d day of *July*, 1775; before

JOHN DAGWORTHY.

True copy :

SIMON KOLLOCK, Clerk.

The above Report, after being well weighed and considered, was unanimously voted to be insulting and injurious.

And therefore, unanimously Resolved, That *Thomas Robinson*, Esq., be immediately held forth to the publick as an enemy to his Country, and a contumacious opposer of liberty and the natural rights of mankind; wherefore, all persons are hereby enjoined to break off all dealings and commercial connections with the said *Robinson*.

By order of the Chairman:

SIMON KOLLOCK, Clerk.

N. B. The above *Squire Robinson*, while he attends the patriotick Assembly at *New-Castle*, never fails to vote with them, as we learn from other members, while for many years he raises a party here against the same measures.

#### NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, *July* 18, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We are honoured with your despatches of the 12th and 15th instant, and detained the express till after the rising of the Congress this day, in expectation of giving you the establishment of the Army, which is reported, but not fully confirmed and perfected; but to our great concern, such was the state of the business before the House, that we were disappointed. We shall, however, seize the first opportunity to draw this important point to a conclusion. In the mean time, as your Troops are sure of being placed on an equal footing with their neighbours, it is hoped the difficulty will not be insurmountable. This is all the satisfaction which we can at present give you on that head.

From a want of proper directions from those who had the charge of transporting the powder for the use of Major-General *Schuyler's* department, from this City to *Elizabethtown*, it has unfortunately been delayed on the road. We could do no more than complain. The fault will be repaired, and you may expect it soon.

We are not insensible to the distress to which you must be reduced, for the want of money, arms, and powder. With the first, you will soon be supplied. The difficulties attending an emission so uncommon, of which the necessary guards against counterfeits is not the least, has rendered its progress very tedious. We can give you no assurances of a supply of arms and ammunition from this quarter. Every scheme which could be devised to procure them from abroad, has been pursued, and on their success, and the efforts of the different Colonies, we must depend; for in the Southern Provinces there is very little, and none to be spared. Some blankets are to be had in this City, which will be purchased as soon as the money is issued.

We are, Gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

LEWIS MORRIS, PHILIP LIVINGSTON.

JAMES DUANE, HENRY WISNER.

Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

#### DOCTOR J. MALLETT TO WILLIAM ALLMON.

Ship *Asia*, *New-York*, *July* 18, 1775.

SIR: Relying on your discretion and prudence, I have to request your assistance in an affair that I imagine will require some dexterity to manage properly. I want to have a few articles out of the medicine store put on board Captain *Vandeput's* Ship, to be sent here, if you think it can be done so as not to be observed. You must consult with *Bowden* about it, who has the care of them; and I hope will meet with no difficulty in putting into the man-of-war boat at *Blundell's* house, at noon day, to avoid suspicion, a box of lint, the two boxes pulv. Peruvian, one do. Sal Glaub. The pot of camphire, and what opium there is packed in another small box. If you can't easily send all these articles, the box of lint, which is most wanted, may be easily carried under the arm; as also the camphire and opium. Scrape off the marks, and after it is on board, direct it for me at this place. Be cautious how you open the front part of the store. I believe you will find the key at Mrs. *Reid's*; as Mrs. *Mallett* tells me she left all the keys with her; you will leave them there again when you have got out the above articles. I hope *Bowden* will take all the care he can both of the medicines and bedding store, and give me







Sir

Lebanon 18<sup>th</sup> June 1775

In my Letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> instant, you are informed of my having your favour of the 27<sup>th</sup> of June, and of the proceedings of our Assembly on its contents, and on the earnest request of the Massachusetts Congress to augment our Troops in the public Service. — In our hurry it was omitted, that near the ending of the session, It was Resolved That two Vessels of a suitable Burden be immediately fitted out, Armed, and furnished, with Officers, Men, and necessary Warlike Stores, for Defence of the Sea Coasts in this Colony, under the care and direction of The Governor and Committee of Council. —

I have further to express, The great pleasure and Satisfaction it gives me to find that my endeavours to serve the common cause of our bleeding Country in this day of unnatural Darkneſs, meets the approbation of the Honorable General Congress of these united Colonies. — I am sensible that care and Zeal for Defence of American Liberty, attracts the attention and regard of the Honorable Members of that august Body, whose Wisdom and Prudence & Patience, Time and Labours are exercised and employed for its security. — I do most sincerely thank them for their kind Wishes — Who of us can wish to live in a Land where Virtue may not dwell? — On that solemn Day in which you have called the Inhabitants of all the English Colonies on this Continent, to Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, may the Almighty and most merciful Governor of the World, hear the Voice of His People, and His Ears be attentive to the Voice of their Supplication — redeem them from all their iniquities; — grant an Answer of Peace; — And convince our Enemies of their <sup>mis</sup>measures, of their injurious and vain attempts, to deprive us and unborn Millions of that inestimable Heavenly Gift of Freedom and Liberty. —

The Prosperity and Happiness of our Country justly demands the utmost exertion of all my Abilities. —

Wishing you all, Divine Wisdom, Direction and Influence, with an happy Union and Success. —

I am, with great Truth and Regard

Sir — Yours, and the Honorable Congress,  
most Obedient, and  
most humble Servant

John Trumbull

Honorable President Hancock



immediate notice if any one offers to meddle with them; and tell them from me, that I will take care he shall be satisfied for his trouble. If the key should not be there, I must get you to write to Mrs. Mallett, or to go up, if necessary, to know where it is put. I left them all in a drawer of my desk, and I dare say you will find them at Mrs. Reid's, as I know that of the bedding store is there. I should be glad of a bale or two of old sheets, but am afraid it will be difficult to get them. Don't risk any thing, but first let me know if it is practicable to get them, and several other articles I want, out of the medicine store on some future occasion. Captain Kingston, who brings you this, has directions to find you or Bowden, and give you all the assistance he can, and will take care of whatever you give into his charge. There are some lancets, needles, scalpels, and pocket instruments, in one of my drawers also; if they could be got at, I should be glad they were sent here, but I fear Mrs. Mallett has the keys in the country. Mr. Bruce will write to you on this subject, to enjoin your transacting this business with all imaginable precaution; and be assured you will, in return, meet with every thing to serve you in the power of your assured friend,

J. MALLET.

To Mr. William Allmon, at Dr. Bruce's, New-York, per favour of Captain Kingston

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Ticonderoga, July 18, 1775.

SIR: Your favour of the first July I only had the honour to receive on the fifteenth, on my way to this place, where I arrived this day. Be assured, Sir, that every recommendation of yours will claim my particular attention. I left Captain Elisha Phelps to forward the stores from Albany, where he will remain, unless the necessity of the service should oblige me to call him elsewhere. If any opportunity offers in which I can employ Captain Noah Phelps, I shall embrace it with alacrity. I find the Troops from your Colony, under the command of Colonel Hinman, destitute of tents, an article they much stand in need of, being now crowded into bad barracks, which I fear will be productive of disease. Should it be impossible to procure the materials for making tents in your Colony, they may possibly be furnished by the New-York Congress, which can make no material difference, as it will probably be a Continental charge. Colonel Hinman informs me that fat cattle were expected up from Connecticut for the Troops here. I had ordered Mr. Walter Livingston to purchase a hundred head. Should your Honour learn that he has succeeded, it will supersede the necessity of sending any until a future requisition.

Permit me, Sir, to assure you of my respect and esteem, and that I am your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

The Honourable Jonathan Trumbull, Esq.

P. S. Colonel Hinman begs his respects. Be pleased to forward the letters for General Washington by the next post.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Ticonderoga, July 18, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I do myself the honour to inform your Excellency of my arrival at this place early this morning, and as a person is just going to Hartford, I sit down to give you the little information I have procured.

A Canadian, who twelve days ago left St. John's, advises me that General Carleton has about four hundred men at that place; that he has thrown up a strong intrenchment, covered with chevaux-de-frise, picketed the ditch, and secured it with an abattis; that he has an advanced post of fifty men intrenched a league on this side; that there are many Indians in Canada, but believes that neither they nor the Canadians will join him; the latter he is sure will not, unless compelled by force.

You will expect that I should say something about this place and the troops here. Not one earthly thing for offence or defence has been done; the commanding officer had no orders, he only came to re-enforce the garrison, and he expected the General! But this, my dear General, as well

as what follows in this paragraph, I pray may be *entre nous*, for reasons I need not suggest. About ten o'clock last night I arrived at the landing place, the north end of Lake George, a post occupied by a captain and one hundred men. A sentinel, on being informed I was in the boat, quitted his post to go and awake the guard, consisting of three men, in which he had no success. I walked up and came to another, a sergeant's guard. Here the sentinel challenged, but suffered me to come up to him, the whole guard, like the first, in the soundest sleep. With a pen-knife only I could have cut off both guards, and then have set fire to the block-house, destroyed the stores, and starved the people here. At this post I have pointedly recommended vigilance and care, as all the stores from Fort George must necessarily be landed there. But I hope to get the better of this inattention. The officers and men are all good looking people, and decent in their deportment, and I really believe will make good soldiers as soon as I can get the better of this *nonchalance* of theirs. Bravery, I believe, they are far from wanting. As soon as I am a little settled, I shall do myself the honour to send you a return of my strength both on land and water.

I enclose your Excellency a copy of a letter from Colonel Johnson, with a copy of an examination of a person lately from Canada, contradictory of the accounts I gave you in my last from Saratoga. You will perceive that he is gone to Canada. I hope Carleton, if he should be able to procure a body of Indians, will not be in a hurry to pay us a visit. I wish to be a little more decently prepared to receive him; in doing which, be assured I shall lose no time.

I have no way of sending you any letters, with a probable hope of their coming to hand, unless by express, or by the circuitous route of Hartford; by which only, I can expect to be favoured with a line from you.

Generals Lee and Gates share with you in my warmest wishes. I shall devote the first hour I can call my own, to do myself the honour to write them.

I am, most sincerely, your Excellency's obedient and humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

P. S. Permit me, Sir, through you, to inquire the health of Colonel Reed, Major Mifflin, and Mr. Griffin.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, July 18, 1775.

SIR: Allow me to return you my sincere thanks for the kind wishes and favourable sentiments expressed in yours of the thirteenth instant. As the cause of our common Country calls us both to an active and dangerous duty, I trust that Divine Providence, which wisely orders the affairs of men, will enable us to discharge it with fidelity and success. The uncorrupted choice of a brave and free people has raised you to deserved eminence.

That the blessings of health, and the still greater blessing of long continuing to govern such a people, may be yours, is the sincere wish of, Sir, your, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Camp, July 18, 1775.

SIR: It is with no small concern that I find the arrangement of General Officers made by the honourable Continental Congress has produced dissatisfaction. As the Army is upon a general establishment, their right to supersede and contract a Provincial one must be unquestionable, and in such a cause I should hope every post would be deemed honourable which gave a man opportunity to serve his Country.

A representation from the Congress of this Province, with such remarks as occurred to me on this subject, is now before the Continental Congress. In the mean time, I beg leave to assure you that, unbiased by any private attachments, I shall studiously endeavour to reconcile their pretensions to their duty, and so dispose them as to prevent, as far as possible, any inconvenience to the publick service from this competition. I have the honour to be, &c.

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour Trumbull.



Cambridge, July 21, 1775.

Last *Saturday*, *July 15th*, the several Regiments quartered in this Town being assembled upon the parade, the Reverend Doctor *Langdon*, President of the College, read to them "A Declaration by the Representatives of the United Colonies of *North America*, now met in General Congress at *Philadelphia*, setting forth the causes and necessity of their taking up arms." It was received with great applause, and the approbation of the Army, with that of a great number of other people, was immediately announced by three huzzas. His Excellency the General, with several other General Officers, &c., were present on the occasion.

Last *Tuesday* morning, *July 18th*, according to orders issued the day before by Major-General *Putnam*, all the Continental Troops under his immediate command assembled at *Prospect Hill*, when the Declaration of the Continental Congress was read; after which an animated and pathetic address to the Army was made by the Rev. Mr. *Leonard*, Chaplain to General *Putnam's* Regiment, and succeeded by a pertinent prayer, when General *Putnam* gave the signal, and the whole Army shouted their loud amen by three cheers, immediately upon which a cannon was fired from the fort, and the standard lately sent to General *Putnam* was exhibited flourishing in the air, bearing on one side this motto, "*An appeal to Heaven*," and on the other side, "*Qui transtulit sustinet*." The whole was conducted with the utmost decency, good order, and regularity, and the universal acceptance of all present; and the *Philistines* on *Bunker's Hill* "heard the shout of the *Israelites*, and, being very fearful, paraded themselves in battle array."

## INSTRUCTIONS OF GEN. GAGE TO CAPT. CAMPBELL.

By his Excellency the Honourable THOMAS GAGE, General and Commander-in-Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in NORTH AMERICA, &c., &c., &c.

To Captain DUNCAN CAMPBELL and Lieutenant SYMES:

You are hereby directed to embark on board the *Rebecca* and *Frances*, transport, *George Hastings*, master, and proceed as fast as possible to *New-York*, where you are to receive on board your ship such men as may be inclined to serve His Majesty; and you are particularly to attend to the arrival of ships expected from *Scotland*, and to procure as many men out of them as you possibly can; and you are to do your endeavour not to suffer any of those emigrants to join the rebels on shore, and to give every encouragement to all the *Scotch* and other nations that will join you. Captain *Vandeput*, of His Majesty's Ship *Asia*, will give you all the assistance in his power, and with whom you will confer when there may be occasion; you will continue at *New-York* as long as the service you are upon may require, when you are to return to this place with all expedition, bringing as many volunteers with you as you can procure.

Given under my hand at Head-Quarters at *Boston*, this eighteenth day of *July*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

THOMAS GAGE.

By his Excellency's command:

SAMUEL KEMBLE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN FREDERICKTOWN, MARYLAND, TO HIS FRIEND IN BALTIMORE, DATED JULY 19, 1775.

On *Monday* last Captain *Morgan*, from *Virginia*, with his company of riflemen, (all chosen,) marched through this place, on their way to *Boston*. Their appearance was truly martial; their spirits amazingly elated, breathing nothing but a desire to join the *American* Army, and to engage the enemies of *American* liberty. They were met about a mile out of Town by three companies, viz: Captain *Price's* company of riflemen, Captain *Grosh's* and Captain *Beatty's* companies of militia, and escorted a few miles out of Town, amidst the acclamations of all the inhabitants who attended them; and yesterday Captain *Price*, with his company, also marched. And surely never were two finer companies raised in any Country, more determined to conquer or die, than those two companies are.

Capt. *Cresap* also, with his brave company, have marched. I need not say any thing of Captain *Cresap's* undaunted courage; not an *American* but knows him to be an intrepid warrior, and of course he knows his men, and has culled them from the many. We are also in hourly expectation of Captain *Stinson*, with his brave company, in this Town, on his way to *Boston*. God grant them a speedy and happy arrival there. So many offered to join the above companies, that not one of them but might have had one hundred men at least.

## PISCATAWAY AND BLADENSBURGH (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

Prince George's County, July 19, 1775.

The Committee of Inspection for *Piscataway* and *Bladensburg* having had information that Goods had been sold and landed by some persons belonging to ships lying in the *Eastern Branch* of *Potomack* River, met this day at *Kerbey's* Landing, and chose Colonel *Joshua Beall*, Chairman:

When *Robert Miller*, Master of the Ship *Diana*, was called before the Committee, and being asked if he had not sold or delivered to Mr. *Henry Bradford* a barrel of Porter, who, after some evasive answer, acknowledged he had made Mr. *Bradford* a present of a barrel of Porter, in consideration of sundry services he had done him last voyage, and others he expected this present voyage.

Mr. *Bradford* being then examined, acknowledged, that at the repeated and pressing requests of Captain *Miller*, he had accepted of a barrel, which he believed was Porter, though he had not tasted it since he received it from him; that at that time he did not think he was doing wrong, as he did not purchase it, and was sorry to find he had erred in accepting it, and was ready and willing to deliver it up to the Committee in the order he had received it.

Captain *Benjamin King* being examined by said Committee, declared he heard Captain *Miller* say, on the Exchange of *London*, before he came out this voyage, that he would bring to *America* any Goods he pleased.

The Committee then examined *James McKinsey*, carpenter, and *Samuel Pool*, boatswain of the Ship *Eolus*, Captain *Rankins*. They acknowledged they had sold seven pair of Shoes to different persons, and also part of a piece of Linen to the Skipper of a Schooner down the river, his name unknown to them; they declared they did not know they were breaking the rules of the Continental Congress, and agreed to give up the money they had sold the Shoes for to the *Bladensburg* Committee, to be disposed of by them as they should think proper.

*Luke Jefferson*, *Robert St. Clair*, and *Baptist Kirbey*, being examined, acknowledged they had bought Shoes of the above-named persons, viz: *Luke Jefferson* three pair, *Robert St. Clair* three pair, and *Baptist Kirbey* two pair; which they agreed to give up to the *Bladensburg* Committee.

Captain *Rankins* being examined, declared he did not know that his people brought any thing for sale, and that he had, before they sailed, told them not, as he had received orders from his owners not to suffer any Goods to come out in the ship; that as soon as he had information that his people had been selling Shoes, he made a search in the ship, and could not find any thing his people had but what was necessary for the voyage.

Resolved by the Committee aforesaid, That the Porter and Shoes be destroyed in a publick manner, and the money for which the Shoes were sold to be applied to the relief of the poor of *Boston*; and it is the opinion of this Committee, that the several persons concerned in importing, vending, purchasing, and receiving the said Goods, have been guilty of violating the Association of the Continental Congress.

Bladensburg, July 22, 1775.

Then Mr. *Henry Bradford* produced the cask of Porter to the Committee of this Town, the head of which was staved in, and the liquor thrown out on the ground, the staves and heading burnt, with six pair of the Shoes, two pair of those purchased by *Robert St. Clair* not being produced to the Committee according to promise; the eight dollars, for which the Shoes were sold, were this day paid into the hands of the Chairman.



JOHN HANCOCK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 19, 1775.

SIR: The earnest desire of several members of Congress, joined to a hearty wish of rendering service to the gentlemen, induce me to take the freedom to introduce to your notice Mr. *Ogden* and Mr. *Burr*, of the *Jerseys*, by whom this will be handed you. They are gentlemen of reputation, and visit the camp not as spectators, but with a view of joining the Army, and being active during the campaign; I beg you will please to place them in such a department as you shall judge suitable. Your notice of these gentlemen I shall esteem a particular favour.

Your despatches reached me last evening; I shall forward you the papers immediately. The result of Congress you shall know as early as possible.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK.

To his Excellency General *Washington*.

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Congress Chamber, July 19, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By advice from the Army before *Boston*, a supply of gunpowder would be very acceptable, and greatly contribute to promote the common cause. I am therefore desired by the Congress, who have had an intimation that a quantity of that article was lately imported into your City, to apply to you and request you to send forward, as speedily and safely as possible, what you can spare, to the camp before *Boston*. I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK.

To Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

ADDRESS OF COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF HILLSBOROUGH TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

To the Honourable JOHN SULLIVAN, Esquire, Brigadier-General of the Continental Army:

SIR: The Committee of Safety for the County of *Hillsborough*, in the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, having in contemplation the great services you lately rendered the County in your civil capacity, and the great abilities you then exerted at the bar in their defence, at a time when the people were most cruelly oppressed by the tools of Government, pray leave to address and congratulate you on your appointment to the rank of Brigadier-General—an appointment which, as it distinguishes your merit, so at the same time it reflects honour upon, and shews the penetrating discernment of those truly eminent patriots from whom you received it, and of whom are composed the Continental Congress. Nor are we less sanguine in our expectations of the high advantages which must result (under *God*) to the publick, by your military skill and courage, as you have been indefatigable in attaining the first, and have given a recent instance of the latter, to your great honour and reputation, in depriving our enemies of the means of annoying us at *Castle William* and *Mary*, and at the same time furnishing us with materials to defend our invaluable rights and privileges.

This, Sir, must be ever had in remembrance, and (amongst the actions of others, our heroes of 1775) handed down to the latest posterity. That the *Almighty* may direct your counsels, be with you in the day of battle, and that you may be preserved as a pattern to this people for many years to come, is our fervent prayer.

Per order: MATTHEW PATTIN, *Chairman*.

July 19, 1775.

General SULLIVAN's Answer.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the County of HILLSBOROUGH:

GENTLEMEN: Your polite congratulatory Address upon my appointment to the rank of Brigadier-General in the *American Army*, demands my most sincere and cordial thanks. Your approbation of my conduct while at the bar, acting in defence of an injured people against the arbitrary tools of Government, gives me the highest satisfaction.

The favourable opinion which you have formed of my courage and military skill, must alone be a sufficient in-

ducement for me to exert myself at this important day, and, if possible, prevent you from being disappointed in your expectations. It gives me great pleasure to find that so respectable a number of the worthy sons of freedom, in the Colony to which I belong, have so publicly given their approbation of my conduct in assisting to secure the warlike stores at *Fort William* and *Mary*, and thereby preventing those evils which must have resulted from our enemies having the possession of them. That the important office you sustain may be ever held by such worthy patriots, who, while they so nobly exert themselves in defence of our common liberties, are endeavouring to strengthen the hands of others, is, gentlemen, the earnest prayer of your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

Camp at Winter Hill, August 10, 1775.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Medford, July 19, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As we have no matters regulated in manner ordered by the Congress as yet, I can give no exact account of the state of our affairs till that time. We are in great want of bayonets for our men; I would entreat you to send some of different sizes, and a person who understands fixing them to the guns. I am sorry to inform you, that the *New-Hampshire* forces are without a Chaplain, when the Continental Congress have voted pay for a Chaplain in each regiment. Our men are obliged to attend prayers with the *Rhode-Island* Regiment, and when they assemble, the concourse is so great that few of them can hear a word that is said. It being essentially necessary in an army to keep up divine worship, I doubt not you will send us a Chaplain to each Regiment.

I must remind you that it is absolutely necessary for us to have some beds for our sick men, many having died already for the want of comfortable beds to lie upon. I therefore entreat that you would buy up and send us beds, with some stuff to make cots and hammocks.

We also are in great need of guns and blankets, several having been lost in the late engagement, and several others not fit for service.

Gentlemen, I am, with respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

Committee of Safety.

COLONEL REID TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Camp at Winter Hill, July 19, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I received yours of the 1st instant, and note the contents. You say, without knowing I had in actual service or in my eye, any person as Adjutant of my Regiment, have commissioned Mr. *McGregore*, a suitable person, &c. I doubt not but Mr. *McGregore* is a worthy and suitable gentleman for an Adjutant, and is agreeable to me, and I wish he had been so to the Regiment; but, to my surprise, when he ordered the Guards to be paraded, I soon learnt they refused to appear. I was under the necessity to order the Captain to parade them, and they immediately obeyed. You may be assured I should have done every thing in my power to have made Mr. *McGregore's* duty agreeable, but this happened at a time when no officer was in commission, nor the soldiers sworn. It was not a time to enter into a dispute; the difficulties are better known than expressed. I must beg leave to inform you, that not a single day's duty in a regiment can be done with propriety without an Adjutant; and if ever the duty of an Adjutant was necessary, it was before the late action, as well as soon after. How could you imagine that I could do one day without both Adjutant and Quartermaster; besides, you gave me the liberty of appointing both. You say, if any person I judge suitable is disposed to act as a volunteer in that capacity, without pay, you have no objection, unless it should plainly appear to you that he would not answer the end. To which I answer, I hope in time my conduct will convince you that I have the service more at heart than to be partial in the matter. I do easily perceive, that it must be very disagreeable to the honourable Committee and the worthy gentleman, Mr. *McGregore*, to be disappointed; but hope you will provide for him some other way. I heartily thank the honourable Committee



for their friendly paragraph, in which you say, you may assure yourself, that so far as the publick service will allow, you shall take pleasure in gratifying me or the Regiment, or any individual. This is the sole reason why Mr. *Peabody* is continued as Adjutant; and I presume the voice of the Regiment will make this manifest, which is the best information the nature of the thing will admit of.

Permit me, gentlemen, to remind you of your promise that I should have a Chaplain, for the want of which the service greatly suffers, as we have to borrow from other regiments, which is a thing I cannot repay.

Beg leave, at the same time, to subscribe, gentlemen, myself your obliged and ever humble servant at command,

JAMES REID.

#### WILMINGTON (NORTH-CAROLINA) COMMITTEE.

On the 20th *July*, at a monthly meeting of the Committee for the Town of *Wilmington*, and the County of *New-Hanover*, at which were occasionally present a number of gentlemen, members of the different Committees in *Wilmington* District, the Committee, upon taking the Restraining Act into consideration,

“*Resolved unanimously*, That the exception of that Colony, and some others, out of the said act, is a base and mean artifice, to seduce them into a desertion of the common cause of *America*,” and that “they will not accept of the advantages insidiously thrown out by the said act; but will adhere strictly to such plans as have been, and shall be, entered into by the honourable Continental Congress, so as to keep up a perfect unanimity with their sister Colonies.”

They also “*unanimously Resolved*, not to freight, or in any manner employ, any shipping belonging to *Poole*, and that they will not carry on any commercial intercourse or communication with the selfish people of that Town.”

The Committee, likewise, after premising that it appeared upon incontestible evidence that *John Collett*, Commander of Fort *Johnston*, was preparing the said Fort for the reception of a promised re-enforcement, and had been also guilty of various malepractices, inform the publick, that they, “having taken these things into their consideration, judged it might be of the most pernicious consequences to the people at large, if the said *John Collett* should be suffered to remain in the Fort, as he might thereby have opportunities of carrying his iniquitous schemes into execution.”

This opinion having been communicated to the officers, and the Committees of some neighbouring Counties, a great many volunteers were immediately collected, a party of whom reached *Brunswick*, when accounts were received that the said Commander had carried off all the small arms, ammunition, and part of the artillery, (the property of that Province,) together with his furniture, on board a transport hired for that purpose, there to remain until the re-enforcement should arrive, and then again to take possession of the Fort. The original design being thus frustrated, but the different detachments having met at *Brunswick*, about five hundred men marched to the Fort, and burnt and destroyed all the houses, &c., in and about the same; demolished as far as they then could the back parts of the fortification, and effectually dislodged that atrocious freebooter.

#### VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS TO NORFOLK COMMITTEE.

On *Thursday, July 20th, 1775*, one of the *Dinwiddie* volunteers was despatched to *Norfolk* with the following Letter, from the officers of the several Volunteer Companies in *Williamsburgh*, to the Committee of that Borough:

GENTLEMEN: We judge you are sensible it requires no extraordinary genius to divide, and true wisdom despises the infamous task. You have, hitherto, shown the diffusive spirit of benevolence to our cause, in your strictures on Lord *Dunmore's* letters. We are, therefore, the more truly alarmed at a report, which gives us too much grounds to fear you are, *some of you*, deserting the glorious cause; being informed that there are volunteers recruiting in opposition to the Continental plan. Our desire is, that you inform us of the verity of this report, that we may assist the proper side with all our force, as soon as we obtain authority

from the Convention, which is at present sitting, before whom we shall not fail to lay the whole state of the case.

We are, &c.

On *Saturday* he returned with the following Answer from the Committee:

To the Officers of the Volunteer Companies in *WILLIAMSBURGH*.

GENTLEMEN: We are happy in every expression of your attachment to the common interest of your Country, and are glad we can inform you there is not the least foundation for the fears you have declared for our safety, upon an ill-grounded report, that any among us are deserting the cause of their Country, and enlisting against it. It is a report, we can assure you, that is totally devoid of truth. You may depend, we would not sit still as indifferent spectators of such hostile measures. The time may come, when we may stand in need of your assistance, surrounded as we are by armed vessels and some suspected inhabitants; we trust we shall then receive it; and should the Convention, hereafter, think it necessary to quarter any of you among us, you may rest assured we shall welcome you with willing hearts and open arms.

We are, Gentlemen, your humble servants. By order of the Committee: WILLIAM DAVIES, *Secretary*.

#### CAPTAIN MONTAGUE TO CAPTAIN SQUIRE, OF HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP OTTER.

Fowey, Hampton Roads, July 20, 1775.

SIR: *Joseph Harris*,\* the bearer of this letter, has applied to me for protection, as the people of *Hampton* and some other places have threatened his destruction, as they have found him to have given intelligence concerning a smuggling schooner, which was seized in *Cherry-Stone* Creek. As the *Fowey* will soon leave the Province, I think him too useful to His Majesty's service to take away, he being well acquainted with many creeks on the *Eastern* Shore, at *York*, *James River*, and *Nansemond*, and many others, and of course a very useful person, especially in tenders, as he is not acquainted with the duties of a seaman, but accustomed to pilot, as he had a boat for that use, which is now detained by violence in *Hampton* harbour. He has always appeared very sober and prudent, is a free-man, and I could wish strongly to recommend him to such indulgence as his endeavours may merit. Agreeable to my Lord *Dunmore's* application, I have sent up the *Arundel*, and Mr. *Atkinson* her officer, and will send Mr. *Ruth* in the *Liberty*. I have taken such stores and hawser out of the *Arundel* as belonged to the Crown when with me employed on His Majesty's service, and have fitted her with her real private property.

I am, dear Sir, your very humble servant,

GEORGE MONTAGUE.

*Pastoral Letter from the Synod of New-York and Philadelphia, to the Congregations under their care; delivered from the Pulpit on the 20th of JULY, 1775, being the day appointed by the Honourable Congress for a General Fast.*

VERY DEAR BRETHREN: The Synod of *New-York* and *Philadelphia* being met, at a time when publick affairs wear so threatening an aspect, and when (unless God in his sovereign providence speedily prevent it) all the horrors of a civil war throughout this great Continent are to be apprehended, were of opinion, that they could not discharge their duty to the numerous Congregations under their care, without addressing them at this important crisis. As the firm belief, and habitual recollection of the power and presence of the living God ought at all times to possess the minds of real Christians; so in seasons of publick calamity, when the Lord is known by the judgments which he executeth, it would be an ignorance or indifference highly criminal, not to look up to him with reverence, to implore his mercy by humble and fervent prayer, and, if possible, to prevent his vengeance by unfeigned repentance.

We do, therefore, brethren, beseech you, in the most earnest manner, to look beyond the immediate authors

\* A Runaway mulatto slave, belonging to Mr. *Henry King*, of *Hampton*.



either of your sufferings or fears, and to acknowledge the holiness and justice of the *Almighty* in the present visitation. He is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works. Affliction springeth not out of the dust. He doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men; and, therefore, it becometh every person, family, City, and Province, to humble themselves before his throne, to confess their sins, by which they have provoked his indignation, and entreat him to pour out upon all ranks a spirit of repentance and of prayer. Fly, also, for forgiveness, to the atoning blood of the Great Redeemer—the blood of sprinkling, which speaketh better things than that of *Abel*. Remember and confess, not only your sins in general, but those prevalent national offences which may justly be considered as the procuring causes of publick judgments—particularly profaneness and contempt of *God*, his name, Sabbath, and sanctuary; pride, luxury, uncleanness, and neglect of family religion and government, with the deplorable ignorance and security which certainly ought to be imputed to this as their principal cause. All these are among us, highly aggravated by the inestimable privileges which we have hitherto enjoyed without interruption, since the first settlement of this Country. If in the present day of distress we expect that *God* will hear our supplications, and interpose for our protection or deliverance, let us remember what he himself requires of us is that our prayers should be attended with a sincere purpose and thorough endeavour after personal and family reformation. “If thou prepare thine heart, and stretch out thine hand towards him: if iniquity be in thine hand, put it far away; and let not wickedness dwell in thy tabernacles.” *Job* xi, 13 and 14.

The Synod cannot help thinking, that this is a proper time for pressing all of every rank seriously to consider the things that belong to their eternal peace. Hostilities, long feared, have now taken place; the sword has been drawn in one Province, and the whole Continent, with hardly any exception, seem determined to defend their rights by force of arms. If, at the same time, the *British* Ministry shall continue to enforce their claims by violence, a lasting and bloody contest must be expected. Surely, then, it becomes those who have taken up arms, and profess a willingness to hazard their lives in the cause of liberty, to be prepared for death, which to many must be the certain, and to every one is a possible or probable event.

We have long seen, with concern, the circumstances which occasioned, and the gradual increase of this unhappy difference. As Ministers of the Gospel of peace, we have ardently wished that it could, and often hoped that it would, have been more early accommodated. It is well known to you, (otherwise it would be imprudent, indeed, thus publicly to profess,) that we have not been instrumental in inflaming the minds of the people, or urging them to acts of violence and disorder. Perhaps no instance can be given on so interesting a subject, in which political sentiments have been so long and so fully kept from the pulpit; and even malice itself has not charged us with labouring from the press. But things are now come to such a state, that we do not wish to conceal our opinions as men and citizens; so the relation we stand in to you seemed to make the present improvement of it to your spiritual benefit our indispensable duty. Suffer us, then, to lay hold of your present temper of mind, and to exhort, especially the young and vigorous, by assuring them, that there is no soldier so undaunted as the pious man; no army so formidable as those who are superiour to the fear of death. There is nothing more awful to think of, than that those whose trade is war should be despisers of the name of the Lord of Hosts, and that they should expose themselves to the imminent danger of being immediately sent from cursing and cruelty on earth, to the blaspheming rage and despairing horror of the infernal pit. Let, therefore, every one who, from generosity of spirit or benevolence of heart, offers himself as a champion in his Country's cause, be persuaded to reverence the name, and walk in the fear of the Prince of the Kings of the earth; and then he may, with the most unshaken firmness, expect the issue either in victory or death.

Let it not be forgotten, that though, for the wise ends of his providence, it may please *God* for a season to suffer his people to lie under unmerited oppression; yet, in gene-

ral, we may expect, that those who fear and serve him in sincerity and truth will be favoured with his countenance and strength. It is both the character and the privilege of the children of *God*, that they call upon him in the day of trouble, and he, who keepeth covenant and truth forever, has said, that his ears are always open to their cry. We need not mention to you in how many instances the event in battles, and success in war, have turned upon circumstances which were inconsiderable in themselves, as well as out of the power of human prudence to foresee or direct; because we suppose you firmly believe, that after all the counsels of men, and the most probable and promising means, the Lord will do that which seemeth him good. Nor hath his promise ever failed of its full accomplishment. “The Lord is with you while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.” *2 Chron.* xv. 2.

After this exhortation, which we thought ourselves called upon to give you at this time on your great interest—the one thing needful—we shall take the liberty to offer a few advices to the Societies under our charge, as to their publick and general conduct. And first, in carrying on this important struggle, let every opportunity be taken to express your attachment and respect to our Sovereign King *George*, and to the Revolution principles by which his august family was seated on the *British* throne. We recommend, indeed, not only allegiance to him from duty and principle, as the first magistrate of the empire, but esteem and reverence for the person of the Prince, who has merited well of his subjects on many accounts; and who has probably been misled into the late and present measures by those about him. Neither have we any doubt that they themselves have been, in a great degree, deceived by false information from interested persons residing in *America*. It gives us the greatest pleasure to say, from our own certain knowledge of all belonging to our communion, and from the best means of information of the far greatest part of all denominations in this Country, that the present opposition to the measures of Administration does not in the least arise from disaffection to the King, or a desire of separation from the Parent State. We are happy in being able with truth to affirm, that no part of *America* would either have approved or permitted such insults as have been offered to the Sovereign in *Great Britain*. We exhort you, therefore, to continue in the same disposition, and not to suffer oppression or injury itself easily to provoke you to any thing which may seem to betray contrary sentiments. Let it ever appear, that you only desire the preservation and security of those rights which belong to you as freemen and *Britons*, and that reconciliation upon these terms is your most ardent desire.

Secondly: Be careful to maintain the union which at present subsists through all the Colonies. Nothing can be more manifest, than that the success of every measure depends on its being inviolably preserved; and therefore, we hope that you will leave nothing undone which can promote that end. In particular, as the Continental Congress, now sitting at *Philadelphia*, consists of Delegates chosen in the most free and unbiassed manner by the body of the people, let them not only be treated with respect, but encouraged in their difficult service; not only let your prayers be offered up to *God* for his direction in their proceedings, but adhere firmly to their resolutions; and let it be seen that they are able to bring out the whole strength of this vast Country to carry them into execution. We would also advise, for the same purpose, that a spirit of candour, charity, and mutual esteem be preserved and promoted towards those of different religious denominations. Persons of probity and principle, of every profession, should be united together as servants of the same Master; and the experience of our happy concord hitherto in a state of liberty, should engage all to unite together in support of the common interest; for there is no example in history in which civil liberty was destroyed, and the rights of conscience preserved entire.

Thirdly: We do earnestly exhort and beseech the Societies under our care, to be strict and vigilant in their private government, and to watch over the morals of their several members. It is with the utmost pleasure we remind you, that the last Continental Congress determined to discourage luxury in living, publick diversions, and gaming of all kinds, which have so fatal an influence on the



morals of the people. If it is undeniable that universal profligacy makes a nation ripe for divine judgments, and is the natural mean of bringing them to ruin, reformation of manners is of the utmost necessity in our present distress. At the same time, as it has been observed by many eminent writers, that the censorial power, which had for its object the manners of the publick in the ancient free States, was absolutely necessary to their continuance, we cannot help being of opinion, that the only thing which we have now to supply the place of this, is the religious discipline of the several sects with respect to their own members; so that the denomination or profession which shall take the most effectual care of the instruction of its members, and maintain its discipline in the fullest vigour, will do the most essential service to the whole body. For the very same reason, the greatest service which magistrates or persons in authority can do with respect to the religion or morals of the people, is to defend and secure the rights of conscience in the most equal and impartial manner.

Fourthly: We cannot but recommend, and urge in the warmest manner, a regard to order and publick peace; and as in many places, during the confusions that prevail, legal proceedings have become difficult, it is hoped that all persons will conscientiously pay their just debts, and to the utmost of their power serve one another, so that the evils inseparable from a civil war, may not be augmented by wantonness and irregularity.

Fifthly: We think it of importance at this time, to recommend to all of every rank, but especially to those who may be called to action, a spirit of humanity and mercy. "Every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood." It is impossible to appeal to the sword without being exposed to many scenes of cruelty and slaughter; but it is often observed, that civil wars are carried on with a rancour and spirit of revenge, much greater than those between independent states. The injuries received or supposed in civil wars, wound more deeply than those of foreign enemies; it is, therefore, the more necessary to guard against this abuse, and recommend that meekness and gentleness of spirit, which is the noblest attendant on true valour. That man will fight most bravely who never fights until it is necessary, and who ceases to fight as soon as the necessity is over.

Lastly: We would recommend to all the Societies under our care, not to content themselves with attending devoutly on general fasts, but to continue habitually in the exercise of prayer, and to have frequent occasional voluntary meetings for solemn intercession with God on the important trial. Those who are immediately exposed to danger, need your sympathy; and we learn from the Scriptures, that fervency and importunity are the very characters of that prayer of the righteous man which availeth much.

We conclude with our most earnest prayer, that the God of Heaven may bless you in your temporal and spiritual concerns, and that the present unnatural dispute may be speedily terminated by an equitable and lasting settlement on constitutional principles.

Signed in the name, presence, and by appointment of the Synod:

BENJAMIN HAIT, Moderator.

New-York, May 12, 1775.

ETHAN ALLEN TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, July 20, 1775.

RESPECTABLE GENTLEMEN: When I reflect on the unhappy controversy which hath many years subsisted between the Government of New-York and the settlers on the New-Hampshire Grants, and also contemplate on the friendship and union that hath lately taken place between the Government and those its former discontented subjects, in making a united resistance against ministerial vengeance and slavery, I cannot but indulge fond hopes of reconciliation. To promote this salutary end I shall contribute my influence, assuring your Honours, that your respectful treatment, not only to Mr. Warner and myself, but to the Green Mountain Boys in general, in forming them into a battalion, are by them duly regarded, and I will be responsible that they will retaliate this favour by boldly hazarding their lives, if need be, in the common cause of America.

I hope no gentleman in the Congress will retain any

preconceived prejudices against me, as, on my part, I shall not against any of them; but as soon as opportunity may permit and the publick cause not suffer thereby, shall hold myself in readiness to settle all former disputes and grievances on honourable terms.

I am, Gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your devoted, most obedient humble servant,

ETHAN ALLEN.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress, New-York.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WATERTOWN TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED JULY 20, 1775.

Our new Assembly met yesterday, and only chose a Speaker and a Clerk. I shall now endeavour to inform you what has happened in the military way since my last. The attempt on Long-Island, the taking off all the stock, and afterwards returning to burn the buildings, &c., (which you will have in the papers,) was certainly a bold intrepid manœuvre, and as such, astonished our enemies. The barges full of armed men were afraid to attack our whale-boats at a proper distance, and the armed vessels, either agitated by fear, or destitute of judgment, did it without execution. The next thing that took place was, the possessing and fortifying a post by Brown's house, on the neck, near their lines; this has been effected with the loss of only one man, and he not employed there, though they worked in open sight of them, and exposed to an incessant fire from their cannon, which our people treated with the extremest contempt, not so much as leaving their work or firing a shot. No general movement has taken place. There was an appearance of one the day before yesterday, on the Roxbury side, but they disappointed General Thomas, who commands there, and made an excellent disposition to receive them. Roxbury is amazingly strong. I believe it would puzzle ten thousand troops to go through it, I mean of the best in the world. I am just told that our boats have this day been at the Light-House, and burnt it, in spite of the firing from the men-of-war and a number of boats. I hear it was executed by three hundred Rhode-Islanders, without any loss. It is said they are more afraid of our whale-boats than we are of their men-of-war; and a few armed vessels, I am well convinced, would produce great consequences. Captain Derby, who went to England with the account of the battle of the nineteenth of April, returned two days ago. He was there eight days, and came away before General Gage's packet arrived. He says trade and stocks were amazingly affected in that short time. Lord Dartmouth sent for him three times, but he refused to go; and when he threatened him, he decamped, got on board, and came off without clearing or entering. By a letter from London by him, I fancy General Gage is to expect no re-enforcement this fall. The troops are very sickly in Boston, and greatly reduced.

TO ALL SEAFARING PEOPLE.

Preston, at Boston, July 20, 1775.

This is to give notice, that the Light-House on Thatcher's Island, (commonly called Cape Anne Lights) and the Light-House at the entrance of Boston Harbour, are burnt and destroyed by the Rebels.

And further notice is given, that all seafaring people be careful that they are not deceived by false lights, which the Rebels threaten to hang out, in order to decoy vessels into destruction. By command of the Admiral:

G. GEEFERINA.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED SALEM, JULY 20, 1775.

I have just time to acquaint you, that within these few days we have had offers from some maritime Powers, secretly conveyed to us, that if we wanted assistance from either of them, in money or men-of-war, we shall be supplied, upon condition that when peace is restored to these unhappy Colonies, we open a trade with them, and exclude our Mother Country from any share of it. Their offers are at present rejected. The Spaniards have now in the West-Indies a fleet of men-of-war of great force, and the Spanish Islands are full of soldiers, waiting in expectation that we shall embrace their offers. But I hope Government will find out some means to bring about a reconciliation;



for we are so loyal, that nothing but depredation can make us submit to go under the *Spanish* yoke. All things have remained quiet since the seventeenth of last month, except some small skirmishes. I send this by our post to *New-York*, so that I hope it will come safe to hand.

Newbern, North-Carolina, July 21, 1775.

Agreeable to an order of the honourable the Continental Congress, yesterday, the twentieth instant, was observed here as a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer, to humble ourselves before *God*, and to deprecate his impending judgments now held over this land for our sins and offences. Divine service was performed in the church, and a very animating and spirited discourse, suitable to the occasion, was read by a member of the Committee, to a very crowded audience, who were assembled on the occasion. A deputation from the Committee had been ordered, previous to the day, to wait on the Reverend Mr. *James Reed*, Minister of the Parish, to request and entreat him to perform divine service in his church on the fast day, and deliver a sermon; but their entreaties were vain, he giving as a substantial reason, that as he was one of the missionaries of the honourable Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, he should render himself obnoxious to the Ministry, and of course lose his mission.

Committee Chamber, July 21, 1775.

The Committee taking into consideration the unaccountable behaviour and conduct of Mr. *Reed*, in deserting his congregation yesterday, when almost all ranks and denominations of Christians among us were assembled at the church, by order of the Continental Congress, to humiliate ourselves before *God*, by fasting and prayer, to avert from us his heavy judgments now hanging over us; have resolved, that the vestry of this Parish be earnestly requested to suspend the said *James Reed* from his ministerial function in the said Parish, and that they immediately direct their church-wardens to stop payment of the said Mr. *Reed's* salary as Minister of the said Parish.

In General Committee, July 23, 1775.

The Select Committee having passed a vote of censure on the Reverend Mr. *James Reed*, for refusing to perform divine service in his church on the day set apart by the Continental Congress for a fast, a motion was made that the said suspension be agreed to; whereupon it was resolved unanimously, that the said suspension be confirmed.

BENJAMIN HARRISON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, July 21, 1775.

DEAR GENERAL: I received your very acceptable favour of the tenth instant, by express. Your fatigue and various kinds of trouble, I dare say are great; but they are not more than I expected, knowing the people you have to deal with by the sample we have here. The Congress have taken the two regiments, now raising in *Connecticut*, into service, which, with riflemen and recruits to your regiments, will, I hope, make up the number voted by your Council of War. I wish, with all my heart, your troops were better, and your stores more complete; every thing that we can do here, to put you in the best posture possible, I think you may depend will be done. I trust you will have a supply soon of ammunition; without an accident you may depend on it. The want of Engineers, I fear, is not to be supplied in *America*. Some folks here seemed much displeased at your report on that head. They affirm there are two very good ones with you—a Colonel *Gridley*, I think, is one. I took the liberty to say that they must be mistaken; they were certainly either not in camp, or could not have the skill they were pleased to say they had. This, in my soft way, put a stop to any thing more on the subject. Indeed, my friend, I do not know what to think of some of these men; they seem to be exceeding hearty in the cause, but still wish to keep every thing amongst themselves. Our President is quite of a different cast—noble, disinterested, and generous, to a very great degree. The Congress have given you the appointment of three Brigade Majors. Mr. *Trumbull* has the office you proposed for him. The appointment of the Commissary of Artillery, ditto of Mus-

ters, and Quartermaster-General, are also left to your disposal. Nothing is yet done as to the hospital, but I will bring it on very soon. Your brothers in the Delegation have recommended it to our Convention to send some *Virginians* to the camp, at the expense of our Colony, to learn the military art; and I hope you will see them soon. We have given the commission of First Brigadier to Mr. *Thomas*. As *Putnam's* commission was delivered, it would, perhaps, have offended the old gentleman to have superseded him; the other, I hope, will still act. The Congress have, from your account, a high opinion of him, and I dare say will grant any thing in their power that he may hereafter require. Your hint for a remove of the Congress to some place nearer to you, will come on to-morrow. I think it will not answer your expectations if we should remove; you shall have the result in the close of this. The military chest, I hope, will be supplied soon; they begin to strike the bills this day, so that I hope some may be forwarded to you next week; what has occasioned the delay in this article I know not, without an imitation of the Congress, in its slowness, is become fashionable. I have had no further account from our country about the Governor, except that he is still at *Yorktown*, with three men-of-war. He, *Montague*, and *Foye*, went the other day by water to his farm, and were within three or four minutes of being all taken by Captain *Meredith*, with seventy men from *Hanover*, who are, with about one hundred and fifty from other counties, guarding *Williamsburgh* from any attempts that he may make with his boiled crabs. *Meredith* says his intentions were to carry his Lordship to *Williamsburgh*, to put him into the Palace, and promise him protection, to convince him and the world that no injury was intended him; however, as he missed his stroke, I dare say he will be charged with intending to murder him. We think the season too far advanced to send you any more men from the southward, but it seems to be the general opinion to send some thousands early in the spring. Should this be the case, if I have the honour of being here, you may depend on my care of Mr. *Johnston*. We have an imperfect account of an attack on *New-York* by some of the over-lake *Indians*. I hope it is not true; indeed, (betwixt you and I,) I give very little credit to any thing from that quarter, and wish I could say I had no reason to be suspicious of those people. We yesterday received despatches from *Georgia*; they have come into the Union, and have appointed Delegates to the Congress. They have even done more; they, with the *South-Carolinians*, armed a vessel, and have taken a ship with one hundred and forty barrels of the King's powder, which they have divided betwixt them.

*Twenty-third*.—The debate about our remove was taken up yesterday, and determined in the negative. I proposed a Committee, but could not carry it. I think the last method would have answered your purpose best, but the gentlemen could not think of parting with the least particle of their power. *Pendleton* left us yesterday; all *Maryland* are gone off this day, and we intend to follow them next *Sunday*, if nothing material happens betwixt this and then. Our going, I expect, will break up the Congress; indeed I think it is high time there was an end of it: we have been too long together.

*Edmund Randolph* is here, and has the greatest desire to be with you. He has begged of me to say something in his favour, and that if you can with propriety, you will keep one of the places now in your gift for him; he is not able to support himself, or he would not ask this of you. You know him as well as I do; he is one of the cleverest young men in *America*, and if Mr. *Reed* should leave you, his place of Secretary can't be better supplied. He will set off for *New-York* in a few days, and I beg it as a favour of you to write a line to him, to be left at the post-office there till called for. This deserving young man was in high repute in *Virginia*, and he fears his father's conduct may tend to lessen him in the esteem of his countrymen. He has taken this method without the advice of his friends, to raise him into favour. As he is determined on the thing I am sure our good old Speaker will be much obliged for any favour you show him. Applications of this sort, I fear, will be too frequent. I shall avoid them as much as possible; but I could not refuse it on this occasion, well knowing that a most valuable young man, and one that I



love, without some step of this sort, may, from the misconduct of his parent, be lost to his Country, which now stands much in need of men of his abilities. We have a report that *Bob McKenzie* was killed at *Bunker's Hill*. Is it true? I had a great friendship for him formerly, but can't help saying I shall be glad to hear the news confirmed.

*Twenty-fourth*.—Nothing new in Congress, or from *Virginia* to-day. I should therefore have closed this, without saying more, had not an application been made to me to introduce to you Captain *Thomas Price*, of a Company of Riflemen from *Maryland*. He comes with a high character from thence, and is looked on as most firmly attached to the cause of *America*. He has a large family, which he has left merely to forward the service. The Deputies from that country are gone home. I have seen a letter in his favour to Mr. *Tilghman*, highly commending him; and as he could not, through that channel, get a recommendation, I have been prevailed on to introduce him, which liberty I hope you will excuse. I am, my dear Sir, yours, &c.

BENJAMIN HARRISON.

#### BUCKS COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Bucks County, July 21, 1775.

Complaints being made by several officers of the Associated Companies, that sundry persons from various causes had attempted to raise second Companies in their Townships, whereby those already associated were weakened, and in some instances had been greatly insulted:

The Committee having considered the same, are of opinion, that as harmony and unanimity are essentially necessary in prosecuting the present unhappy contest, and as Field-Officers are now appointed for the respective Battalions of the County, no second Companies ought to be raised in any Township, without leave being first obtained from them for that purpose.

Whereas, several persons who were chosen members of this Committee in *December* last, have hitherto neglected to attend the same, and others who have attended, have, from scruples of conscience, made application to be discharged, the Committee therefore request all those who do not purpose attending for the future to advertise their respective Townships with their determination, at the same time appointing some convenient time and place for the inhabitants to meet, and choose other suitable persons in their room, who are desired to meet the Committee on *Monday*, the 21st of *August*, at the house of *John Bogart*, in *Buckingham Township*.

By order of the Committee:

HENRY WYNKOOP, Clerk.

#### HUNTINGTON (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

Committee Chamber, Huntington, July 21, 1775.

Mr. *Hobart* laid before the Committee a Letter from the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York* in the recess of the Provincial Congress, dated *New-York*, July 14, 1775, directed to him, containing information that *George Youngs* and his son, *John Brush*, and one *Conkling*, were concerned in Provisions in such manner as they must inevitably serve to supply General *Gage's* Fleet and Army at *Boston*; and inclosing notes taken from two witnesses on that subject, which were read. Messrs. *Youngs*, *Brush*, and *Conkling* being present, acknowledged that they had sent two Sloops loaded with Provisions to the eastward, but it was in consequence of an agreement with the inhabitants of *Portsmouth*, in *New-Hampshire*; that upon their arrival in the harbour of *Portsmouth*, they were taken by two *English* men-of-war; and though Governour *Wentworth* and the Committee of the Town claimed the Provisions as theirs by contract, they were sent, very much against their inclination, to *Boston*, where they were obliged to sell their Provisions under great disadvantages, and at great loss; since which they have discontinued their trade to the eastward, nor have they at present any thoughts of resuming it. In confirmation of all which, they produced *Timothy Titus*, who was mate of one of the sloops, who deposed as follows, viz:

*Timothy Titus* deposed: that he was mate of the Sloop *Elizabeth*, whereof *Cornelius Conkling* was master, for the two voyages she lately made to *Portsmouth*, in *New-Hamp-*

*shire*; that about the latter end of *April* last, being at *Portsmouth* aforesaid, when *John Conkling*, in a sloop loaded by *John Brush* of *Huntington*, was there, he was knowing to a contract made by the said *Cornelius Conkling* and *John Conkling*, with the inhabitants of *Portsmouth*, to deliver two cargoes of Provisions there, with all convenient speed, provided they could clear out from *New-York*; that on the 18th of *May* following, said two sloops sailed from the east end of *Long-Island*, and on the 21st they arrived within a few hours of each other in *Portsmouth* harbour, where they were taken by the *Canceaux* and *Scarborough* men-of-war; and notwithstanding the application of Governour *Wentworth* and the Committee of *Portsmouth*, they were sent to *Boston* under convoy of the *Sphinx*, sloop-of-war, where they were obliged to sell their cargoes at the price the agents were pleased to give; after which they were permitted to come away. And this deponent further saith, he has never heard any persons concerned in the aforesaid voyage propose to send their sloops upon another voyage to the eastward.

TIMOTHY TITUS.

Sworn the 21st July, 1775.

Before me,

JOHN SLOSS HOBART,  
Justice of the Peace.

The Committee taking the premises into consideration, came to the following Resolution, viz:

*Resolved unanimously*, That the said *Youngs* and his son, *Brush*, and *Conkling*, in this matter have not contravened the Association, nor in any wise disobeyed the recommendations of the Continental or Provincial Congresses.

Whereas, it appears that great uneasiness prevails in the minds of many people upon this subject, arising from a laudable zeal to prevent any Provisions being sent to the instruments of tyranny and oppression at *Boston*,

*Ordered*, That the parties concerned be allowed a copy of the Minutes for publication.

THOMAS WICKES, Chairman.

#### COL. JAMES CLINTON TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Little-Britain, July 21, 1775.

I have just now received your letter dated *July* 17th, requesting me to prepare and lay before the Congress of this Colony at *New-York*, a state of my Regiment, and of the number of men ready and fit for service in each company, and likewise requesting me to inform the Congress when the Regiment will be complete and ready to take the field, with all possible despatch.

I can only acquaint you that I have mustered Captain *Nicholson's* company, and Captain *Denton's*; *Nicholson's* is complete, *Denton's* wants but four men. Captains *Brown* and *Hasbrouck*, at *Kingston*, have made but small progress, as they have but lately begun to enlist; but I make no doubt they will soon get their men. I have seen Captain *Billings* at *Poughkeepsie*, who says his company is complete, and I suppose Captain *Dubois's* is by this time. I ordered him to apply to Captain *Swartwout* to muster the two last companies, as he was appointed for that purpose.

I have had no account from Captain *Johnston*, at *Orangetown*, nor the three Captains on *Long-Island*; but I suppose they have made a return to the Congress agreeable to the directions given them in their warrant. As the companies appointed to my Regiment are at so great a distance from each other, it is almost impossible for me to make a return of the Regiment till I meet the Congress in *New-York* next *Tuesday*, which I intend to do as near the time as possible. I am, Sir, your humble servant,

JAMES CLINTON.

To *Henry Williams*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety for the City of *New-York*.

P. S. I find arms a scarce article amongst the men, they not having a sufficient quantity to exercise them.

#### ELISHA PHELPS TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Albany, July 21, A. D. 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Being appointed by his Honour the Governour of *Connecticut*, according to your resolve, to be Commissary, to receive at *Albany* provisions, &c., from the Provincial Convention of *New-York*, when I received the small stores of Mr. *Bleecker*, the Com-



missary in *Albany*, found them very deficient, according to the act of the Colony of *Connecticut*; on which I immediately applied to the Committee, who told me they had no orders to purchase; but some of them gave me, as their private advice, to purchase according to act of said Colony, whose advice I followed, and have purchased about three hundred barrels of flour, thirty barrels of molasses, some rum, sugar, vinegar, &c., and some hospital stores; which I have done on the credit of the United Colonies of *North America*; would therefore take it as a great favour, if I could have from your Honours a sum of money sufficient to discharge said debts, and also to supply the Army with other necessaries, and pay wagoners, &c., as they complain much for want of money, which I suppose would be much for the advantage of the cause we are embarked in, and to the honour of your humble servant; which business you may depend will be done with as much spirit and despatch as possible.

I have thought proper, as a part of my duty, to make return of the provision received and forwarded, as I have done to his Honour the Governour of *Connecticut*, and to the Provincial Congress of *New-York* and *Massachusetts-Bay*. Whilst, honoured gentlemen, I think I am doing my duty in the cause of my country, I am, with the greatest respect, your humble servant, at command,

ELISHA PHELPS.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

*Return of Provisions, &c., forwarded to the Northern Army by ELISHA PHELPS, Commissary, from the 3d day of JULY, 1775, to the 20th of JULY, 1775, inclusive:*

Received, 32 barrels of pork: 507 barrels of flour: 49 bushels of *Indian* meal: 10 tierces of rice: 7 tierces and 15 barrels of peas: 260 gallons of rum: 50 ferkins of butter: 3 barrels of sugar: 56½ barrels of molasses: 3 barrels of vinegar: 150 weight of chocolate: 40 camp kettles: 6 brass kettles: 12 iron pots and kettles: 86 hatchets: 50 *Indian* blankets: 1 box of pick-axes: 14 quires of paper: 4 saddles and bridles: 12 barrels of salt: 21 casks of nails: 20 barrels of pitch: 2 tons of bar iron.

Forwarded, 24 barrels of pork: 371 barrels of flour: 9 bushels of *Indian* meal: 10 tierces of rice: 7 tierces and 15 barrels of peas: 260 gallons of rum: 50 ferkins of butter: 3 barrels of sugar: 56½ barrels of molasses: 3 barrels of vinegar: 150 weight of chocolate: 40 camp kettles: 6 brass kettles: 12 iron pots and kettles: 86 hatchets: 50 *Indian* blankets: 1 box of pick-axes: 14 quires of paper: 3 saddles and bridles: 11 barrels of salt: 5 casks of nails: 5 barrels of pitch.

On hand, 8 barrels of pork: 40 bushels of *Indian* meal: 1 saddle and bridle: 1 barrel of salt: 16 casks of nails: 15 barrels of pitch: 2 tons of bar iron.

Errours excepted: ELISHA PHELPS, Commissary.  
*Albany*, July 21, 1775.

JOHN N. BLEECKER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

*Albany*, July 21, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Although I intimated in mine of the 3d instant, that I would soon transmit accounts of the expenses in my department here, yet it is not in my power at present to give such an exact state of the charges as I could wish, as several accounts have not yet been delivered in for provisions, &c., supplied for the Provincial service. But being desirous to render accounts, under these circumstances I enclose you general accounts of stores and provisions received, purchased on credit, forwarded, issued, &c. You have also enclosed an account of expenses, so far as have come to my hands, by which a balance of £1,225 remains due, which I have in some measure engaged would be soon paid; and as those with whom the debts are contracted make daily application to me for money, in particular the wagoners, who have been employed, and intimate, that unless their demands are satisfied very soon they must decline riding, since they have not wherewith to purchase hard fodder for their horses, I therefore hope you will be pleased to put it in my power to fulfil my promises, by furnishing me with a sufficient sum of money to discharge the above-mentioned balance; and all publick moneys which have or may be delivered into my hands, I shall account for in a

future settlement, by producing such vouchers for disbursements as I doubt not will meet your approbation.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, and most humble servant,

JOHN N. BLEECKER.

P. V. B. Livingston, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read September 13, 1775.]

*Ticonderoga*, July 21, 1775.

SIR: I arrived here early on *Tuesday* morning, the 18th instant, having been detained at *Fort George* and the Landing in giving directions and making preparations to keep up the communication, that the provision and stores for the Army may be forwarded without interruption, whenever they shall be sent.

I cannot find that any intelligence has been received from *Canada*, on which any great dependance can be made; yet accounts from all quarters agree that the *Canadians* are friendly to us; that they refuse to assist General *Carleton*; and that the *Indians* will remain neuter. I have great reason to believe it is so.

A *Canadian*, who left *Canada* thirteen days ago, informs me that a large body of *Indians* had come there; that Governour *Carleton* attempted to engage them to fight against us; that he believed he would have little success; that some of the young men inclined to take up the hatchet, but that the elderly men opposed it; that the *Canadians* will not act against us, some of the noblesse and very lower kind excepted; that timber was preparing on the north side of the *St. John's* to construct some craft; that he saw nothing of a floating battery; that they have thrown up lines strengthened with a chevaux-de-frise, a picketed ditch and abattis; that about a league on this side they have an advanced guard of fifty men, covered by a small intrenchment.

This, then, is the time to gain intelligence with certainty by going to *St. John's* with a respectable body, giving the *Canadians* to understand, when we arrive there, that we mean nothing more than to prevent the regular Troops from getting a naval strength, and interrupting the friendly intercourse that has subsisted between us and them. But, unfortunately, not one earthly thing has been done here to enable me to move hence; I have neither boats sufficient, nor any materials prepared for building them. The stores I ordered from *New-York* are not yet arrived. I have therefore not a nail, no pitch, no oakum, and want a variety of articles indispensably necessary, which I estimated and delivered to the *New-York* Congress on the 3d inst. An almost equal scarcity of ammunition subsists, no powder having yet come to hand; not a gun-carriage for the few proper guns we have; and as yet very little provision; two hundred Troops less than by my last return, these badly, very badly armed indeed; and one poor armourer to repair their guns.

Armourers and armourers' tools, I had also ordered up, but not yet arrived. However, I believe the *New-York* Congress have sent off the articles I requested of them; if so, I shall probably soon have them here. I shall not delay a moment in making the necessary preparations to move, agreeably to the orders you have been pleased to give me. Since my arrival I have repaired one saw mill, and given directions to do the same with another. The first will begin to work on *Sunday*, the other can only begin when the saws arrive, which are amongst the other things I have ordered from *New-York*.

Until the stores from *New-York* arrive, I shall employ my carpenters (about thirty in number, exclusive of what I may get out of the Troops) in procuring timber and plank for the boats, &c., &c.

Although I made not a moment's delay in issuing the necessary orders, agreeably to your resolutions, and those of the *New-York* Congress, for levying five hundred of the *Green Mountain* Boys, yet nothing has been done by that people, occasioned by disputes and jealousies among themselves, on the appointment of officers. Messrs. *Allen* and *Warner* have both been here, and left this only yesterday. They wish to appoint the officers themselves, and have applied to me for that purpose; but your orders are positive, and the people averse to it.



I now find that my conjectures, given you in a former letter, as to their numbers, were well founded, for both *Allen* and *Warner* declare that they will be obliged to recruit in *New-England* to complete the five hundred men to be raised; so that this intended corps will in all probability not join me, if at all, until *September*.

At *Crown Point* an intrenchment was begun to shelter the Troops, before my arrival, but nothing has been done at this place, and we are in a perfectly defenceless state. I have, however, this day begun lines, on which I propose to employ as many men as I can spare, that I may be able to make some defence, and preserve the post in case of an attack, which General *Carleton* must have attempted had he been informed of our real situation. A few Troops without any shelter, with little ammunition, less discipline, lulled in perfect security, might have fallen an easy prey to an enterprising man. I hope, however, soon to be in a situation to receive him properly should he venture to come aided by *Canadians* and *Indians*.

The *Connecticut* Troops here are destitute of tents. They are now crowded in very bad barracks, which I fear will be introductory of disease. I have written to Governor *Trumbull* on this head.

Enclose you a copy of a letter dated the 17th instant, I have just received from Governor *Trumbull*. I am very sorry that the Colony of *Connecticut* has made such large allowance for the daily subsistence of their men. It is difficult and expensive to procure the things they are to have agreeable to the law of their Colony here, and what is worse, other Troops that may join will certainly expect the like allowance, and a discrimination cannot be made in favour of the Troops of any particular Colony. A resolve of Congress what shall be the Continental allowance, and that no Colony should send their Troops any thing more than what shall be so prescribed, would settle the matter and prevent that jealousy which will otherwise take place.

I have sent for a man, the only one to be depended upon, to carry a letter into *Canada*, and to return with information. I momentarily expect him, and shall despatch him immediately after his arrival.

The measures I took before I left *New-York* and *Albany*, have relieved me from much anxiety on the score of provisions, with which I now hope the Troops will be better supplied. Exclusive of the extraordinary expenditures of provision, it has been so scandalously neglected at the several posts on its way up, that I shall sustain a considerable loss in the article of pork. Suspecting this, I ordered salt up before I left *Saratoga*, to save all that can be.

Mr. *Mott* of *Connecticut* has been appointed an Engineer by that Colony, with the rank of Colonel. What his abilities are in that way I know not, having as yet seen none of his works. I beg to know if his appointment is to be confirmed by Congress.

The only Troops from this Colony that have yet joined the Army, are those mentioned in the return I had the honour to send you, which were enlisted by order of the *Albany* Committee previous to the order of Congress for raising Troops in it.

The person I sent for to go to *Canada* is so lame that he cannot stir. I shall venture a letter with the *Frenchman* who brought me the intelligence I have given you, and despatch him to day.

There are such a variety of persons employed in providing these Troops, that they involve me in great difficulties. No less than fifty milch cows are sent up for the use of Colonel *Hinman's* Regiment, (our working cattle and the fat cattle have hardly any feed, occasioned by the severest drought ever known in this country;) I have ordered them back to *New-England* as useless to the men, distressing to the service, and as what would be another source of uneasiness, if we should be joined by other Troops.

A set of people in this country, calling themselves a Committee-of-War, by what authority I know not, have taken Colonel *Skene's* forge and farm into possession, under pretence of working it for the publick; but as it has turned out, to embezzle every thing. I have given orders for them to quit it, and to restore it to Colonel *Skene's* agent, or overseer, that no disgrace may be brought on our cause by such lawless proceedings.

Since the return I had the honour of sending to you, eight batteaus, built on *Lake George*, have been brought

here, each capable of carrying twenty men and twenty days' provisions.

I am, Sir, with the most sincere respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,  
**PHILIP SCHUYLER.**  
 To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, July 21, 1775.

SIR: I am just favoured with a line from Governor *Trumbull*; the enclosed is part of what he writes me, and of what I have said on that subject to the Continental Congress.

It is not easy to conceive the difficulties I labour under for want of many of the articles contained in the estimate which I had the honour to deliver you on the 3d instant, especially for the intrenching tools and materials for building.

The swivel guns and the lead I find a sufficiency of here, you will therefore please to order these, if not already sent, to be stopped; instead thereof to add one ton of oakum, twenty barrels of pitch, ten lanterns, and two pair of fort colours. The truck carriages were to be sent provided they were ready made; as they are not, you will please to take no farther notice of them.

By a letter from Mr. *Curtenius*, of the 10th, I find he has delayed sending the oars, on account of the heavy expense of carriage; but even in that case they will come cheaper than to make them here by the workmen from *New-York*.

I am very anxious to have the *New-York* Troops with me. Their arrival will, therefore, afford me great satisfaction. I hope some are on their way up. I have appointed a very good man as a sutler to supply them here, who is now preparing for their reception. Too many of them are very disadvantageous to the soldiers, and destructive to the service.

Intelligence which I have received from *Canada* advises that a numerous body of *Indians* are there; that Governor *Carleton* attempted to engage them against us; that he believed he would have little success; that some of the young men inclined to take up the hatchet, but that the elderly opposed it; that the *Canadians* are averse to enter into the controversy, the noblesse and very lower order excepted.

I am, Sir, with great respect, your most obedient humble servant,  
**PHILIP SCHUYLER.**  
*Peter V. Brugh Livingston*, Esq.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Ticonderoga, July 21, 1775.

SIR: Your Honour's letter of the 17th instant was delivered this morning. I shall immediately write on the subject of providing for the Troops to the *New-York* Congress, and enclose so much of your letter as relates to that subject. It gave me pain to learn that not less than fifty cows were driving up here, for the use of Colonel *Hinman's* Regiment. Our working cattle are in a starving condition, the country being parched up by the excessive droughts, and such an additional number of cattle would destroy the little feed we have left, and be of very little use to the Troops. These would be sufficient reasons to order them back; but if grass was plenty here I would not wish to have them; troops from *New-York* are coming up, and such a discrimination in the allowance would create me much trouble. I am happy to find Colonel *Hinman* and several of his officers quite agree in sentiment with me. I am informed the cows are in good order, and that they may be soon made beef; I have, therefore, directed Major *Sheldon*, who, I understand, has charge of them, to put them into pasture wherever he can get it, until he shall receive your Honour's direction how to dispose of them.

It is much to be lamented that we are so totally unprepared to avail ourselves of the favourable disposition of the *Canadians*. I was in hopes to have found something done to enable the Troops to move, but every thing is wanted; I am destitute of every material for making the necessary preparations. I hope, however, in a little while, to make all obstacles vanish; much may be done when people set



to business with hand and heart. I am, Sir, with sentiments of respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,  
 PH. SCHUYLER.  
 To Hon. Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., &c., &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Camp at Cambridge, July 21, 1775.

SIR: Since I did myself the honour of addressing you the fourteenth instant, I have received advice from Governor Trumbull that the Assembly of *Connecticut* had voted, and that they are now raising two Regiments, of seven hundred men each, in consequence of an application from the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*. The *Rhode-Island* Assembly has also made an augmentation for this purpose. These re-enforcements, with the riflemen who are daily expected, and such recruits as may come in to fill up the Regiments here, will, I apprehend, compose an army sufficiently strong to oppose any force which may be brought against us at present. I am very sensible, that the heavy expense necessarily attendant upon this campaign, will call for the utmost frugality and care, and would therefore, if possible, avoid enlisting one unnecessary man. As this is the first certain account of the destination of these new raised troops, I thought proper to communicate my sentiments as early as possible, lest the Congress should act upon my letter of the tenth, and raise troops in the Southern Colonies; which, in my present judgment, may be dispensed with.

For these eight days past there have been no movements in either camp of any consequence. On our side, we have continued the works without any intermission, and they are now so far advanced as to leave us little to apprehend on that score. On the side of the enemy, they have also been very industrious in finishing their lines, both on *Bunker's Hill* and *Roxbury Neck*. In this interval, also, their transports have arrived from *New-York*, and they have been employed in landing and stationing their men. I have been able to collect no certain account of the numbers arrived, but the enclosed letter, wrote (though not signed) by Mr. *Sheriff Lee*, and delivered me by Captain *Darby*, (who went express with an account of the *Lexington* battle,) will enable us to form a pretty accurate judgment. The increase of tents and men in the Town of *Boston* is very obvious, but all my accounts from thence agree that there is a great mortality, occasioned by the want of vegetables and fresh meat, and that their loss in the late battle at *Charlestown*, from the few recoveries of their wounded, is greater than at first supposed. The condition of the inhabitants detained in *Boston* is very distressing; they are equally destitute of the comfort of fresh provisions, and many of them are so reduced in their circumstances as to be unable to supply themselves with salt; such fish as the soldiery leave is their principal support. Added to all this, such suspicion and jealousy prevails, that they can scarcely speak, or even look, without exposing themselves to some species of military execution.

I have not been able, from any intelligence I have received, to form any certain judgment of the future operations of the enemy. Sometimes I have suspected an intention of detaching a part of their Army to some part of the coast, as they have been building a number of flat-bottomed boats, capable of holding two hundred men each. But from their works, and the language held at *Boston*, there is reason to think they expect the attack from us, and are principally engaged in preparing themselves against it. I have ordered all the whale boats along the coast to be collected, and some of them are employed every night to watch the motions of the enemy by water, so as to guard as much as possible against any surprise.

Upon my arrival and since, some complaints have been preferred against officers for cowardice in the late action on *Bunker's Hill*. Though there were several strong circumstances and a very general opinion against them, none have been condemned, except a Captain *Callender*, of the artillery, who was immediately cashiered. I have been sorry to find it an uncontradicted fact, that the principal failure of duty that day was in the officers, though many of them distinguished themselves by their gallant behaviour. The soldiers generally shewed great spirit and resolution.

Next to the more immediate and pressing duties of putting our lines in as secure a state as possible, attending to the movements of the enemy, and gaining intelligence, my great concern is to establish order, regularity and discipline; without which, our numbers would embarrass us, and in case of action, general confusion must infallibly ensue. In order to this, I propose to divide the Army into three divisions, at the head of each will be a General Officer; these divisions to be again subdivided into Brigades, under their respective Brigadiers. But the difficulty arising from the arrangement of the General Officers, and waiting the farther proceedings of the Congress on this subject, has much retarded my progress in this most necessary work. I should be very happy to receive their final commands, as any determination would enable me to proceed in my plan.

General *Spencer* returned to the camp two days ago, and has consented to serve under *Putnam*, rather than leave the Army entirely. I have heard nothing from General *Pomeroy*; should he wholly retire, I apprehend it will be necessary to supply his place as soon as possible. General *Folsom* proposes also to retire.

In addition to the officers mentioned in mine of the tenth instant, I would humbly propose that some provision should be made for a Judge Advocate and Provost Marshal; the necessity of the first appointment was so great, that I was obliged to nominate a Mr. *Tudor*, who was well recommended to me, and now executes the office, under an expectation of receiving Captain's pay—an allowance, in my opinion, scarcely adequate to the service in new raised troops, where there are Courts-Martial every day. However, as that is the proportion in the regular Army, and he is contented, there will be no necessity of an addition.

I must also renew my request as to money, and the appointment of a Paymaster. I have forbore urging matters of this nature, from my knowledge of the many important concerns which engage the attention of the Congress; but as I find my difficulties thicken every day, I make no doubt suitable regard will be paid to a necessity of this kind. The inconvenience of borrowing such sums as are constantly requisite must be too plain for me to enlarge upon, and is a situation from which I should be very happy to be relieved.

Upon the experience I have had, and the best consideration of the appointment of the several offices of Commissary-General, Mustermaster-General, Quartermaster-General, Paymaster-General, and Commissary of Artillery, I am clearly of opinion, that they not only conduce to order, despatch, and discipline, but that it is a measure of economy. The delay, the waste, and the unpunishable neglect of duty, arising from these offices being in commission in several hands, evidently shew that the publick expense must be finally enhanced. I have experienced the want of these officers in completing the returns of men, ammunition, and stores; the latter are yet imperfect, from the number of hands in which they are dispersed. I have enclosed the last weekly return, which is more accurate than the former, and hope in a little time we shall be perfectly regular in this, as well as several other necessary branches of duty.

I have made inquiry into the establishment of the Hospital, and find it in a very unsettled condition. There is no principal Director, or any subordination among the Surgeons; of consequence, disputes and contention have arisen, and must continue, until it is reduced to some system. I could wish it were immediately taken into consideration, as the lives and health of both officers and men so much depend upon a due regulation of this department. I have been particularly attentive to the least symptoms of the small-pox, and hitherto we have been so fortunate as to have every person removed so soon as not only to prevent any communication, but any alarm or apprehension it might give in the camp. We shall continue the utmost vigilance against this most dangerous enemy.

In an army properly organized there are sundry offices of an inferior kind, such as Wagon-master, Master-Carpenter, &c.; but I doubt whether my powers are sufficiently extensive for such appointments. If it is thought proper to repose such a trust in me, I shall be governed in the discharge of it by a strict regard to economy and the publick interest.



My instructions from the honourable Congress direct, that no Troops are to be disbanded without their express direction, nor to be recruited to more than double the number of the enemy. Upon this subject I beg leave to represent, that unless the Regiments in this Province are more successful in recruiting than I have reason to expect, a reduction of some of them will be highly necessary, as the publick are put to the whole expense of an establishment of officers, while the real strength of the Regiment, which consists in the rank and file, is defective. In case of such a reduction, doubtless some of the privates, and all the officers, would return home; but many of the former would go into the remaining Regiments, and, having had some experience, would fill them up with useful men. I so plainly perceive the expense of this campaign will exceed any calculation hitherto made, that I am particularly anxious to strike off every unnecessary charge. You will therefore, Sir, be pleased to favour me with explicit directions from the Congress on the mode of this reduction, if it shall appear necessary, that no time may be lost when such necessity appears.

Yesterday we had an account that the light-house was on fire, by whom, and under what orders, I have not yet learned; but we have reason to believe it has been done by some of our irregulars.

You will please to present me to the Congress with the utmost duty and respect; and believe me to be, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. Captain *Darby's* stay in *England* was so short that he brings no other information than what the enclosed letter, and the newspapers which will accompany this, contain. General *Gage's* despatches had not arrived, and the Ministry affected to disbelieve the whole account, treating it as a fiction, or, at most, an affair of little consequence. The fall of *Stocks* was very inconsiderable.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Cambridge Camp, July 21, 1775, Five o'clock, P. M.

SIR: Since closing the letters which accompany this, I have received an account of the destruction of the Light-house, a copy of which I have the honour to enclose, and of again assuring you that I am, with great respect, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. I have also received a more authentick account of the loss of the enemy in the late battle, than any yet received. Doctor *Winship*, who lodged in the same house with an officer of the Marines, assures me they had exactly one thousand and forty-three killed and wounded, of whom three hundred fell on the field, or died within a few hours; many of the wounded are since dead. G. W.

ORDERS BY GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 15, 1775.

(Parole, *Virginia*.)

(Countersign, *Maryland*.)

The Commanding Officers of each Regiment to report the names of such men, in their respective corps, as are most expert in the management of whale-boats.

When any commissioned or non-commissioned officer is sent upon any detachment or duty of honour or fatigue, or to see the execution of any particular work, he is, so soon as the service is performed, to make a report thereof to his commanding officer.

It being found advantageous to the publick service to remove sundry horned cattle and sheep from the ground upon which they were grazing near *Chelsea*, (to prevent their falling into the enemy's hands,) it is earnestly recommended to the several Commissaries, to purchase such of them as are fit for slaughter, of the owners, in order that they may suffer the least loss possible from the unavoidable necessity of removing them from the rapacious claws of our enemies.

Colonel *Gridley*, Chief Engineer, is desired to report what chevaux-de-frise are made, and what forwardness those are in that are now making. It is necessary those upon hand be completed without delay.

Notwithstanding the orders already given, the General hears with astonishment that not only soldiers, but officers unauthorized, are continually conversing with the officers and sentries of the enemy. Any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, or any person whatsoever, who is detected holding any conversation, or carrying on any correspondence with any of the officers or sentries of the advanced posts of the enemy, will be immediately brought before a General Court-Martial, and punished with the utmost severity. The General is alone to judge of the propriety of any intercourse with the enemy, and no one else is to presume to interfere.

The Chief Engineer, Colonel *Gridley*, to order an Engineer and a Field-Officer of Artillery to go round the lines and redoubts to examine if the guns are placed properly in the embrasures, and if the embrasures are properly made, and properly sloped towards the country. The Engineer and Artillery Officer to report to the Commander-in-Chief as soon as they have obeyed this order.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 16, 1775.

(Parole, *Carolina*.)

(Countersign, *Springfield*.)

The Continental Congress having earnestly recommended, that "Thursday next, the 20th instant, be observed by the inhabitants of all the *English* Colonies upon this Continent as a day of publick humiliation, fasting, and prayer, that they may with united hearts and voice unfeignedly confess their sins before God, and supplicate the all-wise and merciful disposer of events to avert the desolation and calamities of an unnatural war," the General orders that day to be religiously observed by the forces under his command, exactly in manner directed by the Proclamation of the Continental Congress. It is therefore strictly enjoined on all officers and soldiers (not upon duty) to attend divine service, at the accustomed places of worship, as well in the lines as the encampments and quarters; and it is expected, that all those who go to worship do take their arms, ammunition, and accoutrements, and are prepared for immediate action, if called upon. If, in the judgment of the officers, the works should appear to be in such forwardness as the utmost security of the camp requires, they will command their men to abstain from all labour upon that solemn day.

It was with much surprise and concern that the General, in passing along the *New-Hampshire* lines yesterday, observed a most wanton, mischievous, and unprofitable abuse of property, in the destruction of many valuable trees, which were standing along the side of the road, out of the way of our works or guns; he therefore orders, that an effective stop be put to such practices for the future, or severe punishment will fall upon the transgressors of this order.

*William Palfrey*, Esquire, is appointed Aid-de-Camp to Major-General *Lee*; all orders, whether written or verbal, coming from General *Lee*, and delivered by Captain *Palfrey*, are to be punctually obeyed.

A particular Return, to be delivered to the Adjutant-General to-morrow at orderly time, of the Regiment of Artillery, distinguishing how every man and officer in that corps is at present employed, and where posted.

Head-Quarters, July 17, 1775.

(Parole, *Boston*.)

(Countersign, *Salem*.)

There is reason to apprehend, that the General Orders are not regularly published to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Army. As pleading ignorance of orders will not for the future be admitted in excuse of any delinquency, it is once more ordered, that the Adjutants of the several corps will be exact in seeing the orders read every evening to the men off duty, of their respective corps, as they may depend upon answering before a Court-Martial for any neglect in obeying this order.

The General Court-Martial, whereof Col. *John Nixon* is President, to sit again to-morrow morning at eight o'clock, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them; all evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

There being a great neglect in sending in the Returns to the Adjutant-General, as directed by the General Orders of *Friday* last, (especially from the Regiments posted in and near *Roxbury*.) the General assures Commanding



Officers of corps from whom the Returns are expected, that he will not for the future pass over the slightest neglect in sending Returns to Head-Quarters at the time directed by the General Orders. If there is any remissness in the Adjutants, the Colonels will confine the transgressors.

#### After Orders.

Captain *Benjamin Perkins*, of Colonel *Little's* Regiment, confined by Colonel *Doolittle* for assisting and abetting soldiers to mutiny, in rescuing a prisoner from the quarter-guard of Colonel *Doolittle's* Regiment, is to be tried to-morrow morning by the Court-Martial whereof Colonel *Nixon* is President; all evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

Head-Quarters before Boston, July 18, 1775.

(Parole, *Wilmington*.)

(Countersign, *Chester*.)

As the chevaux-de-frise are not in readiness, the officers commanding the different lines and redoubts are, as speedily as possible, to provide a sufficient number of gabions, which are to lay empty at the entrances of their respective posts, in order to be filled up as occasion may require. General *Putnam* will forthwith order his post to be furnished with a large quantity of fascines.

The officers commanding the different posts to send an exact Return to Head-Quarters this afternoon of all the intrenching tools in their possession, viz: Spades, Pickaxes, Wheelbarrows, Handbarrows, Axes, and Crowbars, and to mention the number and quality of any of these implements that are still wanting to carry on their respective works.

Six Captains, twelve Subalterns, twelve Sergeants, and three hundred rank and file, to parade to-morrow morning, immediately after divine service, from the Regiments now stationed in *Cambridge*, as a working party, to assist in raising the *New-Hampshire* lines.

Colonel *James Scammons*, of the *Massachusetts-Bay* forces, tried by the General Court-Martial of which Col. *John Nixon* was President, for "disobedience of orders, and backwardness in the execution of his duty;" the Court, after duly examining the evidence for and against the prisoner, together with what the prisoner had to say in his defence, are of opinion, that Colonel *Scammons* is not guilty of the crimes wherewith he was accused, and therefore do acquit the prisoner. Colonel *Scammons* to be immediately released from his arrest.

If, after what has happened, the enemy, in revenge of their late loss, should dare to attempt forcing our lines, the Army may be assured, that nothing but their own indolence and remissness can give the least hope of success to so rash an enterprise. It is therefore strongly recommended to the commanding officers of corps, guards, and detachments, that they be assiduously alert in parading their men, at their several posts, half an hour before daybreak, and remain there until the commanding officers think proper to dismiss them.

The General hears with astonishment the very frequent applications that are made to him, as well by officers as soldiers, for furloughs. Brave men, who are engaged in the noble cause of liberty, should never think of removing from their camp while the enemy is in sight, and anxious to take every advantage any indiscretion on our side may give them. The General doubts not but the commanding officers of corps will anticipate his wishes, and discourage those under them from disgracefully desiring to go home, until the campaign is ended.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 20, 1775.

(Parole, *Albany*.)

(Countersign, *Ticonderoga*.)

Certain drums in and near *Cambridge* very improperly beat the reveille this morning before day. Although the Troops are ordered to be under arms half an hour before day-light, it does not follow the drums are to beat at that time. The reveille is to beat when a sentry can see clearly one thousand yards around him, and not before.

All Aids-de-Camp and Majors of Brigade are to keep regularly entered in a book all the General Orders of the Army, as well as those of the Brigades they belong to, as the General-in-Chief will not, for the future, admit, as an

excuse for the breach of orders, the plea of not knowing them.

*Samuel Osgood* and *Joseph Ward*, Esquires, being appointed Aids-de-Camp to Major-General *Ward*, they are to be obeyed as such; and all orders coming from Aids-de-Camp, are to be considered as the orders of their respective Generals, and whether written or verbal, to be forthwith obeyed. It may be necessary once more to repeat to the Army, that every Aid-de-Camp, and Major of Brigade, will be distinguished by a green ribband.

Certain corps having been dilatory in delivering last *Saturday* their weekly Returns, as positively directed by former orders, the General is determined, for the future, not to excuse any neglect in sending the Returns every *Saturday* to the Adjutant-General. As the commanding officers of Regiments are to be answerable for the due observance of this order, it is expected they are exact in obliging their respective Adjutants to fulfil their duty.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN HANCOCK.

Cambridge, July 21, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I am particularly to acknowledge that part of your favour of the tenth instant, wherein you do me the honour of determining to join the Army under my command. I need certainly make no professions of the pleasure I shall have in seeing you; at the same time I have to regret that so little is in my power to offer equal to Colonel *Hancock's* merits, and worthy of his acceptance. I shall be happy, in every opportunity, to show the regard and esteem with which I am, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant.

To Colonel *John Hancock*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, July 21, 1775.

SIR: I am to acknowledge your favour of the seventeenth instant, informing me of the destination of the Troops raising in your Colony. As the season is now advanced, and the enemy considerably re-enforced, we have the utmost reason to expect any attack that may be made will not be much longer delayed. I should therefore think it highly necessary the new raised Troops should join the Army with all possible expedition. Upon inquiry with respect to the flour, I do not find our necessities to be such as to require an immediate transportation during the harvest; but as soon as it can be sent with convenience, you will please to give directions for that purpose. Colonel *Trumbull* will advise you to what place it is to be addressed, and to whose care.

Agreeable to your intimation I have ordered the express to wait on you, and shall do so in future. We have had no occurrence in the camp of any material consequence. On both sides we are strengthening our lines in full view of each other.

I am, Sir, with esteem, &c., your most obedient servant.

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

GOVERNOUR WENTWORTH TO SECRETARY ATKINSON.

Fort William and Mary, July 21, 1775.

SIR: Captain *Barkley* (at noon) gave me the enclosed paper, which I hope may effect a continuance of the boat fishery. You are sensible that I have not any powers to alter or direct in this matter, the execution of the Restraining Act being committed to the Navy and Custom-House.

I am, with due regard and respect, Sir, your most obedient servant,

J. WENTWORTH.

The Honourable *Theodore Atkinson*, Esq.

Scarborough, July 21, 1775.

Captain *Barkley* will suffer the open boats of the Town of *Portsmouth*, and the country, to go a-fishing for fresh fish only, first having a permit from him for that purpose, provided the Town of *Portsmouth* will let His Majesty's ship, under his command, be supplied with fresh beef as usual, at the common market price, and our boats to pass and repass without molestation.



## JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT, TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Congress Chamber, July 22, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By return of the Army, transmitted by the General to Congress, it appears there is a great deficiency in many Regiments; upon which the Congress came to the enclosed resolutions, which I am ordered to transmit to you.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.Convention of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. I enclose you a publick paper, in which you will see the resolutions of Congress respecting the Militia through the Continent.

## GENERAL WOOSTER TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Camp at Harlem, July 22, 1775.

SIR: I received your order of the seventeenth instant, and immediately contracted for vessels to carry the Troops to *Albany*. The first division, under the command of Colonel *Waterbury*, will march on *Monday* next, and the remainder will march as soon as I can possibly get the vessels ready to take them, which wont exceed *Wednesday*. And indeed, Sir, you may depend upon my utmost exertion and assiduity for carrying into execution every order within my department, for the good of the common cause, notwithstanding some discouragements that I have met with, after a series of thirty-four years in the service of my King and Country.

Since General *Schuyler* went to *Ticonderoga*, a letter came from General *Washington*, addressed to him or the officer commanding at or near *New-York*, in which was the following paragraph, viz: "The commissions which have been forwarded to me are not sufficient to answer the demand I have for them, there being at least one thousand officers in this department, and not more than five hundred commissions in my possession. As you are so much nearer to *Philadelphia* than I am, I request you to apply to Congress for as many as you are likely to want."

The forces under my command are in general good health and high spirits, and rejoice to have it in their power to go where they may have an opportunity to do their Country some service.

I am, Sir, with the greatest esteem, your obliged humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

The Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, July 22, 1775.

SIR: I am just favoured with your letter of the thirteenth instant, enclosing a copy of Colonel *Hinman's* to the Congress. Every consideration induces me to take all the precautions possible, more especially as I have four important posts to maintain, with a small number of troops, and those very ill armed and with little ammunition. In this disagreeable situation, I feel very sensibly the exceeding slowness with which the levies are made in every part of our Colony. Captain *Mott* informs me that I need not expect a re-enforcement in less than a month. Should General *Burgoyne* (as is reported) be gone with a body of troops to *Canada*, and make an attack in this quarter, in our present weak and defenceless situation, what the consequences would be to the Country are easier conceived than described. I hope such as are raised, although the Regiments may not be complete, will be ordered up without delay with camp equipage. I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

*Henry Williams*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of *New-York* Congress.

## NEW-IPSWICH (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) COMMITTEE.

New-Ipswich, July 22, 1775.

In *February* last, the Committee of Inspection for the Town of *New-Ipswich*, in *New-Hampshire*, finding that Mr. *David Hills*, a trader in said Town, had raised the price of some articles of his Merchandise, whereupon said

Committee called him to an account, and after some debate, said *Hills* promised to adhere strictly to the Association; so said Committee received him again. In the beginning of *March* then next, the said *Hills* violated the Association again in the same manner as before, whereupon said Committee called him to an account again; then he said he did not understand the Association nor the promise, as we did, but for the future he would adhere to the Association and the promise, as we understood them; so was again received. Now he has violated the Association in like manner the third time, notwithstanding his promise; so we again examined him, and he owned he had raised his price on some articles, viz. Salt, Fish, and Rum, and says it is no violation of the Association, so refuses to make satisfaction. Now we, the Committee, advise all good people to break off all dealings with him, as the Association binds all to do. By order of the Committee.

JOSEPH BATES, *Chairman of said Committee*.

## DAVID HILLS TO THE PUBLICK.

New-Ipswich, August 30, 1775.

The publication in the *Essex Gazette*, printed the 24th instant, signed "*Joseph Bates*, Chairman of said Committee," requires this piece of justice to the publick, and to my character, that some of the facts therein mentioned be rightly stated. The customary price of salt was four shillings per bushel till *July* last, when the price of carting was necessarily raised five or six pence, for want of loading to carry down, and nearly all the salt I have had on hand ever since has cost three shillings, seven pence, one-fifth, per bushel, delivered here, and the price complained of is four shillings, three pence, one-fifth; so that the advance is eight pence, making no allowance for the casks to contain it, waste, &c. I have had license to retail rum only since *November* last. My price has been two shillings, six pence, two-fifths per gallon, till *July* last, when I raised it to two shillings eight pence, which has been the customary price here for several years, the excise on it being two pence. The customary price of common fish is two pence and three pence per pound; this of mine is spring merchantable fish, equal in quality to what the Army is supplied with at nineteen shillings per quintal, and my price for it is three pence per pound. As for what passed in *February* and *March* last, see a vote of the Town at the annual meeting, *March* 13, viz: "Voted to accept of the Committee of Inspection's Report, with respect to the two shop-keepers, and that the Town is satisfied with said shop-keepers." This I can fully prove is the true state of the case, and I hereby challenge this Committee, and the whole world, to produce any evidence to the contrary. Their publication, however absurd, is less strange, since it appears that two, the most leading men of the Committee, have declared against the present proceedings of the united *American Colonies*, as being imprudent, and that we had better have complied with the requisitions of the *British* Parliament. Upon principles, it seems, not unlike this, the Committee have proceeded in the most arbitrary and obstinate manner to publish the said piece, utterly refusing, after repeated entreaties, to submit to a hearing of the case before any other Committee. Now I desire all people, both "good" and bad, to treat this Committee and their publications as they deserve.

DAVID HILLS.

## STATEMENT OF COMMITTEE.

New-Ipswich, September 13, 1775.

The piece published in the *Essex Gazette*, the seventh instant, signed by *David Hills*, which says, "the publication in the *Essex Gazette*, printed the twenty-fourth instant, signed by *Joseph Bates*, Chairman, requires that piece of justice to the publick and his character," I observe is such a piece of justice as the Tory party have practised to publish, mostly false and scandalous, representing things in a false light. When he says the carting was necessarily raised, he hired some teams to carry and fetch a load at eight shillings, lawful money, a journey cheaper than the usual price; the salt he mentions, he bought at twelve shillings per hogshead; the fish, which he says is equal in quality to what the Army is supplied with at nineteen shillings per quintal, he bought at ten shillings per quintal, as appears by his bill from his merchant; the rum he bought a large store of, at



one shilling eight pence per gallon, except one load at one shilling nine pence; and as the affairs of the Province are regulated by the Congress, it is supposed there will be no excise. It appears said *Hills* got his goods or merchandise as cheap as usual; if so, I see no reason why he should raise his price. I should think it soon enough to raise when his goods cost more. The report of the Committee he refers to was, that the said *Hills* had promised to make restitution to those he had sold to at a higher price than the usual custom, and that he would adhere to the Association as the Committee understood it. The said *Hills* and his adherents said the Ninth Article of the Association means that the vender of goods shall sell at their usual profits. The Committee said it means that they should sell at their usual prices; so he complied and made said promise. Upon said promise the Town voted, satisfied with said *Hills*, or shop-keeper. These things, I think, may easily be proved, notwithstanding his bold challenge. On the twenty-ninth of August last, we had a full Town-meeting, which was requested by the said *Hills* and his adherents, and the Town heard said *Hills's* complaints against the Committee of Inspection; (see the votes of the Town thereon.)\* I further observe, that the said *Hills* is the man that had a quantity of goods burnt at *New-York*, by the good people of that City, for none of his good conduct, in the time of the Stamp Act. After the people of this Town had unanimously agreed not to use any Tea, said *Hills* brings a quantity into Town to sell; thus it appears he (the said *Hills*) has proved himself guilty of perfidy, and that no solemn ties are sufficient to hold him. Considering these things, it is not strange that he has published his false piece, saying, "that two of the most leading men of the Committee have declared against the present proceedings of the united American Colonies as being imprudent, and that we had better have complied with the requisitions of the British Parliament." Can any one suppose that any person can declare as above said, and take pains to bring people to an adherence to the Association. As for the Committee's refusing a hearing before some other Committee, said *Hills* never asked it till after the paper was sent to the printers, and then he claimed it as his right given him by the Association. Now if the Committee's dealing with said *Hills* as the Association directs, after he has violated the Association the third time, besides his bringing Tea, when he refuses to reform, is arbitrary, I know not what is arbitrary.

JOSEPH BATES.

\* Voted, to hear the complaints of Mr. *David Hills* against the Committee of Inspection.

Voted, that the Committee of Inspection have gone according to the Association. A true copy from the minutes.

Attest: ISAAC HOW, Town-Clerk.

DR. BENJAMIN CHURCH TO MR. KANE, MAJOR OF BRIGADE, IN BOSTON.\*

Cambridge, July 23, 1775.

I hope this will reach you. Three attempts have I made without success. In effecting the last, the man was discovered in attempting his escape; but fortunately my letter was sewed in the waistband of his breeches. He was confined for a few days, during which you may guess my feelings; but a little art and a little money settled the matter. It is a month since my return from *Philadelphia*. I went by the way of *Providence* to visit my mother. The Committee for warlike stores made me a formal tender of twelve cannon, eighteen and twenty-four pounders, they having taken a previous resolution to make the offer to General *Ward*. To make a merit of my services, I sent them down; and when they received them they sent them to *Stoughton* to be out of danger, even though they

\* The following letter is a very intelligent and particular account of the strength and disposition of the Colonies, written by Doctor *Church*, who had the best means of knowing the true state of matters. It was obviously intended only for the private information of the General, and therefore must be considered a much more impartial and candid account than we commonly receive from either party, which accounts are usually drawn up for the very purpose of magnifying or diminishing objects. Doctor *Church's* residence was in *Boston*; he was taken into the Government's pay about the middle of April. On the 19th, General *Gage* having retracted his promise to the *Bostonians*, after they had delivered up their arms, by detaining them in Town, Doctor *Church* made his pretended escape from *Boston*. From that day till the fatal time of writing the letter, he seems to have been very diligent and pretty successful in his employment.—*Remembrancer*.

had formed the resolution, as before hinted, of fortifying *Bunker's Hill*, which, together with the cowardice of the clumsy *Gerrish* and Colonel *Scammons*, was the lucky occasion of their defeat. The affair happened before my return from *Philadelphia*. We lost one hundred and sixty-five killed then, and since dead of their wounds; one hundred and twenty more lie wounded; they will chiefly recover. They boast that you have fourteen hundred killed and wounded in the action. You say the rebels lost fifteen hundred; I suppose with equal truth. The people of *Connecticut* are raving in the cause of liberty. A number of their Colony, from the Town of *Stamford*, robbed the King's stores near *New-York*, with some small assistance which the *New-Yorkers* lent them. These were growing turbulent. I counted two hundred and eighty pieces of cannon, from thirteen to twenty-four pounders, at *King's Bridge*, which the Committee had secured for the use of the Colonies. The *Jerseys* are not a whit behind *Connecticut* in zeal. The *Philadelphians* exceed them both; I saw two thousand men reviewed there by General *Lee*, consisting of *Quakers* and other inhabitants in uniform, with one thousand riflemen and forty horse, who, together, made a most warlike appearance. I mingled freely and frequently with the members of the Continental Congress; they were united and determined in opposition, and appeared assured of success. Now, to come home, the opposition is become formidable. Eighteen thousand brave and determined men, with *Washington* and *Lee* at their head, are no contemptible enemy. Adjutant General *Gates* is indefatigable in arraying the Army. Provisions are very plentiful; clothes are manufactured in almost every Town for the soldiers. Twenty tons of gunpowder have lately arrived at *Philadelphia*, *Connecticut*, and *Providence*; and upwards of twenty tons are now in camp. Saltpetre is made in every Colony. Powder-mills have been erected, and are consequently employed at *Philadelphia* and *New-York*. Volunteers of the first fortunes daily flock to the camp. One thousand riflemen will arrive in two or three days. Recruits are now levying to augment the Army to twenty-two thousand; besides, ten thousand militia of this Government are appointed to appear on the first summons. The bills of all the Colonies circulate freely, and are readily exchanged for cash. Add to this, unless some plan of accommodation takes place immediately, their harbours will swarm with privateers. An Army will be raised, however, in the Middle Colonies to take possession of *Canada*. For the sake of the miserable convulsed Empire, solicit peace, repeal the acts, or *Britain* is undone. This advice is the result of a warm affection for my King and Realm. Remember, I never deceived you; every article here sent you is sacredly true.

The papers will acquaint you that I am a member again for *Boston*. You will there see our motley Council.

A general arrangement of officers will take place, except the chief, which will be suspended but for a little while, to see what part *Britain* takes in consequence of the late Continental Petition.

A view to independence appears to be more and more general. Should *Britain* declare war against the Colonies, they would be lost forever. Should *Spain* declare war against *England*, the Colonies would declare a neutrality, which would doubtless produce a league offensive and defensive between them. For *God's* sake, prevent it by a speedy accommodation!

Writing this has employed me for a day. I have been to *Salem* to reconnoitre, but could not escape the geese in the capital. To-morrow I set out for *Neuport*, purposely to send you this. I write you fully, it being scarcely practicable to prevent discovery. I am out of place here by choice, and therefore out of pay; and am determined to be so, unless something be offered in my way.

I wish you could contrive to write to me largely, in cyphers, by way of *Neuport*, addressed to *Tom Richards*, merchant, enclosed under cover to me, intimating that I am a perfect stranger to you; but that being recommended to you as a gentlemen of honour you took the liberty to enclose it, entreating me to deliver it as directed to the person living, as you are informed, in *Cambridge*. Sign some fictitious name, and send it to some confidential friend at *Neuport*, to be delivered to me at *Watertown*.

Make use of every precaution, or I perish.



## SOUTH-CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charlestown, Saturday, July 23, 1775.

Present: Colonel *Henry Laurens*, President; Mr. *Ferguson*, Mr. *Middleton*, Honourable Mr. *Lowndes*, Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Colonel *Pinckney*, Mr. *Brewton*, Mr. *Bee*, Captain *Benjamin Elliot*, Mr. *Heyward*, Col. *Parsons*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Hon. *William Henry Drayton*, and the Reverend *William Tennent*, be the two gentlemen to make a progress into the back country, to explain to the People the causes of the present disputes between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*.

*Resolved*, That the following commissions and powers, be given to the Honourable *William Henry Drayton* and Reverend *William Tennent*:

## SOUTH-CAROLINA:

In the Council of Safety, July 23, 1775.

The Council of Safety, elected and chosen by the Provincial Congress, begun to be holden the first day of *June* last, by these presents testify, that they have nominated, appointed, and commissioned the Honourable *William Henry Drayton*, and the Reverend *William Tennent*, to go into the interior parts of this Colony, at the publick expense; there to explain to the people at large the nature of the unhappy publick disputes between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*; to endeavour to settle all political disputes between the people; to quiet their minds, and to enforce the necessity of a general union, in order to preserve themselves and their children from slavery.\* And that the said *William Henry Drayton*, and *William Tennent* may proceed in this business with safety and advantage to the publick, all the friends of the liberties of *America* are hereby requested to afford them every necessary aid, assistance, and protection. By order of the Council of Safety:

HENRY LAURENS, President.

## SOUTH-CAROLINA:

In the Council of Safety, Charlestown, July 23, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: In order to give you every necessary and proper support and protection in your progress into the country, in execution of our commission of this date, you

\* On the 14th of *July*, Major *Mayson* arrived at *Ninety-Six* Court-House, with a portion of the gunpowder and lead, which he had taken in *Fort Charlotte*. At this time, Colonel *Thomas Fletchall* was holding the general muster of his Militia Regiment at *Ford's*, on the *Enoree* River. And Captain *Moses Kirkland*, who had accompanied Major *Mayson* with his troop of Rangers to *Ninety-Six* Court-House, and who had thought himself overlooked by the Provincial Congress in the military appointments; and besides, having an old grudge against Major *Mayson*, his superiour officer, both of whom were rivals for military rank and back-country influence; knowing that Colonel *Fletchall* had assembled a number of men, and supposing the whole back-country disaffected, resolved to change sides. Under this impression, he despatched Major *Terry*, of the militia, who was with him in opinion, to Colonel *Fletchall*; ardently requesting, that he would send a force, and recover the powder and lead, which had been taken from the *King's* fort; and was then at *Ninety-Six*. He, at the same time, assured *Fletchall*, that the force sent by him to retake the ammunition should not be opposed; and that the Rangers meant to force him, and every other person in the back-country, to sign the Association. Having expedited these advices, he proceeded to fulfil his part of the proffered agreement, and commenced inducing his Troop to desert; in which he was so successful, that in a few hours they withdrew to a man.

In the mean time, *Terry* having arrived at Colonel *Fletchall's* muster-field at *Ford's*, at the fork of *Cedar Creek* and *Enoree* River, where he continued the assemblage of his men for three days, and seeing *Fletchall* about to tender the Association of the Congress for the signatures of the individuals of his Regiment, he concealed his business, until he saw what turn that affair should take. And accompanying *Fletchall* through the companies, the Association was tendered under such discouraging expressions, as gave the people to understand *Fletchall's* mind on the subject, not a man signing the same. And passing from one extreme to another, *Fletchall* having previously caused Major *Robinson* to prepare another Association more suitable to his opinions, and the part he intended to act in favour of the *King*, it was offered to the men for signature, and the people very generally subscribed it. *Terry* seeing the multitude in this disposition, now communicated his mission from *Kirkland* to *Fletchall*, in presence of Major *Robinson* and the *Cunninghams*; when *Fletchall* declined to appear publicly in the affair; but the three others declared they would go, and seize the powder and lead. At this, *Fletchall* showed no disposition to prevent them; and they immediately rode off the field, with two hundred men on horseback. They arrived at *Ninety-Six* Court-House on the 17th *July*, about noon; and had little trouble in possessing themselves of the ammunition, as Major *Mayson* had only an officer or two left with him, beside Captain *Kirkland*. *Robinson* and his party then committed the Major to the District jail; where, having continued some hours, they admitted him to bail, to answer at the ensuing Sessions, for having, as they charged, robbed the *King's* fort. In a few days afterwards, Captain *Kirkland* put the seal to his treachery, in joining *Fletchall's* party openly: in addition to which act of perfidy, he also induced

are hereby authorized to call upon all and every officer of the militia and rangers, for assistance, support, and protection; and they and each of them are hereby ordered to furnish such assistance, support, and protection, as you shall deem necessary. By order of the Council of Safety:

HENRY LAURENS, President.

To the Honourable *W. H. Drayton*, Reverend *William Tennent*, Commissioners, &c.

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's* County, at the house of *Richard Carnes*, in *Piscataway*, on *Monday* the 24th of *July*, 1775, were present: *Josias Beall*, Chairman; *William Diggs*, *Enoch Magruder*, *Thomas Dent*, *William Diggs, Jr.*, *William Beanes, Jr.*, *Nathaniel Newton*, *Richard Carnes*, *Edward Edelin*, *Jonathan Bink*, *Thomas Clagett*, *Hezekiah Wheeler*, and *James Hawkins*. In consequence of information being lodged with the Committee, that *Josias Lanham* and *John Lindsey* had purchased Shoes imported contrary to the *American* Association, they proceeded to inquire into the charge, and find, that *Wm. McCraight* and *William Blair*, Mariners, on board the Ship *Janney*, Captain *Cochran*, from *Glasgow*, had sold to the said *Josias Lanham* and *John Lindsay*, four pair of Shoes, imported into this Province since the first day of *February* last, for the sum of thirty-four shillings and six pence, current money. The parties were summoned to attend the Committee; whereupon the said *Lanham* and *Lindsay* appeared, and confessed the charge, and produced the above-mentioned pairs of Shoes. The aforesaid *McCraight* and *Blair* likewise appeared, with the money received for the said Shoes.

The Committee, on considering the premises, unanimously resolve such proceedings a violation of the Continental Association. The said *McCraight* and *Blair* declared they made sale of the Shoes inadvertently, and are sorry they should have acted so as to give offence; and that they will for the future pay strict regard to what they are now informed to be the General Association as to goods imported; and they cheerfully give up the money received

Captain *Purvis* and his Troop of the same Regiment, to quit the service.

The number of men collected at *Fletchall's* muster-field, amounting to fifteen hundred at least—the spirit they displayed, the seizure of the powder and lead, the treatment of Major *Mayson*, and the desertion of *Kirkland* and *Purvis*, encouraged and increased the disaffection of the people, from *Broad* to *Savannah* Rivers. The million voted by the Provincial Congress was an endless theme to harangue upon, for the purpose of stating, that the Congress would ruin them; and the paper money was cried down as of no value. But, above all, their spirits and cabals were kept up, by correspondences with Lord *William Campbell*, the Governour, in *Charlestown*; who, through Colonel *Fletchall*, commended the loyalty of *Robinson* and the *Cunninghams*: promising them rewards for perseverance in duty. This being circulated, gave these men real consequence among the disaffected; tied them fast to the Royal interest, and threw out a lure of recompense to every leader of the party. From this state of things, the most fatal consequences were apprehended; and it was then supposed, that if Lord *William Campbell* had gone up among the disaffected, had collected *Fletchall* and his men around him, and had conducted himself with promptness and efficiency, the whole proceedings of the Provincial Congress would have been overthrown. However, for wiser purposes, Providence had not so directed his actions; but left him in *Charlestown*, to experience the daily loss of his executive powers; and the little consideration in which he was holden, as well by the publick authorities as by the citizens at large.

Accounts of these circumstances frequently arriving in *Charlestown*; and through Lord *William's* plots, affairs becoming more critical every day in the back parts of the Colony, the Council of Safety took into consideration the urgency of the case, and the necessity which existed, of reconciling the people to the publick measures; but it was opposed. However, on the 23d day of *July*, 1775, it was resolved, “that the Honourable *William Henry Drayton*, and the Reverend *William Tennent*, be the two gentlemen to make a progress into the back-country, to explain to the people the causes of the present disputes between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*; and they were accordingly commissioned on the same day for that purpose: “to go into the interior parts of this Colony at the publick expense, there to explain to the people at large the nature of the unhappy publick disputes between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*; to endeavour to settle all political disputes between the people; to quiet their minds, and to enforce the necessity of a general union, in order to preserve themselves and their children from slavery.” Beside this, they were privately armed with authority “to call upon all and every officer of the Militia and Rangers, for assistance, support, and protection,” to act “as you shall deem necessary.” Colonel *Richard Richardson*, *Joseph Kershaw*, and the Reverend Mr. *Hart*, were desired to accompany them; and to complete the arrangement, the whole Militia were ordered to be classed in three divisions; and to hold themselves ready by turns, to march at twelve hours notice.—*Drayton*.



for the said Shoes into the hands of the Committee, for publick purposes. The said *Josias Lanham* and *John Lindsay* declare their concern for the part they have acted in violation of the Association, and promise their paying due regard thereto for the future; and also declare their willingness to destroy the said Shoes; which were accordingly burnt by the said *Lanham* and *Lindsay*, in the presence of the Committee.

Ordered, That a copy of these proceedings be sent to be published in the *Maryland Gazette*.

True copy, signed by order of the Committee:

THOMAS CLAGETT, Clerk.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON FROM AN OFFICER ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP SWAN, STATIONED AT RHODE-ISLAND, DATED AUGUST 14, 1775.

Two gentlemen crossing a ferry at *Rhode-Island* in their way from *Philadelphia* to the eastward, were stopped by Captain *Ayscough*, who found several letters in their possession, which were transmitted to Admiral *Graves*; but I found an opportunity of copying two of them, and herewith send the copies to you, that you may see the real intentions of those miscreants who have misled His Majesty's subjects in *North America* to commit themselves in acts of open rebellion; and that you may be no longer deceived by the artful publications of those traitors, or give credit to their professions of wishing for accommodation. There is undoubted proof that both these letters are from Mr. *John Adams*, a lawyer of *Boston*, and one of the Delegates in the Continental Congress.

Philadelphia, July 24, 1775.

MY DEAR: It is now almost three months since I left you, in every part of which my anxiety about you and the children, as well as our country, has been extreme.

The business I have had upon my mind has been as great and important as can be intrusted to one man, and the difficulty and intricacy of it is prodigious. When fifty or sixty men have a constitution to form for a great empire, at the same time that they have a country of fifteen hundred miles extent to fortify; millions to arm and train; a naval power to an extensive commerce to regulate; numerous tribes of *Indians* to negotiate with; a standing army of twenty-seven thousand men to raise, pay, victual, and officer; I really shall pity those fifty and sixty men.

I must see you ere long. *Rice* has wrote me a very good letter, so has *Thatcher*, for which I thank them both. Love to the children.

J. A.

P. S. I wish I had given you a complete history, from the beginning to the end of the journey, of the behaviour of my compatriots. No mortal tale could equal it. I will tell you in future, but you shall keep it a secret—the fidgets, the whims, the caprice, the vanity, the superstition, the irritability of some of us is —

Mrs. *Abigail Adams*, *Brain-tree*; to the care of Colonel *Warren*; favoured by Mr. *Hitchborne*.

Philadelphia, July 24, 1775.

SIR: In confidence I am determined to write freely to you this time. A certain\* great fortune and piddling genius, whose fame has been trumpeted so loudly, has given a silly cast to our whole doings. We are between hawk and buzzard. We ought to have had in our hands a month ago the whole legislative, executive, and judicial power of the whole Continent, and have completely modelled a Constitution; to have raised a naval power; opened all our ports wide; to have arrested every friend to Government on the Continent, and held them as hostages for the poor victims in *Boston*; and then opened the door as wide as possible for peace and reconciliation. After this they might have petitioned, and negotiated, and addressed, &c., if they would. Is all this extravagant? Is it wild? Is it not the soundest policy?

One piece of news: Seven thousand weight of powder arrived here last night. We shall send along some as soon as we can; but you must be patient and frugal.

We are lost in the extensiveness of our field of business. We have a Continental Treasury to establish; a Paymas-

\* We can assure the publick that these letters are not copied from the originals.—*Mass. Spy*.

ter to choose; and a Committee of Correspondence, or Safety, or Accounts, or something, I know not what, that has confounded us all day.

Shall I hail you Speaker of the House, or Counsellor, or what? What kind of an election had you? What sort of magistrates do you intend to make? Will your new legislative and executive, feel bold or irresolute? Will your judicial hang and whip, and fine and imprison, without scruple? I want to see our distressful country once more; yet I dread the sight of devastation.

You observe in your letter the oddity of a great man. He is a queer creature; but you must love his dogs if you love him, and forgive a thousand whims, for the sake of the soldier and the scholar. Yours.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., *Watertown*, favoured by Mr. *Hichborne*.

NOTE.—This letter was anonymous, but wrote in the same hand with that addressed to *Abigail Adams*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GENERAL GAGE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH, DATED BOSTON, AUGUST 26, 1775.

The designs of the leaders of the rebellion are plain, and every day confirms the truth of what was asserted years ago by intelligent people, that a plan was laid in this Province, and adjusted with some of the same stamp in others, for a total independence; whilst they amused people in *England*, called the friends of *America*, as well as many in this Country, with feigned professions of affection and attachment to the Parent State, and pretended to be aggrieved and discontented only on account of taxation; that they have designedly irritated Government by every insult, whilst they artfully poisoned the minds of the people, and ripened them for insurrection. They would still deceive and lull the Mother Country into a belief that nothing is meant against the Nation, and that their quarrel is only with the Ministers. But it is hoped that the Nation will see through this falsehood and deceit. It matters not who hold the helm of the state; the stroke is levelled at the *British Nation*, on whose ruins they hope to build their so much vaunted *American Empire*, and to rise, like the *Phoenix*, out of the ashes of the Mother Country.

TO MR. PURDIE.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, November 10, 1775.

SIR: The Tories lay great stress on certain intercepted letters from a Delegate, as containing a full proof that the Congress are aiming at independence; but let any impartial person read their Resolves and Petitions, and judge whether they had any such views, and whether, if they had at the time of writing such letters, it was not on a supposition that their humble Petition would be rejected, and that there was no alternative left but slavery or independence. If we entertain a wish to be unconnected with *Great Britain*, it is because we have been cruelly and inhumanly treated by her. Could any nation be more completely dependant on another, and retain even a shadow of freedom, than *America* was, and still consents to be on *Great Britain*? Was *Britain* satisfied with this in the year 1763? She was. Does *America* ask for any immunities she did not then enjoy? She does not. Even *Lord North* himself must answer these questions in the same manner. What, then, is the new claim that they charge us with demanding, and for which they are endeavouring to butcher our people, and lay waste our coasts? The truth is, the Ministry and Parliament have made a new demand necessary, by new oppressions, by repeated and aggravated insults, and by unheard-of cruelties. It is high time to look to ourselves, to take care of our extended coasts, "to form a connexion with some other Power," since *Great Britain* insultingly, wantonly, and cruelly, has spurned us from her, "and to think of laying the foundation of a great Empire." This is what the Delegate said he had in contemplation, and this is what the *British* Ministry have made necessary; and this it must be the duty of the Congress to do, if the King refuses to hear their Petition, and to redress our grievances. We still love our fellow-subjects in *Britain*; we still wish to be connected with them. Although our King has hitherto refused us relief, and suffers us to be inhumanly treated, we have not, and wish not to withdraw



our allegiance from him, and are willing to attribute all the cruel oppressions under which we labour to the baleful influence of certain men, who, unhappily, have gained the confidence of their Prince, and who are deadly enemies to his family, and would wish to see him driven from his throne. But whatever may be their design, and however basely we may be misrepresented by our enemies, we call *God* to witness for the purity of our intentions, look up to him as the all powerful protector of injured innocence, and firmly rely on him as a shield in the day of battle.

A VIRGINIAN.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read July 28, 1775.]

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 24, 1775. }

SIR: We have been honoured with your letter of the 19th instant, which informs us that you have an intimation that a quantity of gunpowder had lately arrived here. We are sorry to say, it is without foundation.

You may be assured, Sir, that should a quantity arrive, we shall be attentive to the wants of our brethren to the Eastward, and forward as much as possible that way.

We are, with great respect, Sir, your most obedient servants. By order of the Committee:

AB. BRASHER, *Chairman pro tem.*

To the Honourable John Hancock, Esq., Philadelphia.

COL. VAN SCHAICK TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.  
Albany, July 24, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I yesterday received yours of the 17th instant, and agreeable to your request, have made out a return, as near as I could, which you have on the other side.

The five first companies on this return, are those raised by the Committee of this City and County, who are now in actual service at *Lake George*, and the posts adjacent, from whence General Schuyler has ordered an officer out of each company down the country to complete the levies of those companies. The officers of the last five companies on this return have but lately received their warrants, and are now raising men in this and the neighbouring Counties.

I have sent orders to the recruiting officers, to send to me without delay, returns of the number of men they have enlisted; and shall, on receipt thereof, lay before the Congress a return of the state of my Regiment.

You will please to observe, that several of the officers appointed by the Provincial Congress refused to accept their warrants; in lieu of whom, the Committee of this City and County, at the request of General Schuyler, have appointed others, as the General conceived that waiting for the appointment of others by the Congress would create such a delay in the levying of the companies, as might be productive of ruinous consequences; so that the return consists of those who have accepted their warrants from the Provincial Congress, and those appointed by the Committee in the room of those that declined serving.

It is impossible for me at present to say when my Regiment will be ready to take the field, as I cannot determine with what success the recruiting officers will meet.

You may depend upon it, that nothing will be wanting on my part to expedite the completing of the Regiment, as I am convinced that the circumstances of the Country admit of no delay.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GOOSE VAN SCHAICK.

To the Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, during the recess of the Provincial Congress.

*A Return of the Second Provincial Regiment in the Colony of New-York, whereof GOOSE VAN SCHAICK is Colonel.* ALBANY, 24th JULY, 1775.

One Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major.

Captain John Visscher's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, fifty-nine rank and file.

Captain Cornelius Van Dyck's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, fifty-one rank and file.

Captain Hezekiah Balding's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, thirty-two rank and file.

Captain Joel Pratt's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, forty-three rank and file.

Captain George White's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants, forty-eight rank and file.

Captain Barent J. Ten Eyck's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants.

Captain John Fryer's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants.

Captain Elisha Benedict's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants.

Captain Joseph McKracken's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants.

Captain John Graham's Company: one Captain, two Lieutenants.

Total: one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, ten Captains, twenty Lieutenants, fifteen Sergeants, two hundred and thirty-three rank and file.

GOOSE VAN SCHAICK, *Colonel.*

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY FOR CONNECTICUT.

At a meeting of the Governour, &c., Monday, July 24, 1775, by adjournment. Present:

His Honour the Governour; the Hon. M. Griswold, Esq., Jabez Huntington, Esq., Samuel Huntington, Esq., William Williams, Nathaniel Wales, Jedediah Elderkin, Joshua West, and Benjamin Huntington, Esq.

His Honour the Governour laid before us a large number of Letters received from various quarters, relating to the great subject matter of the unnatural civil war, &c. A Post (*Judd*) also, now came in with a Letter from General Schuyler at *Ticonderoga*, among other things informing that our Troops there were destitute of Tents, &c., and that they may be had at *New-York*.

On consideration thereof, and that they cannot be furnished without great difficulty and delay in this Colony, advised that his Honour the Governour be desired to write the Congress at *New-York*, to provide and send a suitable number of Tents for Colonel Hinman's Regiment, and send them forward to *Ticonderoga*.

On motion, that there is about two thousand barrels of Flour at *Norwich*, sent by the Continental Congress for the use of the Army near *Boston*, for which the freight has been paid by Colonel Jedediah Huntington, &c., and is desired by General Washington to be sent forward for the use of said Army, &c.,

*Voted*, That the expense of the freight and transportation of said Flour, be paid and advanced out of the Colony Treasury; and that the Committee of the Pay Table be ordered to draw on the Treasurer in favour of such persons, and for such sums as shall be ordered by his Honour the Governour for the purposes aforesaid; keeping a proper account thereof.

The affair of the two armed Vessels, (being a principal occasion of this meeting,) was taken up and largely discussed. Letters received from a number of gentlemen, from *New-Haven*, *Middletown*, *Wethersfield*, &c., relating to it, read, &c. Captain Deshon, Mr. Shaw, and Captain Giles Hall were present on that account, and discoursed with, &c., and they retired. And on further consideration, &c., this Council are of opinion and do resolve, that William Williams and Nathaniel Wales, Esqrs., together with Captain Deshon and Captain Hall, be a Committee to *Norwich*, *New-London*, and by the sea-coast to *New-Haven*, and to *Middletown*, *Hartford*, &c., to inquire after and find out proper and suitable Vessels for the purpose; the terms on which they may be had; the proper manning of them; the terms on which officers and men may be had, &c.; and give proper directions for preparing Carriages for the Cannon at *New-Haven*, which may be wanted, and what may be proper and necessary, &c.; and thereof to make report to this Council on Wednesday the 2d of August next, to which time this Council is to be adjourned.

On a request from General Washington, signified by his Letters, &c.,

*Voted*, That his Honour the Governour be desired and advised to give orders to the Colonels of the Seventh and Eighth Regiments, to march their Troops as soon as they



possibly can be prepared, either in whole or in part companies, at their discretion, with necessary officers, to the Camp near *Boston*, to be under the proper regulation of the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army.

And adjourned to *Wednesday*, 2d of *August* next, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, July 24, 1775.

SIR: Your favour of the 18th *July* I have this moment received, and observe the contents. I shall send an express to *New-York* to move their Congress to supply Colonel *Hinman's* Regiment with tents, as I apprehend this Colony is so far exhausted of the materials for making tents, that it will be difficult to have them in season. I take the liberty to insert some queries, &c., which I forwarded yesterday to our Delegates of the honourable General Congress at *Philadelphia*, viz: "Is it not high time to proceed into, and even to hasten forward to secure the Government of *Quebeck*, and thereby the whole *Indian* strength in our interest and favour? Is there any thing to expect from the present Administration that is favourable or kind? If needful, may not Colonel *Waterbury* with his Regiment be spared to the Northward?" "We are near the grand scene of action; are anxious for the safety of our friends, the security of our rights, and to convince our enemies that we are in earnest, and that the object in view is *American Liberty*; the barrier of *Virtue* to be defended and maintained even at the sacrifice of life;" which went express. Captain *Derby*, who went to *England* with the Provincial account of the *Lexington* fight, is returned. He informs he had twenty-seven days passage; tarried eight days in *England*, and when he came away, General *Gage's* express, which sailed four days before him, had not arrived. Our friends published the account of the fight; Lord *North* was thunderstruck with the news, the people uneasy, the merchants distressed for their property in *America*, the stocks fell, and every thing in a ferment when he came away. The Administration published that they had not received any accounts from *Boston*; that they did not believe the story; were sure the *New-Yorkers* would fall off, and thereby the union of the Colonies be broken and the opposition be at an end. What turn matters will take when General *Gage's* account arrives, is uncertain. Captain *Derby's* Schooner never went into port, but plied on and off while he tarried. He never appeared in publick, kept with our friends, the Lord-Mayor, Doctor *Lee*, &c. Lord *Dartmouth* sent for him, but our friends advised him not to put himself in his power. I am, &c.

J. TRUMBULL.

Major-General Schuyler.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Cambridge, July 24, 1775, Two o'clock, P. M.

General *Lee* begs General *Sullivan* will get as much work as possible out of the men this day. If they cannot all work on the face of the citadel, let them deepen and widen the ditch of the flank and rear faces, and heighten the parapet all round.

To General *Sullivan*.

P. S. For *God's* sake finish and strengthen the abattis.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE, DATED JULY 24, 1775.

On *Thursday* last, the universal fast day, a party of our troops, in whale-boats, landed on *Nantasket Point* before day, and set fire to the Light-house. At day-light the men-of-war discovered them and fired upon them. I was at *Little Cambridge* when the guns wakened me. I ascended an eminence at a distance, and saw the flames of the Light-house ascending up to Heaven like grateful incense, and the ships wasting their powder. Our men proceeded from thence to *Point Shirley*, in order to drive off some young colts which were there. A party of Regulars attacked them, but were repulsed and drove into their boats, without the loss of a man on our side, either killed or wounded; what loss the Regulars have sustained I have not yet heard. The party set fire to all the fishing-houses

and hay that were on the place, and brought off four Tory fishermen, who are now prisoners at the General's, together with one *Whiting*, a Sheriff of *New-Hampshire* Government, who has been detected in some illicit practices inimical to this Country. The troops here are increasing daily; a Regiment is arrived from the Province of *Connecticut*, and the riflemen are expected hourly. The strictest discipline begins to be practised in the camp, and nothing but a due subordination is required to make this Army as complete as any troops in the word. *Wednesday* evening Colonel *Reed* of your City delivered a copy of the Declaration and Address from the Congress, to the advanced guards of the enemy, for General *Gage*; and our sentinels have dispersed several hundred of those papers called "An Address to the Soldiers," amongst the Regular Troops, which, it is to be hoped, will be of good effect. We are now in perfect tranquillity, being well secured by intrenchments on all sides, and General *Lee* thinks they will not come out soon against us.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE, DATED JULY 24, 1775.

Within a day or two we have had five deserters from the advanced posts of the enemy; two of them are sensible, honest-looking fellows, the one that came in this morning particularly so. They have a return of the enemy's killed and wounded, amounting to one thousand and fifty-two; most of the wounded are in a dangerous way. They have had no fresh provisions since the affair of *Noddle's Island*, and are not like to have any without fighting for it. One of the deserters went off last night, with leave, to *Philadelphia*; he is a Grenadier of the Royal *Irish*. The deserters say, that yesterday morning General *Gage* surrendered, in the orders of the day, his command of the Army to General *Howe*, and now acts only as a civil Governour; that he is lampooned and despised by the whole Army. That *Howe* is much censured for his mode of attack on our lines last month. That their artillery was wretchedly served, and, what is more strange, that all their spare cartridges which they brought out were twelve-pounders, and they took out only nine-pounders cannon; so that when our people were obliged to quit their lines, the enemy had not one round of artillery cartridges left. That young *Richardson* was the first person that mounted our parapet; you know him well, he is of the Eighteenth or Royal *Irish*; he is dangerously wounded. That their number of effective men is four thousand in *Boston*, and two thousand two hundred on *Bunker's Hill*; that they despair of forcing our lines, but talk of getting round us if they can. That eight sail of transports, and one frigate, are gone to *Fisher's Island*, and other places in the sound, marauding, with one hundred men. That they have erected a large bomb battery on *Bunker's Hill*, and amongst others, two eighteen-inch *French* mortars. That our morning gun, yesterday, threw an eighteen-pound shot into their encampment on the top of *Bunker's Hill*. That the Grenadiers of the Royal *Welch* Fusileers amounted to forty at the attack last month, and are now reduced to eight men; that the Fifty-Second Regiment had twenty-two Grenadiers killed out of thirty-nine. That the inhabitants of *Boston* are ill-used and miserably fed; that they will be soon released, because provisions begin to be scarce. That the Army begin to clamour for their pay; there is no cash, and bills will not sell under fifty per cent. discount. The resolution of the Congress against Government Bills was wise, and has distressed the enemy exceedingly. The *Reading* Company of Riflemen came in on *Tuesday*; the rest are hourly expected and much wanted. We have frequently thrown into their lines, on the wings of the wind at night, hand-bills, and propose to send in a few to-night. These bills are blown into their camp, and get into the hands of their soldiers, without the officers being able to prevent it. Major *Bruce* complained, at an interview the other day, of such usage. We retorted his decoying our sentries from their posts, two rascals having left us a day or two before, by his or some other officer's means.

We expect they will begin to bombard us in a day or two; they cannot hurt but benefit us. They will, by such means, harden our men, and discourage their own. This we have experienced by their bombarding of *Roxbury*.



## GENERAL GAGE TO LORD DARTMOUTH.

Boston, July 24, 1775.

A pamphlet, published by the Continental Congress, called a "*Declaration of the United Colonies*," has been sent in from the rebel camp, copies of which will no doubt be sent to England from Philadelphia. They pay little regard to facts, for the contents of it are as replete with deceit and falsehood as most of their publications. The rebellion being general, I know of no better plan to quell it than that I mentioned to your Lordship in a former letter. This Province began it, I might say this Town, for here the arch-rebels formed their scheme long ago. This circumstance brought the troops first here, which is the most disadvantageous place for all operations, particularly where there is no diversion of the rebel forces, but all are collected into one point. Was this Army in New-York, that Province might, to all appearance, be more easily reduced, and the friends of Government be able to raise forces to join the troops.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF PENNSYLVANIA AND VIRGINIA, ON  
THE WEST SIDE OF LAUREL HILL.

Philadelphia, July 25, 1775.

*Friends and Countrymen :*

It gives us much concern to find that disturbances have arisen, and still continue among you, concerning the boundaries of our Colonies. In the character in which we now address you, it is unnecessary to inquire into the origin of those unhappy disputes, and it would be improper for us to express our approbation or censure on either side, but as representatives of two of the Colonies, united among many others for the defence of the liberties of America, we think it our duty to remove, as far as lies in our power, every obstacle that may prevent her sons from co-operating, as vigorously as they would wish to do, towards the attainment of this great and important end. Influenced solely by this motive, our joint and earnest request to you is, that all animosities which have heretofore subsisted among you as inhabitants of distinct Colonies, may now give place to generous and concurring efforts for the preservation of every thing that can make our common Country dear to us.

We are fully persuaded that you, as well as we, wish to see your differences terminate in this happy issue. For this desirable purpose we recommend it to you that all bodies of armed men, kept under either Province, be dismissed; that all those on either side, who are in confinement, or under bail, for taking a part in the contest, be discharged, and that until the dispute be decided, every person be permitted to retain his possessions unmolested.

By observing these directions, the publick tranquillity will be secured without injury to the titles on either side. The period, we flatter ourselves, will soon arrive, when this unfortunate dispute, which has produced much mischief, and, as far as we can learn, no good, will be peaceably and constitutionally determined.

We are your friends and countrymen,

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| PATRICK HENRY,     | JOHN DICKINSON,    |
| BENJAMIN HARRISON, | BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, |
| RICHARD HENRY LEE, | CHARLES HUMPHREYS, |
| THOMAS JEFFERSON,  | GEORGE ROSS,       |
|                    | JAMES WILSON.      |

## SOUTH-CAROLINA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Thursday, July 25, 1775.

The Council met. Present :

Colonel Henry Laurens, President; Colonel Pinckney, Honourable Mr. Drayton, Mr. Middleton, Mr. Brewton, Mr. Benjamin Elliot, Colonel Parsons, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Bee, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Heyward, Honourable Mr. Lowndes.

Resolved, That the following Orders and Commission be given to Captain Lempriere :

In the Council of Safety, Charlestown, South-Carolina, }  
July 25, 1775. }

The Council of Safety, elected and chosen by the Provincial Congress, begun to be holden on the 1st day of June last, by these presents testify, that Clement Lempriere, Esquire, has been, and is hereby appointed and commissioned to command in the sloop *Commerce*, belong-

ing to New-York, and over all and every person and persons engaged to embark on board the said sloop on the intended voyage, under the authority of the said Council of Safety. And the said Clement Lempriere is hereby ordered to proceed forthwith, with all convenient despatch, to the Island of New-Province; on that island to seize, and from that island to embark on board the said sloop, all such quantity of gunpowder as he shall find, and be able to take on board from the said island; and then forthwith to return to this Colony and put into *Tucker's Creek*, *Tucker's Island*, *North-Edisto*; and from thence to give notice to the said Council of Safety of his arrival, with all possible despatch. And if the said Clement Lempriere shall not be able to seize any considerable quantity of gunpowder in the Island of New-Province aforesaid, he shall then proceed to such places, and take such measures to procure gunpowder, as he shall think most proper, and then to proceed to *Tucker's Creek* aforesaid, and thence to give due notice as aforesaid. And for so doing this is your Warrant. By order of the Council of Safety:

HENRY LAURENS, President.

To Clement Lempriere, Esq.

In the Council of Safety, Charlestown, South-Carolina, }  
July 24, 1775. }

The Council of Safety, elected and chosen by the Provincial Congress, begun to be holden on the 1st day of June last, by these presents testify, that Clement Lempriere, Esquire, has been, and is hereby appointed and commissioned to command the Sloop *Commerce*, belonging to New-York, and over all and every person and persons engaged to embark on board the said sloop, under the authority of the said Council of Safety. And the said Clement Lempriere is hereby ordered to proceed to such places, and to take such measures as he shall think most proper, to procure gunpowder for the publick of this Colony, which, when he shall have procured, he is ordered to convey to this Colony, with all possible despatch.

It is also hereby declared, that if any commander or officer under the King's authority, in any degree ill treat the said Clement Lempriere, or any of his company, the King's officers now in our power shall be treated with equal severity; of which all persons are required to take due notice. Given under the authority, and by order of the Council of Safety :

HENRY LAURENS, President.

To Clement Lempriere, Esq.

Ordered, That the foregoing Commission be engrossed, sealed, dated, and signed by the President, and by him delivered, sealed up, to Captain Lempriere, with orders not to be opened until he shall be arrived in sight of the Island of New-Province.

Captain HATTER's Report to the Council of Safety, of the occurrences which took place on board of the Sloop *Commerce*, CLEMENT LEMPRIERE, Esq., Commander, in taking the Powder from Captain LOFTHOUSE, off AUGUSTINE Bar; and of the return voyage to CHARLESTOWN with the Powder.

1775. July 24.—Our voyage towards New-Orleans commenced.

July 25.—Took on board our stores of provisions, &c.

July 26.—Sailed over the bar, with the wind at N. E. and rain. At 6 P. M. anchored at South-Edisto.

July 27.—Fresh gales, with thunder squalls, and a great deal of lightning; weighed, and sailed up Port-Royal Creek, where we anchored.

July 28.—It continued to blow hard, with rain. We got through Port-Royal Creek, and came to at the Town, and landed our stores, in order to clean.

July 29.—We hauled on shore, and cleaned, and in the evening hauled her off again.

July 30.—Took on board our stores, and got ready to sail; fell down the river a little.

July 31.—Sailed from Port-Royal, with the wind at south, and turned down to Jenkins's Landing.

August 1.—Got under way, and turned through Skull Creek, and came to at Callaboge.

August 2.—Sailed out of Tybee, with the wind at south;



turned to windward; at meridian observed in latitude  $31^{\circ} 45'$ .

August 3.—Still plying to windward, with the wind at south; latitude observed  $31^{\circ} 28'$ .

August 4.—Fine settled weather, wind southerly, beating to windward; latitude observed  $31^{\circ} 09'$ .

August 5.—Fresh breeze and thunder squalls, wind southerly; latitude observed  $30^{\circ} 51'$ .

August 6.—Fine settled weather, with fresh gales; latitude observed  $29^{\circ} 55'$ .

August 7.—Made the *Matanzas* at night; came to under the fort, in seven fathoms water, and rode all night. At 6 A. M. got under way, and run down towards the bar of *Augustine*, where we saw a sail at anchor off the bar. We ran down to her, and hailed her, and found her to be the Brigantine *Betsy*, commanded by Captain *Alvere Loft-house*, from *London*. We boarded her with our sloop, and upon strict search found on board of her a large quantity of gunpowder, of which we took one hundred and eleven barrels, one half barrel, and thirty small kegs. Said vessel had on board of her twelve soldiers from the shore, eight seamen, the Captain, two mates, and steward, which was in number twenty-three men; and our number was twenty-one whites and five blacks. Our situation was such on this occasion, that we thought it most prudent to bribe the men, which we did with one hundred Pounds currency; and the Captain accepted a draft for one thousand Pounds sterling, for the powder, drawn on Mr. *John Edwards*, of *Charlestown*; and at half past 11 A. M., after spiking up two pieces of cannon that were mounted on board said brigantine, we re-embarked our men, and made sail with a light air at E. N. E. The wind veered to the northward. At 4 P. M. we passed the River *St. John's*, and passed a small boat stretching to the southward.

August 8.—Turning to the windward, with the wind at N. E., squally, with rain; latitude observed  $31^{\circ} 26'$ .

August 9.—Fresh gales at N. E., plying to windward with all sail set, and a growing sea; latitude observed  $31^{\circ} 50'$ .

August 10.—Light breezes of wind; set squaresail and topsail, and made *Tybee* Tower, and we steered in at it through *Skull Creek*, and came to in *Port-Royal Creek*; latitude observed  $31^{\circ} 50'$ . Got under sail, and at 10 A. M., came to at *Port-Royal*, and despatched away an express to *Charlestown*; and at 3 P. M., we landed the powder.

August 11.—Fine settled weather, with the wind to the westward.

August 12.—Showery, and thunder squalls. At anchor at *Port-Royal*.

August 13.—Showery weather.

August 14.—Do. do.

August 15.—Showery and thunder squalls. An express from *Charlestown* arrived, with an account of the Governor's sloop being in pursuit of us.

August 16.—Squally weather, with a great deal of rain. Sundry companies of Militia and Light-Infantry came to Town from the different islands, to guard the gunpowder.

August 17.—Squally weather. Our express arrived from *Charlestown*, and brought with him a detachment of Artillery, in order to escort the gunpowder to *Charlestown*.

August 18.—Received on board of the *Success* ninety-one barrels of powder, and got in readiness to sail. At 10 A. M. Captain *Cattell* arrived in Town with sixty men of the Provincials, and offered to join us to protect the gunpowder, which we accepted of.

August 19.—Got all in readiness to sail, and at meridian we weighed anchor and sailed through *Port-Royal Creek*, and run down as low as *Morgan's Island*, when we came to with our small squadron, consisting of nine sail, and rode all night.

August 20.—At 6 A. M. we got under way, and sailed down towards *Otter Island*, and fell down to *South-Edisto Inlet*, to wait the flood. At 11 A. M. we weighed, and towed up towards *Fenwick's Bluff*, when we came to to wait the tide and water the vessel, in company with the different detachments. At midnight got under way again, and towed up.

August 21.—Towed up to *Block Island*, and down to *Slan's Bluff*, where we waited the tide, and cooked pro-

visions. At 4 P. M. we run down to *White Point*, and came to to wait tide to *New-Cut*.

August 22.—Got under way, and towed up and through *New-Cut*, and down to *Wappoo*, and there waited tide to come through. At 4 P. M. we got under way, and run into the *Cut* and towed through, and came to anchor in *Ashley River*, and lay all the night.

August 23.—Got under way, and towed up *Cummings's Creek*, and at 6 A. M. we came to the *Bluff*, where we landed ninety-one barrels of gunpowder.

JOHN HATTER.

ELIZABETHTOWN (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, July 25, 1775.

SIR: Under the conduct of Sergeant *Faulker*, with a file of men, I have, by an order of our Committee, sent three persons as prisoners, who were apprehended here on this day on suspicion of being deserters from Gen. *Wooster's* camp. We have not been able to draw any confession out of them to the purpose; they differ widely in their stories, which renders them so suspicious that we have thought proper to send them to your Committee for further examination and inquiry.

By order of the Sub-Committee:

JONA. HAMPTON, *Chairman*.

P. S. The prisoners all agree that they came from *New-Haven* together, but differ as to the time; and one of them was lately seen by one of our members in the camp, which gives us strong suspicion of their being deserters from *Waterbury's* Regiment, now under marching orders.

CHRISTOPHER P. YATES TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Palatine, Tryon County, July 25, 1775.

SIR: Having been recommended by the Committee of this County to be Captain of a Company in Colonel *Van Schaick's* Battalion, to be raised in this County, permit me to acquaint you that, on their request, I did begin to enlist men immediately, in which I have been very successful, having already engaged fifty-one soldiers, for whom I have provided according to the instructions of your Congress, and make no doubt but I shall have the company full in ten days hence, of which I shall give you the earliest notice. I have wrote an account of the above to Major-General *Schuyler*, to the end that I may have orders to join the Regiment.

I am, Sir, with the greatest respect, your very humble servant,

CHRISTOPHER P. YATES.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esquire.

SIR JOHN JOHNSON TO MR. ALEXANDER WHITE.

Johnson Hall, July 25, 1775.

DEAR SIR: The bearers will deliver you some provisions and clothes, and Mr. *Clement* will give you a paper containing a ten Pound note, which I received from Mrs. *White* this morning. The *Indians* having desired some cash from me to expend when they came among the inhabitants of *Canada*, which I have not to give them, I must beg you to supply them, and charge it to Colonel *Johnson*. If you have forgot any thing, and I can be of service to you, I beg you'll mention it. God bless you.

Yours, &c.

J. JOHNSON.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Lebanon, July 25, 1775.

SIR: Yesterday I received, per express, a letter from General *Schuyler*, dated *Ticonderoga*, 18th July, a copy of part of which I herewith send you. "I find the troops from your Colony, under the command of Col. *Hinman*, destitute of tents, an article they much stand in need of, being now crowded into bad barracks, which I fear will be productive of disease. Should it be impossible to procure the materials for making tents in your Colony, they may possibly be furnished by the *New-York* Congress, which can make no material difference, as it will probably be a Continental expense."

On consideration that this Colony is so far exhausted of materials for making tents, that it will be very difficult, if



not impossible, to furnish them in any tolerable season, and considering the much greater convenience, in point of conveyance, with which they may be had from *New-York*, I have thought proper to desire that your Province will furnish our troops, under command of Colonel *Hinman*, with such number of tents as will be necessary for their use. The complement of men to his said Regiment is one thousand, including officers.

You will please to inform me, per return of this express, whether my request may be complied with, as, on failure, we shall endeavour to exert ourselves in the best manner we can. I am, with great truth and esteem, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

Hon. *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esquire.

GENERAL THOMAS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Roxbury Camp, July 25, 1775.

SIR: There was information forwarded to Head-Quarters yesterday, P. M., of the sailing of thirteen ships from *Boston*. I sent one Captain *Davis* down the harbour to watch their motions, and he reports, on his return, that they put to sea, and stood their course about east-south-east, which appears as if they were bound to the southward; that course would lead them out by *Cape Cod*, and to the chops of the *South Channel*.

I am, Sir, with great respect, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

To his Excellency General *Washington*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, FROM AN OFFICER IN BOSTON, DATED JULY 25, 1775.

As far as I can guess from a matter not perfectly known, we at present are worse off than the rebels. In point of numbers they so surpass us, that we are like a few children in the midst of a large crowd. Trusting to this superiority, they grow daily more and more bold, menacing us most insolently, and we fear, when the days shorten, and dark nights come on, they will put some of their threats in execution, unless other re-enforcements, and a fleet of men-of-war arrive soon. They know our situation as well as we do ourselves, from the villains that are left in Town, who acquaint them with all our proceedings, making signals by night with gunpowder, and at day out of the church steeples. About three weeks ago three fellows were taken out of one of the latter, who confess they had been so employed for seven days. Another was caught last week swimming over to the rebels, with one of their General's passes in his pocket; he will be hanged in a day or two.

Since we have been here, we have been re-enforced by four Regiments; but many of the men are very ill with fluxes, occasioned by the bad water which they got on landing, and the want of fresh provisions. No action has happened since the 17th of *June*. A few shot have been exchanged by scouting parties; one morning they beat in our advanced guard, and burnt the guard-house; and on the 19th instant they set fire to the Light-house, and one of our men-of-war lying but a mile from it. As it was calm we could not get at them, their whale-boats, in which they made their escape, outrowing any of our boats, and a small island lying between them and the ship, prevented her firing on them. They took from the Light-house a six pounder and a swivel.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON TO HIS FRIEND IN NEW-YORK, DATED JULY 26, 1775.

I have seen the Ministry, and conversed with the first personages near our Sovereign, and with confidence can assure you that I have not heard one word fall from the lips of those people that had the least tendency to enslave the Colonists. I find the language of humanity breathes forth; their bosoms seem to heave with compassion for a people under an unhappy delusion; observe, I use the common phrase here. Lord *North's* motion, as explained to me, and generally understood in *England*, was certainly the groundwork for a conciliatory superstructure, if not an ample compliance with the demands of *America*. Its implication I shall confine within the compass of a few words, viz: *Great Britain* to recede from external and internal taxa-

tion on each Colony giving, by way of requisition, money towards defraying that expense necessary for the defence of the Empire. Believe me the quantum, as I am informed, is not the object; but an acknowledgment of that superintending power always exercised by *Great Britain* over its external Dominions—a superintending power absolutely necessary for promoting the happiness of Colonies so widely differing in commercial interests. It is true *Great Britain* reserves a power to lay duties on such articles of commerce as interfere with its own manufactures; but the revenue arising from such duties, to be carried to account of the Colony where they are laid. It likewise reserves a power to compel any refractory Colony to fulfil its engagements. In our memory, good Sir, when some Colonies refused to contribute their quotas when the service of *America* required its united force, even some of the Assemblies and Continental Conventions complained of it, and declared that Parliament should interfere to compel the delinquent Colonies to do what was necessary.

I am informed here that Parliament has, by its Constitution, certain inherent rights, which it cannot divest itself of; that of a supreme legislative power over the extended dominions is one. It may, and in this case I am very well informed certainly will, give the Colonies such securities that it will not exercise it, except in the cases above mentioned. The inexpediency of exercising this power over the Colonies in all cases is manifest, that is, after the controverted points are settled. Viewing the dispute in the light I have here pointed it out, why will not *America* meet *England* on friendly and equitable ground, and settle the dispute by negotiation, rather than let the horrors of civil war carry devastation through your once happy peaceful land. Painful reflection. This dispute must have an end. If it is settled by the longest sword, the cause of quarrel will be forgot, and the terms of peace adequate to the success of the victorious. Why will the demands of *America* be left in so precarious a situation? The events of war are uncertain; the battle is not always in favour of the strong. Every thing that I see round me, indicates vigorous measures on the part of *England*. It is in peace with its neighbouring states; trade flourishing at home and tranquillity in every County; the Parliament at all events determined to support its authority; and I believe as willing to give generous terms to the Colonies.

I have but too great reason to believe *America* has had many false friends on this side the *Atlantic*, I mean those who convey from hence wrong accounts of the situation of affairs here, which made the *Americans* view them through a false medium. Local politicks influenced some, others oppose Government on any principles, and care not if *America* was deluged in blood, if their private purposes were answered. Why will not the friends of peace now stand forth, and endeavour to heal the wound before it becomes incurable? The spirit of *England* beats high. The most vigorous measures you may depend on will be pursued. If success attends the King's troops, you can easily foresee the consequences: a flourishing and once happy country reduced to the greatest distress; commerce, that source of wealth, banished the coast; civil discord diffused through all ranks of people; the bands of civil society dissolved; and anarchy, with all its baneful attendants, substituted in the place of good order. On the other hand, if the Provincials succeed, it must be in the course of many hard-fought battles. And pray, will success on their side be an equivalent for the loss they must sustain in the pursuit of it? It will not. The *American* trade must suffer; the farmer, the merchant, and the wealthy inhabitants who, by many years industry, have purchased a peaceful retirement from the busy world, must be reduced to the lowest ebb of distress. And for what? In pursuit of an object which could be obtained on easy and honourable terms.

Exert yourself, my dear friend, in your Country's cause. Promote, as far as you can, a reconciliation between the parent and her children. I wish not to see *America* lose a particle of its right: but I wish to see that right obtained in a manner consistent with the dignity of *Britons* and of *Christians*. It has been said *American* Petitions have not been received. Let not this opinion prevent another application in this mode. If it is done in time, and constitutionally, believe me, success will attend it. I love *America*; I have chosen it voluntarily for my residence; and I hope



to spend the evening of my life in your western world. This is the impulsive cause of my writing so freely to you. I am convinced the language I use would not be acceptable to many on your Continent. It is the language of a real friend to *America*. Be not any longer duped by a discontented, disappointed faction on this side the *Atlantic*; nor the local politicks of false friends in *America*. May kind Providence dissipate the impending clouds that threaten your ruin; and may the Olive once more extend its branches over your Western world, is my sincere and constant wish.

Salute, with great truth, for me the partner of your happiness, and those tender branches you cherish with so much care and parental affection.

You have my sentiments fully on *American* affairs. I say nothing but what I can support; I never did, nor ever will.

MARINUS WILLETT AND OTHERS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, July 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Having freely accepted of the honourable appointment which you have conferred upon us, as officers to serve in defending the rights and liberties of our injured and oppressed Country, permit us to lay before you the great inconvenience which we must unavoidably suffer from the necessity we are under of providing ourselves with clothing, arms, &c., if there is not some adequate provision made to enable us to take the field. Were we possessed of fortunes sufficient to support ourselves, we should be far from troubling you with our solicitations upon this score, and should esteem ourselves extremely happy in having the opportunity of sacrificing both that and our lives in so glorious a cause; but as that is not the case, we are constrained to solicit your bounty, not doubting but you will consider the peculiarity of our situation, and grant us such relief as in your wisdom shall seem meet.

We are, gentlemen, in behalf and by order of the officers of our Regiment, your very humble servants,

MARINUS WILLETT, JAMES M. HUGHES,  
JOHN BEEKMAN, WILLIAM GOFORTH.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress for the Province of *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read September 14, 1775.]

Ticonderoga, July 26, 1775.

SIR: I do myself the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 18th instant, (which were delivered to me last evening,) enclosing a copy of a speech intended to be made to the *Six Nations*, the Declaration of Congress, and a newspaper containing the Articles of War. It gives me great satisfaction to learn, that a thousand of the troops raised in the Colony of *Connecticut* are ordered to *Albany*.

You will perceive, Sir, by the enclosed, that I am not likely to have any other in time to act offensively, and the necessity of such an operation becomes daily more evident to me. It cannot be surprising, then, that I am chagrined that I have not yet any of the stores here (nor do I learn that they are arrived at *Albany*) for building craft to carry me across this lake, nor any of the intrenching tools. I have increased my carpenters, and they are constantly employed in procuring the materials for building boats; the moment I have sufficient craft and carriages for a few guns, I will pick my men and give them the best of the arms, and proceed to *St. John's*. Major *Brown* left *Crown Point* early on *Monday* morning, and as the winds have been favourable to carry him to the north end of the lake, I hope he is now near *Caughnawaga*. He is accompanied by a *Canadian* and three people from hence, and I trust that he will bring me more certain intelligence of the state of things in *Canada* than any we have yet had.

I am very happy that a Commissary-General and the other appointments have taken place; we really stood in great need of them. Mr. *Livingston* is at *Albany*, and I shall immediately give him directions for supplying the Army, that we may not be retarded in that department. I am very sorry to find so little pork in the Colony as is mentioned in the enclosed letter, and for the want of the arrival of fat cattle here, I am under the disagreeable ne-

cessity of expending part of the little stock of pork I have at this place and *Crown Point*.

I have not yet been able to execute your order relative to the men employed in taking and garrisoning these fortresses. I find it will be extremely difficult to ascertain their number with any degree of precision.

As an immediate Convention of the *Indians* at *Albany* is indispensably necessary, I shall take the liberty to desire Mr. *Douw*, and the Committee of *Albany*, to despatch the proper messengers to invite them down; and, as I cannot fix on a day for the meeting, shall leave it to them, and request them to give notice to the other Commissioners, that they may attend; and as, in all probability, I will not be present, I shall send the speech to Mr. *Douw*, to be delivered to his colleagues when they arrive at *Albany*. Mr. *Francis* cannot be too early at *Albany*; that gentleman might promote the business much, especially among the *Mohawk* Tribe.

A fracas has happened in *Tryon* County, between the well-affected and the Sheriff of the County. I enclose the account I have received of it. It is a very alarming circumstance, that four hundred men in that County, inimical to our cause, should be possessed of arms. I should be at no loss what measures to take, were it not on account of the delicate situation we are in with respect to the *Indians*. Perhaps these people might be induced to give up their arms (of which we are in great want) on assurances that they will be protected from insult.

I shall leave great part of the troops ordered from *New-York* at *Albany*, until I receive the necessaries for building, &c., to prevent the expense of feeding them at this place, unless any intelligence from *Canada* should make it necessary to have them here sooner.

The artificers that I am under a necessity of taking out of the troops here, will not work unless they are paid; I promised them the same that was allowed last war, only until the determination of Congress.

I feel very sensibly the attention of Congress in the appointments I recommended, and in their assurances to give me every support to enable me to do my duty; in the discharge of which, I shall arduously strive to merit a continuance of their countenance.

I have ventured on the measure of calling the *Indians*, as they cannot be collected sooner than the first of *September*, if so soon, and in that time I supposed every necessary might be prepared for them.

I am, Sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., &c.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GEN. SCHUYLER.

[Read in Congress September 14, 1775.]

Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*, }  
July 15, 1775. }

SIR: We have received your letters, and written to the Continental Congress on these subjects. We shall, with all despatch, send the officer you mention. We have already ordered to *Albany* tents for one Regiment. Our troops can be of no service to you; they have no arms, clothes, blankets, or ammunition; the officers no commissions; our treasury no money; ourselves in debt. It is in vain to complain; we will remove difficulties as fast as we can, and send you soldiers, whenever the men we have raised are entitled to that name. The intrenching tools shall be sent soon—some immediately—and all the pork that can be had, about one hundred barrels. Use, we pray you, the troops at *Ticonderoga* as well as you can.

We are, very sincerely, your countrymen and friends.

By order: HENRY WILLIAMS, *Chairman*.

P. S. General *Burgoyne* has not been seen at *Boston* since the 17th ultimo; and it is currently reported and believed that he is gone to *Quebeck*.

SCHENECTADY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

[Read in Congress September 14, 1775.]

Schenectady Committee-Chamber, July 23, 1775.

HONOURED SIR: By an express just arrived from *Caughnawaga*, we beg leave to acquaint you that there has been



a great alarm on the *Mohawk* River, with the Sheriff, *Alexander White*, who has repeatedly insulted the inhabitants, and at last brought it to such a height, by heaping one crime on the top of another, that the people assembled together in order to take him prisoner. He took shelter under the protection of Sir *John Johnson*, who has about four hundred men assembled for that purpose. Sir *John Johnson* hath given his word of honour that the Sheriff is gone off; and by all accounts he is gone by way of *Sacadago*, and so try to make his escape that way to *Canada*. He doubtless is possessed of letters of consequence. We therefore think proper to give you the earliest notice, as your people may perhaps fall in with him, if they keep a watchful eye. His pilots are two *Indians*. There is a Sub-Committee from this Board, jointly with one from *Albany*, gone up to *Caughnawaga* to see how matters stand.

We have the honour to be your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

CHRIST. YATES, *Chairman*.

To General Schuyler.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, July 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I have just received a letter from Mr. *Williams*, as Chairman of your Committee of Safety, in the recess of the Congress. The difficulties you labour under with respect to equipping the troops for the field, are really very distressing. But yet I should hope that at least some part of the troops might be furnished with arms, clothing, and blankets, and such might be sent up. Would it not be proper that those raising at *Albany* should have clothing sent to them, if you have any at *New-York* beyond what will clothe such as have arms?

For want of a variety of the articles which I begged might be sent up, I cannot by any means prosecute the intentions of the Continental Congress. If, therefore, they are not yet sent, pray let no delay be made, lest we should lose an opportunity of doing a service very essential to the Colonies—to this in particular, and in which delay will be fatal.

I am informed by the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., that the Congress has recommended to you the appointment of an Adjutant-General or Brigade-Major for this Department. An active man and a good disciplinarian is much, very much wanted indeed, to fill the first mentioned office. I beg that whoever you may appoint, you will order him without delay to join me. I stand in great need of his services.

Could not a gentleman be got to accept of a commission as commander of the Artillery? Perhaps if rank was given, it would induce some good man to undertake it. Such an officer is so evidently necessary, that I hope this recommendation will claim your attention.

I am very sensible of your spirited exertions in this critical day; and if I press you for farther assistance with a seeming importunity, it is because the force of necessity obliges me to it; it is because I wish to see my countrymen about me, that I may have their testimony of my conduct.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect and with the best wishes, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

The Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

COLONEL JOSEPH REED TO GENERAL WOOSTER.

Cambridge, July 26, 1775.

SIR: I am directed by his Excellency General *Washington* to inform you, that yesterday afternoon three men-of-war, with a number of transports, sailed from *Boston*. They steered E. S. E. after they got out, but we cannot yet learn their destination, or whether they have taken off any part of the troops of the enemy. As their designs are so much unknown to us, and it is possible they may move to *New-York*, the General thought proper to apprize you of it, that you may be prepared for such an event. This he would have done with his own hand, but he has been much indisposed for some days past.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most humble servant,  
JOSEPH REED, *Secretary*.

JAMES CHRISTIE, JUN., TO THE PUBLICK.

Baltimore, July 27, 1775.

However disagreeable it is to every one to have their private and confidential letters exposed to publick view, yet I am in some measure compelled, by the necessity of my situation, to publish the following letter, written by me on the 22d of *February* last, to my friend and relation, Colonel *Christie*, at *Antigua*. I confess the whole of the proceeding respecting this unfortunate affair has been published very candidly by the Committee; yet it is to be observed, that only that part of my letter is published where I gave my opinion of politicks. My letter, therefore, has been considered by many as a letter on publick affairs only. Many representations, too, have been propagated to our disadvantage.

The most superficial reader must perceive, from the date of the letter, that it was written at a time when we had heard nothing of their determinations in *England* on our publick affairs; and this letter was intercepted at a time when, perhaps, the affairs of this country did not necessarily require such a breach of trust, and such an invasion of private rights.

The most superficial reader will easily observe, that this is by no means a letter of politicks, or on publick affairs, but merely on my private business, on the affairs of our family, and those of our relations. In times like these, it is almost impossible to avoid mentioning politicks amidst the most private concerns; but I submit it to the candid, whether the opinions I have mentioned did not arise naturally and of course from the subject. As to the sentiments themselves, I can only say, that though mentioned to an officer, yet it was in confidence, to a relation and a friend, without any expectation that they would ever give offence to any, or even be productive of any publick measures whatever.

I have only to regret, that in expressing my opinion of measures which I then could not approve, because I did not then think them promotive of the interest or happiness of this country, I should have used expressions which have given offence. With the humane, perhaps, my situation at that time will plead my excuse.

JAMES CHRISTIE, JUN.

JAMES CHRISTIE, JUN., TO LIEUT. GABRIEL CHRISTIE.

Baltimore, February 2, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I duly received your favours of the 13th and 22d *November*, and should probably have wrote you before now, had I not met with the greatest misfortune in the power of fate to inflict on me, in the loss of the wife of my soul, on the 15th of *December* last, that has almost put it out of my power to mind any thing for some time past; and all my fortitude is scarce sufficient to bear me up; however, I must submit. She had been brought to bed of a girl about twenty days; the dear little infant died a few days after its mother.

I some time since remitted twenty-two pounds eight shillings sterling, to be paid your mother for the boy's passage, (being twenty pounds, and interest on it at six per cent. since I received the money,) and which, on the whole, leaves them about seven pounds currency in my debt, which I shall soon receive for rent. *Charles's* expense for clothing, schooling, &c., when ashore, runs high, but I think he may now pay for himself. *Gabriel* has been with me three or four months, and so far has behaved to my satisfaction; and I would flatter myself he may easily be broke of the idle, indolent habit he has been acquiring. He applies well to any thing I put him to, and after a while I hope may do.

As your brother's correspondence and mine has been suspended since a letter I wrote him about the boys, soon after receipt of yours, I wrote my sister about *John Grame's* mandamus, and to get me the preference of it. I have thought nothing more about it, and am now quite undetermined. At present I think of going to *Britain*, so soon as my affairs will admit of it, and leave my little boy at *Stirling*; and, if things turn out to my liking, perhaps I may remain, and set myself down either in *London* or *Glasgow*. When I may get away is wholly uncertain—I would hope some time next fall. We are in such terrible



confusion with our politicks, there is no depending on any thing; and that, added to other things, makes me wish myself out of the Province. We are little behind the *New-Englanders*, mustering, purchasing arms, ammunition, &c. We have some violent fanatical spirits among us, who do every thing in their power to run things to the utmost extremity; and they are gone so far, that we moderate people are under the necessity of uniting for our own defence, after being threatened with expulsion, loss of life, &c., for not acceding to what we deem treason and rebellion.

The Provost and family are all well. I believe he has nothing lately from *James*. He has made inquiry about negotiating bills on him in *Bengal*, and finds it may be done at a disadvantage of twenty per cent., and thirty per cent. more, if the bills are protested; on the whole, fifty per cent., in case of protest. Whether he will attempt it or not I know not. Our publick affairs vex him, and he wishes himself away; but I know not when, or if ever that will happen. A part of your or any other Regiment, I believe, would keep us very quiet. Do you expect to remain long in the *West-Indies*? I shall hope to hear from you soon, and am, very truly, dear Sir, yours,

JAMES CHRISTIE, Jun.

Lieut. *Gabriel Christie*, of the 60th Regiment, *Antigua*.

#### PHILADELPHIA MILITARY ASSOCIATION.

Philadelphia July 27, 1775.

Whereas, the Officers of the Military Association for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* have settled the Pay of the following persons employed by them, at the rates hereafter mentioned:

An Adjutant to receive seven Shillings and six Pence per day; a Sergeant-Major thirty Shillings per week; a Drummer twenty Shillings per week; a Fife-Major twenty-five Shillings; and a Fifer twenty Shillings per week:

And as extravagant demands have been made by some of the persons employed in the forementioned capacities, and threats made use of in case of non-compliance with their demands, that they would leave their present employ and go into the service of other Associators in this or the neighbouring Provinces, the foregoing Regulation is published, for the information of officers who are not of this Corps. And it is earnestly requested that no officers employ any of the persons acting in the foregoing capacities in this City and Liberties, without their producing a discharge from the officer or officers under whom they now do duty. Published by order:

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

#### NEW-BRUNSWICK (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

City of New-Brunswick, July 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 21st instant came safe to hand; and the contents of which was duly observed.

Application was immediately made to Mr. *Merrill*, who says, about three weeks past a person coming from *Egg-Harbour*, when within the *Hook*, saw a boat standing down our bay, that he thought was loaded with flour, which boat, he believes, went along side the man-of-war. This is all he ever heard or knows of the matter. Every other inquiry in our power has been made, but can make no further discovery.

All intelligences and discoveries of every action inimical to *American* liberty, and every matter of instruction for our better preservation and protection, will be paid due regard to and cheerfully received from you by the Committee of this City.

Assure yourselves, gentlemen, that this Committee has and ever will be ready to render to their country every service in their power, and will continue to give a strict attention to, and duly observe all resolutions formed by the Continental Congress.

We are, with esteem, gentlemen, your obedient humble servants.

JOHN DENNIS, *Chairman*.

To Mr. *Henry Williams*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

#### NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 27, 1775.

SIR: In compliance with the request of Congress, which you did us the honour to mention in your letters of the 17th and 19th of *July* instant, we have appointed *William Duer*, Esquire, Deputy Adjutant-General, and taken the liberty to give him, in his commission, which we received yesterday, the rank of Colonel.

We beg leave to submit to the wisdom of Congress, whether or not it will be proper to have a Major of Brigade appointed also; and should it be deemed necessary, we would readily decline the honour of nominating a person to fill that office, having full confidence in the wisdom and integrity of our Delegates, and being well convinced that they will recommend no man who is not endued with every qualification necessary to discharge any trust which you may think proper to repose in him.

We are, with great respect, Sir, your countrymen and servants. By order:

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read September 14, 1775.]

Ticonderoga, July 27, 1775.

SIR: Since my last of yesterday, Captain *Halsey*, who has commanded the sloop since she was left by her former commander, arrived at this post. He reports that the Schooner *Liberty* is returned from her cruise towards the north end of *Lake Champlain*; that about *Isle-la-Motte* she fell in with two canoes, containing three *Frenchmen* and as many *Indians*; that they informed the Captain that Governour *Carleton* had in vain attempted to prevail upon the savages to act against us; that the *Canadians* would be neuter, perhaps act in our favour; that a picket fort, surrounded with a ditch, is erected at *St. John's*; that preparations were making for mounting cannon; that the Regular Troops at that place consisted of about four hundred and fifty men; that two men from *Crown Point*, who were carrying an *Indian* boy, on his return from Mr. *Wheelock's* school, into *Canada*, had been made prisoners and detained; and that a scouting party of Regular Troops has been almost as far south as Mr. *Gilleland's*, about thirty-five miles from hence.

Captain *Baker*, who left *Crown Point* with the party to carry the *Indian* boy, but separated from them, fell in with some *Indians* at *Missisque*. Their information confirms the above. His is enclosed.

In this situation of affairs, no manœuvre appears to me more necessary than an immediate movement to *St. John's*, which will determine what we are to expect from the *Canadians*; and this known, any future military operations in this quarter may be regulated by it. But how to get there? All the craft I am possessed of (and I have already bought or engaged all the pettiaguers belonging to the inhabitants here) will not carry at the most more than five hundred and fifty men; nor are any of the stores mentioned in a former letter of mine, as yet arrived here. It is probable, from the letter which I yesterday transmitted to you, that they have not yet left *New-York*, and without them I cannot proceed, even if I had boats; for as my whole stock of powder will be less than three tons when that from *Philadelphia* arrives, I must necessarily not fire a gun without certain execution, and therefore want the intrenching tools, which are part of the articles, to make the approaches up to their very ditch; and that cannot be done with the few tools I have here.

Although you will perceive by the enclosed return, that my stock of provisions is very scant, yet I shall not be detained on that account, as it may follow me. I shall make all the despatch I possibly can, and move the moment I am in a condition for it.

It appears to me highly necessary that more powder should be sent up; for if even I should be fortunate enough to succeed against *St. John's* with the little I have, it cannot be expected that much would be left. But if I should be under the disagreeable necessity of retreating, the want



of it might be followed with the loss of this fortress and command of the lake.

I am, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,  
PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable John Hancock, Esq.

*An Account of the voyage of Captain REMEMBER BAKER, begun the 13th day of JULY, and ended JULY 25, 1775, on LAKE CHAMPLAIN.*

On the 16th instant an *Indian* trader informed him that general orders were given out by Governour *Carleton* not to fire on our people, nor to pass the line, nor even to fire on our parties, if they were even to come to *St. John's*, but to take them, if possible; but that it proved to be false. This information he received from Esquire *Metcalf* and one *Sear*.

On the same day he sent two lads with an *Indian* boy over the line; that they did not return, but has been since informed by *Frenchmen* and *Indians*, that they were taken.

Messrs. *Sear* and *Metcalf* informed him that the Regulars were intrenched at *St. John's*, with twelve cannon mounted, and four hundred and fifty men; that they keep scouts out in a large birch canoe.

That he was in company with *Indians* of two Nations, *St. François* and *Conesadaga*, and was treated with great civility, and was supplied with provisions by them. They informed him that seven Nations had agreed not to fight the *Yankes*, and have sent three men to *Boston* to confirm it with the Congress. The Towns are *Lolet*, *Conesadaga*, *Panomscut*, *Caughnawaga*, *St. François*, *Wesunkanaugh*, and *Wolenuck*; that each Town had appointed one captain and one governour, who had convened and made a governour over the whole. REMEMBER BAKER.

Ticonderoga, July 26, 1775.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, July 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Since my letter of yesterday I have received such intelligence as makes it indispensably necessary that not one moment's delay should be made in forwarding me the stores mentioned in the estimate I delivered you on the 3d of July. I have a number of carpenters, and no materials to employ them. A thousand of the *Connecticut* Troops are ordered to join me; and I do most, most earnestly entreat that such of the men raised in this Colony as are furnished with arms, may be sent to *Albany* without any delay. General *Montgomery* is there to forward them to me.

I am, gentlemen, with great esteem and respect, your most obedient humble servant, PH. SCHUYLER.

The New-York Provincial Congress.

GEN. WASHINGTON TO JOHN AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON.

Camp at Cambridge, July 27, 1775.

DEAR BROTHER: On the 2d instant I arrived at this place, after passing through a great deal of delightful country, covered with grass, (although the season has been dry,) in a manner very different from our lands in *Virginia*.

I found a mixed multitude of people here, under very little discipline, order, or government; the enemy in possession of a place called *Bunker's Hill*, on *Charlestown Neck*, strongly intrenched, and fortifying themselves; part of our own Army on two hills, called *Winter* and *Prospect Hills*, about a mile and a quarter from the enemy on *Bunker's Hill*, in a very insecure state; another part at this village; and a third part at *Roxbury*, guarding the entrance in and out of *Boston*. My whole time since I came here, has been employed in throwing up lines of defence at these three several places, to secure, in the first instance, our own Troops from any attempts of the enemy; and, in the next place, to cut off all communication between their Troops and the country. To do this, and to prevent them from penetrating into the country with fire and sword, and to harass them if they do, is all that is expected of me. If effected, it must totally overthrow the designs of Administration, as the whole force of *Great Britain* in the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, can answer no other end than to sink her under the disgrace and weight of the expense. The enemy's strength, including marine forces, is com-

puted, from the best accounts I can get, at about twelve thousand men; ours, including sick and absent, at about sixteen thousand; but then we have to guard a semicircle of eight or nine miles, to every part of which we are obliged to be equally attentive; whilst they, situated as it were in the centre of the semicircle, and having the entire command of the water, can bend their whole force against any one part of it with equal facility. This renders our situation not very agreeable, though necessary. However, by incessant labour, *Sundays* not excepted, we are in a much better posture of defence now than when I first came. The enclosed, though rough, will give you some small idea of *Boston* and the bay on this side, as also of the post they have taken on *Charlestown Neck* at *Bunker's Hill*, and of our posts.

The enemy are sickly, and in want of fresh provisions. Beef, which is chiefly got by slaughtering their milch cows in *Boston*, sells from one shilling to eighteen pence sterling per pound; and that it may not become cheaper, or more plenty, I have driven all the stock within a considerable distance of this place, back into the country, out of the way of the men-of-war's boats. In short, I have done, and shall continue to do, every thing in my power to distress them. The transports have all arrived, and their whole re-enforcement is landed, so that I can see no reason why they should not, if they ever attempt it, come boldly out, and put the matter to issue at once. If they think themselves not strong enough to do this, they surely will carry their arms (having ships-of-war and transports ready) to some other part of the Continent, or relinquish the dispute; the last of which, the Ministry, unless compelled, will never agree to do. Our works and those of the enemy are so near, and the space between us so open, that each sees every thing the other is doing.

I recollect nothing more worth mentioning. I shall therefore conclude, with my best wishes and love to my sister and the family, and compliments to any inquiring friends. Your most affectionate brother,

GO. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge Camp, July 27, 1775.

SIR: Yesterday a deputation from the Provincial Congress of *New-Hampshire* attended me, with a request that three companies raised in their Province, and now posted on *Connecticut* River, at and between the two Colonies, commanded by Captain *Timothy Bedell*, *James Osgood*, and *John Parker*, might be continued for the security of the frontiers of that Province on the Continental establishment. As it did not appear to me that their request could be complied with, and as I apprehend you may have more immediate occasion for them than I have, I thought it proper to give you the earliest notice where they are, that if you think proper you may order them to join the Troops under your command; in which case you will please to write to *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress. Each company consists of sixty-five men, including officers, and are reported to me as able-bodied, stout, active fellows, used to the woods, capable of any duty, and having an acquaintance with *Canada*. But you will please to remember that they must continue under their own officers, to whom they are attached, and subject only to superiour command. We have had no transaction of any consequence since I wrote you last. Our Army is in good health and spirits, well supplied with all kinds of provisions. The situation of the enemy is directly the reverse, and we have reason to think desertions will be very great; four have come out within the last twenty-four hours.

I am, Sir, with much esteem, your most obedient servant,  
GO. WASHINGTON.

To Philip Schuyler, Esq., Major-General, Ticonderoga.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Camp at Cambridge, July 27, 1775.

SIR: Nothing material has occurred in either camp since I had the honour of addressing you on the twenty-first instant by express. But on *Tuesday*, three men-of-war and nine transports sailed out of *Boston* Harbour, and stood a course about east-south-east,



One *Groves*, who came out of *Boston* the same evening, informed the officer at one of the out-posts, that the transports had on board six hundred men, and were bound to *Block-Island*, *Fisher's-Island*, and *Long-Island*, to plunder them and bring off what cattle they may find. The fellow returned again into *Boston*, under such suspicious circumstances, that it has led me to doubt the truth of his intelligence. A deserter, who came in afterwards, informs me that it was given out in their camp that they were either gone for *Indians* or fresh provisions, and that each transport had but twenty men on board. Upon this intelligence I immediately wrote to Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*, and to General *Wooster*, that they might use proper precautions for removing the cattle off those islands and the coasts, and to prevent any surprise. As we are confirmed by every account in the scarcity of fresh provisions in the enemy's camp, and particularly by this deserter, who says they have had none since the battle of *Lexington*, it is very probable this voyage may be only intended for a supply; but as it may possibly be otherwise, I thought it best to transmit the intelligence to the honourable Congress, that they may forward it to the southward, or take such other step as they may judge proper.

Since writing the above, three men (deserters) have come out, which make four in twenty-four hours. Their accounts correspond with those of the first who came out, and which I have related above.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
Go. WASHINGTON.

#### GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp at Roxbury, July 21, 1775.

SIR: I have the pleasure to inform your Excellency that Major *Vose*, of my own Regiment, besides securing the barley on *Nantasket*, yesterday morning landed on the Light-House Island with six or seven boats; the Light-House was set on fire and the wood-work burnt. The party brought off three casks of oil, all the furniture of the Light-House, about fifty pounds of gunpowder, a quantity of cordage, &c., an inventory of which will be forwarded to your Excellency. Some of the brave men who effected this with their lives in their hands, have just now applied to me, to know whether it was to be considered as plunder or otherwise. I was not able to determine this matter, but told them that I would lay the matter before your Excellency. I would beg leave to add, that these brave men were, some of them, at *Grape-Island*, *Deer-Island*, and at *Long-Island*, when each of those islands were stripped of their stock, &c.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,  
W. HEATH.

To his Excellency General Washington.

#### ORDERS BY GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 22, 1775.

(Parole, *Nantasket*.)

(Countersign, *Mississippi*.)

A Court of Inquiry to sit forthwith; President, Doctor *Foster*; Doctor *Warren* and Doctor *Eustace*, members; to examine into a complaint exhibited by Mr. *John Spalding*, Surgeon to Gen. *Putnam's* Regiment, against Mr. *Penuel Chiney*, Surgeon's-mate of the said Regiment; all evidences to attend the Court.

Captain *Israel Putnam*, and Lieutenant *Samuel Webb*, being appointed Aids-de-Camp to Major-General *Putnam*, they are to be obeyed as such.

Regularity and due subordination being so essentially necessary to the good order and government of an army, and without it the whole must soon become a scene of disorder and confusion, the General finds it indispensably necessary, without waiting any longer for despatches from the General Continental Congress, immediately to form the Army into three grand divisions, and of dividing each of those grand divisions into two Brigades. He therefore orders that the following Regiments, viz: General *Ward's*, Gen. *Thomas's*, Colonel *Fellows's*, Colonel *Cotton's*, Colonel *Danielson's*, and Colonel *D. Brewer's*, compose one brigade, and be under the command of Brigadier-General *Thomas*; that General *Spencer's*, Colonel *Parsons's*,

Colonel *Learned's*, Colonel *Walker's*, Colonel *J. Read's*, Independents, compose another brigade, to be commanded by Brigadier-General *Spencer*. That these two brigades compose the right wing or division of the Army, and be under the command of Major-General *Ward*, and remain at *Roxbury* and its southern dependancies. That Colonel *Stark's*, Colonel *Poor's*, Colonel *Reid's*, of *New-Hampshire*, and Colonel *Nixon's*, Colonel *Mansfield's*, Colonel *Doolittle's*, of *Massachusetts*, be formed into another brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, and posted on *Winter Hill*. That Colonel *Varnum's*, Colonel *Hitchcock's*, Colonel *Church's*, of *Rhode-Island*, and Colonel *Whitcomb's*, Colonel *Gardner's*, Colonel *J. Brewer's*, Col. *Little's*, of *Massachusetts*, be formed into another brigade, and commanded by Brigadier-General *Green*, and posted upon *Prospect Hill*, and these two brigades compose the left wing, or second division of the Army, under the command of Major-General *Lee*. That General *Putnam's*, Colonel *Glover's*, Colonel *Frye's*, Colonel *Bridge's*, Col. *Woodbridge's*, Colonel *Sergeant's*, be formed into another brigade, under the command of the senior officer therein, and until the pleasure of the Continental Congress be known, these two brigades to be under the command of Major-General *Putnam*; also a corps-de-reserve for the defence of the several posts north of *Roxbury*, not already named.

The arrangement now ordered to take place is to be made as speedily as possible, and the Majors-General are to see it done accordingly; some inconveniences may arise to certain individuals by this change, but as the good of the service requires it to be made, an alert and ready compliance is expected.

All applications from henceforward, by officers or soldiers, for leave of absence, are to be made to the Major-General commanding each division, who is to judge of the propriety of the application, and grant furloughs where they see cause, without applying to the Commander-in-Chief, provided it be not contrary to General Orders.

General *Heath's* Regiment is to take post at No. 2, in lieu of General *Ward's*; Colonel *Patterson's* remains at No. 3; Colonel *Scammons's* to occupy No. 1, and the redoubt between that and No. 2; Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment to take post at the redoubt upon *Sewell's Point*; Col. *Gerrish's* Regiment to furnish the Companies for *Chelsea*, *Malden*, and *Medford*.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 23, 1775.

(Parole, *Brunswick*.)

(Countersign, *Princeton*.)

As the Continental Army have unfortunately no uniforms, and consequently many inconveniences must arise from not being able always to distinguish the commissioned officers from the non-commissioned, and the non-commissioned from the privates, it is desired that some badges of distinction may be immediately provided; for instance, the Field-Officers may have red or pink coloured cockades in their hats, the Captains yellow or buff, and the Subalterns green; they are to furnish themselves accordingly. The Sergeants may be distinguished by an epaulette, or stripe of red cloth sewed upon the right shoulder, the Corporals by one of green.

The people employed to make spears, are desired by the General to make four dozen of them immediately, thirteen feet in length, and the wood part a good deal more substantial than those already made; those, particularly, in the *New-Hampshire* lines, are ridiculously short and light and can answer no sort of purpose; no more are therefore to be made on the same model.

The commanding officers of the different works and posts are once more enjoined to furnish themselves with a sufficient number of gabions and fascines, which are to stop up the entrances of their respective redoubts and lines, and to repair their works, which may either be damaged by the weather or the fire of the enemy. It is observed that several of the entrances of the redoubts are still left open without any sort of defence, the commanding officers of each redoubt are therefore ordered to cut a wide deep ditch at the entrances, and throw a bridge of strong plank across; this is to be done without delay.

*John Davis*, of Captain *Foster's* Company, in Colonel *Gridley's* Regiment of Artillery, tried for "desertion and



suspicion of intending to go to the enemy," is acquitted by the General Court-Martial.

Ensign *Trafton*, accused by Colonel *Scammons* of "abusive language to the said Colonel *Scammons* while under arrest," tried by a General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Nixon* was President. The Court are unanimously of opinion that the prisoner is not guilty, and do therefore acquit him with honour.

Lieutenant *Trafton* to be forthwith released from his arrest.

Michael *Bury*, of Captain *Parker's* Company, and Col. *Prescott's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for "refusing his duty and enlisting in another Company." The Court condemn the prisoner, and order him to receive thirty-nine lashes. The General orders the sentence to be put in execution at the head of the Regiment the delinquent belongs to.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 24, 1775.

(Parole, Salisbury.)

(Countersign, Cumberland.)

It being thought proper to distinguish the Majors from the Brigadiers-General by some particular mark, for the future the Majors-General will wear a broad purple ribband.

Notwithstanding the General Orders marking the distinctions of General Officers, Aids-de-Camp, &c., the Generals are frequently stopped by the sentinels, which can only happen from the Captains having neglected to read the orders to their respective Companies. If any General Officer, Aid-de-Camp, or Major of Brigade, is again stopped through the ignorance of the sentinels, the Captains will be responsible.

As any attempt the enemy, from their late disappointments, may have the rashness or the hardness to make, will be violent and sudden, the General expects the officers and soldiers will be not only resolute but alert to defeat; and in a particular manner he enforces his orders to every field-officer, upon no account (duty excepted) to lay out of camp, but upon every occasion to shew by their example that activity and steady courage so necessary to defeat an enterprising enemy.

Notwithstanding the orders of the eleventh instant, expressly forbidding all officers and soldiers from quitting their guard before they are regularly relieved and dismissed, the General is informed such unsoldierlike practices are still committed; he therefore admonishes all officers and non-commissioned officers, not to suffer any person to quit their guard upon any pretence, care to be taken the men are properly supplied with provisions before they mount guard.

Report being this morning made to the General, that the main guard room is kept abominably filthy and dirty; for the future, one commanding officer is not to relieve another upon that guard, until he is assured that the officers and men's apartments are clean and in decent order.

The Surgeon of every Regiment in the lines, redoubts, or in or near *Cambridge*, to deliver to-morrow, at twelve at noon, to the Adjutant-General at Head-Quarters, an exact return of the sick in the Regiments they respectively belong to; the names, rank, and disorder of each officer, non-commissioned officer, and soldier, to be mentioned in the return. The returns of the Surgeons of the corps stationed in and near *Roxbury*, to be made to the commanding General at *Roxbury*, Tuesday noon, in the manner and form directed by the above order, and the General commanding at *Roxbury* will transmit them to Head-Quarters at orderly time, Wednesday.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 25, 1775.

(Parole, Halifax.)

(Countersign, York.)

Continual complaints being made that soldiers of regiments and companies, after enlisting in one company and regiment, have gone and enlisted in another, insomuch that it would engross the General's whole time to hear the disputes upon this subject; for the future, any officers who have any dispute in regard to the men re-enlisted, are to apply to the Brigadier commanding their Brigade, who will order a Court-Martial of the Brigade to hear and determine the matter.

The General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Nixon* was President, to be dissolved this evening, and another General Court-Martial of the line to sit to-morrow morning at the usual time and place, to try such prisoners as shall be

brought before them. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 26, 1775.

(Parole, Amsterdam.)

(Countersign, Amboy.)

It is recommended to the commanding officers of corps, that all coverings made of boards be built in the form of barracks, and in the most advantageous manner, at the same time so contrived as to be warm and comfortable in cold weather.

All passes to be discontinued for the future, and no person to be admitted into the lines unless introduced by an officer who can vouch for him, or by order of the officer commanding in the lines.

It being represented that the present hospital is not large enough to contain the sick, Lieutenant-Governour *Oliver's* house is to be cleared for that purpose, and care to be taken that no injury is done to it.

Notwithstanding the strict and repeated orders that have been given against firing small-arms, it is hourly practised. All officers commanding guards, posts, and detachments, to be alert in apprehending all future transgressors.

Captain *Clarke*, of General *Putnam's* Regiment, confined in arrest for "neglect of duty when upon guard," tried by a late General Court-Martial, is acquitted, and is immediately to be released from his arrest.

*Levi Woods*, soldier in Captain *Nutting's* Company, in Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, confined for "absenting himself without leave, and refusing to take the oath, and threatening to leave the Army." The Court-Martial, upon the prisoner's pleading guilty, and promising to behave obediently for the future, recommended him to the General's mercy; who is pleased to pardon the prisoner.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, July 27, 1775.

(Parole, Bedford.)

(Countersign, Guilford.)

*John Trumbull*, Esq., being appointed Aid-de-Camp to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, he is to be obeyed as such.

A Court of Inquiry to sit to-morrow morning at eight o'clock in the tutor's chamber, (Mr. *Hall*), to examine into a complaint, exhibited upon oath in the publick newspapers, against Mr. *Benjamin Whiting*, now a prisoner in the college. All evidences, and persons concerned, to attend the Court.

For the future, when any deserters come to any of the out guards, they are, with the least delay, to be sent by a corporal's guard to the next guard in the lines, who is immediately to escort them in the same manner to the Major-General commanding that division of the Army, who, as soon as he has examined them, will forthwith send them under a proper escort from his guard to the Head-Quarters. Some deserters being made drunk, who came last night from the enemy, before they reached Head-Quarters, it will be considered as a breach of orders in any person who gives rum to deserters, before they are examined by the General.

A subaltern officer's guard to be mounted to-morrow morning at eight o'clock, at a certain distance from the Small-Pox Hospital; the officer to come this evening at six o'clock to the Adjutant-General for orders.

COLONEL HURD TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE CONGRESS.

Haverhill, Cohoos, July 27, 1775.

SIR: Though I am not of any Committee of Correspondence, yet, as a member of the Provincial Congress, I take this opportunity to acquaint you that the bearer, Colonel *Bayley*, goes down to *Exeter* and *Cambridge* (and will call on you in his way) expressly on purpose to accompany an *Indian*, by name *Louis*, of the *Caughnawaga* Tribe, who is just come in here from *Montreal* by way of the Lake *Memphremagog* and Upper *Cohoos*; the same who sent us these advices in the letter which I carried down and communicated to the Congress at the last session. He has all along appeared friendly to the *New-England* people, is very intelligent, and has the character among the *Indian* traders of an honest fellow, who has always stood by and made good his word.

Though no very remarkable occurrence has taken place in *Canada* that he informs of, yet the account he gives of the present disposition of the *Indians* and *Canadians*, and the situation of the Regular Troops there, seems so inte-



resting, we have thought his information might be of service to the *American* cause. That your Committee of Safety, as well as the gentlemen of the *Massachusetts* and the Generals at *Cambridge*, would not be displeased with an opportunity to converse with him, for which reason we have persuaded *Louis* (having given a few small presents, and engaging some pay for his time) to make a journey down the country, paying a visit first to you, or your Committee at *Exeter*, and thence to the Army at *Cambridge*; and Colonel *Bayley* is so good as to undertake conducting him, having formerly some acquaintance with him. His time is short; he says he could not leave *Montreal* without a pass from the Governour, and a promise to return in about twenty days, as if going out upon a hunt. He speaks very good *French*, and *English* tolerably well, so as to be easily understood. By what we have learnt from him, our people are much easier in their settlements on these frontiers than they have been heretofore. For further particulars I must refer to Colonel *Bayley*. My best respects attend you and the gentlemen of the Committee; and am, Sir, your most humble obedient servant,

JOHN HURD.

The Honourable *Matthew Thornton*, Esq.

P. S. Captain *Bedell* has mustered his Company and paid them their month's advance; he would have readily attended on this *Indian* to wait upon your Committee, had not Colonel *Bayley* offered.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED LONDON, JULY 28, 1775.

I am grieved to the soul at seeing our political disputes arrive to so terrible a crisis. The 25th instant we received the account of the battle of *Charlestown*, near *Boston*; we have only the Government account, none from the Provincials. However, General *Gage* makes out two hundred and twenty-six killed, and eight hundred and twenty-eight wounded, of the Regulars. It is shocking to humanity to think that so much blood should be spilt through the obstinacy of a few men, who now plainly see they are exhausting the blood and treasure of this Kingdom to no purpose. We are anxious here to have some certain account from the Provincials of that battle. The Ministry do not now scruple to say, these bloody measures originate from the King himself, who absolutely persists in the plan of reducing the *Americans* at all events. It is generally thought that Lord *North* was against sending out Troops, but as to the others, I fancy they see the improbability of executing their plan, and therefore prudently (but basely) endeavour to throw the whole odium on their Royal Master's head.

People here are very anxious to hear the resolves of the Congress; and those who a week ago thought General *Gage* had Troops enough to march through *America*, now alter their tone, on finding the dispute for a mile of ground cost him one thousand and fifty-four men wounded and slain; they begin to think *Gage* must be content to keep possession of *Boston*, and that the *New-Englanders* are men of more courage than they dreamed of. We have received accounts from *Georgia*, that the people of that Province have acceded to the resolves of the Continental Congress. I wish it may be true, as the Tories here promised their cause great support from that Province keeping their ports open. It is said a Regiment of *Highlanders* is to be sent out, and ten thousand *Hanoverians*—I don't know how true; but this you may depend on, that several more ships are put into commission, and are intended for *America*; also I know it as a fact, that a great deal of ammunition and warlike stores were lately sent to *Boston*, from which you may judge of the disposition of our rulers.

P. S. I was this day in company with a boat-builder, who informed me that Government has contracted for a considerable number of flat-bottomed boats to be finished in the three weeks, and that he has engaged to build twelve by that time.

EXTRACT OF ANOTHER LETTER FROM LONDON, DATED JULY 29, 1775.

As in all probability the means of communication between us will soon be stopped, I am constrained to write even when I have nothing of importance to communicate. We

have at length got an account from Government of the battle of the 17th of *June*, for which, garbled as it is, we are indebted to the ingenuity of some, who, suspecting that they had been in possession of the news some days, sat down and wrote an account of a battle, such as they thought likely to be fought, and sent it to the papers; which was published the next morning. As it defeated the Regulars with great slaughter, and as it was wrote with great semblance of truth, it threw Administration into confusion. They huddled up an account immediately, and sent it to the *Gazette*, which in course was to be published about eight o'clock that evening; but by the time the impression was thrown off, they found themselves so much dissatisfied even with the account of their own making, that they sent and had it destroyed, and prepared that which they have now given us; by which means the Town was kept waiting till two o'clock in the morning, before the *Gazette* was published. This account, favourable as it no doubt is, compared with the truth, (for we as yet have had none from the Provincials,) has had a wonderful effect. The minds of people on the side of Government, even of those that were most sanguine, begin to be soured. Those who made no doubt of the success of the Troops, cannot help expressing their discontent; and they who used to speak most contemptuously of the Provincials, complain now that Administration should send such a handful of men to be devoured by such multitudes. What will be done next is somewhat problematical. 'Tis said orders are despatched to General *Gage* not to hazard another battle till he is re-enforced. Query, Will the Provincials let him alone? Government has sent many thousand stand of arms to *Quebeck*, in hopes of getting the *Canadians* to take up arms against you; and they talk of sending a *Highland* Regiment of one thousand men complete. This, and many other things they talk of, together with the men-of-war, must create a deal of expense; and whether Lord *North* will be hardy enough to meet Parliament with a requisition of so much money, and whether Parliament will grant it, is another question. Parliament is prorogued to the 14th of *September*, and it is not improbable they may not choose to meet it till some time in *November*, as usual. In the meantime, your Provincials have gained immortal honour. I should have told you that it has been advised to order General *Gage* to relinquish *Boston*, after burning it, and to fortify himself on *Rhode-Island*; whence, by means of his ships and men, to make descents upon your coast, laying waste where you are least prepared to oppose him. God give you wisdom, fortitude, and success.

TO THE PRINTER OF THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

London, July 28, 1775.

Our present disputes with the Colonies in *America* have engaged the attention of all ranks of people in this Country; from the Senate to the cellar, all have given their opinions thereon, and they have been as different as the several stations they hold in life, or the colours of their complexions.

It is an argument made use of by the friends to *America*, that *Britain* has, ever since her first settlement there, ruled her with an arbitrary curb of power, and imposed shackles on her trade and commerce unfitting the sons of *Englishmen* to bear. The present spirit which appears amongst them to redress their grievances, is no way wonderful, they say, but that it is matter of astonishment that they have borne their ill-treatment thus long. The partisans of Government, one and all, cry out, that the liberty granted hitherto to the *Americans* has most assuredly caused the present disturbances, and if they had been kept all along under due subjection, and not indulged in that unlimited power they have very improperly been indulged in, things would not have worn the face they now do, and that Government may thank themselves for having such disagreeable work cut out for them, and which might easily have been prevented, in crushing that power in the beginning which the people of *America* have for some time past assumed.

'Tis a principle in politicks with the Ministerial party, that power ought not to be given to the people. An opinion like this could never be propagated by any man who was not more than suspected of being corrupt. Such doc-



trine, I think, cannot be too often exposed, nor do I think an *Englishman* can spend his time better at this juncture, than to inquire into the nature of power, and impartially consider in whose hands it may prove most dangerous, and where it may be most effectual for the security of that invaluable blessing, liberty.

Many states, I think, may be named where the governing and ministerial part have, by force or fraud, at some time or other, overturned the liberties of the people, and set up absolute dominion; but I believe it will be very difficult to shew where liberty, and fulness of power in the people, have encouraged them to disturb the peace of their Country. Some may, perhaps, mention the United Provinces; but they cannot be produced as a proof, for it was oppression that made them revolt. If we look at home, I hope I may be allowed to say, (without incurring the name of disaffected,) that the exaction of ship money, the proceedings of the Star Chamber, and the imprisonment of members, are very evident proofs, that it was not an overflow of liberty, or too great power in the people, that excited them to rebel.

Should we look into the Governments of antiquity, we shall find many proofs in favour of the people. In the great state of *Rome* I believe we shall find, upon the most exact scrutiny, that every popular commotion was preceded by some act of oppression from the Senate, and that the power of the people was always obstructed in its legal operation before they appealed to arms. It was therefore the spirit of liberty to regain their power, not a wantonness in the people, that occasioned such an appeal. The case was the same in the Revolution of *England*. King *James* usurped the power of the people, and invaded their liberties, which made it necessary for them to apply to foreign assistance; and this necessity proves it was not the power of the people which brought about that happy event; for had it been the power of the people, it would have operated sooner, and prevented King *James* from carrying on his injurious proceedings, which not having power enough to do, rather than acquiesce under them, they chose to submit their lives and fortunes to the uncertain chance of war. It was therefore a want of power in the people which made the Revolution necessary, not a fulness of their power which accomplished it. It was the act of a distressed people, not a free people; for surely a state cannot be free if the people have not the means of making themselves so without committing hostilities. Liberty, therefore, cannot be established by the grace and promises of a Prince, since assurances given from one person to another, can only give a claim, which I presume nobody will call possession.

From hence it is evident, that liberty cannot be established upon any power lodged in the Crown: on the contrary, experience, as well as reason, shews, that liberty can never be secured without lodging a power in the people sufficient in time of need to restrain and limit the acts of the Crown. The power must be free, independent, and uncorrupt; not subject by any force or fraud to be withdrawn from the service and protection of those for whom it was formed. For this power did our ancestors fight, and for the establishment of it was the Revolution effected; not a right only to assert one liberty (for that the law of nature gives to all mankind) but a means to secure them, which the people of *England* are in possession of; and this power, by the Constitution, is lodged with their Delegates, by whom alone they can act. 'Tis plain, therefore, that 'tis not the possession of power, but the want of it, that has caused the present disturbances in *America*. 'Tis for a proper portion of that power that they are contending; a power that may be able to make head against any oppressive or arbitrary acts of the Crown. And surely, without meriting the name of malecontent, we may heartily wish that their efforts may be crowned with success.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

#### YORK COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee and the Officers of the Militia Companies of *York County*, at *York*, the 28th and 29th days of *July*, 1775:

Present, forty-five County Committee-men, besides the said Officers, *James Smith*, Esq., in the Chair.

The Committee and Officers divided the County into five Districts, or Divisions, and formed five Battalions. The Committee then, with the Officers of the Militia Companies of the respective Districts and Battalions, appointed Judges, and proceeded to vote by ballot for Field-Officers to be commissioned; when *James Smith*, Esq., was chosen Colonel; *Thomas Hartley*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; and *Joseph Donaldson* and *Michael Swoope*, Esqs., were chosen Majors of the First Battalion: *Robert McPherson*, Esq., Colonel; *David Kennedy*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Moses McClean* and *Hugh Dunwoodie*, were chosen Majors of the Second Battalion: *Richard McCallister*, Esq., Colonel; *Henry Slegel*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; and *John Andrews* and *Joseph Jefferies*, were chosen Majors of the Third Battalion: *William Smith*, Esq., Colonel; *Francis Holton*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and *Jacob Gibson* and *John Finley*, were chosen Majors of the Fourth Battalion: and *Matthew Dill*, Esq., Colonel; *William Rankin*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel; and *Robert Stevenson* and *Gerhard Gross*, Majors of the Fifth Battalion.

The Committee, and the Officers of the said Militia Companies, thereupon proceeded to vote for Field-Officers for the Battalion of Minute-men for *York County*, proper to be commissioned; when

*Richard McCallister*, Esquire, was chosen Colonel;

*Thomas Hartley*, Esquire, was chosen Lieutenant-Colonel; and

*David Grier*, Esquire, was chosen Major, of said Battalion.

The Committee then proceeded as follows:

*Resolved*, That in conformity to the direction of the Assembly of this Province, and with a regard to the regulations of the Continental Congress, we do direct that five Companies of Minute-men be formed out of the several Districts of this County, that is to say, one Company in each Division by draughts or Volunteers from the several Militia Companies, each Company to consist of a Captain, two Lieutenants, and an Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, a Drummer and Fifer, and sixty-eight or more Privates; and it is expected, that if there be a defect of Arms for these men, when there is a necessity of going into service, that the respective Battalions to which they belong will furnish them with the necessary Arms.

That if the County Committee-men and Assistant Committee-men, or a majority of them in any District, are at any time of opinion that an additional Company or Companies of Minute-men can be raised in their District, they may order the same to be done, which Company or Companies are to be under the same Field-Officers, orders, rules, and regulations, with the said other Companies of Minute-men. The whole Battalion of each Division or District are directed to meet some time in the next week, or in the week following, and draught the Volunteers or proper persons as Minute-men for the respective Companies, who are to sign an attestation similar to that mentioned in the proceedings of this Committee. The subscribers are then to proceed to choose the Officers of the respective Companies, and make return of their names to the Field-Officers of the said Battalion of Minute-men, in order that they may be commissioned.

*Resolved*, That in order to prevent confusion and disorder, that no new Companies of Militia be formed in any Township, without the consent of the Committee-men of the Township, and three or more of the County Committee-men.

N. B. The Companies of *Yorktown*, *Manchester*, *Windsor*, *Codorus*, *York*, and *Hellam* Townships, form the First Battalion; the Companies of *Cumberland*, *Hamilton's Baun*, *Strabane*, *Menallen*, *Mount-Joy*, and *Tyrone* Townships form the Second Battalion; the Companies of *Heidlebergh*, *Berwick*, *Paradise*, *Mount-Pleasant*, *Manheim*, and *Germany* Townships the Third Battalion; *Chanceford*, *Shrewsbury*, *Fawn*, and *Hopewell* Townships the Fourth Battalion; and the Companies of *Dover*, *Newberry*, *Monaughan*, *Warrington*, *Huntington*, and *Reading* Townships the Fifth Battalion.

A true copy:

GEORGE LEWIS LEFLER, Clerk for the Committee.



MEETING OF THE FREEHOLDERS OF SOMERSET COUNTY,  
NEW-JERSEY.

At a meeting of the Freeholders of the County of *Somerset*, in the Province of *New-Jersey*, assembled at the Court-House in said County, on *Friday*, the 28th day of *July*, 1775, pursuant to advertisements of the late Committee of Correspondence, *Hendrick Fisher, Esq.*, Chairman, *John Leferty*, Secretary.

The said Freeholders being informed that the late Committee of Correspondence for this County expired the 15th day of *July* instant, and being convinced of the necessity of choosing a new Committee of Correspondence for the County, do *Resolve*, That a new Committee of Correspondence, to consist of seventeen persons, be chosen for this County by ballot.

Adjourned for an hour.

Met according to adjournment; when the following gentlemen were elected a Committee of Correspondence for this County, viz: The Rev. Dr. *John Witherspoon*, *Jacob Bogart*, *John Gaston*, *Gisbart Bogart*, *Gabriel Ogden*, *Garret Voorhees*, *Cornelius Van Muliner*, *Thomas Berry*, *Stephen Hunt*, *Rowland Chambers*, *Matthew Ten Eyck*, *William Annin*, *Ruloff Van Dicke*, *Jacob Bergen*, *Hendrick Van Middlesworth*, *Lucas Voorhees*, and *Ebenezer Tingley*.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended, and it is hereby recommended to every Township in this County, to assemble as soon as possible, and choose for their respective Townships nine persons, to be a Committee of Inspection, to take cognizance of all violations of the measures recommended by the Representatives of the people in their District. And this County do further recommend, that every Township Committee do choose from among themselves three persons, who shall meet when called upon, with an equal number of persons from every Township Committee, and form a General Committee of Inspection for the County, in case of an appeal, or when matters of importance require the sense of the County, or when a Township Committee choose not to decide on a case by themselves.

*Resolved*, That the Chairman of the late Committee of Inspection for each Township do notify a meeting of the inhabitants of their Township, for the purpose of choosing the aforesaid Committee of Inspection.

*Resolved*, That the County do earnestly recommend to, and they do hereby instruct their Committee of Inspection, to be vigilant and active in the discharge of their duty, in taking cognizance of every person of whatsoever rank or condition, who shall, either by word or deed, endeavour to destroy our unanimity in opposing the arbitrary and cruel measures of the *British* Ministry; and so deal with him or them as to the particular Committee of Inspection where the offender resides, or to the General Committee of Inspection, (if an appeal or other reason require the same to be called,) shall seem most conducive to prevent any injury to the glorious cause of *American* freedom.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence above chosen, and the Committees of Inspection to be chosen for the different Townships of this County, do continue until the first *Monday* in *May* next; after which, the Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence shall within three weeks call a meeting of the County. And in all cases when it shall be thought necessary to have the County assembled, the Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to give as public notice thereof as possible; and this County do agree to defray the expenses thence arising.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Resolves and Proceedings be published in one of the *New-York* newspapers.

A true copy from the minutes:

JOHN LEFERTY, Secretary.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read September 14, 1775.]

Ticonderoga, July 28, 1775.

SIR: I am happy to enclose you copies of two papers that corroborate the accounts we have had of the friendly sentiments of the *Indians*. Every instruction I have given to people who were likely to fall in with any of them, enjoins an attention to that capital point.

Your favour of the 21st instant, enclosing a resolution of  
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Congress of the preceding day, is duly come to hand. My last letter will evince that I keep in view the object which was the subject of your orders of the 29th ult., and which, I hope, notwithstanding the difficulties I have to struggle with, to carry into the wished-for execution.

The fourth paragraph of the letter from the Committee of *Albany* may need an explanation. On my arrival at *Albany*, I found that a great number of the gentlemen who had warrants sent them from the *New-York* Congress to entitle them to commissions in the troops to be raised, refused to accept them. I therefore advised that the *Albany* Committee should endorse on those warrants the refusal, and nominate such other gentlemen as they thought proper, which I hoped would be satisfactory to the *New-York* Congress, as ultimately the officers must be recommended by the Deputies from *Albany*.

It would tend to facilitate matters and promote the service, if some honourable mention was made of the *Albany* Committee in the instructions to the Commissioners of *Indian* Affairs. I mention this merely on account of their assiduity to promote the publick weal.

The Troops here begin to be sickly, occasioned by their being crowded too close in barracks. I wish their tents were come up.

I am, Sir, most respectfully, your obedient and very humble servant,  
PHILIP SCHUYLER.  
To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. I have taken the liberty to desire some of the *Caughnawaga Indians* to meet me at this place. *Thompson's*, mentioned in the speech sent me by the *Albany* Committee, is about thirty miles below where *Fort Stanwix* was erected.

## ALBANY COMMITTEE TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

[Read before Congress September 14, 1775.]

Albany Committee Chamber, July 26, 1775.

SIR: We have just received yours of the 22d instant, enclosing a packet to the President of the Provincial Congress; and be assured that we shall implicitly follow your directions in forwarding it.

Your information of the intention of the *Canadian Indians* is corroborated by the intelligence we yesterday received from two Sachems of the *Oneida* nations, with whom we had a short conference, (copy of which proceedings you have here enclosed,) which was concluded by some presents in token of our friendship.

You may rest assured, that nothing will be wanting on our parts to encourage the levies of the companies to be raised in our County; as nothing could (at this time) afford us more real happiness than to see our Regiment in complete order.

We have, agreeably to your request, filled up the arrangement of officers, and transmitted it down to the Provincial Congress by our Deputies, who are gone to attend the same.

We have the pleasure to inform you that the apprehensions of the inhabitants of *Tryon* County, respecting the *Indians*, is entirely removed; and the unhappy dispute between the inhabitants of the upper part of the County with Sir *John Johnson* and the Sheriff of that County, amicably accommodated upon the two following points:

First: The Sheriff is to leave the County, and not to return to it again. And

Secondly: Sir *John Johnson* is not to take any active part against the people, in the disputes at present subsisting between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies.

We last *Sunday* received the powder which has been so long expected from the Continental Congress, which we have stored, and shall be forwarded to you as soon as a guard can be obtained to accompany it to *Lake George*.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants. By order of the Committee: ABRAHAM YATES, Jr., Chairman.

The Speech of ONEYNYOAGAT and THUEGWEYNDACK, two  
ONEIDA INDIANS.

[Read in Congress September 14, 1775.]

BROTHERS: We were not sent down as messengers this way, but were sent to the *German Flats* to undeceive the people in a report that prevailed among the inhabitants of



the *German Flats*, that the *Five Nations* were coming down to cut them off, and to assure them that they were peaceable; and that the people of the *German Flats* had sent men to the *Oneida* nation, to inquire concerning the truth of the news they had heard upon which they were sent down. When they came down to *Thompson's*, they found it was true that the *Germans* had fled, and were busy making a Fort at the *German Flats*.

They told the *Germans*, Have we not lately had a Council fire at the *German Flats*? therefore they should not give ear to any false reports, for they would always give notice of any bad news; and assured them that there was now no bad news, and the *Five Nations* were friendly, and that the head men were now gathered at a Council at *Onondaga*. They advised the people strongly not to credit any false reports, and that the people at the *German Flats* advised them to come down to this place and acquaint the great men here.

A true copy from the minutes:

JOHN BAY, Secretary.

Albany Committee Chamber, July 25, 1775.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, July 28, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the 21st is duly received. I am myself surprised at the information you give respecting the cows. On consideration of the circumstances you mention, I have wrote to Major *Sheldon* to stop their proceeding, and directed him to dispose of them in the best manner he can. When the provision of milk was ordered by this Colony for the use of its soldiers, our ideas extended no farther than their being employed near *Boston*. In a country like that, abounding with every necessary for diet, it was thought milk might be as easily procured as any other article, and might be for the health and benefit of the Troops. When the necessity of this case, with the particular circumstances attending it, is duly considered, I hope the want of this article among soldiers, who are each man contending for every thing that is dear and sacred to every individual, will occasion no murmuring or uneasiness.

I am unhappy to hear you are so unprepared to take benefit from any favourable dispositions of your *Canadian* neighbours; but I please myself with the confidence I have in your zeal, vigour, and activity, and with a hope that all obstacles will speedily be removed, and that a happy issue may soon attend your meditated enterprise.

I am, Sir, &c.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

Major-General Schuyler.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, July 28, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you yesterday by way of *New-York*, and in two hours afterwards was favoured with yours of the 15th and 18th instant, with their respective enclosures. I was extremely glad to find your first apprehensions of an incursion by the *Indians* in some degree removed by the later advices; at the same time, I think it is evident from the spirit and tenour of Colonel *Johnson's* letter, that no art or influence will be left untried by him to engage them in such an enterprise. Should he once prevail upon them to dip their hands in blood, mutual hostilities will most probably ensue, and they may be led to take a more decisive part. All accounts, I think, agree, that the *Canadians* are not very active to engage in this unnatural contest; but I am persuaded you will not abate in the least your vigilance to expedite every movement in that quarter, notwithstanding their present pacifick appearances. I am much easier with respect to the publick interest since your arrival at *Ticonderoga*; as I am persuaded those abilities and that zeal for the common welfare, which have led your Country to repose such confidence in you, will be fully exerted. From my own experience, I can easily judge of your difficulties to introduce order and discipline into troops who have, from their infancy, imbibed ideas of the most contrary kind. It would be far beyond the compass of a letter for me to describe the situation of things here on my arrival; perhaps you will be only able to judge of it from my assuring you, that mine must be a portrait at full length of what you have had in miniature. Confusion and disorder reigned in every

department, which in a little time must have ended either in the separation of the Army, or fatal contests with one another. The better genius of *America* has prevailed, and most happily, the Ministerial Troops have not availed themselves of these advantages, till I trust the opportunity is in a great measure past over. The arrangement of the General Officers in *Massachusetts* and *Connecticut*, has been very unpopular—indeed, I may say, injudicious; it is returned to Congress for farther consideration, and has much retarded my plan of discipline. However, we mend every day, and I flatter myself that in a little time we shall work up these raw materials into good stuff. I must recommend to you what I endeavour to practise myself—patience and perseverance. As to your operations, my dear Sir, I can suggest nothing which your own good judgment will not either anticipate or control from your own immediate view of things, and the instructions of the Continental Congress.

The express from hence to *England*, with the account of the commencement of hostilities at *Lexington*, has returned. It was far from making the impression generally expected here. Stocks fell but one-and-a-half per cent. General *Gage's* accounts had not arrived, and the Ministry affected to treat it as a fiction. Parliament had been prorogued two days, but it was expected it would be immediately recalled. Our enemy continues strongly posted about a mile from us, both at *Bunker's Hill* and *Roxbury*; but we are not able to get any information of their future intentions. Part of the Riflemen are come in, and the rest daily expected.

I did not expect your Returns would be very complete at first, but I must beg your attention to reforming them as soon as possible. And I beg leave to add, that I would have you scrutinize with exactness into the application of provisions and stores. I have the utmost reason to suspect irregularities and impositions here; you will be fortunate if the contagion does not reach you.

General *Lee* has removed about four miles from me; but I shall take the first opportunity to make your kind wishes known to him. Colonel *Reed* and Major *Mifflin* join me in their best wishes for your health and success.

I am, dear Sir, yours, &c.

Go. WASHINGTON.

To General Schuyler, *Ticonderoga*.

Enclosed is a copy of mine of yesterday, referred to in this.

COL. JOSEPH REED TO COLONEL BALDWIN, AT CHELSEA, ENCLOSING A LETTER FROM DR. CHURCH.

Head-Quarters, July 28, 1775.

SIR: In full confidence of your prudence and secrecy as a soldier, a man of honour, and a friend to your Country, the General has directed me to communicate to you a scheme he is about to put in execution to obtain constant and authentick intelligence from *Boston*. The plan is this: the enclosed letter will be delivered by you to one *Dewksbury*, who lives about four miles from you towards *Chesly Point*; he will deliver it to a waterman, whom he can depend on, who will convey it to one *John Carnes*, a grocer, in the south part of *Boston*. The answers, and such intelligence as he can procure, will be forwarded to you through the same channel, which you are to transmit to his Excellency by express immediately. As the success of the project, and the life of the man in *Boston*, may depend upon your conduct, let it not escape you to the nearest friend on earth; and, for fear of accident, destroy this letter as soon as you are sufficiently master of its contents. When you see *Dewksbury* give him the above caution in the strongest terms, and so to pass from him to the other. Your good conduct and discretion in this matter will not fail to be duly noticed. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

J. REED, Secretary.

To Colonel Baldwin.

LOAMMI BALDWIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Chelsea, July 28, 1775, half after 4 o'clock.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Agreeable to your order, I send the following observation taken by the sentry posted upon *Powderhorn Hill*, from about seven o'clock, A. M., to two o'clock, P. M.: One ship gone out, three ships and two tenders coming in; about twelve boats from



*Boston to Charlestown*, light loaded or almost empty; three boats passed from *Charlestown* to *Boston* very heavily loaded with men.

I would beg leave to ask your Excellency whether it was the intent and meaning of your orders to send an express to Head-Quarters every day when there is nothing more occurs than has for two days past.

These from your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
LOAMMI BALDWIN, *Lieut. Col.*

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL GATES.

Council Chamber, Watertown, July 28, 1775.

SIR: Your letter of the 21st instant to the Speaker of the honourable House of Representatives, was by them referred to this Board, who are of opinion, that the jails of *Worcester*, *Springfield*, and *Northampton*, are the most suitable places for securing the prisoners, and therefore recommend that they be sent to one or more of those places. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

PEREZ MORTON, *Sec'y pro tem.*

Horatio Gates, Esq., Adjutant-General in the *American Army*.

ORDERS TO CAPT. BAKER FOR THE REMOVAL OF PRISONERS.

You are to proceed with the detachment under your command to *Worcester*, taking under your care two Sergeants, two Corporals, twenty-one private Soldiers of the Ministerial Army, and twelve Tories, who have been aiding and abetting General *Gage* and his adherents; you are to deliver them to the Chairman of the Committee at *Worcester*, who is hereby enjoined to order a detachment from the Militia of that Town to escort them to *Springfield*, and deliver them to the Committee there, where they are to be secured, so as to be forthcoming whenever exchange of prisoners, or a happy reconciliation between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, shall take place.

Given at Head-Quarters at *Cambridge*, this first day of *August*, 1775.

HORATIO GATES, *Adj. Gen.*

N. B. One of the Marines left wounded at *Cambridge*, which reduces the number to twenty Privates.

Worcester, August 3, A. D. 1775.

Received of *Joseph Buker, Jun.*, Commander of the detachment who escorted the prisoners (lately taken at the *Light-House*) to *Worcester*, two Sergeants, two Corporals, eighteen Privates, and twelve Tories.

WILLIAM YOUNG,

Chairman of Comm. of Correspondence.

N. B. There appears to be a mistake of two Privates in the number given in the General Orders.

Received this seventh day of *August*, Anno Domini 1775, of Mr. *William Young*, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Worcester*, two Sergeants, two Corporals, eighteen Privates, and eleven Tories, which were ordered to be delivered to the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of *Springfield* by *Horatio Gates*, Adjutant-General.

NATHANIEL BREWER,

Chairman of *Springfield Committee*.

N. B. The Tories in number were twelve, one of whom was left sick at *Worcester*, as the Chairman of *Worcester Committee* informs.

CAPT. BEDELL TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Haverhill, July 28, 1775.

SIR: When I was with the Committee, and received my order for this department, I was willing to serve as a Captain, though I had the command of three companies; but I have this day received certain account from *Crown Point*, that an army was forming for an expedition against the Regular Troops in *Canada*, and orders sent to raise men under Colonel *Allen* on this river. I do expect the orders will be sent to me to march that way; at the same time shall expect to have a Regiment, except some old experienced officer should offer; otherwise shall decline, as I never

meant to enter the service as a Captain to serve out of the Government. We can raise a Regiment in this part of the country. Colonel *Bayley*, who attends service, will inform as to news. As there is no person appointed as a Committee of Supplies here, it is necessary we should have some money; and I desire it may be sent by Col. *Bayley*, and what is sent by him I will be accountable for, taking his receipt for what is sent. I imagine that one hundred Pounds is as little as will answer. These from yours at command,

TIM. BEDELL.

To the Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA.

Williamsburgh, July 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I am a man who has spent some part of my life between the barracks and camp, therefore have contracted a natural love for military parade. To indulge my foible, I went the other day to see one of your independent companies go through the *Prussian* exercise, as they called it; when, behold, all that I saw was their forming six deep, by the rear half files facing to the right about, and marching eighteen paces to the rear. This, with rest, order, open your files to the right and left, with the slow parade motions of prime and load, was (as I understood) to constitute the whole; and you may call it *Prussian* exercise, if you please, but if I have any judgment, it is mere burlesque on all exercise. Upon inquiry why the regular *Prussian* discipline was not adopted, I was told by the man that was to teach them, that he could not tell off a Battalion; that is, he could not put them through their firings. If this be the case, as I have great reason to believe it is, (not only so with that company, but many others in the Colony,) that many who pretend to teach the *Prussian* exercise never saw a Battalion told off in their lives, according to the *Prussian* method of firing, and if they did, their low stations in the ranks rendered it impossible for them ever to know any thing but what belonged to their own sub or grand division. If so, what must those companies propose to themselves by the mode of exercise they have adopted, in case of emergency? Each company might be formed into a battalion, and to lead a body of brave men, with such counterfeit discipline, to face a disciplined enemy, would, in my opinion, be downright murder. Let us not plume ourselves with this conceit, that we shall always have the bush to fight behind; for, in the different services of war in this Country, there will be passes to be guarded or forced; bridges to be crossed or defended; trenches to be guarded or formed; streets to be cleared; and sometimes squares to be formed: in all which cases, bushing it would be of little or no use; and to send undisciplined Troops on such service would be absurd indeed. The native courage of the *Americans*, and their knowledge of the woods, with an early use of fire-arms, has rendered them superiour in the woods to any Troops in *Europe*, and, if under regular discipline, might be as famous in the field. But it may be observed and said, we want men of knowledge in such cases to instruct us. First, clear yourselves of those caterpillars that poison the military blossoms of your first endeavours, and leave only a smoky webful of excrements behind. Next, advise those bookish theorists to lay by their *Christ-Cross-Row*; for he who learns the trade of war by book, will find himself to seek when on actual service. Then give proper encouragement to men of abilities, (for such there are amongst ye,) who may lay a foundation for ye that may make ye one day or other become as great in arms as *Rome* of old. Knowing I must rise or fall with this Country in the general struggle for liberty, were I to lie dormant on the occasion, I should count myself highly culpable, for the gracious acceptance of the poor widow's offering emboldens me to cast in my mite. My station, when in the Army in *Europe* last war, rendered it necessary for me to be thoroughly acquainted with all parts of the *Prussian* infantry and artillery exercise; I therefore freely offer my poor service to the publick. Those gentlemen who choose to employ me, may hear of me by directing a line to the care of Mr. *Edmund Day*, of *Southampton*, or Mr. *Elisha Copeland*, of *Nansemond County* for, the publick's humble servant,

ROBERT WASHINGTON.



## PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL.

At a Council held at *Philadelphia*, on *Saturday*, 29th *July*, 1775. Present:

The Honourable *John Penn*, Esquire, Governour; *William Logan*, *Benjamin Chew*, *James Tilghman*, *Andrew Allen*, and *Edward Shippen*, Jun., Esquires.

The Governour laid before the Board a Petition from *Mons. Dominique Du Casse*, Commander of the Schooner *Mary*, belonging to the inhabitants of *Martinico*, which was read, and follows in these words viz:

"To the Honourable *JOHN PENN*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, and three lower Counties of NEW-CASTLE, KENT, and SUSSEX, on DELAWARE:

"The Petition of *DOMINIQUE DU CASSE*, Master of the Schooner *MARY*, belonging to *MARTINICO*, now in the Port of *PHILADELPHIA*, humbly sheweth:

"That on or about the sixteenth day of *June* last, your petitioner sailed from the Island of *Martinico*, bound on a voyage to *Migüilan*; that in prosecution of the said voyage he met with many hard and severe gales of wind, attended with very great and heavy seas, in which the said Schooner, through violent straining, was rendered very leaky, and made it impossible for him to proceed on the said voyage; and your petitioner was under the necessity of coming into this Port of *Philadelphia*, in order to repair his said vessel; the particulars of all which appears by your petitioner's protest, duly made since his arrival here, herewith exhibited to your Honour. He therefore prays your Honour to permit him to repair the said Schooner, and sail from this Port of *Philadelphia*, in prosecution of his said intended voyage. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

DOMINIQUE DU CASSE.

"*Philadelphia*, *July* 12, 1775."

At the same time was laid before the Board the Captain's Protest referred to in the above Petition. And the Board taking the said Petition and Protest into consideration, and finding, upon due examination and inquiry, that the facts set forth in them are true: It is ordered, that the said Schooner be examined, and the necessary repairs made on her, and that she be then permitted to prosecute her intended voyage, provided that she takes on board no Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, whatever.

Messrs. *Meredith* and *Clymer* are appointed to inspect the repairing of the said Schooner, and to transact the business relating to her, as factors or agents for the Master, during his continuance in this Port.

JOHN ADAMS TO JOSIAH QUINCY, BRAINTREE, MASS.

*Philadelphia*, *July* 29, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I had yesterday the honour of your letter of *July* the eleventh, and I feel myself much obliged by your kind attention to me and my family, but much more by your care for the publick safety, and the judicious and important observations you have made. Your letters, Sir, so far from being "a burden," I consider as an honour to me, besides the pleasure and instruction they afford me. Believe me, Sir, nothing is of more importance to me, in my present most arduous and laborious employment, than a constant correspondence with gentlemen of experience, whose characters are known. The minutest fact, the most trivial event, that is connected with the great *American* cause, becomes important in the present critical situation of affairs, when a revolution seems to be in the designs of Providence, as important as any that ever happened in the affairs of mankind.

We jointly lament the loss of a *Quincy* and a *Warren*; two characters as great in proportion to their age, as any that I have ever known in *America*. Our Country mourns the loss of both, and sincerely sympathizes with the feelings of the mother of the one, and the father of the other. They were both my intimate friends, with whom I lived and conversed with pleasure and advantage. I was animated by them in the painful dangerous course of opposition to the oppressions brought upon our Country, and the loss of them has wounded me too deeply to be easily healed. *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori*. The ways of Heaven are dark and intricate, but you may remember the words which, many years ago, you and I fondly

admired, and which, upon many occasions, I have found advantage in recollecting:

"Why should I grieve, when grieving I must bear,  
And take with guilt, what guiltless I might share?"

I have a great opinion of your knowledge and judgment from long experience, concerning the channels and islands in *Boston* harbour; but I confess your opinion that the harbour might be blocked up, and seamen and soldiers made prisoners at discretion, was too bold and enterprising for me, who am not very apt to startle at a daring proposal; but I believe I may safely promise you powder enough, in a little time, for any purpose whatever. We are assured, in the strongest manner, of saltpetre and powder in sufficient plenty another year of our own make. That both are made in this city, you may report with confidence, for I have seen both, and I have seen a set of very large powder works, and another of saltpetre.

I hope, Sir, we shall never see a total stagnation of commerce for any length of time. Necessity will force open our ports; trade, if I mistake not, will be more free than usual. Your friend, *Dr. Franklin*, to whom I read your letter, and who desires his kind compliments to you, has been employed in directing the construction of row-gallies for this city. The Committee of Safety for this Province have ordered twenty of them to be built; some of them are finished. I have seen one of them; it has twelve oars on each side. They rowed up the river the first time, four miles in an hour, against a tide which ran down four miles an hour. The Congress have recommended to the Colonies, to make provision for the defence of their navigation, in their harbours, rivers, and on their sea-coasts. Of a floating battery I had no idea—am glad you are contriving one.

You tell me, Sir, that General *Lee* complained that "he did not find things as the *Massachusetts* Delegates had represented them." What General *Lee* could mean by this, Sir, I know not. What particular he found different from the representation, I do not know; nor do I know which Delegate from the *Massachusetts* he received a mistaken representation from. I think he should have been particular, that he might not have run the risk of doing an injury. If General *Lee* should do injustice to two of the *Massachusetts* Delegates, he would commit ingratitude at the same time; for to two of them he certainly owes his promotion in the *American* Army, how great a hazard soever they ran in agreeing to it. I know him very thoroughly, I think, and that he will do great service in our Army, at the beginning of things, by forming it to order, skill, and discipline. But we shall soon have officers enough.

Your friend and humble servant, JOHN ADAMS.

NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

*Philadelphia*, *July* 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your letters of the 18th and 22d instant, and though sensible of the inconveniences arising from a scarcity of arms, are much at a loss respecting the best measures for a supply. As we have good reason to believe that an application to the Congress to recommend a loan of the *Jersey* arms would not succeed, we have agreed not to make it. No Colony has as yet given the Congress any trouble on that head, and we are unwilling that *New-York* should be the first. We advise, however, that accurate accounts of disbursements for arms be kept, so that, should any charges of that kind be made against the Continent, our Colony may be prepared to support their claim. Besides, it is easy to foresee that *New-Jersey*, under the present circumstances of publick affairs, would very reluctantly part with their arms, and be displeased with any recommendation for that purpose.

Permit us to recommend to your most serious attention the necessity of laying your hands on all the powder that is or may be imported into the Colony. We think none should be permitted to go out of the Province, but by the express direction of the Congress, or your Committee, and that magazines of that article should be formed in different parts of the Province, and not that the whole be risked in one place.

We hope our Province will depend for defence on their own exertions, and without delay put the Militia on the footing recommended by the Congress.

The Delegates of *New-Jersey* are charged with the



transportation of two tons and a half of powder to *Dobbs's Ferry*, where the Congress desire you to have a boat ready to receive and forward it to General *Schuyler*.

As to a treaty or conference with the *Five Nations*, the Congress has already provided for it, and consequently it would be improper to lay the papers you sent us on that subject before the Congress.

We are, Gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and humble servants,

PHIL. LIVINGSTON, JOHN JAY,  
LEWIS MORRIS, JAS. DUANE.  
GEO. CLINTON,

To the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*.

P. S. We recommend to collect all your accounts against the Continent, with all convenient speed. It is probable that a Committee will be appointed to examine them. Mr. *Hazard* is appointed Deputy Postmaster for *New-York*. The Continental money is signing, and will be ready next week.

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Committee Chamber, City of Albany, July 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *George Sullivan* was brought before this Committee by Colonel *Waterbury*, of the *Connecticut* Troops lately arrived here from *New-York*, in consequence of a letter from General *Wooster*, a copy whereof we enclose you. We have examined Mr. *Sullivan* and the circumstances of his case, and from the proofs before us we cannot find any grounds to warrant the accusation; and having finished his intended business, as he says, designs to embark in the first sloop for your city, when a re-examination may be made, if you see cause.

We are, Gentlemen, your most humble servants,  
ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., *Chairman*.

WALTER LIVINGSTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, July 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I lately received a commission from the Continental Congress, a copy of which I shall enclose you, appointing me Deputy Commissary-General for this Province. I must therefore request you to order all the stores which are purchased by order of Congress for the Army in this Colony, to be consigned to me or my assistant Deputy at Albany; and also, that I be furnished with an account of all stores and provisions which are now ordered to be purchased.

I was at *Ticonderoga* last week. The fortress there is in a most ruinous situation. For want of many officers, such as Quartermaster, Muster-master, Surgeon, &c., the General is under the necessity of acting in all those departments. I dread the consequence, should he be attacked by any considerable army; and if he is defeated, the garrison must all fall victims, for retreat they cannot, for want of bateaus. He had neither carpenters to build boats, nor materials to make them of. Two saw-mills are now cutting boards, with one saw each. I yesterday, by request of General *Schuyler*, sent up twenty carpenters, and shall from time to time furnish him with such articles as he shall order and I can procure, although they should not belong to my department, until proper officers are appointed.

I remain, Gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servant,

WALTER LIVINGSTON, *Dep. Com. Gen.*

To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

DIRCK G. BRINCKERHOFF TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

July 29, 1775.

SIR: Agreeable to the Resolve of the Provincial Congress, of the 29th of *May* last, a Committee has been chosen for the Precinct of *Rombouts*, and have met and appointed persons out of said Committee to tender the Association, who have done their endeavours to tender the same to the inhabitants of this Precinct. But as the shortness of the time since we received the Resolve of the Congress has rendered it almost impossible to tender the same to every inhabitant of this Precinct personally; and as a number of persons to whom it has already been tendered are not convinced about signing the same, and have

desired further time to consider of it; and others are daily more and more convinced of the propriety of signing the same, and are ready to sign, but for want of an opportunity cannot: the Committee have taken it into their consideration, and humbly desire further time till the 15th of *August* next, when an actual return will be made to the Committee of the persons who have signed the same, and a list of the names of the persons refusing, and will be immediately transmitted to the honourable Provincial Congress at *New-York*. By order of the Committee:

DIRCK G. BRINCKERHOFF, *Chairman*.  
To P. V. B. Livingston, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JAMES WARREN.

Cambridge, July 29, 1775.

SIR: I have this instant received a letter from *Chelsea*, of which the enclosed is an extract. As the inhabitants are coming out in a different manner than proposed by your Assembly to the Selectmen of the Town of *Boston*, I have not delayed a moment's time in giving you the earliest information of it, and request that you may take the matter into consideration, and determine what is proper to be done on the occasion. If you think it proper to receive them in this manner, query whether it may not be proper to appoint some person to attend the movement.

I am, in haste, with great respect, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,  
GO. WASHINGTON.

Honourable *James Warren*, Speaker of the House of Representatives of *Massachusetts*.

LOAMMI BALDWIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

*Chelsea*, July 29, 1775, Two o'clock, P. M.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: About twelve o'clock this day we were all alarmed by the approach of a boat to *Winnisimit Ferry*, and by a signal soon found them to be friends, who landed with their household goods. There were several of my intimate acquaintance. I have taken the names of all the passengers, and stopped the letters, which I now send for your inspection, and beg your Excellency would send them back to me again as soon as possible, as the bearers are some of them in waiting, and others are to call again to-morrow for theirs. Please to keep the enclosed letters in their respective covers.

I would beg your Excellency would send me some assistance, as the boats are to continue passing, (that is, if we can believe General *Gage*,) and something may escape for want of proper assistance, that may turn to our disadvantage.

Our officers are very sick here. I have much upon my hands and mind, since I received Mr. *Reed's* letter last night. I hope and earnestly expect some assistance, and your Excellency's orders, as soon as the necessity of the matter requires.

In great haste, I am, Sir, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,  
LOAMMI BALDWIN, *Lieut. Col.*

P. S. Should be much obliged to your Excellency if you would send down a few sheets of paper and wafers, as I cannot procure any about here, and am out. Pray, Sir, excuse the imperfections in this letter.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, July 31, 1775.

SIR: I am favoured with your Excellency's letter of the 26th instant. Having, just before the receipt of it, had accounts by a private hand of the sailing of a number of men-of-war and transports from *Boston*, which I conjectured were designed to supply the enemy with fresh provisions, I immediately sent the intelligence to *Block Island*, together with a quantity of powder, ball, and flints, to enable them to defend their property, and gave them assurances of further assistance, if necessary.

We have no accounts of this fleet from any part of our coast, so that I think it probable they were destined to the eastward.

I desire your Excellency to oblige me with a return of the Army; and when any thing important occurs, I shall esteem an early communication of it a favour.

I am, with great truth and regard, Sir, your Excellency's most humble obedient servant,  
NICHOLAS COOKE.

His Excellency General *Washington*.



## GEN. SULLIVAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Camp on Winter Hill, July 29, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: It gives me pain to think that I have so long delayed the gentleman you sent to me; but I must refer you to him for an excuse on that head. I shall only hint that he came on *Saturday* morning, when I was preparing to take possession of *Ploughed Hill*, near the enemy's encampment at *Charlestown*. This was done on *Saturday* night, and on *Sunday* morning a heavy cannonading ensued, which lasted through the whole day. The floating batteries and an armed vessel attempting to come up and enfilade us as I expected, I opened a battery which I had prepared on purpose; cut away the sloop's foresail; made her shear off; wounded one floating battery, and sunk another yesterday. They sent round a man-of-war to *Mistick* River, drew their forces from *Boston*, formed a long column, and prepared to come out; but finding our readiness to receive them, declined the combat. Last evening they began to throw bombs, but have as yet done no damage. Their cannon has been more successful, having killed three or four. The command of our forces was assigned to me, which I hope will apologize for my delaying Captain *Hobb*. I have shown him those cannon which we last mounted, and given him the best advice in my power.

The powder you write for, gentlemen, it is impossible to obtain at present. We have had but six tons from the southward, which is but half a pound per man for our army, and what we had before was a shocking store. We hope for some every day, and as soon as possible after its arrival, you shall be supplied by your very humble servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER LAID BEFORE THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, DATED LONDON, JULY 31, 1775.

I have lately heard a person intimately connected with Administration lament that twenty thousand men had not been at first sent to *America*, one half to have remained with General *Gage* at *Boston*, five thousand to have kept possession of *New-York*, and cut off all assistance from the Southern Colonies, and five thousand to have been employed under *Burgoyne* or *Howe*, in making descents in different parts of *New-England*, and ravaging and burning the Towns. And I have good information that it is yet intended to endeavour to recover possession of *New-York*, *Albany*, &c., so as to open a communication with *Canada*, and prevent the *New-Englanders* from receiving any succour from the southward. There is a talk that more of the train of Artillery, and some Regiments of Foot, are going to *New-York*.

## EXTRACT OF ANOTHER LETTER, LAID BEFORE THE CONGRESS, DATED LONDON, JULY 31, 1775.

It is fit I should convey to you a more particular detail of what I have collected, more especially as it is from unquestionable authority. The *British American* Generals differ, I am informed, as to the number of men which they now think it will require to subdue the rebels of the *Massachusetts*. *Gage* says fifteen thousand more than he already has, and *Burgoyne* says twenty thousand more. But all the Generals, however, agree in desiring a large re-enforcement of artillery; and therefore, orders were yesterday sent to *Woolwich* for four companies, to embark immediately for *North America*, with a large train of field-pieces, &c.; and a further supply of clothing, more than I mentioned in my letter of the 15th, for the *Canadians*, which Government is assured by General *Carleton* he shall raise in the Province of *Quebeck*. Parliament is prorogued till *September*, and then will be farther prorogued to meet the beginning of *November*. In the mean time Lord *North* thinks he possesses power and credit sufficient to order more forces to *America*, and push matters to the greatest extremity before the winter sets in. I have been well assured, that if the *Spanish* Armada should not visit *Gibraltar*, which, from the repulse it is said they have met with, will be the case, Government propose composing that garrison of three-fourths *Hanoverians*, and one-fourth *British* Troops, in order that they may send the remainder of the latter, now there, to *America*. But the secret (as they im-

agine) plan of operation they have at present in agitation, or which, perhaps, I might properly say, actually determined on and transmitted to *Boston*, is as follows:

With the assistance of Governour *Tryon*, who is much relied on for the purpose, to get immediate possession of *New-York* and *Albany*; to fill both of these Cities with very strong garrisons; to declare all rebels who do not join the King's Forces; to command the *Hudson* and *East Rivers* with a number of small men-of-war and cutters, stationed in different parts of it, so as wholly to cut off all communication by water between *New-York* and the Provinces to the northward of it, and between *New-York* and *Albany*, except for the King's service; and to prevent, also, all communication between the City of *New-York* and the Provinces of *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, and those to the southward of them. By this means, Administration and their friends fancy that they shall soon either starve out, or retake the garrisons of *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, and open and maintain a safe intercourse and correspondence between *Quebeck*, *Albany*, and *New-York*, and thereby afford the fairest opportunity to their soldiery and the *Canadians*, in conjunction with the *Indians* to be procured by *Guy Johnson*, to make continual irruptions into *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts*, and *Connecticut*, and so distract and divide the Continental Forces as to render it easy for the *British* Army at *Boston* to defeat them; break the spirits of the *Massachusetts* people, depopulate their country, and compel an absolute subjection to *Great Britain*. Another good effect to be deduced from this extensive plan, as Government apprehend, is, that as *New-York* will, by this method, be prevented from supplying the *Massachusetts* Army near *Boston* with flour, &c., as they hitherto have done, through the medium of *Connecticut*; and the *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania* people will not be able to transport provisions across the country; and as the Colony of *Connecticut* does not raise corn sufficient for the supply of herself and the *Massachusetts-Bay*; the inhabitants and troops of this Province must inevitably of course be in a short time destroyed by disease and famine. And to this train of facts let me add, that in consequence of Gen. *Gage's* desire, brought by Capt. *Chadd*, one hundred flat-bottomed boats are at present building at *Deptford*, &c., in order to be immediately sent to *America*, but for what particular purpose I have not yet been able to learn. Many *American* gentlemen, however, have been lately asked by a Lord high in the *American* Department, what sized vessels can go loaded from hence to *Albany*? What is the depth of water at the *Overslaugh*? (I think that is the name of the shallowest place in the *North River*.) Whether the ship belonging to *Albany*, in the *London* trade, is always obliged to unload part of her cargo before she can get to *Albany*? and what proportion of it? Whether, if batteries were erected at the Highlands, they would not prevent vessels going up and down the *North River*? And where would be the best place on that river to hinder the *New-Jersey* people, &c., from sending flour, &c., in the winter, through *Connecticut*, to the *Massachusetts* Army?

## LORD SHELburnE TO ARTHUR LEE.

Bow-Wood Park, July 31, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I am to thank you for your obliging letters, the last received this morning. I never imagined that public affairs would have affected me as much as they have done since the affair at *Lexington*. A man of common attention cannot avoid feeling every passion agitated and distracted. I am very clear, from General *Gage's* letter, that the Troops have suffered a signal defeat, and that the arms of *England* have lost a lustre, which I see no probability of their regaining during the present contest. There is, besides, a cloud which hangs upon the General's account, and betrays a most alarming situation of things; while the conduct of the Provincials, through all the mist, under the command, it would seem, of nobody, manifested a decisive superiority in every point of military judgment. In my life I was never more pleased with a state paper than I have been this morning with the Assembly of *Virginia's* discussion of Lord *North's* proposition. It is masterly.

By the papers, as well as the run of private accounts, I see very plainly that whoever governs us is determined to



proceed; and that as long as the stockholders keep from ruin, the Nation is to run every risk to keep the rewards of Sir R. Walpole and Mr. Fox upon Mr. Jenkinson. How long this torpor will continue, it is impossible to say; nor do I consider with any pleasure upon whom the storm will or ought to burst; but what I fear is, that the evil is irretrievable. Union itself will be too late.

I set out for *Ireland* on *Thursday*, and private business obliges me to return early in *October*. As to publick business, I despond. Personal jealousy and disunion infect and destroy the weight of both individuals and bodies of men. The only uncorrupt body of men remaining in the City of *London*, I see daily losing its weight, for want of proper direction and joint effort.

I am, with great truth and regard, dear Sir, your most obedient servant,

SHELburne.

To Arthur Lee, London.

LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN NORTH-CAROLINA, AND ONE OF THE DELEGATES OF THE CONGRESS, TO A PRINCIPAL HOUSE IN EDINBURGH.

Edenton, July 31, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We wrote to you the seventeenth instant, since which we have not been honoured with any of your favours. With this you will receive a bill of lading for the cargo of the Brigantine *Charming Betsey*, John Boyle master, (by whom this goes,) which you will please to dispose of to the best advantage for our interest, and place the nett proceeds to our credit with you. You will observe the brig has only six lay days, and beg the favour you will have her discharged, so as we may not be subjected to damage.

We expect to send you another vessel, with such another cargo, before the exportation is stopped, which will be the tenth of next *September*; but we shall write you more at large by a ship to sail from hence to *London* in about two weeks. All our remittances must hereafter be by bills; we have laid ourselves out to remit you in that way, as all other is now in a fair way of being entirely shut up. We are in a terrible situation indeed; all trade here is now at an end, and when it will again be revived God only knows. Every *American*, to a man, is determined to die or be free. We are convinced nothing can restore peace to this unhappy Country, and render the liberties of yours secure, but a total change of the present Ministry, who are considered in this Country as enemies to the freedom of the human race, like so many master devils in the infernal regions, sending out their servants, furies, to torment wherever they choose their infernal vengeance should fall.

Permit us, dear Sirs, as you have exerted yourselves, to try another effort to save from destruction the once, and but lately, most flourishing Empire in the world.

We do not want to be independent; we want no revolution, unless a change of Ministry and measures would be deemed such. We are loyal subjects to our present most gracious Sovereign, in support of whose crown and dignity we would sacrifice our lives, and willingly launch out every shilling of our property, he only defending our liberties. This Country, without some step is taken, and that soon, will be inevitably lost to the Mother Country. We say again, for the love of Heaven, for the love of liberty, the interest of posterity, we conjure you to exert yourselves. Petition again; the eyes of our most gracious Sovereign may yet be opened, and he may see what things are for his real interest, before they are eternally hid from his eyes. We can vouch for the loyalty of every one in this part of the Province. We beg your pardon for troubling you on the subject of politics so much as we have done; but we hope you will excuse us, when we tell you our all depends on the determination of Parliament.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obliged humble servants.

#### BUCKS COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) MEETING.

At a meeting of the Officers of the County of *Bucks*, the County was divided into three Battalions, and the following gentlemen were chosen Field Officers:

For the First Division: *Joseph Kirkbride*, Esq., Colonel; Mr. *Alexander Anderson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr.

*Joseph Penrose*, First Major; Mr. *Joseph McIlvane*, Second Major; *Francis Murray*, Esq., Standard Bearer.

For the Second Division: Doctor *John Beatty*, Colonel; Mr. *Robert Shewell*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *James McMasters*, First Major; Mr. *Wm. Roberts*, Second Major; Mr. *John Lacey*, Standard Bearer.

For the Third Division: *George Taylor*, Esq., Colonel; Mr. *Robert Robinson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; Mr. *John Tenbrook*, First Major; Mr. *John Heany*, Second Major; Mr. *John Keller*, Standard Bearer.

The officers of the respective companies of the Middle Battalion of the County of *Bucks*, are earnestly requested to meet at the house of Mr. *John Bogart*, on *Monday* next, at three o'clock, to give their voice in matters of importance. Their non-attendance will be looked upon as consenting to the business of the day.

By His Excellency WILLIAM TRYON, Esquire, Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief in and over the Province of NEW-YORK, and the Territories depending thereon, in AMERICA, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same:

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to the ninth day of *August* next; I have thought fit for His Majesty's service to prorogue, and I do, by and with the advice of His Majesty's Council, farther prorogue the said General Assembly to the sixth day of *September* next, of which all His Majesty's subjects concerned therein are required to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal at arms, at Fort *George*, in the City of *New-York*, the thirty-first day of *July*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord *George* the Third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

WILLIAM TRYON.

By his Excellency's command:

SAMUEL BAYARD, JUN., Dep. Secretary.

God save the King.

FRANCIS STEPHENS TO GENERAL GAGE.

Office of Ordnance, New-York, July 31, 1775.

HONOURABLE SIR: In my letter of the twenty-fourth *June*, I acquainted your Excellency with the depredations committed on such of His Majesty's property as remained at *Turtle Bay*; and occurrences of the like nature having since happened at this place, I now beg leave to transmit you the following particular account of the same, viz:

On *Wednesday*, the twelfth instant, between the hours of nine and ten o'clock at night, I being then at the house of Mr. *Banyor*, in the neighbourhood, the clerk of stores came and acquainted me that a number of men with side-arms, &c., had just then got over the fence of the shot yard, and were breaking open the several doors of the armoury, store-house, and those of the artificers' shops; whereupon I immediately repaired to the front doors of the two first mentioned places, and on hearing a most violent noise proceeding from their ransacking the premises, I immediately called on Mr. *Alderman Brewerton*, acquainting him therewith, and requested his interposition; but he replied, as an individual he could by no means render me any assistance, and advised me, in that case, to call on the Mayor, which I accordingly did, but he was not in Town. I then, in my way to the Governour's, met with Captain *Thomas William Moore*, who had the command of the guard appointed to preserve the peace of the City, to whom I communicated the foregoing, and entreated his assistance, in order to put a stop to the felonious proceedings of a number of armed men who were carrying off His Majesty's stores, as also some of my own private property, and which I conceived it was his duty to protect. Soon after, Mr. *Moore* came down to the store-houses, and brought with him a party of armed men, who, with myself, went in amongst the people that were committing the depredations, demanding by what authority they presumed to carry off the King's stores; when some of them replied to Mr.



*Moore*, that it was by order of their Colonel *Ritzema* they came there for that purpose. Upon which they were told, that no person whatever had a right to order them to behave in the manner they had done, and therefore advised them to disperse; which they soon after accordingly did, taking with them several drums, a considerable quantity of iron ramrods, and sundry other articles of His Majesty's property. Two hours after they were gone, viz. about two o'clock in the morning, a great party of the *Connecticut Troops*, supposed to be upwards of a hundred, came from their encampment, in the environs of the City, to the store-houses aforementioned, where they continued until night-day-light, rummaging and ransacking every place, and carried away such articles as they thought proper.

*Thursday* the thirteenth, about eight o'clock in the evening, *Francis Staples*, the person who has the care of *Turtle Bay*, came to town and informed me of the following particulars, viz: that about three o'clock this afternoon, the same sloop which carried off the stores from thence on the night of the twelfth ultimo, came again to that place, and was met by a party of the *Connecticut Troops*, supposed to be about fifty men, who put on board the said sloop (as near as he could well guess) about five hundred twenty-four pound round-shot, fifty ten-inch, and the like number of cohorn shells; they likewise broke open the store-house, took out the major part of what remained there, such as old sand-bags, empty boxes, &c., and then went off.

The same night, about half past nine o'clock, a company of armed men came to my dwelling-house and demanded admittance, pretending that they had received certain intelligence of a number of small-arms being concealed in the upper apartment of said house, and as such were determined to be satisfied by searching it, &c.; which was accordingly done to their great disappointment. They then requested of me the keys of another store-house, which they said had not as yet been examined into, observing that the arms must of course certainly be there; and notwithstanding my utmost endeavours to dissuade them to the contrary, they violently broke open the doors of the same, and robbed it of the following articles, viz: two brass petards, some tents, mostly unserviceable, a few powder-horns, nails, baskets, and other things, which at present is not in my power to particularize. In consequence of the above facts having been represented to the civil magistrates, a deputation from their body waited on their Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*, who sit during the recess of the Provincial Congress. The latter, on hearing what had happened, gave immediate orders for printing and publishing handbills to the following purport, which were soon after distributed throughout the City.

"Whereas, information hath been given to this Committee, by the Civil Magistrates of the City of *New-York*, that an attack was made, without provocation, upon a boat belonging to His Majesty's Ship *Asia*, and the boat wantonly destroyed; and also, that the house and stores of Mr. *Francis Stephens* were violently broken open, and robbed of private property, and military stores taken from thence; and whereas the said Magistrates have requested the advice of the Committee on the premises:

"Ordered, That it be recommended to the Civil Magistrates to examine strictly into the several matters and things above mentioned, and to punish all persons who are guilty of perpetrating the same, as the law directs; and that it be, and hereby is recommended to all the citizens and others, to aid and assist the Magistrates in the execution of their offices.

A true copy from the minutes:

"ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

"July 13, 1775."

The Mayor and Court of Aldermen, agreeable to what is recommended to them in the above, proceeded to take the depositions of several persons who were by at the time the depredations were committed, and issued their warrants for apprehending those who were reported to be guilty. But the Grand Jury, who were sitting at the time, and had the complaints with many affidavits laid before them, nevertheless thought proper to decline doing any thing further in the affair; nor does there appear the smallest shadow of a probability that I shall be able to obtain any redress,

so very much are the insulters and robbers of Government property at present befriended in this place.

I am, with the greatest respect, Sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

FRANCIS STEPHENS.

His Excellency the Honourable General *Gage*.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, July 31, 1775.

SIR: Yesterday the enclosed letter and papers were delivered me. The warrants for the Captains and Lieutenants to enlist the men, have not yet been sent up; but that no delay might thereby be occasioned, I have directed them to proceed to make the levies, and have given them assurances that they should have the commissions. A controversy has arisen between *Allen* and *Warner*; the former, you will perceive, has been left out altogether by the *Green Mountain Boys*. What the consequences will be I cannot pretend to say.

I have a boat on stocks, sixty feet in length, which I hope to finish by this day week. I suppose she will carry between two and three hundred men. Another of the same size is to be put up to-day, so that I hope soon to have vessels enough to move on. If any more powder can be got, I hope it will be sent, as not above a ton will be left, if so much, when the Troops are completed, to a pound a man.

Enclose you copies of two letters; one from Commissary *Phelps*, and the other from Commissary *Strong*. The former, Mr. *Livingston* acquaints me, refuses to resign the department into his hands. I have sent orders to him requiring his compliance. I doubt whether they will be obeyed. If not, it is more than probable that the service will essentially suffer.

I have written to Mr. *Strong*, that Mr. *Livingston* will take the pork, flour, and cattle, he mentions; his letter is not the most decent, and as such I have treated it in my answer to him.

As I did not wish that Mr. *Livingston* should dismiss any person that had been employed by the Colony of *Connecticut*, I wrote him as soon as I was informed of his appointment. Mr. *Phelps* must continue in employment, and I think you had best send him to Fort *George*, to take charge of your branch there.

I should not have troubled you with these letters, but that you may from them see the necessity of some general resolution of Congress, to cure all this jarring.

I am, Sir, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

Honourable *John Hancock*, President, &c.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS

Ticonderoga, July 31, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: I do myself the honour to enclose you a copy of a letter and paper I have received from the people called *Green Mountain Boys*, together with a copy of my letter in answer. I am apprehensive that the controversy which has arisen amongst them, relative to the Field-Officers, will cause delay in the levies. Whilst at *New-York*, and even after my arrival here, on conversing with *Allen* and *Warner*, I did not conceive there could have been any contest between them, or that a third person would have been recommended by the people as a Field-Officer. On that supposition, and believing the people unanimous in their favour, I should not have hesitated to have recommended them.

You will please to send up the warrants for the Captains and Lieutenants without being filled up, lest any that are nominated should decline the service. The warrants completed for such Field-Officers as you may appoint, you will also please to furnish me with.

I have got some *New-England* men to make oars in this quarter. If, therefore, you order me six hundred, it will be sufficient; these I wish up as soon as possible. Some of the stores are arrived, and I hope the remainder will soon be here.

I beg leave to remind you, that the proper officers and



necessaries for a hospital will be most indispensably necessary. The Troops already here begin severely to feel the want of them.

Please to order all the powder that is made at Judge *Livingston's* powder-mill to *Albany*, with as much despatch as possible, directed to the care of the Deputy Commissary-General, *Walter Livingston*, Esquire.

The clothing and tents for the *Green Mountain Boys*, I wish you to forward as soon as possible.

I am, Gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., &c.

NATHAN CLARK TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Dorset, July 28, 1775.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: In compliance to the orders of Congress, as well as your recommendation, I enclose the proceedings of our Committee meeting on the *New-Hampshire* Grants upon due notice to the Towns in general, all which is humbly submitted to your wisdom, not doubting but the warrants will issue agreeable to our wishes. We are your most obedient.

In behalf of the Committee:

NATHAN CLARK, Chairman.

To the Honourable General *Schuyler*.

At a meeting of the Committees of the several Townships on the *New-Hampshire* Grants, west of the Range of *Green-Mountains*, convened at the house of Mr. *Cephas Kents*, Innholder in the Township of *Dorset*, July 27th, 1775. Voted as follows, viz:

First. Chose Mr. *Nathan Clark* Chairman.

Secondly. Chose *John Fassett* Clerk.

Thirdly. The motion being made and seconded, whether this Convention shall prosecute in choosing Field and other officers according to the Provincial Congress's and your Honour's directions?

Passed in the affirmative.

Then proceeded as follows:

Fourthly. Chose Mr. *Seth Warner* Lieutenant-Colonel for the Regiment of *Green Mountain Boys*, by a majority of forty-one to five.

Fifthly. Chose Mr. *Samuel Safford* Major for said Regiment, by a majority of twenty-eight to seventeen.

Then proceeded and chose seven Captains, and fourteen Lieutenants, by a great majority, namely:

Captains: *Weight Hopkins*, *Oliver Potter*, *John Grant*, *William Fitch*, *Gideon Brownson*, *Micah Vail*, *Heman Allen*.

First Lieutenants: *John Fassett*, *Ebenezer Allen*, *Barnabas Barnam*, *Jille Bleaksley*, *Ira Allen*, *Gideon Warren*, *David Galusha*.

Second Lieutenants: *Johan Noble*, *James Claghorn*, *John Chipman*, *Nathan Smith*, *Jesse Sawyer*, *Joshua Stanton*, *Philo Hard*.

NATHAN CLARK, Chairman.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NATHAN CLARK.

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, July 31, 1775.

SIR: Your letter, dated *Dorset*, 28th July, 1775, has been delivered me by Captain *Fitch*, together with the votes that were enclosed.

The choice of the Captains and Lieutenants being left unconditional to the people, those chosen will receive the warrants as soon as they come to my hands, and the levying of the men may not be retarded. You will signify to them that I hereby empower them immediately to proceed to that business, without waiting for the warrants.

And in order to prevent any confusion that may take place, the Captains and Lieutenants must immediately signify to me in writing, that they accept, or decline the offices to which they have been elected.

The votes I shall immediately transmit to Congress, that they may approve of the Field Officers, or appoint others out of your body, as they may think proper.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To Mr. *Nathan Clark*, Chairman, &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Ticonderoga, July 31, 1775.

SIR: At ten this morning was honoured with your favour of twenty-fourth instant. Any person acquainted with the situation of this Country, the importance of having the command of *Canada*, the salutary consequences that must necessarily flow from having it in our power to command respect from the savages, must, without hesitation, agree, that no time ought to be lost in attempting to gain possession of the Province of *Quebeck*; and although hitherto we have had every prospect that could promise success to the enterprise, yet such is unfortunately our situation, that we are not in a capacity to move. We have neither craft to transport a body of men, nor provisions. The former I hope soon to be supplied with, as I have a number of carpenters at work in building boats. The latter must be sent me from *Albany*; but comes so amazingly slow, that we have not above ten days' flour for the few Troops here. This scarcity has obliged me to order the men arrived at *Albany* from *New-York* to encamp there, to prevent their starving here.

I find by the returns of the Commissaries, that twenty thousand rations were expended so early as the seventh instant, beyond the allowance. I hope, however, that we shall get ready in time to effect so good a work, if the disposition of the *Canadians* continues friendly to us. The Troops here sicken very fast for want of proper hospitals. We are under the disagreeable necessity of leaving the sick with the well.

If the *Lexington* affair caused so much emotion in *England*, I hope the last battle will increase them, so as to bring about a revolution of some kind in our favour; and the Minister's confidence in the defection of *New-York* vanishing, they may be induced to give up their odious claims, and pursue measures tending to a reconciliation, instead of the nefarious and hostile ones they had adopted.

I am, Sir, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Ticonderoga, July 31, 1775.

DEAR GENERAL: Since my last I have been most assiduously employed in preparing materials for building boats to convey me across the lake. The progress has hitherto been slow, as with few hands I had all the timber to cut, mills to repair to saw the plank, and my draught cattle extremely weak for want of feed, the drought having scorched up every kind of herbage. I have now one boat on the stocks which I hope will carry near three hundred men; another is putting up to-day. Provisions of the bread kind are scarce with me, and therefore I have not dared to order up a thousand men that are at *Albany*, lest we should starve here.

I have had no intelligence from *Canada* since my last to you. Major *Brown* has been gone nine days, and I expect him back, if all is well, by *Saturday* next, *August 2*.

I have not had a return from General *Wooster* since my arrival. I am therefore under the necessity of making you a return of the Troops here only.

Enclose your Excellency a copy of two affidavits made by persons from *Canada*. I have transmitted other copies to the Congress.

I am extremely anxious to hear from your part of the world. Reports prevail that a body of Troops have left *Boston*, and are gone to *Canada*. If so, I fear we shall not be able to penetrate into *Canada*, or even attack *St. John's* with success, though at all events I am ordered to go there.

I am your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c. &c.

P. S. I wish I could make you a regular return even of the Troops at this place and *Crown Point*, but I have not yet got the people to be regular in any thing, and therefore beg you to dispense with the following statement: Fit for duty, 1 Colonel, 3 Majors, 9 Captains, 1 Captain-Lieutenant, 21 Subalterns, 34 Sergeants, 18 Drums and



Fifes, 933 rank and file, 1 Chaplain, 2 Adjutants, 1 Quartermaster, 1 Surgeon, and 2 Mates. Sick: 1 Lieutenant, 4 Sergeants, 2 Drums, 103 rank and file.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, July 31, 1775.

SIR: By the Resolve in Congress of the 19th instant, it is recommended to the *New-England* Colonies to complete the deficiencies in the Regiments belonging to them respectively. I have not been informed of any deficiency in the number of Troops sent from *Connecticut*.

It is recommended, also, to this Colony, to complete and send forward to the camp before *Boston*, as soon as possible, the fourteen hundred men lately voted by our Assembly. The 25th instant I sent orders to the Colonels of the last raised Regiments to march forthwith to the camp before *Boston* by subdivisions, if all were not in readiness. Expect many of the companies will begin their march this day, and that the whole will move forward very soon.

The honourable President *Hancock*, in his favour of the 22d instant, informs, that you had recommended, and the Congress have appointed Mr. *Joseph Trumbull* Commissary-General of the *American* Army. I am also informed that you have taken Mr. *John Trumbull* into your service and family. These instances of kindness shewn them justly claim my most grateful acknowledgments. A performance of their duty answerable to your expectation, will meet your approbation and continuance of regard, and afford me peculiar satisfaction and pleasure.

The *Rose, Swan*, and *Kingfisher*, ships-of-war, with a small tender, the 26th instant came into the harbour at *New-London*. On the 27th instant some men landed near the Light-house, broke off the trunnions and plugged up with old files three or four cannon. They sailed out again on *Friday* last. It is reported Mr. Collector *Stuart* is packing up his effects, in order to leave that port.

I am, Sir, with great truth and regard, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

JONA. TRUMBULL.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

TOWN-MEETING, PROVIDENCE, RHODE-ISLAND.

At a Town-meeting called by warrant and holden in *Providence*, on the thirty-first day of *July*, A. D. 1775, the Hon. *Nicholas Cooke*, Esquire, Moderator:

*Voted*, That there be an Intrenchment and Breastwork hove up between *Field's Point* and *Sassafras Point*, sufficient to cover such a body of men as may be ordered there on emergency; that there be a Battery of six eighteen-pounders erected at *Fox Hill*; that there be four cannon mounted as field-pieces by the Committee hereinafter-named; that the same Committee draw up Rules for regulating the Battery; that Captain *Nicholas Power* be appointed to build the Battery and Breastwork aforesaid, and that he advise and consult with Captain *Errick Hopkins*, *Ambrose Page*, Esquire, Captain *John Updike*, Mr. *Samuel Nightingale*, Jun., Captain *William Earle*, and Captain *Simon Smith*, who are appointed a Committee for that purpose, on the manner of building the aforesaid works, and that he proceed on the same immediately; that there be a foot Bridge built over the Creek that leads to *Fox Point*; that the Committee aforesaid apply to the proprietors of the lands to get liberty to build the Batteries at *Fox Hill*, &c.; that Captain *Power* draw on the Town Treasury for defraying the expense of the aforesaid works, until the same shall be reimbursed by the Continental Congress, and if there is not money sufficient in the Treasury to answer Captain *Power's* orders, he shall be allowed interest for the same till paid; that his Honour the Deputy-Governour be requested to represent the whole of this matter to the Continental Congress requesting that they would be pleased to reimburse the Town the expenses they may be at in erecting those temporary though necessary works of defence.

*Voted*, That the Committee appointed at the last meeting to erect a Beacon, be also requested to build a House for the materials for the Beacon.

*Voted*, That this meeting be adjourned to *Saturday* next, at four o'clock, P. M.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE SPEAKER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

Camp at Cambridge, July 31, 1775.

SIR: I have considered the application made to me yesterday from the General Court, with all the attention due to the situation of the people in whose behalf it is made, and the respect due to such a recommendation. Upon referring to my instructions, and consulting with those members of Congress who are present, as well as the General Officers, they all agree, that it would not be consistent with my duty to detach any part of the Army now here on any particular Provincial service. It has been debated in Congress and settled, that the Militia, or other internal strength of each Province, is to be applied for defence against those small and particular depredations which were to be expected, and to which they were supposed to be competent. This will appear the more proper, when it is considered, that every town, and indeed every part of our sea-coast which is exposed to these depredations, would have an equal claim upon this Army.

It is the misfortune of our situation, which exposes us to these ravages, and against which, in my judgment, no such temporary relief could possibly secure us. The great advantage the enemy have of transporting troops by being masters of the sea, will enable them to harass us by diversions of this kind; and should we be tempted to pursue them upon every alarm, the Army must either be so weakened as to expose it to destruction, or a great part of the coast be still left unprotected. Nor, indeed, does it appear to me, that such a pursuit would be attended with the least effect. The first notice of such an excursion would be its actual execution; and long before any troops could reach the scene of action, the enemy would have an opportunity to accomplish their purpose, and retire. It would give me great pleasure to have it in my power to extend protection and safety to every individual; but the wisdom of the General Court will anticipate me in the necessity of conducting our operations on a general and impartial scale, so as to exclude any just cause of complaint and jealousy.

I beg, Sir, you will do me the honour to communicate these sentiments to the General Court, and to apologize for my involuntary delay, as we were alarmed this morning by the enemy, and my time was taken up in giving the necessary directions.

I shall be happy in every opportunity of showing my very great respect and regard for the General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*; and am, Sir, &c.

Go. WASHINGTON.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED CAMBRIDGE, JULY 31, 1775.

Last *Friday* we were informed by our out sentries at the foot of *Bunker's Hill*, that the enemy had cut down several large trees, and were busy all night in throwing up a line and abattis in front of it. In the evening orders were given to the *York County Rifle Company*, to march down to our advanced post on *Charlestown Neck*, to endeavour to surround the enemy's advanced guard, and to bring off some prisoners; from whom we expected to learn the enemy's design in throwing up the abattis on the neck. The Rifle Company divided, and executed their plan in the following manner: Captain *Dowdle*, with thirty-nine men, filed off to the right of *Bunker's Hill*, and, creeping on their hands and knees, got into the rear of the enemy's sentries, without being discovered. The other division, of forty men, under Lieutenant *Miller*, were equally successful in getting behind the sentries on the left, and were within a few yards of joining the division on the right, when a party of Regulars came down the hill to relieve their guard, and crossed our Riflemen under Captain *Dowdle*, as they were lying on the ground in an *Indian* file. The Regulars were within twenty yards of our Riflemen before they saw them, and immediately fired. The Riflemen returned the salute, killed several, and brought off two prisoners and their muskets, with the loss of Corporal *Crouse*, who is supposed to be killed, as he has not been heard of since the affair.

In return for this, the enemy alarmed us last night in their turn. At one o'clock this morning a heavy firing of small-arms and cannon occasioned our drums to beat to



arms. The Army was immediately ordered under arms to their posts. The firing continued in three different quarters—*Roxbury*, *Sewall's Point*, at the mouth of *Cambridge River*, and at the advanced posts at *Charlestown Neck*. Some hours elapsed before we knew the design of the enemy, which was this: we had surrounded some of their out guards the night before, which induced them to serve our sentries in the same manner. They sent two flat-bottomed boats to *Sewall's Point* to attack our redoubt there; sallied out at *Roxbury*, and set fire to the *George Tavern*, our advanced guard house. Our people attacked, beat them in, and took one prisoner, who is expected here every minute. The flat-bottomed boats, after a useless fire of many hours, returned. The picket guard of the enemy on *Charlestown Neck* attacked and drove in our advanced guard of sixty men, who, being re-enforced by General *Lee's* orders, recovered their ground, and beat off the enemy, killed several, and brought off seven muskets, without losing a man, although our men engaged them under their guns, within point blank shot of their lines. We are just informed that two hundred and fifty of the *Marblehead* sailors have formed on *Plowed Hill*, and have drove in all the out guards of the enemy. The enemy do not appear to be very fond of coming out. We shall harass them continually, and for this reason want the aid of the Riflemen, as only one company is as yet came in.

Worcester, Massachusetts, August 2, 1775.

On Monday last, July 31st, we learn that a detachment of three hundred men from our Army, under the command of Major *Tupper*, were sent to *Light-House Island*, on information being received that the King's Troops were rebuilding it. The enemy perceiving our people coming, prepared to receive them. Our Troops were ordered not to fire until they landed, which they did, and went boldly up to the enemy, killed ten or twelve on the spot, among whom was the commanding officer, and took the remainder, about thirty-five in number, demolished the enemy's works, and were preparing to embark; but the tide leaving them, they were obliged to tarry till its return; meantime a large number of boats from the men-of-war came up in order to re-enforce the enemy on the island, and a smart firing from both parties commenced; our Troops, however,

got safe back with their prisoners, with the loss of one man killed, and two or three wounded.

To the Committee of CHERRY VALLEY. To be communicated to the Inhabitants of the BUTTERNUTS.

A Speech of the Chiefs of the ONEIDAS, respecting the late Murder committed in the plantation of the BUTTERNUTS.

BRETHREN: We have heard of your alarming and distracting situation, by the unnatural and very inhuman murder of one in your place. We are very much surprised at the account, and feel for you in this your distress. Both you and we shall likely soon discover the murderer. You white people have some malicious evil-minded persons amongst you, and we *Indians* have likewise the same. We have long resided hard by our brethren on *Mohawk River*, and never knew such an instance as has happened in your place—a man found dead, and murdered in such a manner! Brethren, quiet your minds, and indulge no fears nor jealousies respecting our friendship; don't leave your plantations; continue where you are, and follow your work. We don't think you would have suspected any of us *Oneidas* to have done such a thing, were it not for the troubles and confusions that prevail in the eastward, (meaning *New-England*.) We *Oneidas* have made search, and can find no person of our Nation that has been so lately hunting in the woods; nor any of the *Onohoggwahes*. We therefore entreat you to quiet your minds, and by no means indulge any fears respecting us; and whenever we meet again, let it be in great friendship and brotherly love; or if any of our people should pass that way, treat them with your usual kindness, that peace may always continue and be maintained between us. We have only farther to remark, that had there been on our part any design of mischief, or beginning a quarrel with the white people, and had an *Indian* committed the inhuman murder, he would never have come off and left the man unscalped; for which reason, and some other circumstances, we are of opinion that some other person, and not an *Indian*, has been guilty of the murder. We hope you may never know the like again, but continue in peace and prosper.

Present, four of the *Onohoggwahes*. Interpreted and wrote by *Samuel Kirkland*, Missionary.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

June 30, 1775.—Ordered the Receiver-General to pay to the Committee of Supplies six hundred Pounds, lawful money, to be by them accounted for.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay to *Samuel Hobart*, Esq., Paymaster of the Forces of this Colony, four thousand five hundred Pounds, lawful money.

Ordered the Receiver-General to deliver Lieutenant . . . . ., forty-two pounds of Gunpowder for the use of Captain *Langdon's* Company, at *Portsmouth*, and to take his receipt to be accountable for it.

July 1, 1775.—Ordered the Receiver-General to pay to the Committee of Supplies five hundred Pounds.

Wrote to General *Folsom* by Major *Hobart*.—Copy filed.

Wrote to Colonel *Reid* by Major *Hobart*.—Copy filed.

In consequence of Messrs. *Child* and *Ashley* being appointed a Committee to wait upon the Congress of the *Massachusetts*, and the Assemblies of *Rhode-Island* and *Connecticut*, as per vote of Congress, ordered the Receiver-General to pay the said *Child* six Pounds, lawful money, to be by him accounted for.

July 4, 1775.—Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Jonathan Robinson* forty Shillings, being his month's pay as a Soldier in Captain *Samuel Gilman's* Company, he being at home on furlough.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Amos Dakin* forty Shillings, being a month's pay for the account of the Widow of one *Joseph Blood*, who was killed in the Army, to be by said *Dakin* accounted for.

July 5, 1775.—Ordered the Receiver-General to pay

*Samuel Calley* four Pounds sixteen Shillings, for a Wagon by him made for the use of this Colony.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay the Committee of Supplies one thousand Pounds, lawful money, to be by them accounted for.

Appointed Captain *Josiah Moulton* Paymaster of Captain *Elkins's* Company, for first month's wages.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Captain *Josiah Moulton* one hundred and thirty-nine Pounds sixteen Shillings, lawful money, for the first month's pay of Captain *Elkins's* Company.

Appointed *Israel Morey*, Esq., Paymaster of the first month's wages of Captain *Bedell's* Company.

July 6, 1775.—Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Israel Morey*, Esq., one hundred and thirty-nine Pounds sixteen Shillings, lawful money, being for the first month's pay of Captain *Bedell's* Company.

Honourable *Meshech Weare* was added to the Committee of Safety.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq., thirty-one Pounds four Shillings, being the expense of making the £10,050 lately emitted by order of the Congress of this Colony.

Previous to the drawing the orders of this day's date, Captain *William Whipple* was chosen Chairman of this Committee *pro tem*.

July 7, 1775.—Ordered *Samuel Hobart*, Esq., to pay the surplus of the money left in his hands, after paying the Troops according to directions, to those of the Committee of Supplies at Head-Quarters, *Medford*.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Mr. *John Wheelock* forty-two Shillings and three Pence half-penny, being



the amount of his account of expenses, time, and horse, in a journey to *Watertown* by order of Congress.

Gave *James Osgood* orders to enlist twenty effective Soldiers.

Appointed Captain *David Page* to muster the men that shall be enlisted by *James Osgood*.

Gave *John Parker* orders to enlist sixty-three men for Soldiers.

Made out Commission for Colonel *Bedell* as Captain; *Abraham Palmer* as Lieutenant; *Richard Nelson* as Ensign, of the first Company of Rangers, in the service of this Colony, dated 23d of *June*, 1775, the day they were mustered.

Gave Captain *Bedell* the following orders:

SIR: You are directed to proceed immediately to *Northumbreland* or *Lancaster*, with your company, or such part thereof as you think proper, and there, in conjunction with the inhabitants, erect a garrison in such a place as you, with their advice, shall judge most suitable, sufficient for defence against small-arms; and when that is completed, to assist in building garrisons in such other places on the frontiers as you, with the advice of the inhabitants, shall judge most necessary; sending out such scouts from time to time for intelligence as you shall think expedient; and also to take charge of all such provisions as may be sent you, and cause the same properly to be delivered to the soldiers of your and other companies that may be posted by the Congress or this Committee on *Connecticut* River, and purchase beef and bread, &c., as may be requisite, and return your accounts to this Committee for their allowance and payment; and also to use your utmost endeavours to gain and keep the friendship of the *Indians*, by small donations, &c.; and if any thing of importance should occur, to send information thereof to this Committee by immediate expresses; and to take up and examine any person you may suspect of attempting to cross the country to *Canada* with a design to hurt the cause of *America*; and if, after examination, you are satisfied of such design, that you secure him or them, and send them down here for trial; and to use your discretion with regard to any others who evidently appear to be inimical to the liberties of *America*. In case of any attack upon any of the inhabitants in those parts to whom you can possibly afford assistance, you are to do it without delay.

By order of the Committee:

WM. WHIPPLE, *Chairman pro tem.*

Gave *Matthew Thornton* orders to enlist forty-three able-bodied men as Soldiers.

Gave *Seth Wheeler* the following Orders to enlist ten able-bodied men as Soldiers:

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, July 7, 1775.

To SETH WHEELER, *Greeting*:

SIR: You are hereby empowered immediately to enlist ten able-bodied and effective men, well accoutred, as soldiers in the *New-Hampshire* service, for the preservation of *American* liberty, and cause them to pass muster as soon as possible.

By order of the Committee:

WM. WHIPPLE, *Chairman pro tem.*

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, July 7, 1775.

To SETH WHEELER:

SIR: Whereas, you this day received orders for enlisting ten men as soldiers in the *New-Hampshire* service, for the preservation of *American* liberty: you are hereby acquainted that the commission of an Ensign in said service shall be made out for you as soon as your enlistment is completed, and the men have passed muster. You and the said men to be enlisted are to be under the command of Captain *John Parker*, of *Litchfield*, in the County of *Hillsborough*.

By order of said Committee:

WM. WHIPPLE, *Chairman pro tem.*

July 8, 1775.—Upon application of Selectmen of *Newtown*, informing that they had been opposed in endeavouring to apprehend a deserter from the Army, in order to send him back, and requesting advisement thereon, wrote to inhabitants of said Town, as follows:

In Committee of Safety, Exeter, July 8, 1775.

Whereas, the Provincial Congress have recommended to the several and respective Committees in the several Towns, Parishes, and Precincts in this Colony, to take up and secure deserters from the *American* Army, and cause them to be conveyed safely to their proper Officers at Head-Quarters; and this measure must appear to every one to be of great importance to the *American* cause; and as we are informed the Town of *Newtown*, having no such Committee, the Selectmen laudably therefore endeavoured to answer the design of the Congress in sending back a deserter, but not without opposition in accomplishing the same: We therefore recommend it to the inhabitants of *Newtown* (whose zeal and disposition to serve the common cause, we cannot doubt) that they exert themselves in endeavouring to have such deserters apprehended and returned to their respective Companies, and in supporting the Selectmen and others in doing the same; and that all such persons as shall endeavour by any means to obstruct or hinder them herein be taken proper notice of, according to the nature of their offence, and if need be put under guard. And also that the Town, as soon as may be, proceed to choose a Committee, as recommended by the Congress.

Ordered Committee of Supplies to send two barrels of Gunpowder, eight hundred pounds of Lead or Bullets, six hundred Flints and Blankets, for forty Soldiers, and all other necessities for the use of the Troops, on the Western Frontiers of this Colony to *Coos*.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Samuel Folsom* forty Pounds fourteen Shillings, and a Penny, being for the board, horsekeeping, and expenses of Committee to this day.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Timothy Bedell*, Esq., forty-five Shillings and six Pence, the amount of his account of expenses, &c., in a journey to *Watertown* by order of Congress.

Wrote *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Continental Congress.

Wrote to *New-Hampshire* Delegates at Continental Congress, and to Doctor *Langdon* at *Cambridge*, enclosing two former Letters.

July 13, 1775.—Ordered Committee of Supplies to forward to Head-Quarters fourteen barrels of Gunpowder, and a quantity of Bullets.

July 14, 1775.—Ordered Receiver-General to pay *William Parker*, Jun., one hundred and fifty Pounds, first month's wages of Captain *Shortridge's* Company.

Appointed *William Whipple*, Esquire, Paymaster of first month's wages of Captain *Shortridge's* Company, and *Eliphalet Daniel* to muster them.

July 19, 1775.—Ordered Receiver-General to pay Messrs. *Folsom*, *Parsons*, and *Evans*, (Committee to procure five hundred Fire-Arms to be made,) thirty Pounds, to be by them accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *James Proctor* nine Pounds, for sixty shod Shovels by him supplied.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Jonathan Perkins* ten Shillings, amount of his account, for keeping door of Congress, &c.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Moses Parsons* three Pounds ten Shillings, amount of his account for expenses in journeying after Gunsmiths.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay Captain *Josiah Moulton* three Pounds sixteen Shillings, being the sum he had advanced for his board, and expenses as one of the Committee of Safety.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq., thirty Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

July 24, 1775.—Ordered Receiver-General to pay Committee of Supplies six hundred Pounds, to be by them accounted for.

Ordered Receiver-General to pay General *Sullivan* thirty Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

Appointed *W. Parker*, Jun., to muster Captain *Parker's* Company, and to pay them first month's wages.

July 31, 1775.—Ordered Receiver-General to pay *W. Parker*, Jun., one hundred and twenty Pounds, first month's wages of part of Captain *Jonathan Parker's* Company.



## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

In Assembly, June 30, 1775.

PHILADELPHIA, ss.

1. *Resolved*, That this House approves the Association entered into by the good people of this Colony, for the defence of their lives, liberties, and property.

2. *Resolved*, That if any invasion or landing of *British* Troops, or others, shall be made in this or the adjacent Colonies, during the present controversy, or any armed Ships or Vessels shall sail up the River *Delaware* in a hostile manner, and such circumstances shall render it expedient in the judgment of the Committee hereafter to be appointed, for any number of the Officers and private men of the Association within this Colony to enter into actual service for repelling such hostile attempts, this House will provide for the pay and necessary expenses of such Officers and Soldiers, performing such military duty while in such actual service.

3. *Resolved*, That the pay of the Officers and Privates, while in such actual service, shall not exceed that of the Army raised by the Congress of the United Colonies for the defence of the liberties of *America*.

4. *Resolved*, That this House do earnestly recommend to the Board of Commissioners and Assessors of the City and County of *Philadelphia*, and of each County in this Province that have not already made the provision hereinafter mentioned, and they are hereby enjoined, as they regard the freedom, welfare, and safety of their Country, immediately to provide a proper number of good new Firelocks, with Bayonets fitted to them; Cartridge-boxes with twenty-three rounds of Cartridge in every box; and Knapsacks, not less than fifteen hundred of each article for the City and County of *Philadelphia*; three hundred for the County of *Bucks*; five hundred for the County of *Chester*; six hundred for the County of *Lancaster*; three hundred for the County of *York*; three hundred for the County of *Cumberland*; four hundred for the County of *Berks*; three hundred for the County of *Northampton*; one hundred for the County of *Bedford*; one hundred for the County of *Northumberland*; and one hundred for the County of *Westmoreland*; to be under the care of the Commanding Officers of the Battalions of the said Counties, for the immediate use of such Officers and Soldiers as shall be drafted from the Battalions from time to time for actual service. And the said Commissioners and Assessors shall produce their Accounts for furnishing the Arms and Accoutrements aforesaid, to the Committee hereinafter appointed, which being approved of by the said Committee, they shall draw orders on the Treasurer for the payment thereof, and he is hereby enjoined to pay the same out of the Bills of Credit to be emitted by the Resolution of this House.

5. *Resolved*, That this House do earnestly recommend to, and enjoin the Officers and Committees of each County in this Province, to select a number of Minute-Men equal to the Arms, &c., provided for the same, to be in readiness upon the shortest notice to march to any quarter in case of emergency.

6. *Resolved*, That the Firelocks to be provided as aforesaid, be of one bore, with steel Rammers well fitted to the same; and that patterns of the said Firelocks, Rammers, and Bayonets, be immediately made in the City of *Philadelphia*, and sent to the different Counties.

7. *Resolved*, That provision be made for defending this Province, and the City in particular, against the attacks of armed Vessels that may be sent to annoy them.

And whereas, the safety of a Country greatly depends on having within itself the means of defence, and it appears that sufficient quantities of Saltpetre may be collected not only for defence, but for other purposes:

8. *Resolved*, That the sum of twenty Pounds be paid for every hundred weight of good merchantable Saltpetre, that shall be made and manufactured within this Province, and delivered to the Committee hereinafter named, within the space of three months from this time; and that the sum of fifteen Pounds be paid for every hundred weight of good merchantable Saltpetre, that shall be made and manufactured within this Province, and delivered to the said Committee within three months next following; and so on in proportion for any greater or lesser quantity.

9. *Resolved*, That *John Dickinson, George Gray, Henry Wynkoop, Anthony Wayne, Benjamin Bartholomew, George Ross, Michael Swoope, John Montgomery, Edward Biddle, William Edmonds, Bernard Dougherty, Samuel Hunter, William Thompson, Thomas Willings, Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, John Cadwalader, Andrew Allen, Owen Biddle, Francis Johnson, Richard Reiley, Samuel Morris, Jr., Robert Morris, Thomas Wharton, Jr., and Robert White*, Gentlemen, be a Committee of Safety for calling forth such and so many of the Associators into actual service, when necessity requires, as the said Committee shall judge proper; for paying and supplying them with necessaries while in actual service; for providing for the defence of this Province against insurrection and invasion, and for encouraging and promoting the manufacture of Saltpetre; which said Committee are hereby authorized and empowered to draw orders on the Treasurer hereinafter appointed, for the several purposes above mentioned.

10. *Resolved*, That any seven or more of the said Committee shall be a Board for transacting the business aforesaid, or any part thereof.

And for carrying the foregoing Resolutions into execution, it is

11. *Resolved*, That Bills of Credit to the value of Thirty-five Thousand Pounds, shall, on or before the first day of *August* next, be prepared and printed upon good strong paper, under the care and direction of *George Gray, William Rodman, Joseph Parker, and Isaac Pearson*, Esqrs., or any three of them, at the charge of the publick, to be defrayed out of the said Bills; which Bills shall be made and prepared in manner and form following, to wit:

“According to the Resolves of the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, made on the 30th day of *June*, in the fifteenth year of the Reign of His Majesty *George* the Third. Dated at *Philadelphia*, the 20th day of *July*, 1775.”

And the same Bills shall have such like escutcheons and devices as the said *George Gray, Joseph Parker, William Rodman, and Isaac Pearson* shall think fit; each of which Bills shall be of the several respective denominations following, and no other, viz:

Seven thousand of the same Bills the sum of forty Shillings in each of them.

Seven thousand of the same Bills the sum of thirty Shillings in each of them.

Seven thousand of the same Bills the sum of twenty Shillings in each of them.

And seven thousand of the same Bills the sum of ten Shillings in each of them.

And the said *George Gray, Joseph Parker, William Rodman, and Isaac Pearson*, shall use their best care, attention, and diligence, during the printing the said Bills, that the number and amount thereof, according to their respective denominations aforesaid, be not exceeded, nor any clandestine or fraudulent practice be used by the Printer, his servants, or other persons concerned therein.

*Resolved*, That the said *George Gray, Joseph Parker, William Rodman, and Isaac Pearson*, or any three of them, after the said Bills are printed, shall deliver them to the Signers, to be signed and numbered by parcels, for which they shall take receipts.

*Resolved*, That *Sharp Dulany, Lambert Cadwalader, Isaac Howell, James Meas, Adam Hubley, John Benezet, Samuel Cadwalader Morris, Thomas Prior, Godfrey Twells, John Meas, John Purviance, and William Allen, Jr.*, or any three of them, shall be the signers of the said Bills.

*Resolved*, That when the said Bills shall be signed and numbered, they shall be delivered to *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., hereby appointed Treasurer, who shall give his receipt for the same, and therewith pay off and discharge all such Drafts and Certificates as shall be made by order of Assembly or the Committee aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the said Treasurer shall give bond with two sufficient securities, to *John Morton* and *Charles Humphreys*, Esqrs., in the sum of ten thousand Pounds, for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him.

And for the more certain paying, redeeming, discharging, and sinking the said Bills of Credit hereby emitted,

*Resolved*, That a Tax on all estates, real and personal, within this Province, shall be raised and levied by the re-



spective Commissioners and Assessors of the several Counties in the Province, in same manner and mode as the Provincial Tax by the laws now in force is raised, levied, and recovered, and shall be paid to the Provincial Treasurer; which said Tax first mentioned shall commence immediately after the sinking of the Bills of Credit now remaining to be sunk of those sums granted to the King during the course of the last war; which Tax, for the purposes aforesaid, the several Commissioners and Assessors are enjoined and required to raise, levy, recover, and pay, as they regard the freedom, welfare, and safety of their Country. [Extract from the Journal:]

CHARLES MOORE, Clerk of Assembly.

Monday, July 3, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety appointed by the Resolves of the Assembly of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Esq., Owen Biddle, Robert Morris, Robert White, Samuel Morris, Jr., Andrew Allen, John Cadwalader, Thomas Wharton, Jr., George Ross:*

On motion, 1. *Resolved unanimously*, That *Benjamin Franklin, Esq.*, be chosen President.

2. *Resolved*, That *William Govett* be Clerk, and that he engage not to disclose the Proceedings of this Committee without leave.

3. *Resolved*, That Colonel *John Cadwalader* and Mr. *Samuel Morris, Jr.*, do provide patterns of Muskets, Bayonets, Cartridge Boxes, and Knapsacks, to be sent to the different Counties.

4. *Resolved*, That the barrels of the Muskets be three feet eight inches in length, well fortified, the bore of sufficient size to carry seventeen Balls to the pound; the Bayonets sixteen inches long.

5. *Resolved*, That Messrs. *Robert Morris, Robert White*, and *Thomas Wharton, Jr.*, do with the utmost expedition procure any quantity of Powder and Saltpetre in their power.

Tuesday, July 4, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Robert White, Andrew Allen, Daniel Roberdeau, John Dickinson, George Ross, Robert Morris, Thomas Wharton, Jr., Samuel Morris, Jr., John Cadwalader, Owen Biddle:*

1. *Resolved*, That the Committee go to *Red Bank* tomorrow, to take a view of the River and Islands, and that the following gentlemen be requested to attend, viz: *Luke Morris, Oswell Eve, John Wharton, Thomas Penrose, Major Nicholas, Thomas Hanson, Peter Reeve.*

2. *Resolved*, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* wait on the Commissioners and Assessors of this County, and desire that this Committee may have a Conference with them on *Thursday* morning next at 6 o'clock.

3. *Resolved*, That this Committee meet every day at six o'clock, A. M., *Sundays* excepted.

4. *Resolved*, That if any Member shall think it necessary to call an Extraordinary Meeting, that he do it by giving the Clerk directions to give the Members proper notice.

5. *Resolved*, That the Committee for providing Powder and Saltpetre, do procure at the same time two thousand stand of good Fire-Arms.

6. *Resolved*, That Doctor *Franklin* be requested to procure a model of a Pike, to be produced to the Committee at their next meeting.

Thursday, July 6, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, George Ross, Robert Morris, Thomas Wharton, Jr., Daniel Roberdeau, Owen Biddle, George Gray, Robert White, Samuel Morris, Jr., John Cadwalader:*

The Committee, agreeable to the first Resolve of the 4th instant, went to *Red Bank, Mud or Fort Island*, and viewed them and several parts of the River, and find the Channel from the Fort to the Bar to be one hundred and fifty fathoms, or thereabouts; and report that it is at present impracticable to lay a Boom across that part of the River.

1. *Resolved*, That Messrs. *Robert White* and *Owen Biddle*, be a Committee for the construction of Boats and

Machines for the defence of the River; and it is recommended to them to employ *John Wharton, Joseph Marsh, Emanuel Eyres, Jacob Miller, Thomas Davis*, and *Joseph Govett*.

2. *Resolved*, That Colonel *Dickinson*, Colonel *Roberdeau*, Colonel *Cadwalader*, and Colonel *Ross*, be a Committee for inspecting into the Ordnance and Military Stores, and make such repairs and supply such deficiencies as may be thought necessary, and that they report to the Board a proper person as an Assistant Commissary of Stores; and that the said Committee provide a model of a Pike or Spear.

3. *Resolved*, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* return the thanks of this Board to the author of the written proposals for raising and employing a Regiment of Soldiers, and for other matters therein contained.

The Gentlemen that were to provide patterns of Cartouch-boxes and Knapsacks, produced the same to this Board, and are approved of.

Friday, July 7, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Morris, Jr., Capt. Robert White, Andrew Allen, Daniel Roberdeau, Thomas Wharton, Jr., John Cadwalader, Owen Biddle, George Gray:*

1. *Resolved*, That Mr. *John Wharton* immediately procure materials, and make preparations for building a Boat or Calevat, and that he exhibit a model of one to-morrow morning, when he will have further instructions for the construction of one.

2. *Resolved*, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* give the thanks of this Board to Mr. *Louis Nicholas*, for his plan delivered the Committee this day.

Saturday, July 8, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Wharton, Jr., Andrew Allen, Daniel Roberdeau, George Gray, Robert White, Samuel Morris, Jr., Owen Biddle:*

A model of a Pike-staff was produced, and one ordered to be made.

1. *Resolved*, That Mr. *John Wharton* immediately build a Boat or Calevat of forty-seven or fifty feet keel, thirteen feet broad, and four and a half feet deep.

2. *Resolved*, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* apply to *Stephen Paschall*, and give him directions to make a Pike agreeable to the pattern produced by Doctor *Franklin*.

Monday, July 10, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Francis Johnson, Anthony Wayne, Robert Morris, Robert White, Daniel Roberdeau, John Cadwalader, Samuel Morris, Jr., George Gray:*

On application being made by Colonel *Roberdeau* and Colonel *Cadwalader*, that this Board would take under consideration the expenses incurred by the Officers of the Association; and the Board not finding themselves sufficiently empowered,

1. *Resolved*, That the same be earnestly recommended to the consideration of the Commissioners and Assessors of the several Counties of this Province.

2. *Resolved*, That *Emanuel Eyres* immediately build a Boat agreeable to the model produced by him this day.

Tuesday, July 11, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Francis Johnson, George Ross, Robert Morris, Robert White, Owen Biddle, George Gray, John Cadwalader, Thomas Wharton, Jr., Samuel Morris, Jr., Anthony Wayne:*

1. *Resolved*, That Messrs. *Robert White* and *Owen Biddle* do provide a Sail for one of the Boats now building under their direction.

The Committee appointed for the building Boats and constructing Machines for the defence of the River, report that they have been viewing a number of Pine Logs, which they think will be proper for the service.

2. *Resolved*, That the said Committee do purchase the above mentioned Logs.

The President delivered to Messrs. *Robert White* and *Owen Biddle* his order on Capt. *Loxley*, for such Guns and Military Stores as they may have occasion for.



Wednesday, July 12, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present: *Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Wharton, Jr., Daniel Roberdeau, John Cadwalader, Samuel Morris, Jr., George Ross, George Gray:*

*George Ross, Esq.,* produced a motion from the Assembly of the 30th of June, resolving that the Committee of Safety draw an order on their Treasurer in favour of himself and *James Wilson, Esq.,* for the sum of fifty Pounds each, being for their services in attending the Continental Congress; which was accordingly done and delivered to *Mr. Ross,* being the President's Draft of this date on *Michael Hillegas.*

Thursday, July 13, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present: *Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, Robert White, Owen Biddle, Thomas Wharton, John Cadwalader, Samuel Morris, Jun., Robert Morris:*

1. *Resolved,* That the thanks of this Board be given to *Mr. Ebenezer Robinson,* for his plan for stopping the channel of the River *Delaware.*

Friday, July 14, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present: *Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, Robert White, Robert Morris, Thomas Wharton, Junior, Owen Biddle, Samuel Morris, Jun., John Cadwalader, George Gray:*

1. *Resolved,* That the Board will go down this morning and view the ground on which it is proposed to raise a Battery.

2. *Resolved,* That *Mr. Robert Morris,* Messrs. *George Gray, Samuel Morris, Jun., and Thomas, Wharton, Jun.,* be a Committee to wait on the Provincial Treasurer, and know if a sum of money can be borrowed of him until the money of this Board is emitted.

3. *Resolved,* That *Owen Biddle* be directed to procure four tons of Grape-Shot.

Saturday, July 15, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present: *Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, Thomas Wharton, Jun., Robert White, Robert Morris, John Cadwalader, George Gray, Samuel Morris, Junior:*

1. *Resolved,* That the Committee appointed for building Boats and Machines for the defence of the River, do immediately employ all the Carpenters and other workmen that they think necessary, for collecting materials for building twelve Boats (including the two already ordered) and as many Machines as may be thought sufficient for the interruption of the navigation.

2. *Resolved,* That *Colonel Roberdeau, Colonel Cadwalader,* and *Mr. Samuel Morris, Jun.,* be requested to go to *New-Jersey* and converse with such principal inhabitants as they think proper, and to know if the inhabitants would assist this Province in the defence of the River, and in what manner.

3. *Resolved,* That a Guard be appointed to take proper care of the Artillery and other Military Stores deposited in the State-House and yard.

Monday, July 17, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present: *Benjamin Franklin, Anthony Wayne, Daniel Roberdeau, Robert White, Owen Biddle, Samuel Morris, Jun., Robert Morris, George Gray, John Cadwalader:*

1. *Resolved,* That *Captain Henry Daugherty* be appointed to the command of one of the Boats now building, and that *Captain John Rice* be appointed to the command of one other of the Boats now building.

*Colonel Daniel Roberdeau* reports to the Board, that there are proper guards appointed, agreeable to the third Resolve of the 15th instant.

The Committee appointed by the second Resolve of the 15th instant, report, that they went to the *Jerseys,* and conversed with many of the inhabitants, who seem willing to give every assistance in their power; that they will immediately furnish some Logs for building the Machines for the obstruction of the navigation; and that they propose to man one or two of the Boats for the defence of the River; and that some of the gentlemen will, in a few days, attend this Board.

*Captain Tench Francis* and *Captain-Lieut. Bache* made application to this Board for thirty or forty rifle-barrel Guns, for a number of men in their Company who have not Rifles, neither can they afford to purchase them.

2. *Resolved,* That *Mr. Robert Morris* be requested to apply to *Captain Tench Francis* and *Captain-Lieutenant Bache,* to assist him in providing eighty good Rifles, for the use of the Boats now building, a part of which are to be put into the hands of such men as *Captain Francis,* for this County, and *Colonel Wayne,* of *Chester County,* may engage to go as Minute-men on board the Boats, when required.

Tuesday, July 18, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present: *Benjamin Franklin, Francis Johnson, Daniel Roberdeau, Owen Biddle, Anthony Wayne, John Cadwalader, Robert Morris, Samuel Morris, Jun., George Gray:*

1. *Resolved,* That *Colonel Roberdeau* be requested to wait on the Physicians of the Hospital, and desire they would inform this Board what Medicines and necessities there may be occasion for for the six hundred men that are to be employed on board the Boats; and that they be desired further to inform this Board if it would be necessary to procure from abroad a supply of any Medicines that may possibly be wanted in the service on land for the Associators.

2. *Resolved,* That *Colonel Cadwalader* and *Owen Biddle* be desired to apply to the City Committee, and acquaint them that this Board is willing to take into their care such Gunpowder as said Committee may now have in their possession; and that this Committee will repay them for the purchase of the same.

3. *Resolved,* That *Thomas Savage* be employed to take care of the Cannon and Military Stores in the daytime, or until he is relieved by the guard to be placed for that purpose.

Wednesday, July 19, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present: *Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, Thomas Wharton, Jun., Richard Reily, Samuel Morris, Jun., Francis Johnson, John Cadwalader, Owen Biddle, Robert White, George Gray, Anthony Wayne:*

*Captain Robert White* reported, that he sent a person to the *Jerseys* to know what number of Logs the inhabitants would supply this Board with, who brought with him a list of the following gentlemen, who generously gave the number of Logs mentioned opposite their names, viz:

*Benjamin Whitwill,* 55 logs: *John Wood,* 20: *Nathan Kinsey,* 10: *Richard Johns,* 50, or more: *David Paul,* 20: *Joseph Low,* 30: *James Brown,* 10: *Joseph Ward,* 10: *Joshua Hopper,* 15: *Isaac Hopper,* 10: *Levi Hopper,* 15: *James Wood,* 10: *Joseph Tatem,* 1: *Charles West,* 40.—296 logs.

1. *Resolved,* That the Boat to be launched by *Mr. John Wharton,* be called the *Experiment.*

Friday, July 21, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present: *George Gray,* President for the day; *Robert White, Samuel Morris, Jun., Richard Reily, Thomas Wharton, Jun., Daniel Roberdeau, Owen Biddle:*

1. *Resolved,* That Messrs. *Thomas Wharton, Jun., and Samuel Morris, Jun.,* be appointed a Committee to inquire after a quantity of Saltpetre and damaged Gunpowder, said to be in the hands of the family of the late *Simon Boerum,* of *Long Island;* and should they have any quantity of either article, the said Committee are desired to procure it.

As it is necessary immediately to procure such workmen as may forward the completing the Fire-Arms that may be wanted:

2. *Resolved,* That *Thomas Wharton, Junior, Samuel Morris, Jun., and George Gray,* be a Committee for that purpose; and that they apply to *James Pearson, . . . . Tomlinson,* and . . . *Wiley,* and know if they can be engaged to advantage; and that they acquaint them that this Board will give them proper encouragement.

3. *Resolved,* That this Committee furnish the inhabitants of *Gloucester County* with two Teams, to assist them in bringing Logs down to the different landing places, for the use of this Committee; and that *Mr. Samuel Morris* be desired to procure and send them over immediately.



Saturday, July 22, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, Robert Morris, Robert White, John Cadwalader, Samuel Morris, Junior, George Ross, George Gray, Owen Biddle:*

*Resolved*, That a Messenger be sent to *Joel Ferree*, of Lancaster County, with a Letter from this Committee, requesting him immediately to complete the Guns wrote for as patterns; and to know how many he can furnish of the same kind, and at what price.

Monday, July 24, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Roberdeau, Thomas Wharton, Jun., Samuel Morris, Jun., Owen Biddle, John Cadwalader, Robert White, Robert Morris, George Gray:*

1. *Resolved*, That the Boat to be launched by *Emanuel Eyres*, at Kensington, be called the *Bull-Dog*.

Mr. *Robert Smith*, carpenter, appeared at this Board with a model of a Machine for obstructing the navigation of the River *Delaware*, and explained the construction of it; which was approved of. At the same time he made an offer of his service in attending and overlooking the workmen in building the same, gratis, for which this Board thanked him, and accepted the offer of his services.

2. *Resolved*, That Capt. *Charles Alexander* be appointed to the command of the boat called the *Bull-Dog*.

3. *Resolved*, That this Board meet at Kensington tomorrow morning, at eleven o'clock, to attend the launch of the Boat built by *Emanuel Eyres*; and that they go from thence in said boat to Gloucester, and there hold a Board.

Wednesday, July 26, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety, at Kensington. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Owen Biddle, Robert White, Daniel Roberdeau, Thomas Wharton, Jun., Samuel Morris, Jun., George Ross, William Thompson, Anthony Wayne, Francis Johnston, John Cadwalader, George Gray, Robert Morris.*

*Emanuel Eyres*, the builder of the Boat called the *Bull-Dog*, not being able to launch her yesterday, she was this day launched; and the Members of the Committee of Safety there present embarked on board said boat, and went to Gloucester, but found it inconvenient to hold a Board there.

Thursday, July 27, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Francis Johnston, Anthony Wayne, Owen Biddle, Robert White, Daniel Roberdeau, John Cadwalader, Thomas Wharton, Junior, Samuel Morris, Jr., Robert Morris, George Gray.*

Upon application of *James Pearson* and *Wiley*, the Committee consent to advance them the sum of two hundred Pounds, they giving good security for the repayment of said sum in good Gun-Barrels, of their own manufactory.

The Committee appointed by the first Resolve of the 21st of July, report, that there is no Gunpowder in the hands of the family of the late *Simon Boerum*, and but little Saltpetre, which they purpose manufacturing themselves.

Mr. *Nathaniel Irish* presented a Boat or Gondola for the inspection of this Committee.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Thomas Wharton* return him the thanks of this Board, much commending his ingenuity and attention to the publick safety.

Friday, July 28, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Owen Biddle, Andrew Allen, Robert Morris, Anthony Wayne, John Cadwalader, George Gray:*

Agreeable to the first Resolve of the 18th of July, Col. *Roberdeau* delivered to this Board two lists of Medicines received from the Physicians of the Hospital; upon which it is

1. *Resolved*, That Mr. *Robert Morris* wait on Mr. *Robert Bass* with said lists, and request that he would

point out what Medicines may be best imported from *Holland* and *Cadiz*, and what may be purchased with convenience in this City; and that Mr. *Robert Morris* undertake to import such Medicines as may be pointed out to be imported from *Holland* and *Cadiz*, in the most expeditious manner.

Doctor *Franklin* delivered to this Board a Letter from Captain *John MacPherson*, offering his services for the defence of this Country, for which Doctor *Franklin* is desired to return the thanks of this Board to Captain *MacPherson*.

2. *Resolved*, That the Resolves of the Continental Congress, of the 18th of July instant, be entered on the Minutes of this Board; which are the following:

"In Congress, July 18, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of all the United English Colonies in North America, that all able-bodied effective men, between sixteen and sixty years of age, in each Colony, immediately form themselves into regular companies of Militia, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Clerk, one Drummer, one Fifer, and about sixty-eight Privates.

"That the Officers of each Company be chosen by the respective Companies.

"That each Soldier be furnished with a good Musket that will carry an ounce ball, with a bayonet, steel ramrod, worm, priming-wire, and brush fitted thereto; a cutting-sword, or tomahawk; a cartridge-box that will contain twenty-three rounds of cartridges, and twelve flints; and a knapsack.

"That the Companies be formed into Regiments or Battalions, officered with a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, two Majors, an Adjutant or Quartermaster.

"That all Officers above the rank of a Captain be appointed by their respective Provincial Assemblies or Conventions, or, in their recess, by the Committees of Safety appointed by said Assemblies or Conventions.

"That all Officers be commissioned by the Provincial Assemblies or Conventions, or, in their recess, by the Committees of Safety appointed by said Assemblies or Conventions.

"That all the Militia take proper care to acquire military skill, and be well prepared for defence, by being each man provided with one pound of good Gunpowder, and four pounds of Ball fitted to his gun.

"That one-fourth part of the Militia in every Colony be selected for Minute-men, of such persons who are willing to enter into this necessary service, formed into Companies or Battalions, and their Officers chosen and commissioned as aforesaid, to be ready on the shortest notice to march to any place where their assistance may be required for the defence of their own or a neighbouring Colony. And as these Minute-men may eventually be called to action before the whole body of the Militia are sufficiently trained, it is recommended that a more particular and diligent attention be paid to their instruction in military discipline.

"That such of the Minute-men as desire it be relieved by new draughts as aforesaid, from the whole body of the Militia, once in four months.

"As there are some people who, from religious principles, cannot bear arms in any case, this Congress intend no violence to their consciences, but earnestly recommend it to them to contribute liberally, in this time of universal calamity, to the relief of their distressed brethren in the several Colonies, and to do all other services to their oppressed Country which they can, consistently with their religious principles.

"That it be recommended to the Assemblies or Conventions in the respective Colonies, to provide, as soon as possible, sufficient stores of Ammunition for their Colonies; also, that they devise proper means for furnishing with Arms such effective men as are poor and unable to furnish themselves.

"That it be recommended to each Colony to appoint a Committee of Safety to superintend and direct all matters necessary for the security and defence of their respective Colonies, in the recess of their Assemblies or Conventions.



"That each Colony, at their own expense, make such provision, by armed vessels or otherwise, as their respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Committees of Safety shall judge expedient and suitable to their circumstances and situations, for the protection of their harbours and navigation on their sea-coasts against all unlawful invasions, attacks, and depredations from cutters and ships-of-war.

"That it be recommended to the makers of Arms for the use of the Militia, that they make good substantial Muskets, with barrels three feet and a half in length, that will carry an ounce ball, and fitted with a bayonet and steel ramrod; and that the making such Arms be encouraged in these United Colonies.

"Where in any Colony a Militia is already formed, under regulations approved of by the Convention of such Colony, or by such Assemblies as are annually elective, we refer to the discretion of such Assembly or Convention either to adopt the foregoing Regulations, in the whole or in part, or to continue their former, as they, on consideration of all circumstances, shall think best.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*"

*Resolved*, That the following Advertisement be published in the different Newspapers in this City:

Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, July 28, 1775.

Whereas, the Continental Congress have, by their Resolves of the 10th instant, recommended that all Officers above the rank of a Captain be appointed by their respective Provincial Assemblies or Conventions, or, in their recess, by the Committees of Safety appointed by said Assemblies or Conventions:

The Committee of Safety appointed by the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, do therefore request the Committees of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, and of the several Counties of this Province, to make a return to the Committee of Safety at *Philadelphia*, of all the Officers of the Military Association, in order that Commissions may be made out for them, agreeable to the above Resolves of the Continental Congress. And the several Committees are further requested to make a return to the Committee of Safety of the number of the Associators, and also of the Non-Associators within their respective Districts.

By order of the Committee:

B. FRANKLIN, *President.*

Saturday, July 29, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Morris, Junior, Andrew Allen, Thomas Wharton, Jun., Daniel Roberdeau, John Cadwalader, Robert White, Owen Biddle:*

The gentlemen of this Committee who went to view the River with some of the Committee of *Gloucester County*, report, that the Committee of said County were

entirely satisfied with the propriety of fixing the frames opposite the upper end of *Hog Island*, in preference to *Billingsport*.

Monday, July 31, 1775.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety. Present:

*Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Morris, Junior, Thomas Wharton, Junior, Robert Morris, Andrew Allen, Robert White, Owen Biddle.*

Mr. *William Bigland* waited on the Board with a draught of a Rowing-Wheel, which he proposed to have fixed to the Provincial Row-Boats.

Colonel *Roberdeau* is desired to return him the thanks of this Board for his communication.

Messrs. *Robert Morris, Robert White*, and *Thomas Wharton, Junior*, are desired to borrow of the Wardens of the Port such a sum of Money as the Wardens can lend them, for the use of this Committee; and the Board will give them sufficient security for the repayment of it.

The form of a Commission for the Officers of the Military Association, was produced and approved, being as follows:

In Committee of Safety.

To . . . . .

The honourable Continental Congress having recommended, in their Resolves of the 18th of *July*, 1775, that, in the recess of the Provincial Conventions or Assemblies, the Officers of the Military Associations for the defence of *American* liberty should receive their commissions from the respective Committees of Safety appointed by the said Assemblies or Conventions: In pursuance thereof, we, reposing especial trust and confidence in your patriotism, valour, conduct, and fidelity, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you to be . . . . . of the . . . . . Battalion, in the County of . . . . ., associated for the defence of the liberties of *America*, and for repelling any hostile invasion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of . . . . ., by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do earnestly recommend to all officers and soldiers under your command, to be obedient to your orders as . . . . . And you are to observe and follow such orders and directions as you shall receive from the Assembly or Provincial Conventions during their sessions, or from this or a future Committee of Safety for this Province, or any other your superiour Officers, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in force until revoked by the Assembly or Provincial Convention, or by this or any succeeding Committee of Safety.

By order of the Committee.

Mr. *Hulings* sent a model of a Boat; which was approved of; and Captain *White* is desired to return the thanks of this Board to Mr. *Hulings* for the same.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety at the City-Hall of the City of *New-York*, on *Tuesday*, the eleventh day of *July*, 1775, at nine o'clock, A. M., Present:

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Lispenard*, *Abraham Brasher*.

For ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*, *Christopher Tappen*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY, *Jonathan Landon*, *Ephraim Payne*.

For ORANGE COUNTY, *David Pye*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

For KING'S COUNTY, *Henry Williams*.

For RICHMOND COUNTY, *Richard Lawrence*.

For QUEEN'S COUNTY, Colonel *McDougall*.

For TRYON COUNTY, *Peter V. B. Livingston*, *John Marlett*.

The Committee unanimously elected *Henry Williams*, Esquire, Chairman.

A Letter from General *Wooster* was read, and is in the words following, viz:

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

"Camp near New-York, July 11, 1775.

"SIR: *Peter Herring*, the man who last night assisted in conveying on board the *Asia*, man-of-war, one of the prisoners sent here by the Continental Congress, is now under guard at our camp. I would beg the immediate advice of the Committee of Safety concerning what is best to be done with him. His brother is willing and desirous that he should be sent away somewhere, that he may be out of the way of the enraged people. Some have proposed that he be sent on board of the *Asia*; others think it best to have him sent to *Connecticut* with Governour *Skene*, who will go off as soon as this matter can be determined. I hope, therefore, to be assisted with your advice as speedily as possible, and am, Sir, your humble servant,

"DAVID WOOSTER.

"*Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esquire."

Thereupon, an Order to General *Wooster* was made in the words following, to wit:

SIR: Immediately on the receipt of this you are required to send the body of *Peter Herring*, under safe and secure guard, before the Committee of Safety, at the City-Hall of the City of *New-York*, for which this shall be a sufficient warrant. By order of the Committee of Safety.



An Answer to General *Wooster's* Letter was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit :

In Committee of Safety, New-York, July 11, 1775.

SIR : We this instant received your favour, and took the same into consideration. We think it highly necessary that Mr. *Herring* should be brought before us, in order to be examined touching his accomplices, for which purpose we have enclosed an Order of this Board. We are, Sir, your humble servants.

To General *David Wooster*, at the Camp.

P. S. If there are any witnesses, please to send them also.

Ordered, That a copy of said Letter and Order be signed by the Chairman, and sent immediately.

A Letter from *Guysbert Schenck* and *Dirck Brinkerhoff*, Esquires, of *Dutchess* County, two of the members of the Provincial Congress, bearing date the 5th instant, and also a recommendation from many others of the respectable freeholders of *Dutchess* County, of which *Cornelius Adriance* is one, recommending *Andrew Teller Lawrence* for Second Lieutenant, in the stead of the said *Cornelius Adriance*, who declines the service, were read, and filed.

Agreed, That the said *Andrew Teller Lawrence* is approved of as Second Lieutenant in the Company of Troops to be under the command of Captain *Lewis Dubois*, and that a Warrant for that purpose shall be made as soon as the Warrant granted to the said *Cornelius Adriance*, on the 28th of *June* last, is returned to this Committee, or the Provincial Congress.

A Letter from *William Duer*, Esquire, to the Provincial Congress, dated *Fort Miller*, *June* 5, 1775, was read.

An Answer to the Letter of *William Duer*, Esq., was read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit :

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 11, 1775. }

SIR : We are favoured with your letter of the 5th *June*, and are to inform you, that our Provincial Congress, after having appointed a Committee of Safety, adjourned for a fortnight from this day. When it convenes we doubt not they will take into their most mature consideration the matters contained in your letter, which we shall lay before them. In the mean time we beg leave to assure you, that we highly esteem and approve of your care and vigilance in keeping open and protecting the last Court in your County. We conceive it to be of the utmost importance that good order be supported, as internal divisions must prove injurious to the common cause. We are, with much respect, Sir, your most humble servants.

To *William Duer*, Esq., one of the Judges of *Charlotte*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

A Letter from *William Marsh*, and *Samuel Rose*, Esqs., the Committee of *Manchester*, in *Charlotte* County, to the Provincial Congress, dated *Manchester*, *June* 28, 1775, was read.

An Answer to the Letter of *William Marsh* and *Samuel Rose* was read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit :

Committee of Safety, New-York, July 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN : The Congress having adjourned for a fortnight, and appointed us during their recess a Committee of Safety, we have to acknowledge your letter of the 28th *June*, which advises us of the measures that had been pursued in order to prevent the holding the courts of justice in your County. We are happy to find they have proved ineffectual, and can assure you, that it is the intention of the Congress to assist the Civil Magistrate in the exercise of his office and the support of Government, as far as may be practicable in our present critical situation. We have no doubt but that the Congress will, immediately upon their meeting, enter into a resolution for effecting these salutary purposes. We are, Gentlemen, &c.

To Messrs. *William Marsh* and *Samuel Rose*.

A Letter from *Abraham Lott*, Esquire, Agent for His Majesty's Ships in this Port, was read, and is in the words following, to wit :

"GENTLEMEN : Having received a demand from *John Collins*, Esquire, Commander of His Majesty's Ship *Nautilus*, now at *Sandy-Hook*, for 4000 pounds bread, 300 pounds beef, 500 pounds pork, 12 bushels pease, 200 pounds butter, 200 pounds cheese, and 200 gallons rum, you will be pleased to signify your opinion, whether or not I shall supply the Provisions, &c., pursuant to the demand. I am authorized to assure the honourable Committee that the *Nautilus* is not going to *Boston*, but to the southward.

"I am, Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

"ABRAHAM LOTT.

"To the Honourable the Committee of the *New-York* Provincial Congress."

Ordered, That *Abraham Lott*, Esquire, be at liberty to supply the quantities of Provisions and Rum above-mentioned to the Ship *Nautilus*, for the use of the said Ship's company.

Colonel *McDougall*, on behalf of *New-York*, and as Commissioner for *Queen's* County, dissents; Mr. *Brasher*, on behalf of *New-York*, and as Commissioner for *Suffolk* County, dissents.

A Letter from *William Hooper* and *Joseph Hewes*, Esquires, was read, and is in the words following, to wit :

"Philadelphia, *June* 8, 1775.

"SIR : The Committee of the City, a few days ago, transmitted to you an original letter from Governor *Martin* to *Henry White*, Esquire, from the contents of which it is very obvious that Governor *Martin* has formed designs highly inimical to the friends of *America*. From authentick information we learn, that he is to receive a supply of powder from General *Gage* via *New-York*, and that he has sent from *North-Carolina* a cutter well armed to receive it. She is a small boat, rigged like a schooner, mounts a few swivels, and is commanded by a Mr. *Bridges*, the Lieutenant of the *Tamar*, man-of-war; the vessel, we believe, was formerly purchased in *New-York*, by a Captain *Vollet*. We beg your particular care, in case she should arrive in your Port, to take the steps you may think prudent to secure her and her cargo. She is probably to receive the gunpowder from the *Asia*, or some other man-of-war lying in your harbour.

"We are, Sir, with great respect, your most obedient humble servants,

"WILLIAM HOOPER,  
"JOSEPH HEWES."

An Answer to the Letter of *William Hooper* and *Joseph Hewes*, Esquires, was read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit :

Committee of Safety, New-York, July 11, 1775.

GENTLEMEN : We have received your favour of the 8th of the last month, which came to our hands last night. Our Congress have adjourned for a fortnight from this day, and appointed us a Committee of Safety to act during the recess. We beg leave to assure you, that we will do every thing in our power relative to the schooner which you have described. We are, with much respect, Gentlemen, your obedient humble servants.

To *William Hooper* and *Joseph Hewes*, Esquires, *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That a copy be signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress to the Provincial Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, *July* 6, 1775, was read.

A draught of an Answer to the Letter of the *New-York* Delegates at the Continental Congress was read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit :

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 11, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN : The Congress having adjourned for a fortnight, and appointed us during their recess a Committee of Safety, we have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant. It gives us much pleasure to find that our plan of accommodation has been favoured with your approbation.

We are sorry to inform you, that a supply of the article which, according to your advice of the 31st *June*, was to have been sent to the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, has not yet been received, and that the want of it prevents our answering some very pressing demands from the place for which it was ordered to be forwarded.



We meet with many difficulties in carrying into execution the Resolutions of your honourable body, from the want of money, an inconveniency we hope now soon to be relieved from. We are, Gentlemen, yours, &c.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

A Letter from Governour *Trumbull* was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Hartford, July 7, 1775.

"SIR: I received your letter of the 27th of *June* last, respecting a quantity of a necessary article which was forwarded by you. I immediately took care to make the necessary provision for its being sent on the way to the place of its destination, where no doubt it has safe arrived before this.

"Mr. *James Dean*, the bearer of this, is a young gentleman who has lately returned from a mission among the Tribes of *Indians* in *Canada*. He appears to have made some careful observations of the state of that Country, and is able to give some important intelligence. I take the liberty to recommend him to your notice, that he may communicate his information for your use.

"I am, with great truth and regard, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,  
JONAS. TRUMBULL.

"Hon. P. V. B. *Livingston*."

An account of the men who went from *Manchester* to *Ticonderoga*, and of the money expended by Lieutenant *Joseph Lockwood*, was read, and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"A list of the Men who went from MANCHESTER to TICONDEROGA, under the command of Mr. JOSEPH LOCKWOOD:

"*Nathan Smith Sergeant, Christopher Roberts, Josiah Brotton, John Roberts, Garmand Bulley, Lemuel Bishop, Potter Roberts, Thomas Hyneman, Abel Sawyer, Haynes Jerry Beamer, Benjamin Bears, Dan Allen, William Dye, Solomon Soaper*—for fifteen days' service each man. For Cash paid out for expenses the sum of £4 10s. 10d. Commanded by me,

"JOSEPH LOCKWOOD, Lieutenant.

"Manchester, June 10, 1775."

A Letter from Colonel *Hinman* to the Provincial Congress, dated *Ticonderoga*, July 3, 1775, was read.

A Letter from *Elisha Phelps*, Commissary at *Albany* for the *Connecticut* Troops, to the Provincial Congress, dated *Albany*, July 7, 1775, was read.

A Letter from *John N. Bleecker* at *Albany*, dated July 4, 1775, was received, and read.

The account of Provisions and Stores, and also the appointment of *Elisha Phelps*, mentioned in Mr. *Bleecker's* Letter, were also read, and filed.

A Letter from *Burnet Miller*, Chairman of the Committee of *Southampton*, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Southampton, July 5, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: The Committee of *East* and *Southampton*, taking into their serious consideration the remote situation from Head-Quarters at *New-York*, and much exposed to the ravages of our unnatural enemy at this day, with regard to our stock in our common field, at the Point of *Montauk*, it being remote from the inhabitants, where any number may land, and at pleasure take away our stock, which is large, (not less than two thousand neat cattle, and three or four thousand sheep,) which, if taken away, would greatly distress us, and give them support, which we could by no means do:

"Now, considering our situation, we request your honourable House to petition General *Schuyler* that a number of Troops be stationed at *Montauk*, and that the company now raising here may be a part, until a matter of more importance shall call them away. We are of the opinion, that our inhabitants would do what in them lies to give assistance, in case any attempt should be made to take off the stock; but the distance of the inhabitants is eighteen or twenty miles; and as *Gardner's Island* lies adjacent and is much exposed, also *Shelter Island, Plumb Island, and Oyster Pond Point*, we think a number of whale-boats would be proper to employ, that assistance may be given from one part to the other. We have a number of boats

that are of no use in this season, that might be got for the design, if the General should think proper to order Troops to this part of the island, which we humbly petition may be done, &c. I am, Gentlemen, &c.

"By order of the Committee:

"BURNET MILLER, Chairman.

"To the Provincial Congress now sitting at *New-York*."

A Letter from *Joseph Johnson*, an *Indian* Preacher to the *Mohegan* Tribe, bearing date the fifth day of *July*, instant, was read, and filed.

A Petition of *Samuel Faulkenham* and *David Woolhaupter*, praying to be employed in making Drums and Fifes, was read, and filed.

*Peter Herring* being brought before the Committee, General *Wooster* charged and accused him of being aiding and assisting to one *Lundin* yesterday evening, in making his escape from the confinement he was under by order of the Continental Congress; several witnesses were examined as to the charge, in the presence of the said *Peter Herring*.

Resolved, That it fully appears to this Committee, by the testimony of sundry witnesses, as also by the examination and confession of *Peter Herring*, of the City of *New-York*, that he, the said *Peter Herring*, was aiding and assisting to one *Lundin* yesterday evening, in making his escape from the confinement he was in by order of the Continental Congress; and the said *Peter Herring* assisted him to get on board the *Asia*, man-of-war, and was the means of getting him on board of the said Ship:

Resolved and Ordered, therefore, That the said *Peter Herring* be sent, under such guard as General *Wooster* shall appoint, to *Connecticut*, to be there confined in close jail at the Continental charge, until he shall be thence discharged by the Continental Congress.

A Letter from *Henry B. Livingston*, Esq., informing that he accepts of the warrant sent him for the commission of a Captain, and has begun to enlist his men, was read and filed.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety, on *Wednesday*, the twelfth day of *July*, 1775. Present:

FOR KING'S COUNTY, *Henry Williams*, Esquire, Chairman and Representative.

FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Colonel *McDougall*, and Colonel *Lispenard*.

FOR DUTCHESS COUNTY, *Jonathan Landon*.

FOR ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond* and *Christopher Tappen*.

FOR ORANGE COUNTY, *David Pye*.

FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

FOR RICHMOND COUNTY, *Richard Lawrence*.

FOR QUEEN'S COUNTY, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR TRYON COUNTY, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*.

A Letter from Capt. *Andrew Billings*, at *Poughkeepsie*, setting forth his having enlisted seventy-two men, and that he waits for directions how to proceed:

Ordered, That a Letter be wrote and forwarded to Captain *Billings*, directing him to inform Colonel *Clinton* of the progress he has made, and to put himself and his Company under his command, and follow his directions.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* have such Arms as are or may be provided for his Regiment, reduced to the length of the King's Muskets, and that he have Steel Ramrods made for such of them as have not already Steel Ramrods; and

Ordered, That every Gunsmith in the City of *New-York*, on application to him made for that purpose, do immediately make such alterations, repairs, and Ramrods for the said Muskets as shall be directed by Colonel *McDougall* or his order, in preference to any other work or business whatsoever.

Ordered, That Mr. *Brasher* wait on his Worship the Mayor of the City of *New-York*, and request him to get a just estimate made of the value of the Muskets and Bayonets, the arms of the Corporation of the City of *New-York*, and to have the same delivered to this Committee, or the Provincial Congress, in order that so many of them as may be appropriated for the use of the Continental



Army may hereafter be restored, or the value of them accounted for to the Corporation.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* be requested to purchase *Russia* Drilling sufficient to make one thousand five hundred Waistcoats, and as many pair of Breeches, and have them made up; and that he also purchase as much low-priced Linen as will make three thousand Shirts, and get that number of Shirts made. That he purchase one thousand five hundred Hats, one thousand five hundred pair of Shoes, and three thousand pair of coarse woollen humespun knit Hose. That he also purchase a cheap and proper Linen, or other material, sufficient to make three thousand Cravats.

*Ordered*, That *Egbert Dumond*, Esq., wait on *Abraham Lott*, Esq., Treasurer of this Colony, and obtain from him an order on the Loan Officers of the County of *Ulster*, for a sum of money now in their hands, to be applied for the publick exigences of the Colony, and that Mr. *Dumond*, for the present, give his note or obligation to the Treasurer for such order, or the amount of the sum to be therein mentioned, until the same shall be repaid, or farther security given for the same; and

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Dumond*, when he has received such money from the Loan Officers, pay for the Flour which he formerly purchased and sent to *Albany*, and the expenses attending the same, and that he expend the residue of the said money in Flour, and forward the same to *Albany*; and that Mr. *Dumond* return an account to the Provincial Congress of the sum he shall have so received, and of his expenditures thereof, that the same may be repaid when the Continental money shall come to hand.

The Committee adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

5to ho. P. M., Wednesday, July 12, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, *P. V. B.*

*Livingston*, Col. *McDougall*, *Abraham Brasher*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY, *Jonathan Landon*.

For ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*.

For ORANGE COUNTY, *David Pye*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

For RICHMOND COUNTY, *Richard Lawrence*.

For QUEEN'S COUNTY, Colonel *McDougall*.

For TRYON COUNTY, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*.

Mr. *Henry Williams* being absent, *David Pye*, Esquire, was unanimously elected Chairman *pro tempore*.

An answer to the Letter of Colonel *Hinman* of the third instant, was read and approved, and is as follows:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 12, 1775.

SIR: We acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the third of *July* instant. In answer thereto, we beg leave to inform you that General *Schuyler* has proceeded to the northward. We shall forward a copy of your letter to him without delay, and we have the highest confidence, that on your application to him he will make every arrangement in stationing the Troops at the different posts you mention, that will be for the general defence of the United Colonies.

The Troops of this Colony to be forwarded will be furnished with tents. We shall pay a particular attention to what you mention, as to the letters in custody of any gentleman who may hereafter obtain a pass from this Congress.

By order: DAVID PYE, Chairman *pro tempore*.  
Colonel *Hinman*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman *pro tempore*, and sent by Mr. *Mott*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Curtenius* purchase and send to *Albany*, to the care of *Elisha Phelps*, Commissary at *Albany* for the *Connecticut* Troops, the following necessities as Hospital Stores, to wit: three quarter casks of *Madeira* Wine, three quarter casks of *Claret*, three casks of *Raisins*, to be cased in tight casks, twelve kegs of *Oat-Meal*, and six kegs of *Pearl Barley*.

An answer to the Letter of *Elisha Phelps*, of the seventh instant, was read and approved, and is as follows:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 12 1775.

SIR: We have before us your favour of the seventh instant, and are to inform you that a quantity of flour

has been ordered up to *Albany* in different parcels, which we doubt not will come to your hands in due time. We will give the proper orders about the hospital stores, which you inform us are not to be obtained in *Albany*, and have them forwarded.

We are, Sir, your humble servants. By order.

Mr. *Elisha Phelps*, Commissary at *Albany*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be signed by the Chairman *pro tempore*, and sent by Mr. *Mott*.

A draught of a Letter to the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 12, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We beg leave, for your information, to enclose you a copy of the instructions and warrant which we have given to the officers employed in raising our troops. We have formed an arrangement of the three thousand men (exclusive of the *Green Mountain Boys*) which the Continental Congress have ordered us to raise into four battalions, of seven hundred and fifty men each, including their officers, and would be glad to be informed what their pay is to be. We are at a loss about this matter, because the accounts we have of the pay of the Colonies of *Massachusetts*, *Connecticut*, and *Rhode-Island*, differ, so as to reduce us to an uncertainty, which we could wish to have removed. We think, with submission, it would have a tendency to promote the service if our levies could be informed of the quantum of their pay. We have reason to believe that the four battalions will be completed soon, but are sorry to inform you that we have no powder for them when raised. We are yours, &c.

To the *New-York* Delegates at the Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy be signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by the first opportunity.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Curtenius* be requested, from time to time, to purchase such quantities of Straw for the use of the Troops of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, as Col. *McDougall* may think necessary.

A draught of an answer to the Letter of *Burnet Miller*, Chairman of the Committee of *East* and *Southampton*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 12, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We are favoured with your letter dated *Southampton* the fifth instant, signed by Mr. *Miller*, Chairman of the Committee of *East* and *Southampton*, and are to inform you that we will forward a copy of the same to Major-General *Schuyler*, to whose consideration we must refer your request.

We are, with much respect, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants. By order.

To the Committee of *East* and *Southampton*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be signed by the Chairman and transmitted.

The Committee adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning, *Thursday*.

Thursday, 9 ho. A. M., July 13, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:  
For KING'S COUNTY, *Henry Williams*, Esq., Chairman and Commissioner.

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Colonel *McDougall*, *Abraham Brasher*, and *Isaac Low*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Jacobus Van Zandt*, *James Beekman*, *Samuel Verplanck*, and *John Van Cortlandt*.

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF ALBANY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY, *Jonathan Landon*.

For ORANGE COUNTY, *David Pye*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

For WESTCHESTER COUNTY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For RICHMOND COUNTY, *Richard Lawrence*.

For QUEEN'S COUNTY, Colonel *McDougall*.

For TRYON COUNTY, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*.



A Letter from *Stephen Ward* and *Joseph Drake*, informing that *Nehemiah Marshall*, nominated a Second Lieutenant in *Westchester County*, had declined the service, and recommending *Samuel Tredwell Pell* in his stead, was read and filed, with the Warrant formerly issued.

Ordered, That a Warrant be made out for the said *Samuel Tredwell Pell*, in the place and stead of the said *Nehemiah Marshall*.

Colonel *McDougall* applied to the Committee for an order to Mr. *Curtenius* to furnish the following articles for the Armourers of the First Regiment, viz: one hundred and fifty Steel Rods; one hundred and fifty Bell Pipes; twelve pound of Sheet Brass; one pound of Borax; four dozen of different sorts of Files; six Rasps; four pound of Emory; six pound of Glue; twenty-five pound of Steel; two pound of Binding Wire; twenty-five pound of Iron; two pound of Spelter Solder; one Glue Pot; one Grindstone and one Oil-stone; two small Hand-Vices; six pound of coarse Wire; one small Screwplate and Taps.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* purchase the before-mentioned articles, and furnish or deliver them to Colonel *McDougall* or his order.

A Letter from *Hezekiah Howell*, Chairman of the Committee of *Cornwall Precinct*, giving information that *Stephen Howell*, of that Precinct, who was appointed a Second Lieutenant, had declined the service, was read; and a Letter from the said *Stephen Howell*, declaring his resignation of his Warrant, was also read and filed. And the said Committee of *Cornwall Precinct*, by their Letter, having warmly recommended *Jonas Bellows* to be a Second Lieutenant in the place of the said *Stephen Howell*,

Resolved and Agreed, That a Warrant be signed by the President of this Congress and delivered to the said *Jonas Bellows*, for his use, as soon as the Warrant to *Stephen Howell* is returned.

A Letter from *Walter Spooner*, Chairman of a Committee at *Springfield, Massachusetts-Bay*, dated *Springfield, July 3, 1775*, was read.

A draft of a Letter to Major-General *Schuyler*, to cover a copy of Colonel *Hinman's* Letter, was read and approved; and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 13, 1775. }

SIR: We beg leave to enclose you a copy of a letter from Colonel *Hinman*, which was received yesterday. We have, in substance, by our answer, informed him that we would forward a copy of his letter to you, and that we have the highest confidence that, on his application, you will make every arrangement in stationing the Troops at the different posts mentioned in his letter, that would be for the general defence of the United Colonies.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants. By order, &c.  
To Major General *Schuyler*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the Chairman, and, together with a copy of Colonel *Hinman's* Letter, be transmitted by the first conveyance.

Alderman *Matthews* and Alderman *Brewerton* applied to the Committee, and delivered a Letter from Captain *Vandeput*, of His Majesty's Ship *Asia*, to Governour *Tryon*, complaining that one of his Boats is brought on shore, and the crew detained prisoners; and the Committee being informed that the boat's crew are prisoners in Gen. *Wooster's* camp, and also that His Majesty's Store near *Hudson's River* was broken open during last night, and divers effects carried away from thence by violence,

Ordered, That *Samuel Verplanck*, *Isaac Low*, and *Gouverneur Morris*, Esquires, be a Sub-Committee from this Committee to wait on Gen. *Wooster*, in order to make inquiry, and to receive information on those subjects; and also to give such directions therein as they shall think proper, that right may be done without delay.

Thereupon a draught of a Letter to General *Wooster* was read, and approved, and is as follows:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 13, 1775. }

SIR: Complaint has been made to our Board that a boat belonging to His Majesty's Ship *Asia*, has been drawn on shore, and the boat's crew detained as prisoners at your camp; and also that His Majesty's store-house near *Hud-*

*son's River* was, during last night, broke open and divers effects carried away from thence by violence; it is alleged that some of the troops under your command have been concerned in both those acts. We have therefore appointed *Samuel Verplanck*, *Isaac Low*, and *Gouverneur Morris*, Esqrs., a Committee from our Board, to wait on you, in order to make inquiry, and receive information on those subjects, and also to give such directions therein as they shall think proper, that right may be done without delay.

We are, Sir, your humble servants. By order of the Committee.

To Major General *Wooster*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the Chairman, and delivered to the Sub-Committee.

Doctor *Samuel Bard*, at his request, was admitted, and informed the Committee that he had received some disagreeable language from some of his fellow-citizens for receiving and attending the sick Mariners from His Majesty's Ships, and requested to know whether it is the sense of this Committee that his acting as Physician for the sick Mariners is inconsistent with the conduct and duty of a good citizen under the present circumstances of this Colony. Doctor *Bard* further declared, that he had been particularly careful not to receive any patients from the Ships with any infectious disorders. But that if it is the sense of this Committee that he ought not to attend such sick Mariners, he is ready to resign his office.

Resolved, That Dr. *Bard's* conduct is fully consistent with the conduct and duty of a good citizen; and he is requested not to suffer any patient to be brought into his Hospital with any infectious disorders, particularly the small-pox.

Mr. *Low*, from the Committee who waited on General *Wooster*, reported, that General *Wooster* informed them that the matter of complaint relating to the boat and boat's crew belonging to the Ship *Asia*, had arose through some mistake of the master of the *Connecticut* armed Schooner. That he had ordered the Boat to be restored, and sent a party to put her in the water, and that the boat's crew he had discharged as soon as he heard of their being detained. That as to the effects brought to his camp last night, he had ordered them to be taken care of, and that they are preserved under a guard; that they were brought there by some persons without his knowledge or directions; that one *Brasher* informed him that Col. *Ritzema* had desired him to receive and protect those effects; and therefore he had set a guard over them, and they were ready to be delivered to the owner, or to the order of this Committee.

The Recorder and Aldermen *Brewerton* and *Matthews*, were called in, and they informed the Committee that the Boat belonging to the *Asia*, man-of-war, is burnt.

Whereupon the Committee made the following Order:

Whereas, information hath been given to this Committee by some of the Civil Magistrates of the City of *New-York*, that an attack was made without provocation upon a Boat belonging to His Majesty's Ship *Asia*, and the Boat wantonly destroyed; and also that the house and store of Mr. *Francis Stephens* have been violently broken open and robbed of private property, and military stores taken from thence; and whereas, the said Magistrates have requested the advice of this Committee in the premises,

Ordered, That it be recommended to the Civil Magistrates to examine strictly into the several matters and things above mentioned, and to punish all persons who are guilty of perpetrating the same, as the law directs; and that it be and hereby is recommended to all the citizens and others to aid and assist the Magistrates in the execution of their offices.

Ordered, That the foregoing Order be published in handbills, and distributed.

The Committee adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., July 14, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

For KING's COUNTY, *Henry Williams*, Esq., Chairman and Commissioner.

For NEW-YORK CITY AND COUNTY, *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esquire, Col. *Lispenard*, Col. *McDougall*, *Jacobus Van Zandt*, *Abraham Brasher*.

For ALBANY CITY AND COUNTY, *Gouverneur Morris*.



FOR DUTCHESS COUNTY, *Jonathan Landon*.  
 FOR ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*.  
 FOR ORANGE COUNTY, *David Pye*.  
 FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.  
 FOR WESTCHESTER COUNTY, *Gouverneur Morris*.  
 FOR RICHMOND COUNTY, *Richard Lawrence*.  
 FOR QUEEN'S COUNTY, *Colonel McDougall*.  
 FOR TRYON COUNTY, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*.

*Stephen Seaman* and *Obadiah Seaman* attending at the door, were called in, and gave the Committee such information as affords great reason to suspect that *George Youngs* and his son, and Captain *Brush*, and one *Conklin*, all of *Huntington*, are concerned in shipping Provisions to supply General *Gage's* Fleet and Army; and notes of their examination were taken and filed.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq., was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
 July 14, 1775. }

SIR: We have received such information as gives us great reason to suspect that one *George Youngs* and his son, and one Captain *Brush*, and one *Conklin*, all of or near *Huntington*, are concerned in shipping provisions in such manner as that they must inevitably serve to supply General *Gage's* Fleet and Army at *Boston*. We enclose you notes taken from two witnesses on that subject. We need not suggest to you that it is incumbent on those people to show where they have unloaded their former cargoes, and where they are now going, and that they have complied with the Association without fraud. We have the highest confidence that your Committee will exert themselves on this occasion.

We are, respectfully, Sir, your humble servants.

By order.

To *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq.,

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the Chairman, and, together with a copy of the examination of *Obadiah* and *Stephen Seaman*, be transmitted by the first conveyance.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* be desired to purchase three hundred barrels of Pork, and forward the same to *Albany*; and that he forward a complete set of Tents to Colonel *Rooseboom*, at *Albany*, sufficient for one Regiment, and inform this Committee when those Tents are ready and forwarded.

A Memorial of *John Sparding*, bearing date at *Ticonderoga Landing* on the first of *June*, was read and filed.

The Memorialist sets forth the great trouble and pains he had taken to forward the service there with Boats and Teams, and his ability to perform the same. Also sets forth, that seventeen Pounds are due him for his services; that the Agents now refuse to employ his Teams; that he is likely to be a great sufferer; and prays the same may be taken into consideration.

A Letter to the said *John Sparding* was thereupon read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
 July 14, 1775. }

SIR: This morning Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* presented your Memorial, which was immediately read and taken into consideration. General *Schuyler*, who has the command of the Northern Posts is now there; to him we must refer you, and doubt not but that he will redress your grievances, and such accounts as he shall recommend for payment, we presume will be honoured by the Provincial Congress.

We are, Sir, your friends and humble servants. By order.  
 To Mr. *John Sparding* at *Ticonderoga Landing*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall*, Captain *Anthony Rutgers*, and Mr. *Samuel Tudor*, be authorized to purchase old Copper, Brass, and other materials for casting a Brass Field-Piece, at such prices as they can obtain the said materials.

A Letter from *John Grennell* of *Huntington*, was read, and filed.

Mr. *Grennell* by his Letter informs that *William Phil-*

*lipse* and *Philip Conklin*, who were nominated his Subalterns, from their particular circumstances decline that service. He recommends Mr. *Samuel Smith* of *Smithtown*, for First Lieutenant, and *Alexander Ketchum* of *Huntington*, for Second Lieutenant. He also further informs that several stand ready to enlist, and have arms, ammunition, and blankets.

Agreed and Ordered, That Warrants be issued for *Samuel Smith* and *Alexander Ketchum*, as Subalterns under *John Grennell*.

Mr. *Abraham Van Wyck* having declined serving in the Troops as a Captain, and two days ago returned his Warrant, and Mr. *David Lyon* of *Elizabethtown*, in *New-Jersey*, having offered his services with a complete company of men by him enlisted,

Ordered, That the said *David Lyon* be taken into service as a Captain in the First Regiment in the stead of the said *Abraham Van Wyck*, and that a Warrant be issued to him accordingly.

A draught of a Letter to Mr. *John Grennell*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
 July 14, 1775. }

SIR: Your favour of the 11th instant is now before us. We have attentively perused it, and from the great confidence we place in you, Sir, and a firm reliance that you have recommended gentlemen fit for the trust reposed in them, we have enclosed warrants for them. We recommend to you, Sir, to make all possible despatch in enlisting your men, and to pay a particular attention to their health, strength and abilities. By a resolve of our Congress the men you enlist will be allowed for the use of their arms, if they are approved of by the Mustermaster, Armourer, and Field-Officers of the Regiment, as good and fit for service. As to the blankets and other matters you mention, we are not at present in a condition to advise.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To Captain *John Grennell*, at *Huntington*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted, with the Warrants therein mentioned enclosed.

The Committee adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

—  
 Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., July 15, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:  
 For KING'S COUNTY, *Henry Williams*, Esq., Chairman and Commissioner.

For NEW-YORK, *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Col. *Lispenard*, Colonel *McDougall*, and *Abraham Brasher*.

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF ALBANY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY, *Jonathan Landon*.

For ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*.

For ORANGE COUNTY, *David Pye*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

For WESTCHESTER COUNTY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For RICHMOND COUNTY, *Richard Lawrence*.

For QUEEN'S COUNTY, Colonel *McDougall*.

For TRYON COUNTY, *Peter V. B. Livingston*.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 11th of *July* instant, was read, and filed.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 12th day of *July* instant, was read, and filed.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, pay into the hands of Colonel *McDougall* the sum of three hundred Pounds out of the moneys he shall receive from the General Committee of Association for the City and County of *New-York*.

A draught of a Letter to the *New-York* Delegates at *Philadelphia*, to accompany copies of two Letters received this day from General *Schuyler*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
 July 15, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: We enclose you the copies of two letters from General *Schuyler*. In addition we must observe to



you, our enlisted men grow uneasy for want of money, which prevents the enlistment of others. We have no arms, we have no powder, we have no blankets. For God's sake send us money, send us arms, send us ammunition. *Burgoyne*, we learn, has gone to *Quebeck*. If *Ticonderoga* is taken from us, fear, which made the savages our friends, will render them our enemies. Ravages on our own frontiers will foster dissensions among us ruinous to the cause. Be prudent, be expeditious.

We are, Gentlemen, yours, &c.

P. S. You will observe, gentlemen, that *Peter Van Brugh Livingston* is our Treasurer until an appointment by your Board. We hear from good authority that Colonel *Guy Johnson* is at *Oswego*, with one thousand or twelve hundred *Indians*, (men, women, and children,) and that they have plenty of provisions. We should be glad to have the blank commissions for the officers sent forward to us.

Ordered, That a copy, signed by the Chairman, be transmitted, together with copies of General *Schuyler's* Letters, by *Joseph Stevens*, a messenger.

A draught of a Letter to Major-General *Schuyler*, in answer to his two Letters received this day, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 15, 1775. }

SIR: We have received your letters, and written to the Continental Congress on those subjects. We shall with all despatch send the officer you mention. We have already ordered to *Albany* tents for our Regiment. Our Troops can be of no use to you; they have no arms, clothes, blankets, or ammunition; the officers no commissions; our Treasury no money; ourselves in debt. It is in vain to complain; we will remove difficulties as fast as we can, and send you soldiers, whenever the men we have raised are entitled to the name. The intrenching tools shall be sent soon, some immediately, and all the pork that can be had, about one hundred barrels. Use, we pray you, the bad Troops at *Ticonderoga*, as well as you can.

We are, very sincerely, your countrymen and friends.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

P. S. General *Burgoyne* has not been seen in *Boston* since the 17th ult., and it is currently reported and believed that he has gone to *Quebeck*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Ordered, That *William Elphinstone*, Esq., have liberty to use two rooms in the lower Barracks.

A Letter from General *Wooster*, dated Camp near *New-York*, July 15, 1775, was read.

Ordered, That Mr. *James Beekman* be appointed Commissioner to agree with Mr. *John Sickles* for his Field at *Harlem*, for the use of the Troops under the command of General *Wooster*, to encamp on.

Ordered, That Mr. *Van Zandt* be appointed Commissioner, to agree with and employ as many *Carmen* as may be necessary for transporting the Camp-equipage of Gen. *Wooster's* Troops to *Harlem*.

Thereupon a Letter to General *Wooster*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 15, 1775. }

SIR: Mr. *James Beekman* is appointed Commissioner to treat with *John Sickles* for his ground, at such rate and time as he shall think proper. Be pleased to furnish him with the dimensions of the spot, and the use to which it is to be applied in intrenching, &c.

Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt* is Commissioner to provide carriages for your tents, baggage, &c. Be pleased to inform him how many carts are necessary.

We have thought proper to defer your march until *Tuesday* morning, inasmuch as the time would not otherwise have permitted our Commissioners to make the necessary arrangements.

We are, Sir, your most obedient humble servants.

To General *Wooster*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by

the Chairman, and sent by General *Wooster's* officer now in waiting.

General *Schuyler*, having by his Letter of the eleventh instant, requested this Committee to appoint a proper person to command the Sloop on *Lake Champlain*, and send him up with all convenient speed, and Captain *Patrick Dennis* being sent for to confer with on the subject, recommended Captain *James Smith* for the above service.

Captain *James Smith* attended, and expressed his great willingness and cheerfulness to undertake that service, and is thought by this Committee to be a very proper person: Thereupon a draught of a Warrant to the said *James Smith* was made and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 15, 1775. }

Mr. JAMES SMITH:

You are hereby appointed Captain of an armed vessel in the Continental service. You will receive the pay of a Major in the service of the Continental Forces, and to take your orders from Major-General *Schuyler*, or other commanding officers of the Continental Troops for the time being. The General will designate the vessel you are to command, and you will receive a commission from the Continental Congress.

By order of the Committee.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, to be delivered to the said *James Smith*.

A draught of a Letter to General *Schuyler*, to be delivered by the said *James Smith*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 15, 1775. }

SIR: The bearer of this letter is *James Smith*, a gentleman of excellent character as a sea officer, who willingly undertook the command, refusing a ship he was offered, and left it to us to settle his pay, &c. We agree to a Major's pay, and at the same time we submit it to you whether he will not be entitled to that rank in the Continental service.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by the said *James Smith*.

Agreed and Ordered, That *Herman Zedwitz* shall be Major, and is hereby appointed Major of the First Regiment of the Troops now raising in this Colony.

The Committee adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Solis, 9 ho. A. M., July 16, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment, but not having any business absolutely necessary to be done this day, they adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*, Monday, July 17th, 1775, nine o'clock, A. M. Present:

For KING's COUNTY, *Henry Williams*, Chairman and Commissioner.

For NEW-YORK, *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Colonel *Lispenard*, Colonel *McDougall*, *Abraham Brasher*.

For ALBANY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For ULSTER, *Egbert Dumond*.

For ORANGE, *David Pye*.

For SUFFOLK, *Abraham Brasher*.

For WESTCHESTER, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For QUEEN's, Colonel *McDougall*.

For TRYON, *Peter V. B. Livingston*.

Mr. *Samuel Broome* having declined the Commission of a Captain in the First Battalion of the Troops now raising in this Colony; Ordered and Agreed, That *Benjamin Ledyard* be appointed Captain in the stead and place of the said *Samuel Broome*.

A draught of Articles of Agreement between the Committee appointed to procure Locksmiths to make Gunlocks, of the first part, and *Thomas Blockley* of the second



part, for the importation of Artificers, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Articles of Agreement made and concluded this seventeenth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, between *Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Jacobus Van Zandt, and Alexander McDougall*, of the City of New-York, Esquires, on behalf of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of New-York, of the first part, and *Thomas Blockley*, now in New-York, and intending speedily to go to Britain, of the second part.

First, The said *Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Jacobus Van Zandt, and Alexander McDougall*, on behalf of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of New-York, do authorize and request the said *Thomas Blockley* to procure ten good Artificers, in the Gunsmiths and Locksmiths business, to wit: Locksmiths, good workmen in the trade and business of musket or gun-locks; and other good workmen at the trade and business of forging, welding, and making gun-barrels; and other good workmen in the trade and business of boring gun-barrels; in the whole, ten artificers in number, to come to the Colony of New-York to dwell and reside, and there to carry on their respective trades and occupations. And the said parties of the first part, do request and authorize the said *Thomas Blockley* to advance to each of the said workmen two guineas, to defray the expense of their removal from their respective places of abode on board of the ship in which they shall come as passengers.

And the said parties of the first part do covenant and agree to and with the said *Thomas Blockley*, to repay to him or his order such sums of money as shall be so by him advanced to the said workmen, not exceeding two guineas each; and also to pay and discharge the passages of such workmen to the City of New-York, at the rate and price of steerage passengers in any ship or vessel in which they shall arrive; provided that each of the said artificers at the time of, or immediately before the payment of their respective passages, do enter in bond to the said parties of the first part, in double the sum so advanced and paid for each of them, with a condition to repay the money so advanced for each of them respectively, if the obligor shall not set up and carry on his trade, occupation, and business in the Colony of New-York, or shall remove to dwell and reside in any place not within the said Colony. And it is recommended to the said *Thomas Blockley* to engage and send out sober prudent men in their respective occupations, and such as will bring with them the usual and necessary tools of their respective occupations that may be put into small room or compass. And that as many of them as may conveniently be had, be single men.

A Letter from *John Lamb*, dated this day, setting forth many inconveniences that will attend draughting the men for an Artillery Company to be by him commanded, and praying that he may have leave to enlist his own men; and that their clothing may be blue with buff cuffs and facings,

Ordered, That Captain *John Lamb* raise a Company of one hundred men, including Officers, to serve in the Continental Army as an Artillery Company; that their clothing be blue, faced with buff; and that they have such pay as shall be determined by the Continental Congress.

A Letter from *Angus McDonald* complaining of his confinement.

Thereupon, a Letter to the Committee of *Fairfield* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 17, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: *Angus McDonald* having presented a petition to this Board, praying a relaxation of his confinement, we shall esteem it a favour if you will grant him as much indulgence in the premises as you think consistent with the publick safety.

By order of the Committee.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* be requested to procure Duck, and get as many Tents made as will supply the number now lent to General *Wooster*.

And Ordered, That Mr. *Curtenius* purchase so many Blankets or some other substitute as, with those already purchased, and those now in the hands of the Barrack-

Master, will furnish the four Regiments of this Colony with Blankets.

A draught of a Circular Letter to the respective Colonels of the Regiments of Troops now raising in this Colony, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 17, 1775. }

SIR: You are requested to prepare and lay before the Congress of this Colony at New-York, a state of your Regiment, and of the number of men ready and fit for service in each company, with all possible despatch. You will also be pleased to inform the Congress when you expect your Regiment will be complete and ready to take the field. We pray you to give all possible despatch in this business—the present circumstances admit of no delay. The sooner your answer and return can be received, the more acceptable it will be.

We are, Sir, your humble servants.

Ordered, That copies thereof be signed by the Chairman, and sent to the respective Colonels of the different Regiments.

The Committee adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Martis, 9 ho. A. M., July 18, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present: For KING's COUNTY, *Henry Williams*, Esq., Chairman and Commissioner.

For NEW-YORK, *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., Col. *McDougall*, *Abraham Brasher*.

For CITY AND COUNTY OF ALBANY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY, *Jonathan Landon*.

For ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*.

For ORANGE COUNTY, *David Pye*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

For WESTCHESTER COUNTY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For RICHMOND COUNTY, *Aaron Cortelyou*.

For QUEEN's COUNTY, Colonel *McDougall*.

For TRYON COUNTY, *Peter V. B. Livingston*.

Mr. *David Watkins* attending at the door, was called in; he produced a Certificate signed by *Archibald Campbell*, Esq., Chairman of a meeting of the Inhabitants of *Charlotte County*, held at *Fort Edward* on the 29th day of June last, whereby it appears that Doctor *George Smyth*, the said *David Watkins*, and *Archibald Campbell*, Esq., were duly elected to represent that County in Provincial Congress, together with *John Williams* and *William Marsh*, Esqrs.; and that they, or either of them, represent the said County in Provincial Congress at New-York. The said Certificate was read and filed.

Ordered, That *David Watkins* take his seat.

The Mayor of the City of New-York attending in the next room, informed some of the members, that the Magistrates had applied to a Carpenter to build a Boat for the Ship *Asia*, to replace that lately burnt belonging to the said Ship *Asia*; that the Carpenter desires an order or protection from this Board for that purpose, to convince any of his fellow-citizens (who might inquire) that he is doing that work with the approbation of the Committee.

Thereupon, an Order was made in the words following, to wit:

This Committee do hereby signify their approbation of the conduct of the Civil Magistrates, in ordering the building of a boat to replace that lately burnt in this City, belonging to his Majesty's Ship *Asia*; and require the carpenter which they have or shall employ for that purpose, to perform the same.

Ordered, That two copies of this Order be engrossed, and signed by one of the Secretaries, and delivered to Mr. Mayor.

A Letter from the Chairmen of the Committees of *Newburgh* and *New-Windsor* Precincts, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

To the Honourable Provincial Congress for the Colony of NEW-YORK, now convened in the City of NEW-YORK:

GENTLEMEN: We are extremely sorry to be under the disagreeable necessity of troubling you on this occasion. Nothing but dire necessity could have induced us to take any steps which may be construed by this honourable



Congress to be aside from the path of duty. We herewith send you three persons, who not only possess principles very inimical to the grand cause in which we are embarked, but whose conduct, ever since the first of these unhappy times, have been such as to disturb the publick tranquillity and destroy that unanimity so necessary for the preservation of our liberties. Their names are *John Morrell*, *Adam Patrick*, and *Isaiah Purdy*. Herewith, you, gentlemen, will also receive several depositions, taken before *John Nicoll*, Esq., relative to the matter, which is all we have time to take at present; these we submit to the judgment of the honourable Congress, whether either or all of these persons accused be worthy of confinement or not. On the supposition that the Congress shall judge it expedient that either or all of them should be liberated, in that case we humbly conceive it to be necessary that such security be taken of them as shall render those easy in their minds who are afraid of their persons and property. We would only add, gentlemen, that as we are contending for liberty, it is with the greatest reluctance that we would offer to deprive the meanest of our brethren of that inestimable blessing in the least degree; but in this instance, the safety of our Country, and that first and strongest of laws, self-preservation, calls us to this act of disagreeable duty.

We are, Gentlemen, in behalf of the Committees for the Precincts of *Newburgh* and *New-Windsor*, your most obedient humble servants.

WOLVERT ECKER, *Chairman*.

*Samuel Brewster*, *Chairman*.

Sundry Affidavits in writing, taken before *John Nicoll*, Esq., of the threatenings and ill conduct of *John Morrell*, *Adam Patrick*, and *Isaiah Purdy*, in opposition to the liberties of the *American Colonies*, were read and filed; and the said three persons being brought in the custody of an officer and a guard of armed men, were examined, and confessed many of the matters wherewith they were charged by the said affidavits to be true. Thereupon,

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* receive the bodies of *John Morrell*, *Adam Patrick*, and *Isaiah Purdy*, at the Barracks, and keep them in safe custody until the further order of the Committee.

And Ordered, That a copy of this order be delivered to Colonel *McDougall*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Elizabethtown* to the Chairman of the Committee of *New-York*, acquainting him of the arrival of Gunpowder from *Philadelphia*, and that it would be at *Dobbs's Ferry* by nine o'clock this morning, was read and filed.

Mr. *Pye* offered to go up *Hudson's River*, and get the said Gunpowder put on board of a Sloop for *Albany*; and thereupon, a draught of a Letter to the Committee of *Albany* was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety, New-York, July 18, 1775.

SIR: With this you will receive four hogsheads, said to contain fifty-two quarter-casks of Gunpowder; it is sent by the Continental Congress to go to *Ticonderoga*. Pray inform General *Schuyler* of it, and forward it to *Ticonderoga* with all possible despatch.

We are, Sir, your humble servants.

To *Samuel Stringer*, Esq., *Albany*.

Mr. *Beckman* came into Committee, and reported, that he had been with Gen. *Wooster* and his first Field Officer to *Harlem*; that *John Sickles* demanded such an exorbitant price for his ground, that they could not agree with him; but that they had agreed with *Arent Bussing* for a proper Field for an Encampment, at the rate of four Pounds per month; and that General *Wooster*, with his Troops, are all removed.

*John Morin Scott*, Esq., came into the Committee of Safety, and brought in the Report of the Committee on *Indian Affairs*; and also the proposed draught of a Speech to the *Indians*; which were read.

Thereupon, a draught of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 18, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: We have had a Congress with the *Five Nations* in contemplation. A Committee was appointed

to prepare the necessary papers to be laid before your body; but the necessities of the season required an adjournment of the Congress till next *Tuesday*, and we now sit only in a Committee of Safety. The proceedings on the subject we send you, imperfect as they are in draught, that if the Continental Congress think they may be of any use, they may have the materials in their possession.

We are, Gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To the Delegates of the Colony of *New-York* at Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted to the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, together with the draughts therein mentioned.

The Committee then adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., July 19, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present: For KING'S COUNTY, *Henry Williams*, Esq., Chairman and Commissioner.

For NEW-YORK CITY AND COUNTY, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Colonel *Lispnard*, Colonel *McDougall*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Abraham Brasher*.

For ALBANY CITY AND COUNTY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY, *Jonathan Landon*.

For ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*.

For ORANGE COUNTY, *David Pye*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

For WESTCHESTER COUNTY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For RICHMOND COUNTY, *Aaron Cortelyou*.

For QUEEN'S COUNTY, Col. *McDougall*.

For TRYON COUNTY, *Peter V. B. Livingston*.

For CHARLOTTE COUNTY, *David Watkins*.

A Letter from *Jacob Bayley*, Esq., at *Newbury*, in *Gloucester County*, dated *June 29*, 1775, was read and filed.

A draught of a Letter to *Jacob Bayley*, Esq., at *Newbury*, *Gloucester County*, in answer to his of the 29th of *June* ult., was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 19, 1775. }

SIR: It gives us great pleasure to hear of your appointment to represent the County of *Gloucester*. The raising of troops in your County to serve in the Continental pay, is what we cannot authorize, nor indeed would it be at all useful to yourselves, but rather the contrary, inasmuch as they might be ordered at a distance from you on other service, and thereby weaken your security. For these reasons, we think it would be much more expedient to arrange your able-bodied men into a respectable militia, and let one or two hundred of them be embodied by turns weekly, whereby you will always have a body of men ready to repel injuries; and at the same time, by assembling your County at large, return any insults you may receive in kind.

We cannot express our concern to you, at being obliged to inform you, that at present neither arms nor ammunition can be expected from us, as we have not so many as to serve the Troops raised by our Colony, and intended for the defence of our Northern and Eastern frontier. But we have done every thing men could do: we have advanced money for and established a manufactory of arms, and contracted for a considerable number; we have contracted with merchants for a great number of them; we have taken measures to procure manufacturers; and we have written to *Philadelphia* for as many as are necessary for our Troops. Similar measures we have taken to procure powder; and depend, Sir, that for your sakes, as well as our own, we shall use every precaution to enable you to provide the means of defence; and at the same time, to prevent you the necessity of using those means.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants. By order.

To *Jacob Bayley*, Esq., at *Newbury*, *Gloucester County*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by Mr. *Harvey*.

A Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess County*, covering the returned



Warrants of *Roswell Wilcocks* and *Cornelius Adriance*, who decline serving in the Troops, and recommending *Isaac Paddock* in the place of *Wilcocks*, and *James Betts* in the place of *Adriance*, was read and filed.

The vacancy occasioned by the resignation of *Cornelius Adriance* being already supplied,

Ordered, That a Warrant be made for *Isaac Paddock*, in the place of *Roswell Wilcocks*, and enclosed to the Chairman of the Committee.

Thereupon, a draught of a Letter to the Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety, &c., July 19, 1775.

SIR: We acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 13th instant. Agreeable to the recommendation of your Committee, we have enclosed a warrant for Mr. *Isaac Paddock*. On the 11th instant, Mr. *Adriance's* resignation was produced to this Committee, together with a recommendation of Mr. *Andrew Teller Lawrence*, in his stead. As Mr. *Lawrence* was recommended by two Members of the Provincial Congress, and a number of other freeholders of your County, we gave him a certificate from the Committee of Safety, that he was approved of, and that a warrant should be made for him, as the warrant to Mr. *Adriance* was returned.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants. By order.

To *Egbert Benson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman of this Committee of Safety, and transmitted.

The Committee having heard *Alexander Ellis* at their Board, on the subject of a certain Boat by him furnished to Lieutenant *Parks*, to transport him, with his baggage, to *Niagara*, do declare it as their sentiment, that the said *Alexander Ellis* appears to them guiltless with relation to that transaction.

Ordered, That a certified copy of this Declaration be delivered to the said *Alexander Ellis*.

A Letter from *John Nicholson*, Esq., of *Ulster* County, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

New-Windsor, July 13, 1775.

SIR: Agreeable to my warrant and instructions from the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, I have enlisted a company of seventy-two men, to serve in the Continental Army; and now wait for the further directions of the Congress. I am your most obedient servant,

JOHN NICHOLSON.

To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

Thereupon, a draught of an answer to the Letter of *John Nicholson*, Esquire, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 19, 1775. }

SIR: We are favoured with your letter of the 13th instant. We are happy to be informed that you have been so industrious and successful in enlisting your men. Please to make a return of your company to Colonel *Clinton*, who will take to his assistance a Surgeon, or such other person as he will think proper, and muster your men, and receive and approve of such of them as are fit for service. You will then keep your men in training and learning discipline with all possible care, and hold yourself, with your company, in readiness to follow such directions as you may receive from Colonel *Clinton*.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To *John Nicholson*, Esq., *New-Windsor*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and delivered to *Robert Boyd*.

Committee adjourned to *Friday* morning, at nine o'clock.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., July 21, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

For *KING's* COUNTY, *Henry Williams*, Esq., Chairman and Commissioner.

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Colonel *Lispensard*, Mr. *Brasher*.

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF ALBANY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For *ULSTER* COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*.

For *ORANGE* COUNTY, *David Pye*.

For *SUFFOLK* COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

For *WESTCHESTER* COUNTY, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For *RICHMOND* COUNTY, *Aaron Cortelyou*.

For *QUEEN's* COUNTY, Colonel *McDougall*.

For *TRYON* COUNTY, *Peter V. B. Livingston*.

For *CHARLOTTE* COUNTY, *David Watkins*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cortelyou* and Mr. *Beckman* be a Committee, in conjunction with two Officers of the *Connecticut* Troops, which shall be appointed by General *Wooster*, to examine and estimate what damage hath been done to the ground and fencing of Mr. *Herring*, on which the said Troops were lately encamped; and that they get the same certified by the said Officers which shall be appointed by General *Wooster*, and report the same with all convenient speed.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* be at liberty to take as much of the Wood now in the Barrack yards, for the use of his Troops, as they may want or have occasion for; and that he keep and render an account of the quantity thereof which shall be used, to the Provincial Congress.

A Letter from *John Hancock*, dated *Philadelphia*, July 17, 1775, enclosing a Resolution of the Continental Congress of the same day, was received, and read.

A draught of a Letter to General *Schuyler* was read and approved of, and is in the words following:

Committee of Safety, New-York, July 21, 1775.

SIR: The enclosed paper from the Continental Congress was received last evening by the return of our express from *Philadelphia*. We forward them by express.

We are yours, &c.

Major General *Schuyler*.

Ordered, That a copy be engrossed, signed by the Chairman, and transmitted (with all the Papers received for General *Schuyler*) by *Sampson Dyckman*.

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, July 18, 1775, was read and filed.

A Letter from *Elisha Benedict* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

Albany, July 14, 1775.

SIR: According to your instructions, I went into *Cumberland* County to deliver a copy to the Lieutenant, *Samuel Fletcher*, who was appointed First Lieutenant. I found he was in the Army at *Cambridge*. I took advice of the leading men there, and they nominated *William McCune* in his place, and he is enlisting of men. *Alexander Brink*, the Second Lieutenant, lives at the upper part of the County. I sent a man with his instructions. I have enlisted forty men; and if I had the money to pay the men a small matter, my company would be full in two or three days time. I am your humble servant,

ELISHA BENEDICT.

To *P. V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

N. B. Sir, I should be glad if Mr. *McCune* might be the First Lieutenant in the place of Mr. *Fletcher*. E. B.

An Answer to the Letter of *Elisha Benedict*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety, New-York, July 21, 1775.

SIR: This morning we are favoured with yours of the 14th instant. The Committee of Safety have approved of Mr. *William McCune* for your First Lieutenant, in the place of *Samuel Fletcher*. A warrant shall be sent to you for *William McCune* as First Lieutenant, as soon as you return to us or the Provincial Congress the warrant that was sent to you for *Fletcher*.

We shall have money about ten days hence. As soon as the money is ready, money will be sent to *Albany*, and you will receive cash for your men.



Please to complete your company as soon as possible, and make return thereof to the Colonel or Lieutenant-Colonel of your Regiment, who will muster your men, or cause them to be mustered, and give you directions how to proceed. We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To Captain *Elisha Benedict, Albany.*

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and sent by *Sampson Dyckman*.

Two Letters from *Elisha Phelps*, dated at *Albany*, July 11 and 13, 1775, were read and filed.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* take possession of the Town Barracks for such of the Troops now under his command as he shall think proper to place there; and that Mr. *Curtenius* be desired to furnish provisions for such men as Colonel *McDougall* shall place there.

The Petition of *Philip Henning*, setting forth his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, to be admitted and appointed Surgeon's Mate, was read.

*Ordered*, That *Philip Henning* wait on Doctor *John Jones* and Doctor *Bard*, to be examined as to his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, and his knowledge of the practice thereof.

A Certificate of Doctor *John Jones* and *Samuel Bard*, bearing date on the 18th instant, was read. Those gentlemen certify, that they thereby have examined Mr. *Hunlock Woodruff*, respecting his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, and that they find him qualified to act in the capacity of Surgeon's Mate.

*Agreed and Ordered*, That the said *Hunlock Woodruff* be appointed Surgeon's Mate to the First Regiment of Troops now raising in this Colony; and

*Ordered*, That a certified copy of the above Minutes be delivered to the said *Hunlock Woodruff*.

A draught of a Letter to the Committee at *Brunswick*, in *New-Jersey*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 21, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: We have had intelligence that boats have sundry times loaded flour at or about your City, and have run down to the west bank, and there met boats to take it from them for the use of the men-of-war and the Army at *Boston*. As this is contrary to the resolution of the Continental Congress, it is a matter that requires your strictest inspection to prevent such traders from pursuing a business inimical to the cause of liberty in the United Colonies.

We have been informed that Mr. *Merrill*, opposite to or near *Brunswick*, can give you farther information on this subject. We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants. Per order of the Committee.

To the Committee at *New-Brunswick*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

The Committee adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., July 22, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

For KING's COUNTY, *Henry Williams*, Esq., Chairman, and *Jeremiah Remsen*.

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Colonel *Lispensard*, *Abraham Brasher*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY, *Jonathan Landon*.

For ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*.

For ORANGE COUNTY, *David Pye*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

For RICHMOND COUNTY, *Aaron Cortelyou*.

For TRYON COUNTY, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*.

For CHARLOTTE COUNTY, *David Watkins*.

A draught of a Letter to the Delegates of the Colony of *New-York* at the Continental Congress, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 22, 1775. }

GENTLEMEN: We expect that our Troops will soon be all enlisted; but we labour under great difficulties on ac-

count of arms, and have not, by any means we could devise, been able to procure near so many as are necessary for them. The arms we have procured are of the best sort.

We have thought of the following expedient, which we beg leave to suggest to you. The Colony of *New-Jersey* has a very considerable number of muskets and bayonets, which we are informed are good. They are deposited at the respective Court-Houses, or some other particular places in each County, as *Hackensack*, *Elizabethtown*, &c. If the Continental Congress would please to direct those arms to be cleaned and valued, and put up in boxes, and sent to convenient places on *Hudson's River*, that they might be put into the hands of such of our Troops as cannot at present be otherwise properly furnished, we conceive it would be of general benefit to the Continental service. Those arms may either be at the Continental charge, or replaced some months hence with others of equal quality, from those which we shall have made in this Colony. The *Jersey* Congress is to meet next week, and by that means the arms may easily be collected and ordered, as above mentioned.

If you approve of this measure, we pray you to use your best influence in Congress to have it carried into execution. We are, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants. By order of the Committee.

To the Delegates of the Colony of *New-York* at the Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

P. S. Gentlemen: We beg leave to inform you, that as soon as we began to purchase provisions, &c., we employed Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* as our Commissary at *New-York*. He purchased provisions, stores, tents, intrenching tools, &c. &c. &c. He has been indefatigable in the publick service; run every risk that was requested of him; disbursed his own cash, and succeeded beyond our most sanguine expectations. We think him one of the most proper persons among us for that business, and would earnestly wish he might be continued, in such manner as will not be disagreeable to the Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and sent with all possible despatch.

A draught of a Letter to *John Peter Tetard*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety, &c., July 22, 1775.

SIR: You will observe by the enclosed order of our Provincial Congress, their intention of employing you as Interpreter to General *Schuyler*, and a Chaplain to the Troops of this Colony. If you are determined to engage in the service in those characters, and on the terms mentioned in the said order, it is expected that you will repair to *Albany*, and from thence to General *Schuyler*, with all possible speed. We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

By order.

Rev. *John Peter Tetard*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted by the first conveyance.

The Committee adjourned to nine o'clock, on *Monday* morning.

Die Lunæ, 9 ho. A. M., July 24, 1775.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Colonel *McDougall*, *John Morin Scott*, Colonel *Lispensard*, *Abraham Brasher*.

For ULSTER COUNTY, *Egbert Dumond*.

For QUEEN's COUNTY, Colonel *McDougall*.

For CUMBERLAND COUNTY, *John Morin Scott*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY, *Abraham Brasher*.

For TRYON COUNTY, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*.

For CHARLOTTE COUNTY, *David Watkins*.

*Henry Williams*, Esq., being very much indisposed, was obliged to withdraw, and Mr. *Brasher* was chosen Chairman *pro tempore*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lasher*, at the review of his Regiment this afternoon, or at the first review that may happen, when his Troops have grounded their arms, cause a strict search to be made for any of the Muskets belonging to the Corporation of *New-York*, which may be among



the said arms; and cause every such Musket to be delivered to Colonel *McDougall*, or his order, for the use of his Regiment.

A Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, July 19, 1775, was received and read.

A draught of an Answer to the above Letter of the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York, }  
July 24, 1775. }

SIR: We have been honoured with your letter of the 19th instant, which informs us that you have an intimation that a quantity of gunpowder had lately arrived here. We are sorry to say it is without foundation. You may be assured, Sir, that should a quantity arrive, we shall be attentive to the wants of our brethren to the Eastward, and forward as much as possible that way.

We are, with great respect, your most obedient servants.  
To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman *pro tempore*, and transmitted by *George Clinton*, Esquire.

Die Martis, 9 ho. A. M., July 25, 1775.

The President and several Members met pursuant to adjournment, but the numbers not being sufficient to form the Congress, the Members present proceeded to business as a Committee of Safety, and agreed to meet again tomorrow morning.

*Henry Williams*, Esquire, being indisposed and absent, *Peter Van Brugh Livingston* was appointed Chairman. Present:

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, Colonel *Lispenard*, *Thomas Smith*, *Jacobus Van Zandt*, Col. *McDougall*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Richard Yates*, *Isaac Sears*.

For KING'S COUNTY, *Jeremiah Remsen*, *Theodorus Polhemus*.

For WESTCHESTER COUNTY, Col. *P. Van Cortlandt*.

For QUEEN'S COUNTY, *Joseph French*, Col. *Blackwell*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY, Colonel *Hoffman*, *Jonathan Langdon*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Melancton Smith*, *Nathaniel Sackett*.

For ULSTER COUNTY, *Christopher Tappen*, *Egbert Dumond*.

For ORANGE COUNTY, *William Allison*, *John Herring*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY, Mr. *Tredwell*.

For CHARLOTTE COUNTY, *David Watkins*.

For TRYON COUNTY, *John Marlett*.

The Committee having advice that four hogsheads of Continental Gunpowder is gone from *Elizabethtown*, to be forwarded to *Albany*, under the direction of this Committee, Mr. *Herring* was sent to take care of it, and an order given to him, in the words following, to wit:

Ordered, That *Daniel Lawrence*, of *Orange County*, or any other person or persons having received the four hogsheads of Powder from *Elizabethtown*, to be forwarded to *Albany*, deliver the same to *John Herring*, Esq., or his order, if it is not already forwarded to *Albany*.

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON.

A Letter from Colonel *James Clinton*, dated *Little Britain*, July 21, 1775, was read and filed.

The Petition of *George Cook*, of the City of *New-York*, was read and filed. He therein prays he may be employed in making Pouches and Belts.

A Letter from *Ebenezer Hazard*, dated *New-York*, July 25, 1775, was read and filed.

Ordered, That the Saddlers who contracted with the Committee to make Pouches, Belts, and Slings, deliver to Colonel *McDougall*, or his order, 720 Pouches, 720 Belts, and 720 Slings for Muskets, and take receipts for the same.

The Petition of *Jacob Bamber* was read and filed. He prays to be appointed to some office in the Regiments raising for the defence of the liberties of *America*.

The Committee adjourned to meet in Convention tomorrow morning, at nine o'clock.

#### PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

At a meeting of a Provincial Congress held for the Colony of *New-York*, in the City of *New-York*, on the twenty-sixth day of *July*, 1775. Opened with prayers by the Rev. Dr. *Auchmaty*. Present:

*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, President.

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK: *Isaac Low*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *Alex. McDougall*, *Richard Yates*, *Leonard Lispenard*, *David Clarkson*, *Abraham Brasher*, *Thomas Smith*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John De Lancey*, *John Marston*, *James Beekman*, *Isaac Sears*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY: *Anthony Hoffman*, *Melancton Smith*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Nathaniel Sackett*, *Jonathan Landon*.

For ULSTER COUNTY: *Egbert Dumond*, *Christopher Tappen*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY: *Thomas Tredwell*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, *John Foster*.

For WESTCHESTER COUNTY: *Gouverneur Morris*, *Philip Cortlandt*, *Lewis Graham*, *James Holmes*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *John Thomas*, Jun., *Joseph Drake*.

For KING'S COUNTY: *Johannes E. Lott*, *John Leffertse*, *Henry Williams*, *Nicholas Covenhoven*, *Jeremiah Remsen*, *John Vanderbilt*, *Theodorus Polhemus*.

For RICHMOND COUNTY: *Paul Micheau*, *Aaron Cortel-you*, *John Journey*.

For QUEEN'S COUNTY: *Jacob Blackwell*, *Joseph French*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Joseph Robinson*, *Zebulon Williams*, *Richard Thorne*, *Samuel Townshend*.

For CHARLOTTE COUNTY: *David Watkins*.

For TRYON COUNTY: *John Marlett*.

A Certificate of *Archibald Campbell*, Esquire, Chairman of a meeting of the inhabitants of *Charlotte County*, held at *Fort Edward*, on the twenty-ninth day of *June* last, was read, whereby it appears that Doctor *George Smith*, *David Watkins*, and the said *Archibald Campbell* Esquire, were duly elected to represent that County in Provincial Congress, together with *John Williams*, and *William Marsh*, Esquires, and that they, or either of them, represent the said County in Provincial Congress at *New-York*. The said Certificate is filed among the Papers of the Committee of Safety.

Ordered, That the said *David Watkins* take his seat.

*James Alexander*, a messenger from *Philadelphia* to *Cambridge*, applied with an order from the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress, directing all persons to assist him. The President gave an order for any person to assist him, and call on him for payment.

A Letter from the Committee at *Elizabethtown*, which accompanied three persons sent from thence under guard as deserters from Colonel *Waterbury's* Regiment, was read. The Return of the Officer of the City Military Watch last night, was also read; whereby it appears that the said three persons are under guard at the upper Barracks. Thereupon,

Ordered, That a Letter be wrote to General *Wooster*, informing him of the said three Prisoners, and requesting him to send one of his officers to the Barracks, in order to make the proper inquiry respecting them.

A Letter from *Daniel Lawrence*, of the 24th instant, was read, and filed; whereby he informs, that the four hogsheads of Stores (being the Gunpowder sent from *Philadelphia*) were, on the 18th instant, received by him, and forwarded on board of Captain *Cornelius Swit's* vessel to *Albany*.

A Letter from *Marinus Willett* and others of the Officers of the Troops now raising in this Colony, soliciting for some allowance for Clothing, was read and filed.

A Letter from Captain *Rufus Herrick*, of *Dutchess County*, dated the 21st instant, informing that his Company is ready, and that he waits for further orders, was read, and filed.

A Letter from *Daniel Everitt* and others of the Committee of *Goshen*, bearing date on the 18th instant, and a Certificate of Colonel *Clinton* recommending Mr. *George*



*Hamilton Jackson* as a Second Lieutenant in *Daniel Denton's* Company, was read, and filed.

The Congress approves of the recommendation of *George Hamilton Jackson* as a Second Lieutenant.

Ordered, That a Warrant be made for him as soon as the other Warrant issued for the gentleman who has resigned is returned to the Secretaries.

A Letter from *John Hancock*, Esquire, received this day, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, July 19, 1775.

"SIR: Enclosed is the commission to be filled up with the name of the gentleman whom your Congress shall please to appoint to the department of Deputy Adjutant-General or Brigade-Major, referred to in mine of yesterday. I beg you to forward by express the letter I yesterday enclosed for General *Schuyler*. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.

"Hon. *Peter V. B. Livingston*."

The Letter from *John Hancock*, Esquire, of the 17th instant, received by the Committee of Safety, was also read, and the blank Commission contained in Mr. *Hancock's* Letter of the 19th instant, was also read.

A Letter from the *New-York* Delegates at *Philadelphia*, was read.

After some time spent in deliberating of a proper person to be appointed Deputy Adjutant-General or Brigade-Major, the Congress agreed to defer the appointment for further consideration.

The Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*, during the recess of this Congress, delivered in a Report of their proceedings. The Congress proceeded to hear a part of the said Report and the proceedings of the said Committee on the 11th *July*. The Congress ordered that the respective Letters of *William Duer*, Esquire, and of *William Marsh* and *Joseph Rose*, received by the Committee of Safety on the 11th *July*, lie on the table for the perusal of the members of this Congress.

The Congress then adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

Five o'clock, P. M., July 26, 1775.

Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President.

For the CITY and COUNTY of *NEW-YORK*: *Isaac Low*, *Alex. McDougall*, *Joseph Hallett*, *Abraham Brasher*, *James Beekman*, *Richard Yates*, *David Clarkson*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Marston*, *Isaac Sears*, *Samuel Verplanck*.

For *DUTCHESS* COUNTY: *Anthony Hoffman*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Melancton Smith*, *Nathaniel Sackett*, *Jonathan London*.

For *ULSTER* COUNTY: *Egbert Dumond*, *Christ. Tappen*.

For *SUFFOLK* COUNTY: *Thomas Tredwell*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, *John Foster*.

For *WESTCHESTER* COUNTY: *Gouverneur Morris*, *Lewis Graham*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Philip Cortlandt*, *James Holmes*, *John Thomas*, *Joseph Drake*.

For *KING's* COUNTY: *Theodorus Polhemus*, *John Vanderbilt*.

For *RICHMOND* COUNTY: *Paul Micheau*, *Aaron Cortelou*, *John Journey*.

For *QUEEN's* COUNTY: *Jacob Blackwell*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Zebulon Williams*, *Samuel Townshend*, *Joseph French*, *Joseph Robinson*, *Nathaniel Tom*, *Richard Thorne*.

For *CHARLOTTE* COUNTY: *David Watkins*.

For *TRYON* COUNTY: *John Marlett*.

The Petition of *John Fisher*, Saddler, was read, and filed.

The Certificate of Doctor *John Jones* and Dr. *Samuel Bard*, bearing date yesterday, certifying that they have examined *Philip Henning* respecting his qualifications to practise Physick and Surgery, and that they find him very deficient in his knowledge of them both, was read and filed.

A Certificate of Brigadier-General *Montgomerie*, certifying that *Samuel Dyckman* had delivered to him at *Albany* the despatches for Major-General *Schuyler*, on the 23d instant, was read, and delivered to the President.

A Return from Lieutenant *David Palmer*, bearing date this day, was read and filed; whereby it appears that he has enlisted twenty-three Volunteers, and waits for further orders.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the subject of the Post-Office, which was read.

The Memorial of *Ebenezer Hazard*, of the 13th of *June*, ultimo; two Letters from *Gurdon Saltonstall*, one bearing date the 22d of *June*, and the other the 3d of *July*; the Letter of *Ebenezer Hazard* of the 25th instant; and the Memorial of *John Holt*, of the 16th of *June*, ultimo, were severally read and considered. Thereupon a question arose, whether this Congress will recommend any person to the office of Postmaster at *New-York*, or submit the appointment of the person to the Continental Congress without such recommendation; and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative, (to wit, this Congress will recommed,) in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

2 Westchester,  
2 Dutchess,  
2 Richmond,  
2 Tryon.

For the Negative.

2 Queen's,  
2 Charlotte,  
2 Suffolk.

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The Members for the City and County of *Albany*, and County of *Cumberland*, are not yet arrived; several Members of the County of *Ulster* being absent on business by order of this Congress, and the City and County of *New-York*, and Counties of *Orange* and *King's*, not having a majority of their Members now present, were respectively unable to vote on the above question.

The question was then put, whether Mr. *Ebenezer Hazard*, of the City of *New-York*, Bookseller, or Mr. *John Holt*, of the said City, Printer, should be the person to be recommended for Postmaster at *New-York*; and it was carried in favour of Mr. *Ebenezer Hazard*, in the manner following, to wit;

For recommending Mr. HAZARD.

2 Dutchess,  
2 Suffolk,  
4 New-York,  
2 Richmond,  
2 Tryon.

For Mr. HOLT.

2 Charlotte,  
2 Queen's,  
2 Westchester.

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Resolved, therefore, That Mr. *Ebenezer Hazard* be recommended as a most fit and proper person to be Postmaster and keep the Post-Office at the City of *New-York*; and ordered that a Letter for that purpose be wrote to the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, and transmitted immediately, with the original Papers on that subject now before this Congress, and copies of our votes on this subject.

The City and County of *Albany*, and the Counties of *Cumberland*, *Ulster*, *Orange*, and *King's*, could not vote on the last question, for the reasons respectively assigned for their not voting on the next preceding question.

A draught of a Letter to the *New-York* Delegates on the subject of a Post-Office, was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 26, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We enclose you the Report of our Committee on the subject of the Post-Office, with the sundry papers which remained before us, and the votes of our House this evening on that subject.

We are sorry that, by occasion of our late adjournment, and of sundry matters more immediately pressing before the adjournment, this matter has been so long delayed with us.

We beg leave to recommend Mr. *Ebenezer Hazard* as a most careful, fit, and proper person to be Postmaster at *New-York*, and hope the Continental Congress may appoint him.

We conceive our present Eastern Riders proceed too far to the eastward. General *Schuyler* some time ago mentioned to us the necessity of having Couriers from hence to *Albany* or *Ticonderoga*. We are frequently obliged to send messengers to *Albany*, which a regular post to the northward would often prevent. We submit the necessity and utility of Northern Post Riders or Cou-



riers to the wisdom of the Continental Congress; and are, most respectfully, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants.

To the *New-York* Delegates at Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted.

The Congress then adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., July 27, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Rogers. Present:

*Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., President.

For the CITY and COUNTY of NEW-YORK: *Isaac Low, Alex. McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, John Marston, James Beekman, Samuel Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, John Morin Scott, Isaac Sears.*

For DUTCHESS COUNTY: *Anthony Hoffman, Gilbert Livingston, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett, Jonathan Landon.*

For ULSTER COUNTY: *Egbert Dumond, Christ. Tappen.*

For SUFFOLK COUNTY: *Thomas Tredwell, Ezra L'Hommedieu, John Foster.*

For WESTCHESTER COUNTY: *Gouverneur Morris, Lewis Graham, Joseph Drake, Philip Cortlandt, John Thomas, Junior, James Van Cortlandt, Robert Graham, William Paulding, James Holmes.*

For KING'S COUNTY: *Henry Williams, Theodorus Polhemus, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt.*

For RICHMOND COUNTY: *Paul Micheau, John Journey, Aaron Cortelyou, Richard Conner.*

For QUEEN'S COUNTY: *Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Nathaniel Tom, Samuel Townshend, Joseph French, Joseph Robinson, Zebulon Williams, Richard Thorne.*

For CHARLOTTE COUNTY: *David Watkins.*

For TRYON COUNTY: *John Marlett.*

The Congress took into consideration the appointment of a Deputy Adjutant-General or a Brigade-Major, and the several Letters from the Continental Congress, and the Letter from the *New-York* Delegates on that subject; and thereupon,

*Agreed, unanimously*, That this Congress will appoint a Deputy Adjutant-General, as being the superiour officer. And after considering the merits of different gentlemen who were mentioned, it is

*Unanimously agreed*, That *William Duer*, Esquire, is a proper person for a Deputy Adjutant-General; and

*Ordered*, That the blank Commission for that office, received from the Continental Congress, be immediately filled up for that gentleman; which was accordingly done.

An Account of *Sampson Dyckman*, for Horse Hire and Stabling, was delivered in, and handed to the Committee of Accounts.

A draught of a Letter to the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 27, 1775.

SIR: In compliance with the request of the Congress, of which you did us the honour to mention in your letters of the seventeenth and nineteenth instant, we have appointed *William Duer*, Esquire, Deputy Adjutant-General, and taken the liberty to give him, in his commission which we received yesterday, the rank of Colonel. We beg leave to submit to the wisdom of the Congress, whether or not it will be proper to have a Major of Brigade appointed also; and should it be deemed necessary, we would readily decline the honour of nominating a person to fill that office, having full confidence in the wisdom and integrity of our Delegates, and being well convinced that they will recommend no man who is not endued with every qualification necessary to discharge any trust which you may think proper to repose in him.

We are, with great respect, Sir, your countrymen and servants. By order.

To *John Hancock*, Esq., President, &c.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be signed by the President, and transmitted.

A draught of a Letter to the *New-York* Delegates at the Continental Congress was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: You will readily recollect your former recommendation of Mr. *Duer*, to some members of our board, for a colonelcy, and therefore will not be surprised that we have seized the opportunity of appointing him Deputy Adjutant-General, with the rank of Colonel; and we trust you will not consider this as any disrespect to your late recommendation of Mr. *Lewis*. We have submitted it to your body, in our letter to the President, whether the appointment of a Major of Brigade will not be proper, and at the same time submitted the person to your nomination. You will therefore have an opportunity of filling up the commission with such person as you think most capable of performing the duties of his office.

We are, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants.

By order.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be signed by the President, and transmitted.

A Muster-Roll of Captain *Daniel Griffin's* Company, raised in *Suffolk* County, signed by *Phineas Fanning* and *Thomas Conkling*, Muster-Masters, bearing date on the twenty-fifth instant, was read and filed.

A Return from Captain *Ambrose Horton*, dated at the *White Plains* on the twenty-sixth instant, informing that he has enlisted fifty-six able-bodied men, was read and filed.

A Letter from the Committee of the County of *Westchester* was read and filed.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Thursday* next, take into consideration the state of the Militia of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Lieutenant *David Palmer*, of *Richmond* County, bring the men he has enlisted to the City of *New-York*, with all convenient speed, and place them in the Lower Barracks, and apply to Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* for Provisions and necessaries, who is hereby requested to furnish him therewith.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lispenard*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Holmes*, Colonel *Hoffman*, and Mr. *Graham*, be a Military Committee, for fourteen days from this day, with full power during that time to order and dispose of all things whatsoever relating to, or concerning the Troops raised or to be raised in this Colony.

A Letter from *Samuel Cannon* to Colonel *Cortlandt*, informing that he had not influence sufficient to raise a Company, and therefore resigning his Warrant as a Captain, was read and filed. Colonel *Cortlandt* returned the said Warrant, and Colonel *Holmes* and Colonel *Cortlandt* recommended *Joseph Benedict* as a proper person in his stead. Thereupon,

*Ordered*, That a Warrant be issued for the said *Joseph Benedict*, as a Captain, and delivered to Colonel *Holmes*.

The Congress then proceeded to hear the Report of the proceedings of the Committee of Safety on the twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth of *July* inst.

The Congress adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., July 28, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. *Gano*. Present:

For the CITY and COUNTY of NEW-YORK: *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, President; *Isaac Low, Alexander McDougall, Leonard Lispenard, Joseph Hallett, Abraham Brasher, Isaac Roosevelt, John De Lancey, James Beekman, Sam'l Verplanck, Richard Yates, David Clarkson, Thomas Smith, Benjamin Kissam, Isaac Sears.*

For DUTCHESS COUNTY: *Anthony Hoffman, Gilbert Livingston, Melancton Smith, Nathaniel Sackett, Jonathan Landon.*

For ULSTER COUNTY: *James Clinton, Egbert Dumond, Christopher Tappen, John Nicholson.*

For ORANGE COUNTY: *John Herring.*



FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY: *Thos. Tredwell, Ezra L'Hommedieu, John Foster.*

FOR WESTCHESTER COUNTY: *Gouverneur Morris, James Van Cortlandt, Joseph Drake, James Holmes, John Thomas, Jun., William Paulding, Philip Cortlandt.*

FOR KING'S COUNTY: *Henry Williams, Jeremiah Remsen, Nicholas Covenhoven, John Vanderbilt, Theodorus Polhemus.*

FOR RICHMOND COUNTY: *Paul Micheau, Aaron Cortel-you, John Journey, Richard Connor.*

FOR QUEEN'S COUNTY: *Jacob Blackwell, Jonathan Lawrence, Sam'l Tounshend, Joseph Robinson, Nathaniel Tom, Richard Thorne, Joseph French.*

FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY: *David Watkins.*

FOR TRYON COUNTY: *John Marlett.*

A Letter from the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull* was read and filed.

A draught of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, on the subject of Tea, was read and approved, and is as follows, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: You must be sensible that our exertions in the publick cause have subjected us to a very large expense, (of which certainly the greatest part is justly payable by the Continent,) and at the same time you cannot but perceive that a large sum of money is and will be expended in articles purely at the cost of our Colony. These considerations show us the necessity of laying a tax on our Colony; but prudence or policy will impress as strongly on your minds as on our own, the propriety of doing this in the manner least liable to popular disgust, or perhaps opposition. These observations will, we hope, introduce to you in a favourable light, some things which we now proceed to mention.

Sundry of our merchants have on hand a considerable quantity of tea imported from *Holland*, which cannot be sold for reasons which we need not repeat. The consequence of the situation is, that our *Dutch* Traders are deprived of the means of introducing into our Colony sail-duck, *Russia* drillings, osnaburghs, arms and ammunition, all of them highly necessary for us, and easily to be obtained from *Holland*, notwithstanding the late placart of the States-General.

Should the retail price of *Bohea* tea be fixed at six shillings per pound, from six pounds and upwards, and six and sixpence by the single pound, and the wholesale price at five and sixpence, with a tax of one shilling on the pound, payable by the vendor, and similar regulations for green tea, we might raise a considerable sum from the obstinate consumers of this article, and at the same time, the precautions taken by us in giving permission to merchants to sell under certain restrictions, will prevent a trade which, as to the recommendations of the Continental Congress, may well be called illicit, and which does now most undoubtedly obtain, as will readily be acknowledged by those who perceive the general consumption of it throughout the Colony.

We have already furnished to *Connecticut* almost all the tents which we had provided for our own troops, and we have not now any materials to make more; and we further precaution you that we do not mean to encourage the future introduction of tea into the Colony. Should you, gentlemen, and the Congress, perceive force in what we have just now hinted to you, we humbly conceive it would be proper for the Congress to refer our determination in general terms to certain petitions which have, as we are informed, been presented to them by those who have quantities of tea in their possession.

The prudence, the reason, the policy of making provision which will prevent those gentlemen from being influenced by the strong temptation to a clandestine sale, with many other considerations to the same effect, which will naturally arise in your minds, we modestly forbear to mention, but beg leave to assure you, gentlemen, that with the highest deference to the superiour judgment of the Continental Congress, we are your most obedient humble servants. By order.

To the *New-York* Delegates in the Continental Congress.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the President, and transmitted.

A draught of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, on the subject of Flaxseed, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: As considerable quantities of Flaxseed will, in all probability, be ready for shipping long before the tenth of *September* next, we submit it to the Congress whether it will not be proper to inhibit the exportation of that article immediately.

We are, Gentlemen, respectfully, your most obedient humble servants.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the President and transmitted.

A draught of a Letter to the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, in answer to his Letter of the twenty-fifth instant, received this day, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 28, 1775.

SIR: We have received your letter of the twenty-fifth instant, requesting that this Congress will furnish Colonel *Hinman's* Troops at *Ticonderoga* with tents. Convinced of the absolute necessity of such supply, and of the inability of your Colony to furnish it, although our own Troops will soon want them, and we are in doubt whether we shall be able to get materials to make others, yet we shall take care to send up the tents with all possible despatch, expecting that, as they are taken on account of your Colony, you will remit us the money to pay for them, and some other expenses incurred for your Colony, of which we shall send you an account.

We are, Sir, your very humble servants.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

P. S. We supplied General *Wooster* with upwards of two hundred tents, made of the very best materials.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the President, and transmitted.

The Petition of *John Morrell, Adam Patrick, and Isaiah Purdy*, praying to be discharged from confinement, was read.

Ordered, That *John Morrell, Adam Patrick, and Isaiah Purdy*, be brought to the Bar of this Congress.

A draught of a Letter to *Wolvert Acker* and *Samuel Brewster*, Chairmen of the Committees of *Newburgh* and *New-Windsor*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 28, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: *John Morrell, Adam Patrick, and Isaiah Purdy*, are liberated from their confinement upon their contrition and promises of amendment. You will therefore endeavour to prevent any injuries to their persons or property, and at the same time, if you think it necessary, we recommend it to you to take security for their keeping of the peace, which may be done according to the common course of the law; at the same time, if you shall be of opinion that the peace and safety of the country cannot otherwise be preserved, you will take from them all arms of offence. But this, as it is a punishment in its nature, ought to be inflicted only with the utmost caution, and therefore we recommend to you the utmost deliberation and tenderness on this occasion.

We are, Gentlemen, your humble servants. By order.

To Messrs. *Wolvert Acker* and *Samuel Brewster*, Chairmen of the Committees of *Newburgh* and *New-Windsor* Precincts.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be signed by the President, and transmitted.

*John Morrell, Adam Patrick, and Isaiah Purdy*, being brought to the Bar of this Congress, were informed that the Congress had wrote a Letter to the Committees of *Newburgh* and *New-Windsor*, to take securities of the peace of them, and to disarm them if they thought proper, and that the Letter should be sent by Mr. *Robert Boyd*. They were then admonished by the President of their past



imprudent conduct, of the evils thereof to society, and the dangers they had run, and charged to behave in such manner for the future, as to give no offence or uneasiness to their neighbours or any others, and were then discharged.

The Congress adjourned to five o'clock this afternoon.

Die Veneris, 5 ho. P. M., July 28, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

For the CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK: *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, President; *Isaac Low*, *Alexander McDougall*, *Abraham Brasher*, *John De Lancey*, *James Beekman*, *Samuel Verplanck*, *Richard Yates*, *Thomas Smith*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *Isaac Sears*.

For DUTCHESS COUNTY: *Anthony Hoffman*, *Gilbert Livingston*, *Melancton Smith*, *Nathaniel Sackett*.

For ULSTER COUNTY: *James Clinton*, *Egbert Dumond*, *Christopher Tappen*, *John Nicholson*.

For ORANGE COUNTY: *John Herring*.

For SUFFOLK COUNTY: *Thos. Tredwell*, *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, *John Foster*.

For WESTCHESTER COUNTY: *Gouverneur Morris*, *James Van Cortlandt*, *Philip Cortlandt*, *Jas. Holmes*, *John Thomas*, *William Paulding*.

For KING'S COUNTY: *Jeremiah Remsen*, *Nicholas Covenhoven*, *Theodorus Polhemus*.

For RICHMOND COUNTY: *Paul Micheau*, *John Journey*, *Aaron Cortelyou*, *Richard Conner*.

For QUEEN'S COUNTY: *Jonathan Lawrence*, *Samuel Townshend*, *Joseph French*, *Joseph Robinson*, *Nathaniel Tom*, *Richard Thorne*.

For TRYON COUNTY: *John Marlett*.

The Congress proceeded to hear the Report of the residue of the Committee of Safety read. The same being fully and completely read and heard,

*Resolved*, That this Congress do heartily approve of the conduct of the Committee of Safety during our late recess, and that the thanks of this Congress be rendered to them for their faithful services.

*Ordered*, That *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Commissary of this Congress, have Soldiers' Tents made of *English Duck*, sufficient for one thousand men, and forward the same to the Commissary of the *Connecticut Troops* at *Albany*, with directions to him to forward them to Colonel *Hinman* at *Ticonderoga*.

Mr. *Beekman* and Mr. *Cortelyou* reported, that in obedience to the order of the Committee of Safety, they had been with *Andrew Ward*, Jun., Lieutenant-Colonel, and Captain *James Arnold*, two officers appointed by General *Wooster* for that purpose, to view and estimate what damages had been done to the ground and fencing, &c., of Mr. *Nicholas Herring*, on which the *Connecticut Troops* were lately encamped. That they estimate the damages which the said *Nicholas Herring* has sustained in his land, fences, orchard, &c., by the said Troops, together with the use of the said land, at eighty Pounds; and that the said Lieutenant Colonel *Andrew Ward*, and Captain *James Arnold*, had signed a certificate and estimate of the said damages, and agreed to allow the same; which certificate and allowance being read and filed, is in the words following, to wit:

"We, the underwritten, do agree to allow Mr. *Herring* eighty Pounds, for the damages which he has sustained on his land, fences, and orchard, by the late encampment of General *Wooster's Troops*, together with the use of said land.

"ANDREW WARD, JUN., Lieut. Colonel.

"JAMES ARNOLD, Captain.

"New-York, July 27, 1775."

The Congress adjourned to ten o'clock, on Monday morning.

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., July 31, 1775.

Present: *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, President, &c.

The Deputies for the City and County of *Albany* produced new Credentials, which were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"Albany Committee Chamber, July 13, 1775.

"The Committee of this City and County having heretofore appointed Messrs. *Abraham Yates*, Junior, *Robert*

*Yates*, *Abraham Ten Broeck*, *Jacob Cuyler*, *Henry Glenn*, *Francis Nicoll*, *Peter Silvester*, *Dirck Swart*, *Walter Livingston*, *Volkert P. Douw*, and *Robert Van Rensselaer*, the Deputies of this City and County, to attend the Provincial Congress, with general powers to represent this City and County, but by reason of the inconvenience attending the attendance of all the Deputies in the said Provincial Congress,

"It is therefore Resolved, That, for the future, the said Deputies attend the said Congress, or any four or more of their number, for the purposes aforesaid, with the same power and authority as if all the said Deputies were present.

"ABRAHAM YATES, JR., Chairman.

"JOHN BAY, Secretary pro tempore."

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that the men raised for his Regiment were very pressing for money, and that unless he be provided with some more money many of them will leave the service.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* have leave to borrow as much money on the credit of this Congress (and give his obligation for the same) as will enable him to pay the men enlisted for his Regiment, to the first day of August.

A draught of a Letter to the *New-York Delegates* at Congress, on the subject of Money, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

A Letter from General *Schuyler* at *Saratoga*, on the sixteenth instant, was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *John Jones*, and Doctor *Treat*, be requested to examine all the Medicines purchased or put up for the use of the Regiments raised in this Colony, and to designate and reject any such as are not of a proper quality for that use, and that they be requested to send to the Congress a report of such their examination.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* be requested, without delay, to send to *Albany*, for the use of the Second Regiment, seven hundred and twenty Pouches and Belts, seven hundred and twenty Bayonet Belts, seven hundred and twenty Brushes and Wires, forty-three hundred and twenty Flints, one hundred and twenty Camp-Kettles, seven hundred and twenty Canteens, seven hundred and twenty Haversacks, and the Clothing for the said Regiment, and Medicine Chest, examined by Doctor *John Jones* and Doctor *Treat*, and completed agreeable to their approbation and direction.

A Letter from Colonel *Guy Johnson*, dated *Ontario*, on the eighth instant, was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be made and enclosed to the *New-York Delegates* at *Philadelphia*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Albany* was read and filed.

A Letter from *John N. Bleecker* at *Albany*, with the Accounts enclosed, were read and filed.

Mr. *Robert Yates*, of *Albany*, delivered in to Congress sundry Papers relating to *Indian Affairs*, which were read, and are marked and numbered as follows, to wit:

No. 1. A Speech of four *Oneida Chiefs* to the Committee of *Albany*, dated at the Committee Chamber, at *Albany*, June 24, 1775.

No. 2. A Speech of the Inhabitants of *Albany County*, drawn up by the Committee of *Albany*, spoken at the *German Flats* to the *Oneida Indians*.

No. 3. A Speech to the Inhabitants of *Albany*, being the answer of the *Oneidas* and *Tuscaroras* at the *German Flats*, dated July 1st, 1775.

No. 5. A Speech of the Inhabitants of *Tryon County* to the *Oneidas* and *Tuscaroras*, in a meeting at the *German Flats*, 29th June, 1775.

No. 6. A Speech from the *Oneida Indians*, dated 24th June, 1775, in answer to the Speech delivered by the Inhabitants of *Tryon County*.

No. 7. A History of an Embassy of the *Stockbridge Indians* with the *Caughnawagas*.

No. 8. A Conference between the *Stockbridge* and *Caughnawaga Indians*.

*Ordered*, That the abovementioned copies of Speeches and Papers relating to *Indian Affairs*, be enclosed to the *New-York Delegates* at the Continental Congress.



Copy of a Letter, appearing to have been written from *Joseph Reed*, Esquire, Secretary to General *Washington*, was read, giving advice of the sailing of three Men-of-War, &c., from *Boston*.

A draught of a Letter to the Committee of Correspondence for *East-Hampton* and *Southold*, was read and approved; and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, July 31, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: By the enclosed copy of a letter from General *Washington* to General *Wooster*, we think not unlikely the designs of these ships may be to take provisions from different parts. As *Montauk* and other parts of the east of *Long-Island* are much exposed, we judged it proper to give this intelligence, that you might take such methods for securing the stock there as you shall judge necessary. *Hulbert* and *Griffing's* companies can be employed for that purpose till otherwise ordered. I am, &c.

To the Committee of Correspondence for *East-Hampton* and *Southold*.

Ordered, That a copy be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

The Congress adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Martis, 9 ho. A. M., August 1, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Reverend Mr. *Inglis*. Present:

*Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President.

A Letter from *John Taplin*, Esq., of *Newbury*, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in *Gloucester* County, was read and filed.

A Letter from *John Burger* to *Peter T. Curtenius*, bearing date at *Ticonderoga Landing*, the 19th July, ult., was read and filed.

A Return of Provisions from *Elisha Phelps*, Commissary at *Albany*, dated the 21st of July, ultimo, was read and filed.

A Letter from *David Pye* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

Clarkstown, July 31, 1775.

SIR: The bearer hereof, Captain *Robert Johnston*, has his company now full; and as he is a sum of money out, by this I take the liberty to recommend him to you for direction where he may have the necessary supplies for the company.

I am, Sir, your humble servant, DAVID PYE.

To *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq.

A Letter from *Elisha Benedict*, of the 24th ultimo, was read and filed; he thereby informed that his company is full, and that he has some men to spare. Encloses a Warrant to *Samuel Fletcher*, now returned agreeable to the order of the Committee of Safety, and requests a Warrant to *William McCune*, of *Cumberland* County, as First Lieutenant in his stead.

Ordered, That a Warrant issue to the said *William McCune* accordingly.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 21st ult., was read and filed.

The extracts of the Letters therein enclosed, were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

Extract of a Letter, dated *LEBANON*, 17th JULY, 1775, from the Honourable Governour *TRUMBULL* to Major-General *SCHUYLER*.

"I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 10th instant, which came by *Benet*. Per same hand I received a letter from Colonel *Hinman*, at *Ticonderoga*, in which he says, 'there are many things which the act of Assembly provides for the soldiers which they never have as yet received, which occasions murmurings and discontents, and much weakens my authority among them' Copy of the act of Assembly has been forwarded some time ago to the Provincial Convention of *New-York*. Our Commissary, Mr. *Elisha Phelps*, has also a copy. If *New-York* does not supply our Troops, as they have a right to expect, this Colony must fulfil their engagements themselves.

"I pray your interposition in this matter."

Extract of a Letter, dated *TICONDEROGA*, JULY 21, 1775, from Major-General *SCHUYLER* to the Continental Congress.

"I enclose you a copy of a letter I have just received from Governour *Trumbull*. I am very sorry that the Colony of *Connecticut* has made such large allowance for the daily subsistence of the men. It is difficult and expensive to procure the things here which they are to have agreeable to the law of their Colony, and, what is worse, other Troops that may join will certainly expect the like allowance, and a discrimination cannot be made in favour of the Troops of any particular Colony.

"A resolve of Congress what shall be the Continental allowance, and that no Colony shall send their Troops any thing more than what shall be prescribed, would settle the matter, and prevent that jealousy which will otherwise take place."

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 22d day of July, was read and filed.

The Warrant of *Morris Hazard* was returned, and Mr. *John Lawrence*, of *Newtown*, being recommended in his stead, is approved of.

Ordered, That a Warrant be issued to the said *John Lawrence*, in the stead and place of the said *Morris Hazard*.

Ordered, That *Jacob Cuyler* be added to the Military Committee, which was appointed on the 27th ultimo.

Resolved, That every officer who has already enlisted, or who shall hereafter enlist a soldier in the Regiments now raising in this Colony, shall be entitled to a dollar for each such soldier who shall pass muster, and be received into the service, the officer paying the expense of such enlistment.

A copy of a Conference between two *Oneidas* and the *Albany* Committee, on the 25th ult., was read.

Ordered, That this copy of a Conference be sent to the *New-York* Delegates at Congress by the first conveyance.

A Letter from *Goose Van Schaick*, Colonel of the Second Regiment, bearing date on the 24th instant, with a Return of the present state of his Regiment, as far as known to him, were read and filed.

The Petition of *Sampson Dyckman* was read: he therein sets forth that he had suffered great damages by one *Hesington*, a messenger from *Massachusetts* to *Philadelphia*, greatly injuring his horse in a journey to *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Thorne* and Mr. *Paulding* be a Committee to inquire into the damages *Sampson Dyckman* has sustained by occasion of the premises mentioned in his Petition, and to make a report thereon to this Congress.

Ordered, That Captain *Peter Lent* and Mr. *Gilbert Cooper*, of *Orange* County, be appointed, and are hereby appointed Mustermasters for Captain *Robert Johnson's* Company of soldiers, now enlisted in the Continental service, and that they, or either of them carefully muster the men, and pass none but such as they deem useful, active, sprightly men, and fit for service.

Ordered, That Colonel *Holmes* and Colonel *Philip Cortlandt*, or either of them, be appointed, and are hereby appointed to muster any soldiers raised or to be raised for Colonel *Holmes's* Regiment, and who shall not have been mustered by some other person appointed by this Congress.

And Ordered, That Colonel *Clinton* be in like manner appointed to muster the Regiment.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 26th July, ult., was read and filed.

A second Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 27th of July, was read and filed.

Ordered, That Colonel *Ten Broeck* be added to the Committee of Rank, in the place of Colonel *Van Rensselaer*, who is absent.

The President informed the Congress that the Recorder had waited on him at the door, and informed him that the Boat which had been building by order of the Committee of Safety was sawed to pieces and entirely destroyed.



*Ordered*, That this matter be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* be at liberty to settle with such of his Officers who are going on service, for two months pay.

The Congress then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., August 2, 1775.

Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayers by the Reverend Mr. *Mason*. Present:

*Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President, &c.

A Letter from *John Lamb*, recommending *Isaiah Wool* as Lieutenant Fire-worker of his Company, was read and filed. The said *Isaiah* is approved of.

*Ordered*, That he be appointed Lieutenant Fire-worker of Captain *Lamb's* Company.

As there is not any Ravens Duck or Osnaburghs to be purchased in the City of *New-York*, and Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* informed this Congress that without Osnaburghs and Ravens Duck he cannot complete Tents for the Troops, and that none can be obtained but what is in the hands of *Robert* and *John Murray*; and as the service would otherwise suffer greatly, and the necessity of the cause renders it absolutely necessary; therefore,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius* purchase as much Ravens Duck and Osnaburghs of Messrs. *Robert* and *John Murray* as he may want for the publick service, on the terms they offered them to him.

A Letter of General *Schuyler* to the *Albany* Committee, advising them from the necessity of the case, and to save time, to fill up the vacancies of such Officers in the Second Regiment as had declined the service, was read. Also a list of the Officers of the Second Regiment, as now fixed, with the changes that had been made therein by the *Albany* Committee was read.

*Ordered*, That the said List be delivered to the Committee of Rank, and that the following gentlemen be added to the said Committee of Rank, to wit: Mr. *John Sloss Hobart* in the stead of Colonel *Woodhull*; Mr. *Herring* in the place of Colonel *Tusteen*; Mr. *Marlett* in the place of *Christopher P. Yates*; and *David Watkins* in the stead of Major *Williams*.

A Letter from *John Dennis*, Chairman of the Committee of *New-Brunswick*, in answer to the Letter of the Committee of Safety, of the 21st ult., was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

City of *New-Brunswick*, July 27, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 21st instant came safe to hand, the contents of which was duly observed. Application was immediately made to Mr. *Merrill*, who says about three weeks past, a person coming from *Egg-Harbour*, when within the *Hook*, he saw a boat standing down our bay that he thought was loaded with flour, which boat he believes went along side the man-of-war; this is all he ever heard or knows of the matter. Every other inquiry in our power has been made, but can make no further discovery. All intelligences or discoveries of every action inimical to *American* liberty, and every matter of instruction for our better preservation, will ever be paid a due regard to, and cheerfully received by the Committee of this City.

Assure yourselves, gentlemen, that this Committee has, and ever will be ready to render to their Country every service in their power, and will continue to give a strict attention to and duly observe all resolutions formed by the Continental Congress.

We are, with esteem, gentlemen, your obedient humble servants,  
JOHN DENNIS, Chairman.

To Mr. *Henry Williams*.

*Ordered*, That the Committee formerly appointed to contract for Pouches, Belts, and Slings, do contract for eight hundred and eighty Pouches and Belts, and eight hundred and eighty Bayonet-belts, and eight hundred and eighty Slings for muskets, besides the quantity of two thousand each of those articles contracted for. And that the

said Committee get the said articles made with all possible speed.

Mr. *Low* moved that this Congress make a Resolution in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, August 2, 1775.

Whereas, it appeared to the Committee of Safety, appointed by this Congress during their late recess, that a Barge belonging to His Majesty's ship *Asia*, was, without any provocation, attacked, and most wantonly destroyed: And whereas, the Corporation of this City had, under the sanction of the said Committee, ordered another Barge to be built, in order to replace the Barge so destroyed as aforesaid: And whereas, this Congress had approved of that and the other conduct of their said Committee, and voted them their thanks for their faithful services: And whereas, notwithstanding, some disorderly and evil disposed persons did, in the night, destroy and render useless the said Barge, so ordered to be built as aforesaid, by sawing it in pieces: And whereas, the Corporation have since formally applied to this Congress for their direction in the premises:

*Resolved*, That the perpetrators of the said act are guilty of a high offence and insult against this Congress, and the Colony they represent, as endeavouring to contravene the true intent and meaning of their appointment. That they are base violators of the Association subscribed by this Congress, and by them recommended to the adoption of their constituents.

In order, therefore, that the sense of this Congress may be fully known relative to such outrageous acts,

*Ordered*, That this Resolution be immediately made publick, not doubting but that the good inhabitants of this Colony will duly assist and support this Congress in detecting, convicting, and bringing to condign punishment all such factious offenders, as disturbers of the publick peace, and enemies of their Country.

Mr. *Low's* motion was seconded by Mr. *Walton*. After some time spent in consideration thereof,

*Ordered*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till *Friday* morning next.

A Letter from the *New-York* Delegates at Continental Congress, was read.

*Ordered*, That *John Herring*, Esquire, go up to *Dobbs's Ferry*, and see the Powder forwarded, and that Mr. *Jacob Cuyler* appoint an *Albany* Sloop to stop at *Dobbs's Ferry*, and that he write a private Letter to the Committee of *Albany*, informing them of the said Powder, and desiring them to forward the same.

*Ordered*, That *Cornelius D. Wynkoop* be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Third Regiment, and ordered that he muster Captain *Hasbrouck's* and Captain *Brown's* Companies.

A Committee of the Officers of the First Regiment (inferior to Field Officers) attending at the door, were admitted, and, by Captain *Goforth*, delivered in writing to the President three Questions, in the words following, to wit: Whether the Congress will favour this Committee with an answer to the Memorial presented some days ago from the Officers of the First Regiment? We shall be glad to be informed what our Pay is to be from the Captains down to the Privates, the Adjutants and the Quartermasters included? And whether the Officers are to receive their Commissions before they embark?

The said Committee of Officers being withdrawn, the Congress took their Queries into consideration, and delivered them an answer in the words following, to wit:

To the Queries of the Committee of Officers of the First Regiment, the Congress gives the following answers, to wit:

1st. That they are not at liberty to make any allowance for the Clothing and Arms mentioned in their Letter of the 26th ultimo.

2d. That the Pay of the Troops raised in the Colony will be ascertained by the Continental Congress, but we have received assurances that it will not be less than the pay of the *Connecticut* Troops.

3d. That the Warrants given to the Officers are to remain with them instead of Commissions until their Commissions arrive from the General.



Die Mercurii, 4to ho. P. M., August 2, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

*Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esquire, President.

*Jesse Woodhull*, Esq., of *Cornwall* Precinct in *Orange* County, appointed in Congress. The Minutes of the Return of Deputies were read, whereby it appears that *Israel Seely*, *Jesse Woodhull*, and *Jeremiah Clarke*, were appointed Deputies for that Precinct to represent them in this Provincial Congress as part of the representation of *Orange* County.

Ordered, That *Jesse Woodhull*, Esq., take his seat.

A majority in the Third Regiment being now vacant, the following question was put, to wit: Who shall be Major of the Third Regiment? and the votes of the Counties present being taken, were delivered in the manner following, to wit:

|                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| For <i>Henry Livingston, Jr.</i> | For <i>Robert G. Livingston.</i> |
| 2 Dutchess,                      | 2 Charlotte,                     |
| 2 King's,                        | 2 Tryon,                         |
| 2 Suffolk,                       | 2 Westchester,                   |
| 2 Queen's,                       | 2 Richmond,                      |
| 4 New-York,                      | 2 Ulster,                        |

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Ordered therefore, That *Henry Livingston, Junr.*, be appointed Major of the Third Regiment of Troops now raising in this Colony, as a part of the Army of the United Colonies raised for the defence of *American* liberty, and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof.

Ordered, That Warrants be made out in Capt. *Nicholson's* Company: First Lieutenant, *David Dubois*; Second Lieutenant, *James Grigg*. And for Capt. *Jacobus Bruyn*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas De Witt*; Second Lieutenant, *Albert Pawling*. In Captain *Daniel Denton's* Company, for Second Lieutenant, *George Hamilton Jackson*. In Captain *Elias Hasbrouck's* Company, for First Lieutenant, *Cornelius T. Jansen*; Second Lieutenant, *Petrus Roggin*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Job Mulford*, Gentleman, be appointed Adjutant of the Fourth Regiment of Troops now raising in this Colony.

Ordered, That Captain *John Lamb* proceed with his Artillery Company to *Ticonderoga*, and join the Army under the command of General *Schuyler*, with all possible despatch.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., August 3, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with a prayer by the Rev. Dr. *Livingston*. Present:

*Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President.

Ordered, That the Chairman, or Deputy Chairman of the General Committee of Association of the City of *New-York*, be requested immediately to summon the Committee, in order to take into consideration the papers relating to *George Coffin's* Vessel and cargo, now delivered to him, in order to make report thereon to this Congress. And that if a sufficient number of the members of that Committee to make a quorum cannot be convened, that such number as can be immediately convened, do make such report with all possible despatch.

A Letter from *Walter Livingston*, Esq., was read and filed.

A copy of the Commission of *Walter Livingston* was read and filed.

Ordered, That Colonel *Clinton* be authorized to receive from *Peter T. Curtenius* for his Regiment, seven hundred and twenty Pouches and Belts; seven hundred and twenty Bayonet-belts; seven hundred and twenty Brushes and Wires; seven hundred and twenty Gun-worms; and seven hundred and twenty Screw-drivers; four thousand three hundred and twenty Flints; one hundred any forty Camp-kettles; seven hundred and twenty Canteens; seven hundred and twenty Haversacks, and the Clothing for the Third Regiment; and a Medicine Chest and Instruments, when examined and approved of by Dr. *John Jones* and Dr. *Treat*.

And Ordered, That Colonel *Holmes* be authorized to get the like articles for his Regiment.

Ordered, That Mr. *Israel Evans* be appointed, and is hereby appointed Chaplain of the First Regiment of the Troops now raising in this Colony.

A Letter from *Peter T. Curtenius*, of this day, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"August 3, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is a note I received from Captain *Lamb*; should be glad to have an order from Congress about this matter. I have waited on Messrs. *Murray*s about the twenty pieces and sixty pieces of osnaburghs; they request an order from the Congress to the Committee of *Elizabethtown*. I have made an inquiry about oars, and can't find above one hundred and fifty in Town, ninety-seven of which I sent up yesterday; for the remainder, I have contracted with Captain *Bradley*, of *New-Haven*, to deliver them in ten or twelve days.

"I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"PETER T. CURTENIUS."

A Letter from Captain *John Lamb* therein enclosed, was read and filed.

A draught of a Letter to the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress at New-York, August 3, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: We have spared a great number of our tents to the *Connecticut* Troops, and cannot now procure osnaburghs and duck sufficient to make tents for the Troops of this Colony in the Continental service, without taking that which was imported by *Robert* and *John Murray*. Necessity has, therefore, obliged us to agree to purchase those goods, that the service of the United Colonies may not be delayed. We therefore request you, gentlemen, to permit the said osnaburghs and ravens duck, of *Robert* and *John Murray*, to be delivered out of your store to Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius*, or his order, for the uses aforesaid.

We are, Gentlemen, your very humble servants.

To the Committee of *Elizabethtown*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A draught of a Letter to General *Washington*, requesting blank Commissions to be sent to the Officers of the *New-York* Regiments, was read and approved, and is in the words following:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, August 3, 1775.

SIR: We are informed, in a letter from the Continental Congress, that the General would make out the commissions for our Regiments to such persons as this Congress should command, but are at a loss to know whether you or General *Schuyler* are to issue the commissions. We understand, however, that they have been transmitted to you; if this should be the case, and the commissions are to be filled up by General *Schuyler*, we beg you will send them to him, or us, without delay. If they are to be filled up by your Excellency, we submit it, whether, to prevent delay, it would not be proper to send them in blank to General *Schuyler*, or to us, that the names may be filled up agreeable to the arrangements made by this Congress. The number of commissions wanted will be about two hundred.

We are, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servants. By order.

His Excellency General *Washington*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Col. *Holmes* has leave of absence. *Volkert P. Douw*, Esq., has leave of absence on account of his being one of the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs.

A Warrant to *Isaac Van Waert* as Second Lieutenant, ordered and issued this day.

Ordered, That a Warrant be made out to *Jacobus Rosekraus* as Captain; a Warrant to *Samuel Van Vechten* as First Lieutenant, and a Warrant to *Thomas Lee* as Second Lieutenant.

The Congress adjourned to five o'clock, P. M.

Five ho. P. M.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

The Congress being informed that Captain *Patrick Sinclair* is appointed Lieutenant-Governour and Superintendent at *Missilimacana*; the said *Patrick Sinclair* being



sent for, attended, and acknowledged that he was informed by authority from his Majesty, that he was so appointed, and that he did expect to receive his commission and instructions for that purpose. And it being highly imprudent at this critical juncture, to permit any gentleman under the influence of the *British Ministry* to proceed to that post to exercise those offices, who might prejudice the *Indians* against the inhabitants of the United Colonies,

*Resolved*, That the said Captain *Patrick Sinclair* shall not be at present permitted to proceed to *Missilimacana*.

And *Ordered*, That the said *Patrick Sinclair* go to any part of *Suffolk County*, on *Nassau Island*, and reside there, on his giving his promise parole on his honour that he will not take any part in the present unhappy controversy between *Great Britain* and the United Colonies; and that he will not depart from, or go out of such part of the said County of *Suffolk*, without permission of the Continental Congress, or of this or some future Provincial Congress, until the present unhappy controversy between *Great Britain* and the Colonies shall be determined.

Captain *Patrick Sinclair* declared on his honour, that he will not take any part in the present controversy between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, and that he will not depart the limits above mentioned, without such permission as above mentioned.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the state of the Militia of the Colony, be postponed until *Monday* next.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Philip Cortlandt* have leave to borrow as much money on the credit of this Congress, (and give his obligation for the same,) as will enable him to pay two Companies of the men enlisted in the Fourth Regiment, until the first day of *August* next.

The Congress adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., August 4, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment. Opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. *Bowden*.

Mr. *Harper*, of *Harpersfield*, near *Cherry Valley*, having represented the defenceless state of that part of the County of *Tryon*, for want of a small quantity of Gunpowder, and requested that he may be permitted to purchase one hundred weight of Powder at the Powder-Mill of the Honourable *Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., on his paying the money for the same,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Harper* have leave to purchase one hundred weight of Gunpowder accordingly, for the use of the inhabitants of that part of *Tryon County*; and the gentleman who has direction of the said Powder-Mill is requested to sell one hundred weight of Gunpowder to the said Mr. *Harper*, on his paying the cash for the same.

Mr. *Walton* came into Congress, and informed the Congress that Captain *Patrick Sinclair* alleges, that Lord *Dartmouth's* card does not warrant the inserting the words "*of Indian Affairs*" in the state of his appointment as it stands on the Minutes of this Congress; and the same being compared with the copy of Lord *Dartmouth's* card, as it appears in the Letter of Sir *Charles Thompson* to Captain *Sinclair*, is found not to be warranted thereby,

*Ordered, therefore*, That the words "*of Indian Affairs*," be struck out of the Minutes in the recital of his appointment, and also in the certified copies thereof, and that the said certified copies be redelivered to Mr. *Walton*.

Mr. *Walton* soon after came into Congress, and informed that he had shown the amended copy of the Minutes to Captain *Patrick Sinclair*, and informed him that the Minutes were amended accordingly. That Captain *Sinclair* declared that he could not consent to the general tenour of that part of the Minutes concerning him which related to *Indian Affairs*, and could not sign it, and that the Congress may do as they please with him.

Mr. *Walton* being asked whether he had desired Captain *Sinclair* to sign one of those copies, declared on his honour that he had not asked or desired him to sign it.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* send a Guard to take the said *Patrick Sinclair* into custody.

Captain *Patrick Sinclair* being taken into custody, and brought into Congress, declared he never had solicited to be Superintendent of *Indian Affairs*.

*Ordered*, That he withdraw unto the next room, and remain there under guard.

Mr. *Sears* (seconded by Mr. *Beekman*) moved in the words following, to wit: That the Order of yesterday for sending Captain *Sinclair* to *Suffolk*, be reconsidered.

The same being agreed to *nemine con.*,

*Ordered*, That the said Order of yesterday for sending Captain *Sinclair* to *Suffolk County*, be reconsidered.

Mr. *Sears* then moved and was seconded, that the Order of yesterday relating to Capt. *Patrick Sinclair*, be amended, by obliterating therein the words "*any part of Suffolk County, on Nassau Island*," and inserting instead thereof the words "*Hartford, in Connecticut*," and debates arising thereon, it was carried against the amendment in the manner following, to wit:

For the Amendment.

2 Dutchess,  
2 Ulster,  
2 Orange,  
2 Suffolk,  
2 Tryon,  
2 Charlotte.

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Against the Amendment.

3 Albany,  
2 King's,  
2 Richmond,  
4 New-York,  
2 Queen's.

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Dissentients from the vote of *New-York*: Messrs. *Sears*, *Beekman*, *Hallett*, *Smith*, *Scott*, and *McDougall*.

*Ordered, therefore*, That the proposed Amendment be rejected.

Captain *Patrick Sinclair*, at his request, being then admitted into Congress, alleged that he had misapprehended part of the order of this Congress of yesterday; and having received a certified copy thereof, and perused and examined the same, he, on his honour, in publick Congress, declared that he would comply with and strictly obey the injunctions therein contained.

A Letter from *Philip Livingston* and *George Clinton*, Esquires, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, August 2, 1775.

"SIR: We received your letter by express this morning, in answer to which we beg leave to inform you that we have obtained an order of Congress on the Continental Treasury, in your favour, for one hundred and seventy-five thousand Dollars; but as there is not yet a sufficient number of the bills signed to answer the most pressing occasions, we imagine your draft cannot be answered before the latter end of the next week. We have, however, been able to borrow about eight thousand Pounds for you, which we will bring with us, expecting to set out for *New-York* this afternoon, the Congress having adjourned this morning till the 5th of *September* next.

"We are, Sir, your most obedient servants,

"PHIL. LIVINGSTON,

"GEORGE CLINTON.

"To *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq."

A Letter from *John Hulbert*, of the 27th ultimo, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Southampton, July 27, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: I wrote to you the 20th inst., informing you that I had enlisted forty-nine men. I would now acquaint you that I have added to that number, so that this day sixty-eight have passed muster. In a day or two I hope to make return of the whole. I am, Gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOHN HULBERT.

"To the Provincial Congress at *New-York*."

A Letter from *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Albany*, relative to *George Sullivan*, and covering a copy of a letter from General *Wooster* to Colonel *Waterbury*, relating to the same person, was read and filed. The copy of General *Wooster's* letter was also read and filed.

Whereas, those Counties which are now represented in this Congress by a majority of the Delegates sent hither for that purpose, may be deprived of their weight of representation, by the absence of Members upon the publick service:

*Resolved, therefore*, That all Members who are absent by the order of this House, or of the Continental Congress, shall be counted with those who actually appear, and when a majority shall appear upon such counting, then those Members actually present shall give their vote for the said County, as if a real majority were personally at this Board.



Mr. *John De Lancey* having insulted Mr. *Scott*, a Member in this House, while the Congress was sitting, by calling him a scoundrel, and attempting to run his fist in his face,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John De Lancey* be reprimanded by the President for his conduct, and that he ask the pardon of this Congress for his offence.

Mr. *Low* then moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Foster*, that the Congress also make and enter on their Minutes an Order, in the words following, to wit: "Ordered, that they be enjoined to let the dispute stop here, and that they proceed no farther in it."

And debates arising thereon, and the question being put, Whether the House will agree to such Order? it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

| For the Affirmative. |              | For the Negative. |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 2 Dutchess,          | 2 Tryon,     | 2 Westchester,    |
| 3 Albany,            | 2 Charlotte, | 2 Orange.         |
| 2 King's,            | 2 Suffolk,   | —                 |
| 2 Richmond,          | 2 Ulster,    | 4                 |
| 2 Queen's,           | 4 New-York.  |                   |

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Messrs. *Sears*, *Smith*, and *Beekman*, dissent from the vote of *New-York*.

*Ordered*, therefore, That Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *De Lancey* be enjoined to let the dispute stop here, and that they proceed no further in it.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *De Lancey* be each of them served with a certified copy of the said Orders by one of the Secretaries.

*Ordered*, That Captain *John Lamb* be authorized to get the Clothes of his Company from Mr. *Peter T. Curtenius*, when they are made.

A Certificate of Doctor *John Jones* and Doctor *Bard*, bearing date on this day, was read and filed. Those gentlemen thereby certify, that they have examined Doctor *Ebenezer Haviland*, respecting his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, and that they find him very competently qualified to act as Surgeon of a Regiment.

*Agreed and Ordered*, That the said *Ebenezer Haviland* be appointed Surgeon to the Fourth Regiment of the Troops raised in this Colony.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the Resolutions moved by Mr. *Low* on *Wednesday*, the 2d instant, with respect to the insult offered to this Congress, by destroying the Boat ordered to be built for the use of His Majesty's Ship *Asia*, and which was appointed for this day, be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., August 5, 1775.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment, without prayers. Present:

*Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., President, &c.

A Letter from *Dirck G. Brinckerhoff*, Chairman of the Committee of *Rombouts* Precinct, in *Dutchess* County, requesting longer time to get the Association signed, was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That *Gilbert Livingston*, Esq., write a private Letter to the Committee, informing them that the Congress agrees to their request.

Mr. *Low* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Henry Williams*, in the words following, to wit: I move that a Committee be appointed to consider of and report, as soon as possible, the ways and means best adapted to discharge the Debts already contracted, and which hereafter may be contracted by this Congress for the exigences of this Colony in its present critical and alarming situation.

The same being unanimously agreed to, the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee for that purpose, to wit: Mr. *Robert Yates*, Mr. *Tappen*, Captain *Platt*, Mr. *Gouverneur Morris*, Mr. *Lefferts*, Mr. *Low*, Mr. *Verplanck*, Mr. *Thomas Smith*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Jackson*, Mr. *French*, Mr. *Micheau*, Mr. *Marlett*, and Mr. *Watkins*; and

*Ordered*, That the said Committee report with all convenient speed.

Mr. *John Foster* informed the Congress that the Committees of the several Towns in *Suffolk* County have resolved not to permit any Cattle or Live-Stock to be shipped off from *Suffolk* County. And further informed the Con-

gress, that if he may be permitted to send a cargo of Live-Stock to the *West-Indies*, he does engage to bring back in return Military Stores, for the benefit of this Colony, if the same can be obtained at the Port or Ports to which the vessel shall touch, and give the first offer of the sale thereof to this Provincial Congress, or such other Provincial Congress of this Colony as shall then be sitting.

Mr. *Foster's* proposal being agreed to by the Congress,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Foster* be permitted to ship a cargo of Live-Stock to the *West-Indies*, that he may be thereby enabled to procure Military Stores.

*Resolved*, That the Troops enlisted by this Colony shall be allowed fifty-three Shillings and four Pence per month, in such manner as the Troops of *Connecticut* and *Massachusetts-Bay* receive their pay; that they be allowed one Blanket and one Regimental Coat; that they be allowed ten Shillings for the use of their Arms; and that those who have no Arms shall have Arms purchased for them by the Colony, and that such Arms shall be returned at the end of the campaign, in good order, and if not returned, shall be paid for by such Soldiers as shall be in default on that account.

The President produced a Warrant of the Continental Congress, bearing date on the 1st day of *August* instant, for the payment of One Hundred and Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars to this Congress; which was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, August 1, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding One Hundred and Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars be paid to the Provincial Convention of *New-York*, to be applied towards the discharge of the Moneys advanced, and the Debts contracted for the publick service by the said Provincial Convention and the Committee of *Albany*, in pursuance of the directions of this Congress. And that the said Provincial Convention account to this Congress at their next meeting for the application of the said Money.

"*JOHN HANCOCK*, President."

The Order of the Day being read, the Congress resumed the consideration of the Resolutions moved for by Mr. *Low* on the 2d instant. The same were read; and being again read paragraph by paragraph, on reading the second Resolution, to wit, the last paragraph, Mr. *McDougall* moved that the word *base* be obliterated, and the word *insolent* inserted in its stead.

And the same being unanimously agreed to,

*Ordered*, That the said Amendment be made.

The last paragraph being read, Mr. *McDougall* then moved that the words "*and enemies to their Country*" be obliterated.

And debates arising thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative in the manner following, to wit:

| For the Affirmative.                      | For the Negative. |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2 Ulster,                                 | 2 Richmond.       |
| 2 Dutchess,                               | —                 |
| 2 Orange,                                 | 2                 |
| 3 Albany,                                 |                   |
| 2 Westchester, (Morris dissenting.)       |                   |
| 4 New-York, (Marston and Low dissenting.) |                   |
| 2 Tryon,                                  |                   |
| 2 Suffolk.                                |                   |

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*King's* County equally divided; *Queen's* County has not a quorum; *Charlotte* County did not vote.

*Ordered*, therefore, That the words "*and enemies to their Country*," be obliterated.

Mr. *Gilbert Livingston* then moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Melancton Smith*, that the said motion and Resolutions be wholly rejected.

And the question being put thereon, it passed in the negative in manner following, to wit:

| For the Resolutions.                | Against the Resolutions. |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 King's,                           | 2 Suffolk,               |
| 4 New-York,                         | 2 Orange,                |
| 3 Albany,                           | 2 Ulster,                |
| 2 Westchester, (Morris dissenting.) | 2 Tryon.                 |
| 2 Charlotte,                        | —                        |
| 2 Richmond.                         | 8                        |

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*Resolved and Ordered, therefore, That the said Resolutions, with their preambulatory recitals or introductions, as amended and agreed to, be entered on the Journals as part of the proceedings of this Congress; and that the same be published in the Newspapers; which said Resolutions, as amended, with their recitals, are in the words following, viz:*

Whereas, it appeared to the Committee of Safety, appointed by this Congress during their late recess, that a Barge belonging to His Majesty's Ship *Asia*, was, without any provocation, attacked, and most wantonly destroyed: And whereas, the Corporation of the City had, under the sanction of the said Committee, ordered another Barge to be built, in order to replace the Barge so destroyed as aforesaid: And whereas, this Congress had approved of that and the other conduct of their said Committee, and voted them their thanks for their faithful services: And whereas, notwithstanding, some disorderly and evil-disposed persons did, in the night, destroy and render useless said Barge, so ordered to be built as aforesaid, by sawing it in pieces: And whereas, the Corporation have since formally applied to this Congress for their directions in the premises:

*Resolved, That the perpetrators of the said act are guilty of a high offence and insult against this Congress, and the Colony they represent, as endeavouring to contravene the true intent and meaning of their appointment. That they are insolent violators of the Association subscribed by this Congress, and by them recommended to the adoption of their constituents.*

In order, therefore, that the sense of this Congress may be fully known relative to such outrageous acts,

*Ordered, That this Resolution be immediately made*

publick, not doubting but that the good inhabitants of this Colony will duly assist and support this Congress in detecting, convicting, and bringing to condign punishment all such factious offenders, as disturbers of the publick peace.

*Ordered, That the Committee of the City of New-York be requested to send for any such persons to appear before them as they shall think proper to examine; and that they take examinations and every other such measure as they shall devise or think proper, to discover the persons who sawed and destroyed the Boat lately ordered to be built for the use of His Majesty's Ship *Asia*; and that they report their proceedings and discoveries therein to this Congress, with all convenient speed.*

Three of the Delegates of this Colony in Continental Congress informed this Congress that they have received a sum of Money from a particular friend, which they will lend to this Congress for a few days, on receiving security for the same.

*Ordered, That Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, the President of this Congress, receive from the said Delegates such sum as they can lend, and give his note or obligation for the same; and*

*Ordered, That Mr. Livingston pay Four Thousand Pounds of that money to the Colonels of the respective Regiments, or for their use, in such proportion as he shall think expedient; and that he pay the residue thereof to Mr. Joseph Hallett.*

*Ordered, That one of the Secretaries write a Letter to Charles Thomson, Esquire, Secretary of the Continental Congress, requesting of him a certified copy of the rates of the pay of the Troops in the Continental Army, from a Colonel downwards.*

#### CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, Wednesday, May 10, 1775.

A number of Delegates from the Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina*, agreeable to their appointment, and the orders received from their respective Colonies, met at *Philadelphia*, viz:

From *NEW-HAMPSHIRE*.—Mr. John Sullivan, Mr. John Langdon.

From *MASSACHUSETTS-BAY*.—Messrs. John Hancock, Thomas Cushing, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine.

From *CONNECTICUT*.—Mr. Eliphalet Dyer, Mr. Roger Sherman, Mr. Silas Deane.

From *NEW-YORK*.—Mr. Philip Livingston, Mr. James Duane, Mr. John Alsop.

From *NEW-JERSEY*.—Mr. James Kinsey, Mr. Stephen Crane, Mr. William Livingston, Mr. John De Hart, Mr. Richard Smith.

From *PENNSYLVANIA*.—Mr. Edward Biddle, Mr. John Dickinson, Mr. Thomas Mifflin, Mr. Charles Humphreys, Mr. John Morton, Mr. George Ross, Mr. Benjamin Franklin, Mr. Thomas Willing.

From *DELAWARE COUNTIES*.—Mr. Caesar Rodney, Mr. Thomas McKean, Mr. George Read.

From *MARYLAND*.—Mr. Matthew Tilghman, Mr. Thomas Johnson, Mr. William Paca, Mr. Samuel Chase, Mr. John Hall.

From *VIRGINIA*.—Mr. Peyton Randolph, Mr. George Washington, Mr. Richard Henry Lee, Mr. Edmund Pendleton, Mr. Benjamin Harrison, Mr. Richard Bland.

From *NORTH-CAROLINA*.—Mr. William Hooper, Mr. Joseph Hewes, Mr. Richard Caswell.

From *SOUTH-CAROLINA*.—Mr. Henry Middleton, Mr. Thomas Lynch, Mr. Christopher Gadsden, Mr. John Rutledge, Mr. Edward Rutledge.

Being convened in the State-House, proceeded to the choice of a President; when,

Upon motion, The Honourable *Peyton Randolph* was unanimously chosen President.

After the President was seated,

Mr. *Charles Thomson* was unanimously chosen Secretary.

*Andrew McNeare* was also chosen Doorkeeper, and *William Shed* Messenger.

*Ordered, That the Rev. Mr. Duché* be requested to open the Congress with prayers to-morrow morning; and that Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Mr. *Bland*, be a Committee to wait on Mr. *Duché*, and acquaint him with the request of the Congress.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

Thursdny, May 11, 1775, A. M.

Agreeable to the order of yesterday, the Congress was opened with prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Duché*. After prayers, the Congress, according to adjournment, proceeded to business.

The Delegates from the several Colonies produced their Credentials, which were read, and approved, as follow:

#### FOR THE PROVINCE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

At the Convention of Deputies, appointed by the several Towns in the Province aforesaid, held at *Exeter*, on the twenty-fifth day of *January*, 1775:

The Hon. *John Wentworth*, Esq., in the Chair.

*Voted, That John Sullivan and John Langdon, Esqrs.*, be delegated to represent this Province in the Continental Congress proposed to be held at *Philadelphia*, on the tenth day of *May* next, and that they and each of them, in the absence of the other, have full and ample power, in behalf of this Province, to consent and agree to all measures which said Congress shall deem necessary, to obtain redress of *American* grievances.

True copy attested:

MESHECH WEARE, Clerk to the Convention.

#### FOR THE PROVINCE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

In Provincial Congress, CAMBRIDGE, DEC. 5, 1774.

*Resolved, That the Proceedings of the American Continental Congress, held at Philadelphia, on the fifth day of September last, and reported by the honourable Delegates from this Colony, have, with the deliberation due to their high importance, been considered by us; and the American Bill of Rights, therein contained, appears to be formed with the greatest ability and judgment, to be founded on the immutable laws of nature and reason, the principles of the English Constitution, and the respective Charters and*



Constitutions of the Colonies, and to be worthy of their most vigorous support, as essentially necessary to liberty; likewise the ruinous and iniquitous measures, which, in violation of these rights, at present convulse and threaten destruction to *America*, appear to be clearly pointed out, and judicious plans adopted for defeating them.

*Resolved*, That the most grateful acknowledgments are due to the truly honourable and patriotick Members of the Continental Congress, for their wise and able exertions in the cause of *American* liberty; and this Congress, in their own names, and in behalf of this Colony, do hereby, with the utmost sincerity, express the same.

*Resolved*, That the Hon. *John Hancock*, the Hon. *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, Mr. *Samuel Adams*, *John Adams*, and *Robert Treat Paine*, Esquires, or any three of them, be, and they are hereby appointed and authorized to represent this Colony, on the tenth of *May* next, or sooner if necessary, at the *American* Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia*, with full power, with the Delegates from the other *American* Colonies, to concert, agree upon, direct and order such further measures as shall to them appear to be best calculated for the recovery and establishment of *American* rights and liberties, and for restoring harmony between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

A true copy of record: BENJ. LINCOLN, *Sec'y*.

In Provincial Congress, CAMBRIDGE, FEB. 6, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the Hon. *John Hancock*, the Hon. *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, Mr. *Samuel Adams*, *John Adams*, and *Robert Treat Paine*, Esquires, appointed by the last Provincial Congress to represent this Colony, on the tenth of *May* next, or sooner if necessary, at the *American* Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia*, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, with the Delegates from the other *American* Colonies, to adjourn from time to time, and place to place, as shall be judged necessary, and to continue in being, as Delegates for this Colony, until the thirty-first day of *December* next ensuing, and no longer.

A true copy of record: BENJ. LINCOLN, *Sec'y*.

#### FOR CONNECTICUT.

In the House of Representatives of the Colony of CONNECTICUT, NOVEMBER 3, A. D. 1774.

This House proceeded to nominate, choose, and appoint Delegates to attend the General Congress, to be holden at *Philadelphia*, on the tenth day of *May* next, and made choice of the Hon. *Eliphalet Dyer*, Hon. *Roger Sherman*, *Silas Deane*, \**Titus Hosmer*, and \**Jonathan Sturgess*, Esquires, to be their Delegates, any three of whom are authorized and empowered to attend said Congress, in behalf of this Colony, to join, consult, and advise with the Delegates of the other Colonies in *British America*, on proper measures for advancing the best good of the Colonies.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, *Speaker*.

A true copy, extracted from the Journals of the House.

Attested: RICHARD LAW, *Clerk*.

#### FOR NEW-YORK.

At a Provincial Convention, formed of Deputies from the City and County of *New-York*, the City and County of *Albany*, and the Counties of *Dutchess*, *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Westchester*, *King's*, and *Suffolk*, held at the City of *New-York*, the twenty-second day of *April*, 1775, for the purpose of appointing Delegates to represent the Colony of *New-York* in the next Continental Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia*, on the tenth of *May* next, *Philip Livingston*, *James Duane*, *John Alsop*, \**John Jay*, *Simon Boerum*, *William Floyd*, \**Henry Wisner*, \**Philip Schuyler*, \**George Clinton*, *Lewis Morris*, \**Francis Lewis*, and \**Robert R. Livingston*, Jun., Esquires, were unanimously elected Delegates to represent this Colony at such Congress, with full power to them, or any five of them, to meet the Delegates from the other Colonies, and to concert and determine upon such measures as shall be judged most effectual for the preservation and re-establishment of *American* rights and privileges, and for the restoration of harmony between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

SIGNED, *Leonard Lispenard*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Abraham Walton*, *Alexander McDougall*, and twenty-four others.

NOTE.—All the Members attended except those marked thus \*

We, the subscribers, do, in behalf of ourselves and those freeholders of *Queen's County*, at whose request we attended the Convention, signify our assent to, and approbation of, the above Delegation.

SIGNED, *John Fulman*, *Zebulon Williams*, *Jacob Blackwell*, *Joseph Robinson*.

#### FOR NEW-JERSEY.

In Assembly, PERTH-AMBOY, TUESDAY, JAN. 24, 1775.

*Resolved*, unanimously, That *James Kinsey*, *Stephen Crane*, *William Livingston*, *John De Hart*, and *Richard Smith*, Esquires, or any three of them, be, and they are hereby appointed to attend the Continental Congress of the Colonies, intended to be held at the City of *Philadelphia*, in *May* next, or at any other time and place; and that they report their proceedings to the next session of General Assembly.

A true copy from the Journals.

RICHARD SMITH, *Clerk of the Assembly*.

#### FOR PENNSYLVANIA.

In Assembly, DECEMBER 15, 1774, A. M.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, nemine contradicente, That the Hon. *Edward Biddle*, *John Dickinson*, *Thomas Mifflin*, *Charles Humphreys*, *John Morton*, and *George Ross*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed Deputies on the part of this Province to attend the General Congress, proposed to be held at the City of *Philadelphia*, on the tenth day of *May* next; and that they, or any four of them, do meet the said Congress accordingly, unless the present grievances of the *American* Colonies shall before that time be redressed.

Extract from the Journals:

CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of the Assembly*.

In Assembly, MAY 6, 1775, A. M.

*Resolved*, nemine contradicente, That *Benjamin Franklin*, the Hon. *Thomas Willing*, and \**James Wilson*, Esq., be, and they are hereby added to the Deputies appointed by this House to attend the Continental Congress, expected to meet the tenth instant, in this City.

Extract from the Journals:

CHARLES MOORE, *Clerk of the Assembly*.

#### FOR THE LOWER COUNTIES ON DELAWARE.

In Assembly, THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1775, A. M.

On motion,

*Resolved*, nemine contradicente, That the Hon. *Cæsar Rodney*, *Thomas McKean*, and *George Read*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed and authorized to represent this Government at the *American* Congress, proposed to be held at the City of *Philadelphia*, on the tenth day of *May* next, or at any other time or place, with full power to them, or any two of them, together with the Delegates from the other *American* Colonies, to concert and agree upon such farther measures as shall appear to them best calculated for the accommodation of the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, on a constitutional foundation, which the House most ardently wish for, and that they report their proceedings to the next sessions of General Assembly.

True copy of Minutes of Assembly:

DAVID THOMSON, *Clerk to the Assembly*.

#### FOR MARYLAND.

At a meeting of the Deputies appointed by the several Counties of the Province of *Maryland*, at the City of *Annapolis*, by adjournment, on the eighth of *December*, 1774, and continued till the twelfth day of the same month:

*Resolved* unanimously, That the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman*, *Thomas Johnson*, Jun., \**Robert Goldsborough*, *William Paca*, *Samuel Chase*, *John Hall*, and \**Thomas Stone*, Esquires, or any three or more of them, be Delegates to represent this Province in the next Continental Congress, and that they, or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures which such Congress shall deem necessary and



effectual to obtain a redress of *American* grievances; and this Province bind themselves to execute, to the utmost of their power, all resolutions which the said Congress may adopt. And further, if the said Congress shall think necessary to adjourn, we do authorize our said Delegates to represent and act for this Province in any one Congress, to be held by virtue of such adjournment.

Signed by order, JOHN DUCKET, *Clerk*.

#### FOR VIRGINIA.

At a Convention of Delegates for the Counties and Corporations in the Colony of *Virginia*, at the Town of *Richmond*, in the County of *Henrico*, on *Monday*, the twentieth of *March*, 1775:

The Convention proceeded to the election of Delegates by ballot, to represent this Colony in General Congress, to be held at the City of *Philadelphia* on the tenth day of *May* next, when the Hon. *Peyton Randolph*, *George Washington*, \**Patrick Henry*, *Richard Henry Lee*, *Edmund Pendleton*, *Benjamin Harrison*, and *Richard Bland*, Esquires, were chosen for that purpose.

PEYTON RANDOLPH, *President*.

JOHN TAZEVELL, *Clerk of the Convention*.

#### FOR NORTH-CAROLINA.

At a general meeting of Delegates of the Inhabitants of this Province, in convention at *Newbern*, the fifth day of *April*, 1775:

Present: the Honourable *John Harvey*, Esq., Moderator, and sixty-eight members. On motion,

*Resolved*, That *William Hooper*, *Joseph Hewes*, and *Richard Caswell*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed Delegates to attend the General Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* on the tenth day of *May* next, or at any other time and place that shall be appointed for that purpose; and they are hereby invested with such powers as may make any acts done by them, or any of them, or consent given in behalf of this Province, obligatory, in honour, upon every inhabitant thereof.

A true copy from the minutes:

JOHN HARVEY, *Moderator*.

Attested by *Andrew Knox*, *Clerk*.

*In the Assembly, 7th of APRIL, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That the House do highly approve of the proceedings of the Continental Congress, lately held at *Philadelphia*, and that they are determined, as members of the community in general, that they will strictly adhere to the said Resolutions, and will use what influence they have to induce the same observance in every individual of this Province.

This House having received information that *William Hooper*, *Joseph Hewes*, and *Richard Caswell*, Esquires, were appointed by the Convention, held at *Newbern*, as Delegates to attend the meeting of the Continental Congress, soon to be held at *Philadelphia*:

*Resolved*, That the House approve of the choice made by the said Convention.

A true copy from the Journal of the House of Assembly:

JAMES GREEN, JR., *Clerk*.

#### FOR SOUTH-CAROLINA.

*In the Commons House of Assembly, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY, 3, 1775.*

Whereas, the Continental Congress, held at the City of *Philadelphia* in *September* last, amongst other things, recommended to the several Colonies in *North-America* to choose Deputies as soon as possible, to hold another Congress at the same place, on the tenth day of *May* next; and this House being fully satisfied with the conduct and fidelity of their late Deputies at the Congress, do hereby nominate and appoint the Honourable *Henry Middleton*, Esquire, *Thomas Lynch*, *Christopher Gadsden*, *John Rutledge*, and *Edward Rutledge*, Esquires, Deputies for and in behalf of this Colony, to meet the Deputies appointed, or to be appointed on the part and behalf of the other Colonies, at the City of *Philadelphia*, or any other place that shall be agreed on by the said Deputies in General Congress, with full power and authority to concert, agree to, and effectually prosecute such measures as, in the opinion of the said Deputies,

and the Deputies to be assembled, shall be most likely to obtain a redress of *American* grievances.

*Resolved*, That the Deputies hereby appointed on the part and behalf of this Colony, are authorized and empowered to agree that the Continental Congress may meet at any future time, and at such place as shall be agreed on, and to adjourn from time to time, provided it do not exceed nine months from the date of their meeting in *May* next.

Attested:

THOMAS FARR, JR., *Clerk*.

*Extract from the Journals of the Provincial Congress of SOUTH-CAROLINA, published by order of the Congress, the 11th of JANUARY, 1775.*

*Resolved*, That the Honourable *Henry Middleton*, Esq., *Thomas Lynch*, *Christopher Gadsden*, *John Rutledge*, and *Edward Rutledge*, Esquires, or any three of them, be, and they are hereby appointed and authorized to represent this Colony on the tenth day of *May* next, or sooner if necessary, at the *American* Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* or elsewhere, with full power to concert, agree upon, direct, and order such further measures as, in the opinion of the said Deputies, and the Delegates of the other *American* Colonies to be assembled, shall appear to be necessary for the recovery and establishment of *American* rights and liberties, and for restoring harmony between *Great Britain* and her Colonies.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Congress be given to the Reverend Mr. *Duché*, for performing Divine Service, agreeable to the desire of the Congress, and for his excellent Prayer, so well adapted to the present occasion.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Bland*, Mr. *Willing*, and Mr. *Sullivan*, be a Committee to wait upon Mr. *Duché*, and return the thanks of the Congress agreeable to the above Resolution.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the Doors be kept shut during the time of business, and that the Members consider themselves under the strongest obligations of honour to keep the Proceedings secret, until the majority shall direct them to be made publick.

A Circular Letter from the Agents, *William Bolla*, *B. Franklin*, and *Arthur Lee*, Esquires, directed to the Speakers of the several Assemblies, with sundry papers therein referred to, were laid before the Congress and read; the Letter is as follows:

"London, February 5, 1775.

"SIR: Our last letter informed you that the King had declared his intentions of laying the Petition before his two Houses of Parliament. It has accordingly been laid before each House, but undistinguished among a variety of letters and other papers from *America*.

"A motion made by Lord *Chatham*, to withdraw the Troops from *Boston*, as the first step towards a conciliating plan, was rejected; and the Ministry have declared in both Houses the determination to enforce obedience to all the late laws. For this purpose, we understand, that three regiments of foot, one of dragoons, seven hundred marines, six sloops of war, and two frigates, are now under orders for *America*.

"We think it proper to inform you, that your cause was well defended by a considerable number of good and wise men in both Houses of Parliament, though far from being a majority; and that many of the commercial and manufacturing parts of the nation, concerned in the *American* trade, have presented, or, as we understand, are preparing to present, petitions to Parliament, declaring their great concern for the present unhappy controversies with *America*, and praying expressly, or in effect, for healing measures, as the proper means of preserving their commerce, now greatly suffering or endangered. But the treatment the petitions, already presented, have hitherto received, is such as, in our opinion, can afford you no reliance on present relief through their means.

"As soon as we learnt that the petition of the Congress was before the House of Commons, we thought it our duty to support it, if we might be permitted so to do, as there was no other opportunity for the numerous inhabitants of the Colonies to be heard in defence of their rights: accordingly



we joined in a petition for that purpose. Sir *George Savile* kindly undertook to present it; but, on previously opening the purport of it, as the order is, a debate arose on the propriety of receiving it, and on a division, it was rejected by a great majority.

"The following extract of a letter from General *Gage* to Lord *Dartmouth*, as laid before Parliament, we think it our duty to transmit, viz:

"December 15, 1774.—Your Lordship's idea of disarming certain Provinces, would doubtless be consistent with prudence and safety, but it neither is, nor has been practicable, without having recourse to force, and being masters of the Country."

"It was thrown out in debate by a principal member of Administration, that it would be proper to alter the Charters of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*.

"Enclosed, we send you a copy of the Resolutions passed in a Committee of the whole House, on *Thursday* last, which are to be reported on *Monday*. It is said that these Resolutions are to be the foundation of several bills to be brought in, but the purport of those bills we have not yet learnt with sufficient certainty.

"We send you, likewise, a copy of Lord *Chatham's* first motion in the House of Lords, and of his plan of a bill for settling the troubles between *Great Britain* and the Colonies; both of which were rejected on the first reading.

"With great respect, we are, Sir, your most obedient humble servants,

(Signed)

"WILLIAM BOLLAN,  
"BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,  
"ARTHUR LEE."\*

[\* PAPERS ACCOMPANYING THE LETTER OF THE AGENTS, DATED LONDON, FEBRUARY 5, 1775, SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS THIS DAY.]

*Circular Letter from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governours of the several British Colonies in America.*

WHITEHALL, January 5, 1775.

SIR: Certain persons styling themselves Delegates of His Majesty's Colonies in *America*, having presumed, without His Majesty's authority or consent, to assemble together at *Philadelphia*, in the months of *September* and *October* last, and having thought fit, among other unwarrantable proceedings, to resolve that it will be necessary that another Congress should be held in the same place, on the 10th of *May* next, unless redress for certain pretended grievances be obtained before that time, and to recommend that all the Colonies in *North America* should choose Deputies to attend such Congress; I am commanded by the King to signify to you His Majesty's pleasure, that you do use your utmost endeavours to prevent any such appointment of Deputies within the Colony under your government; and that you do exhort all persons to desist from such unwarrantable proceedings, which cannot but be highly displeasing to the King.

I am, Sir, &c.

DARTMOUTH.

Lord *Chatham's Motion*, January 20, 1775.

That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, most humbly to advise and beseech His Majesty, that in order to open the way towards a happy settlement of the dangerous troubles in *America*, by beginning to allay ferments and soften animosities there; and above all, for preventing in the meantime any sudden and fatal catastrophe at *Boston*, now suffering under daily irritation of an Army before their eyes, posted in their Town; it may graciously please His Majesty, that immediate orders may be despatched to General *Gage*, for removing His Majesty's forces from the Town of *Boston*, as soon as the rigour of the season and other circumstances, indispensable to the safety and accommodation of the said Troops, may render the same practicable.

*Resolution of a Committee of the Whole House (of Commons).*

February 2, 1775.—To be reported the *Monday* following:

That it is the opinion of this Committee, that an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, to return His Majesty our most humble thanks for having been graciously pleased to communicate to this House the several papers relating to the present state of the *British Colonies in America*, which, by His Majesty's command, have been laid before this House; [and from which, after taking them into our most serious consideration, we find, that a part of His Majesty's subjects in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* have proceeded so far to resist the authority of the supreme Legislature, that a rebellion at this time actually exists within the said Province; and we see with the utmost concern that they have been countenanced and encouraged by unlawful combinations and engagements, entered into by His Majesty's subjects in several of the other Colonies, to the injury and oppression of many of their innocent fellow-subjects, resident within the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, and the rest of His Majesty's dominions. This conduct on their part appears to us the more inexcusable, when we consider with how much temper His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament have acted in support of the Laws and Constitution of *Great Britain*, to declare that we can never so far desert the trust reposed in us, as to relinquish any part of the sovereign authority over all His Majesty's dominions, which by law is vested in His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament; and that the conduct of many persons in several of the Colonies, during the late disturbances, is alone sufficient to convince us how necessary this power is, for the protection of the lives and fortunes of all His Majesty's subjects; that we ever have been, and always shall be ready to pay attention and regard to any real grievances of any of His Majesty's subjects which shall in a dutiful and constitutional manner be laid before us; and whenever any of the Colonies shall make a proper application to us, we shall be ready to afford them every just and reasonable indulgence. But that at the same time we consider it as our indispensable duty humbly to beseech His Majesty, that His Majesty

Mr. *J. Hancock* laid before the Congress a Letter from the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay*, together with certain Resolutions formed by said Congress, and a copy of a Letter sent by said Congress to their Agent in *England*, and an Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain* on the late engagement between the Troops under Gen. *Gage* and the inhabitants of *Massachusetts-Bay*; also, a number of Depositions, duly attested, relative to the commencement of hostilities; all of which were read, and are as follow:

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 3, 1775.

"To the Honourable AMERICAN Continental Congress, to be convened at PHILADELPHIA on the 10th of MAY instant.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Congress of this Colony, impressed with the deepest concern for their Country, under the present critical and alarming state of its publick affairs, beg leave, with the utmost submission, whilst acting in support of the cause of *America*, to request the direction and assistance of your respectable Assembly.

"The enclosed packet, containing copies of the depositions which we have despatched for *London*,† also an address to the inhabitants of *Great Britain*,‡ and a letter to our Colony agent, *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq.,§ are humbly submitted to your consideration.

"The sanguinary zeal of the Ministerial Army to ruin and destroy the inhabitants of this Colony, in the opinion of this Congress hath rendered the establishment of an Army indispensably necessary; we have accordingly passed an unanimous resolve for thirteen thousand six hundred men

will take the most effectual measures to enforce due obedience to the laws and authority of the supreme Legislature; and that we beg leave in the most solemn manner to assure His Majesty that it is our fixed resolution, at the hazard of our lives and properties, to stand by His Majesty against all rebellious attempts in the maintenance of the just rights of His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament.] Ayes 296, noes 106.

Amendment proposed, to leave out from the first [and] to the end of the question, and insert, "to assure His Majesty, that in order to fix the true dignity of his Crown and the authority of Parliament on a sure foundation, we shall endeavour to recover the hearts of his subjects in *America*, too many of whom are unhappily alienated from their usual affection to their Mother Country, by endeavouring to remove all those causes of jealousy and apprehension which have arisen from an unfortunate management of His Majesty's affairs, and from acts of the last Parliament made without sufficient information of the true state of *America*."

Question put, that the words proposed to be left out, stand part of this question: ayes 304, noes 105.

Whereas, by an Act 6 *George III.* it is declared that Parliament has full power and authority to make Laws and Statutes to bind the people of the Colonies in all cases whatsoever:

And whereas, reiterated complaints, and most dangerous disorders have grown, touching the right of Taxation, claimed and exercised over *America*, to the disturbance of peace and good order there, and to the actual interruption of the due intercourse from *Great Britain* and *Ireland* to the Colonies, deeply affecting the navigation, trade, and manufactures of this Kingdom and of *Ireland*, and announcing further an interruption of all exports from the said Colonies to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British Islands in America*:

Now, for the prevention of these ruinous mischiefs, and in order to an equitable, honourable and lasting settlement of claims not sufficiently ascertained and circumscribed, may it please your most excellent Majesty that it may be declared, and be it declared by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the Colonies of *America* have been, are, and of right ought to be dependant upon the imperial Crown of *Great Britain*, and subordinate unto the *British* Parliament; and that the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament assembled, had, hath, and of right ought to have, full power and authority to make laws and statutes of sufficient force and validity to bind the people of the *British Colonies in America*, in all matters touching the general weal of the whole dominion of the imperial Crown of *Great Britain*, and beyond the competency of the local representative of a distinct Colony; and most especially an indubitable and indispensable right to make and ordain laws for regulating Navigation and Trade throughout the complicated system of *British* Commerce; the deep policy of such prudent acts, upholding the guardian Navy of the whole *British* Empire; and that all subjects in the Colonies are bound in duty and allegiance, duly to recognise and obey (and they are hereby required so to do) the supreme legislative authority and superintending power of the Parliament of *Great Britain* as aforesaid.

And whereas, in a Petition from *America* to His Majesty it has been represented that the keeping a Standing Army within any of the Colonies, in time of peace, without the consent of the respective Provincial Assembly there, is against law: Be it declared by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, that the Declaration of Rights, at the ever-glorious Revolution, namely, "that the raising and keeping a Standing Army within the Kingdom, in time of peace, unless it be by consent of Parliament, is against law," having reference only to the consent of the Parliament of *Great Britain*, the legal, constitutional, and hitherto unquestioned prerogative of the Crown, to send any part of such Army, so lawfully kept, to any of the

† See folio 489, 501.

‡ See folio 487.

§ See folio 488.



to be forthwith raised by this Colony; and proposals are made by us to the Congress of *New-Hampshire*, and Governments of *Rhode-Island* and *Connecticut* Colonies, for furnishing men in the same proportion.

"The sudden exigency of our publick affairs precluded the possibility of waiting for your direction in these important measures; more especially as a considerable re-enforcement from *Great Britain* is daily expected in this Colony, and we are now reduced to the sad alternative of defending ourselves by arms, or submitting to be slaughtered.

"With the greatest deference, we beg leave to suggest, that a powerful Army, on the side of *America*, hath been considered by this Congress as the only means left to stem the rapid progress of a tyrannical Ministry. Without a force superior to our enemies, we must reasonably expect to become the victims of their relentless fury. With such a force, we may still have hopes of seeing an immediate end put to the inhuman ravages of mercenary troops in *America*, and the wicked authors of our miseries brought to condign punishment, by the just indignation of our brethren in *Great Britain*.

"We hope that this Colony will at all times be ready to spend and be spent in the cause of *America*. It is, nevertheless, a misfortune greatly operating to its disadvantage, that it has a great number of seaport Towns, exposed to the approach of the enemy by sea; from many of which the inhabitants have removed, and are removing their families and effects, to avoid destruction from ships of war. These, we apprehend, will be generally distressed from want of subsistence, and disabled from contributing aid for

*British* dominions and possessions, whether in *America* or elsewhere, as His Majesty, in the due care of his subjects, may judge necessary for the security and protection of the same, cannot be rendered dependant upon the consent of a Provincial Assembly in the Colonies, without a most dangerous innovation, and derogation from the dignity of the imperial Crown of *Great Britain*. Nevertheless, in order to quiet and dispel groundless jealousies and fears, be it hereby declared, that no military force, however raised and kept according to law, can ever be lawfully employed to violate and destroy the just rights of the people.

Moreover, in order to remove for ever all causes of pernicious discords, and in due contemplation of the vast increase of possessions and population in the Colonies, and having at heart to render the condition of so great a body of industrious subjects there more and more happy, by the sacredness of property and of personal liberty; and of more extensive and lasting utility to the parent Kingdom, by indissoluble ties of mutual affection, confidence, trade, and reciprocal benefits; be it declared and enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and it is hereby declared and enacted by the authority of the same, that no tallage, tax, or other charge for His Majesty's revenue shall be commanded or levied from *British* freemen in *America*, without common consent, by act of Provincial Assembly there, duly convened for that purpose.

And it is hereby further declared and enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful for Delegates from the respective Provinces, lately assembled at *Philadelphia*, to meet in General Congress at the said *Philadelphia*, on the ninth day of *May* next, ensuing, in order then and there to take into consideration the making due recognition of the supreme legislative authority and superintending power of Parliament over the Colonies, as aforesaid.

And moreover, may it please your most excellent Majesty, that the said Delegates to be in Congress assembled, in manner aforesaid, may be required, and the same are hereby required, by the King's Majesty, sitting in his Parliament, to take into consideration (over and above the usual charge for support of civil Government in the respective Colonies) the making a free grant to the King, his heirs and successors, of a certain perpetual revenue, subject to the disposition of the *British* Parliament, to be by them appropriated as they in their wisdom shall judge fit, to the alleviation of the national debt. No doubt being had, but this just, free aid, will be in such honourable proportion as may seem meet and becoming from great and flourishing Colonies towards a Parent Country labouring under the heaviest burdens, which (in no considerable part) have been willingly taken upon ourselves and posterity, for the defence, extension, and prosperity of the Colonies.

And to this great end, be it further hereby declared and enacted, that the General Congress (to meet at *Philadelphia* as aforesaid) shall be, and is hereby authorized and empowered (the Delegates composing the same being first sufficiently furnished with powers from their respective Provinces for this purpose) to adjust and fix these partitions and quotas of the several charges to be borne by each Province respectively towards the general contributory supply; and this in such fair and equitable measure as may best suit the abilities and due convenience of all. Provided always, that the powers for fixing the said quotas, hereby given to the Delegates from the old Provinces composing the Congress, shall not extend to the new Provinces of *East and West Florida*, *Georgia*, *Nova-Scotia*, *St. John's*, and *Canada*; the circumstances and abilities of the said Provinces being referred to the wisdom of Parliament in their due time.

And in order to afford necessary time for mature deliberation in *America*, be it hereby declared, that the provisions for ascertaining and fixing the exercise of the right of taxation in the Colonies, as agreed and expressed by this present act, shall not be in force, or have any operation, until the Delegates to be in Congress assembled, sufficiently authorized and empowered by their respective Provinces to this end, shall, as an

supporting the forces of the Colony; but we have the greatest confidence in the wisdom and ability of the Continent to support us, so far as it shall appear necessary for supporting the common cause of the *American* Colonies.

"We also enclose several Resolves for empowering and directing our Receiver-General to borrow the sum of one hundred thousand Pounds, lawful money, and to issue his notes for the same; it being the only measure which we could have recourse to, for supporting our forces. And we request your assistance in rendering our measures effectual, by giving our notes a currency through the Continent.

"JOSEPH WARREN, *President pro tem.*"

The Papers enclosed and referred to in the above, are as follow:

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 3, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is empowered to borrow the sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, lawful money, and issue Colony security for the same, payable, with annual interest at six per cent., *June 1, 1777*, and that the Continental Congress be desired to recommend to the several Colonies to give a currency to such securities.

"A true extract from the minutes:

"SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary pro tem.*"

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 3, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That the Securities given by the Receiver-General for the Moneys borrowed by him, in pursuance of the aforegoing Resolve, be in the form following, viz:

indispensable condition, have duly recognized the supreme legislative authority and superintending power of the Parliament of *Great Britain*, over the Colonies as aforesaid. Always understood, that the free grant of an aid, as heretofore required and expected from the Colonies, is not to be considered as a condition of redress, but as a just testimony of their affection.

And whereas, divers acts of Parliament have been humbly represented in a Petition to His Majesty from *America*, to have been found grievous, in whole or in part, to the subjects of the Colonies, be it hereby declared by the King's most, &c., &c., that the powers of Admiralty and Vice-Admiralty Courts in *America* shall be restrained within their ancient limits, and the trial by jury in all civil cases, where the same may have been abolished, restored; and that no subject in *America* shall, in capital cases, be liable to be indicted and tried for the same in any place out of the Province wherein such offence shall be alleged to have been committed; nor be deprived of a trial by his peers of the vicinage. Nor shall it be lawful to send persons indicted for murder in any Province of *America*, to another Colony, or to *Great Britain* for trial.

And it is hereby declared and enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that all and every the said acts, or so much thereof as are represented to have been found grievous, namely, the several Acts of the 4 *Geo. III.* ch. 15 and ch. 34: 5 *Geo. III.* ch. 25: 6 *Geo. III.* ch. 52: 7 *Geo. III.* ch. 41 and ch. 46: 8 *Geo. III.* ch. 22: 12 *Geo. III.* ch. 24—with the three Acts for stopping the Port and blocking up the Harbour of *Boston*; for altering the Charter and Government of *Massachusetts-Bay*; and that intitled An Act for the Better Administration of Justice, &c.; also the Act for regulating the Government of *Quebeck*, and the act passed in the same session relating to the quartering of Soldiers, shall be and are hereby suspended, and not to have effect or execution from the date of this act. And be it moreover hereby declared and enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all and every the before recited acts, or the parts thereof complained of, shall be, and are in virtue of this present act, finally repealed and annulled, from the day that the due recognition of the supreme legislative authority and superintending power of Parliament over the Colonies shall have been made on the part of the said Colonies.

And for the better securing the due and impartial administration of justice in the Colonies, be it declared and enacted by the King's most, &c., &c., that His Majesty's Judges in Courts of Law in the Colonies in *America*, to be appointed with salaries by the Crown, shall hold their offices and salaries as His Majesty's Judges in *England*, *quandiu se bene gesserit*.

And it is hereby further declared by the authority aforesaid, that the Colonies in *America* are justly entitled to the privileges, franchises, and immunities granted by their several Charters or Constitutions; and that the said Charters or Constitutions ought not to be invaded or resumed unless for misuser, or some legal ground of forfeiture. So shall true reconciliation avert impending calamities, and this most solemn national accord between *Great Britain* and her Colonies stand an everlasting monument of clemency and magnanimity in the benignant Father of his People, of wisdom and moderation in this great Nation, famed for humanity as for valour, and of fidelity and grateful affection from brave and loyal Colonies to their Parent Kingdom, which will ever protect and cherish them.

The above Plan was offered by the Earl of *Chatham* to the House of Lords, on *Wednesday, February 1, 1775*, under the title of "A Provisional Act for settling the Troubles of *America*, and for asserting the supreme legislative authority and superintending power of *Great Britain* over the Colonies;" but being opposed by the Ministry, was rejected by a great majority; the numbers being for rejecting 61, for retaining 32; so it was not suffered to lie on the table for further consideration. Yet when it is considered that in the majority were all the Ministerial Lords, with all the *Scottish* Lords, and the Bishops, who usually vote as the Minister bids them, the sense of that House, that is, the independent part of it, does not seem to have been greatly against the bill.

B. F.



## "COLONY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

"No. . . . . the . . . . . day of . . . . .  
 A. D. 177 . . . . . borrowed and received of . . . . . A. B.  
 . . . . . the sum of . . . . . lawful money, for  
 the use and service of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and in behalf of said Colony. I do hereby promise and oblige myself, and successors in the office of Treasurer, or Receiver-General, to repay to the said . . . . . or to his order, the first day of *June*, 1777, the aforesaid sum of . . . . . lawful money, in *Spanish* milled dollars, at six shillings each, or in the several species of coined silver and gold enumerated in an Act made and passed in the twenty-third year of his late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled "An Act for ascertaining the rates at which coined silver and gold, *English* half-pence and farthings, may pass within this Government:" and according to the rates therein mentioned, with interest to be paid annually at six per cent. Witness my hand

A. B.

C. D.

E. F.

"And whereas, inconveniences may arise, by the Receiver-General's issuing notes for small sums; therefore,

"Resolved, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is directed, not to issue any notes for a less sum than four Pounds lawful money.

"A true extract from the minutes:

"SAMUEL FREEMAN, *Secretary pro tem.*"

Ordered, That the Secretary have the above Depositions, and the Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*, published.

Resolved unanimously, That the Congress will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Ordered, That the Letter from the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay* be referred to that Committee.

Adjourned till to-morrow at ten o'clock.

Friday, May 12, 1775.

The Congress met, and adjourned till to-morrow at ten o'clock.

Saturday, May 13, 1775, A. M.

The Congress met according to adjournment. Present the same as yesterday, and also Mr. *J. Jay*, from *New-York*, and *Thomas Stone*, from *Maryland*.

The Congress being informed that Doctor *Lyman Hall* attended at the door as a Delegate from the Parish of *St. John's*, in the Colony of *Georgia*, and desired to know whether, as such, he may be admitted to this Congress;

Agreed unanimously, That he be admitted as a Delegate from the Parish of *St. John's*, in the Colony of *Georgia*, subject to such regulations as the Congress shall determine relative to his voting.

Mr. *Lyman Hall* being accordingly admitted, produced his Credentials, which were read and approved, and are as follow:

"To the Honourable Gentlemen of the Congress designed to be held at *PHILADELPHIA*, on *MAY*, A. D. 1775:

"The Address of the Inhabitants of the Parish of *St. John's*, in the Province of *GEORGIA*.

"GENTLEMEN: To give a particular detail of our many struggles in the cause of liberty, the many meetings thereby occasioned and held in this Parish, the endeavours we have used to induce the rest of this Province to concur with us, the attendance of our Committee on the Provincial Conventions, held at *Savannah*, in this Province, and particularly that of the eighteenth of *January* last, with their proceedings, and the reasons of our dissent from them, we think would be tedious to you, and therefore send a summary abstract, which, with the account that may be given by *Lyman Hall*, Esq., appointed a Delegate to represent and act for this Parish in the General Continental Congress, to be held in *May* next, and the testimonies of the honourable Delegates from *South-Carolina*, we hope will be satisfactory.

"Immediately upon our being honoured with an answer to the representation of our case transmitted to the honour-

able Congress which sat at *Philadelphia* last year, with a copy of the Association there entered into, we had a meeting, and our proceedings then and since that time will in brief appear, from the following abstracts of an Address from this Parish to the Committee of Correspondence in *Charlestown, South-Carolina*, which are as follow:

"*St. John's*, February 9, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: Herewith will be communicated to you the several steps taken by this Parish in their endeavours to conform, as near as possible, to the resolutions entered into by the other Colonies, and the particular measures now adopted for carrying into execution the Continental Association, which we embraced the earliest opportunity of acceding to, by subscribing it, on condition that trade and commerce with the other Colonies be continued to us the subscribers; and thereupon should have immediately sent to you for your approbation and indulgence, but were delayed by a summons to attend a Provincial Congress in *Savannah*, on the eighteenth of *January* last, for the purpose, as we understood, of a general association with the other Colonies, and choosing Delegates; at which time and place we attended, and acquainted the other Parishes, assembled on that occasion, that we had already acceded to the General Association, on condition as above mentioned, and earnestly requested them to do the same. Had they acceded fully to the General Association, we should have had no occasion to trouble you with this address; but as they did not, we now apply to you to admit us, the subscribers, to an alliance with you, requesting that you will allow trade and commerce to be continued to us, the same to be conducted under such regulations and restrictions as shall be consistent with the Continental Association, and which, on our part, we engage with all possible care to keep inviolate. As we of this Parish are a body detached from the rest (*i. e.* of this Province) by our resolutions, and sufficiently distinct by local situation, large enough for particular notice, adjoining a particular port, and in that respect capable of conforming to the General Association, if connected with you, with the same fidelity as a distant Parish of your own Province, we must be considered as comprehended within the spirit and equitable meaning of the Continental Association, and hope you will not condemn the innocent with the guilty, especially when a due separation is made between them.

"Give us leave to add only, that we wait your answer, shall be glad of your advice, and are, with esteem, Gentlemen, yours, &c."

"To which we received the following answer:

"GENTLEMEN: Your letter, accompanying sundry papers, having been laid before a very full Committee of this Colony, and undergone the most mature deliberation, I am, by their desire, to acquaint you that they have the highest sense of your arduous struggles in favour of the common cause of *America*, and most sincerely lament your present unhappy situation, but would recommend a continuance of your laudable exertions, and the laying a state of your case before the ensuing Continental Congress, as the only means of obtaining relief, and to put you in the situation you wish, which this Committee apprehend to be entirely out of their power to do, as it is their opinion that the Parish of *St. John*, being a part of the Colony of *Georgia*, which (by not acceding to, has violated the Continental Association) falls under the fourteenth Article of the said Association, no part of which any Committee can presume to do away, &c."

"Upon the receipt of this answer, it was seriously considered in what manner to conduct in the present situation, and proposed whether we should immediately break off all connexion and commerce with *Savannah*, and all other inhabitants of this Province, who have not fully acceded to the Continental Association.

"It was considered, that as we were denied commerce with any other Colony, and but one merchant among us considerable for dry goods had signed our Association, and he insufficient for a present supply, and we utterly unable at present to procure materials or manufactures for clothing among ourselves, we must, by such a resolution, become extremely miserable; it was therefore concluded, that till we could obtain trade and commerce with some other Colony, it is absolutely necessary to continue it in some



respects with our own, and determined that it be carried on under the following regulations:

"1. That none of us shall, directly or indirectly, purchase any slave imported at *Savannah*, (large numbers of which we understand are there expected,) till the sense of the Congress shall be made known to us.

"2. That we will not trade at all with any merchant at *Savannah*, or elsewhere, that will not join in our associating agreement, otherwise than under the inspection of a Committee, for that purpose appointed, and for such things only as they shall judge necessary, and when they shall think there are necessary reasons for so doing.

"A Committee was then nominated and appointed to sit weekly on *Thursdays*, for the purposes aforesaid.

"It was then resolved, that a Delegate be sent from this Parish to the Congress, to be held at *Philadelphia* in *May* next, and that *Tuesday*, the twenty-first of *March*, be appointed for choosing one.

"On the said twenty-first of *March*, at a full meeting, *Lyman Hall*, Esq., was unanimously chosen to represent and act for the inhabitants of this Parish as a Delegate at the General Congress, to be held in *Philadelphia* in *May* next, who are determined faithfully to adhere to, and abide by the determination of him and the other honourable members of the same.

"Signed by order of the Inhabitants, by *Daniel Roberts* and twenty others, members of the Committee."

"Midway, St. John's Parish,  
In the Province of Georgia, April 13, A. D. 1775."

A Petition from the County of *Frederick*, in *Virginia*, addressed to the Congress, was presented and read.

*Agreed*, That it be referred to the Committee of the Whole, which is to sit on *Monday*.

Monday, May 15, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Schuyler*, Mr. *Clinton*, Mr. *L. Morris*, and Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, from *New-York*; Mr. *James Wilson*, from *Pennsylvania*, Mr. *R. Goldsborough*, from *Maryland*, appeared, and took their places as Members of the Congress. Upon motion,

*Agreed*, That the Secretary be allowed to employ *Timothy Matlack* as a Clerk, he having first taken an oath or affirmation to keep secret the transactions of the Congress that may be entrusted to him, or may come to his knowledge.

The President informed the Congress that he had put into his hands this morning a Letter from *Robert* and *John Murray*, containing a number of papers, which he was desired to lay before the Congress; the purport of them he did not know, as he had not had an opportunity of reading them.

*Ordered*, That the President look them over before they are laid before the Congress.

The Order of the Day was then read. After some debate, *Resolved*, That the Order of the Day be postponed.

*Resolved nemine contradicente*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

The City and County of *New-York* having, through the Delegates of that Colony, applied to Congress for advice how to conduct themselves with regard to the Troops expected there, the Congress took the matter into their consideration. During their deliberations, it became necessary to take the opinion of the Congress by Colonies; upon which a question arose, whether the Delegate from the Parish of *St. John's*, in the Colony of *Georgia*, could be admitted to vote. After some debate on this question, the Delegate from that Parish arose, and after observing that the present distressful situation of *American* affairs had induced a necessity of this Congress, which was composed of Delegates representing whole Colonies; that as he did not represent a Colony, but only a part, he did not insist on giving a vote as a Colony, but was contented to hear and assist in the debates, and to give his vote in all cases, except when the sentiments of the Congress were taken by Colonies.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the matter first under debate. During the debate, *Sam'l Ward*,

Esq., one of the Delegates from *Rhode-Island*, appeared, and produced his Credentials, which being read, were approved, and are as follow:

"By the Honourable the General Assembly of the *ENGLISH Colony of RHODE-ISLAND and PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS, in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA.*

"To the Honourable *STEPHEN HOPKINS, Esq., and the Honourable SAMUEL WARD, Esq., Greeting:*

"Whereas, the General Assembly of the Colony aforesaid, have nominated and appointed you, the said *Stephen Hopkins* and *Samuel Ward*, to represent the people of this Colony in a General Congress of Representatives, from this and the other Colonies, to be holden in the City of *Philadelphia* on the tenth *May* instant: You are therefore hereby authorized to repair to the said City of *Philadelphia*, and there, in behalf of this Colony, to meet and join with the Commissioners or Delegates from the other Colonies, in consulting upon proper measures to obtain a repeal of the several Acts of the *British* Parliament, for levying taxes upon His Majesty's subjects in *America* without their consent, and, upon proper measures, to establish the rights and liberties of the Colonies upon a just and solid foundation, agreeable to the instructions given you by the General Assembly.

"By virtue of an Act of the General Assembly, I, *Henry Ward*, Esq., Secretary of the said Colony, have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said Colony, this seventh day of *May*, A. D. 1775, and in the fifteenth year of the reign of his most sacred Majesty *George* the Third, by the grace of *God* King of *Great Britain*, &c.

"HENRY WARD."

The matter under consideration being resumed, the Congress

*Resolved*, That it be recommended, for the present, to the inhabitants of *New-York*, that if the Troops, which are expected, should arrive, the said Colony act on the defensive, so long as may be consistent with their safety and security; that the Troops be permitted to remain in the Barracks so long as they behave peaceably and quietly, but that they be not suffered to erect fortifications, or take any steps for cutting off the communication between the town and country, and that if they commit hostilities, or invade private property, the inhabitants should defend themselves and their property, and repel force by force; that the warlike stores be removed from the town; that places of retreat, in case of necessity, be provided for the women and children of *New-York*; and that a sufficient number of men be embodied, and kept in constant readiness, for protecting the inhabitants from insult and injury.

Two Memorials, one from *Samuel Shoemaker*, the other from *James* and *Drinker*, merchants of this City, respecting some cargoes purchased by them, and intended for *Newfoundland*, but which are stopped by the Committee of this City, were laid before the Congress and read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider what Posts are necessary to be occupied in the Colony of *New-York*, and by what number of Troops it will be necessary they should be guarded.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Washington*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *S. Adams*, and the Delegates from *New-York*, be the Committee for the above service, and that they be desired to report as speedily as possible.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, May 16, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A Memorial from *Robert* and *John Murray*, of *New-York*, was laid before the Congress, and read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*. After some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Tilghman* reported from the Committee, that they had taken



the matter referred to them into their consideration, and debated upon it; but not having come to any resolution, desired him to move for leave to sit again; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at twelve o'clock.

—  
Wednesday, May 17, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment; and the Order of the Day, upon motion, being postponed till to-morrow,

*Resolved unanimously*, That all exportations to *Quebeck*, *Nova-Scotia*, the Island of *St. John's*, *Newfoundland*, *Georgia*, except the Parish of *St. John's*, and to *East* and *West-Florida*, immediately cease, and that no Provision of any kind, or other necessities, be furnished to the *British* Fisheries on the *American* Coasts, until it be otherwise determined by the Congress.

*Ordered*, That this be published immediately.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

—  
Thursday, May 18, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Hon. *Stephen Hopkins*, from *Rhode-Island*, and *Patrick Henry*, Esqrs., from *Virginia*, attended and took their seats in Congress.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the Rules of Conduct, to be observed in debating and determining questions, laid down by the last Congress, be adopted and observed by the present Congress.

The President laid before the Congress some important intelligence he received last night, by express, from *New-York*, relative to the surprising and taking of *Ticonderoga* by a detachment from *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, which was read.

Upon motion, *Agreed*, That Mr. *Brown*, who brought the express, be called in to give an account of the disposition of the *Canadians*, the taking of *Ticonderoga*, and the importance of that Post; whereupon, he was called in, and having given the necessary information, he withdrew. The Congress taking the matter into consideration, came to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, Whereas, there is indubitable evidence that a design is formed by the *British* Ministry of making a cruel invasion from the Province of *Quebeck* upon these Colonies, for the purpose of destroying our lives and liberties, and some steps have actually been taken to carry the said design into execution; and whereas, several inhabitants of the Northern Colonies, residing in the vicinity of *Ticonderoga*, and immediately exposed to incursions, impelled by a just regard for the defence and preservation of themselves and their Countrymen from such imminent dangers and calamities, have taken possession of that post, in which was lodged a quantity of Cannon and Military Stores that would certainly have been used in the intended invasion of these Colonies; this Congress earnestly recommend it to the Committees of the Cities and Counties of *New-York* and *Albany*, immediately to cause the said Cannon and Stores to be removed from *Ticonderoga* to the south end of *Lake George*; and, if necessary, to apply to the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, and *Connecticut*, for such an additional body of forces as will be sufficient to establish a strong post at that place, and effectually to secure the said Cannon and Stores, or so many of them as it may be judged proper to keep there; and that an exact inventory be taken of all such Cannon and Stores, in order that they may be safely returned, when the restoration of the former harmony between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, so ardently wished for by the latter, shall render it prudent and consistent with the overruling law of self-preservation.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Friday, May 19, 1775.\*

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider what Posts are necessary to be occupied in the Colony of *New-York*, and by what number of Troops it will be proper they should be guarded, brought in their Report; which, being read, was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The Congress then, agreeable to the Order of yesterday, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*. After some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward*, from the Committee, reported, that they had taken the matter into consideration, but not having come to any resolution, they had desired him to move for leave to sit again to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

—  
Saturday, May 20, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment, and, agreeable to the Order of the Day, again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward*, from the Committee, reported, that they had taken the matter into consideration, but not having come to any resolution, desired him to move for leave to sit again on *Monday* next.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday* next, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till *Monday*, at nine o'clock.

—  
Monday, May 22, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment, and, agreeable to the Order of the Day, again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward*, from the Committee, reported, that they had proceeded in the business, but not having completed it, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

—  
Tuesday, May 23, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment, and, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported

\* PHILADELPHIA, MAY 19, 1775.—The following Gentlemen, Delegates to the Honourable the Continental Congress, are now in this City, viz:

For *New-Hampshire*.—John Sullivan, John Langdon, Esquires.

For *Massachusetts-Bay*.—Hon. John Hancock, Hon. Thomas Cushing, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Esquires.

For *Rhode-Island*.—Hon. Stephen Hopkins, Hon. Samuel Ward, Esquires.

For *Connecticut*.—Hon. Eliphalet Dyer, Hon. Roger Sherman, Silas Deane, Esquires.

For *New-York*.—Philip Livingston, James Duane, John Alsop, John Jay, Simon Boerum, William Floyd, Henry Wisner, Philip Schuyler, George Clinton, Lewis Morris, Francis Lewis, Robert R. Livingston, Jun., Esquires.

For *New-Jersey*.—James Kinsey, Stephen Crane, William Livingston, John De Hart, Richard Smith, Esquires.

For *Pennsylvania*.—John Dickinson, Thomas Mifflin, Charles Humphreys, Hon. John Morton, George Ross, Benjamin Franklin, Hon. Thomas Willing, James Wilson, Esquires.

For *New-Castle, &c.*.—Hon. Cæsar Rodney, Thomas McKean, George Read, Esquires.

For *Maryland*.—Hon. Matthew Tilghman, Thomas Johnson, Robert Goldsborough, William Paca, Samuel Chase, John Hall, Thomas Stone, Esquires.

For *Virginia*.—Hon. Peyton Randolph, George Washington, Richard Henry Lee, Edmund Pendleton, Benjamin Harrison, Richard Bland, Patrick Henry, Esquires.

For *North-Carolina*.—William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, Richard Caswell, Esquires.

For *South-Carolina*.—Hon. Henry Middleton, Thomas Lynch, Christopher Gadsden, John Rutledge, Edward Rutledge, Esquires.

For the Parish of *St. John's*, in *Georgia*.—Mr. Lyman Hall.



from the Committee, that they had proceeded in the business, but not having completed it, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into further consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Wednesday, May 24, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment, but the Hon. *Peyton Randolph*, President, being under a necessity of returning home, and having set out this morning early, the chair was vacant; wherefore,

On motion, the Hon. *John Hancock* was unanimously chosen President.

The President having assumed the chair, the Congress, agreeable to the Order of the Day, again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that they had proceeded in the business, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Thursday, May 25, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment, and, agreeable to the Order of the Day, again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that they had come to certain Resolutions respecting *New-York*, which he was desired to report; but for the rest of the business referred to them, the Committee desired him to move for leave to sit again. The Resolutions being severally read, and agreed to, are as follow, viz:

1. *Resolved*, That a Post be immediately taken and fortified at or near *King's-Bridge*, in the Colony of *New-York*, and that the ground be chosen with a particular view to prevent the communication between the City of *New-York* and the country from being interrupted by land.

2. *Resolved*, That a Post be also taken in the Highlands on each side of *Hudson's River*, and Batteries erected in such manner as will most effectually prevent any Vessels passing that may be sent to harass the inhabitants on the borders of said River; and that experienced persons be immediately sent to examine said River, in order to discover where it will be most advisable and proper to obstruct the navigation.

3. *Resolved*, That the Militia of *New-York* be armed and trained, and in constant readiness to act at a moment's warning; and that a number of Men be immediately embodied, and kept in that City, and so disposed of as to give protection to the inhabitants, in case any insult should be offered by the Troops that may land there, and to prevent any attempts that may be made to gain possession of the City, and interrupt its intercourse with the country.

4. That it be left to the Provincial Congress of *New-York* to determine the number of men sufficient to occupy the several Posts above-mentioned, and also that already recommended to be taken at or near *Lake George*, as well as to guard the City, provided the whole do not exceed the number of three thousand men, to be commanded by such officers as shall be thereunto appointed by said Provincial Congress, and to be governed by such rules and regulations as shall be established by said Congress, until farther order is taken by this Congress; provided also, that if the said Provincial Congress should be of opinion that the number proposed will not be sufficient for the several services above recommended, that the said Congress report their sentiments upon this subject to this Congress, as soon as may be.

5. That it be recommended to the said Provincial Congress, that in raising those Forces, they allow no Bounties or Clothing, and that their Pay shall not exceed the establishment of the *New-England Colonies*.

6. That it be further recommended to the Provincial Congress aforesaid, that the Troops be enlisted to serve until the last day of *December* next, unless this Congress shall direct that they be sooner disbanded.

A motion being made for an addition to the foregoing Resolutions, after some debate, the same was referred till to-morrow, to which time the Congress adjourned.

Friday, May 26, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment. A Delegate from *New-Jersey* laid before them a Minute from the Journals of the Assembly of that Province, together with a Resolution of the Commons of *Great Britain*; which were read, and are as follow, viz:

"*NEW-JERSEY House of Assembly*, MAY 20, 1775.

"His Excellency having laid before the House a copy of the Resolution of the honourable House of Commons of *Great Britain*, of the twentieth of *February*, 1775, containing a Plan formed for the accommodation of the unhappy differences between our Parent State and the Colonies; which plan, under the present circumstances, this House could not comply with and adopt, and yet this House being desirous of making use of all proper means to effect a reconciliation, do recommend it to their Delegates to lay the same plan before the Continental Congress, for their consideration.

"A true copy from the Journals:

"*RICHARD SMITH, Clerk of Assembly.*"

*Copy of a Resolution of the House of Commons*, FEBRUARY 20, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That when the Governour, Council, and Assembly, or General Court, of any of His Majesty's Provinces or Colonies in *America*, shall propose to make provision, according to the condition, circumstances, and situations of such Province or Colony, for contributing their proportion for the common defence, (such proportion to be raised under the authority of the General Court, or General Assembly of such Province or Colony, and disposable by Parliament,) and shall engage to make provision also for the support of the Civil Government, and the administration of justice in such Province or Colony, it will be proper, if such proposal shall be approved by His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament, and for so long as such provision shall be made accordingly, to forbear, in respect of such Province or Colony, to levy any duty, tax, or assessment, or to impose any further duty, tax, or assessment, except only such duties as it may be expedient to continue to levy, or to impose, for the regulation of Commerce, the nett produce of the duties last mentioned to be carried to the account of such Province or Colony, respectively."

*Ordered*, That the above be referred to the Committee for taking into consideration the state of *America*.

The Congress resuming the consideration of the addition proposed yesterday, resolved that the following addition be made:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Congress aforesaid, to persevere the more vigorously in preparing for their defence, as it is very uncertain whether the earnest endeavours of the Congress to accommodate the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and the Colonies by conciliatory measures, will be successful.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolves, respecting *New-York*, be transmitted by the President in a Letter to the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, and that it be particularly recommended to said Congress by the President, not to publish the foregoing Resolves, but to keep them as secret as the nature of the case requires.

Upon motion, *Agreed*, That Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *S. Adams*, and Mr. *Deane*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Letter to the People of *Canada*.

The Congress then resolved themselves into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*. After some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that they had come to some Resolutions respecting the state of *America*, which he was desired to report, but not having finished the business referred to them, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.



The Report from the Committee being read, the Congress came into the follow Resolutions:

1. *Unanimously Resolved*, That His Majesty's most faithful subjects in these Colonies, are reduced to a dangerous and critical situation, by the attempts of the *British* Ministry to carry into execution by force of arms, several unconstitutional and oppressive Acts of the *British* Parliament for laying Taxes in *America*; to enforce the collection of those Taxes, and for altering and changing the Constitution and Internal Police of some of these Colonies, in violation of the natural and civil rights of the Colonists.

2. *Unanimously*, Hostilities being actually commenced in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, by the *British* Troops under the command of General *Gage*, and the lives of a number of the inhabitants of that Colony destroyed, the Town of *Boston* having not only been long occupied as a garrisoned Town in an enemy's country, but the inhabitants thereof treated with a severity and cruelty not to be justified even towards declared enemies; large re-enforcements, too, being ordered, and soon expected, for the declared purpose of compelling these Colonies to submit to the operation of the said Acts; therefore, *Resolved*, That for the purpose of securing and defending these Colonies, and preserving them in safety against all attempts to carry the said Acts into execution, by force of arms, these Colonies be immediately put into a state of defence.

3. *Unanimously*, But, as we most ardently wish for a restoration of the harmony formerly subsisting between our Mother Country and these Colonies, the interruption of which must, at all events, be exceedingly injurious to both Countries, *Resolved*, That with a sincere design of contributing by all the means in our power, not incompatible with a just regard for the undoubted rights and true interests of these Colonies, to the promotion of this most desirable reconciliation, an humble and dutiful Petition be presented to His Majesty.

4. *Resolved*, That measures be entered into for opening a negotiation, in order to accommodate the unhappy disputes subsisting between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, and that this be made a part of the Petition to the King.

The Congress agree that the Resolutions respecting *New-York* be entered unanimously, and inserted after the above.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that they had proceeded farther in the business, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Saturday, May 27, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The President laid before the Congress a Letter from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, which was read, and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Information being given, that there is a gentleman in Town who could give the Congress a full and just account of the state of affairs in *Canada*,

*Ordered*, That he be introduced; and he was accordingly introduced. After he withdrew, the Congress, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, and after some time spent therein,

The Committee appointed to draught a Letter to the Inhabitants of *Canada*, informed the Committee that they had performed that service, and as there was an opportunity of sending it by a safe conveyance in a few days, they desired to have an opportunity of reporting the Letter; whereupon the President resumed the chair, and the Committee reported their Letter, which was read. After some debate, recommitted.

Upon motion, *Agreed*, That Mr. *Washington*, Mr. *Schuyler*, Mr. *Mifflin*, Mr. *Deane*, Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *S. Adams*, be a Committee to consider on ways and means to supply these Colonies with Ammunition and Military Stores, and to report immediately.

Upon motion, The Memorial of *Robert Murray* and *John Murray*, "desiring to be restored to their former situation with respect to their commercial privileges," was taken into consideration, and after some time spent therein,

*Resolved*, That where any person hath been or shall be adjudged by a Committee to have violated the Continental Association, and such offender shall satisfy the Convention of the Colony, where the offence was or shall be committed, or the Committee of the Parish of *St. John's*, in the Colony of *Georgia*, if the offence be committed there, of his contrition for his offence, and sincere resolution to conform to the Association for the future, the said Convention, or Committee of the Parish of *St. John's* aforesaid, may settle the terms upon which he may be restored to the favour and forgiveness of the publick, and that the terms be published.

*Ordered*, That this be made publick.

*Resolved*, That the Order of the Day be postponed till Monday.

Adjourned till Monday, at nine o'clock.

Monday, May 29, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee to whom the Letter to the Inhabitants of *Canada* was recommitted, brought in a draught, which was read, and approved, and is as follows:

"To the Oppressed Inhabitants of CANADA.

"FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN: Alarmed by the designs of an arbitrary Ministry to extirpate the rights and liberties of all *America*, a sense of common danger conspired with the dictates of humanity in urging us to call your attention, by our late address, to this very important object.

"Since the conclusion of the late war, we have been happy in considering you as fellow-subjects; and from the commencement of the present plan for subjugating the Continent, we have viewed you as fellow-sufferers with us. As we were both entitled by the bounty of an indulgent Creator to freedom, and being both devoted by the cruel edicts of a despotick Administration, to common ruin, we perceived the fate of the Protestant and Catholick Colonies to be strongly linked together, and therefore invited you to join with us in resolving to be free, and in rejecting, with disdain, the fetters of slavery, however artfully polished.

"We most sincerely condole with you on the arrival of that day, in the course of which the sun could not shine on a single freeman in all your extensive dominion. Be assured, that your unmerited degradation has engaged the most unfeigned pity of your sister Colonies; and we flatter ourselves you will not, by tamely bearing the yoke, suffer that pity to be supplanted by contempt.

"When hardy attempts are made to deprive men of rights bestowed by the Almighty, when avenues are cut through the most solemn compacts for the admission of despotism, when the plighted faith of Government ceases to give security to dutiful subjects, and when the insidious stratagems and manœuvres of peace become more terrible than the sanguinary operations of war, it is high time for them to assert those rights, and, with honest indignation, oppose the torrent of oppression rushing in upon them.

"By the introduction of your present form of Government, or rather present form of tyranny, you and your wives and your children are made slaves. You have nothing that you can call your own, and all the fruits of your labour and industry may be taken from you whenever an avaricious Governour and a rapacious Council may incline to demand them. You are liable by their edicts to be transported into foreign Countries to fight battles in which you have no interest, and to spill your blood in conflicts from which neither honour nor emolument can be derived: nay, the enjoyment of your very religion, on the present system, depends on a Legislature in which you have no share, and over which you have no control, and your priests are exposed to expulsion, banishment, and ruin, whenever their wealth and possessions furnish sufficient temptation. They cannot be sure that a virtuous Prince will always fill the throne; and should a wicked or careless King concur with a wicked Ministry in extracting the treasure and strength of your Country, it is impossible to conceive to what variety and to what extremes of wretchedness you may, under the present establishment, be reduced.



"We are informed you have already been called upon to waste your lives in a contest with us. Should you, by complying in this instance, assent to your new establishment, and a war break out with *France*, your wealth and your sons may be sent to perish in expeditions against their Islands in the *West-Indies*.

"It cannot be presumed that these considerations will have no weight with you, or that you are so lost to all sense of honour. We can never believe that the present race of *Canadians* are so degenerated as to possess neither the spirit, the gallantry, nor the courage of their ancestors. You certainly will not permit the infamy and disgrace of such pusillanimity to rest on your own heads, and the consequences of it on your children forever.

"We, for our parts, are determined to live free, or not at all; and are resolved, that posterity shall never reproach us with having brought slaves into the world.

"Permit us again to repeat that we are your friends, not your enemies, and be not imposed upon by those who may endeavour to create animosities. The taking of the fort and military stores at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, and the armed vessels on the lake, was dictated by the great law of self-preservation. They were intended to annoy us, and to cut off that friendly intercourse and communication, which has hitherto subsisted between you and us. We hope it has given you no uneasiness, and you may rely on our assurances, that these Colonies will pursue no measures whatever, but such as friendship and a regard for our mutual safety and interest may suggest.

"As our concern for your welfare entitles us to your friendship, we presume you will not, by doing us injury, reduce us to the disagreeable necessity of treating you as enemies.

"We yet entertain hopes of your uniting with us in the defence of our common liberty, and there is yet reason to believe, that should we join in imploring the attention of our Sovereign, to the unmerited and unparalleled oppressions of his *American* subjects, he will at length be undeceived, and forbid a licentious Ministry any longer to riot in the ruins of the rights of mankind."

*Ordered*, That the above Letter be signed by the President.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Dickinson* and Mr. *Mifflin* be a Committee to get the Letter translated into the *French* language, and to have one thousand copies of it, so translated, printed, in order to be sent to *Canada*, and dispersed among the inhabitants there.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That no Provisions or necessities of any kind be exported to the Island of *Nantucket*, except from the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, the Convention of which Colony is desired to take measures for effectually providing the said Island, upon their application to purchase the same, with as much Provision, as shall be necessary for its internal use, and no more.

The Congress deeming it of great importance to *North-America* that the *British* Fishery should not be furnished with Provisions from the Continent through *Nantucket*, earnestly recommend a vigilant execution of this Resolve to all Committees.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolve be immediately published.

As the present critical situation of the Colonies renders it highly necessary that ways and means should be devised for the speedy and secure conveyance of intelligence from one end of the Continent to the other,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Lee*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *S. Adams*, and Mr. *P. Livingston*, be a Committee to consider the best means of establishing Post for conveying Letters and Intelligence through this Continent.

*Resolved*, That the Order of the Day be postponed till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Tuesday, May 30, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A member, Mr. *Willing*, one of the Delegates for *Pennsylvania*, informed the Congress, that a gentleman, just arrived from *London*, had brought with him a paper, which he

says he received from Lord *North*, and which was written, at the desire of his Lordship, by Mr. *Grey Cooper*, Under Secretary of the Treasury; and as the gentleman understood it to be his Lordship's desire that it should be communicated to the Congress, he had for that purpose put it into his hands. The member farther observed, that he had shewn the paper to a member, Doctor *Franklin*, who was well acquainted with the hand-writing of Mr. *Cooper*, and that he verily believes the paper brought by the gentleman was written by Mr. *Cooper*.

The Paper being read, is as follows:

"That it is earnestly hoped by all the real friends of the *Americans*, that the terms expressed in the Resolution of the 20th of *February* last, will be accepted by all the Colonies, who have the least affection for their King and Country, or a just sense of their own interest.

"That these terms are honourable for *Great Britain*, and safe for the Colonies.

"That if the Colonies are not blinded by faction, these terms will remove every grievance relative to taxation, and be the basis of a compact between the Colonies and the Mother Country.

"That the people in *America* ought, on every consideration, to be satisfied with them.

"That no further relaxation can be admitted.

"The temper and spirit of the Nation are so much against concessions, that if it were the intention of Administration, they could not carry the question.

"But Administration have no such intention, as they are fully and firmly persuaded that further concessions would be injurious to the Colonies as well as to *Great Britain*.

"That there is not the least probability of a change of Administration.

"That they are perfectly united in opinion, and determined to pursue the most effectual measures, and to use the whole force of the Kingdom, if it be found necessary, to reduce the rebellious and refractory Provinces and Colonies.

"There is so great a spirit in the Nation against the Congress, that the people will bear the temporary distresses of a stoppage of the *American* trade.

"They may depend on this to be true."

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take under their farther consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that they had proceeded farther in the consideration of the business referred to them, but not having yet come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, May 31, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment, and, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*. After some time the President resumed the chair, and the papers received being read, and referred to the consideration of the Committee of the Whole, the Committee sat again, and after some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that they have proceeded farther in the business recommended to them, but not yet having finished, they have desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

A Letter from Colonel *Arnold*, dated *Crown Point*, May 23, 1775, was laid before the Congress, informing that he had certain intelligence, that "on the 19th there were then four hundred Regulars at *St. John's*, making all possible preparations to cross the lake, and expected to be joined by a number of *Indians*, with a design of retaking *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*," and earnestly calling for a re-enforcement and supplies.

This Letter being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the Governour of *Connecticut* be requested immediately to send a strong re-enforcement to the



garrisons of *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*; and that so many of the Cannon and other Stores be retained as may be necessary for the immediate defence of those posts, until further order from this Congress; and that the Provincial Convention of *New-York* be informed of this Resolve, and desired to furnish those Troops with Provisions and other necessary stores, and to take effectual care that a sufficient number of Batteaus be immediately provided for the lakes.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolve be immediately transmitted in a Letter by the President, to Governour *Trumbull* and the Convention at *New-York*.

*Ordered*, That the President in his Letter acquaint Governour *Trumbull*, that it is the desire of Congress that he should appoint a person in whom he can confide to command the Forces at *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*.

Adjourned till to morrow, at nine o'clock.

Thursday, June 1, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider Ways and Means to supply these Colonies with Ammunition and Military Stores, brought in their Report; which was read, and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Government of *Connecticut*, or the General of the Forces of that Colony, to appoint Commissaries to receive at *Albany* and forward the supplies of Provisions for the Forces on *Lake Champlain* from the Provincial Convention of *New-York*; and that the said Convention use their utmost endeavours in facilitating and aiding the transportation thereof from thence to where the said Commissaries may direct.

As this Congress has nothing more in view than the defence of these Colonies,

*Resolved*, That no expedition or incursion ought to be undertaken or made by any Colony, or body of Colonists, against or into *Canada*; and that this Resolve be immediately transmitted to the Commander of the Forces at *Ticonderoga*.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolve be translated into the *French* language, and transmitted, with the Letter, to the inhabitants of *Canada*; also,

*Ordered*, That the President transmit a copy of the above to *New-York*, and the other Colonies bordering on *Canada*.

A Petition from the Committee representing the people in that part of *Augusta County*, in the Colony of *Virginia*, on the west side of the *Alleghany Mountain*, was laid before the Congress, and read, intimating "fears of a rupture with the *Indians*, on account of Lord *Dunmore's* conduct," and desiring "Commissioners from the Colony of *Virginia* and Province of *Pennsylvania*, to attend a meeting of the *Indians* at *Pittsburgh*, on behalf of these Colonies;" also, a Resolve of the said Committee, in these words, namely: "That the unsettled Boundary between this Colony and the Province of *Pennsylvania*, is the occasion of many disputes."

*Ordered*, That the above be referred to the Delegates of the Colonies of *Virginia* and *Pennsylvania*.

The Congress then, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that they had taken the matters referred to them into consideration, but not having yet come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Friday, June 2, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The President laid before the Congress a Letter from the Provincial Convention of *Massachusetts*; which was read, and is as follows:

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, May 16, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That Doctor *Benjamin Church* be ordered to go immediately to *Philadelphia*, and deliver to the President of the honourable *American Congress* there now sitting, the following application, to be by him communicated to the Members thereof; and the said *Church* is also directed to confer with the said Congress respecting such other matters as may be necessary to the defence of this Colony, and particularly the state of the Army therein."

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: That system of Colony administration, which, in the most firm, dutiful, and loyal manner, has been in vain remonstrated against by the Representative body of the United Colonies, seems still, unless speedily and vigorously opposed by the collected wisdom and force of all *America*, to threaten ruin and destruction to this Continent.

"For a long time past this Colony has, by a corrupt Administration in *Great Britain* and here, been deprived of the exercise of those powers of Government, without which a people can be neither rich, happy, or secure. The whole Continent saw the blow pending, which, if not warded off, must inevitably have subverted the freedom and happiness of each Colony. The principles of self-defence, roused in the breasts of freemen by the dread of impending slavery, caused to be collected the wisdom of *America* in a Congress, composed of men who, through time, must, in every land of freedom, be revered among the most faithful asserters of the essential rights of human nature.

"This Colony was then reduced to great difficulties, being denied the exercise of civil Government, according to our Charter, or the fundamental principles of the *English* Constitution, and a formidable Navy and Army (not only inimical to our safety, but flattered with the prospect of enjoying the fruit of our industry) were stationed for that purpose in our metropolis. The prospect of deciding the question between our Mother Country and us, by the sword, gave us the greatest pain and anxiety; but we have made all the preparation for our necessary defence, that our confused state would admit of; and as the question equally affected our sister Colonies and us, we have declined, though urged thereto by the most pressing necessity, to assume the reins of civil Government, without their advice and consent, but have hitherto borne the many difficulties and distressing embarrassments necessarily resulting from a want thereof.

"We are now compelled to raise an army, which, with the assistance of the other Colonies, we hope, under the smiles of Heaven, will be able to defend us and all *America* from the further butcheries and devastations of our implacable enemies. But as the sword should, in all free states, be subservient to the civil powers; and as it is the duty of the Magistrates to support it for the people's necessary defence, we tremble at having an army (although consisting of our countrymen) established here, without a civil power to provide for and control them.

"We are happy in having an opportunity of laying our distressed state before the representative body of the Continent; and humbly hope you will favour us with your most explicit advice respecting the taking up and exercising the powers of civil Government, which we think absolutely necessary for the salvation of our Country; and we shall readily submit to such a general plan as you may direct for the Colonies, or make it our great study to establish such a form of Government here, as shall not only most promote our advantage, but the union and interest of all *America*.

"As the Army now collecting from different Colonies is for the general defence of the rights of *America*, we would beg leave to suggest to your consideration the propriety of your taking the regulation and general direction of it, that the operations may more effectually answer the purposes designed. JOS. WARREN, President p. i."

The above Letter referring to Doctor *Church*, on motion, *Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Agreed*, That he be introduced.

After he withdrew, an express arriving from *Massachusetts-Bay*, the President laid before the Congress Letters from the Conventions of that Colony and *New-Hampshire*; also, from Governour *Trumbull*; all which were read.



Upon motion, *Resolved*, That no Bill of Exchange, Draft, or Order of any Officer in the Army or Navy, their Agents or Contractors, be received or negotiated, or any Money supplied to them by any person in *America*.

That no Provisions or necessities of any kind be furnished or supplied to, or for the use of, the *British Army* or Navy, in the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*; and

That no Vessel employed in transporting *British Troops* to *America*, or from one part of *North America* to another, or warlike Stores or Provisions for said Troops, be freighted or furnished with Provisions or any necessities, until further orders from this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolves be immediately published.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Saturday, June 3, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A Letter from the Provincial Convention of *New-York*, together with sundry Letters and papers enclosed, from *Albany*, were laid before the Congress and read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That a Committee of five persons be chosen to take into consideration the Letter from the Convention of *Massachusetts-Bay*, dated 16th of *May*, and report to this Congress what in their opinion is the proper advice to be given to that Convention.

The following persons were chosen by ballot, to compose that Committee, viz: Mr. *John Rutledge*, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Lee*.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed for the purpose of borrowing the sum of Six Thousand Pounds, for the use of *America*; for the repayment of which, with interest, the Congress will make full and ample provision: And that the said Committee apply the said sum of Money to the purchase of Gunpowder for the use of the Continental Army.

That the Delegates for *Pennsylvania* compose said Committee, with power as well to borrow the Money as to apply it to the purpose intended.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of five be appointed to draught a Petition to the King.

That a Committee be appointed to report an Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*.

Also, a Committee to report an Address to the People of *Ireland*.

Also, a Committee to draught a Letter to the Inhabitants of *Jamaica*.

That the three last Committees consist each of three.

That a Committee be appointed to bring in an estimate of the Money necessary to be raised. That this Committee consist of five persons.

That the Committee to report a Petition to the King, be Mr. *Dickinson*, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *J. Rutledge*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Franklin*.

That the Committee to report an Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*, be Mr. *Lee*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, and Mr. *Pendleton*.

That Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Wm. Livingston*, Mr. *S. Adams*, and Mr. *J. Adams*, be the Committee to report an Address to the People of *Ireland*.

That Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Lynch*, be a Committee to draught a Letter to the Inhabitants of *Jamaica*.

That Mr. *Washington*, Mr. *Schuyler*, Mr. *Deane*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Mr. *Hewes*, be a Committee to bring in an estimate of the Money necessary to be raised.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday*, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till *Monday* at nine o'clock.

— Monday, June 5, 1775.

A number of the Members met according to adjournment; but several of the Colonies not being represented, the President adjourned the Congress till to-morrow at nine o'clock.

Tuesday, June 6, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment; but the several Committees not being ready to report, adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, June 7, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to make an estimate of the Money necessary to be raised, brought in a Report, which was read, and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

On motion, *Resolved*, That *Thursday*, the 20th of *July* next, be observed throughout the twelve United Colonies, as a day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer; and that Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *Paine*, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for that purpose.

The Committee appointed to prepare advice in answer to the Letter from the Convention of *Massachusetts-Bay*, dated 16th of *May*, &c., brought in their Report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Congress, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved themselves into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*. After some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that they had proceeded in the business referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve themselves into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*; and that this be a standing order till the business is completed.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Thursday, June 8, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Congress being informed that a Major *Skene*, with some other officers, were arrived last evening in a vessel from *London*, and were, with their papers, now in custody of the Troops of this City; that the said Major *Skene* has lately been appointed Governour of the Forts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*; that one of the officers, a Lieutenant, has commission in the Regular Troops in the Province of *Quebeck*; and moreover, that the said *Skene* had declared he has authority to raise a regiment in *America*; from all this, apprehending that the said *Skene* is a dangerous partisan of Administration, and that his papers may contain intelligence of Ministerial designs against *America*, very important to be known,

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to examine, in the presence of said *Skene* and the Lieutenant, all the papers in their possession.

That the Committee consist of Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Deane*, and Mr. *Mifflin*.

That the said Committee be upon honour to conceal whatever of a private nature may come to their knowledge by such examination; and that they communicate to this Congress whatever may relate to the present dispute between *Great Britain* and *America*.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*. After some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that not having yet completed the business referred to them, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the Report of the Committee, which yesterday was ordered to lie on the table, be taken up as the first business to-morrow morning.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Friday, June 9, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Report of the Committee on the Letter from the Convention of *Massachusetts-Bay*, being again read, the Congress came to the following Resolution:



*Resolved*, That no obedience being due to the Act of Parliament for altering the Charter of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, nor to a Governour, or a Lieutenant-Governour, who will not observe the directions of, but endeavour to subvert that Charter, the Governour and Lieutenant-Governour of that Colony are to be considered as absent, and these offices vacant; and as there is no Council there, and the inconveniences arising from the suspension of the powers of Government are intolerable, especially at a time when General *Gage* hath actually levied war, and is carrying on hostilities against His Majesty's peaceable and loyal subjects of that Colony; that, in order to conform, as near as may be, to the spirit and substance of the Charter, it be recommended to the Provincial Convention, to write letters to the inhabitants of the several places which are entitled to representation in Assembly, requesting them to choose such representatives, and that the Assembly, when chosen, do elect Counsellors; which Assembly and Council should exercise the powers of Government, until a Governour, of His Majesty's appointment, will consent to govern the Colony according to its Charter.

*Ordered*, That the President transmit a copy of the above to the Convention of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, take into consideration the ways and means of raising Money.

*Resolved*, That the Provincial Convention of *New-York* be requested to convey, as soon as possible, to *Providence*, in *Rhode-Island*, or to any Port in the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay*, five thousand barrels of Flour for the use of the Continental Army.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence at *Providence*, and in the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay*, where the said Flour may be carried, be desired to receive and forward it to the Camp before *Boston* as soon as may be; and to lodge such part thereof as cannot be immediately sent thither, in places of security.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will make provision for defraying any expense incurred for this service.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above Resolves be immediately transmitted by the President to the Convention of *New-York*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Saturday, June 10, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Several Letters, from *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Ticonderoga*, *Crown Point*, &c., were laid before the Congress and read.

Upon motion, the Congress came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That it be, and it is hereby earnestly recommended to the several Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut*, and the interior Towns of *Massachusetts-Bay*, that they immediately furnish the *American* Army before *Boston* with as much Powder out of their Town, and other publick stocks, as they can possibly spare; keeping an exact account of the quantities supplied, that it may be again replaced, or paid for by the Continent. This to be effected with the utmost secrecy and despatch.

That it be recommended to the several Towns and Districts in the Colonies of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *New-Hampshire*, *Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantations*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, and the Eastern Division of *New-Jersey*, to collect all the Saltpetre and Brimstone in their several Towns and Districts, and transmit the same, with all possible despatch, to the Provincial Convention of *New-York*.

That it be recommended to the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, to have the Powder-Mills in that Colony put into such a condition as immediately to manufacture into Gunpowder, for the use of the Continent, whatever materials may be procured in the manner above directed.

That it be recommended to the Committees of the Western Division of *New-Jersey*, the Colonies of *Pennsylvania*, Lower Counties on *Delaware*, and *Maryland*, that they, without delay, collect the Saltpetre and Sulphur in their respective Colonies, and transmit the same to the Committee for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*; to the end, that those articles may be immediately manufactured into Gunpowder, for the use of the Continent.

That it be recommended to the Conventions and Committees of the Colonies of *Virginia*, *North-Carolina*, and *South-Carolina*, that they, without delay, collect the Saltpetre and Sulphur in their respective Colonies, and procure these articles to be manufactured, as soon as possible, into Gunpowder, for the use of the Continent.

That it be recommended to the several inhabitants of the United Colonies, who are possessed of Saltpetre and Sulphur, for their own use, to dispose of them for the purpose of manufacturing Gunpowder.

That the Saltpetre and Sulphur, to be collected in consequence of the above Resolves of Congress, be paid for out of the Continental Fund.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Lee*, Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Schuyler*, and Mr. *Johnson*, be a Committee to devise ways and means to introduce the manufacture of Saltpetre in these Colonies.

The Committee for examining Governour *Skene's* Letters, &c., having communicated to Congress what they found relative to the dispute between *Great Britain* and these Colonies,

*Resolved*, That Governour *Skene*, Lieutenant *Moncrief*, and Mr. *Lundy*, be released from their present confinement, and suffered to go at large any where within eight miles of the City, between *Delaware* and *Schuylkill*, on their parole of honour not to pass those limits, and that they will hold no correspondence with any person whatsoever on any political subject.

That Mr. *Gadsden* be added to the Committee for examining Governour *Skene's* Papers, and that they enlarge them upon their parole, agreeable to the above Resolve.

*Resolved*, That the Order of the Day be postponed till Monday next.

Adjourned till Monday, at nine o'clock.

Monday, June 12, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed for preparing a Resolve for a Fast, brought in a Report; which, being read, was agreed to, as follows, viz:

As the great Governour of the world, by his supreme and universal providence, not only conducts the course of nature with unerring wisdom and rectitude, but frequently influences the minds of men to serve the wise and gracious purposes of his providential government; and it being, at all times, our indispensable duty devoutly to acknowledge his superintending providence, especially in times of impending danger and publick calamity, to reverence and adore his immutable justice as well as to implore his merciful interposition for our deliverance:

This Congress, therefore, considering the present critical, alarming, and calamitous state of these Colonies, do earnestly recommend that *Thursday*, the twentieth day of *July* next, be observed, by the inhabitants of all the *English* Colonies on this Continent, as a day of publick humiliation, fasting, and prayer; that we may, with united hearts and voices, unfeignedly confess and deplore our many sins, and offer up our joint supplications to the all-wise, omnipotent, and merciful Disposer of all events; humbly beseeching him to forgive our iniquities, to remove our present calamities, to avert those desolating judgments with which we are threatened, and to bless our rightful Sovereign, King *George* the Third, and inspire him with wisdom to discern and pursue the true interest of all his subjects, that a speedy end may be put to the civil discord between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies, without farther effusion of blood; and that the *British* Nation may be influenced to regard the things that belong to her peace, before they are hid from her eyes; that these Colonies may be ever under the care and protection of a kind Providence, and be prospered in all their interests; that the divine blessing may descend and rest upon all our civil rulers, and upon the Representatives of the people, in their several Assemblies and Conventions, that they may be directed to wise and effectual measures for preserving the union, and securing the just rights and privileges of the Colonies; that virtue and true religion may revive and flourish throughout our land; and that *America* may soon behold a gracious interposition of Heaven, for the redress of her many grievances, the restoration of her invaded



rights, a reconciliation with the Parent State on terms constitutional and honourable to both; and that her civil and religious privileges may be secured to the latest posterity.

And it is recommended to Christians of all denominations, to assemble for publick worship, and to abstain from servile labour and recreation on said day.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above be signed by the President, and attested by the Secretary, and published in the newspapers and in handbills.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Letter to the Inhabitants of *Canada* be published in *English*.

The Order of the Day being read, after some debate, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the ways and means of raising Money. After some time, the President resumed the chair, Mr. *Ward* reported from the Committee, that they had proceeded in the business referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the ways and means of raising Money, and also the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Tuesday, June 13, 1775.

The Congress met, and, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the ways and means of raising Money, and also the state of *America*. After some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the ways and means of raising Money, and also the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, June 14, 1775.

The Congress met, and, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee not having yet come to a conclusion, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

At the same time they desired him to report some Resolutions which they had come into. The Resolutions being read, were adopted, as follow, viz:

*Resolved*, That six Companies of expert Riflemen be immediately raised in *Pennsylvania*, two in *Maryland*, and two in *Virginia*; that each Company consist of a Captain, three Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, a Drummer or Trumpeter, and sixty-eight Privates.

That each Company, as soon as completed, march and join the Army near *Boston*, to be there employed as Light-Infantry, under the command of the chief officer in that Army.

That the Pay of the Officers and Privates be as follows, viz: a Captain twenty dollars per month; a Lieutenant thirteen dollars and one-third of a dollar per month; a Sergeant eight dollars per month; a Corporal seven dollars and one-third of a dollar per month; a Drummer the same; Privates six dollars and two-thirds of a dollar per month; to find their own Arms and Clothes.

That the form of the Enlistment be in the following words, viz:

I, . . . . ., have this day voluntarily enlisted myself, as a Soldier, in the *American* Continental Army, for one year, unless sooner discharged. And I do bind myself to conform, in all instances, to such Rules and Regulations as are, or shall be established for the government of the said Army.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Washington*, Mr. *Schuyler*, Mr. *Deane*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Mr. *Hewes*, be a Committee to bring in a draught of Rules and Regulations for the government of the Army.

A Letter from the Convention of *New-York*, dated 10th *June*, 1775, respecting a Vessel which is stopped there, on suspicion of having Provisions on board for the Army and Navy at *Boston*, was read, and referred to the Delegates of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Connecticut*, and *New-York*.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the ways and means of raising Money, and the state of *America*. This to be a Standing Order until the business is completed.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Thursday, June 15, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee to whom the Letter from the Convention of *New-York* was referred, brought in their Report; which being read,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be given to the Convention of *New-York*, for their vigilance in the case of Captain *Coffin's* Vessel, and that it be recommended to them that the Vessel be unloaded, and the Cargo safely stored, until all just suspicions concerning the destination of it shall be removed.

*Ordered*, That this be transmitted, by the President, in a Letter to the Chairman of the Convention of *New-York*.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the ways and means of raising Money, and the state of *America*; after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had come to certain Resolutions, which they desired him to report; but not having yet come to a conclusion, ordered him to move for leave to sit again.

The Report of the Committee being read, and debated,

*Resolved*, That a General be appointed to command all the Continental Forces raised, or to be raised, for the defence of *American* liberty.

That five hundred Dollars per month be allowed for his pay and expenses.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of a General, when *George Washington*, Esquire, was unanimously elected.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

— Friday, June 16, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The President, from the chair, informed *George Washington*, Esquire, that he had the orders of the Congress to acquaint him that the Congress had, by a unanimous vote, made choice of him to be General and Commander-in-Chief, to take the supreme command of the Forces raised, and to be raised, in defence of *American* liberty, and desired his acceptance of it. To which Colonel *Washington*, standing in his place, answered:

"Mr. PRESIDENT: Though I am truly sensible of the high honour done me, in this appointment, yet I feel great distress, from a consciousness that my abilities and military experience may not be equal to the extensive and important trust. However, as the Congress desire it, I will enter upon the momentous duty, and exert every power I possess in their service, and for support of the glorious cause. I beg they will accept my most cordial thanks for this distinguished testimony of their approbation.

"But, lest some unlucky event should happen, unfavourable to my reputation, I beg it may be remembered, by every gentleman in the room, that I this day declare, with the utmost sincerity, I do not think myself equal to the command I am honoured with.

"As to pay, Sir, I beg leave to assure the Congress, that as no pecuniary consideration could have tempted me to accept this arduous employment, at the expense of my domestick ease and happiness, I do not wish to make any profit from it. I will keep an exact account of my expenses. Those, I doubt not, they will discharge, and that is all I desire."

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be



appointed to draught a Commission and Instructions for the General.

The Committee to consist of the following persons, viz: Mr. Lee, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. J. Adams.

Upon motion, *Resolved, unanimously*, That a Committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the Papers transmitted from the Convention of *New-York*, relative to *Indian* Affairs, and report what steps, in their opinion, are necessary to be taken for securing and preserving the friendship of the *Indian* Nations.

That the Committee consist of the following persons, viz: Mr. Schuyler, Mr. Henry, Mr. Duane, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. P. Livingston.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*; and, after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. Ward reported, that the Committee had come to certain Resolutions, which they had ordered him to report, but not having come to a conclusion, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The Resolve of the Committee being read, the Congress came to the following Resolutions, viz:

*Resolved*, That two Major-Generals be appointed for the *American* Army.

That the pay of each of the Major-Generals be one hundred and sixty-six Dollars per month.

That when any of these act in a separate department, he be allowed, for his pay and expenses, three hundred and thirty-two Dollars per month.

That there be eight Brigadiers-General.

That the pay of each be one hundred and twenty-five Dollars per month.

That there be one Adjutant-General, and his pay one hundred and twenty-five Dollars per month.

That there be one Commissary-General of Stores and Provisions; and that his pay be eighty Dollars per month.

That there be one Quartermaster-General for the Grand Army, and a Deputy under him, for the separate Army.

That the pay of the Quartermaster-General be eighty Dollars per month; that of the Deputy forty Dollars per month.

That there be a Paymaster-General, and a Deputy under him, for the Army, in a separate department; that the pay, for himself, be one hundred Dollars per month, and for the Deputy-Paymaster under him, fifty Dollars per month.

That there be one Chief Engineer at the Grand Army; and that his pay be sixty Dollars per month.

That two Assistants be employed under him; and that the pay of each of them be twenty Dollars per month.

That there be one Chief Engineer for the Army, in a separate department, and two Assistants under him; that the pay of the Chief Engineer be sixty Dollars per month, and the pay of the Assistants each twenty Dollars per month.

That there be three Aids-de-Camp; and that their pay be thirty-three Dollars per month each.

That there be a Secretary to the General; and that his pay be sixty-six Dollars per month.

That there be a Secretary to the Major-General, acting in a separate department; and that his pay be thirty-three Dollars per month.

That there be a Commissary of the Musters; and that his pay be forty Dollars per month.

A Letter from the Convention of *New-York*, received by express, was laid before the Congress, and read; which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the Provincial Convention of *New-York* be desired immediately to apply to Governour Trumbull to order the *Connecticut* Troops now stationed at *Greenwich, Stamford*, and parts adjacent, to march towards *New-York*; and that part of them occupy such posts on that Island as the said Provincial Convention shall judge best adapted to prevent the communication between the town and country from being cut off. The remainder of the Troops to be employed in securing the navigation of *Hudson's* River, by erecting Batteries at such places as the said Convention shall judge most proper to answer that purpose.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, again

resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Saturday, June 17, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to draught a Commission for the General, reported the same; which being read by paragraphs, and debated, was agreed to, and is as follows:

IN CONGRESS.

The Delegates of the United Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, the Counties of *Newcastle, Kent*, and *Sussex*, on *Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina*, and *South-Carolina*, in Congress assembled,

To GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq.

We, reposing special trust and confidence in your patriotism, valour, conduct, and fidelity, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you to be General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies, and of all the Forces now raised, or to be raised by them, and of all others who shall voluntarily offer their service and join the said Army for the defence of *American* liberty, and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof. And you are hereby vested with full power and authority to act as you shall think for the good and welfare of the service.

And we do hereby strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under your command to be obedient to your orders, and diligent in the exercise of their several duties.

And we do also enjoin and require you to be careful in executing the great trust reposed in you, by causing strict discipline and order to be observed in the Army; and that the Soldiers be duly exercised, and provided with all convenient necessities.

And you are to regulate your conduct in every respect by the rules and discipline of war, (as herewith given you,) and punctually to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of these United Colonies, or Committee of Congress.

This Commission to continue in force until revoked by this or a future Congress. By order of the Congress.

Philadelphia, June 17, 1775.

*Ordered*, That the same be fairly transcribed, signed by the President, attested by the Secretary, and delivered to the General.

*Resolved unanimously*, upon the question, Whereas, the Delegates of all the Colonies, from *Nova-Scotia* to *Georgia*, in Congress assembled, have unanimously chosen *George Washington, Esq.*, to be General and Commander-in-Chief of such Forces as are or shall be raised for the maintenance and preservation of *American* liberty; this Congress doth now declare that they will maintain and assist him, and adhere to him, the said *George Washington, Esq.*, with their lives and fortunes in the same cause.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of the Officers in the Army, by ballot; when

*Artemas Ward, Esq.*, was chosen first Major-General.

*Horatio Gates, Esq.*, Adjutant-General.

*Resolved*, That *Horatio Gates*, now chosen Adjutant-General, shall have the rank of a Brigadier-General.

*Charles Lee, Esq.*, was chosen second Major-General.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday*, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till *Monday* next, at nine o'clock.

Monday, June 19, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The President laid before the Congress sundry Letters from the Conventions of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-York*; which were read.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Henry, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. J. Adams, be a Committee to wait upon General Lee, and to inform him of his appointment, and request his answer whether he will accept the command.

The Committee returned, and reported, that they had waited on General Lee, and informed him of his appoint-



ment, and that he gave for answer: "That he had the highest sense of the honour conferred upon him by the Congress; that no effort in his power shall be wanting to serve the *American* cause; but before he entered upon the service, he desired a conference with a Committee, to consist of one Delegate from each of the associated Colonies, to whom he desired to explain some particulars respecting his private fortune."

Whereupon, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Dyer, Mr. P. Livingston, Mr. W. Livingston, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rodney, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Henry, Mr. Caswell, and Mr. Lynch, were appointed as a Committee to confer with General Lee.

The Committee returned, and reported, that they had conferred with General Lee, who had communicated to them an estimate of the estate he risked by this service.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That these Colonies will indemnify General Lee for any loss of property which he may sustain by entering into their service; and that the same be done by this or any future Congress, as soon as such loss is ascertained.

The Letters from *Massachusetts-Bay* being taken into consideration,

Upon motion, *Resolved unanimously*, That the Government of *Connecticut* be requested to direct all the Forces raised in that Colony, not employed at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, or recommended by this Congress to be marched towards *New-York*, to be immediately sent to join the combined Army before *Boston*. And it is earnestly recommended to the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, and to the Provincial Convention of *New-Hampshire*, to send immediately to the Army before *Boston* such of the Forces as are already embodied, towards their quotas of the Troops agreed to be raised by the *New-England* Colonies.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Lee, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. J. Adams, be a Committee to prepare the form of a Commission for the Major-Generals; and also for the Brigadier-Generals and other Officers in the Army.

*Resolved*, That there be four Major-Generals.

The Congress then proceeded to choose the two remaining Major-Generals; when Philip Schuyler, Esquire, was chosen third Major-General, and Israel Putnam, Esq., was unanimously chosen fourth Major-General.

The Committee appointed to prepare the form of a Commission for the Major and Brigadier-Generals, reported the same, which being agreed to,

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be made out, signed by the President, and attested by the Secretary, for each of the Major-Generals and Brigadier-Generals.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary get a number of Commissions printed, with proper blanks, for the other Officers.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Petition to the King, reported the same.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, nine o'clock.

— Tuesday, July 20, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to draught Instructions to the General, reported the same; which being read, were agreed to, and are as follow:

TO GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq.

This Congress having appointed you to be General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies, of all the Forces raised or to be raised by them, and of all others who shall voluntarily offer their service and join the said Army for the defence of *American* liberty, and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof, you are to repair with all expedition to the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and take charge of the Army of the United Colonies.

For your better direction:

1. You are to make a return to us as soon as possible of all Forces which you shall have under your command, together with their Military Stores and Provisions; and also, as exact an account as you can obtain of the Forces which compose the *British* Army in *America*.

2. You are not to disband any of the men you find

raised, until further direction from this Congress; and if you shall think their numbers not adequate to the purpose of security, you may recruit them to a number you shall think sufficient, not exceeding double that of the enemy.

3. In all cases of vacancy occasioned by the death or removal of a Colonel, or other inferior officer, you are by brevet, or warrant under your seal, to appoint another person to fill up such vacancy, until it shall otherwise be ordered by the Provincial Convention, or the Assembly of the Colony from whence the Troops in which such vacancy happen, shall direct otherwise.

4. You are to victual, at the Continental expense, all such Volunteers as have joined or shall join the united Army.

5. You shall take every method in your power, consistent with prudence, to destroy or make prisoners of all persons who now are, or who hereafter shall appear in arms against the good people of the United Colonies.

6. And whereas, all particulars cannot be foreseen, nor positive instructions for such emergencies so beforehand given, but that many things must be left to your prudent and discreet management, as occurrences may arise upon the place, or from time to time fall out, you are, therefore, upon all such accidents, or any occasions that may happen, to use your best circumspection; and (advising with your Council of War) to order and dispose of the said Army under your command as may be most advantageous for the obtaining the end for which these forces have been raised, making it your special care, in discharge of the great trust committed unto you, that the liberties of *America* receive no detriment.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, June 21, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Mr. Thomas Jefferson appeared as a Delegate for the Colony of *Virginia*, and produced his Credentials; which were read and approved, and are as follow:

"At a Convention of the Delegates for the Counties and Corporations in the Colony of *Virginia*, at the Town of *Richmond*, in the County of *Henrico*, on Monday, March 27, 1775:

"On a motion made, *Resolved*, That Thomas Jefferson, Esq., be appointed a Deputy to represent this Colony in General Congress, in the room of the Honourable Peyton Randolph, Esq., in case of the non-attendance of the said Peyton Randolph, Esq. A copy, test:

"JOHN TAZEWELL, Clerk of the Convention."

"At a General Assembly begun and held at the Capitol, in the City of *Williamsburgh*, on Thursday, the first day of June, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our Lord George the Third, by the grace of God, of *Great-Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.,

"Monday, June 5, 15th Geo. III, A. D. 1775.

"*Resolved*, N. C. D., That this House doth entirely approve of the proceedings and Resolutions of the Convention of Delegates for the Counties and Corporations in the Colony of *Virginia*, held at *Richmond* Town, in the County of *Henrico*, on the 20th of March, 1775; and that it be recommended to all the good people of this Colony strictly to conform to and observe the same.

"By the House of Burgesses:

"PEYTON RANDOLPH, Speaker."

Mr. Henry informed the Congress that the General had put into his hand sundry Queries, to which he desired the Congress would give an answer.

The Queries being read and debated,

*Resolved*, That a Committee of five be appointed to take into their consideration the said Queries, and report their opinion with regard to the answers proper to be given; that the Committee consist of the following persons, namely: Mr. Deane, Mr. Henry, Mr. J. Rutledge, Mr. S. Adams, and Mr. Lee.

On a motion made, *Resolved*, That the General be allowed three Aids-de-Camp.



That each of the Major-Generals have two Aids-de-Camp.

That the pay of the Aids-de-Camp of the Majors-General be thirty-three Dollars per month.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Thursday, June 22, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Queries of the General, and report thereon, brought in their Report; which was read, and considered.

*Resolved*, That the number of Brigadier-Generals be augmented to eight.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of the Brigadiers, viz:

*Seth Pomeroy*, Esq., first; *Richard Montgomery*, Esq., second; *David Wooster*, Esquire, third; *William Heath*, Esq., fourth; *Joseph Spencer*, Esq., fifth; *John Thomas*, Esq., sixth; *John Sullivan*, Esq., seventh; *Nathaniel Greene*, Esq., eighth.

*Resolved*, That the Troops, including the Volunteers, be furnished with Camp-equipage and Blankets, where necessary, at the Continental expense.

*Resolved*, That the Officers now in the Army receive their new Commissions through the hands of the General.

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding Two Millions of *Spanish* milled Dollars be emitted by the Congress, in Bills of Credit, for the defence of *America*.

*Resolved*, That the twelve confederated Colonies be pledged for the redemption of the Bills of Credit now directed to be emitted.

*Resolved*, That the Colony of *Pennsylvania* raise two more Companies of Riflemen, and that these, with the six before ordered to be raised by them, making eight Companies, be formed into a Battalion, to be commanded by such Field-Officers, Captains, and Lieutenants, as shall be recommended by the Assembly or Convention of the above Colony.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, nine o'clock.

Friday, June 23, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A Letter from the Officer at *Crown Point*, dated June 10th, 1775, was laid before the Congress. Information being given, that Colonel *Allen* and Captain *Seth Warner*, who brought the Letter, were at the door, and had some things of importance to communicate,

*Ordered*, That they be called in. After they withdrew, the Congress took the Letter and information into consideration.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Officer commanding in the *New-York* Department, to procure, as soon as possible, a list of the men employed in taking and garrisoning *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*, and keeping possession of the Lakes; and also, of their disbursements, in order that they may be paid.

*Resolved*, That their pay be the same as that of the officers and privates in the *American* Army; the highest of the officers not to exceed that of a Captain, and that the pay commence the third day of last *May*, and continue until they are discharged.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Convention of *New-York*, that they, consulting with General *Schuyler*, employ in the Army to be raised for the defence of *America*, those called *Green Mountain Boys*, under such officers as the said *Green Mountain Boys* shall choose.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee of five be appointed to draw up a Declaration, to be published by General *Washington*, upon his arrival at the Camp before *Boston*.

That the Committee consist of the following members,

viz: *Mr. J. Rutledge*, *Mr. W. Livingston*, *Mr. Franklin*, *Mr. Jay*, and *Mr. Johnson*.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*; and after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and *Mr. Ward* reported that the Committee had come into certain Resolutions, which they desired him to report, but not having yet finished, they had ordered him to move for leave to sit again.

The Report of the Committee being read,

*Resolved*, That the number and denomination of the Bills to be emitted, be as follow, viz:

|        |                          |         |
|--------|--------------------------|---------|
| 49,000 | Bills of 8 Dollars each— | 392,000 |
| 49,000 | do. of 7 Dollars each—   | 343,000 |
| 49,000 | do. of 6 Dollars each—   | 294,000 |
| 49,000 | do. of 5 Dollars each—   | 245,000 |
| 49,000 | do. of 4 Dollars each—   | 196,000 |
| 49,000 | do. of 3 Dollars each—   | 147,000 |
| 49,000 | do. of 2 Dollars each—   | 98,000  |
| 49,000 | do. of 1 Dollar each—    | 49,000  |
| 11,800 | do. of 20 Dollars each—  | 236,000 |

403,800                      \$2,000,0000

*Resolved*, That the form of the Bills be as follows, viz:

#### CONTINENTAL CURRENCY.

No.                      Dollars.

THIS Bill entitles the bearer to receive . . . . . *Spanish* milled Dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to the Resolutions of the Congress, held at *Philadelphia*, on the 10th day of *May*, A. D. 1775.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. J. Adams*, *Mr. J. Rutledge*, *Mr. Duane*, *Doctor Franklin*, and *Mr. Wilson*, be a Committee to get proper Plates engraved, to provide Paper, and to agree with Printers to print the above Bills.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Saturday, June 24, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That the first and second Resolves, passed the 26th of *May*, be published.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee of seven be appointed to devise ways and means to put the Militia of *America* in a proper state for the defence of *America*.

The members chosen, *Mr. Paine*, *Mr. Harrison*, *Mr. Sherman*, *Mr. Hopkins*, *Mr. Floyd*, *Mr. Gadsden*, and *Mr. Dickinson*.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Declaration to be published by General *Washington*, upon his arrival at the Camp before *Boston*, reported the same, which was read and debated, and referred for farther consideration till *Monday* next.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday*, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till *Monday*, at nine o'clock.

Monday, June 26, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A Letter from Governour *Trumbull* was read, and referred to the Committee appointed to devise ways and means for introducing the manufacture of Saltpetre into these Colonies.

The state of *North-Carolina* being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following Resolutions:

Whereas, it is represented to this Congress, that the enemies of the liberties of *America* are pursuing measures to divide the good people of the Colony of *North-Carolina*, and to defeat the *American* Association;

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to all in that Colony, who wish well to the liberties of *America*, to associate for the defence of *American* liberty, and to embody themselves as Militia, under proper officers.

*Resolved*, That in case the Assembly or Convention of that Colony shall think it absolutely necessary, for the sup-



port of the *American Association* and safety of the Colony, to raise a body of Forces not exceeding one thousand men, this Congress will consider them as an *American Army*, and provide for their pay.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Declaration, and after some debate, the same was recommit-  
ted, and Mr. *Dickinson* and Mr. *Jefferson* were added to the Committee.

A Letter from the Committee of *Albany*, received by express, was laid before the Congress and read.

The Committee for *Indian Affairs* brought in their Report, which was read.

Upon motion,

*Resolved*, That the Delegates of *Pennsylvania* be appointed from this Congress, to wait on the Committee of this City, and to request of them that a supply of Powder be immediately furnished for the use of the Fortifications of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, and sent forward immediately.

*Ordered*, That the President write to Governour *Trumbull*, and inform him, that the Congress had appointed *George Washington*, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces raised, or to be raised, for the defence of *America*.

*Ordered*, That the President also write to the Provincial Conventions of *Massachusetts* and *New-Hampshire*, and to the Government of *Rhode-Island*, and inform them of the same appointment.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Tuesday, June 27, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That Governour *Skene* be sent under a guard to *Weathersfield*, or *Middletown*, in the County of *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, there to be confined on his parole, not to go out of the bounds prescribed to him by Governour *Trumbull*.

*Ordered*, That the Delegates for *Pennsylvania* take measures to have the above Resolve carried into execution.

A Letter from the Convention of *Massachusetts-Bay*, dated 20th of *June*, received by express, together with several other Letters, were laid before the Congress and read.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Letter from *Albany*, and after some debate, the Congress came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That Major-General *P. Schuyler* be directed to repair, as soon as conveniently he can, to the posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, to examine into the state thereof, and of the Troops now stationed there, and how they are supplied with provision and necessary stores; into the state also of the Sloop and other navigation on the Lakes; also, to obtain the best intelligence he can of the disposition of the *Canadians* and *Indians* of *Canada*; that he confer with Colonel *Hinman* and Colonel *Arnold* on the subject of Colonel *Arnold's* Letter to this Congress, and report as soon as possible the state of the whole, as near as it can be ascertained, to this Congress; and that he give orders for the necessary preparation of Boats and Stores, for securing to the United Colonies the command of those waters adjacent to *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*.

*Resolved*, That as Governour *Carleton* is making preparations to invade these Colonies, and is instigating the *Indian Nations* to take up the hatchet against them, Major-General *Schuyler* do exert his utmost power to destroy or take all Vessels, Boats, or Floating Batteries preparing by said Governour, or by his order, on or near the waters of the Lakes.

*Resolved*, That if General *Schuyler* finds it practicable, and that it will not be disagreeable to the *Canadians*, he do immediately take possession of *St. John's*, *Montreal*, and any other parts of the country, and pursue any other measures in *Canada* which may have a tendency to promote the peace and security of these Colonies.

*Resolved*, That if General *Schuyler* shall have occasion for a larger quantity of ready Money and Ammunition, for carrying on such expedition, than he can in convenient time procure from the Provincial Convention of the Colony of *New-York*, that he do in such case apply to the Governour of *Connecticut* for such supplies as may be necessary, and can be furnished by that Colony; and that Governour *Trumbull* be desired to furnish such supplies, and this Congress will make provision for reimbursing the same.

The Committee appointed to draw up an Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*, reported the same, which was read.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, June 28, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment, and resumed the consideration of the Articles of War. After some debate, the further consideration of them was put off till to-morrow.

The Order of the Day put off till to-morrow.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Thursday, June 29, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A number of Letters and Speeches from the Chiefs of *Stockbridge Indians* to the Congress, also copy of a Message from said *Indians* to the *Canada Indians*, and their Answer, were laid before the Congress and read.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Rules or Articles of War. After some debate, the same was deferred till to-morrow.

The Order of the Day put off, and adjourned till to-morrow, nine o'clock.

— Friday, June 30, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The consideration of the Articles of War being resumed, the Congress agreed to the same.

Whereas, His Majesty's most faithful subjects in these Colonies are reduced to a dangerous and critical situation, by the attempts of the *British Ministry* to carry into execution, by force of arms, several unconstitutional and oppressive acts of the *British Parliament* for laying Taxes in *America*, to enforce the collection of those Taxes, and for altering and changing the Constitution and internal Police of some of these Colonies, in violation of the natural and civil rights of the Colonies:

And whereas, hostilities have been actually commenced in *Massachusetts-Bay*, by the *British Troops* under the command of General *Gage*, and the lives of a number of the inhabitants of that Colony destroyed; the Town of *Boston* not only having been long occupied as a garrisoned Town in an enemy's Country, but the inhabitants thereof treated with a severity and cruelty not to be justified even towards declared enemies:

And whereas, large re-enforcements have been ordered, and are soon expected, for the declared purpose of compelling these Colonies to submit to the operation of the said acts, which hath rendered it necessary, and an indispensable duty, for the express purpose of securing and defending these Colonies, and preserving them in safety against all attempts to carry the said acts into execution, that an armed force be raised sufficient to defeat such hostile designs, and preserve and defend the lives, liberties, and immunities of the Colonists; for the due regulating and well ordering of which,

*Resolved*, That the following Rules and Orders be attended to, and observed by such Forces as are or may hereafter be raised for the purposes aforesaid.

ARTICLE I. That every Officer who shall be retained, and every Soldier who shall serve in the Continental Army, shall, at the time of his acceptance of his commission or enlistment, subscribe these Rules and Regulations; and that the Officers and Soldiers, already of that Army, shall also, as soon as may be, subscribe the same, from the time



of which subscription, every Officer and Soldier shall be bound by those Regulations. But if any of the Officers or Soldiers, now of the said Army, do not subscribe these Rules and Regulations, then they may be retained in the said Army, subject to the rules and regulations under which they entered into the service, or be discharged from the service, at the option of the Commander-in-Chief.

ART. II. It is earnestly recommended to all Officers and Soldiers, diligently to attend divine service; and all Officers and Soldiers who shall behave indecently or irreverently at any place of divine worship, shall, if Commissioned Officers, be brought before a Court-Martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the President; if Non-Commissioned Officers or Soldiers, every person so offending shall, for his first offence, forfeit one-sixth of a Dollar, to be deducted out of his next pay; for the second offence he shall not only forfeit a like sum, but be confined for twenty-four hours; and for every like offence, shall suffer and pay in like manner; which money so forfeited shall be applied to the use of the sick Soldiers of the Troop or Company to which the offender belongs.

ART. III. Whatsoever Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier shall use any profane oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the foregoing Article; and if a Commissioned Officer be thus guilty of profane cursing or swearing, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence the sum of four Shillings lawful money.

ART. IV. Any Officer or Soldier who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the General or Generals, or Commanders-in-Chief of the Continental Forces, or shall speak false words, tending to his or their hurt or dishonour, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the judgment of a General Court-Martial.

ART. V. Any Officer or Soldier who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any mutiny or sedition in the Regiment, Troop, or Company, to which he belongs, or in any other Regiment, Troop, or Company of the Continental Forces, either by land or sea, or in any part, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court-Martial shall be ordered.

ART. VI. Any Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer, or Soldier, who being present at any mutiny or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavours to suppress the same, or coming to the knowledge of any mutiny or intended mutiny, does not, without delay, give information thereof to the Commanding Officer, shall be punished by order of a General Court-Martial, according to the nature of his offence.

ART. VII. Any Officer or Soldier who shall strike his superiour Officer, or draw, or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful commands of his superiour Officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence, be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. VIII. Any Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier who shall desert, or without leave of his Commanding Officer, absent himself from the Troop or Company to which he belongs, or from any detachment of the same, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

ART. IX. Whatsoever Officer or Soldier shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other Officer or Soldier to desert, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. X. All Officers, of what condition soever, shall have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, though the persons concerned should belong to another Regiment, Troop, or Company, and either order Officers to be arrested, or Non-Commissioned Officers or Soldiers to be confined and imprisoned, till their proper superiour Officers shall be acquainted therewith; and whoever shall refuse to obey such Officer, (though of an inferior rank,) or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

ART. XI. No Officer or Soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches, or gestures to another, nor shall presume to send a challenge to any person to fight a duel; and whoever shall knowingly and willingly suffer any person

whatsoever to go forth to fight a duel, or shall second, promote, or carry any challenge, shall be deemed as a principal; and whatsoever Officer or Soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge, shall also be considered as a challenger; and all such offenders, in any of these or such like cases, shall be punished at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

ART. XII. Every Officer commanding in quarters, or on a march, shall keep good order, and, to the utmost of his power, redress all such abuses or disorders which may be committed by any Officer or Soldier under his command; if upon any complaint being made to him, of Officers or Soldiers beating, or otherwise ill-treating any person, or of committing any kind of riot, to the disquieting of the inhabitants of this Continent, he, the said Commander, who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation made to the party or parties injured, as far as the offender's wages shall enable him or them, shall, upon due proof thereof, be punished as ordered by a General Court-Martial, in such manner as if he himself had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

ART. XIII. If any Officer should think himself to be wronged by his Colonel, or the commanding Officer of the Regiment, and shall, upon due application made to him, be refused to be redressed, he may complain to the General or Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces, in order to obtain justice, who is hereby required to examine into said complaint, and see that justice be done.

ART. XIV. If any inferior Officer or Soldier shall think himself wronged by his Captain, or other Officer commanding the Troop or Company to which he belongs, he is to complain thereof to the commanding Officer of the Regiment, who is hereby required to summon a Regimental Court-Martial for the doing justice to the complainant, from which Regimental Court-Martial either party may, if he thinks himself still aggrieved, appeal to a General Court-Martial; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal shall appear to be vexatious and groundless, the person so appealing shall be punished at the discretion of the General Court-Martial.

ART. XV. Whatsoever Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier shall be convicted, at a Regimental Court-Martial, of having sold, or designedly, or through neglect, wasted the Ammunition, Arms, or Provisions, or other military stores, delivered out to him, to be employed in the service of this Continent, shall, if an Officer, be reduced to a private Sentinel, and if a private Soldier, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XVI. All Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers who shall be found one mile from the camp, without leave in writing from their commanding Officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him or them by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XVII. No Officer or Soldier shall lie out of his quarters or camp without leave from the commanding Officer of the Regiment, upon penalty of being punished, according to the nature of his offence, by order of a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XVIII. Every Non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier shall retire to his quarters or tent at the beating of the retreat; in default of which, he shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by order of the commanding Officer.

ART. XIX. No Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier, shall fail of repairing, at the time fixed, to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by the commanding Officer, if not prevented by sickness or some other evident necessity, or shall go from the said place of rendezvous, or from his guard, without leave from his commanding Officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on penalty of being punished, according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XX. Whatsoever commissioned Officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or duty, under arms, shall be cashiered for it; any Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier so offending, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. XXI. Whatsoever Sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly



relieved, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. xxii. Any person belonging to the Continental Army, who, by discharging of Fire-Arms, beating of Drums, or by any other means whatsoever, shall occasion false alarms in camp or quarters, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. xxiii. Any Officer or Soldier who shall, without urgent necessity, or without leave of his superiour Officer, quit his platoon or division, shall be punished, according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. xxiv. No Officer or Soldier shall do violence, or offer any insult or abuse to any person who shall bring Provisions or other necessities to the Camp or Quarters of the Continental Army; any Officer or Soldier so offending, shall, upon complaint being made to the commanding Officer, suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a Regimental Court-Martial.

ART. xxv. Whatsoever Officer or Soldier shall shamefully abandon any Post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like in time of an engagement, shall suffer death immediately.

ART. xxvi. Any person belonging to the Continental Army, who shall make known the watchword to any person who is not entitled to receive it according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole or watchword different from what he received, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. xxvii. Whosoever, belonging to the Continental Army, shall relieve the enemy with Money, Victuals, or Ammunition, or shall knowingly harbour or protect an enemy, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court-Martial shall be ordered.

ART. xxviii. Whosoever, belonging to the Continental Army, shall be convicted of holding correspondence with, or of giving intelligence to the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court-Martial shall be ordered.

ART. xxix. All Publick Stores taken in the enemy's camp or magazines, whether of Artillery, Ammunition, Clothing, or Provisions, shall be secured for the use of the United Colonies.

ART. xxx. If any Officer or Soldier shall leave his post or colours in time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall, upon being convicted thereof before a General Court-Martial, suffer such punishment as by the said Court-Martial shall be ordered.

ART. xxxi. If any Commander of any Post, Intrenchment, or Fortress, shall be compelled, by the Officers or Soldiers under his command, to give it up to the enemy, or to abandon it, the Commissioned Officer, Non-Commissioned Officers, or Soldiers, who shall be convicted of having so offended, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. xxxii. All Sutlers and Retailers to a Camp, and all persons whatsoever serving with the Continental Army in the field, though not enlisted Soldiers, are to be subject to the Articles, Rules, and Regulations of the Continental Army.

ART. xxxiii. No General Court-Martial shall consist of a less number than thirteen, none of which shall be under the degree of a Commissioned Officer, and the President shall be a Field Officer; and the President of each and every Court-Martial, whether General or Regimental, shall have power to administer an oath to every witness, in order to the trial of offenders; and the Members of all Courts-Martial shall be duly sworn by the President, and the next in rank on the Court-Martial shall administer the oath to the President.

ART. xxxiv. The Members, both of General and Regimental Courts-Martial, shall, when belonging to different Corps, take the same rank which they hold in the Army; but when Courts-Martial shall be composed of Officers of one Corps, they shall take their ranks according to their commissions by which they are mustered in the said Corps.

ART. xxxv. All the Members of a Court-Martial are to behave with calmness, decency, and impartiality, and in

giving of their votes, are to begin with the youngest or lowest in commission.

ART. xxxvi. No Field Officer shall be tried by any person under the degree of a Captain; nor shall any proceedings or trials be carried on excepting between the hours of eight in the morning and three in the afternoon, except in cases which require an immediate example.

ART. xxxvii. The Commissioned Officers of every Regiment may, by the appointment of their Colonel or commanding Officer, hold Regimental Courts-Martial for the inquiring into such disputes or criminal matters as may come before them, and for the inflicting corporeal punishment for small offences, and shall give judgment by the majority of voices; but no sentence shall be executed till the commanding Officer (not being a member of the Court-Martial) shall have confirmed the same.

ART. xxxviii. No Regimental Court-Martial shall consist of less than five Officers, excepting in cases where that number cannot be conveniently assembled, when three may be sufficient, who are likewise to determine upon the sentence by the majority of voices, which sentence is to be confirmed by the commanding Officer, not being a member of the Court-Martial.

ART. xxxix. Every Officer commanding in any Fort, Castle, or Barrack, or elsewhere, where the Corps under his command consists of detachments from different Regiments, or of independent Companies, may assemble Courts-Martial, for the trial of offenders, in the same manner as if they were Regimental, whose sentence is not to be executed till it shall be confirmed by the said commanding Officer.

ART. xl. No person whatsoever shall use menacing words, signs, or gestures, in the presence of a Court-Martial then sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot, so as to disturb their proceeding, on the penalty of being punished at the discretion of the said Court-Martial.

ART. xli. To the end that offenders may be brought to justice, whenever any Officer or Soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his commanding Officer, if an Officer, be put in arrest; if a Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a Court-Martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by proper authority.

ART. xlii. No Officer or Soldier who shall be put in arrest or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a Court-Martial can be conveniently assembled.

ART. xliii. No Officer commanding a Guard or Provost-Marshal, shall refuse to receive or keep any prisoner committed to his charge by an Officer belonging to the Continental Forces; which Officer shall, at the same time, deliver an account in writing, signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

ART. xliv. No Officer commanding a Guard or Provost-Marshal, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge without proper authority for so doing, nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

ART. xlv. Every Officer or Provost-Marshal, to whose charge prisoners shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give in writing to the Colonel of the Regiment to whom the prisoner belongs, (where the prisoner is confined upon the guard belonging to the said Regiment, and that his offence only relates to the neglect of duty in his own Corps,) or to the Commander-in-Chief, their names, their crimes, and the names of the Officers who committed them, on the penalty of being punished for his disobedience or neglect, at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

ART. xlvi. And if any Officer under arrest shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the Officer who confined him, or by a superiour power, he shall be cashiered for it.

ART. xlvii. Whatsoever Commissioned Officer shall be convicted before a General Court-Martial of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an Officer and a Gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.



ART. XLVIII. All Officers, Conductors, Gunners, Matrosses, Drivers, or any other persons whatsoever, receiving pay or hire in the service of the Continental Artillery, shall be governed by the aforesaid Rules and Articles, and shall be subject to be tried by Courts-Martial, in like manner with the Officers and Soldiers of the Continental Troops.

ART. XLIX. For differences arising amongst themselves, or in matters relating solely to their own Corps, the Courts-Martial may be composed of their own Officers; but where a number sufficient of such Officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other Corps are interested, the Officers of Artillery shall sit in Courts-Martial with the Officers of the other Corps.

ART. L. All crimes, not capital, and all disorders and neglects, which Officers and Soldiers may be guilty of, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, though not mentioned in the Articles of War, are to be taken cognizance of by a General or Regimental Court-Martial, according to the nature and degree of the offence, and be punished at their discretion.

ART. LI. That no persons shall be sentenced by a Court-Martial to suffer death, except in the cases expressly mentioned in the foregoing Articles; nor shall any punishment be inflicted at the discretion of a Court-Martial, other than degrading, cashiering, drumming out of the Army, whipping not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, fine not exceeding two months pay of the offender, imprisonment not exceeding one month.

ART. LII. The Field-Officers of each and every Regiment are to appoint some suitable person belonging to such Regiment, to receive all such Fines as may arise within the same, for any breach of any of the foregoing Articles, and shall direct the same to be carefully and properly applied to the relief of such sick, wounded, or necessitous Soldiers as belong to such Regiment; and such person shall account with such Officer for all Fines received, and the application thereof.

ART. LIII. All Members sitting in Courts-Martial shall be sworn by the President of said Courts, which President shall himself be sworn by the Officer in said Court next in rank; the Oath to be administered previous to their proceeding to the trial of any offender, in form following, viz:

"You, *A. B.*, swear that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the Rules for regulating the Continental Army; so help you *God*."

ART. LIV. All persons called to give evidence, in any case, before a Court-Martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal at the discretion of such Court-Martial; the Oath to be administered in the following form, viz:

"You swear the evidence you shall give in the case now in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; so help you *God*."

ART. LV. Every Officer commanding a Regiment, Troop, or Company, shall, upon notice given to him by the Commissary of the Musters, or from one of his Deputies, assemble the Regiment, Troop, or Company under his command, in the next convenient place for their being mustered.

ART. LVI. Every Colonel, or other Field-Officer, or Officer commanding any Corps, to which there is no Field-Officer, and actually residing with it, may give Furloughs to Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, in such numbers, and for so long a time, as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; but no Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier shall, by leave of his Captain, or inferior Officer, commanding the Troop or Company, (his Field-Officer not being present,) be absent above twenty days in six months, nor shall more than two private men be absent at the same time from their Troop or Company, excepting some extraordinary occasion should require it, of which occasion the Field-Officer present with, and commanding the Regiment or independent Corps, is to be judge.

ART. LVII. At every Muster the Commanding Officer of each Regiment, Troop, or Company, then present, shall give to the Commissary of Musters Certificates signed by himself, signifying how long such Officers, Non-Commis-

sioned Officers, and Soldiers, who shall not appear at the said Muster, have been absent, and the reason of their absence; which reasons, and the time of absence, shall be inserted in the Muster-Rolls, opposite to the respective names of such absentees; the said Certificates shall, together with the Muster-Rolls, be by the said Commissary transmitted to the General, and to this or any future Congress of the United Colonies, or Committee appointed thereby, within twenty days next after such Muster being taken; on failure whereof, the Commissary so offending shall be discharged from the service.

ART. LVIII. Every Officer who shall be convicted before a General Court-Martial of having signed a false Certificate, relating to the absence of either Officers, Non-Commissioned Officer, or private Soldier, shall be cashiered.

ART. LIX. Every Officer, who shall knowingly make a false Muster of man or horse, and every Officer or Commissary who shall willingly sign, direct, or allow the signing of the Muster-Rolls, wherein such false Muster is contained, shall, upon proof made thereof, by two witnesses, before a General Court-Martial, be cashiered, and moreover, forfeit all such pay as may be due to him at the time of conviction for such offence.

ART. LX. Any Commissary who shall be convicted of having taken any gift or gratuity on the mustering any Regiment, Troop, or Company, or on the signing the Muster-Rolls, shall be displaced from his office, and forfeit his pay, as in the preceding Article.

ART. LXI. Any Officer who shall presume to muster any person as a Soldier who is at other times accustomed to wear a Livery, or who does not actually do his duty as a Soldier, shall be deemed guilty of having made a false Muster, and shall suffer accordingly.

ART. LXII. Every Officer who shall knowingly make a false Return to the Commander-in-Chief of the *American* Forces, or to any his superior Officer, authorized to call for such Returns, of the state of the Regiment, Troop, independent Company, or Garrison under his command, or of Arms, Ammunition, Clothing, or other Stores thereunto belonging, shall, by a Court-Martial, be cashiered.

ART. LXIII. The Commanding Officer of every Regiment, Troop, independent Company, or Garrison, in the service aforesaid, shall, in the beginning of every month, remit to the Commander-in-Chief of said Forces, an exact Return of the state of the Regiment, Troop, independent Company, or Garrison under his command, specifying the names of the Officers not then residing at their posts, and the reason for, and the time of their absence; whoever shall be convicted of having, through neglect or design, omitted the sending such Returns, shall be punished according to the nature of his crime, by the judgment of a General Court-Martial.

ART. LXIV. No Sutlers shall be permitted to sell any kind of Liquors or Victuals, or to keep their houses or shops open for the entertainment of Soldiers, after nine at night, or before the beating of the reveille, or upon *Sundays*, during divine service or sermon, on the penalty of being dismissed from all future sutling.

ART. LXV. All Officers commanding in the Camp, or in any Forts, Barracks, or Garrisons, are hereby required to see that the persons permitted to suttle shall supply the Soldiers with good and wholesome Provisions at a reasonable price, as they shall be answerable for their neglect.

ART. LXVI. No Officers commanding in any Camp, Garrisons, Forts, or Barracks, shall either themselves exact exorbitant prices for Houses or Stalls let out to Sutlers, or shall connive at the like exactions in others, nor lay any duty or impositions upon, or be interested in the sale of such Victuals, Liquors, or other necessaries of life, which are brought into the Camp, Garrison, Fort, or Barracks, for the use of the Soldiers, on the penalty of being discharged from the service.

ART. LXVII. That the General, or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, shall have full power of pardoning or mitigating any of the punishments ordered to be inflicted for any of the offences mentioned in the foregoing Articles; and every offender, convicted as aforesaid, by any Regimental Court-Martial, may be pardoned, or have his punishment mitigated by the Colonel or Officer commanding the Regiment.



**ART. LXVIII.** When any Commissioned Officer shall happen to die, or be killed in the service of the United Colonies, the Major of the Regiment, or the Officer, doing the Major's duty in his absence, shall immediately secure all his effects or equipage, then in Camp or Quarters; and shall, before the next Regimental Court-Martial, make an inventory thereof, and forthwith transmit to the Office of the Secretary of the Congress, or Assembly of the Province in which the Corps is stationed or shall happen to be at the time of the death of such Officer; to the end that his Executors may, after payment of his debts in quarters, and interment, receive the overplus, if any be, to his or their use.

**ART. LXIX.** When any Non-Commissioned Officer or private Soldier shall happen to die, or be killed in the service of the United Colonies, the then Commanding Officer of the Troop or Company, shall, in the presence of two other Commissioned Officers, take an account of whatever effects he dies possessed of, and transmit the same, as in the case above provided for, in order that the same may be secured for, and paid to their respective representatives.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Deane*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Mr. *Hewes*, be a Committee to examine the Rules and Articles of War agreed to by the Congress, and get them printed as soon as possible.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday* next, take into consideration the Trade of *America*.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the Committee for *Indian Affairs* do prepare proper Talks for the several Tribes of *Indians* for engaging the continuance of their friendship to us, and neutrality in our present unhappy dispute with *Great Britain*.

The Order of the Day put off, and adjournment made till to-morrow.

— Saturday, July 1, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That in case any Agent of the Ministry shall induce the *Indian Tribes*, or any of them, to commit actual hostilities against these Colonies, or to enter into an offensive alliance with the *British Troops*, thereupon the Colonies ought to avail themselves of an alliance with such *Indian Nations* as will enter into the same, to oppose such *British Troops* and their *Indian* allies.

The Congress then took into consideration the Report of the Committee on *Indian Affairs*.

During the debate Letters were received by express from General *Schuyler*, which requiring an immediate answer, the same were taken into consideration:

*Resolved*, That General *Schuyler* be directed not to remove General *Wooster*, or the Troops under his command, from *New-York*; but that he raise as many of the *Green Mountain Boys*, under such Officers as they shall choose, with such other men in the vicinity of *Ticonderoga* as will be necessary to carry into execution the Resolutions of the Congress, of the 27th of *June* last, transmitted to him.

*Ordered*, That this be transmitted to General *Schuyler* by the President.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That Lieutenant *Patrick Moncrief* have liberty to return to *England*, on giving his parole of honour, that he will not act against the *Americans* in the present controversy between *Great Britain* and these Colonies.

The Order of the Day being put off, the Congress adjourned till *Monday* next at nine o'clock.

— Monday, July 3, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Sundry Letters from the Convention of *New-York*, General *Schuyler*, and a certified copy of a Letter from *Thomas Gage* to Governour *Martin*, were laid before the Congress, and read.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the trade of *America*. After some time spent therein the President resumed the chair, and

Mr. *Ward* reported that the Committee had come to a Resolution, which they ordered him to report; but not having finished, they had desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The Report from the Committee being read, the final determination of it was, at the request of the Colony of *South-Carolina*, deferred till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Tuesday, July 4, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And having taken up the consideration of the Report from the Committee, came to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That the two Acts passed in the first session of the present Parliament, the one intituled "An Act to restrain the Trade and Commerce of the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, and the Colonies of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantations*, in *North-America*, to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British Islands* in the *West-Indies*; and to prohibit such Provinces and Colonies from carrying on any Fishery on the banks of *Newfoundland* or other places therein mentioned, under certain conditions and limitations;" the other, intituled "An Act to restrain the Trade and Commerce of the Colonies of *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, and *South-Carolina*, to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British Islands* in the *West-Indies*, under certain conditions and limitations," are unconstitutional, oppressive, and cruel; and that the commercial opposition of these Colonies, to certain Acts enumerated in the Association of the last Congress, ought to be made against these, until they are repealed.

*Ordered*, That the above be immediately published.

The Congress then took into consideration the Letter of General *Schuyler* of 28th ultimo, and,

*Ordered*, That the Delegates of the Colony of *Pennsylvania* procure Letters from the *German Clergy*, and other respectable persons of that nation in this City, to their friends and countrymen in the Colony of *New-York*, and also to their countrymen in *North-Carolina*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee for *Indian Affairs* be so far released from the obligation of secrecy as to have liberty to inquire of proper intelligent persons, the situation and condition of the *Indian Nations*.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Petition to the King. After some debate, the further consideration of it was postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their farther consideration the state of *America*.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, July 5, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Several Letters, from General *Schuyler*, of the 2d and 3d of *July*, were received and read.

It appearing that Governour *Philip Skene* and Mr. *Lundy* have designs inimical to *American* liberty:

Therefore, on motion, It is recommended to the Delegates of the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, to have the order of Congress of the 27th of *June* last, respecting the sending Governour *Skene* to *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, immediately carried into execution.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Lundy* be sent under guard along with Governour *Skene* to *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, there to be confined in the same manner as is ordered with respect to Governour *Skene*, until farther orders from this Congress.

*Resolved*, That such provision be made for the support of Governour *Skene* and Mr. *Lundy* as Governour *Trumbull* shall think proper, which the Continent will take care to pay.

*Ordered*, That the President write to Governour *Trumbull* on this subject, and enclose him the above Order and Resolves.



The Congress resumed the consideration of the Petition to the King, which being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

The Order of the Day was postponed, and the Congress adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Thursday, July 6, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And resumed the consideration of the Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain* which, after some debate, was recommitted.

The Committee, to whom the Declaration was recommended, brought in the same, which being read, was taken into consideration, and being debated\* by paragraphs, was approved, and is as follows:

*A Declaration by the Representatives of the United Colonies of NORTH-AMERICA, now met in Congress at PHILADELPHIA, setting forth the causes and necessity of their taking up Arms.*

If it was possible for men who exercise their reason, to believe that the divine Author of our existence intended a part of the human race to hold an absolute property in, and an unbounded power over others, marked out by his infinite goodness and wisdom, as the objects of a legal domination never rightfully resistible, however severe and oppressive, the inhabitants of these Colonies might at least require from the Parliament of *Great Britain* some evidence, that this dreadful authority over them has been granted to that body. But a reverence for our great Creator, principles of humanity, and the dictates of common sense, must convince all those who reflect upon the subject, that Government was instituted to promote the welfare of mankind, and ought to be administered for the attainment of that end. The Legislature of *Great Britain*, however, stimulated by an inordinate passion for a power, not only unjustifiable, but which they know to be peculiarly reprobated by the very Constitution of that Kingdom, and desperate of success in any mode of contest where regard should be had to truth, law, or right, have at length, deserting those, attempted to effect their cruel and impolitic purpose of enslaving these Colonies by violence,

\* FRAGMENT OF A SPEECH MADE IN THE GENERAL CONGRESS OF AMERICA, BY ONE OF THE DELEGATES IN 1775.

The great God, Sir, who is the searcher of all things, will witness for me, that I have spoken to you from the bottom and purity of my heart. We have heard that this is an arduous consideration. And surely, Sir, we have considered it earnestly. I may think of every gentleman here, as I know of myself, that, for seven years past, this question has filled the day with anxious thought, and the night with care. The God to whom we appeal must judge us. If the grievances of which we complain did not come upon us unprovoked and unexpected, when our hearts were filled with respectful affection for our Parent State, and with loyalty to our King—let slavery, the worst of human ills, be our portion. Nothing less than seven years of insulted complaints and reiterated wrongs, could have shaken such rooted sentiments. Unhappily for us, submission and slavery are the same; and we have only the melancholy alternative left of ruin or resistance.

The last petition of this Congress to the King, contained all that our unhappy condition could suggest. It represented our grievances; implored redress, and professed our readiness to contribute for the general want, to the utmost of our abilities, when constitutionally required.

The apparently gracious reception it met with, promised us a due consideration of it; and that consideration, relief. But, alas! Sir, it seems at that moment the very reverse was intended. For it now appears, that in a very few days after this specious answer to our Agents, a circular letter was privately written by the same Secretary of State, to the Governors of the Colonies, before Parliament had been consulted, pronouncing the Congress illegal, our grievances pretended, and vainly commanding them to prevent our meeting again. Perhaps, Sir, the Ministers of a great Nation never before committed an act of such narrow policy and treacherous duplicity. They found Parliament, however, prepared to support every one of their measures.

I forbear, Sir, entering into a detail of those acts, which, from their atrociousness, must be felt and remembered forever. They are calculated to carry fire and sword, famine and desolation, through these flourishing Colonies. They cry, "havock, and let slip the dogs of war." The extremes of rage and revenge, against the worst of enemies, could not dictate measures more desperate and destructive.

There are some people who tremble at the approach of war. They fear that it must put an inevitable stop to the further progress of these Colonies; and ruin irretrievably those benefits, which the industry of centuries has called forth, from this once savage land. I may commend the anxiety of these men, without praising their judgment.

War, like other evils, is often wholesome. The waters that stagnate corrupt. The storm that works the ocean into rage renders it salutary. Heaven has given us nothing unmixed. The rose is not without the thorn. War calls forth the great virtues and efforts which would sleep in the gentle bosom of peace, *Paula sepulta distat inertia celsa virtus.*

† In 1774, presented last Christmas.

and have thereby rendered it necessary for us to close with their last appeal from reason to arms. Yet, however blinded that Assembly may be, by their intemperate rage for unlimited domination, so to slight justice and the opinion of mankind, we esteem ourselves bound, by obligations of respect to the rest of the world, to make known the justice of our cause.

Our forefathers, inhabitants of the Island of *Great Britain*, left their native land, to seek on these shores a residence for civil and religious freedom. At the expense of their blood, at the hazard of their fortunes, without the least charge to the Country from which they removed, by unceasing labour, and an unconquerable spirit, they effected settlements in the distant and inhospitable wilds of *America*, then filled with numerous and warlike nations of barbarians. Societies or Governments, vested with perfect Legislatures, were formed under Charters from the Crown, and a harmonious intercourse was established between the Colonies and the Kingdom from which they derived their origin. The mutual benefits of this union became in a short time so extraordinary, as to excite astonishment. It is universally confessed, that the amazing increase of the wealth, strength, and navigation of the Realm, arose from this source; and the Minister who so wisely and successfully directed the measures of *Great Britain* in the late war, publicly declared, that these Colonies enabled her to triumph over her enemies. Towards the conclusion of that war, it pleased our Sovereign to make a change in his Councils. From that fatal moment, the affairs of the *British* Empire began to fall into confusion, and gradually sliding from the summit of glorious prosperity, to which they had been advanced by the virtues and abilities of one man, are at length distracted by the convulsions that now shake it to its deepest foundations. The new Ministry finding the brave foes of *Britain*, though frequently defeated, yet still contending, took up the unfortunate idea of granting them a hasty peace, and of then subduing her faithful friends.

These devoted Colonies were judged to be in such a state as to present victories without bloodshed, and all the easy emoluments of statutable plunder. The uninterrupted tenour of their peaceable and respectful behaviour,

It opens resources which would be concealed under the inactivity of tranquil times. It rouses and enlightens. It produces a people of animation, energy, adventure, and greatness. Let us consult history. Did not the *Grecian* Republics prosper amid continual warfare? Their prosperity, their power, their splendour, grew from the all-animating spirit of war. Did not the cottages of shepherds rise into imperial *Rome*, the mistress of the world, the nurse of heroes, the delight of gods! through the invigorating operation of unceasing wars! *Per damna, per cedes, ab ipso duxit opes animunque ferro.* How often has *Flanders* been the theatre of contending powers, conflicting hosts, and blood! yet what country is more flourishing and fertile? Trace back the history of our Parent State. Whether you view her arraying *Angles* against *Danes*; *Danes* against *Saxons*; *Saxons* against *Normans*; the Barons against the usurping Princes; or the civil wars of the Red and White Roses, or that between the people and the tyrant *Stuart*, you see her in a state of almost continual warfare. In almost every reign, to the commencement of that of *Henry* the VII, her peaceful bosom (in her poet's phrase) was gored with iron war. It was in the peaceful reigns of *Henry* VII, *Henry* VIII, and *Charles* II, that she suffered the severest extremities of tyranny and oppression. But amid her civil contentions, she flourished and grew strong. Trained in them, she sent her hardy legions forth, which planted the standard of *England* upon the battlements of *Paris*; extending her commerce and her dominion.

"Those noble *English*, who could entertain  
With half their forces, the full power of *France*,  
And let another half stand laughing by,  
All out of work, and cold for action."

The beautiful fabrick of her constitutional liberty was reared and cemented in blood. From this fulness of her strength those scions issued which, taking deep root in this delightful land, have reared their heads, and spread abroad their branches like the cedars of *Lebanon*.

Why fear we, then, to pursue through apparent evil, real good? The war upon which we are to enter is just and necessary. *Iustum est bellum, ubi necessarium; et pia arma, quibus nulla, nisi in armis, relinquatur spes.* It is to protect these regions, brought to such beauty through the infinite toil and hazard of our fathers and ourselves, from becoming the prey of that more desolating cruel spoiler, than war, pestilence, or famine—absolute rule and endless extortion.

Our sufferings have been great—our endurance long. Every effort of patience, complaint, and supplication has been exhausted. They seem only to have hardened the hearts of the Ministers who oppress us and double our distresses. Let us, therefore, consult how we shall defend our liberties with dignity and success. Our Parent State will then think us worthy of her, when she sees that with her liberty we inherit her rigid resolution of maintaining it against all invaders. Let us give her reason to pride herself in the relationship.

And thou, great Liberty! inspire our souls.  
Make our lives happy in thy pure embrace,  
Or our deaths glorious in thy just defence!



from the beginning of colonization; their dutiful, zealous, and useful services during the war, though so recently and amply acknowledged in the most honourable manner by His Majesty, by the late King, and by Parliament, could not save them from the meditated innovations. Parliament was influenced to adopt the pernicious project; and assuming a new power over them, have, in the course of eleven years, given such decisive specimens of the spirit and consequences attending this power, as to leave no doubt concerning the effects of acquiescence under it. They have undertaken to give and grant our money without our consent, though we have ever exercised an exclusive right to dispose of our own property; statutes have been passed for extending the jurisdiction of Courts of Admiralty and Vice-Admiralty beyond their ancient limits; for depriving us of the accustomed and inestimable privilege of Trial by Jury, in cases affecting both life and property; for suspending the Legislature of one of the Colonies; for interdicting all commerce to the capital of another; and for altering fundamentally the form of Government established by Charter, and secured by acts of its own Legislature, solemnly confirmed by the Crown; for exempting the "murderers" of Colonists from legal trial, and, in effect, from punishment; for erecting in a neighbouring Province, acquired by the joint arms of *Great Britain* and *America*, a despotism dangerous to our very existence; and for quartering soldiers upon the Colonists in time of profound peace. It has also been resolved in Parliament, that Colonists charged with committing certain offences, shall be transported to *England* to be tried.

But why should we enumerate our injuries in detail? By one statute it is declared that Parliament can "of right make laws to bind us in all cases whatsoever." What is to defend us against so enormous, so unlimited a power? Not a single man of those who assume it is chosen by us, or is subject to our control or influence; but, on the contrary, they are all of them exempt from the operation of such laws, and an *American* revenue, if not diverted from the ostensible purposes for which it is raised, would actually lighten their own burdens, in proportion as they increase ours. We saw the misery to which such despotism would reduce us. We, for ten years, incessantly and ineffectually besieged the Throne as supplicants; we reasoned, we remonstrated with Parliament, in the most mild and decent language.

Administration, sensible that we should regard these oppressive measures as freemen ought to do, sent over fleets and armies to enforce them. The indignation of the *Americans* was roused, it is true; but it was the indignation of a virtuous, loyal, and affectionate people. A Congress of Delegates from the United Colonies was assembled at *Philadelphia*, on the fifth day of last *September*. We resolved again to offer an humble and dutiful petition to the King, and also addressed our fellow-subjects of *Great Britain*. We have pursued every temperate, every respectful measure; we have even proceeded to break off our commercial intercourse with our fellow-subjects, as the last peaceable admonition, that our attachment to no Nation upon earth should supplant our attachment to liberty. This, we flattered ourselves, was the ultimate step of the controversy; but subsequent events have shown how vain was this hope of finding moderation in our enemies.

Several threatening expressions against the Colonies were inserted in His Majesty's Speech; our Petition, though we were told it was a decent one, and that His Majesty had been pleased to receive it graciously, and to promise laying it before his Parliament, was huddled into both Houses among a bundle of *American* papers, and there neglected.

The Lords and Commons, in their Address, in the month of *February*, said, that "a rebellion at that time actually existed within the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*; and that those concerned in it had been countenanced and encouraged by unlawful combinations and engagements entered into by His Majesty's subjects in several of the other Colonies; and, therefore, they besought His Majesty, that he would take the most effectual measures to enforce due obedience to the laws and authority of the supreme Legislature. Soon after, the commercial intercourse of whole Colonies with foreign countries, and with each other, was

cut off by an act of Parliament; by another, several of them were entirely prohibited from the Fisheries in the seas near their coasts, on which they always depended for their sustenance; and large re-enforcements of ships and troops were immediately sent over to General *Gage*.

Fruitless were all the entreaties, arguments, and eloquence of an illustrious band of the most distinguished Peers and Commoners, who nobly and strenuously asserted the justice of our cause, to stay, or even to mitigate the heedless fury with which these accumulated and unexampled outrages were hurried on. Equally fruitless was the interference of the City of *London*, of *Bristol*, and many other respectable Towns, in our favour. Parliament adopted an insidious manœuvre, calculated to divide us, to establish a perpetual auction of taxations, where Colony should bid against Colony, all of them uninformed what ransom would redeem their lives; and thus to extort from us, at the point of the bayonet, the unknown sums that should be sufficient to gratify, if possible to gratify, Ministerial rapacity, with the miserable indulgence left to us of raising, in our own mode, the prescribed tribute. What terms more rigid and humiliating could have been dictated by remorseless victors to conquered enemies? In our circumstances, to accept them, would be to deserve them.

Soon after intelligence of these proceedings arrived on this Continent, General *Gage*, who, in the course of the last year had taken possession of the Town of *Boston*, in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and still occupied it as a garrison, on the 19th day of *April* sent out from that place a large detachment of his army, who made an unprovoked assault on the inhabitants of the said Province, at the Town of *Lexington*, as appears by the affidavits of a great number of persons, some of whom were officers and soldiers of that detachment, murdered eight of the inhabitants, and wounded many others. From thence the troops proceeded in warlike array to the Town of *Concord*, where they set upon another party of the inhabitants of the same Province, killing several and wounding more, until compelled to retreat by the country people suddenly assembled to repel this cruel aggression. Hostilities, thus commenced by the *British* Troops, have been since prosecuted by them without regard to faith or reputation. The inhabitants of *Boston*, being confined within that Town by the General, their Governour, and having, in order to procure their dismissal, entered into a treaty with him, it was stipulated that the said inhabitants, having deposited their arms with their own Magistrates, should have liberty to depart, taking with them their other effects. They accordingly delivered up their arms; but in open violation of honour, in defiance of the obligation of treaties, which even savage nations esteemed sacred, the Governour ordered the arms deposited as aforesaid, that they might be preserved for their owners, to be seized by a body of soldiers; detained the greatest part of the inhabitants in the Town, and compelled the few who were permitted to retire, to leave their most valuable effects behind.

By this perfidy, wives are separated from their husbands, children from their parents, the aged and the sick from their relations and friends, who wish to attend and comfort them; and those who have been used to live in plenty, and even elegance, are reduced to deplorable distress.

The General, further emulating his Ministerial masters, by a Proclamation, bearing date on the 12th day of *June*, after venting the grossest falsehoods and calumnies against the good people of these Colonies, proceeds to "declare them all, either by name or description, to be rebels and traitors; to supersede the course of the common law, and instead thereof to publish and order the use and exercise of the law martial." His troops have butchered our countrymen; have wantonly burnt *Charlestown*, besides a considerable number of houses in other places; our ships and vessels are seized; the necessary supplies of provisions are intercepted, and he is exerting his utmost power to spread destruction and devastation around him.

We have received certain intelligence, that General *Carleton*, the Governour of *Canada*, is instigating the people of that Province, and the *Indians*, to fall upon us; and we have but too much reason to apprehend, that schemes have been formed to excite domestick enemies against us. In brief, a part of these Colonies now feel, and all of them



are sure of feeling, as far as the vengeance of Administration can inflict them, the complicated calamities of fire, sword, and famine. We are reduced to the alternative of choosing an unconditional submission to the tyranny of irritated Ministers, or resistance by force. The latter is our choice. We have counted the cost of this contest, and find nothing so dreadful as voluntary slavery. Honour, justice, and humanity, forbid us tamely to surrender that freedom which we received from our gallant ancestors, and which our innocent posterity have a right to receive from us. We cannot endure the infamy and guilt of resigning succeeding generations to that wretchedness which inevitably awaits them, if we basely entail hereditary bondage upon them.

Our cause is just. Our union is perfect. Our internal resources are great, and, if necessary, foreign assistance is undoubtedly attainable. We gratefully acknowledge, as signal instances of the Divine favour towards us, that His providence would not permit us to be called into this severe controversy until we were grown up to our present strength, had been previously exercised in warlike operations, and possessed of the means of defending ourselves. With hearts fortified with these animating reflections, we most solemnly, before *God* and the world, *declare*, that, exerting the utmost energy of those powers which our beneficent Creator hath graciously bestowed upon us, the arms we have been compelled by our enemies to assume, we will, in defiance of every hazard, with unabating firmness and perseverance, employ for the preservation of our liberties; being, with one mind, resolved to die freemen rather than live slaves.

Let this declaration should disquiet the minds of our friends and fellow-subjects in any part of the Empire, we assure them that we mean not to dissolve that union which has so long and so happily subsisted between us, and which we sincerely wish to see restored. Necessity has not yet driven us into that desperate measure, or induced us to excite any other nation to war against them. We have not raised armies with ambitious designs of separating from *Great Britain*, and establishing independent states. We fight not for glory or for conquest. We exhibit to mankind the remarkable spectacle of a people attacked by unprovoked enemies, without any imputation or even suspicion of offence. They boast of their privileges and civilization, and yet proffer no milder conditions than servitude or death.

In our own native land, in defence of the freedom that is our birth-right, and which we ever enjoyed till the late violation of it; for the protection of our property, acquired solely by the honest industry of our forefathers and ourselves, against violence actually offered, we have taken up arms. We shall lay them down when hostilities shall cease on the part of the aggressors, and all danger of their being renewed shall be removed, and not before.

With an humble confidence in the mercies of the supreme and impartial Judge and Ruler of the Universe, we most devoutly implore his divine goodness to protect us happily through this great conflict, to dispose our adversaries to reconciliation on reasonable terms, and thereby to relieve the Empire from the calamities of civil war.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Letter be prepared to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery, of the City of *London*, expressing the thanks of this Congress for their virtuous and spirited opposition to the oppressive and ruinous system of Colony administration adopted by the *British* Ministry.

The Committee appointed to draught a Letter to the People of *Great Britain*, to prepare this.

The Order of the Day was postponed, and the Congress adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Friday, July 7, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee to whom the Address to the People of *Great Britain* was recommitted, brought in the same; which was again read, and after some debate, the farther consideration of it was deferred till to-morrow.

Order of the Day put off, and the Congress adjourned till to-morrow.

Saturday, July 8, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Petition to the King being engrossed, was compared at the table, and signed by the several Members.

*To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.*

**MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN:** We, your Majesty's faithful subjects of the Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, the Counties of *Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex*, on *Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina*, and *South Carolina*, in behalf of ourselves and the inhabitants of these Colonies, who have deputed us to represent them in General Congress, entreat your Majesty's gracious attention to this our humble petition.

The union between our Mother Country and these Colonies, and the energy of mild and just Government, produced benefits so remarkably important, and afforded such an assurance of their permanency and increase, that the wonder and envy of other nations were excited, while they beheld *Great Britain* rising to a power the most extraordinary the world had ever known.

Her rivals, observing that there was no probability of this happy connexion being broken by civil dissensions, and apprehending its future effects if left any longer undisturbed, resolved to prevent her receiving such continual and formidable accessions of wealth and strength, by checking the growth of those settlements from which they were to be derived.

In the prosecution of this attempt, events so unfavourable to the design took place, that every friend to the interest of *Great Britain* and these Colonies, entertained pleasing and reasonable expectations of seeing an additional force and exertion immediately given to the operations of the union hitherto experienced, by an enlargement of the dominions of the Crown, and the removal of ancient and warlike enemies to a greater distance.

At the conclusion, therefore, of the late war, the most glorious and advantageous that ever had been carried on by *British* arms, your loyal Colonists having contributed to its success by such repeated and strenuous exertions as frequently procured them the distinguished approbation of your Majesty, of the late King, and of Parliament, doubted not but that they should be permitted, with the rest of the Empire, to share in the blessings of peace, and the emoluments of victory and conquest.

While these recent and honourable acknowledgments of their merits remained on record in the Journals and acts of that august Legislature, the Parliament, undefaced by the imputation or even the suspicion of any offence, they were alarmed by a new system of statutes and regulations adopted for the administration of the Colonies, that filled their minds with the most painful fears and jealousies; and, to their inexpressible astonishment, perceived the danger of a foreign quarrel quickly succeeded by domestick danger, in their judgment of a more dreadful kind.

Nor were these anxieties alleviated by any tendency in this system to promote the welfare of their Mother Country. For though its effects were more immediately felt by them, yet its influence appeared to be injurious to the commerce and prosperity of *Great Britain*.

We shall decline the ungrateful task of describing the irksome variety of artifices practised by many of your Majesty's Ministers, the delusive pretences, fruitless terrors, and unavailing severities, that have, from time to time, been dealt out by them, in their attempts to execute this impolitical plan, or of tracing through a series of years past the progress of the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, that have flowed from this fatal source.

Your Majesty's Ministers, persevering in their measures, and proceeding to open hostilities for enforcing them, have compelled us to arm in our own defence, and have engaged us in a controversy so peculiarly abhorrent to the affections of your still faithful Colonists, that when we consider whom we must oppose in this contest, and if it continues, what may be the consequences, our own particular misfortunes are accounted by us only as parts of our distress.

Knowing to what violent resentments and incurable animosities civil discords are apt to exasperate and inflame the



contending parties, we think ourselves required by indispensable obligations to *Almighty God*, to your Majesty, to our fellow-subjects, and to ourselves, immediately to use all the means in our power, not incompatible with our safety, for stopping the further effusion of blood, and for averting the impending calamities that threaten the *British Empire*.

Thus called upon to address your Majesty on affairs of such moment to *America*, and probably to all your Dominions, we are earnestly desirous of performing this office with the utmost deference for your Majesty; and we therefore pray, that your Majesty's royal magnanimity and benevolence may make the most favourable constructions of our expressions on so uncommon an occasion. Could we represent in their full force the sentiments that agitate the minds of us your dutiful subjects, we are persuaded your Majesty would ascribe any seeming deviation from reverence in our language, and even in our conduct, not to any reprehensible intention, but to the impossibility of reconciling the usual appearances of respect with a just attention to our own preservation against those artful and cruel enemies who abuse your royal confidence and authority, for the purpose of effecting our destruction.

Attached to your Majesty's person, family, and Government, with all devotion that principle and affection can inspire; connected with *Great Britain* by the strongest ties that can unite societies, and deploring every event that tends in any degree to weaken them, we solemnly assure your Majesty, that we not only most ardently desire the former harmony between her and these Colonies may be restored, but that a concord may be established between them upon so firm a basis as to perpetuate its blessings, uninterrupted by any future dissensions, to succeeding generations in both countries, and to transmit your Majesty's name to posterity, adorned with that signal and lasting glory that has attended the memory of those illustrious personages, whose virtues and abilities have extricated states from dangerous convulsions, and, by securing happiness to others, have erected the most noble and durable monuments to their own fame.

We beg leave further to assure your Majesty, that notwithstanding the sufferings of your loyal Colonists during the course of this present controversy, our breasts retain too tender a regard for the kingdom from which we derive our origin, to request such a reconciliation as might, in any manner, be inconsistent with her dignity or her welfare. These, related as we are to her, honour and duty, as well as inclination, induce us to support and advance; and the apprehensions that now oppress our hearts with unspeakable grief, being once removed, your Majesty will find your faithful subjects on this Continent ready and willing at all times, as they have ever been, with their lives and fortunes, to assert and maintain the rights and interests of your Majesty, and of our Mother Country.

We therefore beseech your Majesty, that your royal authority and influence may be graciously interposed to procure us relief from our afflicting fears and jealousies, occasioned by the system before-mentioned, and to settle peace through every part of our Dominions, with all humility submitting to your Majesty's wise consideration, whether it may not be expedient, for facilitating those important purposes, that your Majesty be pleased to direct some mode, by which the united applications of your faithful Colonists to the Throne, in pursuance of their common counsels, may be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation; and that, in the mean time, measures may be taken for preventing the further destruction of the lives of your Majesty's subjects; and that such statutes as more immediately distress any of your Majesty's Colonies, may be repealed.

For such arrangements as your Majesty's wisdom can form for collecting the united sense of your *American* people, we are convinced your Majesty would receive such satisfactory proofs of the disposition of the Colonists towards their Sovereign and Parent State, that the wished for opportunity would soon be restored to them, of evincing the sincerity of their professions, by every testimony of devotion becoming the most dutiful subjects, and the most affectionate Colonists.

That your Majesty may enjoy a long and prosperous reign, and that your descendants may govern your Domin-

ions with honour to themselves and happiness to their subjects, is our sincere prayer.

JOHN HANCOCK.

|                    |                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| NEW-HAMPSHIRE,     | { John Langdon,<br>Thomas Cushing.                                                                               |
| MASSACHUSETTS,     | { Samuel Adams,<br>John Adams,<br>Robert Treat Paine.                                                            |
| RHODE-ISLAND,      | { Stephen Hopkins,<br>Samuel Ward,<br>Eliphalet Dyer.                                                            |
| CONNECTICUT,       | { Roger Sherman,<br>Silas Deane.<br>Philip Livingston,<br>James Duane,<br>John Alsop,<br>Francis Lewis,          |
| NEW-YORK,          | { John Jay,<br>Robert Livingston, Jr.,<br>Lewis Morris,<br>William Floyd,<br>Henry Wisner.                       |
| NEW-JERSEY,        | { William Livingston,<br>John De Hart,<br>Richard Smith.                                                         |
| PENNSYLVANIA,      | { John Dickinson,<br>Benjamin Franklin,<br>George Ross,<br>James Wilson,<br>Charles Humphreys,<br>Edward Biddle. |
| DELAWARE COUNTIES, | { Casar Rodney,<br>Thomas McKean,<br>George Read.                                                                |
| MARYLAND,          | { Matthew Tilghman,<br>Thomas Johnson, Jr.,<br>William Paca,<br>Samuel Chase,<br>Thomas Stone.                   |
| VIRGINIA,          | { Patrick Henry, Jr.,<br>Richard Henry Lee,<br>Edmund Pendleton,<br>Benjamin Harrison,<br>Thomas Jefferson.      |
| NORTH-CAROLINA,    | { William Hooper,<br>Joseph Hewes.                                                                               |
| SOUTH-CAROLINA,    | { Henry Middleton,<br>Thomas Lynch,<br>Christopher Gadsden,<br>John Rutledge,<br>Edward Rutledge.                |

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Lord Mayor, &c., reported the same; which was read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the above Committee prepare a Letter to Mr. *Richard Penn*, and the Colony Agents by name in *England*.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*; which being read, and debated by paragraphs, was approved, and is as follows:

*The Twelve United Colonies, by their Delegates in Congress, to the Inhabitants of GREAT BRITAIN:*

FRIENDS, COUNTRYMEN, AND BRETHREN! By these, and by every other appellation that may designate the ties which bind us to each other, we entreat your serious attention to this our second attempt to prevent their dissolution. Remembrance of former friendships, pride in the glorious achievements of our common ancestors, and affection for the heirs of their virtues, have hitherto preserved our mutual connexion; but when that friendship is violated by the grossest injuries; when the pride of ancestry becomes our reproach, and we are no otherwise allied than as tyrants and slaves; when reduced to the melancholy alternative of renouncing your favour or our freedom, can we hesitate about the choice? Let the spirit of *Britons* determine.

In a former address we asserted our rights, and stated the injuries we had then received. We hoped that the mention of our wrongs would have roused that honest indignation which has slept too long for your honour, or the welfare of the Empire. But we have not been permitted to enter-



tain this pleasing expectation. Every day brought an accumulation of injuries, and the invention of the Ministry has been constantly exercised, in adding to the calamities of your *American* brethren.

After the most valuable right of legislation was infringed; when the powers assumed by your Parliament, in which we are not represented, and from our local and other circumstances cannot properly be represented, rendered our property precarious; after being denied that mode of trial to which we have long been indebted for the safety of our persons, and the preservation of our liberties; after being, in many instances, divested of those laws which were transmitted to us by our common ancestors, and subjected to an arbitrary code, compiled under the auspices of *Roman* tyrants; after those charters, which encouraged our predecessors to brave death and danger in every shape, on unknown seas, in deserts unexplored, amidst barbarous and inhospitable nations, were annulled; when, without the form of trial, without a publick accusation, whole Colonies were condemned, their trade destroyed, their inhabitants impoverished; when soldiers were encouraged to imbrue their hands in the blood of *Americans*, by offers of impunity; when new modes of trial were instituted for the ruin of the accused, where the charge carried with it the horrors of conviction; when a despotick Government was established in a neighbouring Province, and its limits extended to every of our frontiers; we little imagined that any thing could be added to this black catalogue of unprovoked injuries: but we have unhappily been deceived, and the late measures of the *British* Ministry fully convince us that their object is the reduction of these Colonies to slavery and ruin.

To confirm this assertion, let us recall your attention to the affairs of *America*, since our last address. Let us combat the calumnies of our enemies; and let us warn you of the dangers that threaten you in our destruction. Many of your fellow-subjects, whose situation deprived them of other support, drew their maintenance from the sea; but the deprivation of our liberty being insufficient to satisfy the resentment of our enemies, the horrors of famine were superadded, and a *British* Parliament, who, in better times, were the protectors of innocence and the patrons of humanity, have, without distinction of age or sex, robbed thousands of the food which they were accustomed to draw from that inexhaustible source, placed in their neighbourhood by the benevolent Creator.

Another act of your Legislature shuts our ports, and prohibits our trade with any but those states from whom the great law of self-preservation renders it absolutely necessary we should at present withhold our commerce. But this act (whatever may have been its design) we consider rather as injurious to your opulence than our interest. All our commerce terminates with you; and the wealth we procure from other Nations, is soon exchanged for your superfluities. Our remittances must then cease with our trade; and our refinements with our affluence. We trust, however, that laws which deprive us of every blessing but a soil that teems with the necessaries of life, and that liberty which renders the enjoyment of them secure, will not relax our vigour in their defence.

We might here observe on the cruelty and inconsistency of those, who, while they publicly brand us with reproachful and unworthy epithets, endeavour to deprive us of the means of defence, by their interposition with foreign Powers, and to deliver us to the lawless ravages of a merciless soldiery. But happily we are not without resources; and though the timid and humiliating applications of a *British* Ministry should prevail with foreign Nations, yet industry, prompted by necessity, will not leave us without the necessary supplies.

We could wish to go no further, and, not to wound the ear of humanity, leave untold those rigorous acts of oppression, which are daily exercised in the Town of *Boston*, did we not hope, that by disclaiming their deeds and punishing the perpetrators, you would shortly vindicate the honour of the *British* name, and re-establish the violated laws of justice.

That once populous, flourishing and commercial Town is now garrisoned by an Army sent not to protect, but to enslave its inhabitants. The Civil Government is over-

turned, and a Military Despotism erected upon its ruins. Without law, without right, powers are assumed unknown to the Constitution. Private property is unjustly invaded. The inhabitants, daily subjected to the licentiousness of the soldiery, are forbid to remove in defiance of their natural rights, in violation of the most solemn compacts. Or if, after long and wearisome solicitation, a pass is procured, their effects are detained, and even those who are most favoured, have no alternative but poverty or slavery. The distress of many thousand people, wantonly deprived of the necessaries of life, is a subject on which we would not wish to enlarge.

Yet we cannot but observe, that a *British* fleet (unjustified even by acts of your Legislature) are daily employed in ruining our commerce, seizing our ships, and depriving whole communities of their daily bread. Nor will a regard for your honour permit us to be silent, while *British* Troops sully your glory, by actions which the most inveterate enmity will not palliate among civilized Nations, the wanton and unnecessary destruction of *Charlestown*, a large, ancient, and once populous Town, just before deserted by its inhabitants, who had fled to avoid the fury of your soldiery.

If you still retain those sentiments of compassion by which *Britons* have ever been distinguished, if the humanity which tempered the valour of our common ancestors has not degenerated into cruelty, you will lament the miseries of their descendants.

To what are we to attribute this treatment? If to any secret principle of the Constitution, let it be mentioned; let us learn that the Government we have long revered, is not without its defects, and that while it gives freedom to a part, it necessarily enslaves the remainder of the Empire. If such a principle exists, why for ages has it ceased to operate? Why at this time is it called into action? Can no reason be assigned for this conduct? Or must it be resolved into the wanton exercise of arbitrary power? And shall the descendants of *Britons* tamely submit to this? No, Sirs! we never will. While we revere the memory of our gallant and virtuous ancestors, we never can surrender those glorious privileges, for which they fought, bled, and conquered. Admit that your fleets could destroy our towns, and ravage our sea-coasts; these are inconsiderable objects, things of no moment to men whose bosoms glow with the ardour of liberty. We can retire beyond the reach of your navy, and, without any sensible diminution of the necessaries of life, enjoy a luxury, which from that period you will want—the luxury of being free.

We know the force of your arms, and was it called forth in the cause of justice and your Country, we might dread the exertion; but will *Britons* fight under the banners of tyranny? Will they counteract the labours, and disgrace the victories of their ancestors? Will they forge chains for their posterity? If they descend to this unworthy task, will their swords retain their edge, their arms their accustomed vigour? *Britons* can never become the instruments of oppression, till they lose the spirit of freedom, by which alone they are invincible.

Our enemies charge us with sedition. In what does it consist? In our refusal to submit to unwarrantable acts of injustice and cruelty? If so, shew us a period in your history, in which you have not been equally seditious.

We are accused of aiming at independence; but how is this accusation supported? By the allegations of your Ministers, not by our actions. Abused, insulted, and condemned, what steps have we pursued to obtain redress? We have carried our dutiful petitions to the Throne. We have applied to your justice for relief. We have retrenched our luxury, and withheld our trade.

The advantages of our commerce were designed as a compensation for your protection; when you ceased to protect, for what were we to compensate?

What has been the success of our endeavours? The clemency of our Sovereign is unhappily diverted; our petitions are treated with indignity; our prayers answered by insults. Our application to you remains unnoticed, and leaves us the melancholy apprehension of your wanting either the will or the power to assist us.

Even under these circumstances, what measures have we taken that betray a desire of independence? Have we called in the aid of those foreign powers, who are the rivals



of your grandeur? When your Troops were few and defenceless, did we take advantage of their distress and expel them our towns? Or have we permitted them to fortify, to receive new aid, and to acquire additional strength?

Let not your enemies and ours persuade you, that in this we were influenced by fear, or any other unworthy motive. The lives of *Britons* are still dear to us. They are the children of our parents, and an uninterrupted intercourse of mutual benefits had knit the bonds of friendship. When hostilities were commenced, when on a late occasion we were wantonly attacked by your Troops, though we repelled their assaults and returned their blows, yet we lamented the wounds they obliged us to give; nor have we yet learned to rejoice at a victory over *Englishmen*.

As we wish not to colour our actions, or disguise our thoughts, we shall, in the simple language of truth, avow the measures we have pursued, the motives upon which we have acted, and our future designs.

When our late petition to the Throne produced no other effect than fresh injuries, and votes of your Legislature, calculated to justify every severity; when your fleets and your armies were prepared to wrest from us our property, to rob us of our liberties or our lives; when the hostile attempts of General *Gage* evinced his designs, we levied armies for our security and defence. When the powers vested in the Governour of *Canada* gave us reason to apprehend danger from that quarter; and we had frequent intimations, that a cruel and savage enemy was to be let loose upon the defenceless inhabitants of our frontiers; we took such measures as prudence dictated, as necessity will justify. We possessed ourselves of *Crown Point* and *Ticonderoga*. Yet give us leave most solemnly to assure you, that we have not yet lost sight of the object we have ever had in view—a reconciliation with you on constitutional principles, and a restoration of that friendly intercourse, which, to the advantage of both, we till lately maintained.

The inhabitants of this Country apply themselves chiefly to agriculture and commerce. As their fashions and manners are similar to yours, your markets must afford them the conveniences and luxuries for which they exchange the produce of their labours. The wealth of this extended Continent centres with you; and our trade is so regulated as to be subservient only to your interest. You are too reasonable to expect, that by taxes (in addition to this) we should contribute to your expense; to believe, after diverting the fountain, that the streams can flow with unabated force.

It has been said, that we refuse to submit to the restrictions on our commerce. From whence is this inference drawn? Not from our words, we have repeatedly declared the contrary; and we again profess our submission to the several acts of trade and navigation, passed before the year 1763, trusting, nevertheless, in the equity and justice of Parliament, that such of them as, upon cool and impartial consideration, shall appear to have imposed unnecessary or grievous restrictions, will, at some happier period, be repealed or altered. And we cheerfully consent to the operation of such acts of the *British* Parliament as shall be restrained to the regulation of our external commerce, for the purpose of securing the commercial advantages of the whole Empire to the Mother Country, and the commercial benefits of its respective members; excluding every idea of taxation, internal or external, for raising a revenue on the subjects in *America* without their consent.

It is alleged that we contribute nothing to the common defence. To this we answer, that the advantages which *Great Britain* receives from the monopoly of our trade far exceed our proportion of the expense necessary for that purpose. But should these advantages be inadequate thereto, let the restrictions on our trade be removed, and we will cheerfully contribute such proportion when constitutionally required.

It is a fundamental principle of the *British* Constitution, that every man should have at least a representative share in the formation of those laws by which he is bound. Were it otherwise, the regulation of our internal police by a *British* Parliament, who are and ever will be unacquainted with our local circumstances, must be always inconvenient, and frequently oppressive, working our wrong, without yielding any possible advantage to you.

A plan of accommodation (as it has been absurdly called) has been proposed by your Ministers to our respective Assemblies. Were this proposal free from every other objection but that which arises from the time of the offer, it would not be unexceptionable. Can men deliberate with the bayonet at their breast? Can they treat with freedom, while their Towns are sacked; when daily instances of injustice and oppression disturb the slower operations of reason?

If this proposal is really such as you would offer and we accept, why was it delayed till the Nation was put to useless expense, and we were reduced to our present melancholy situation? If it holds forth nothing, why was it proposed? Unless indeed to deceive you into a belief, that we were unwilling to listen to any terms of accommodation. But what is submitted to our consideration? We contend for the disposal of our property. We are told that our demand is unreasonable, that our Assemblies may indeed collect our money, but that they must at the same time offer, not what your exigencies or ours may require, but so much as shall be deemed sufficient to satisfy the desires of a Minister and enable him to provide for favourites and dependants. A recurrence to your own Treasury will convince you how little of the money already extorted from us has been applied to the relief of your burdens. To suppose that we would thus grasp the shadow and give up the substance, is adding insult to injuries.

We have nevertheless again presented an humble and dutiful Petition to our Sovereign, and to remove every imputation of obstinacy, have requested His Majesty to direct some mode by which the united applications of his faithful Colonists may be improved into happy and permanent reconciliation. We are willing to treat on such terms as can alone render an accommodation lasting, and we flatter ourselves that our pacifick endeavours will be attended with a removal of Ministerial Troops, and a repeal of those laws, of the operation of which we complain, on the one part, and a disbanding of our Army, and a dissolution of our commercial associations, on the other.

Yet conclude not from this that we propose to surrender our property into the hands of your Ministry, or vest your Parliament with a power which may terminate in our destruction. The great bulwarks of our Constitution we have desired to maintain by every temperate, by every peaceable means; but your Ministers (equal foes to *British* and *American* freedom) have added to their former oppressions an attempt to reduce us by the sword to a base and abject submission. On the sword, therefore, we are compelled to rely for protection. Should victory declare in your favour, yet men trained to arms from their infancy, and animated by the love of liberty, will afford neither a cheap nor easy conquest. Of this at least we are assured, that our struggle will be glorious, our success certain; since even in death we shall find that freedom which in life you forbid us to enjoy.

Let us now ask, what advantages are to attend our reduction? The trade of a ruined and desolate Country is always inconsiderable, its revenue trifling; the expense of subjecting and retaining it in subjection certain and inevitable. What, then, remains but the gratification of an ill-judged pride, or the hope of rendering us subservient to designs on your liberty.

Soldiers who have sheathed their swords in the bowels of their *American* brethren, will not draw them with more reluctance against you. When too late you may lament the loss of that freedom which we exhort you, while still in your power, to preserve.

On the other hand, should you prove unsuccessful; should that connexion, which we most ardently wish to maintain, be dissolved; should your Ministers exhaust your treasures and waste the blood of your countrymen in vain attempts on our liberty; do they not deliver you, weak and defenceless, to your natural enemies?

Since, then, your liberty must be the price of your victories; your ruin, of your defeat; what blind fatality can urge you to a pursuit destructive of all that *Britons* hold dear?

If you have no regard to the connexion that has for ages subsisted between us; if you have forgot the wounds we have received fighting by your side for the extension of the



empire; if our commerce is not an object below your consideration; if justice and humanity have lost their influence on your hearts; still motives are not wanting to excite your indignation at the measures now pursued: your wealth, your honour, your liberty are at stake.

Notwithstanding the distress to which we are reduced, we sometimes forget our own afflictions to anticipate and sympathize in yours. We grieve that rash and inconsiderate counsels should precipitate the destruction of an empire which has been the envy and admiration of ages, and call *God* to witness, that we would part with our property, endanger our lives, and sacrifice every thing but liberty, to redeem you from ruin.

A cloud hangs over your head and ours; ere this reaches you, it may probably burst upon us; let us, then, (before the remembrance of former kindness is obliterated,) once more repeat those appellations which are ever grateful in our ears; let us entreat Heaven to avert our ruin, and the destruction that threatens our friends, brethren, and countrymen, on the other side of the *Atlantick*.

*Ordered*, That the Address be published, and a number of them sent by Mr. *Penn* to *England*.

The Letter to the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of *London*, being read again, and debated, was approved, and is as follows:

MY LORD: Permit the Delegates of the people of twelve ancient Colonies, to pay your Lordship, and the very respectable body of which you are head, the just tribute of gratitude and thanks, for the virtuous and unsolicited resentment you have shewn to the violated rights of a free people. The City of *London*, my Lord, having in all ages approved itself the patron of liberty, and the support of just government, against lawless tyranny and oppression, cannot fail to make us deeply sensible of the powerful aid our cause must receive from such advocates; a cause, my Lord, worthy the support of the first City in the world, as it involves the fate of a great Continent, and threatens to shake the foundations of a flourishing, and, until lately, a happy Empire.

*North America*, my Lord, wishes most ardently for a lasting connexion with *Great Britain* on terms of just and equal liberty; less than which generous minds will not offer, nor brave and free ones be willing to receive.

A cruel war has at length been opened against us, and whilst we prepare to defend ourselves like the descendants of *Britons*, we still hope that the mediation of wise and good citizens, will at length prevail over despotism, and restore harmony and peace, on permanent principles, to an oppressed and divided Empire.

We have the honour to be, my Lord, with great esteem, your Lordship's faithful friends and fellow-subjects.

Signed by order of the Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

*Ordered*, That the above Letter be fairly transcribed, and signed by the President, and sent by Mr. *Penn*.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to Mr. *Penn* and the Colony Agents, brought in the same, which being read, was approved, and is as follows:

GENTLEMEN: The perseverance of the *British* Ministry in their unjust and cruel system of Colony administration, has occasioned the meeting of another Congress.

We have again appealed to the justice of our Sovereign for protection against the destruction which his Ministers meditate for his *American* subjects. This Petition to His Majesty you will please, gentlemen, to present to the King with all convenient expedition, after which we desire it may be given to the publick. We likewise send you our second application to the equity and interest of our fellow-subjects in *Great Britain*, and also a declaration setting forth the causes of our taking up arms: both which we wish may be immediately put to press, and communicated as universally as possible.

The Congress entertain the highest sense of the wise and worthy interposition of the Lord Mayor and Livery of *London*, in favour of injured *America*. They have expressed this, their sense, in a letter to his Lordship and the Livery, which we desire may be presented in the manner most agreeable to that respectable body.

You will oblige us, gentlemen, by giving the most early information to the Congress, and to the Speakers of our respective Assemblies, of your proceeding in this business, and such further intelligence as you may judge to be of importance to *America* in this great contest.

We are, with great regard, Gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servants.

By order of the Congress.

*Ordered*, That the above be fairly transcribed, to be signed by the President, and then by him sent under cover, with the Petition to the King, and Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*, and Letter to the Lord Mayor of *London*, to *Richard Penn*, Esq., and that the President request Mr. *Penn*, in behalf of the Congress, to join with the Colony Agents in presenting the Petition to the King.

Order of the Day put off; and

Adjourned till *Monday*, at nine o'clock.

Monday, July 10, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

It being suggested that there was a gentleman in Town well acquainted with the situation and disposition of the *Indians*,

On motion, That he be introduced, he was introduced accordingly. After he withdrew, the Committee appointed to prepare proper talks to the *Indians*, reported the same, which were read.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means of putting the Militia into a proper state of defence, brought in their Report, which was read.

Mr. *Alsop* informed the Congress that he had an invoice of *Indian* goods, which a gentleman in this Town had delivered to him, and which the said gentleman was willing to dispose of to the Congress.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *P. Livingston*, Mr. *Henry*, and Mr. *Alsop*, be a Committee to examine said invoice, and report to the Congress.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee respecting the Militia, and after some debate, the same was deferred till to-morrow.

The Order of the Day put off, and the Congress adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Tuesday, July 11, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Report of the Committee on *Indian* Affairs was taken up and read, and, after some debate, the same was deferred till to-morrow.

On information that there were two Companies of Riflemen raised in *Lancaster* instead of one,

*Resolved*, That both the Companies be taken into the Continental service.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Delegates from *Pennsylvania* have liberty to treat with, and employ, fifty *Hussars*, who have been in actual service, and send them forward to join the Troops before *Boston*, under General *Washington*.

"An Address of the Deputies from the different Parishes of the Island of *Bermuda*," to the Congress, was presented and read.

The Order of the Day was postponed, and the Congress adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

Wednesday, July 12, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Information being given that there was a gentleman from the Province of *Quebeck* in Town, who could give some intelligence of the disposition of the *Canadians*,

On motion, *Resolved*, That he be called in; and he was accordingly introduced and examined.

Two Letters, from *N. Cooke*, Deputy-Governour of *Rhode-Island*, the other from General *Ward*, were read.

The Report of the Committee of *Indian* Affairs was then taken into consideration, which being debated by paragraphs, the Congress came to the following Resolutions:



That the securing and preserving the friendship of the *Indian Nations*, appears to be a subject of the utmost moment to these Colonies.

That there is too much reason to apprehend that Administration will spare no pains to excite the several Nations of *Indians* to take up arms against these Colonies; and that it becomes us to be very active and vigilant in exerting every prudent means to strengthen and confirm the friendly disposition towards these Colonies, which has long prevailed among the Northern Tribes, and which has been lately manifested by some of those to the Southward.

As the *Indians* depend on the Colonists for arms, ammunition, and clothing, which are become necessary to their subsistence, that Commissioners be appointed by this Congress, to superintend *Indian Affairs* in behalf of these Colonies.

That there be three Departments of *Indians*, the Northern, the Middle, and Southern. The Northern to extend so far south as to include the whole of the *Indians* known by the name of the *Six Nations*, and all the *Indians* northward of those nations. The Southern Department to extend so far north as to include the *Cherokees*, and all the *Indians* that may be to the southward of them. The Middle to contain the *Indian* nations that lie between the other two departments.

That five Commissioners be appointed for the Southern Department.

That for each of the other two Departments, there be appointed three Commissioners.

That the Commissioners have power to treat with the *Indians* in their respective Departments, in the name, and on behalf of the United Colonies, in order to preserve peace and friendship with the said *Indians*, and to prevent their taking any part in the present commotions.

That the Commissioners for the Southern Department receive from the Continental Treasury the sum of ten thousand Dollars; the Commissioners for the Middle and Northern Department, the sum of six thousand six hundred and sixty-six Dollars and two-thirds of a Dollar, for each of their respective Departments, for defraying the expense of treaties and presents to the *Indians*.

That the Commissioners respectively have power to take to their assistance gentlemen of influence among the *Indians*, in whom they can confide, and to appoint Agents, residing near or among the *Indians*, to watch the conduct of the Superintendents and their emissaries.

That in case the Commissioners for the respective Districts, or any one of them in either District, shall have satisfactory proof, that the King's Superintendents, their Deputies or Agents, or any other person whatsoever, are active in stirring up or inciting the *Indians*, or any of them, to become inimical to the *American Colonies*, such Commissioner or Commissioners ought to cause such Superintendents or other offender, to be seized and kept in safe custody until order shall be taken therein by a majority of the Commissioners of the District where such seizure is made, or by the Continental Congress, or a Committee of said Congress, to whom such seizure, with the causes of it, shall, as soon as possible after, be made known.

That the Commissioners shall exhibit fair accounts of the expenditure of all moneys by them respectively to be received for the purposes aforesaid, to every succeeding Continental Congress, or Committee of Congress, together with a general state of *Indian* affairs in their several departments; in order that the Colonies may be informed from time to time, of every such matter as may concern them to know and avail themselves of, for the benefit of the common cause.

That as there is a seminary for the instruction of *Indian* youth, which has been established under the care of Doctor *Wheelock*, on *Connecticut River*; and as there are nine or ten *Indian* youths at that school, chiefly from the Tribes residing in *Quebeck*; and as for want of a proper fund there is danger that these youths will be sent back to their friends, which will probably excite jealousy and distrust, and be attended with bad consequences, that the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Northern Department be authorized to receive out of the Continental Treasury a sum not exceeding five hundred Dollars, to be applied by them for the support of the said *Indian* youths.

*Resolved*, That the election of the Commissioners be deferred till to-morrow.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee of five be appointed to devise ways and means to protect the trade of these Colonies.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of the Committee, and the following persons were chosen, viz: Mr. Jay, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Gadsden, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Lee.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the Report of the Committee respecting the Militia, be entered upon to-morrow.

The Order of the Day was postponed, and the Congress adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

Thursday, July 13, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Speech to the *Indians*, reported the same.

The Speech to the *Six Nations* being read, and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to, and is as follows:

*A Speech to the Six Confederate Nations, MOHAWKS, ONEIDAS, TUSCARORAS, ONONDAGAS, CAYUGAS, SENECA, from the Twelve United Colonies, convened in Council at PHILADELPHIA.*

*Brothers, Sachems, and Warriors!* We, the Delegates from the twelve United Provinces, viz: *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties of *New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex*, on *Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South-Carolina*, now sitting in General Congress at *Philadelphia*, send this talk to you our Brothers. We are sixty-five in number, chosen and appointed by the people throughout all these Provinces and Colonies, to meet and sit together in one great Council, to consult together for the common good of the land, and speak and act for them.

*Brothers!* In our consultation we have judged it proper and necessary to send you this talk, as we are upon the same island, that you may be informed of the reasons of this great Council, the situation of our civil Constitution, and our disposition towards you our *Indian* brothers of the *Six Nations* and their allies. (*Three Strings, or a Small Belt.*)

*Brothers and Friends, now attend!* When our fathers crossed the great water and came over to this land, the King of *England* gave them a talk, assuring them that they and their children should be his children, and that if they would leave their native country and make settlements, and live here, and buy and sell, and trade with their brethren beyond the water, they should still keep hold of the same covenant chain and enjoy peace; and it was covenanted, that the fields, houses, goods and possessions which our fathers should acquire, should remain to them as their own, and be their children's forever, and at their sole disposal.

Trusting that this covenant should never be broken, our fathers came a great distance beyond the great water, laid out their money here, built houses, cleared fields, raised crops, and through their own labour and industry grew tall and strong.

They have bought, sold, and traded with *England* according to agreement, sending to them such things as they wanted, and taking in exchange such things as were wanted here.

The King of *England* and his people kept the way open for more than one hundred years, and by our trade became richer, and by a union with us, greater and stronger than the other kings and people who live beyond the water.

All this time they lived in great friendship with us, and we with them; for we are brothers—one blood.

Whenever they were struck, we instantly felt as though the blow had been given to us—their enemies were our enemies.

Whenever they went to war, we sent our men to stand by their side and fight for them, and our money to help them and make them strong.



They thanked us for our love, and sent us good talks, and renewed their promise to be one people forever.

*Brothers and Friends, open a kind ear!* We will now tell you of the quarrel betwixt the Counsellors of King *George* and the inhabitants and Colonies of *America*.

Many of his Counsellors are proud and wicked men. They persuaded the King to break the covenant chain, and not to send us any more good Talks. A considerable number have prevailed upon him to enter into a new covenant against us, and have torn asunder and cast behind their backs the good old covenant which their ancestors and ours entered into, and took strong hold of.

They now tell us they will slip their hand into our pocket without asking, as though it were their own; and at their pleasure they will take from us our Charters, or written Civil Constitution, which we love as our lives; also our plantations, our houses and goods, whenever they please, without asking our leave; that our vessels may go to this island in the sea, but to this or that particular island we shall not trade any more; and in case of our non-compliance with these new orders, they shut up our harbours.

Brothers, this is our present situation; thus have many of the King's Counsellors and servants dealt with us. If we submit, or comply with their demands, you can easily perceive to what state we will be reduced. If our people labour on the field, they will not know who shall enjoy the crop. If they hunt in the woods, it will be uncertain who shall taste of the meat, or have the skins. If they build houses, they will not know whether they may sit round the fire, with their wives and children. They cannot be sure whether they shall be permitted to eat, drink, and wear the fruits of their own labour and industry.

*Brothers and Friends of the Six Nations, attend!* We upon this island have often spoke and entreated the King and his servants the Counsellors, that peace and harmony might still continue between us; that we cannot part with or lose our hold of the old covenant chain which united our fathers and theirs; that we want to brighten this chain, and keep the way open as our fathers did; that we want to live with them as brothers, labour, trade, travel abroad, eat and drink in peace. We have often asked them to love us, and live in such friendship with us as their fathers did with ours.

We told them again that we judged we were exceedingly injured, that they might as well kill us, as take away our property and the necessities of life. We have asked why they treat us thus? What has become of our repeated addresses and supplications to them? Who hath shut the ears of the King to the cries of his children in *America*? No soft answer, no pleasant voice from beyond the water has yet sounded in our ears.

*Brothers*, thus stands the matter betwixt old *England* and *America*. You *Indians* know how things are proportioned in a family—between the father and the son—the child carries a little pack. *England* we regard as the father; this island may be compared to the son.

The father has a numerous family—both at home and upon this island. He appoints a great number of servants to assist him in the government of his family. In process of time, some of his servants grow proud and ill-natured; they were displeased to see the boy so alert and walk so nimbly with his pack. They tell the father, and advise him to enlarge the child's pack; they prevail; the pack is increased; the child takes it up again—as he thought it might be the father's pleasure—speaks but few words—those very small—for he was loth to offend the father. Those proud and wicked servants, finding they had prevailed, laughed to see the boy sweat and stagger under his increased load. By and by, they apply to the father to double the boy's pack, because they heard him complain; and without any reason, said they, he is a cross child; correct him if he complains any more. The boy entreats the father; addresses the great servants in a decent manner, that the pack might be lightened; he could not go any farther; humbly asks, if the old fathers, in any of their records, had described such a pack for the child; after all the tears and entreaties of the child, the pack is redoubled; the child stands a little while staggering under the weight, ready to fall every moment. However, he entreats the father once more, though so faint he could only lisp out

his last humble supplication; waits a while; no voice returns. The child concludes the father could not hear; those proud servants had intercepted his supplications, or stopped the ears of the father. He therefore gives one struggle and throws off the pack, and says he cannot take it up again; such a weight would crush him down and kill him, and he can but die if he refuses.

Upon this, those servants are very wroth; and tell the father many false stories respecting the child; they bring a great cudgel to the father, asking him to take it in his hand and strike the child.

This may serve to illustrate the present condition of the King's *American* subjects or children.

Amidst these oppressions we now and then hear a mollifying and reviving voice from some of the King's wise Counsellors, who are our friends, and feel for our distresses; when they heard our complaints and our cries, they applied to the King; also told those wicked servants, that this child in *America* was not a cross boy; it had sufficient reason for crying, and if the cause of its complaint was neglected, it would soon assume the voice of a man, plead for justice like a man, and defend its rights and support the old covenant chain of the fathers.

*Brothers, listen!* Notwithstanding all our entreaties, we have but little hope the King will send us any more good Talks, by reason of his evil Counsellors; they have persuaded him to send an army of soldiers and many ships-of-war, to rob and destroy us. They have shut up many of our harbours, seized and taken into possession many of our vessels; the soldiers have struck the blow; killed some of our people; the blood now runs of the *American* children. They have also burned our houses and Towns, and taken much of our goods.

*Brothers!* We are now necessitated to rise, and forced to fight, or give up our Civil Constitution, run away, and leave our farms and houses behind us. This must not be. Since the King's wicked Counsellors will not open their ears, and consider our just complaints, and the cause of our weeping, and hath given the blow, we are determined to drive away the King's Soldiers, and to kill and destroy all those wicked men we find in arms against the peace of the twelve United Colonies upon this island. We think our cause is just; therefore hope *God* will be on our side. We do not take up the hatchet and struggle for honour and conquest; but to maintain our Civil Constitution and religious privileges, the very same for which our forefathers left their native land and came to this Country.

*Brothers and Friends!* We desire you will hear and receive what we have now told you, and that you will open a good ear and listen to what we are now going to say. This is a family quarrel between us and *Old England*. You *Indians* are not concerned in it. We don't wish you to take up the hatchet against the King's Troops. We desire you to remain at home, and not join on either side, but keep the hatchet buried deep. In the name and behalf of all our people, we ask and desire you to love peace and maintain it, and to love and sympathize with us in our troubles; that the path may be kept open with all our people and yours, to pass and repass, without molestation.

*Brothers!* We live upon the same ground with you. The same island is our common birthplace. We desire to sit down under the same tree of peace with you; let us water its roots and cherish its growth, till the large leaves and flourishing branches shall extend to the setting sun, and reach the skies.

*Brothers, observe well!* What is it we have asked of you? Nothing but peace, notwithstanding our present disturbed situation; and if application should be made to you by any of the King's unwise and wicked Ministers to join on their side, we only advise you to deliberate with great caution, and in your wisdom look forward to the consequences of a compliance. For, if the King's Troops take away our property, and destroy us, who are of the same blood with themselves, what can you, who are *Indians*, expect from them afterwards?

Therefore, we say, *Brothers*, take care; hold fast to your covenant chain. You now know our disposition towards you, the *Six Nations of Indians*, and your allies. Let this our good Talk remain at *Onondaga*, your central Council-House. We depend upon you to send and ac-



quaint your allies to the northward, the seven Tribes on the River *St. Lawrence*, that you have this Talk of ours at the Great Council Fire of the *Six Nations*. And when they return, we invite your great men to come and converse farther with us at *Albany*, where we intend to rekindle the Council Fire, which your and our ancestors sat round in great friendship.

*Brothers and Friends!* We greet you all farewell.

(*The large Belt of Intelligence and Declaration.*)

*Brothers!* We have said we wish you *Indians* may continue in peace with one another, and with us the white people. Let us both be cautious in our behaviour towards each other at this critical state of affairs. This island now trembles; the wind whistles from almost every quarter; let us fortify our minds and shut our ears against false rumours; let us be cautious what we receive for truth, unless spoken by wise and good men. If any thing disagreeable should ever fall out between us, the twelve *United Colonies*, and you, the *Six Nations*, to wound our peace, let us immediately seek measures for healing the breach. From the present situation of our affairs, we judge it wise and expedient to kindle up a small Council Fire at *Albany*, where we may hear each other's voice, and disclose our minds more fully to each other.—(*A small Belt.*)

*Ordered*, That a similar Talk be prepared for the other *Indian Nations*, preserving the tenour of the above, and altering it so as to suit the *Indians* in the several Departments.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of Commissioners for the several Departments, and after some debate, agreed that the nomination of the Commissioners for the Southern Department be postponed till *Tuesday* next.

Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Henry*, and Mr. *Wilson*, were unanimously elected for the Middle Department.

On motion, *Resolved*, That there be one more added to the number of the Commissioners for the Northern Department.

Then the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: General *Philip Schuyler*, Major *Joseph Hawley*, Mr. *Turbot Francis*, Mr. *Oliver Wolcott*, and Mr. *Volkert P. Douw*.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, take into their consideration the Report of the Committee on the Militia.

The Order of the Day was postponed, and the Congress adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

— Friday, July 14, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Agreeable to the Order of yesterday, the Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the Militia, and after some debate, the same was referred till to-morrow.

A motion being made by Dr. *Franklin*, and seconded,

*Resolved*, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

The Order of the Day was postponed, and the Congress adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

— Saturday, July 15, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Agreeable to the Order of yesterday, the motion made by Mr. *Franklin* was taken into consideration, and after some debate, they came to the following Resolution, viz:

Whereas, the Government of *Great Britain* hath prohibited the exportation of Arms and Ammunition to any of the Plantations, and endeavoured to prevent other Nations from supplying us:

*Resolved*, That for the better furnishing these Colonies with the necessary means of defending their rights, every Vessel importing Gunpowder, Saltpetre, Sulphur, provided they bring with the Sulphur four times as much Saltpetre, Brass Field-Pieces, or good Muskets fitted with Bayonets, within nine months from the date of this Resolution, shall be permitted to load and export the produce of these Colonies, to the value of such Powder and Stores aforesaid, the Non-Exportation Agreement notwithstanding; and it

is recommended to the Committees of the several Provinces to inspect the Military Stores so imported, and to estimate a generous price for the same, according to their goodness, and permit the importer of such Powder and other Military Stores aforesaid, to export the value thereof and no more, in produce of any kind.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above be delivered to the Delegates of the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, who are desired to request the Committee of this City to forward the same in handbills to the *West-Indies*, and such places as they think proper, taking care that it be not published in the newspapers.

Extracts from sundry intercepted Letters from Lord *Dartmouth* to Governour *Wright* and Governour *Martin*, were laid before the Congress, and read.

The Talk to the *Stockbridge Indians* was then taken up, and the same being debated, was agreed to.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Thursday* next, attend Divine Service together, both morning and afternoon.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Lynch* and Mr. *Dickinson* be a Committee to wait on Mr. *Duché*, and request him to preach for the Congress on next *Thursday* morning; and to wait upon Doctor *Allison*, and request him to preach at his Church, for the Congress, on the afternoon of the said day.

Adjourned till *Monday* next, at eight o'clock.

— Monday, July 17, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, with sundry Papers, were laid before the Congress, and read, and the same being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the President write to General *Wooster*, directing him to send, in the most expeditious manner, one thousand of the *Connecticut* Forces under his command to *Albany*, there to remain encamped until they shall receive orders from General *Schuyler* as to their future proceedings.

*Resolved*, That a Commissary of Stores and Provisions be appointed for the *New-York* Department, during the present campaign.

By unanimous vote *Walter Livingston* was chosen.

That a Deputy Quartermaster-General be appointed for the said Department.

Mr. *Donald Campbell* unanimously elected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *D. Campbell* have the rank of Colonel in the Army.

That a Deputy Muster-Master be appointed for said Department.

Mr. *Gunning Bedford* elected.

*Resolved*, That the Convention of *New-York* be desired to recommend to General *Schuyler* a proper person for a Deputy Adjutant-General or Brigade-Major for the Army in the *New-York* Department.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Cushing*, Mr. *Henry*, and Mr. *Deane*, be a Committee to confer with Mr. *Kirkland*, and report what in their opinion is an adequate compensation for his services among the *Indians*.

The Address from the Deputies of the several Parishes of the Island of *Bermuda* being again read,

*Ordered*, That the President return them an Answer, acknowledging the receipt of the Address, and informing them that it will be considered; and desiring them to send an account of the Provisions imported for some years past for the use of the inhabitants of that Island; and also enclose them a copy of a Resolve entered into on *Saturday* last, respecting the importation of Gunpowder, &c.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

— Tuesday, July 18, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to confer with Mr. *Kirkland* brought in their Report; which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That there be, and there is hereby allowed to the Rev. Mr. *Samuel Kirkland*, three hundred Dollars, to discharge the expenses he has been at among the *Indians*



of the *Six Nations*, to defray the expenses of his journey from and to the *Oneida* Country, and that he receive the same out of the Continental Treasury.

And it is hereby recommended to the Commissioners of the Northern Department, to employ the said Mr. *Kirkland* among the *Indians* of the *Six Nations*, in order to secure their friendship, and to continue them in a state of neutrality with respect to the present controversy between *Great Britain* and these Colonies.

The Congress resumed the Report of the Committee for putting the Militia into a proper state of defence, and after debating the same by paragraphs, came to the following Resolutions, viz :

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of all the United *English* Colonies in *North America*, that all able-bodied effective Men, between sixteen and fifty years of age, in each Colony, immediately form themselves into Regular Companies of Militia, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Clerk, one Drummer, one Fifer, and about sixty-eight Privates.

That the Officers of each Company be chosen by the respective Companies.

That each Soldier be furnished with a good Musket that will carry an ounce Ball, with a Bayonet, Steel Ramrod, Worm, Priming-Wire and Brush fitted thereto, a cutting Sword or Tomahawk, a Cartridge-Box that will contain twenty-three rounds of Cartridges, twelve Flints, and a Knapsack.

That the Companies be formed into Regiments or Battalions, officered with a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, two Majors, an Adjutant, or Quartermaster.

That all Officers above the rank of a Captain be appointed by the respective Provincial Assemblies or Conventions, or in their recess, by the Committees of Safety appointed by said Assemblies or Conventions.

That all Officers be commissioned by the Provincial Assemblies or Conventions, or in their recess, by the Committees of Safety appointed by said Assemblies or Conventions.

That all the Militia take proper care to acquire military skill, and be well prepared for defence, by being each man provided with one pound of good Gunpowder, and four pounds of Ball fitted to his Gun.

That one-fourth part of the Militia in every Colony be selected for Minute-Men, of such persons as are willing to enter into this necessary service, formed into Companies and Battalions, and their Officers, chosen and commissioned as aforesaid, to be ready on the shortest notice to march to any place where their assistance may be required, for the defence of their own or a neighbouring Colony; and as these Minute-Men may eventually be called to action before the whole body of the Militia are sufficiently trained, it is recommended that a more particular and diligent attention be paid to their instruction in military discipline.

That such of the Minute-Men as desire it, be relieved by new draughts as aforesaid, from the whole body of the Militia, once in four months.

As there are some people who, from religious principles, cannot bear arms in any case, this Congress intend no violence to their consciences, but earnestly recommend it to them to contribute liberally, in this time of universal calamity, to the relief of their distressed brethren in the several Colonies, and to do all other services to their oppressed Country, which they can consistently with their religious principles.

That it be recommended to the Assemblies or Conventions in the respective Colonies, to provide, as soon as possible, sufficient stores of Ammunition for their Colonies; also that they devise proper means for furnishing with Arms, such effective men as are poor and unable to furnish themselves.

That it be recommended to each Colony to appoint a Committee of Safety to superintend and direct all matters necessary for the security and defence of their respective Colonies, in the recess of their Assemblies and Conventions.

That each Colony, at their own expense, make such provision by armed Vessels or otherwise, as their respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Committees of Safety shall

judge expedient and suitable to their circumstances and situations, for the protection of their Harbours and Navigation on their sea-coasts, against all unlawful invasions, attacks, and depredations from Cutters and Ships-of-War.

That it be recommended to the makers of Arms for the use of the Militia, that they make good substantial Muskets, with Barrels three feet and a half in length, that will carry an ounce Ball, and fitted with a good Bayonet and Steel Ramrod, and that the making such Arms be encouraged in these United Colonies.

Where, in any Colony, a Militia is already formed under regulations approved of by the Convention of such Colony, or by such Assemblies as are annually elective, we refer to the discretion of such Convention or Assembly, either to adopt the foregoing Regulations in the whole or in part, or to continue their former, as they, on consideration of all circumstances, shall think best.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

— Wednesday, July 19, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The President laid before the Congress a Letter from the General, with sundry papers enclosed, which were read; and being taken into consideration,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wilson* apply to the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, and request them to make diligent inquiry what quantity of Duck, *Russia* Sheetting, Tow-Cloth, Oznaburghs, and Ticklenburghs, can be procured in this City, and make return as soon as possible to this Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Joseph Trumbull* be Commissary-General of Stores and Provisions for the Army of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of a Quartermaster-General, a Commissary of Musters, and a Commissary of Artillery, be left to General *Washington*.

That a Company of Matrosses be raised in the City of *Philadelphia*, and sent to *Boston*.

That a Committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means of raising the above Company.

The Committee chosen are Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Lee*, and Mr. *Gadsden*.

That the President be desired to write to the Powder Committees, or Committees of Safety in this City and *New-York*, (where it is said a supply of Powder is lately arrived) to forward to the camp as much good Gunpowder as they can spare.

That General *Thomas* be appointed first Brigadier-General in the Army of the United Colonies, in the room of General *Pomeroy*, who never acted under the commission sent to him, and that General *Thomas's* commission bear the same date that General *Pomeroy's* did.

That it be left to General *Washington*, if he thinks fit, to appoint three Brigade Majors, and commission them accordingly.

That a Committee of three be appointed to report the method of establishing an Hospital.

The Committee chosen are Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *Middleton*.

That it be recommended to the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, and *Connecticut*, to complete the deficiencies in the Regiments belonging to their respective Colonies, retained by the General in the Continental Army before *Boston*.

That it be recommended to the Colony of *Rhode-Island* to complete and send forward to the camp before *Boston*, as soon as possible, the three hundred and sixty men lately voted by their General Assembly.

That it be recommended also to the Colony of *Connecticut*, to complete and send forward to the camp before *Boston*, as soon as possible, the fourteen hundred men lately voted by their General Assembly.

That the paragraph of the General's Letter respecting an easier communication between him and this Congress, be referred for consideration till *Saturday* next.

That a Committee be appointed to bring in an estimate of the expenses incurred by the votes and resolves of this Congress.

Mr. *Deane*, Mr. *Johnson*, and Mr. *Cushing* chosen.



*Agreed*, That the Congress meet here to-morrow morning at half past nine o'clock, in order to attend Divine Service at Mr. *Duché's* Church, and that in the afternoon they meet here, to go from this place and attend Divine Service at Doctor *Allison's* Church.

*Resolved*, That the nomination of three of the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs*, in the Southern Department, be left to the Council of Safety, appointed by the Colony of *South-Carolina*.

That Mr. *John Walker*, of *Virginia*, be appointed one of the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs*, for the Southern Department.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at half past nine o'clock.

— Thursday, July 20, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

An Express arriving with despatches from Gen. *Schuyler*, the same were read.

A Letter was likewise received from the Convention of *Georgia*, and read, setting forth that that Colony had acceded to the General Association, and appointed Delegates to attend this Congress.

Adjourned till one o'clock, P. M.

P. M. Met according to adjournment.

The Despatches from General *Schuyler* being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That General *P. Schuyler* be empowered to dispose of and employ all the Troops in the *New-York* Department, in such manner as he may think best for the protection and defence of these Colonies, the Tribes of *Indians* in friendship and amity with us, and most effectually to promote the general interest, still pursuing, if in his power, the former orders from this Congress, and subject to the future orders of the Commander-in-Chief.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

— Friday, July 21, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the Inhabitants of *Jamaica*, having brought in their Report, the same was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table for further consideration.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the Inhabitants of *Ireland*, brought in a draught.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *R. Bache*, Mr. *Stephen Paschall*, and Mr. *M. Hillegas*, be appointed to superintend the Press, and to have the oversight and care of printing the Bills of Credit ordered to be struck by this Congress.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Willie Jones*, of *North-Carolina*, be the fifth Commissioner of *Indian Affairs*, in the Southern Department.

Mr. *Wilson* having made a Return of the Duck, &c., that can be procured in this City,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Wilson* inquire whether *Russia* Sheetings will answer for making Tents.

*Ordered*, That the Resolves respecting the Militia be immediately published.

Agreeable to the Standing Order, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*, when Doctor *B. Franklin* submitted to their consideration the following sketch of Articles of Confederation.

*Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union, proposed by the Delegates of the several Colonies of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, &c., in General Congress met at PHILADELPHIA, MAY 10, 1775.*

ARTICLE I. The name of this Confederacy shall henceforth be, The United Colonies of *North America*.

ARTICLE II. The said United Colonies hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, binding on themselves and their posterity, for their common defence against their enemies, for the securities of their liberties and properties, the safety of their persons and families, and their mutual and general welfare.

ARTICLE III. That each Colony shall enjoy and retain as much as it may think fit of its own present laws, cus-

toms, rights, privileges and peculiar jurisdictions within its own limits; and may amend its own Constitution as shall seem best to its own Assembly or Convention.

ARTICLE IV. That for the more convenient management of general interests, Delegates shall be annually elected in each Colony, to meet in General Congress at such time and place as shall be agreed on in the next preceding Congress. Only where particular circumstances do not make a duration necessary, it is understood to be a rule, that each succeeding Congress be held in a different Colony, till the whole number be gone through; and so in perpetual rotation; and that accordingly the next Congress after the present shall be held at *Annapolis*, in *Maryland*.

ARTICLE V. That the power and duty of the Congress shall extend to the determining on war and peace; the sending and receiving Ambassadors, and entering into alliances (the reconciliation with *Great Britain*;) the settling all disputes and differences between Colony and Colony, about limits or any other cause, if such should arise; and the planting of new Colonies when proper. The Congress shall also make such general ordinances as, though necessary to the general welfare, particular Assemblies cannot be competent to, viz: those that may relate to our general commerce, or general currency; the establishment of posts; and the regulation of our common forces. The Congress shall also have the appointment of all General Officers, civil and military, appertaining to the General Confederacy, such as General Treasurer, Secretary, &c.

ARTICLE VI. All charges of wars, and all other general expenses to be incurred for the common welfare, shall be defrayed out of a common treasury, which is to be supplied by each Colony in proportion to its number of male poles between sixteen and sixty years of age. The taxes for paying that proportion are to be laid and levied by the Laws of each Colony.

ARTICLE VII. The number of Delegates to be elected and sent to Congress by each Colony shall be regulated, from time to time, by the number of such polls returned; so as that one Delegate be allowed for every five thousand polls. And the Delegates are to bring with them to every Congress an authenticated return of the number of polls in the respective Provinces, which is to be taken triennially, for the purposes abovementioned.

ARTICLE VIII. At every meeting of the Congress, one half of the Members returned, exclusive of proxies, shall be necessary to make a quorum; and each Delegate at the Congress shall have a vote in all cases, and if necessarily absent, shall be allowed to appoint any other Delegate from the same Colony to be his proxy, who may vote for him.

ARTICLE IX. An Executive Council shall be appointed by the Congress out of their own body, consisting of twelve persons; of whom, in the first appointment, one third, viz: four shall be for one year, four for two years, and four for three years; and as the said terms expire, the vacancies shall be filled by appointments for three years; whereby one third of the Members will be changed annually. This Council, of whom two-thirds shall be a quorum in the recess of Congress, is to execute what shall have been enjoined thereby; to manage the general Continental business and interests; to receive applications from foreign Countries; to prepare matters for the consideration of the Congress; to fill up, *pro tempore*, Continental Offices that fall vacant; and to draw on the General Treasurer for such moneys as may be necessary for general services, and appropriated by the Congress to such services.

ARTICLE X. No Colony shall engage in an offensive war with any Nation of *Indians* without the consent of the Congress, or Grand Council abovementioned, who are first to consider the justice and necessity of such war.

ARTICLE XI. A perpetual alliance, offensive and defensive, is to be entered into as soon as may be with the *Six Nations*; their limits to be ascertained and secured to them; their land not to be encroached on, nor any private or Colony purchases made of them hereafter to be held good; nor any contract for lands to be made, but between the Great Council of the *Indians* at *Onondaga* and the General Congress. The boundaries and lands of all the other *Indians* shall also be ascertained and secured to them in the same manner, and persons appointed to reside among them in proper Districts; and shall take care to prevent injustice



in the trade with them; and be enabled at our general expense, by occasional small supplies, to relieve their personal wants and distresses. And all purchases from them shall be by the Congress, for the general advantage and benefit of the United Colonies.

ARTICLE XII. As all new institutions may have imperfections, which only time and experience can discover, it is agreed that the General Congress, from time to time, shall propose such Amendments of this Constitution as may be found necessary; which being approved by a majority of the Colony Assemblies, shall be equally binding with the rest of the Articles of this Confederation.

ARTICLE XIII. Any and every Colony from *Great Britain* upon the Continent of *North America*, not at present engaged in our Association, may, upon application and joining the said Association, be received into the Confederation, viz: *Ireland*, the *West-India* Islands, *Quebeck*, *St. John's*, *Nova-Scotia*, *Bermudas*, and *East and West Floridas*; and shall thereupon be entitled to all the advantages of our union, mutual assistance, and commerce.

These Articles shall be proposed to the several Provincial Conventions or Assemblies, to be by them considered; and if approved, they are advised to empower their Delegates to agree to and ratify the same in the ensuing Congress. After which the union thereby established is to continue firm, till the terms of reconciliation proposed in the Petition of the last Congress to the King are agreed to; till the Acts since made, restraining the *American* Commerce and Fisheries, are repealed; till reparation is made for the injury done to *Boston*, by shutting up its Port; for the burning of *Charlestown*; and for the expense of this unjust war; and till all the *British* Troops are withdrawn from *America*. On the arrival of these events, the Colonies will return to their former connexion and friendship with *Britain*: but on failure thereof, this Confederation is to be perpetual.

After some time spent in Committee of the Whole, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that they had come to certain Resolutions, which he read, and desired leave to sit again.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means to protect the Trade of these Colonies, brought in their Report; which was read.

Ordered, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

The Congress then entered upon the consideration of the Report from the Committee of the Whole, and after some debate,

Resolved, That such a body of Troops be kept up in the *Massachusetts-Bay* as General *Washington* shall think necessary, provided they do not exceed twenty-two thousand men.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

Saturday, July 22, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Agreeable to the Order of yesterday, the Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee appointed to devise ways and means to protect the Trade of these Colonies, and after some debate, the same was postponed, to be taken up at some future day.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*. And after some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will on *Monday* again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into further consideration the state of *America*.

On motion, Resolved, That Doctor *Franklin*, Mr. *Jefferson*, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *Lee*, be a Committee to take into consideration, and report on the Resolution of the House of Commons, *February* 20, 1775, commonly called Lord *North's* Motion.

Adjourned till *Monday*, at eight o'clock.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Monday, July 24, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

A Letter from the General, dated *July* 14, with an enclosed List of the Officers of the Ministerial Troops killed and wounded in the late battle at *Charlestown*, was laid before Congress, and read.

The Congress then resolved themselves into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*. After some time spent therein, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken the matter referred to them into consideration, but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

The Committee for that purpose appointed, brought in a Report for establishing a Hospital.

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

Tuesday, July 25, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider the ways and means of establishing Posts, brought in their Report; which was read, and ordered to be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The Committee appointed to bring in an answer to the Resolution of the House of Commons, brought in their Report; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table for consideration.

The Congress being informed that a quantity of the Continental Gunpowder, amounting to about six tons and a half, was arrived in this City:

Ordered, That the Delegates of this Colony take measures to have it sent under a safe convoy with all possible despatch to Gen. *Washington*, at the Camp before *Boston*.

That the Delegates be empowered to order a detachment of Riflemen raised for the Continental Army, consisting of at least two Officers and thirty Men, to meet the Powder Wagons at *Trenton*, and from thence to escort the same to the Camp.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Address to the Assembly of *Jamaica*, which being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to, and is as follows:

Mr. *Speaker*,

And Gentlemen of the Assembly of *JAMAICA*:

We would think ourselves deficient in our duty, if we suffered this Congress to pass over, without expressing our esteem for the Assembly of *Jamaica*.

Whoever attends to the conduct of those who have been entrusted with the administration of *British* affairs during these last twelve years, will discover in it a deliberate plan to destroy, in every part of the Empire, the free constitution, for which *Britain* has been so long and so justly famed. With a dexterity, artful and wicked, they have varied the modes of attack, according to the different characters and circumstances of those whom they meant to reduce. In the *East-Indies*, where the effeminacy of the inhabitants promised an easy conquest, they thought it unnecessary to veil their tyrannick principles under the thinnest disguise. Without deigning even to pretend a justification of their conduct, they sacrificed the lives of millions to the gratification of their insatiable avarice and lust of power. In *Britain*, where the maxims of freedom were still known, but where luxury and dissipation had diminished the wonted reverence for them, the attack has been carried on in a more secret and indirect manner: corruption has been employed to undermine them. The *Americans* are not enervated by effeminacy, like the inhabitants of *India*; nor debauched by luxury, like those of *Great Britain*: it was, therefore, judged improper to assail them by bribery, or by undisguised force. Plausible systems were formed; specious pretences were made: all the arts of sophistry were tried to shew that the *British* Ministry had by law a right to enslave us. The first and best maxims of the Constitution, venerable to *Britons* and to *Americans*, were perverted and profaned. The power of Parliament, derived from the people, to bind the people, was extended over those from whom it was never derived. It is asserted, that a



Standing Army may be constitutionally kept among us, without our consent. Those principles, dishonourable to those who adopted them, and destructive to those to whom they were applied, were nevertheless carried into execution by the foes of liberty and of mankind. Acts of Parliament, ruinous to *America*, and unserviceable to *Britain*, were made to bind us; Armies, maintained by the Parliament, were sent over to secure their operation. The power, however, and the cunning of our adversaries, were alike unsuccessful. We refused to their Parliaments an obedience, which our judgments disapproved of; we refused to their Armies a submission, which spirits unaccustomed to slavery could not brook.

But while we spurned a disgraceful subjection, we were far from running into rash or seditious measures of opposition. Filled with sentiments of loyalty to our Sovereign, and of affection and respect for our fellow-subjects in *Britain*, we petitioned, we supplicated, we expostulated: Our prayers were rejected; our remonstrances were disregarded; our grievances were accumulated. All this did not provoke us to violence.

An appeal to the justice and humanity of those who had injured us, and who were bound to redress our injuries, was ineffectual: we next resolved to make an appeal to their interest, though by doing so, we knew we must sacrifice our own, and (which gave us equal uneasiness) that of our friends, who had never offended us, and who were connected with us by a sympathy of feelings, under oppressions similar to our own. We resolved to give up our commerce that we might preserve our liberty. We flattered ourselves, that when, by withdrawing our commercial intercourse with *Britain*, which we had an undoubted right either to withdraw or continue, her trade should be diminished, her revenues impaired, and her manufactures unemployed, our Ministerial foes would be induced by interest, or compelled by necessity, to depart from the plan of tyranny which they had so long pursued, and to substitute in its place a system more compatible with the freedom of *America*, and justice of *Britain*. That this scheme of non-importation and non-exportation might be productive of the desired effects, we were obliged to include the Islands in it. From this necessity, and from this necessity alone, has our conduct towards them proceeded. By converting your sugar plantations into fields of grain, you can supply yourselves with the necessities of life: while the present unhappy struggle shall continue, we cannot do more.

But why should we make any apology to the patriotick Assembly of *Jamaica*, who know so well the value of liberty; who are so sensible of the extreme danger to which ours is exposed; and who foresee how certainly the destruction of ours must be followed by the destruction of their own?

We receive uncommon pleasure from observing the principles of our righteous opposition distinguished by your approbation; we feel the warmest gratitude for your pathetic mediation in our behalf with the Crown. It was indeed unavailing—but are you to blame? Mournful experience tells us that petitions are often rejected, while the sentiments and conduct of the petitioners entitle what they offer to a happier fate.

That our petitions have been treated with disdain, is now become the smallest part of our complaint: Ministerial insolence is lost in ministerial barbarity. It has, by an exertion peculiarly ingenious, procured those very measures, which it laid us under the hard necessity of pursuing, to be stigmatized in Parliament as rebellious: It has employed additional Fleets and Armies for the infamous purpose of compelling us to abandon them: It has plunged us into all the horrors and calamities of civil war: It has caused the treasure and blood of *Britons* (formerly shed and expended for far other ends) to be spilt and wasted in the execrable design of spreading slavery over *British America*. It will not, however, accomplish its aim: In the worst of contingencies, a choice will still be left, which it never can prevent us from making.

The peculiar situation of your Island forbids your assistance. But we have your good wishes. From the good wishes of the friends of liberty and mankind, we shall always derive consolation.

*Ordered*, That a fair copy be made out, to be signed by the President, and transmitted by the first opportunity.

The Congress then, resuming the consideration of the Report of the Committee of the Whole, came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That a body of Forces, not exceeding five thousand, be kept up in the *New-York* Department, for the purpose of defending that part of *America*, and for securing the Lakes, and defending the Frontiers from invasions or incursions.

That a farther sum, amounting to One Million of Dollars, be struck in bills of thirty Dollars each.

As the signing so great a number of Bills as has been directed to be issued by this Congress will require more time than the Members can possibly devote to that business, consistent with the attention due to the publick service:

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be appointed and fully authorized to sign the same, viz: *Luke Morris, Samuel Meredith, Judah Foulke, Samuel Morris, Frederick Kuhl, Robert Strettle Jones, Thomas Coombe, Ellis Lewis, John Mease, Thomas Laurence, Daniel Clymer, John Maxwell Nesbit, Thomas Barclay, John Bayard, William Craig, Thomas Bartow, Jun., John Shee, Isaac Hazlehurst, Robert Roberts, Anthony Morris, Mordecai Lewis, George Mifflin, Robert Tuckniss, Andrew Burner, William Jackson, Joseph Sims, James Milligan, and James Reed.*

That each of the Continental Bills be numbered and signed by two of the above gentlemen.

That each gentleman who signs the Continental Money be allowed and paid out of the Continental Treasury, one dollar and one-third of a dollar for each and every thousand Bills signed and numbered by him.

That the gentlemen appointed to number and sign the Bills, do give their receipts for the same, expressing the number and denomination of them; and after numbering and signing them, shall deliver the same to the Continental Treasurers, taking their receipts for the Bills so delivered.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Samuel Adams*, Mr. *Lee*, and Mr. *J. Rutledge*, with the Secretary, be a Committee to revise the Journal of the Congress, and prepare it for the press.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

— Wednesday, July 26, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

Agreeable to the Order of yesterday, the Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the Post-Office; which being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to, as follows:

That a Postmaster General be appointed for the United Colonies, who shall hold his office at *Philadelphia*, and shall be allowed a salary of one thousand Dollars per annum for himself, and three hundred and forty Dollars per annum for a Secretary and Comptroller; with power to appoint such and so many Deputies as to him may seem proper and necessary.

That a line of Posts be appointed under the direction of the Postmaster General, from *Falmouth* in *New-England* to *Savannah* in *Georgia*, with as many cross-posts as he shall think fit.

That the allowance to the Deputies in lieu of salary and all contingent expenses, shall be twenty per centum on the sums they collect and pay into the General Post-Office annually, when the whole is under or not exceeding one thousand Dollars; and ten per centum for all sums above one thousand Dollars a year.

That the rates of Postage shall be twenty per cent. less than those appointed by act of Parliament.

That the several Deputies account quarterly with the General Post-Office, and the Postmaster General annually with the Continental Treasurers, when he shall pay into the receipt of the said Treasurers the profits of the Post-Office; and if the necessary expense of this establishment should exceed the produce of it, the deficiency shall be made good by the United Colonies, and paid to the Postmaster General by the Continental Treasurers.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Postmaster General to establish a weekly post to *South-Carolina*.



That it be left to the Postmaster General to appoint a Secretary and Comptroller.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a Postmaster General for one year, and until another is appointed by a future Congress: when *Benjamin Franklin, Esq.*, was unanimously chosen.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

Thursday, July 27, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on establishing a Hospital for the Army; and the same being debated, was agreed to, as follows:

That for the establishment of a Hospital for an Army, consisting of twenty thousand men, the following Officers and other attendants be appointed, with the following allowance or pay, viz:

One Director-General and Chief Physician, his pay per day, four Dollars.

Four Surgeons, per diem, each, one and one-third of a Dollar.

One Apothecary, one and one-third of a Dollar.

Twenty Surgeon's Mates, each two-thirds of a Dollar.

One Clerk, two-thirds of a Dollar.

Two Storekeepers, each four Dollars per month.

One Nurse to every ten sick, one-fifteenth of a Dollar per day, or two Dollars per month.

Labourers occasionally.

*The Duty of the above Officers, viz:*

The Director to furnish Medicines, Bedding, and all other necessaries, to pay for the same, superintend the whole, and make his report to, and receive orders from, the Commander-in-Chief.

Surgeons, Apothecaries, and Mates: To visit and attend the sick, and the Mates to obey the orders of the Physicians, Surgeons, and Apothecary.

Matron: To superintend the Nurses, Bedding, &c.

Nurses: To attend the sick, and obey the Matron's orders.

Clerk: To keep Accounts for the Director and Storekeepers.

Storekeepers: To receive and deliver the Bedding and other necessaries, by order of the Director.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars be paid by the Continental Treasurers to *Reese Meredith, George Clymer, Samuel Meredith*, and *Samuel Mifflin*, Merchants of the City of *Philadelphia*; and that the like sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars be paid by the said Treasurers to *Philip Livingston, John Alsop*, and *Francis Lewis*, Merchants of *New-York*, to be by them applied to the purpose of importing Gunpowder for the Continental Armies; and that they be allowed out of the same five per cent. for their trouble and expenses therein; that they keep all their proceedings, as much as possible, a secret from every other person but the Congress and the General of the Continental Forces for the time being; that they keep up a correspondence with the said General, and make such dispositions of the Powder they may import, as he shall order.\*

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of Officers for the Hospital; when

*Benjamin Church* was unanimously elected as Director of, and Chief Physician in the Hospital.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of the four Surgeons and the Apothecary be left to Doctor *Church*.

That the Mates be appointed by the Surgeons.

That the number of Mates do not exceed twenty; and,

That the number be not kept in constant pay, unless the sick and wounded should be so numerous as to require the attendance of twenty, and to be diminished as circumstances will admit; for which purpose the pay is fixed by the day, that they may only receive pay for actual service.

That one Clerk, two Storekeepers, and one Nurse to every ten sick, be appointed by the Director.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That the Paymaster give bond, with two sureties, in the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars, for the faithful performance of his office.

\* This most secret, not to be published.—*MS. Jour.*

That the Bond be made payable to the same persons as the Bonds of the Continental Treasurers are payable to.

*James Warren* was unanimously elected Paymaster-General.

*Resolved*, That the Paymaster in the *New-York* Department give Bond to the same persons as above directed, with two sureties, in the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars, for the faithful performance of his office.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

Friday, July 28, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress being informed that a quantity of Gunpowder belonging to the Continent is arrived in some part of *New-Jersey*,

*Ordered*, That the Delegates of *New-Jersey* do take care that the said Powder be safely conveyed to *Dobbs's* Ferry, on the *North River*.

On motion made, *Ordered*, That the Colony of *Virginia* be supplied with one ton of Gunpowder from the next quantity arriving here; and that from the same supply *Pennsylvania* be repaid the Powder heretofore borrowed by the Congress, if the same shall not be wanted by General *Washington*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *McKean* and Mr. *Wilson* do prepare the Bonds for the Continental Treasurers to execute.

*Jonathan Trumbull, Jun., Esq.*, was unanimously elected Paymaster of the Forces for the *New-York* Department.

The Congress then took into consideration the Address to the People of *Ireland*; which being read and debated, was agreed to, as follows:

*To the People of IRELAND:*

From the Delegates appointed by the United Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, the Lower Counties on *Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina*, and *South-Carolina*, in General Congress at *Philadelphia*, the 10th of *May*, 1775.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-SUBJECTS: As the important contest into which we have been driven, is now become interesting to every *European* State, and particularly affects the members of the *British* Empire, we think it our duty to address you on the subject. We are desirous, as is natural to injured innocence, of possessing the good opinion of the virtuous and humane. We are peculiarly desirous of furnishing you with a true state of our motives and objects, the better to enable you to judge of our conduct with accuracy, and determine the merits of the controversy with impartiality and precision.

However incredible it may appear, that, at this enlightened period, the leaders of a nation, which in every age has sacrificed hecatombs of her bravest patriots on the altar of liberty, should presume gravely to assert, and, by force of arms, attempt to establish an arbitrary sway over the lives, liberties, and property of their fellow-subjects in *America*, it is, nevertheless, a most deplorable and indisputable truth.

These Colonies have, from the time of their first settlement, for near two centuries, peaceably enjoyed those very rights of which the Ministry have, for ten years past, endeavoured by fraud and by violence to deprive them.

At the conclusion of the last war, the genius of *England* and the spirit of wisdom, as if offended at the ungrateful treatment of their sons, withdrew from the *British* councils, and left that nation a prey to a race of Ministers, with whom ancient *English* honesty and benevolence disdained to dwell. From that period, jealousy, discontent, oppression, and discord, have raged among all His Majesty's subjects, and filled every part of his Dominions with distress and complaint.

Not content with our purchasing of *Britain*, at her own price, clothing and a thousand other articles used by near three millions of people on this vast Continent; not satisfied with the amazing profits arising from the monopoly of our trade, without giving us either time to breathe, after a long though glorious war, or the least credit for the blood



and treasure we have expended in it; notwithstanding the zeal we had manifested for the service of our Sovereign, and the warmest attachment to the Constitution of *Britain* and the people of *England*, a black and horrid design was formed to convert us from freemen into slaves, from subjects into vassals, and from friends into enemies.

Taxes, for the first time since we landed on the *American* shores, were, without our consent, imposed upon us; an unconstitutional edict, to compel us to furnish necessities for a standing army, that we wished to see disbanded, was issued, and the Legislature of *New-York* suspended for refusing to comply with it. Our ancient and inestimable right of Trial by Jury, was, in many instances, abolished, and the common law of the land made to give place to admiralty jurisdictions. Judges were rendered, by the tenure of their commissions, entirely dependant on the will of a Minister. New crimes were arbitrarily created, and new Courts, unknown to the Constitution, instituted. Wicked and insidious Governours have been set over us; and dutiful petitions, for the removal of even the notoriously infamous Governour *Hutchinson*, were branded with the opprobrious appellation of scandalous and defamatory. Hardy attempts have been made, under colour of Parliamentary authority, to seize *Americans*, and carry them to *Great Britain*, to be tried for offences committed in the Colonies. Ancient Charters have no longer remained sacred; that of the *Massachusetts-Bay* was violated, and their form of Government essentially mutilated and transformed. On pretence of punishing a violation of some private property, committed by a few disguised individuals, the populous and flourishing Town of *Boston* was surrounded by fleets and armies; its trade destroyed; its port blocked up, and thirty thousand citizens subjected to all the miseries attending so sudden a convulsion in their commercial metropolis; and, to remove every obstacle to the rigorous execution of this system of oppression, an act of Parliament was passed, evidently calculated to indemnify those who might, in the prosecution of it, even imbrue their hands in the blood of the inhabitants.

Though pressed by such an accumulation of undeserved injuries, *America* still remembered her duty to her Sovereign. A Congress, consisting of Deputies from twelve United Colonies, assembled. They, in the most respectful terms, laid their grievances at the foot of the Throne, and implored His Majesty's interposition in their behalf. They also agreed to suspend all trade with *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *West-Indies*, hoping, by this peaceable mode of opposition, to obtain that justice from the *British* Ministry which had been so long solicited in vain. And here permit us to assure you, that it was with the utmost reluctance we could prevail upon ourselves to cease our commercial connexion with your island. Your Parliament had done us no wrong. You had ever been friendly to the rights of mankind; and we acknowledge, with pleasure and gratitude, that your nation has produced patriots who have nobly distinguished themselves in the cause of humanity and *America*. On the other hand, we were not ignorant that the labour and manufactures of *Ireland*, like those of the silk-worm, were of little moment to herself, but served only to give luxury to those who neither toil nor spin. We perceived that if we continued our commerce with you, our agreement not to import from *Britain* would be fruitless, and were, therefore, compelled to adopt a measure to which nothing but absolute necessity would have reconciled us. It gave us, however, some consolation to reflect, that should it occasion much distress, the fertile regions of *America* would afford you a safe asylum from poverty, and, in time, from oppression also; an asylum in which many thousands of your countrymen have found hospitality, peace, and affluence, and become united to us by all the ties of consanguinity, mutual interest, and affection. Nor did Congress stop here. Flattered by a pleasing expectation that the justice and humanity which had so long characterized the *English* Nation would, on proper application, afford us relief, they represented their grievances in an affectionate address to their brethren in *Britain*, and entreated their aid and interposition in behalf of these Colonies.

The more fully to evince their respect for their Sovereign, the unhappy people of *Boston* were requested by the

Congress to submit with patience to their fate; and all *America* united in a resolution to abstain from every species of violence. During this period, that devoted Town suffered unspeakably. Its inhabitants were insulted, and their property violated. Still relying on the clemency and justice of His Majesty and the Nation, they permitted a few Regiments to take possession of their Town, to surround it with fortifications, and to cut off all intercourse between them and their friends in the country.

With anxious expectation did all *America* wait the event of their Petition. All *America* laments its fate. Their Prince was deaf to their complaints; and vain were all attempts to impress him with a sense of the sufferings of his *American* subjects, of the cruelty of their task-masters, and of the many plagues which impended over his Dominions. Instead of directions for a candid inquiry into our grievances, insult was added to oppression, and our long forbearance rewarded with the imputation of cowardice. Our trade with foreign states was prohibited; and an act of Parliament passed to prevent our even fishing on our own coasts. Our peaceable assemblies, for the purpose of consulting the common safety, were declared seditious; and our asserting the very rights which placed the crown of *Great Britain* on the heads of the three successive Princes of the House of *Hanover*, styled rebellion. Orders were given to re-enforce the Troops in *America*. The wild and barbarous savages of the wilderness have been solicited, by gifts, to take up the hatchet against us, and instigated to deluge our settlements with the blood of innocent and defenceless women and children. The whole country was, moreover, alarmed with the horrors of domestick insurrections. Refinements in parental cruelty, at which the genius of *Britain* must blush! Refinements which admit not of being even recited without horror, or practised without infamy! We should be happy were these dark machinations the mere suggestions of suspicion. We are sorry to declare, that we are possessed of the most authentick and indubitable evidence of their reality.

The Ministry, bent on pulling down the pillars of the Constitution, endeavoured to erect the standard of despotism in *America*; and, if successful, *Britain* and *Ireland* may shudder at the consequences!

Three of their most experienced Generals are sent to wage war with their fellow-subjects; and *America* is amazed to find the name of *Howe* in the catalogue of her enemies. She loved his brother.

Despairing of driving the Colonists to resistance, by any other means than actual hostility, a detachment of the Army at *Boston* marched into the country in all the array of war, and, unprovoked, fired upon and killed several of the inhabitants. The neighbouring farmers suddenly assembled, and repelled the attack. From this, all communication between the Town and country was intercepted. The citizens petitioned the General for permission to leave the Town, and he promised, on surrendering their arms, to permit them to depart, with their other effects. They accordingly surrendered their arms, and the General violated his faith. Under various pretences, passports were delayed and denied; and many thousands of the inhabitants are, at this day, confined in the Town, in the utmost wretchedness and want. The lame, the blind, and the sick, have, indeed, been turned out into the neighbouring fields; and some, eluding the vigilance of the sentries, have escaped from the Town, by swimming to the adjacent shores.

The war having thus begun on the part of General *Gage's* Troops, the country armed and embodied. The re-enforcements from *Ireland* soon after arrived; a vigorous attack was then made upon the Provincials. In their march, the Troops surrounded the Town of *Charlestown*, consisting of about four hundred houses, then recently abandoned to escape the fury of a relentless soldiery. Having plundered the houses, they set fire to the Town, and reduced it to ashes. To this wanton waste of property, unknown to civilized nations, they were prompted, the better to conceal their approach under cover of the smoke—a shocking mixture of cowardice and cruelty, which then first tarnished the lustre of the *British* arms, when aimed at a brother's breast! But, blessed be *God*, they were restrained from committing further ravages, by the loss of a very considerable part of their Army, including many of their most ex-



perienced officers. The loss of the inhabitants was considerable.

Compelled, therefore, to behold thousands of our countrymen imprisoned, and men, women, and children involved in promiscuous and unmerited misery; when we find all faith at an end, and sacred treaties turned into tricks of state; when we perceive our friends and kinsmen massacred, our habitations plundered, our houses in flames, and their once happy inhabitants fed only by the hand of charity, who can blame us for endeavouring to restrain the progress of desolation? Who can censure our repelling the attacks of such a barbarous band? Who, in such circumstances, would not obey the great, the universal, the divine law of self-preservation?

Though vilified as wanting spirit, we are determined to behave like men; though insulted and abused, we wish for reconciliation; though defamed as seditious, we are ready to obey the laws; and though charged with rebellion, will cheerfully bleed in defence of our Sovereign in a righteous cause. What more can we say? What more can we offer?

But we forbear to trouble you with a tedious detail of the various and fruitless offers and applications we have repeatedly made, not for pensions, for wealth, or for honours, but for the humble boon of being permitted to possess the fruits of honest industry, and to enjoy that degree of liberty to which *God* and the Constitution have given us an undoubted right.

Blessed with an indissoluble union, with a variety of internal resources, and with a firm reliance on the justice of the Supreme Disposer of all human events, we have no doubt of rising superior to all the machinations of evil and abandoned Ministers. We already anticipate the golden period, when liberty, with all the gentle arts of peace and humanity, shall establish her mild dominion in this Western world, and erect eternal monuments to the memory of those virtuous patriots and martyrs, who shall have fought and bled, and suffered in her cause.

Accept our most grateful acknowledgments for the friendly disposition you have always shown towards us. We know that you are not without your grievances. We sympathize with you in your distress, and are pleased to find that the design of subjugating us has persuaded Administration to dispense to *Ireland* some vagrant rays of Ministerial sunshine. Even the tender mercies of Government have long been cruel towards you. In the rich pastures of *Ireland*, many hungry parricides have fed and grown strong to labour in its destruction. We hope the patient abiding of the meek may not always be forgotten; and *God* grant that the iniquitous schemes of extirpating liberty from the *British* Empire, may be soon defeated. But we should be wanting to ourselves; we should be perfidious to posterity; we should be unworthy that ancestry from which we derive our descent, should we submit, with folded arms, to military butchery and depredation, to gratify the lordly ambition, or sate the avarice of a *British* Ministry. In defence of our persons and properties, under actual violation, we have taken up arms; when that violence shall be removed, and hostilities cease on the part of the aggressors, they shall cease on our part also. For the achievement of this happy event, we confide in the good offices of our fellow-subjects beyond the *Atlantic*. Of their friendly disposition, we do not yet despond; aware, as they must be, that they have nothing more to expect from the same common enemy, than the humble favour of being last devoured.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

Saturday, July 29, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report from the Committee of the Whole, and came to the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That the pay of the Commissary-General of Musters be forty Dollars per month.

That the pay of the Deputy Commissary-General of Stores and Provisions be sixty Dollars per do.

Deputy Adjutant-General, fifty Dollars per do.

Deputy Mustermaster-General, forty Dollars per do.

Brigade-Major, thirty-three Dollars per do.

Commissary of Artillery, thirty Dollars per month.

Judge Advocate, twenty Dollars per do.

Colonel, fifty Dollars per do.

Lieutenant-Colonel, forty Dollars per do.

Major, thirty-three Dollars and one-third per do.

Captain, twenty Dollars per do.

Lieutenant, thirteen Dollars and one-third per do.

Ensign, ten Dollars per do.

Sergeant, eight Dollars per do.

Corporal, Drummer, and Fifer, each seven Dollars and one-third per do.

Private, six Dollars and two-thirds per do.

Adjutant, eighteen Dollars and one-third per do.

Quartermaster, eighteen Dollars and one-third per do.

Chaplain, twenty Dollars per do.

That the pay of the Light-Infantry be the same as that in the Regiment, from a Captain to a Private, both included.

That in the Artillery, the pay of a Captain be twenty-six Dollars and two-thirds per month.

Captain-Lieutenant, twenty Dollars per do.

First and Second Lieutenants, eighteen Dollars and one-third per do.

Lieutenant-Fireworker, thirteen Dollars and one-third per do.

Sergeant, eight Dollars and one-third per do.

Corporal, seven Dollars and a half per do.

Bombardier, seven Dollars per do.

Matrosses, six Dollars and five-sixths of a Dollar per do.

That the appointment of Provost-Marshal, Wagon-Master, and Master Carpenter, be left to the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, who is to fix their pay, having regard to the pay such receive in the Ministerial Army, and the proportion that the pay of the Officers in said Army bears to the pay of our Officers.

*William Tudor*, Esquire, was elected Judge Advocate of the Army.

*Resolved*, That *Michael Hillegas* and *George Clymer*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed joint Treasurers of the United Colonies; that the Treasurers reside in *Philadelphia*, and that they shall give bond, with surety, for the faithful performance of their office, in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars, to *John Hancock*, *Henry Middleton*, *John Dickinson*, *John Alsop*, *Thomas Lynch*, *Richard Henry Lee*, and *James Wilson*, Esquires, and the survivor of them, in trust for the United Colonies.

That the Provincial Assemblies or Conventions do each choose a Treasurer for their respective Colonies, and take sufficient security for the faithful performance of the trust.

That each Colony provide ways and means to sink its proportion of the Bills ordered to be emitted by this Congress, in such manner as may be most effectual and best adapted to the condition, circumstances, and usual mode of levying taxes in such Colony.

That the proportion or quota of each Colony be determined according to the number of inhabitants, of all ages, including negroes and mulattoes in each Colony; but, as this cannot at present be ascertained, that the quotas of the several Colonies be settled, for the present, as follows, to undergo a revision and correction when the list of each Colony is obtained:

|                    |          |                 |                  |
|--------------------|----------|-----------------|------------------|
| New-Hampshire,     | 124,069½ | Delaware,       | 37,219½          |
| Massachusetts-Bay, | 434,244  | Maryland,       | 310,174½         |
| Rhode-Island,      | 71,959½  | Virginia,       | 496,278          |
| Connecticut,       | 248,139  | North-Carolina, | 248,139          |
| New-York,          | 248,139  | South-Carolina, | 248,139          |
| New-Jersey,        | 161,290½ |                 |                  |
| Pennsylvania,      | 372,208½ |                 |                  |
|                    |          |                 | <u>3,000,000</u> |

That each Colony pay its respective quota in four equal annual payments; the first payment to be made on or before the last day of *November*, which will be in the year of our *Lord*, 1779; the second on or before the last day of *November*, 1780; the third on or before the last day of *November*, 1781; and the fourth and last, on or before the last day of *November*, 1782. And that for this end the several Provincial Assemblies or Conventions provide for laying and levying Taxes in their respective Provinces or Colonies, towards sinking the Continental Bills; that the said Bills be received by the Collectors in payment of such taxes, and be by the said Collectors paid into the hands of



the Provincial Treasurers, with all such other moneys as they may receive in lieu of the Continental Bills, which other moneys the said Provincial Treasurer shall endeavour to get exchanged for Continental Bills; and where that cannot be done, shall send to the Continental Treasurers the deficiency in silver or gold, with the Bills making up the quota to be sunk in that year, taking care to cut, by a circular punch of an inch diameter, a hole in each Bill, and to cross the same, thereby to render them unpassable, though the sum or value is to remain fairly legible. And the Continental Treasurers, as fast as they receive the said quotas, shall, with the assistance of a Committee of five persons, to be appointed by the Congress, if sitting, or by the Assembly or Convention of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, examine and count the Continental Bills, and in the presence of the said Committee, burn and destroy them. And the silver and gold sent them to make up the deficiencies of quotas, they shall retain in their hands until demanded in redemption of Continental Bills that may be brought to them for that purpose, which Bills so redeemed, they shall also burn and destroy in presence of the said Committee. And the Treasurers, whenever they have silver or gold in their hands for the redemption of Continental Bills, shall advertise the same, signifying that they are ready to give silver or gold for such Bills, to all persons requiring it in exchange.

The Provincial Treasurers and Collectors are to have such allowances for their respective services, as shall be directed by the several Assemblies or Conventions, to be paid by their respective Province or Colony.

That the Continental Treasurers be allowed for their service this year, five hundred Dollars each.

*Resolved*, That the Paymaster-General, Commissary-General, Quartermaster-General, and every of their Deputies, shall take an oath, truly and faithfully to discharge the duties of their respective stations.

*Ordered*, That the damaged Powder now in the State-House, be delivered to the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, to be made fit for use.

*Ordered*, That the Continental Treasurers do pay to Colonel *William Thompson*, or his order, Five Thousand Dollars on account, being by advance for the service of a Battalion of Riflemen under his command.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, as soon as the public business permits, adjourn to the 5th of *September* next.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday* next, consider of the state of Trade, after the 10th of next *September*.

Mr. *McKean*, from the Committee, reported the form of a Bond to be given by the Continental Treasurers.

*Ordered*, That the said Committee do inspect into the sufficiency of the Sureties.

Adjourned till *Monday*, at eight o'clock.

Monday, July 31, 1775.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Resolve of the House of Commons, and the same being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to, as follows:

The several Assemblies of *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, and *Virginia*, having referred to the Congress a Resolution of the House of Commons of *Great Britain*, which Resolution is in these words:

"Lunnæ, 20<sup>o</sup> Die Feb. 1775.

"The House in a Committee on the *American Papers*. Motion made, and question proposed:

"That it is the opinion of this Committee, that when the General Council and Assembly, or General Court of any of his Majesty's Provinces or Colonies in *America*, shall propose to make provision, according to the condition, circumstance, or situation of such Province or Colony, for contributing their proportion to the common defence, (such proportion to be raised under the authority of the General Court, or General Assembly of such Province or Colony, and disposable by Parliament,) and shall engage

to make provision also, for the support of the civil Government, and the administration of justice in such Province or Colony, it will be proper, if such proposal shall be approved by His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament, and for so long as such provision shall be made accordingly, to forbear in respect to such Province or Colony, to lay any duty, tax, or assessment, or to impose any farther duty, tax, or assessment, except only such duties as it may be expedient to continue to levy or impose, for the regulation of Commerce; the nett produce or the duties last mentioned, to be carried to the account of such Province or Colony respectively."

The Congress took the said Resolution into consideration, and are thereupon of opinion:

That the Colonies of *America* are entitled to the sole and exclusive privilege of giving and granting their own money; that this involves a right of deliberating whether they will make any gift, for what purposes it shall be made, and what shall be its amount; and that it is a high breach of this privilege for any body of men, extraneous to their constitutions, to prescribe the purposes for which money shall be levied on them, to take to themselves the authority of judging of their conditions, circumstances, and situations, and of determining the amount of the contribution to be levied.

That as the Colonies possess a right of appropriating their gifts, so are they entitled at all times to inquire into their application, to see that they be not wasted among the venal and corrupt for the purpose of undermining the civil rights of the givers, nor yet be diverted to the support of standing armies, inconsistent with their freedom and subversive of their quiet. To propose, therefore, as this Resolution does, that the moneys given by the Colonies shall be subject to the disposal of Parliament alone, is to propose that they shall relinquish this right of inquiry, and put it in the power of others to render their gifts ruinous, in proportion as they are liberal.

That this privilege of giving or of withholding our moneys, is an important barrier against the undue exertion of prerogative, which, if left altogether without control, may be exercised to our great oppression; and all history shows how efficacious is its intercessions for redress of grievances and re-establishment of rights, and how improvident it would be to part with so powerful a mediator.

We are of opinion that the proposition contained in this Resolution is unreasonable and insidious: unreasonable, because, if we declare we accede to it, we declare without reservation we will purchase the favour of Parliament, not knowing at the same time at what price they will please to estimate their favour. It is insidious, because, individual Colonies having bid and bidden again, till they find the avidity of the seller too great for all their powers to satisfy, are then to return into opposition, divided from their sister Colonies whom the Minister will have previously detached by a grant of easier terms, or by an artful procrastination of a definitive answer.

That the suspension of the exercise of their pretended power of taxation, being expressly made commensurate with the continuance of our gifts, these must be perpetual to make that so. Whereas, no experience has shown that a gift of perpetual revenue secures a perpetual return of duty or of kind disposition. On the contrary, the Parliament itself, wisely attentive to this observation, are in the established practice of granting their Supplies from year to year only.

Desirous and determined as we are, to consider in the most dispassionate view every seeming advance towards a reconciliation made by the *British* Parliament, let our brethren of *Britain* reflect what would have been the sacrifice to men of free spirits, had even fair terms been proffered, as these insidious proposals were, with circumstances of insult and defiance. A proposition to give our money, accompanied with large fleets and armies, seems addressed to our fears rather than to our freedom. With what patience would *Britons* have received articles of treaty from any power on earth when borne on the point of the bayonet by military plenipotentiaries?

We think the attempt unnecessary to raise upon us by force or by threats our proportional contributions to the common defence, when all know, and themselves acknow-



ledge, we have fully contributed whenever called upon to do so in the character of freemen.

We are of opinion it is not just that the Colonies should be required to oblige themselves to other contributions, while *Great Britain* possesses a monopoly of their trade. This of itself lays them under heavy contribution. To demand, therefore, additional aids in the form of a tax, is to demand the double of their equal proportion; if we are to contribute equally with the other parts of the Empire, let us equally with them enjoy free commerce with the whole world. But while the restrictions on our trade shut to us the resources of wealth, is it just we should bear all other burdens equally with those to whom every resource is open?

We conceive that the *British* Parliament has no right to intermeddle with our provisions for the support of civil Government or administration of justice. The provisions we have made are such as please ourselves, and are agreeable to our own circumstances; they answer the substantial purposes of Government and of justice, and other purposes than these should not be answered. We do not mean that our people shall be burdened with oppressive taxes, to provide sinecures for the idle or the wicked under colour of providing for a civil list. While Parliament pursue their plan of civil Government within their own jurisdiction, we also hope to pursue ours without molestation.

We are of opinion the proposition is altogether unsatisfactory, because it imports only a suspension of the mode, not a renunciation of the pretended right to tax us. Because, too, it does not propose to repeal the several acts of Parliament passed for the purposes of restraining the Trade, and altering the form of Government of one of our Colonies; extending the boundaries and changing the Government of *Quebeck*; enlarging the jurisdiction of the Courts of Admiralty and Vice-Admiralty; taking from us the right of trial by a jury of the vicinage, in cases affecting both life and property; transporting us into other countries to be tried for criminal offences; exempting, by mock trial, the murderers of Colonists from punishment; and quartering soldiers on us in times of profound peace. Nor do they renounce the power of suspending our own Legislatures, and for legislating for us themselves in all cases whatsoever. On the contrary, to show they mean no discontinuance of injury, they pass acts at the very time of holding out this proposition, for restraining the Commerce and Fisheries of the Provinces of *New-England*, and for interdicting the trade of other Colonies with all foreign Nations and with each other. This proves, unequivocally, they mean not to relinquish the exercise of indiscriminate legislation over us.

Upon the whole, this proposition seems to have been held up to the world to deceive it into a belief, that there was nothing in dispute between us but the mode of levying taxes; and that the Parliament having now been so good as to give up this, the Colonies are unreasonable if not perfectly satisfied; Whereas, in truth, our adversaries still claim a right of demanding *ad libitum*, and of taxing us themselves to the full amount of their demand if we do comply with it. This leaves us without any thing we can call property. But what is of more importance, and what in this proposal they keep out of sight as if no such point was now in contest between us, they claim a right to alter our Charters and establish laws, and leave us without any security for our lives or liberties. The proposition seems also to have been calculated more particularly to lull into fatal security our well-affected fellow-subjects on the other side the water, till time should be given for the operation of those arms which a *British* Minister pronounced would instantaneously reduce the "cowardly" sons of *America* to unreserved submission. But when the world reflects how inadequate to justice are these vaunted terms; when it attends to the rapid and bold succession of injuries, which, during the course of eleven years, have been aimed at these Colonies; when it reviews the pacifick and respectful expostulations, which, during that whole time, were the sole arms we opposed to them; when it observes that our complaints were either not heard at all, or were answered with new and accumulated injuries; when it recollects that the Minister himself, on an early occasion, declared "that he

would never treat with *America* till he had brought her to his feet;" and that an avowed partisan of Ministry has more lately denounced against us the dreadful sentence, "*delenda est Carthago*;" that this was done in the presence of a *British* Senate, and being unproved by them, must be taken to be their own sentiment, (especially as the purpose has already in part been carried into execution,) by their treatment of *Boston* and burning of *Charlestown*; when it considers the great armaments with which they have invaded us, and the circumstances of cruelty with which they have commenced and prosecuted hostilities; when these things, we say, are laid together and attentively considered, can the world be deceived into an opinion that we are unreasonable, or can it hesitate to believe with us that nothing but our own exertions may defeat the Ministerial sentence of death or abject submission.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Langdon*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Deane*, Mr. *Clinton*, Mr. *Crane*, Doctor *Franklin*, Mr. *Rodney*, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Henry*, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Gadsden*, and Mr. *Hall*, be a Committee in the recess of Congress to make inquiry in all the Colonies after virgin Lead and Leaden Ore, and the best methods of collecting, smelting, and refining it.

*Resolved*, That the above named gentlemen be a Committee in the recess of Congress, to inquire into the cheapest and easiest methods of making Salt in these Colonies.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress took under consideration the state of Trade after the 10th of *September*, and after some debate the same was postponed to a future day.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That when the Congress adjourns for recess, it be adjourned to meet at *Philadelphia*.

Two Petitions were laid before the Congress respecting disputes between the people of *Connecticut* and *Pennsylvania*, on Lands lying on the waters of *Susquehanna*; and the same being read,

*Ordered*, To lie on the table for the perusal of the Members.

Two Petitions, one from sundry Merchants in *New-York*, and the other from sundry Merchants in *Philadelphia*, respecting the sale of Teas imported before the Association, were laid before the Congress.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at eight o'clock.

Tuesday, August 1, 1775.

Met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars be immediately forwarded from the Continental Treasury to the Paymaster-General, to be applied to the use of the Army in *Massachusetts-Bay*, in such manner as General *Washington*, or the Commander-in-Chief for the time being, by his warrants shall limit and appoint; and if the above sum shall be expended before the next meeting of the Congress, then, that General *Washington*, or the Commander-in-Chief for the time being, be empowered to draw upon the Continental Treasury, for the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars in favour of the Paymaster-General, to be applied for the use and in the manner above mentioned.

*Ordered*, That the Delegates for *Pennsylvania* be a Committee to receive and count the above sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars, and forward the same, under the care of the Delegates of *Massachusetts-Bay*, provided so much is now ready in the Treasury. If that is not the case, then to receive, count, and forward by the said Delegates what is ready, and the remainder by the first opportunity, in the safest and best manner.

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding One Hundred and Seventy-five Thousand Dollars be paid to the Provincial Convention of *New-York*, to be applied towards the discharge of the moneys advanced and the debts contracted for the publick service, by the said Provincial Convention and the Committee of *Albany*, in pursuance of the directions of this Congress; and that the said Provincial Con-



vention account to this Congress at their next meeting for the application of the said money.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers be, and they are hereby ordered to pay to the Delegates of the Colony of *Connecticut*, viz. *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Roger Sherman*, and *Silas Deane*, Esquires, the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars, to be by them paid unto the Governour and Company of the said Colony, in part of the sums by them disbursed in the Continental service; the said Governour and Company to account therefor.

*Resolved*, That the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars be immediately forwarded from the Continental Treasury to the Paymaster-General, to be applied to the use of the Army in the *New-York* Department, in such manner as General *Schuyler*, by his warrant, shall limit and appoint; and that if the above sum shall be expended before the next meeting of Congress, then that General *Schuyler*, or the Commander-in-Chief for the time being, in that department, be empowered to draw upon the Continental Treasury for a further sum, not exceeding Two Hundred Thousand Dollars, to be applied for the use and in the manner above mentioned.

*Resolved*, That the sum of Sixteen Thousand Dollars be paid to the Delegates of the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, in full for the like sum by them borrowed by order of the Congress, on the third of *June* last, for the use of the Continent.

*Resolved*, That the sum of Two Hundred and Ninety-Three Dollars be paid to the Delegates of *South-Carolina*, for the expense and freight of transporting a quantity of Powder from *South-Carolina* to this place, by order of the Congress.

*Resolved*, That the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars be placed in the hands of the Delegates of *Pennsylvania*, or any three of them, for contingent services, and that out of the same be paid the expenses incurred for raising and arming the Rifle Companies, and for Expresses and other small charges, of which the Congress have not been able to procure exact accounts; and that the said Committee do lay before the Congress, at their next meeting, an account of their proceeding in that matter.

*Resolved*, That out of the Powder belonging to the Continent now in this City, five tons be sent to General *Washington*, in the speediest and safest manner, by the Delegates of the Colony of *Pennsylvania*.

That out of the next that arrives, the Delegates of *New-Jersey* be allowed to purchase one thousand pounds for the use of the western parts of their Colony; and that

the Delegates of the lower Counties on *Delaware*, be allowed to purchase one thousand pounds for the use of said Counties.

That out of the same parcel the quantity of one ton be reserved for *North-Carolina*, to be lodged in the Magazine of *New-York*, and delivered to the order of the Speaker of the Assembly, or President of the Convention of *North-Carolina*, provided the necessity of General *Washington* and General *Schuyler* will admit.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Petitions respecting the disputes between the people of *Connecticut* and *Pennsylvania*, and after some debate,

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of this matter be referred to the next meeting of this Congress.

The Congress having reconsidered a Resolve passed the 11th *July*, respecting the employing of fifty Hussars,

*Resolved*, That the Delegates of this Province be desired not to proceed in executing said Resolve; and if any Hussars are engaged or enlisted, to discharge the same; and that the said Delegates settle and pay any expenses already incurred in consequence of the former Resolve, and report their proceeding to the Congress at their next meeting.

Whereas, at a former Congress it was resolved, that if certain Acts of Parliament, in the Continental Association enumerated and complained of, should not be repealed on or before the tenth day of *September*, 1775, the inhabitants of these United Colonies would not, directly or indirectly, export any Merchandise or commodity whatsoever to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or the *West-Indies*; and as some doubts have arisen with respect to the true spirit and construction of said Resolve, to the end that such doubts may be removed:

*Resolved*, That under the prohibition, in the said Association contained, to export to, or import from the Islands of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, this Congress intends to comprise all exportation to, or importation from the Islands of *Jersey*, *Guernsey*, *Sark*, *Alderney*, and *Man*, and every *European* Island and Settlement within the *British* Dominions; and that under the denomination of the *West-Indies*, this Congress means to comprehend all the *West-India* Islands, *British* and foreign, to whatever State, Power, or Prince belonging, or by whomsoever governed, and also the *Summer Islands*, *Bahama Islands*, *Berbicia* and *Surinam* on the Main, and every Island and Settlement within the latitude of the southern line of *Georgia* and the equator.

Adjourned to *Tuesday*, the fifth day of *September* next.

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END OF THE SECOND VOLUME OF THE FOURTH SERIES.

WASHINGTON, October 16, 1839.

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